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Important Current Affairs 16th August 2017 with PDF

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Important Current Affairs 16th August 2017

- **Indira canteen in Bengaluru**
 - Congress vice-president Rahul Gandhi launched 'Indira Canteen' in Bengaluru with the vision of providing good quality of food to the poor at a cheap price.
 - Breakfast would be served at Rs. 5 and lunch and dinner at Rs. 10 in the canteen.
 - 101 canteens will be opened in the initial phase. More will be opened in 97 wards from October 2 to mark Mahatma Gandhi's 150th birthday.
- **Govt to make 20 universities world class**
 - Prime Minister Modi has said his govt plans to invest Rs 1,000 cr to transform 20 universities into "world class" educational institutions.
 - Centre has taken an important step to grant the universities freedom from restrictions to make them world class universities.
 - Govt will not interfere in their functioning & funds up to Rs 1,000 cr will be provided to transform these institutions.
- **Tissue bandage to repair hearts**





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- Scientists have developed an injectable tissue bandage smaller than a postage stamp that can repair damaged hearts.
- Researchers at University of Toronto have developed a technique that lets them use a small needle to inject a repair patch, without the need to open up chest cavity.
- AngioChip is a tiny patch of heart tissue with its own blood vessels & heart cells beating with a regular rhythm
- **CSS Corp wins Silver Stevie**
 - CSS Corp was named the winner of a Silver Stevie Award in Best New Product or Service of the Year - Software - Platform as a Service category at 14th Annual International Business Awards 2017.
 - CSS Corp was conferred the recognition for its proprietary AI platform, Yodaa.
 - The International Business Awards are the world's premier business awards program.
- **Biggest Single Tower Solar Thermal Plant**
 - The govt of South Australia has announced plans to construct the world's largest single-tower solar thermal power plant in Port Augusta.
 - The Aurora Solar Energy Project is projected to have an output of 150 megawatts and an ability to generate 495 gigawatt hours of electricity each year.
 - Solar thermal technology uses mirrors to concentrate the Sun's light at the top of a tower.
- **Cabinet approves new metro rail policy**
 - The govt has approved a new metro rail policy for expanding the metro network across various cities in the country.
 - The metro policy will talk about standardising norms and developing a procurement mechanism for implementation of the projects. It will also talk about funding and financing.
 - At present, metro projects with a total length of more than 350 km are operational in 8 cities.
- **Dhoni to set up cricket academy in Dubai**





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- Mahendra Singh Dhoni has announced that he'll be setting up a coaching academy in Dubai Pacific Sports Club in UAE.
- Dhoni has teamed up with Pacific Sports Club as they launch MS Dhoni Cricket Academy (MSDCA) & their operations in emirate.
- PSC & MSDCA will be working hand-in-hand to develop & launch training camps that will hopefully become a breeding ground for future professional athletes.
- **World's most liveable city**
 - Melbourne has been declared the most liveable city in the world for 7th year running by Economist's annual global liveability survey.
 - Melbourne scored 97.5 out of 100, pipping Vienna for the top spot, after scoring strong marks for healthcare, education & infrastructure.
 - Melbourne's relatively low crime rate was as one of the main reasons it outranked other high-performing cities.
- **Nepal and China sign three agreements**
 - Nepal & China have reached 3 different bilateral agreements to bolster economic cooperation between the two countries.
 - Agreements cover 3 different domains - economic & technological cooperation, oil & gas resources survey project & framework agreement on promotion of investment & economic cooperation.
 - Both the sides also agreed to enhance functions & facilities at Nepal-China border ports.
- **Goyal gets 1 year extension as ITPO CMD**
 - Tenure of L C Goyal as Chairman and MD of India Trade Promotion Organisation has been extended by 1 year.
 - Appointments Committee of the Cabinet has approved the extension for a period of 1 year, beyond Sep 1, 2017.
 - He is a 1979-batch IAS officer of Karnataka cadre & has served as Home Secretary.
 - ITPO is nodal trade promotion agency of govt & functions under supervision of commerce ministry.
- **India to open first Partition museum**





