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WEEKLY CAPSULE
3rd WEEK OF AUGUST
(16th -24th August)

Content

| | |
|--------------------------------------|-----------|
| <u>Economy.....</u> | <u>2</u> |
| <u>International.....</u> | <u>7</u> |
| <u>Polity.....</u> | <u>10</u> |
| <u>Events.....</u> | <u>13</u> |
| <u>Sports.....</u> | <u>17</u> |
| <u>Science & Technology.....</u> | <u>18</u> |
| <u>Appointments.....</u> | <u>19</u> |
| <u>States.....</u> | <u>20</u> |



www.ixambee.com

WEEKLY CAPSULE

3rd WEEK OF AUGUST

(16th -24th August)

Economy

India Ratings had cut growth forecast to 7.2% from 7.4%

- India ratings have lowered the country's growth forecast to 7.2% from 7.4% due to high crude oil prices, rising cost of crop procurement and high level of bad loans.

According to India Report, the fiscal deficit target of 3.3% for the current year is likely to met.

TCS beaten Reliance Industries becomes India's most valued company

- Tata Consultancy Services reclaimed the country's most valued firm status by market capitalisation pushing Reliance Industries Ltd. to the second spot.
- The m-cap of TCS stood at Rs 7.56 trillion, which is Rs 14.08 billion more than that of RIL's valuation.

About TCS

- It is an Indian multinational Information Technology (IT) service.
- Headquarters – Mumbai, Maharashtra
- Founder – 1968
- Founder – J R D Tata, F.C. Kohli

India banned petroleum coke import for use as fuel

- India banned the import of pet-coke for use as fuel but shipment for use as feedstock in some industries was allowed due to rising pollution levels in major cities.

India is the world's biggest consumer of petroleum coke.

Coke is a dark solid carbon material that emits 11% more greenhouse gases than coal.

PhonePe partnered with IRCTC for payments on the rail connect app

- PhonePe has partnered with the IRCTC to facilitate payments on the IRCTC Rail connect Android app, it will enable PhonePe's 100 million plus users to pay from their bank accounts using UPI, credit, debit cards and also the PhonePe wallet for their travel bookings.

It will be able to access a sizeable share of the near 700,000 e-ticket bookings made every day on IRCTC.



www.ixambee.com

WEEKLY CAPSULE

3rd WEEK OF AUGUST

(16th -24th August)

According to data from the National Payments Corporation of India (NCPI), Unified Payments Interface (UPI) has reported 235.6 million transactions in July.

PhonePe had clocked over 100 million monthly transactions in July, its biggest competitor Paytm registered 73 million transactions in the month.

India's current account deficit to widen to 2.5% of GDP in FY19: Moody

- As per Moody's, India's current account deficit (CAD) will widen to 2.5 per cent of the GDP in the current fiscal due to higher oil prices that has been accentuated by rupee depreciation.

Last week Rupee dropped to 70.32 to a US dollar.

About Moody

- It is an American business and financial service company.
- Founded in 1909.
- Headquarters – New York, USA

India's current account deficit is expected to widen to 2.8% of GDP: Nomura

- According to a report by Nomura, India's current account deficit is expected to widen to 2.8 per cent of the GDP in this financial year citing reason rising oil prices, depreciating rupee and outflow of portfolio investments.

About Nomura

- It is a Japanese financial company.
- Founded in 1925
- Headquarters – Tokyo, Japan

All India Cotton Conference held in Bathinda

- The conference was jointly organised by Indian Cotton Federation and Indian Cotton Association, Bathinda in Bathinda.
- Cotton Corporation of India in conference announced that centre and the textile ministry are taking efforts to reduce contamination in cotton for the benefit of textile industry.

Stakeholders in cotton and textile industry had shown concern about contamination in cotton and lower yield in cotton as compared to other countries.



www.ixambee.com

WEEKLY CAPSULE

3rd WEEK OF AUGUST

(16th -24th August)

Steps being taken to stop cotton contamination

- As a first step to check contamination, Bureau of Indian Standards would work a system for traceability of cotton arriving as bales from ginning factories.
- For 2nd phase, Textile Ministry approved Technology Mission on Cotton.

Tamil Nadu is the major consumer of cotton with nearly 45% textile mills.

