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Important Current Affairs 22nd August 2017 with PDF

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Important Current Affairs 22nd August 2017

- **Interline partnership with Vistara**
 - Qatar Airways has entered into an interline partnership with Vistara, under which customers of 2 carriers will have seamless travel to & from India to over 150 destinations.
 - Interline arrangement refers to a pact to issue & accept tickets for flights that are operated by partner airline.
 - Qatar Airways operates to 13 cities in India from Doha while Vistara operates to 18 domestic destinations
- **Triple Talaq Unconstitutional**
 - Triple talaq, the controversial Muslim divorce law that allows men to leave their wives immediately by uttering "talaq" thrice has been banned by Supreme Court
 - Calling it "bad in law", a constitution bench of 5 judges said that triple talaq "is not integral to religious practice & violates constitutional morality"
 - 5 judges of different faiths heard the case over 5 days from May 12 to May 18





- **Centre of Battery Engineering at IIT**
 - Ashok Leyland and Indian Institute of Technology Madras have signed a Memorandum of Understanding to set up a Centre of Battery Engineering at IIT Madras.
 - The objective of this MOU is to promote R&D activities for strengthening battery engineering and related sub-parts, especially for electric vehicles.
 - Ashok Leyland will provide a funding of Rs 1.5 cr over a 5-year period to this centre.
- **Lakshmi Vilas Bank ropes in McKinsey**
 - Lakshmi Vilas Bank has roped in McKinsey for consultation on strengthening & reorganising MSME business, especially in southern region.
 - Bank has chalked out a strategy to revamp its MSME business in an effort to double its book to Rs10,000 cr by 2020.
 - Aim of the exercise is to gain market share & better connect with clients not only for funding requirement but also offer other solutions.
- **8th World Renewable Energy Technology**
 - 8th World Renewable Energy Technology Congress took place in New Delhi.
 - It focusses on Green Technologies to ensure clean & affordable Renewable Energy supplies.
 - It provides an opportunity & open forum to exchange info & best practices by bringing together multi stake holders.
 - It is visualized & planned in backdrop of India's vision on achieving Energy Independence & Power for all by 2022.
- **Australia claim first FIBA Asia Cup**
 - Australia defeated Iran 79-56 to claim the championship of the FIBA Asian Cup basketball tournament in Beirut.
 - It was the first appearance for Australia in the tournament, while Iran is a three-time champion.
 - This marked the first year that Oceania powers Australia and New Zealand were included in Asian basketball competition.
- **Aryaman creates golf history**



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- 10 year-old golfer, Aryaman Singh wrapped up the season on a high note, blazing his way through the first five events of the Indian Golf Union-West Zone.
- Singh remains undefeated at the zonal level for four years, winning every tournament he has played.
- His winning streak now extends to 1,266 days, which is the longest in the history of junior golf in India.
- **Physical Police verification to end**
 - Govt is planning to end physical police verification for passports by replacing it with a connection to national database of crimes & criminals that will keep track of background of a passport applicant.
 - CCTNS is expected to be linked with passport service allowing online police verification for passports within a year.
 - It will minimise contact with police & reduce time.
- **AP adopts national policy for Tibetans**
 - Arunachal Pradesh has adopted a rehabilitation policy which deals with matters concerning land lease, extending Central & state benefits to Tibetans residing in the state.
 - With this AP joins Himachal Pradesh & Uttarakhand who have already done the same in 2015 after Govt of India formalized Tibetan Rehabilitation policy act in 2014.
 - Arunachal Pradesh houses 4h largest no of Tibetans in India
- **Clouding seeding Project Varshadhari**
 - The cloud seeding experiment called Project Varshadhari was launched in Bengaluru under which an aircraft will spray chemicals to induce rainfall.
 - The flight for cloud seeding – BQ-100 Beechcraft will spray Silver Iodide, Sodium Chloride & Potassium Chloride to condense water particles.
 - It aims to condense small water particles by clouds to droplets of 50 microns, which can constitute rains.
- **Swasth Bachche, Swasth Bharat**





