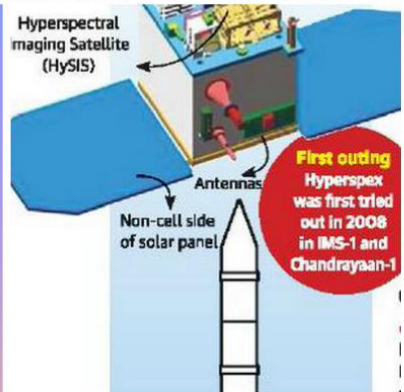
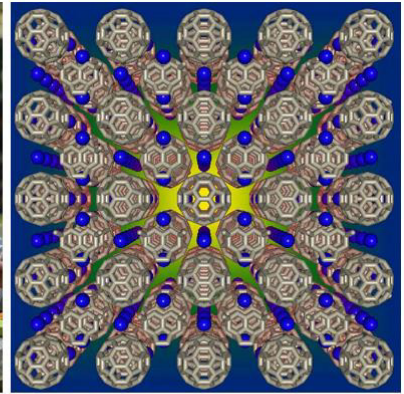


Current Affairs: August, 2017



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1. **HySIS Satellite**

ISRO has launched a Hyperspectral Imaging Satellite which is full-fledged Imaging Earth Observation Satellite. It has optical Imaging detector Array. Hypspx can identify the objects on earth by reading spectrum for each scene from space. ISRO also has RISAT 1 & 2 which are Radar Imaging Satellite and they can see through clouds and dark.

2. **Ajeevika Gramin Express Yojana**

Govt. of India has launched a Sub-Scheme as a part of Deen Dayal Antyodaya Yojana – National Rural Livelihood Mission (DDU-NRLM). This is to provide easy transport services for rural areas and access to markets.

3. **She Means Business**

It is a program by Facebook and is launched in 16 countries in the world including India. In India it was launched in Bhubaneswar. It is to reach out to aspiring young women entrepreneurs and help them grow their business. Facebook has partnered with Odisha's MSME Department and **Project Mission Shakti** to train 25000 entrepreneurs by end of 2018.

4. **World Elephant Day 2017**

It is celebrated every year on 12th August to dedicate this day on preserving and protecting the Elephants. Union Ministry of Environment, Forests, and Climate Change launched 'Gaj Yatra' to kick start a campaign to protect elephants and cover 12 elephant range states. The mascot is 'GAJU' launched by the Ministry in 2012.

5. **E-Shakti**

It is a pilot Project by NABARD for digitization of Self-help Groups. It will help banks with real time data and enable them better credit flow as well as linking with Aadhar Services will definitely provide hassle free payments and support transfer.

6. **Dhrupad Maestro of Hindustani Classical Music 'Saeed Bhai' passed away**

Ustaad Hussain Sayyeduddin Dagar, custodian of Dhrupad tradition dies at 78. He was born in Alwar and is one of the famous 8 brothers of Dhrupad music family. '**DHRUPAD**' is made from 'Dhruv' meaning immovable and 'Pad' meaning Verse. It has sanskritic roots and has origins as old as **Natyashastra** in 3rd century B.C.

7. **NASA- ISRO Synthetic Aperture Radar Mission (NISAR)**

ISRO and NASA are working together to develop a Radar that could be able to assess agricultural Biomass, analyse soil erosion, ice melting deforestation etc., to be completed by 2021.

8. **Mission XI Million**

It is a joint program of Ministry of Youth Affairs and Sports and All India Football Federation and FIFA to popularize football in India. It's target is to reach 11 Million boys and Girls by the end of September 2017 and encourage them to play Football.

9. **Earth Overshoot Day 2017**

It is that day when people's consumption of resources exceeds the earth's capacity to produce for that year. This year it is August 2, while it was December 19, in 1987. It is calculated by Global Footprint Network. This year we have used up all resources already in August with 5 months to go. This shows how rapidly man is consuming natural resources.

10. **BharatMala Project**

It is an Umbrella Program under the Ministry of Road Transport and Highways which will subsume unfinished parts of National Highways Development Program (NHDP).

It will focus on border and coastal roads as well as Economic Corridors.

11. **Pradhan Mantri Paridhan Protsahan Rojgar Yojana**

It is a scheme by Ministry of Textiles. It benefits employers registered with Employees Provident Fund Organisation (EPFO) for creation of New Employment. It this Govt. Of India will pay 8.33% of EPF contribution to employees on behalf of employer for every new job created. Apart from Ministry of Labour's contribution Ministry of Textiles will also pay an additional 3.67% to the EPF.

12. **Gender Champions Scheme**

To make boys and Girls gender sensitive and create positive social norms. It is a scheme by Ministry of HRD and Ministry of Women and Child development.

