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History of 19th August

- ◆ **1666** : Chhatrapati Shivaji Maharaj escaped from Aurangzeb's prison by hiding in a basket of fruits from Agra.
- ◆ **1891** : India's famous litterateur, poet, writer, satirist and journalist Harishankar Sharma was born.
- ◆ **1939** : Guruvar Rabindra Nath Tagore laid the foundation stone of Subhash Chandra Bose Mahajati Sadan in Calcutta.
- ◆ **1600** : Mughal emperor Akbar conquered Ahmednagar.

Current Affairs Related to 19th August 2024

- ◆ The Union Cabinet has approved the extension of Pradhan Mantri G-One Scheme till 2028-2029 to promote advanced biofuel projects. The revised scheme will be implemented for five years. The revised Pradhan Mantri G-One scheme includes bolt on and brownfield projects. The scheme is designed to provide financial assistance that will benefit multiple sectors. It provides a stable income to farmers through the sale of agricultural residues and reduces environmental pollution.
- ◆ Scientists have discovered natural variations in nitrogen use efficiency of rice, as well as associated traits and genes. Molded Diamond varieties boast both high NUE and short growth period. Nitrogen use efficiency is an important factor in agricultural sustainability. Spoiled fertilizer NUE may waste nitrogenous fertilizers worth Rs 1 lakh crore annually in India. The study found that the NUE of the best varieties was at least five times higher than the lowest.
- ◆ Neelakurinji has been included in the official Red List of Threatened Species of the International Union for Conservation of Nature. This is the first global Red List assessment for this key species. Neelakurinji blooms once in 12 years. The mass blooming of flowers is a huge tourist attraction. According to the latest global assessment, it is listed as vulnerable in the IUCN Endangered category. Neelakurinji is endangered due to conversion and urbanization primarily for tea and softwood plantations.
- ◆ Operational Guidelines for Implementation of Model Solar Village under PM Surya Ghar Free Electricity Scheme released by the Government. Its objective is to promote adoption of solar energy and make rural communities self-reliant in meeting their energy needs. A total financial outlay of Rs 800 crore has been allocated for this component.
- ◆ Indian Railway Catering and Tourism Corporation and National Capital Region Transport Corporation have collaborated to launch the One India One Ticket initiative. The collaboration aims to provide a seamless travel solution by making it easier for passengers to book and travel using Indian Railways and RRTS services. After booking an IRCTC train e-ticket, users can now choose to book NaMo Bharat train tickets for a maximum of eight passengers per booking as an additional service.
- ◆ Indian Institute of Technology Madras has once again topped the National Institutional Ranking Framework 2024, registering as the country's leading higher education institution for the sixth consecutive year. IGNOU has got the first position in the category of Open University. The consistent performance of IIT Madras underlines its excellence, especially in the engineering sector, where it has maintained the top position for nine consecutive years.
- ◆ The consumer price index for July 2024 declined mainly due to decline in prices of vegetables, fruits and spices. Food inflation for July 2024 was at its lowest since June 2023. According to the data, food inflation for July 2024 was 5.42%. Inflation for rural areas for July 2024 was 4.10%.
- ◆ Syed Refaat Ahmed took oath as the new Chief Justice of Bangladesh. Chief Advisor Professor Muhammad Yunus was present when President Mohammad Shahabuddin administered him the oath. Professor Muhammad Yunus is the head of the interim government in Bangladesh. Amid widespread protests demanding reforms in the judiciary and protesters demanding a deadline for judges to step down, Obaidul Hasan announced his resignation.
- ◆ Due to increasing outbreaks of Mpox across the continent, the African Union's health inspectorate has declared a public health emergency.

National & International Current Affairs

1. When is World Photography Day celebrated every year?

- (A) 18th August (B) 19th August
(C) 20th August (D) 21st August

(B) World Photography Day is dedicated to all those photographers who have captured the beauty of the world on camera through their art. There are many photographers in the world who have made this art their profession. According to historians, the world's first photography process was invented many years ago on January 9, 1839. This day started in 2010.



2. When is World Humanitarian Day celebrated every year?

- (A) 19th August (B) 21st August
(C) 22nd August (D) 25th August

(A) World Humanitarian Day is celebrated every year on 19 August to pay respect to the aid workers who risk their lives in humanitarian service. The day also honors the contribution of women in times of crisis around the world. World Humanity Day was celebrated for the first time by the United Nations General Assembly by passing a resolution in the year 2008.



