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CURRENT AFFAIRS AUGUST, 2013

IMPORTANT DAYS

- **6th August** - Hiroshima Day
- **9th August** - Quit India Movement Day
- **9th August** - International Day of the World's Indigenous People.
- **12th August** - International Youth Day
Theme: "Youth Migration: Moving Development Forward"
- **13th August** - International Lefthanders Day by the Left-Handers Club.
- **14th August** – Pakistan's Independence Day
- **15th August** - India's Independence Day
- **19th August** - World Photography Day
Theme: "Communicating with Photography".
- **20th August** - Sadbhavana Diwas
- **20th August** - The Earth Overshoot Day
- **29th August** - National Sports Day (Dhyanchand's Birth Day)
- **30th August** - Small Industry Day
- **30th August** - International Day of the Victims of Enforced Disappearances by the UN General Assembly.

APPOINTMENTS

- 1) Rajeev Rishi took over as the Chairman and Managing Director (CMD) of Central Bank of India on 1st August, 2013. Earlier, he was the executive Director of Indian Bank.
- 2) Samantha Power sworn as new US ambassador to United Nations on 2nd August, 2013.
- 3) Arundhati Bhattacharya on 2nd August, 2013 was appointed the Managing Director and Chief Financial Officer of the State Bank of India (SBI).
- 4) Hassan Rohani sworn in as the Iran's President on 4th August, 2013.
- 5) Rakesh Sethi on 5th August, 2013 took charge as the Executive Director of the Union Bank of India.
- 6) Raghuram Govind Rajan was on 6th August, 2013, appointed as the Governor of the Reserve Bank of India (RBI) for a time period of three years.
- 7) Vinay Mittal appointed as Union Public Service Commission (UPSC) member on 8th August, 2013.
- 8) D.Bala Venkatesh Varma was appointed the next Ambassador and Permanent Representative of India to the UN Conference on Disarmament.
- 9) Senior IPS officer Dilip Trivedi on 17th August, 2013 was appointed the Director General of CRPF.
- 10) Iranian President appointed outgoing Foreign Minister Ali Akbar Salehi to head of the Atomic Energy Organisation.
- 11) Ratan Thiyam was appointed as the Chairperson of the National School of Drama Society on 19th August, 2013 by the President of India.
- 12) Ashwani Kumar appointed as Prime Minister's Special Envoy to Japan.
- 13) Birendra Prasad Baishya Appointed As the Chairman of the Ethics Commission of the IWF.
- 14) Justice Nuthalapati Venkata Ramana Appointed New Chief Justice of the Delhi High Court.
- 15) Robert Mugabe sworn in for 7th term as President of Zimbabwe on 21st August, 2013.
- 16) Nishi Vasudeva on became the first woman to be selected as the head of Hindustan Petroleum Corp Ltd (HPCL) on 22nd August, 2013.

- 17) Justice K.N Basha, a retired judge of the Madras High Court, took charge as the chairman of the Intellectual Property Appellate Tribunal on 28th August, 2013.
- 18) Jalaj Shrivastva sworn in as Chairman of New Delhi Municipal Council.

RESIGNATIONS/RETIREMENTS

- 1) Jagan Reddy resigned as MP over split of Andhra Pradesh.
- 2) Egypt's Vice President Mohamed Elbaradei resigned in protest over the attacks on pro Mohamed Morsi supporters in Cairo.
- 3) Ali Asghar Soltanieh, Iran's representative to the UN International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA) since 2005, announced his resignation on 22nd August, 2013.
- 4) Brazilian Foreign Minister Antonio Patriota resigned on 26th August, 2013 in the backdrop of helping the Bolivian senator to cross into Brazil. Luiz Figueiredo to take over.
- 5) Colin Michael Foale, the First British to Perform a Space Walk, retired from NASA.

OBITUARIES

- 1) Renowned Naturalist and Ornithologist Zafar Futehally passed away.
- 2) Marich Man Singh Shrestha, the former Prime Minister of Nepal, died.
- 3) Dezso Gyarmati, the Water Polo legend from Hungary died.
- 4) Music Director of Malayalam and Tamil music, V Dakshinamoorthy, passed away on 2nd August, 2013.
- 5) Jasjit Singh, Air Commodore (Retd.) and India's Best Military Analyst, died at 79 on 4th August, 2013.
- 6) Former director of SKIMS, Dr. Sheikh Jalal-din who was shot by Militants in July died due to injuries at New Delhi.
- 7) Noted Rajasthani Folk Musician Sakar Khan died in Jaisalmer on 10th August, 2013.

