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Important Current Affairs 13th August 2017 in PDF

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Important Current Affairs 13th August 2017

- **Chatterjee to chair US energy commission**
 - The White House said that President Donald Trump had appointed Neil Chatterjee as chair of the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission.
 - Chatterjee had previously been an energy policy advisor to US Senate Majority Leader Mitch McConnell, a Republican.
 - The Federal Energy Regulatory Commission regulates the transmission and sale of electricity and natural gas in USA.
- **IIP shrinks 0.1% in June 2017**
 - Factory output fell to a four-year low and contracted by 0.1% in June with poor performance of manufacturing and mining sectors.
 - In contrast, IIP grew by a healthy eight per cent in June 2016. For May, IIP growth has been revised upwards to 2.8%.
 - This is the lowest growth since June 2013 when the Index of Industrial Production (IIP) contracted by 1%.
- **Govt to amend cost audit rules**





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- Govt will amend cost audit rules under companies law to ensure parity b/w financial & cost records.
- Corporate affairs ministry, which is implementing Companies Act, has come out with a draft of proposed amendments to Cost Records & Audit rules.
- Existing provisions including ones related to intangible assets would be done away while Ind AS compliance would be required for other aspects.
- **Israel fence systems at Pak Borders**
 - India is deploying along its volatile border with Pakistan a smart Israel-developed fencing system.
 - The fencing system has a 'quick response team' mechanism which strikes when CCTV-powered control room detects an infiltration attempt.
 - New equipment & technologies will be integrated and a feed, from CCTV cameras, will go to the border out post where a monitor will be installed.
- **U-19 cricket Asia Cup shifted**
 - Under-19 cricket Asia Cup, scheduled to be held in Bengaluru, has been moved to Malaysia following Pakistan Cricket Board's objection to the tournament being held in India.
 - PCB had earlier expressed its reservations in travelling to India owing to political tensions b/w the 2 countries.
 - Tournament will feature 8 teams, with Pakistan, India, Bangladesh & Sri Lanka qualifying automatically.
- **India INX to begin gold options**
 - BSEs India INX has received an approval from SEBI to commence trading in gold options contracts from August 30.
 - It will be the first one in India and IFSC to commence trading from August 30.
 - It will enhance overall market participation & also complement the existing futures.
 - India INX, a wholly owned subsidiary of BSE, is located at International Financial Services Centre, GIFT City.
- **World's fastest mobile internet**
 - According to leader in broadband testing Ookla, Norway has the fastest mobile Internet in the world.
 - Average Internet speed of Norwegians' mobile phones has increased by 69% during last year & has speed of 52.6 MiB/s.





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- In only 13 months, Norway has jumped from 11th to 1st place on list of world best providers of fast Internet connection.
- Netherlands & Hungary are ranked no. 2 & 3 on the list
- **Space Station to get 1st supercomputer**
 - The International Space Station is expected to get its first supercomputer next week.
 - Hewlett Packard Enterprise will launch a supercomputer into space on the SpaceX Dragon spacecraft as part of a joint experiment with NASA.
 - The system, called the Spaceborne Computer, is designed to last for a year, which is roughly the amount of time it will take to travel to Mars.
- **India's first disaster village**
 - India's first 'Railways disaster management village' is expected to come up on the outskirts of Bengaluru by December next year.
 - The village, about 25 km from Bengaluru, will also have a virtual reality centre for analysis of railway accidents.
 - Overaged rolling stock will be used to replicate train accidents so that real time rescue operations could be carried out to improve such efforts.
- **India, Russia to hold mega war games**
 - India & Russia will hold a mega war game involving their armies, navies & air forces for the 1st time to ramp up military ties.
 - Exercise Indra will be held in Russia from Oct 19 to 29, focus will be on achieving coordination b/w forces of the 2 countries.
 - It will be for the 1st time India will participate in a tri-services exercise with a foreign country with such a large scale participation
- **George bags first Kesari Media Award**
 - Veteran journalist T J S George has been chosen for the first Kesari Media Award, instituted by the Kesari Memorial Journalist Trust.
 - The award comprises a purse of Rs 50,000, citation and a statuette designed by renowned artist Bhatathiri.
 - George is a writer and biographer who received a Padma Bhushan award in 2011 in the field of literature and education.
- **2016 as warmest year on record**