13. **IRNSS 1A to be replaced by IRNSS 1H**

Indian Regional Navigation Satellite System also called NAVIC (Navigation with Indian Constellation) system of 7 satellites 1A to G. Out of these 7, 1A has developed a failure in its Rubidium Atomic Clocks and will be replaced by IRNSS 1H.

14. **Hathkargha Samvardhana Sahayata**

It is a scheme launched by Ministry of textiles for Handloom Weavers. GOI will provide assistance of upto 90% for new looms which cannot be afforded by weavers.

15. **Pradhan Mantri Bhartiya JanAushadhi Yojana**

It is a scheme under Ministry of Chemical and fertilizers, Department of Pharmaceuticals. It is aimed to provide generic drugs which have same effect while treating for diseases but are very low prices.

16. **SAMVAD**

It is a global initiative on Conflict Avoidance and Environment Consciousness. It's Second Edition took place in Yangon, Myanmar. 1st edition took place in Vivekananda Centre, New Delhi in 2015.

17. **CUBESATS**

They are very small miniature satellites of 10*10*10 cm cubic units. They are using Ultra-Purified water as propellant. It uses FEMTA Thrusters, a small capillary thrust vents to jet the outgoing water and maneuver the cubesats.

18. **Patagotitan – World's Largest Dinosaur Candidate**

More than 150 Patagotitan fossils have been unearthed in Patagonia. According to a group of scientists working on this, it was the largest animal ever to walk this earth. Patagotitan lived about 100 years ago during the late Cretaceous Period. It was a plant eating-long-necked, dinosaur with long tail and walked on 4 legs and in Titanosaur category.

19. **World Optometry Congress**

It is World Council of Optometry in collaboration with Asia-Pacific Council of Optometry and India Vision Institute. It is held once in every two years, first one was held in Colombia in 2015. The second one will be held in Hyderabad. The theme is 'Accessible, quality vision and eye health'. It coincides with the WHO's '**Universal Eye Health: A global**

action Plan 2014-2019', which aims to reduce the prevalence of avoidable visual impairment by 25% by 2017.

20. SITA Project

It is 'Supporting Indian Trade and Investment for Africa' and is a project of International trade Centre that aims to catalyze \$80million worth of investment by 2020 between East African Countries and India. 5 Countries are Kenya Uganda Tanzania Rwanda and Ethiopia.

21. Sankalp Se Siddhi Movement

It is a new India Movement 2017-2022 launched on the occasion marking 75th anniversary of Quit India Movement. It envisages Poverty, Corruption, Communalism, Casteism, Uncleanliness.

22. New Earthworm Species discovered in Kerala

2 new species of earthworm belonging to the primitive family Moniligastridae in the Western Ghats mountain ranges in Kerala. 2 new Species are *Drawidapolydiverticulata* and *Drawidathomasi* were described in the journal ZooKeys. They have multiple lobes called diverticulums an organ located in the front body, are unique amongst the members of the genus. They were found widespread in the protected shola grasslands of the Munnar region, including Erivakulam national park, Pampadun Shola National Park and Chinnar Wildlife Sanctuary.

23. Jahn-Teller Metals Discovered

Scientists have discovered a new state of material that appears to be an insulator, superconductor, metal and magnet all rolled into one, that could lead to the development of more effective high-temperature superconductors. It has been made from C-60 molecules or buckyballs.

24. World's Smallest Surgical Robot

UK scientists have made robot called **Versius**, mimics the human arm and can operate in place of traditional open surgery. They can be used in hernia repairs, ear, nose, and throat surgery.

25. National Sports Awards

Union Government announced National Sports Awards.

Rajiv Gandhi Khel Ratna 2017

Devendra : Athlete

Sardar Singh : Hockey

Dronacharya Awards 2017

Dr. R Gandhi : Athletics

HeeraNand Kataria : Kabaddi

G.S.S.V Prasad : Badminton

Brij Bhushan Mohanty : Boxing

P. A. Raphael : Hockey

Sanjoy Chakraborty : Shooting

Roshan Lal : Wrestling

Arjuna Awards

Cheteshwar Pujara : Cricket

Harmanpreet Kaur : Cricket

Mariyappan : Wrestling

Dhyan Chand Award

It is a sporting honour of India

Syed Shahid Hakim : Football

Bhupender Singh : Athletics

Sumarai Tete: Hockey

26. A frog with a Pig's Nose

NasikaBatraChusBhupathi, is a new Species of frog that has a snout-shaped nose, just like a pig in West Ghats. It has named after the Indian herpetologist S. Bhupathy.

It is similar to Purple Frog found in Seychelles.