- 8) Desh Prem Azad, the Former Coach of Cricketer Kapil Dev, died on 16th August, 2013 at the age of 75.
- 9) Former Bengal Cricketer and Coach Kalyan Mitter passed away on 16th August, 2013 in Kolkata. He was 79.
- 10) Telugu writer, novelist and columnist, Malathi Chandur, died following prolonged illness in Chennai on 21st August, 2013.
- 11) Pandit Raghunath Panigrahi, the Eminent Indian Classical Singer, passed away on 25th August, 2013.
- 12) Julie Harris passed away on 25th August, 2013 at the age of 87 years at West Chatham, Massachusetts, United States.
- 13) Former athlete Henry Rebello died in Gurgaon on 27th August, 2013 after a long illness.
- 14) Irish writer Seamus Heaney died at the age of 74 on 29th August, 2013.
- 15) David Frost passed away on 31st August, 2013 aboard the ocean liner Queen Elizabeth.

AWARDS

- 1) Sugathakumari, the Malayalam Poetess on 2nd August, 2013 won the prestigious Saraswati Samman 2012 for Manalezhuthu (the Writings on the Sand), a collection of poems in Malayalam. Manalezhuthu was published in the year 2006. The award was instituted by KK Birla Foundation. This is the 22nd Samman, conferred in the history of the Award.
- 2) VP Sharma won the Gujar Mal Modi Award for Science and Technology 2013.
- 3) Shalini Singh, a Deputy Editor of The Hindu, on presented with the Prem Bhatia Award 11th August, 2013.
- 4) Vijay Singh was named a recipient of the 2013 Lifetime Achievement Award by ASCE-EWRI on 16th August, 2013.
- 5) The former South African President Nelson Mandela on 27th August, 2013 won the inaugural Mahathir Award for Global Peace.
- 6) Harshwanti Bisht was selected to receive the Sir Edmund Hillary Mountain Legacy Medal 2013.

- 7) Tata Steel was adjudged the Best Performing Integrated Steel Plant in India for the year 2011-12.
- 8) Prasad Babu, AP Cop Selected For Ashok Chakra Posthumously.
- 9) The Prem Bhatia Memorial award presented to Shalini Singh of the Hindu.
- 10) Delhi conferred Lifetime Achievement Award 2013 on Abdul Rashid Khan and Anjolie Ela Menon.
- 11) Sri Lankan President felicitated tribal community, the Veddas on World Indigenous Peoples Day.
- 12) US Presidential Medal of Freedom to be conferred on Bill Clinton & Oprah Winfrey.
- 13) Malala Yousafzai on 27th August, 2013 won 2013 International Children's Peace Prize.
- 14) **National Sports Award 2013:**

Arjuna Awards

No.	Name	Discipline
1)	Ms. Chekrovolu Swuro	Archery
2)	Ms. Kavita Chahal	Boxing
3)	Ms. Rupesh Shah	Billiards & Snooker
4)	Virat Kohli	Cricket
5)	Mr. Abhijeet Gupta	Chess
6)	Mr. Gagan Jeet Bhullar	Golf
7)	Ms. Saba Anjum	Hockey
8)	Ms. Rajkumari Rathore	Shooting
9)	Ms. Joshna Chinnappa	Squash
10)	Ms. Mouma Das	Table Tennis
11)	Ms. Neha Rathi	Wrestling
12)	Mr. Dharmender Dalal	Wrestling
13)	Mr. Amit Kumar Saroha	Athletics (Para)

Rajiv Gandhi Khel Ratna Award

No.	Name	Discipline
1)	Mr. Ronjon Sodhi	Shooting

Dronacharya Awards for 2013

No.	Name	Discipline
1)	Ms. Poornima Mahato	Archery
2)	Mr. Mahavir Singh	Boxing
3)	Mr. Narinder Singh Saini	Hockey
4)	Mr. K. P. Thomas	Athletics
5)	Mr. Raj Singh	Wrestling*

* Lifetime contribution in coaching

Dhyan Chand Awards

No.	Name	Discipline
1)	Ms. Mary D'souza Sequeria	Athletics
2)	Mr. Syed Ali	Hockey
3)	Mr. Anil Mann	Wrestling
4)	Mr. Girraj Singh	Athletics (Para)

Tenzing Norgay National Adventure Awards 2012

No.	Name	Discipline
1)	Basant Singh Roy	Mountaineering
2)	Major Ranveer Singh Jamwal	Mountaineering
3)	Lt. Cdr. Abhilash Tomy	Sailing
4)	Naib Subedar Paramjeet Singh Siddhu	Hang Gliding
5)	Prem Singh	Mountaineering
6)	Hari Ram	Mountaineering

