

Daily Current Affairs 1st August, 2018

NATIONAL NEWS

- Ministry of Petroleum & Natural Gas (MoPNG), Oil & Gas CPSEs and its offices celebrated Swachhta Pakhwada from 1st to 15th July, 2018.
 - The theme of MoPNG initiatives in this Pakhwada were "Innovation" and "Sustainability".
 - About Swachata Pakhwada:
 - Launched in April 2016.
 - It started with the objective of bringing a fortnight of intense focus on the issues and practices of Swachhata by engaging GOI Ministries/Departments in their jurisdictions.
- To promote exploration in the deep ocean to meet energy requirements of India, the Union Ministry of Earth Science unveiled a blueprint of Deep Ocean Mission (DOM) to explore Deep Ocean.
- The **IT ministry** launched a **desktop software e-Aksharayan in a conference** for Indian Languages Technology Industry '**Bhashantara', in New Delhi.** The objective is to enable editing and printing of text in scanned documents. The **software e-Aksharayan was launched in 7 Indian languages.**
- National Health Agency (NHA) under Ministry of Health and Family Welfare, the apex body for the implementation of Ayushman Bharat-National Health Protection Mission (AB-NHPM), and Common Service Centres (CSC) scheme under the **Digital India Programme, have signed an MoU to** provide information and eligibility validation services to beneficiaries, especially in remote areas.

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INTERNATIONAL NEWS

- The US has elevated India's status in the export control regime and designated it as a Strategic Trade Authorization-1 (STA-1) country.
 - Currently there are 36 countries on STA-1 list.
 - India is the only South Asian country to be on the list.
 - Other Asian countries designated as STA-1 are Japan and South Korea.
- India has jumped 22 places to 96th rank to break into the top 100 of the United Nation's E-Government Development Index (EGDI) 2018. Denmark, with an index value of 0.9150, topped the 2018 E-Government Development Survey. The E-Government survey is released by the United Nations in every two years. The 2018 edition was titled as 'Gearing E-Government to Support Transformation towards sustainable and resilient societies'.
- Defence acquisitions council (DAC), chaired by India's Defence Minister Nirmala Sitharaman, approved the acquisition of the National Advanced Surface to Air Missile System-II (NASAMS-II) worth around \$1 billion.

ECONOMY

• According to Nomura, GDP growth to peak to 7.8% in April-June quarter and then moderate to 7.2 per cent in the second half of 2018. The GDP growth was at 7.7 per cent in January-March quarter 2018.

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AWARDS

- Gopalkrishna Gandhi has been chosen for the 24th Rajiv Gandhi National Sadbhavana Award for his contribution in promoting communal harmony, peace and goodwill.
 - Gopalkrishna Gandhi is a former governor of West Bengal. He will be presented with this award at an event on 20th August 2018 at Jawahar Bhawan in Delhi.

SCIENCE & TECHNOLOGY

- China successfully launched Gaofen-11 satellite, an optical remote sensing satellite, as part of its high-resolution Earth observation project.
 - The Gaofen-11 satellite was launched on a Long March 4B rocket from the Taiyuan Satellite Launch Center in northern Shanxi Province, China.

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SPORTS

- Indian javelin thrower Neeraj Chopra won a gold medal in the Savo Games in Lapinlahti, Finland. Neeraj Chopra made a throw of 85.69 meters and won the gold medal.
- Dustin Johnson won the 2018 RBC Canadian Open at the Glen Abbey Golf Club in Oakville in Canada. Dustin Johnson shot a 6-under par 66 and won his first RBC Canadian Open at 23-under par. He is currently in world number one position.

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