Global Alliance Mass Entrepreneurship (GAME)

- A group of Indian and international partners announced the formation of a coalition called Global Alliance Mass Entrepreneurship (GAME), which aims to catalyse a mass entrepreneurship movement in India with the aim of creating 10 million new entrepreneurs and 50 million new jobs by 2030.
- The coalition has received initial funding commitment of Rs100crore over three years from several Indian and global donors.

The announcement was made at a day-long workshop organised by The Rockefeller Foundation.

US imposed anti-dumping duty of over 50% on metal pipes made in India

- US announced preliminary anti-dumping duties on metal pipes imported from India, China and 4 other countries to protect its domestic industry and to lower the trade deficit.
- India has been slapped with an anti-dumping duty of 50.55 per cent.
- US imports of the pipe from India last year totalled USD 294.7 million.

The other countries being hit with duties are China (132.63 per cent), Greece (22.51 per cent), Canada (24.38 per cent), South Korea (14.97 to 22.21 per cent) and Turkey (3.45 to 5.29 per cent).

United States of America

- Capital – Washington DC
- Currency – US dollar
- President – Donald Trump

ICAI to launch exclusive Job Portal for chartered accountant



www.ixambee.com

WEEKLY CAPSULE

3rd WEEK OF AUGUST

(16th -24th August)

- The Institute of Chartered Accountants of India (ICAI) will launch an exclusive job portal next month for its members amid rising demand for chartered accountants.
- The Committee for Members in Industry & Business (CM I&B) of ICAI will formally launch the portal on September 1.
- This job portal has details of all its members, video Curriculum Vitae (CVs) giving recognition and value to the CV.

CMI&B is also offering free registration and job postings to organisations till 29th August, 2018.

Institute of Chartered Accountant of India

- It is a statutory body established under the Chartered Accountants Act, 1949 for regulating the profession in India.
- Headquarters – New Delhi
- Founded on 1st July, 1949

Srikrishna Report on Chanda Kochhar expected in two months: says ICICI chairman

- ICICI chairman GC Chaturvedi said decision on continuance of managing director and CEO Chanda Kochhar will be taken after the Justice B N Srikrishna panel report which is likely to be finalised in two months.
- Former SC Judge Justice B N Srikrishna panel is probing the allegations of quid pro quo by Kochhar in sanctioning of a loan by ICICI Bank.

ICICI Bank

- Founded in 1994
- Headquarters – Mumbai
- Tagline – “Hum hai na, Khyal Aapka”

Moody's had put India growth in 2018-19 at 7.5%

- The Indian economy is largely resilient to external pressures and is expected to grow around 7.5% in 2018 and 2019 as presented in Moody's Investors Service, which is supported by strong urban and rural demand and improved industrial activity, pointing to the strong PMI and the index of 8 core industries.

Moody's had cut India's growth forecast for 2018 to 7.3% in May from 7.5%.



www.ixambee.com

WEEKLY CAPSULE

3rd WEEK OF AUGUST

(16th -24th August)

Moody

- Founded by John Moody in 1909
- Headquarters – New York, US

Vazifdar to head panel on sterlite's plant

- The National Green Tribunal (NGT) has appointed former Punjab and Haryana High Court Chief Justice S.J. Vazifdar to head a committee on sterlite plant.
- This committee is constituted by the tribunal to decide on Vedanta Ltd's plea challenging the Tamil Nadu government's order that has resulted in the shutdown of the Sterlite Copper plant.

The committee will also comprise representatives from the Central Pollution Control Board and the Ministry of Environment, Forests and Climate Change.



www.ixambee.com

WEEKLY CAPSULE
3rd WEEK OF AUGUST
(16th -24th August)

International

- Qatar pledged \$15 billion in investment to Turkey, supporting rise in Turkish Lira.

The United States ruled out removing steel tariffs which contributed to the currency crises in the country.

The White House stance appeared to give Turkish authorities little incentive to work for the release of Andrew Brunson, a pastor on trial in Turkey on terrorism charges.

The dispute is one of several between the NATO allies, including diverging interests in Syria and U.S. objections to Ankara's ambition to buy Russian defence systems

- Mumbai zoo's has seen the first penguin born on Independence Day at 8 pm, it was named as "Freedom Baby".

Aaditya Thackeray had promoted the project to bring the penguins to Mumbai zoo from Seoul, South Korea.