Rashtriya Khel Protsahan Puruskar 2013

No.	Category	Rashtriya Khel Protsahan Puruskar, 2013
1)	Community Sports Identification and Nurturing of Budding Young Talent	Dr. U.K. Mishra, Founder and President, National Sports Academy, Allahabad
2)	Financial Support for Sports Excellence	Sports Control Board
3)	Establishment and Management of Sports Academies of Excellence	Pullela Gopichand Academy of Badminton, Hyderabad
4)	Employment of Sportspersons and Sports Welfare Measures	Petroleum Sports Promotion Board

Maulana Abul Kalam Azad Trophy

No.	Name	Year
1)	Guru Nanak Dev Vishwavidyalay, Amritsar	2010-11
2)	Punjabi Vishwavidyalay, Patiala	2011-12
3)	Punjabi Vishwavidyalay, Patiala	2012-13

National Sports Awards are given every year to recognize and reward excellence in sports.

SPORTS

- 1) Kush Kumar of India won gold in men's singles Squash at the Second Asian Youth Games in Nanjing, China.
- 2) Anjana Dhavalu Thamake won the third gold for India by winning the girl's 800m race.
- 3) Sania Mirza - Jie Zheng pair won WTA New Haven Open Title.

- 4) India topped the chart of ODI rankings released by ICC at Dubai on 3rd August, 2013.
- 5) Australia and England are placed at 2nd and 3rd Position respectively.
- 6) Indian Junior Women Hockey team won its first ever Bronze medal in ERGO Hockey Junior World Cup at Monchengladbac, Germany on 4th August, 2013.
- 7) Ravindra Jadeja on 4th August, 2013 became the first Indian bowler to top the bowlers' chart in the latest ICC ODI Player.
- 8) Indian player Sowjanya Bavisetti has won 10000 dollar the International Tennis Federation (ITF) Women's Tennis Tournament.
- 9) India's Shuttler P V Sindhu has settled for a bronze medal in women's singles category at the BWF World Championships 2013.
- 10) Russian tennis player Maria Sharapova topped the Forbes list of highest-paid female athletes for the ninth straight year.
- 11) Serena Williams defeated Romania's Sorana Cirstea 6-2, 6-0 in the final match of women's Rogers Cup on 11th August, 2013.
- 12) Sardar Singh Named as the Captain of the Asia Cup Hockey Tournament 2013 on 11th August, 2013.
- 13) Sagarika Ghosh on 11th August, 2013 won the Cadet Girls singles title.
- 14) The first season of the Indian Badminton League (IBL) started on 14th August, 2013 at New Delhi. IBL is proposed by Badminton Association of India.
- 15) Satywart Kadian won bronze medal at World Junior Wrestling Championships 2013 on 17th August, 2013.
- 16) Usain Bolt won the 200-metre sprint at the World Athletics Championships in Moscow on 17th August, 2013.
- 17) Usain Bolt of Jamaica equalled the world record of highest golds after winning the 4x100m relay at the World Athletics Championships.
- 18) England cricket team won Ashes Test Series-2013 by 3-0 against Australia on 25th August, 2013 at England.
- 19) India's under-23 cricket team won the Asian Cricket Council Emerging Teams Cup in Singapore on 25th August, 2013.

- 20) Jamaican sprinter Usain Bolt won the 100 meter sprint title at the 14th IAAF World Championships 2013, Moscow on 11th August, 2013.
- 21) Bayern Munich defeated Chelsea in the final at the Eden stadium in Prague on 30th August, 2013 to win UEFA Super Cup 2013.
- 22) India on created history by recording their first-ever five-match ODI series Whitewash on foreign soil 3rd August, 2013.