27. Project Brainwave

It is a project of Microsoft with deep learning acceleration platform for real time artificial Intelligence (AI). It uses Ultra-Low latency and massive field-programmable gate array (FPGA) infrastructure that Microsoft has been deployed over the past few years.

28. Gobindbhog Rice of West Bengal gets GI Tags

Burdwan District has a speciality of Rice, 'GobindBhog Rice' which grows in the Southern Basin of Damodar River. It is less prone to pests as well. Burdwan is called as the rice bowl of Bengal.

29. IAEA opens Uranium bank in Kazakhstan

International Atomic Energy agency, U. N. global nuclear watchdog, opened a uranium bank with a \$150 million facility designed to discourage new nations from the nuclear fuel. It is Low Enriched Uranium (LEU) bank in the City of Oskemen. It will store 90 tonnes fuel.

30. **C-Dot's WiDHWAN system**

Centre of Development of Telemetrics has created WiDHWAN to cater the recurring call drop issues in no-signal and low-signal scenarios. It is an Autonomous Telecom Technology Development Centre under the Ministry of Communication.

31. **ASTRA Missile and Modified Barak-8 Missile**

Astra Missile is made by DRDO and is a BVR missile Beyond Visual Range with range from 20km to 110. It will be inducted in IAF this year and this was test fired from Sukhoi-30 MKI aircraft. Indian Navy got LRSAM (Long Range Surface to Air Missile) which is a modified version of Barak-8. It is a ship launch version jointly developed by Israel and India. It is capable to target deep water/land, Supersonic and Subsonic Missiles, Fighter Aircraft, Helicopter and Sea Skimming Missiles.

32. **Global Livability Index**

Melbourne in Australia has been named the most livable city for sixth time in a row. Global Livability Ranking is a list of 140 countries published by Economic Intelligence Unit. Least Livable City is Damascus, Syria.

33. **Koodiyattam**

It is only surviving ancient Sanskrit Theatre and that is a combined Dance and Drama as well. It is believed to be created by Kulshekara Varma Perumal, ancient king of Kerala. He wrote a book called Attaprakaram which is authority on Art form till date. Koodiyattam is officially recognized as masterpiece of Oral and Intangible Heritage of Humanity by UNESCO.

34. **SUNREF Housing India Scheme**

It is Sustainable Use of Natural Resources and Energy Finance and to be launched by National Housing Bank along with French Development Agency and European Union. They will give 112 Million Euros to NHB for Green Housing Energy Projects.

35. New Polio vaccine Discovered in UK

John Innes Centre, Norwich, UK have created a vaccine that uses Virus-like Particles. They are non-pathogenic Mimics made in plants. They create simulation of Polio allowing the immune system to respond without actually infecting.

36. Cabinet Approves setting up of Madhyamik and Uchatar Shiksha Kosh

MUSK will be a single corpus fund maintained by Ministry of HRD and funds will be allocated to schemes of Secondary and Higher Education. It will be accessed only when gross budget is exhausted. Its funds will be used under PrarambhikShikshaKosh, SarvaShikshaAbhiyan, MidDayMeal Scheme etc.

37. All-India Elephant Census

Ministry of Environment carried out First ever Synchronised Elephant Census which gave various results. Karnataka has highest number of Elephants, 2nd Assam, 3rd Kerala. Project elephant was started in 1992, and was to protect Elephant habitats and stop poaching etc.

38. Ecosystem Service Improvement Project

Global Environment Facility and World bank signed on a project with India and will fund it entirely for 5 years for the states of Chhattisgarh and Madhya Pradesh. GEF was pilot project in 1991, and became proper Institution in 1992 Rio Summit and then 1994, world bank became its trustee. GEF works on implementing mechanisms for 5 major Conventions-

- a. Minamata convention on Mercury
- b. Stockholm Convention on Persistent Organic Pollutants
- c. UN Convention of Biodiversity
- d. UN Convention to combat Desertification
- e. UNFCCC

39. North Koel Reservoir Project

It is a tributary of Son River in Jharkhand, and joins Ganga in Bihar. Project is to make Mandal dam in Jharkhand. Tributary flows near Betla National Park and Dam may cause flooding in Palamu Tiger Reserve.

40. Indira Canteen Scheme

Rahul Gandhi launched this Scheme in Karnataka.

41. Jaljyukt Shivar Yojana

It is a watershed management scheme by Maharashtra Government and will be helped by 2030 Water resources Group to raise \$270 Million.

42. Jharkhand State Assembly passed the **Religious Freedom Bill** to stop forced conversions in the State.

43. **Nungthaang Tampak Village** of Manipur becomes first village in North East to be 100% Computer Literate.

44. China Launches First ever **overseas military base** in **Djibouti**. It is small country on the Horn of Africa , near Somalia.