The tiny colony of penguins was brought to Byculla zoo in June 2016.

- The multi-purpose Barak 8 missile defence system jointly developed by India and Israel.
 - It will be procured by the Israeli Navy to protect its economic zones and strategic facilities from diversified threats and the sales for it have exceeded USD 5 billion.

It will be operational air and missile defence system used by the Israeli Navy as well as by the Indian Navy and air forces.

The missile system has been jointly developed by Israel Aerospace Industries (IAI), India's DRDO, Israel's Administration for the Development of Weapons and Technological Infrastructure, Elta Systems, Rafael and some other Indian defence companies.

- Senator Mario Abdo Benítez has been sworn in as the new president of Paraguay, he is replacing Horacio Cartes.



www.ixambee.com

WEEKLY CAPSULE

3rd WEEK OF AUGUST

(16th -24th August)

- The treasury department of US had imposed economic sanctions on Burmese security forces for their role in “ethnic cleansing” against Rohingya Muslims, sanction are targeting four Burmese military and border guard commanders and two military units.
- Malian President Ibrahim Boubacar Keita has been re-elected for a five-year term picking up 67.17% vote.
- Qatar’s Amir Sheikh Tamim bin Hamad al-Thani issued a directive to allocate 34.89 crore rupees to help provide shelter to those who lost their homes.
- Afghanistan celebrated its 99th Independence Day on 19th August.

Country got its independence in 1919 from British Empire under the leadership of Shah Amanullah Khan after signing the Anglo – Afghan Treaty.

- Greece has successfully exited its final three-year bailout program agreed in August 2015.

Package was agreed to help it cope with the continued fallout from a debt crisis.

The ESM has disbursed 61.9 billion euros over three years in support of macroeconomic adjustment and bank recapitalization.

- European Countries has promised to make up for the possible losses that Tehran may suffer before the US ban on importing oil from Iran takes effect in November.

US President Donald Trump signed an executive order August 6 to re-impose the first round of sanctions on Iran, which had been lifted under the 2015 nuclear deal, to levy "maximum economic pressure" on the Islamic republic.

The sanctions will cover Iran's purchases of US dollar, its trade in gold and precious metals, and its automotive sector.

The second round of embargo will be re-imposed in early November with the aim of curtailing Iran's oil exports and shipping sectors.



www.ixambee.com

WEEKLY CAPSULE

3rd WEEK OF AUGUST

(16th -24th August)

- The United States imposed steep import tariffs of \$16 billion in Chinese goods, stating reason - rampant theft of American technology.

This action completes the first round of \$50 billion in products that President Donald Trump targeted, after \$34 billion in goods were hit with punitive duties on July 6.

Trump has pushed aggressive trade actions to lower the US trade deficit, which he equates with theft from Americans.

But US trading partners have retaliated aggressively, which is hurting American farmers, manufacturers and consumers.

- Scott Morrison has become Australia's new prime minister after former PM Malcolm Turnbull was forced out by party rivals in a bruising leadership contest.

Mr Turnbull had been under pressure from poor polling and what he described as an "insurgency" by conservative MPs.

Mr Turnbull is the fourth Australian PM in a decade to be ousted by colleagues.

- Chief Minister Naveen Patnaik announced 'Japan' as 'country partner' for 2nd Make In Odisha Conclave for the November biennial investors meet.
- Later this month state govt. delegation led by industries minister Ananta Das would visit Tokyo to showcase state's investment potential.

Delegation will attract investment in focus sectors – food processing and sea food, chemicals, plastic, petrochemicals, ancillary and down-streams industries in metal sector, electronics manufacturing, textiles and apparel and tourism.

The delegation would also visit China and South Korea to engage with the investors there.



www.ixambee.com

WEEKLY CAPSULE

3rd WEEK OF AUGUST

(16th -24th August)

Polity

Vision Document for Digital North east launched with big plans

- Union IT Minister Ravi Shankar Prasad released 'Vision Document' for a digital North East 2022 which aims to enhance people lives by capacity building of government staff and doubling BPO strength in the region.
- The document emphasises leveraging digital technologies to transform lives of people of the North East and enhance the ease of living.