MISCELLANEOUS

- 1) India on 1st August, 2013 revoked a patent granted to GlaxoSmith Kline Plc for its breast cancer drug Tykerb.
- 2) Amitabh Bachchan joined UN Campaign the World Needs More.
- 3) Ibrahim Boubacar Keita won Mali's Presidential elections on 12th August, 2013.
- 4) The Supreme Court of India on 14th August, 2013 rejected the review petition of 1993 Delhi blast accused Devender Pal Singh Bhullar.
- 5) The Delhi Police on 16th August, 2013 arrested one of India's 20 most wanted terrorists, Lashkar-e-Taiba's Bomb Expert, Abdul Karim Tunda.
- 6) Agriculture Minister Sharad Pawar unveiled the statue of Nobel Laureate Dr. Norman Borlaug at New Delhi on 19th August, 2013.
- 7) Pervez Musharraf was indicted by an anti-terrorism court in the 2007 assassination of ex-premier Benazir Bhutto.
- 8) Kapil Parakh (Person of Indian Origin), a cardiologist at Johns Hopkins has been selected for the prestigious White House Fellowship for the year 2013-14.
- 9) Nidal Malik Hasan was sentenced to death in connection of the Fort Hood shooting, Texas.
- 10) Yasin Bhatkal, the co-founder of the Indian Mujahideen (IM), was arrested from the India-Nepal border in Bihar's Raxaul town on 29th August, 2013.
- 11) The National Council of Examiners for Engineering and Surveying (NCEES) elected Sockalingam Sam Kannappan as its zonal Secretary/treasurer.
- 12) National Archives of India on 1st August, 2013 Launched Quarterly Newsletter Entitled e-Abhilekh.
- 13) The Cabinet Committee on Economic Affairs (CCEA) on 1st August, 2013 approved the proposal for sale of 10 percent Government stake in Indian Oil Corporation (IOC).
- 14) ING Vysya Bank, the private sector lender, on 1st August, 2013 launched the premium debit card, which offers spend-based rewards programme.
- 15) Dadra and Nagar Haveli celebrated its 60th Liberation Day on 2nd August, 2013. It was liberated from the Portuguese rule.
- 16) The Union Cabinet of India on 2nd August, 2013 decided to continue the interest subvention of three per cent on crop loans.
- 17) The Cabinet Committee of Economic Affairs on 2nd August, 2013 approved the proposal of the Ministry of Power for continuation of the Rajiv Gandhi Grameen Vidyutikaran Yojana (RGGVY) in the 12th Year Plan.
- 18) The Cabinet Committee on Economic Affairs (CCEA) on 2nd August, 2013 approved creation of the Special National Investment Fund (SNIF).
- 19) The Konkan Railway on 4th August, 2013 decided to scrap Skybus project due to the absence of qualified bidders and financial constraints.
- 20) The National Green Tribunal on 5th August, 2013 restrained sand mining from riverbeds across the country.
- 21) ONGC signed the crude oil sale agreement with Mangalore Refinery and Petrochemicals Ltd (MRPL). The announcement was made on 6th August, 2013.
- 22) A modern and sophisticated breast milk bank was inaugurated on 7th August, 2013.
- 23) Maharashtra State Government on 7th August, 2013 became the first state in the country to disburse salary of its staff through their Aadhaar-linked bank accounts.
- 24) NASA is all set to launch its next mission to Mars in November 2013.
- 25) Nuclear Reactor of INS Arihant achieved Criticality when the Boat was in the Sea.

- 26) India on 12th August, 2013 successfully test-fired indigenously-developed nuclear-capable surface-to-surface Prithvi-II missile.
- 27) India on 12th August, 2013 launched its first ever indigenously designed and built aircraft carrier INS Vikrant in Kochi.
- 28) Janata Party was merged with the Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP) on 11th August, 2013.
- 29) A major fire broke out on board INS Sindhurakshak at the Naval Dockyard in Mumbai on 14th August, 2013.
- 30) Israel and the Palestinian Governments resumed their first direct peace talks in Jerusalem on 14th August, 2013 for resolving the land and border disputes.
- 31) India officially the Republic of India (Bharat Ganrajya) on 15th August, 2013 celebrated its 67th Independence Day. President of India Shri Pranab Mukherjee and Prime Minister of India Dr. Manmohan Singh has congratulated the nation on India's 67th Independence Day 2013.
- 32) Finance Minister P Chidambaram on 16th August, 2013 unveiled the National Skill Certification and Monetary Reward Scheme in New Delhi.
- 33) Citizens can now file RTI applications online in all central government ministries and departments through a portal.
- 34) The second South Asian Diaspora Convention (SADC) will be hosted by Singapore.
- 35) Social networking giant Facebook on 21st August, 2013 announced the launch of Internet.org to make Internet access affordable.
- 36) State Government of Rajasthan laid the foundation stone for world's biggest solar park at Bhadla of Jodhpur District of Rajasthan on 21st August, 2013.
- 37) The 21st round of the boundary talks between the government of Bhutan and People's Republic of China was held in Thimphu.
- 38) Prime Minister and UPA Chairperson inaugurated National Media Centre at New Delhi.
- 39) The Reserve Bank of India imposed monetary penalty on six banks for violation of the Know Your Customer (KYC)/Anti Money Laundering guidelines.
- 40) The Reserve Bank of India on 27th August, 2013 released the Discussion Paper on 'Banking Structure in India - The Way Forward'.
- 41) Kerala state government on 22nd August, 2013 laid the foundation store of Bio 360, a Life Sciences Park.
- 42) The Chinese and Pakistani air forces on 28th August, 2013 decided to hold a joint exercise called Shaheen-2.
- 43) The second ADMM (ASEAN Defence Ministers' Meeting) Plus meeting was held in Brunei on 29th August, 2013.
- 44) The Union Cabinet of India on 29th August, 2013 approved the Social Security Agreement between India and Canada.
- 45) Air India launched its direct flights to Sydney and Melbourne on 29th August, 2013, after a wide gap of 22 years.
- 46) GSAT-7, the first Indian defence satellite was launched by the European Arianespace's Ariane 5 Rocket from the Kourou Spaceport of French Guiana.
- 47) RBI introduced Forex Swap Window for Public Sector Oil Marketing Companies.
- 48) The graphic biography on former Indian Hockey player Dhyan Chand titled Dhyan Chand-The Wizard of Hockey launched.
- 49) Gujarat CM, Narendra Modi was felicitated by people of newly-formed districts of Gujarat, Chhota Udaipur and Mahi Sagar, on 30th August, 2013.
- 50) Union Government of India approved three projects under EMC Scheme.
- 51) The Public Enterprises Selection Board on 30th August, 2013 recommended Dinesh K Sarraf as the next head of the ONGC Kerala based Federal Bank Limited launched the electronic version of conventional passbook, called FedBook, on 30th August, 2013.
- 52) Bharti Airtel successfully conducted field trials of a technology which provides cost-efficient 3G phone services.
- 53) During Afghan President Hamid Karzai's visit to Pakistan, the two countries agreed to deepen the bilateral relationship.
- 54) Special Envoy of India for Sudan and South Sudan, PS Raghavan paid an official visit to Juba, South Sudan on 8th - 9th August, 2013.