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- Report compiled by US govt agency has confirmed that 2016 was the warmest year on record & the 3rd year in a row of record global warmth.
- Heat was the result of long-term global warming & a strong El Niño weather phenomenon.
- Global surface & sea temperatures, sea levels & greenhouse gases levels were all at record highs.
- 2016 surpassed 2015 as the warmest year in 137 years of record keeping
- **Usain Bolt fails to finish the last**
 - Usain Bolt ended his stellar career in excruciating pain as the Jamaican crumpled to the track while chasing a final gold medal during the 400-meter relay.
 - Bolt will end his career on the track with 11 World Championships gold medals.
 - Bolt is 11-time world champion and the first athlete to hold 100- and 200-meter world records since fully automatic time became mandatory.
- **Law to ensure transparency rules**
 - Economic Survey has recommended govt to introduce a new law to ensure transparency of rules.
 - Survey stressed that opaque mesh of regulations in India not only make life difficult for citizen, but also act as a magnet for corruption & endless litigation.
 - Survey suggests Transparency of Rules Act as a possible solution, TORA is an attempt to change the relationship b/w average citizen & State.
- **Ministerial Meeting of BIMSTEC Concludes**
 - The 15th Ministerial Meeting of BIMSTEC was concluded at Kathmandu, Nepal.
 - Members agreed to emphasise the need for greater cooperation in trade & investment in order to deepen regional integration in Bay of Bengal region.
 - They also welcomed launch of BIMSTEC Tele-medicine Network by JIPMER India to strengthen collaboration among premier medical institutions in the region.
- **Chundan lifts 65th Nehru Trophy**
 - Gabriel Chundan, the snake boat powered by oarsmen of Thuruthippuram Boat Club won the 65th edition of Nehru Trophy held at Punnamda Lake.
 - While 'Mahadevikkad Kattilthekkettil' came 2nd, 'Payippad' & 'Karichal', last year's winner, secured 3rd & 4th spots respectively.
 - Nehru trophy was instituted to commemorate visit of 1st Indian PM Jawaharlal Nehru to the area & his boat ride in the lake.





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- **'Gaj Yatra' to mark World Elephant Day**
 - Union Minister, Harsh Vardhan launched 'Gaj Yatra', a nationwide campaign to protect elephants on the occasion of World Elephant Day.
 - The campaign is planned to cover 12 elephant range states.
 - Artists & craftsmen will create life-size works on the theme of elephants in places along the route of the roadshow.
 - 'Gaju' mascot, which was released by Ministry in 2012, will be helm the campaign.
- **President Uhuru Kenyatta wins 2nd term**
 - Kenya's President Uhuru Kenyatta has been re-elected, defeating opposition leader & longtime rival Raila Odinga in a tense contest.
 - Kenyatta garnered 54.27% of the final vote while Odinga received 44.74%.
 - Opposition rejected results even before they were declared, calling the process a "charade"
 - Protests in several opposition strongholds erupted shortly after Kenyatta's victory was declared
- **Vempati given additional charge of RSTV**
 - Shashi Shekhar Vempati, chief executive officer of public broadcaster Prasar Bharati has been appointed as the chief of Rajya Sabha TV.
 - Vempati will replace Gurdeep Singh Sappal who has been serving as the CEO and editor-in-chief of Rajya Sabha TV since 2011.
 - Rajya Sabha TV is owned and operated by Rajya Sabha and covers the proceedings of the upper house of the Parliament.
- **Vidya Balan to be part of CBFC**
 - National Award-winning actress Vidya Balan has been appointed as part of the reconstituted Central Board of Film Certification, to be now chaired by writer Praseen Joshi.
 - The CBFC has been reconstituted for a period of three years or until further orders, whichever is earlier.
 - Vidya is joined by Gautami Tadimalla, Narendra Kohli, Neil Herbert Nongkynrih, Vivek Agnihotri among others.





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