The document identifies eight digital thrust areas -- digital infrastructure, digital services, digital empowerment, promotion of electronics manufacturing, promotion of IT and IT enabled services including BPOs, digital payments, innovation & startups, and cyber security.

Centre planned to cyclone warning centre in Thiruvananthapuram

- Centre is planning to set up a Cyclone Warning Centre in Thiruvananthapuram in view of several incidents of tropical cyclones and severe weather events striking over Kerala and Karnataka coasts in the recent times.
- It will be equipped with state of the art infrastructure including forecasting equipment which will further strengthen the forecasting activity of India Meteorological Department in Kerala.

At present, cyclone warning centres are working in Chennai, Vishakhapatnam, Bhubaneswar, Kolkata, Ahmedabad and Mumbai.

Centre released Rs600cr to Kerala, waives off custom duty and GST on material relief

- Centre released the 600 crore rupees assistance to flood affected Kerala, out of which PM Narendra Modi had announced the assistance of 500 crore rupees and 100 crore rupees assistance was announced by Home Minister Rajnath Singh for the state.
- Centre has also exempted basic customs duty and GST for the consignments of aid and relief materials being dispatched or imported from abroad for the affected people

The National Crisis Management Committee chaired by cabinet Secretary PK Sinha is meeting continuously, till now six times, to review the rescue and relief operations in the state.



www.ixambee.com

WEEKLY CAPSULE
3rd WEEK OF AUGUST
(16th -24th August)

Govt. unveiled draft scheme for extending affordable air travel programme UDAN to International Circuits

- Centre has unveiled a draft scheme for extending affordable air travel programme UDAN to international circuits in which state governments will identify the routes for operation.
- The draft International Air Connectivity (IAC) scheme envisages to increase international ticketing to 20 crore by 2027.
- The scheme has proposed to set up an International Air Connectivity Fund (IACF) -- a dedicated fund for providing subsidy support under the scheme.
- Fund will be created through the contributions of state governments.

Ude Desh Ka Aam Nagrik (UDAN) scheme was launched in 2016 to make air travel affordable for people through subsidised ticket rates and to provide air connectivity to smaller towns.

NITI Aayog released five thematic reports on Sustainable Development in Indian Himalayan Region

- NITI Aayog released Vice Chairman Dr Rajiv Kumar, CEO Amitabh Kant and member Dr V K Saraswat five thematic reports on Sustainable Development in Indian Himalayan Region in New Delhi.
- The themes include Inventory and Revival of Springs in Himalayas for Water Security, Sustainable Tourism, Transformative Approach to Shifting Cultivation, Strengthening Skill and Entrepreneurship Landscape in Himalayas.

Nearly 30 per cent of springs crucial to water security of people are drying and 50 per cent have reported reduced discharge.

Himalayan Tourism which is growing annually at 6.8 per cent has crated huge challenge related to solid waste, water, traffic, loss of bio-cultural diversity.

Govt. imposed standard environment clearing conditions for 25 sectors

- The government has imposed standard conditions for as many as 25 sectors seeking environment clearance (EC) for expansion of existing projects or new projects.



www.ixambee.com

WEEKLY CAPSULE

3rd WEEK OF AUGUST

(16th -24th August)

- The government-constituted green panel called Expert Appraisal Committee (EAC) to assess the projects and makes recommendations.
- The 25 sectors include iron, steel, cement, coal, petroleum, refineries, industry, paper and pulp industries, hydro-electric projects, industrial estates.

Arjun Jaitley assumed charge of Ministry of Finance & Corporate affairs

- Union Minister, Arun Jaitley resumed the charge of the Ministries of Finance and Corporate Affairs after a gap of more than three months

Mr Jaitley underwent a kidney transplant on May 14 and his ministerial charges were given to Piyush Goyal on an interim basis.

Secretaries' panel approved setting up of National Logistics Portal

- A committee of secretaries has approved a proposal by department of commerce (DoC) to setup a National Logistics Portal (NLP) to ease transportation of goods across the country and those meant for export.
- The logistics division of the department has developed a proof of concept (PoC) of the common online platform to integrate all transactions involved in their production and export.

The portal is being planned in three phases- development of a logistics e-marketplace whose test run is being planned by March, single window certification by bringing in 81 authorities on board, and integrating financial services on the platform.

Logistics costs in India are pegged at 13-14% of the gross domestic product (GDP) are higher than those in developed countries.