- 55) Moussa Faki Mahamat, Minister for Foreign Affairs and African Integration of Republic of Chad, paid an official visit to India on 12th -13th August, 2013.
- 56) Vice President of Afghanistan Mohammed Karim Khalili visited India on 20th - 22nd August, 2013.
- 57) The Foreign Minister of Nicaragua, Samuel Santos Lopez paid an official visit to India since 19th August, 2013 to 23rd August, 2013.
- 58) The Foreign Minister of Tuvalu Taukelina Finikaso visited India from 21st August, 2013 to 25th August, 2013. During his visit, he discussed important issues of mutual interest with Parneet Kaur.
- 59) Prime Minister of Iraq, Nouri al-Maliki visited India from 22nd – 25th August, 2013 as a part of four day state visit. During the visit, India and Iraq signed MoUs.
- 60) **Bill Passed/ Introduced in Rajya Sabha/ Lok Sabha (In August, 2013 Only):**
- The Government of India on 5th August, 2013 introduced the Wild Life (Protection) Amendment Bill, 2013 in the Rajya Sabha for stricter enforcement of laws to protect wildlife. The bill seeks to further amend the Wild Life (Protection) Act, 1972.
 - The Union Minister of State for Personnel and Training, V. Narayanasamy on 12th August, 2013 introduced The Right to Information (Amendment) Bill 2013 in Lok Sabha.
 - The Rajya Sabha on 13th August, 2013 passed Registration of Births and Deaths (Amendment) Bill, 2012.
 - The Mental Health Care Bill, 2013 was introduced in the Rajya Sabha in the month of August 2013. The new bill seeks to decriminalise suicide.
 - The Rajya Sabha on 26th August, 2013 passed The Marriage Laws (Amendment) Bill, 2010 by voice vote.
- Lok Sabha on 26th August, 2013 passed the National Food Security Bill 2013. The Bill was adopted by the House through a voice vote after a day-long debate. The Bill now needs to be passed by the Rajya Sabha along with the President's assent to become a law.

- The Rajya Sabha on 27th August, 2013 unanimously passed the Representation of the People (Amendment and Validation) Bill, 2013 to amend the RP Act, 1951.
- The Companies Bill 2012 was passed in Rajya Sabha on 8th August, 2013. Earlier, the bill was passed by the Lok Sabha on 18th December, 2012. The President of India Shri Pranab Mukherjee gave his assent to the Companies Bill 2013 on 29th August, 2013. The Companies Bill 2012 replaced the long existent law of the land, Companies Act, 1956.
- The Lok Sabha on 29th August, 2013 passed the Land Acquisition, Rehabilitation and Resettlement Bill, 2011, also called the Land Acquisition Bill.

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