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- A museum based on partition of the Indian subcontinent is set to open in Amritsar.
- It will feature photographs, newspaper clippings & personal items showcasing struggle for freedom & violence that followed during the partition of the country.
- Museum is a nonprofit trust that has raised money from individuals & companies including Airtel & Hindustan Times, Punjab govt has donated the space.
- **NHRC issues notice to UP government**
 - National Human Rights Commission has issued a notice to UP govt over deaths of dozens of children & others at Baba Raghav Das Medical College hospital in Gorakhpur.
 - Total of 63 patients admitted to intensive care unit died in a span of days, reportedly because of oxygen supply being stopped due to pending payments to the supplier
 - NHRC is responsible for protection & promotion of human rights
- **India moves to revive TAPI gas pipeline**
 - India will host the next steering committee meeting of proposed 1,814km long Turkmenistan-Afghanistan-Pakistan-India (TAPI) gas pipeline.
 - Decision came during the 6th joint Inter-Governmental Committee meeting on trade, economic, scientific and technological cooperation.
 - The pipeline will transport Caspian Sea natural gas from Turkmenistan through Afghanistan into Pakistan and then to India.
- **Nabard awards for Corporation Bank**
 - Corporation Bank has bagged the best performance awards for SHG-bank linkage programme for Karnataka for 2015-16 & 2016-17 from National Bank for Agriculture & Rural Development
 - Bank was given the award for its overall performance under SHG-bank linkage programme for 2015-16 & 2016-17 among commercial banks operating in Karnataka
 - Bank has formed more than 1.32 lakh self-help groups till date
- **Talks on crucial transit corridor**





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- India & Turkmenistan discussed India's joining to Ashgabat Agreement that envisages establishment of International Transport & Transit Corridor b/w Iran, Oman & Turkmenistan.
- In 2016, Govt decided to accede to Ashgabat Agreement that would enable India to utilise transport & transit corridor to facilitate trade with Eurasian region.
- Turkmenistan is the Depository State of Ashgabat Agreement.
- **G-7 interior ministers summit**
 - Italy will host a summit of Group of Seven Interior Ministers centered on security issues in the fall.
 - The meeting is being organized at the request of Italy's G-7 partners: Canada, France, Germany, the United Kingdom, Japan and the United States.
 - Italy currently holds the rotating helm of the G-7 industrialized nations.
- **RCom's merger with Aircel gets NCLT nod**
 - National Company Law Tribunal has approved the merger of Reliance Communications & Aircel.
 - RCom will merge into Aircel & a new entity 'Aircom' will be created, with both partners having 50% equity stakes.
 - Both companies will also transfer Rs 14,000 cr of debt each to the new entity, apart from a deferred liability, essentially payment for spectrum in instalments of Rs 7,000 cr over 8 years.
- **Govt slaps \$264 mn penalty on RIL, BP**
 - Govt has imposed a penalty of \$264 million on Reliance Industries & its partners for producing less than targeted natural gas from eastern offshore KG—D6 fields in 2015-16.
 - Total penalty now for missing target during 6 years stands at \$3.02 billion
 - PSC allows RIL & its partners BP Plc & Niko Resources to deduct all capital & operating expenses from sale of gas before sharing profit with govt
- **SBI gives leg-up to CSR initiatives**
 - SBI has launched a CSR initiative, SBI Gram Seva which will work in areas of health, education, environment & rural infrastructure.





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- SBI Foundation will partner with NGOs to carry out CSR initiatives under which will adopt 5 villages each from 10 village panchayats with each village getting Rs 2.40 cr over next 3 years
- 10 gram panchayats comprising of 50 villages in 6 states have been adopted
- **Sankara Rao to be IFCI Chief Executive**
 - IFCI is set to have a new Managing Director & CEO in E Sankara Rao.
 - He is currently a director and chief executive officer at IIFCL Asset Management Company.
 - Appointments Committee of Cabinet has given its nod for Department of Financial Services proposal to appoint Emandi Sankara Rao as Managing Director & Chief Executive Officer of IFCI.
 - Rao's appointment will be valid for three years.

[Attempt Current Affair Quiz for 16th August 2017](#)