Government is aiming to reduce it to 10% by 2022.



www.ixambee.com

WEEKLY CAPSULE

3rd WEEK OF AUGUST

(16th -24th August)

Events

- BSNL has launched BSNL WINGS a VOIP based service offering unlimited audio/video calling for one year.
 - In WINGS, there is no SIM or cable wiring as is a VOIP service through an app.
 - Calls can be made using any data connection such as wired broadband Wi-Fi, 3G or 4G network.
- Oscar-winning director Ang Lee - one of the recipients of the annual Directors Guild of America (DGA) honours at its ceremony to be held at the DGA Theatre in New York City on October 18.

Apart from the 63-year-old director, Fox Searchlight chairman Nancy Utley, US Senator Amy Klobuchar, SAG-AFTRA senior adviser John McGuire and costume designer Ann Roth will also be honoured.

- Noted Malayalam poet and Sahitya Akademi awardee Chemmanur Chacko passed away at his residence in Kakkanad at age of 92.

He had won several awards- Kerala Sahitya Akademi, Sanjayan Award, Kunjan Nambiar Kavitha puraskaram, P Smaraka Puraskaram and Mahakavi Ulloor Award.

- Prime Minister Narendra Modi announced the launch of world's largest government-funded programme - the Pradhan Mantri Jan Arogya Abhiyaan which will be launched on the birth anniversary of Pt. Deen Dayal Upadhyay on 25th September.
 - The healthcare initiative will have a positive impact on 50 crore Indians under Ayushman Bharat.

Government has decided to provide five lakh rupees health care insurance cover for the poor and vulnerable under the programme and in future it can be extended to the low middle class.

- President Ram Nath Kovind inaugurated the International Buddhist Conclave in New Delhi.
 - The conclave themed as Buddha Path - The Living Heritage aims to showcase Buddhist Heritage in India and boost tourism.



www.ixambee.com

WEEKLY CAPSULE

3rd WEEK OF AUGUST

(16th -24th August)

Ministry of Tourism is organising the conclave in collaboration with the State Governments of Maharashtra, Bihar and Uttar Pradesh from 23rd to 26th August in New Delhi and Ajanta, Maharashtra, followed by site visits to Rajgir, Nalanda, Bodhgaya and Sarnath.

- Former Prime Minister of the country, Atal Vihari Vajpayee passed away at the age 93.

He became the first non-congress PM to complete a full term.

- US Singer Aretha Franklin passed away at the age of 76.
 - She received the Grammy Award 18 times.
 - She was the first female vocalist to be inducted into the Rock & Roll Hall of Fame.
 - She performed at the inaugurations of three US Presidents -- Jimmy Carter, Bill Clinton, and Barack Obama.
- The Board of Control for Cricket in India (BCCI) and the Emirates Cricket Board (ECB), signed an agreement for the United Arab Emirates (UAE) to host the prestigious Asia Cup which is scheduled to take place from 15th September to 28th September in Abu Dhabi and Dubai.

The participant countries in the Asia Cup are India, Pakistan, Sri Lanka, Bangladesh and Afghanistan.

- Delhi government's additional director of health S K Arora has been awarded the prestigious WHO World No Tobacco Day 2018 Award by Henk Bekedam, WHO India country head.

The National Health Policy 2017 of the Government of India has set targets of relative reduction in tobacco prevalence by 15 per cent by 2020 and 30 per cent by 2025.

According to Global Adult Tobacco Survey-2 (GATS 2, 2016-17), the prevalence of tobacco use has reduced by 27 per cent in Delhi as compared to 17 per cent for the rest of India average.



www.ixambee.com

WEEKLY CAPSULE

3rd WEEK OF AUGUST

(16th -24th August)

- British director Steve McQueen will receive BAFTA's John Schlesinger Britannia Award. He had won an Oscar for *12 years a slave*.

The award's previous recipients include Ava DuVernay, Sam Mendes, Danny Boyle, Christopher Nolan, Quentin Tarantino and Kathryn Bigelow.

- World Photography is celebrated on 19th August to commemorate the artistry of a photographer.

It began in 1839 when Joseph Nicéphore Niépce's associate Louis Daguerre developed a daguerreotype process the details of which were introduced the same year.

