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Important Current Affairs 17th August 2017 with PDF

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Important Current Affairs 17th August 2017

- **India beats Austria**
 - Ramandeep Singh and Chinglensana Singh Kangujam struck twice to guide the Indian men's hockey team to a sensational 4-3 win over Austria in their final encounter of the Europe Tour.
 - After two successive wins against World No.4 The Netherlands, India made a steady start against Austria.
 - The match was held in Amstelveen, the Netherlands.
- **Motorcyclist creates world record**
 - A motorcyclist who rode through storms and across deserts has set a new world record.
 - Kane Avellano from South Shields, has officially become the youngest person to circumnavigate the world solo by motorcycle according to the Guinness World Records.





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- The 28,000-mile (45,000km) trip took Mr. Avellano and his Triumph Bonneville just under eight months.
- **FASTags for Electronic Toll Collection**
 - In order to facilitate the availability of FASTags for Electronic Toll Collection, NHAH has taken two revolutionary steps in consultation with RBI and NPCI.
 - These include Online sale of FASTags and offline sale through Common Services Centre near toll plazas.
 - FASTag can also be purchased online from Issuer Banks websites / NHAH website / IHMCL website.
- **Fiat Chrysler & BMW to develop Robotaxi**
 - Fiat Chrysler will join an alliance led by BMW to develop self-driving cars, intensifying a race by carmakers and technology companies to develop "Robotaxis" which can be called up via smartphone and paid for by the minute.
 - The market for such self-driving cabs could be worth \$2 trillion by 2030.
 - The first car will enter production in 2021.
- **EESL and IOCL, BPCL & HPCL sign MOUs**
 - Energy Efficiency Services Limited signed a MoU with Oil Marketing Companies under the Ministry of Petroleum and Natural Gas for distribution of energy efficient appliances.
 - The consumer can purchase high-quality 9W LED Bulbs for Rs 70, 20W LED Tubelight for Rs 220 and Five-Star Rated Ceiling Fan for Rs 1200.
 - The three Public Sector Oil Marketing Companies are IOC, HP& BPCL.
- **Missing link in dinosaur evolution found**
 - A bizarre dinosaur, which looked like a raptor but was in fact a vegetarian, may be the 'missing link' between plant-eating dinosaurs and carnivores such as the dreaded Tyrannosaurus rex.
 - The results, published in the journal Biology Letters, suggest that Chilesaurus effectively fills a large gap between two of the major dinosaur groups.
 - Chilesaurus was first discovered in 2015.
- **Forbes 2017's highest paid actresses**





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- Deepika Padukone has dropped out of Forbes magazines World's Highest-Paid Actresses 2017 list, which is led by Hollywood actress Emma Stone.
- Stone collected \$26 million due to her Oscar-winning performance in musical film "La La Land" and has surpassed Jennifer Lawrence, who claimed the top spot in 2016 and 2015.
- Jennifer Aniston was runner-up with \$25.5 million.
- **HDFC cuts interest rate on savings acct**
 - HDFC Bank has reduced interest rate on savings bank accounts by 50 basis points to 3.5 % on deposits up to Rs 50 lakh.
 - A revision in savings bank interest rate is effective August 19, 2017.
 - Post revision, customers maintaining savings bank account balance of Rs 50 lakh and above will continue to earn interest at four per annum.
- **India signs Global Environment Facility**
 - A Grant Agreement from the Global Environment Facility of the World Bank of \$24.64 million for "Ecosystem Service Improvement Project" was signed by the govt.
 - The project will be financed by the World Bank out of its GEF Trust Fund.
 - The project's duration is 5 years.
- **World's largest student survey**
 - The Human Resource Development Ministry has announced November 13 as the date for conducting its National Assessment Survey for the students of class 3, 5 & 8.
 - This time, approximately 30 lakh students will be assessed in the year 2017-18 making it the world's largest sample survey of student learning achievement.
 - The date was announced by HRD Minister Prakash Javdekar.
- **New tectonic plate discovered**
 - US-based Rice University researchers have found a new tectonic plate in the eastern Pacific Ocean off Ecuador's coast.
 - It is named after a Colombian island, the Malpelo plate is the 57th plate to be discovered and the first in nearly a decade.
 - The research was published in the journal Geophysical Research Letters.