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- 'Swasth Bachche, Swasth Bharat' Programme, an initiative of KVS to prepare a physical Health & Fitness Profile Card for more than 12 lakhs of KV students was launched in Kochi.
- Programme will provide a comprehensive and inclusive report card for children covering all age groups and children of different abilities.
- It also intends to imbibe values of Olympics & Paralympics amongst students.
- **Delhi bans manual cleaning of sewers**
 - Delhi social welfare minister Rajendra Pal Gautam has announced a blanket ban on manual cleaning of sewers.
 - Any contractor or engineer found getting the sewer lines or tanks cleaned manually will be booked under culpable homicide instead of negligence.
 - This comes after a man died while cleaning a sewer tank in LNJP Hospital of the Delhi Govt, while 3 others were injured.
- **Google launches Android 'Oreo'**
 - Google has launched its version 8.0 of operating system as Android Oreo
 - New update comes with a Picture-in-Picture feature that allows user to see 2 apps simultaneously
 - Oreo is more secure with Google Play Protect built in, security status front & centre in settings and has tighter app install controls
 - Android Instant Apps is a new feature which teleports directly into new apps from browser
- **ONGC board approves HPCL takeover**
 - The board of ONGC has given 'in-principle' approval to acquire the government's 51.11% stake in Hindustan Petroleum Corporation.
 - HPCL will become a subsidiary of ONGC and will remain a listed company post the acquisition.
 - HPCL will add 23.8 million tonnes of annual oil refining capacity to ONGC's portfolio, making it the third-largest refiner in the country after IOC and Reliance Industries.
- **40-member panel to select films for IFFI**





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- The Information and Broadcasting Ministry has constituted a 40-member 'preview committee' with filmmaker Vivek Agnihotri as its convenor to select movies for the international film festival.
- The International Film Festival of India will be held in Goa from November 20 to 28.
- Other members of committee include author & Padma Shri-awardee Narendra Kohli & actress Hrishitaa Bhatt.
- **Dharmendra Kumar appointed as DG, RPF**
 - CISF ADG Dharmendra Kumar has been appointed as director general of the Railway Protection Force.
 - Kumar is a 1984 batch IPS officer of Arunachal Pradesh-Goa-Mizoram-Union Territories (AGMUT) cadre.
 - Before being appointed additional director general (ADG), Central Industrial Security Force (CISF), Kumar was serving as special commissioner (Special Unit) in the Delhi Police.
- **Uber in pact with Axis, HDFC Bank**
 - Cab hailing firm Uber has tied up with Axis Bank & HDFC Bank for Unified Payments Interface based payments.
 - Apart from payments via credit/debit cards, cash & Paytm, this will be another payment option available to customers.
 - UPI is a payment system launched by NPCI which facilitates instant fund transfer b/w 2 bank accounts on mobile platform.
 - Ola had incorporated UPI this year in April.
- **India, Canada start next round of FTA**
 - The 10th round of negotiations for the proposed free trade agreement between India and Canada started in New Delhi.
 - Both sides discussed issues relating to goods market access and on issues relating to sanitary and phyto-sanitary and technical barriers to trade.
 - The proposed pact seeks to eliminate or reduce duties on goods, open services sector and facilitate investment proposals.
- **Pact with South Korea's IVI for vaccine**





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- Indian Council of Medical Research & Union Ministry of Health inked a pact with International Vaccine Institute, South Korea to collaborate on vaccine research & development.
- With this, India is committing an annual contribution of \$5,00,000 to IVI & joins Sweden and South Korea as financially contributing signatories to IVI.
- India officially became a signatory to the treaty in 2012.
- **Navy inducts landing craft utility ship**
 - Navy has inducted a landing craft utility ship LCU L52 which was commissioned by Lt Governor of Andaman & Nicobar Islands Jagdish Mukhi.
 - It will be deployed for a variety of activities including transporting battle tanks & other heavy weapons systems.
 - It has been indigenously designed & built by GRSE.
 - It can be used for multirole activities like search, rescue & disaster relief operations.

[Attempt Current Affair Quiz for 22nd August 2017](#)