- Former Army chief Gen Dalbir Singh has been awarded with United States (US) 'Legion of Merit' for his exceptionally meritorious service as Chief of Army Staff from August 2014 to December 2016.
- World Mosquito Day is observed on 20th August every year.

It is commemorated by British Doctor Sir Ronald Ross's discovery in 1897 that female mosquitos transmit Malaria between humans.

- Kofi Annan former UN chief Kofi Annan passed away at the age of 80.
 - He was the only black African to become UN secretary General.
 - He was awarded Nobel Peace Prize for his humanitarian work.
 - The Kofi Annan Foundation described him as "global statesman".
- External Affairs Minister inaugurated 'Panini Language Laboratory' at Mahatma Gandhi Institute (MGI) in Mauritius to help MGI to teach Indian Languages in Mauritius.
- Chinese researchers have developed the world's first-ever 4D printing for ceramics that are mechanically robust and can have complex shapes.
 - It will offer broad potential applications in telecommunications, electronics and even space exploration.
 - Its ceramic ink is a mixture of polymers and ceramic Nano particles.



www.ixambee.com

WEEKLY CAPSULE

3rd WEEK OF AUGUST

(16th -24th August)

4D printing is conventional 3D printing combined with the additional element of time as the fourth dimension, where the printed objects can re-shape or self-assemble themselves over time with external stimuli, such as mechanical force, temperature, or a magnetic field.

- According to annual list published by Forbes, Serena Williams is the highest paid female athlete for a third consecutive year in 2018 earning \$62000 over the past year and she also received \$18.1 million from an endorsement portfolio unmatched among women in sports.
- Dane Caroline Wozniacki is second on the list with combined earnings of \$13 million and Sloane Stephens is third with \$11.2 million.

Indian badminton player P.V. Sindhu with \$8.5 million and retired race car driver Danica Patrick with \$7.5 million were the only non-tennis players to crack the top 10 at the seventh and ninth spots respectively.

- Former Union Minister and veteran Congress leader Gurudas Kamat passed away in New Delhi at the age of 63.

He had represented the Mumbai North East constituency of Maharashtra in 1984, 1991, 1998 and 2004.

- Reliance Jio has been ranked number one on Fortune's global list 'Change the World' list for rapidly expanding access to the Internet.

Jio left behind Alibaba at 5th rank on the list, Kroger at number six, industrial machinery firm ABB at number 8, and network and communications giant Hughes Network System at number 10.

- Veteran journalist, author and human rights activist, Kuldip Nayar has passed away. He was 95.
- The eighth edition of Mountain Echoes Literary Festival was formally inaugurated by the Royal Queen Mother of Bhutan, Ashi Dorji Wangmo Wangchuck.

The 2017 edition of the festival will embrace and explore globally relevant issues such as Environmental conservation, Natural history, Spirituality and Buddhism, and the global evolution of textiles and design traditions.

- Former Indian Cricket Captain Ajit Wadekar passed away at the age of 77. He was bestowed the Arjuna Award in 1967 and India's fourth highest civilian honour, the Padmashri in 1972.



www.ixambee.com

WEEKLY CAPSULE

3rd WEEK OF AUGUST

(16th -24th August)

Sports

- Bajrang Punia won a gold medal in the 65 kg freestyle wrestling at the Asian Games in Indonesia. It was India's first Gold in the Game.
- Deepak Kumar after a shot of 247.7 claimed silver in 10m air rifle in Asian Games. China's Haoran Yang won the gold in the game with a score of 249.1.
- Former world number one Novak Djokovic became the first player to win all nine Masters 1,000 tournaments with victory over Roger Federer in Cincinnati.

Earlier Kiki Bertens held off a championship point over world number one Simona Halep in the WTA tournament.

- In 10m air pistol, Saurabh Chaudhary clinched India's first shooting gold of the 18th Asian Games with record score of 240.7 and Abhishek Sharma settled for bronze in same 10m air pistol.

In Men's 50m rifle, Sanjeev Rajput won silver.

- Shooter Rahi Sarnobat won the women's 25m Pistol event in Asian Games going on in Indonesia

She became the first ever Indian female shooter to win gold in the history of Asian Games.