- **Damselfly named after David Attenborough**
 - Scientists have named a 100-million-year-old damselfly after veteran broadcaster and naturalist, Sir David Attenborough.
 - The delicate creature, dubbed Mesosticta David Attenborough, was discovered in Burma's Kachin province locked inside a nugget of amber dating from the mid-Cretaceous, when dinosaurs still lorded over the planet.
 - Amber is a fossilised form of tree resin.
- **Instant credit cards**
 - City Union Bank is going to offer instant credit cards and customers can generate a credit card online.
 - The bank introduced the option of an “instant credit card” for free for its Net banking customers.
 - CUB has tied-up with MasterCard for the instant credit card.
- **NPPA caps price of knee implants**
 - The drug price regulator National Pharmaceuticals Pricing Authority has capped the prices of orthopaedic knee implants up to 70% lower than current market prices.
 - The standard, widely used cobalt chromium in knee replacement surgery will now cost Rs 54,720 as against an earlier MRP of Rs 1,58,324.
 - A price cap on implants is expected to benefit millions of patients with orthopaedic problems.
- **India has 27312 elephants**
 - Preliminary results from the first ever synchronised all India Elephant Population Estimation pegs India's Asian elephant population at 27312.
 - According to the report, released by the Ministry of Environment, Forests and Climate Change on Aug12, Karnataka has the highest number of elephants, followed by Assam & Kerala.
 - The survey was carried out by the Asian Nature Conservation Foundation
- **Madhyamik and Uchchatar Shiksha Kosh**
 - The Union Cabinet approved the creation of a non-lapsable corpus fund for secondary and higher education.



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- The corpus—Madhyamik and Uchchatar Shiksha Kosh will have all the proceeds from the 1% cess the government collects under the ‘secondary and higher education cess’ which has been in place since 2007.
- The fund will be akin to the Prarambhik Shiksha Kosh.
- **How first animals appeared on Earth**
 - Scientists have solved the mystery of how the first animals appeared on Earth.
 - Researchers led by The Australian National University analysed ancient sedimentary rocks from central Australia, finding that the evolution of animals began with the rise of algae 650 million years ago.
 - Rise of algae triggered one of the most profound ecological revolutions in Earth's history.
- **Cabinet clears India, Sweden MoU**
 - Union Cabinet has cleared MoU signing b/w India & Sweden on intellectual property right cooperation, aimed at benefiting entrepreneurs, investors & businesses.
 - This will enable India to exchange experiences in innovation and IP ecosystems.
 - MoU will also cover cooperation in automation & modernisation projects, new documentation & information system in IP and procedures for management of IP.
- **YES Bank cuts savings a/c interest rate**
 - Yes Bank has reduced the interest rate on savings bank accounts by 1% to 5% for deposits of less than Rs 1 lakh.
 - However, the bank will continue to pay 6% interest on deposits of over Rs 1 lakh & less than Rs 1 crore.
 - Bank has also slashed interest rate on savings accounts to 6.25% from existing 6.5% for deposits over Rs 1 crore.
 - Yes Bank is the 5th lender to reduce saving account interest rate.
- **No export of gold items over 22-carat**
 - Govt has banned exports of gold jewellery, medallions & other articles with purity above 22 carats to check round tripping of precious metal.





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- Provisions of foreign trade policy are amended to allow export of gold jewelry & articles containing gold up to a max limit of 22 carats only from domestic tariff area & export-oriented units.
- India is world's 2nd biggest gold consumer after China.

Attempt Current Affair Quiz for 17th August 2017