3. Recently the Chief Minister of which state has launched a new initiative Him Unnati to promote natural farming.

- (A) Uttarakhand (B) Madhya Pradesh
(C) Andhra Pradesh (D) Himachal Pradesh

(D) With an aim to promote natural farming in Himachal Pradesh, the state government has launched a new initiative, Him Unnati Yojana, with an allocation of Rs 150 crore. A government spokesperson said that this scheme will benefit about 1.92 lakh farmers who are already doing chemical-free farming on 32149 hectares of land.



4. Who has recently been appointed by Hockey India as the head coach of India's junior men's team?

- (A) Mayank Joshi (B) PR Sreejesh
(C) Ajinkya Naik (D) None of these

(B) Following India's bronze medal win at the 2024 Olympics, Hockey India has announced that retired goalkeeper PR Sreejesh will become the next head coach of the junior men's hockey team. PR Sreejesh had announced his retirement from sports after the Paris Olympics. Thanks to the brilliant performance of the Indian goalkeeper, India won the bronze medal for the second consecutive time by defeating Spain 2-1.



5. Who has recently been excluded from Paralympic Games 2024?

- (A) Pramod Bhagat (B) Sunder Singh
(C) Abhishek Chamoli (D) None of these

(A) Recently, BWF suspended Pramod Bhagat for a period of 18 months for anti-doping rule violations. He will remain suspended from all badminton related activities till 1 September 2025. As a result he will not participate in the Paris Olympics 2024. Pramod Bhagat is the Tokyo 2020 Paralympic gold medalist.



6. Recently Big Cricket League has signed an agreement with whom for long term broadcasting?

- (A) Prasar Bharati (B) Jio Cinema
(C) Star Sports (D) None of these

(A) Recently, the Big Cricket League of T20, launched with the aim of giving emerging local players an opportunity to play with the heroes of cricket, has entered into a historic long-term agreement with national broadcaster Prasar Bharati. This will be a franchise based cricket competition, which will be inaugurated in Lucknow in September this year.



7. Who has recently been selected as the ICC Player of the Month for July 2024?

- (A) Gus Atkinson (B) Chamari Atapattu
(C) Both of the above (D) None of these

(C) Recently Gus Atkinson and Chamari Atapattu have been selected as ICC Player of the Month for July 2024. England pacer Gus Atkinson has won the Player of the Month award for his explosive bowling in the debut Test series, while Sri Lankan opener Chamari Atapattu has won the Player of the Month award for her impressive bowling performance in the Women's Asia Cup T20 2024. Have achieved success.



8. Who has recently taken charge as the Secretary of the Ministry of Steel?

- (A) Vibhuti Bhushan (B) Brijesh Dixit
(C) Sandeep Poundrik (D) None of these

(C) Shri Sandeep Poundrick has assumed the charge of Secretary, Ministry of Steel at Udyog Bhawan. He is a 1993 batch IAS officer of Bihar cadre. On assuming charge, he was welcomed by senior officials of the ministry. Prior to this, he has also worked as an advisor in the National Disaster Management Authority under the Ministry of Home Affairs and as Joint Secretary in the Ministry of Petroleum and Natural Gas.



9. Who has recently taken over as the Managing Director of SBI?

- (A) Sanjay Shukla (B) Rana AK Singh
(C) Manoj Mital (D) None of these

(B) Rana Ashutosh Singh inducted Vishwas Kumar of State Bank of India after being nominated by the government and was given the post of Managing Director in charge of Associate, the stressed Associate Solution Group. Gajendra Singh Rana, former chief general manager of Mumbai division, has replaced Singh as deputy managing director of real estate at the country's largest lender, according to people familiar with the development.



10. Who has topped the recently released national ranking of higher education institutions?

- (A) IIT Delhi (B) IIT Kanpur
(C) IIT Mumbai (D) IIT Madras

(D) Recently, IIT Madras retained the top ranking in the 9th NIRF 2024 overall category. IIT Madras has been ranked as the best higher education institution in India in the rankings conducted by the National Board of Accreditation and National Institutional Ranking Framework, while IISc Bengaluru and IIT Bombay have been ranked in the overall category.