- Rohan Bopanna and Divij Sharan won the gold medal in the men's doubles tennis event at the ongoing 18th Asian Games 2018. They have beaten Kazakhstan's Aleksandr Bublik and Denis Yevseyev by 6-3, 6-4.
- Dushyant Chauhan won the bronze medal in the men's Lightweight Single Sculls with a time of 7:18.76 at the Jakabaring Rowing and Canoeing center in Jakarta.
- Korea's Hyunsu Park won the gold medal with a time of 7:12.86 followed by Hong Kong's Chun Gun Chiu.

This was also the first medal for the country in rowing at the Games.



www.ixambee.com

WEEKLY CAPSULE

3rd WEEK OF AUGUST

(16th -24th August)

Science & Technology

India successfully tested Anti-Tank Guided Missile “HELINA” from Pokhran

- India successfully flight tested the indigenously developed helicopter launched Anti-Tank Guided Missile ‘HELINA’ from Pokhran in Rajasthan.
- The weapon tested its full range after released from the launch platform.
- The missile is high precision missile.

The indigenously designed and developed guided bombs Smart Anti Airfield Weapon (SAAW) was also successfully flight tested from IAF aircraft at Chandan range in Jaisalmer.

The successful flight tests will further strengthening the defence capabilities of the country.

Scientists have developed Li-battery which don't catch fire

- Scientists have developed novel lithium-ion batteries preventing don't catch fire and not causing any injury to users.
- Researchers have developed a practical and inexpensive way to prevent these fires by the property of some liquids that solidify on impact.

To make these batteries safer, some researchers instead use a non-flammable, solid electrolyte which solidifies when hit, preventing the electrodes from touching if the battery is damaged during a fall or crash.



www.ixambee.com

WEEKLY CAPSULE

3rd WEEK OF AUGUST

(16th -24th August)

Appointment

- IAS Officer K S Srinivas has taken over as the Chairman of the city-based Marine Products Export Development Authority (MPEDA), an agency under the Union Commerce Ministry.
- Subhash Sheoratan Mundra has been appointed as Independent Director on the Board of Indiabulls Housing Finance for a period of three years.
- Satya Pal Malik is named as governor of Jammu & Kashmir replacing NN Vohra.

He becomes the first career politician to hold J&K governor's post in the last 51 years after Karan Singh, whose term had ended in 1967.



www.ixambee.com

WEEKLY CAPSULE

3rd WEEK OF AUGUST

(16th -24th August)

State

- Madhya Pradesh CM Shivraj Singh Chauhan launched Dial 100 apps to help the needy at the time of emergency.

Madhya Pradesh assembly had passed 'The Penal Law (Madhya Pradesh Amendment) Bill-2017' awarding death penalty to convicts found guilty of raping girls aged 12 or below.

- Haryana CM inaugurated state's first civil airport in Hisar which will open the possibilities of creating an economic corridor and vibrant industrial ecosystem.
- Telangana celebrating 72nd Independence Day launched two major schemes - free eye screening for all citizens and life insurance for farmers.

Under "Kanti Velugu", the entire population of 3.7 crore will be provided free eye care.

The government will cover 28 lakh farmers aged between 18 and 59 years.

The government will bear the annual premium of Rs2271 per farmer.

- Chattisgarh in memory of late PM Atal Bihari Vajpayee, decided to rename its capital Naya Raipur as Atal Nagar. It is a most modern smart city build at the cost of Rs10000cr.
- The Uttarakhand high court banned animal sacrifices in the open and dumping of blood and animal body parts in drains for Muslims, Hindus and followers of other religions in the state.

Court also ruled that "no cow or cow's progeny or camel shall be slaughtered on the day of Eid-ul-Juha (Bakr-Eid).

- Odisha Govt. approved a proposal for setting up a Legislative Council in the state at the Cabinet meeting presided over by Chief Minister Naveen Patnaik, Parliamentary Affairs Minister B K Aarukha.

A resolution will be brought in the monsoon session of the Odisha Legislative Assembly beginning from September 4.



www.ixambee.com

WEEKLY CAPSULE

3rd WEEK OF AUGUST

(16th -24th August)

As per article 171 clause (1) of the Indian Constitution, the total number of members in the Legislative Council of a state shall not exceed one third of the total number of the members in the Legislative Assembly of that state and the total number of members in the Legislative Council of a state shall in no case be less than 40.

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