



THE DESERVING INDIA

WEEKLY

CURRENT

AFFAIRS

*Shorts*

24 AUG TO 31AUG

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# CAUVERY BODY SEEKS CENTRE'S NOD TO CONDUCT ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT



- Karnataka for Mokedatu project Pushed by: Karnataka's Cauvery Neeravari Nigam Limited (CNNL) to conduct environmental impact assessment and Central Department of Environment, Forest and Forestry to prepare an environmental management plan for Mokedatu-Balancing Reserve Approval has been sought from the Ministry of Climate Change.
- Protest from Tamil Nadu: Judgments of Tamil Nadu Supreme Court and Cauvery Water Dispute Tribunal oppose the Mokedatu project citing concerns over water distribution and storage. Riya is gone.
- Political and legal context: Karnataka's leadership argues that the project will be implemented at a time of crisis. Will bring more benefits to Tamil Nadu, whereas Tamil Nadu had earlier followed the directions of the Supreme Court. Central and Karnataka to go ahead with prospective report in 2019, reportedly ignoring A defamation petition has been filed against the authorities.

## GST ENFORCEMENT: BE STRICT AS LAST RESORT, FM TELLS GST OFFICIALS TO DIRECT

- Finance Minister Nirmala Sitharaman appeals to GST officials to initiate any investigation 'on taxpayers' Avoiding taking a hard stance, recommending strong actions only as a last resort.
- Commitment to resolve the issue immediately: Minister assures businesses that the GST system will Any related issues will be resolved expeditiously, noting that the GST Council members and Officials are quick to address both concerns.
- Outreach Initiatives: Smt. Sitharaman helps GST officials resolve any confusion regarding GST implementation Encouraged to launch outreach programs to help businesses in doing business.



## CHANGE IN INFLATION TARGET COULD SHATTER ECONOMIC PROSPECTS:

- Monetary Policy Committee (MPC) Decided to keep policy rates in order to align inflation rates with the target, such as the Indian Revealed in the minutes issued by the Reserve Bank (RBI).
- Deputy Governor Michael Debabrata Patra highlighted that persistent double-digit food inflation, Targeting core inflation, especially in categories like cereals, pulses, spices and vegetables. There is a delay in connecting.
- Reserve Bank Governor Shaktikanta Das noted that while inflation is slowing, progress is slowing. And is uneven, cautions against policy relaxation based on high real rates, because decomposition to the target Still continues.

## MODI'S VISIT TO UKRAINE LIKELY TO EXPLORE DEEPER TIES IN DEFENSE MANUFACTURING

- Prime Minister Narendra Modi's visit to Ukraine, the first visit by an Indian Prime Minister, on 'defense cooperation' Will focus attention, particularly on India's dependence on military equipment of Russian and Ukrainian origin. While watching.
- The ongoing war in Ukraine has disrupted the supply of military spares and components to India. which has prompted India to diversify its resources, including domestic This involves turning to companies and searching for vendors in other countries.
- Despite some improvements in supply, delays and challenges continue, with both Russia and Ukraine on time India seeks Ukrainian companies for advanced.

# IMPACT OF NON-LINKED PANS ON EMPLOYERS



- Employers are facing issues with the Income Tax Department for short deduction of taxes on employees who did not link their PAN with Aadhaar by the May 31 deadline, leading to tax demands even for those earning below the taxable threshold.
- The non-linkage of PAN and Aadhaar by the deadline has made PANs inoperative, resulting in higher tax rates, withholding of refunds, and additional compliance burdens for companies.
- Companies are advised to revise tax returns and deposit outstanding taxes for non-compliant employees, as the linking process after the deadline may not affect the tax demand notices already issued.

## IMPACT OF DRUG MONEY ON SECURITY AND ECONOMY

- Drug consumption in certain regions exceeds the national average, posing a significant threat to national security and the economy.
- The illicit drug trade is linked to the rise of terrorism and extremism, with a substantial increase in drug-related cases and seizures over the past decade.
- The value of seized drugs has dramatically increased, highlighting the need for continued and enhanced efforts to combat drug trafficking.

MINISTRY OF EDUCATION

DEFINES **'LITERACY',**

**FULL LITERACY'** TO  
PROMOTE ADULT LITERACY



- New India Literacy Program (NILP) aims to recruit one crore adult learners annually with full literacy defined as 95% literacy rate in a state or union territory.

Literacy now includes digital and financial skills as well as reading, writing and comprehension

- and a person is considered literate if they pass the Foundational Literacy and Numeracy Assessment Test (FLNAT).
- Despite program efforts, 181.2 million adults remain illiterate in India, highlighting ongoing challenges in achieving widespread literacy.

## UNREST IN BALOCHISTAN REGION

- Balochistan's economic neglect has fueled unrest in the region. Despite covering 44% of Pakistan's land and rich mineral resources such as copper, gold, coal and natural gas, Balochistan remains one of the most underdeveloped regions of the country.
- In a country where women's rights are often restricted, the active participation of women in the Balochistan protests shows a strong opposition to the violent methods of the security forces.
- In addition, prolonged military rule and sporadic quasi-democratic governments have limited provincial autonomy, preventing regions from playing a significant role in shaping their future.

# SEBI CHAIRMAN'S INTERESTS CONFLICTED



- Hindenburg's first case of conflict of interest relates to an \$872,762 investment made by Madhavi and Dhaval Buch in the Bermuda-based Global Dynamic Opportunities Fund through Mumbai-based IIFL Wealth and Asset Management Limited.
- In addition, Hindenburg has raised concerns about the Sebi chairman's ownership stake in two consulting firms: India's Agora Advisory and Singapore's Agora Partners.
- The report also pointed out that Dhaval Buch's current employer, multinational private equity firm Blackstone, has directly benefited from the SEBI chairman's strong publicity and regulatory decisions related to real estate investment funds (REITs).

## Vinesh Phogat Vs Weight Loss Complex Biochemistry

- Vinesh Phogat, who became the first Indian woman to reach an Olympic wrestling final, was disqualified for lifting 100 grams over the 50 kg weight limit, depriving her of a silver medal.
- Despite efforts to reduce her weight, Phogat retired from wrestling the next day although she may reconsider her decision.
- The Court of Arbitration for Sport rejected the Indian Olympic Association's appeal regarding the effect of physical differences on weight, citing a lack of evidence.



# INDIA SIGNS FRESH ORDER FOR **73,000 SIG 716 RIFLES;** DELIVERY LIKELY BY END OF 2025

- The Defence Ministry has ordered 73,000 additional SIG 716 rifles from Sig Sauer, with deliveries to be completed by end of 2025.
- The fresh order comes after an earlier purchase of 72,400 SIG 716 rifles, of which 66,400 are already being used by frontline troops.
- The SIG 716 is known for its superior performance and reliability compared to the INSAS rifles it is replacing.



## ₹6,456 CRORE APPROVED FOR RAILWAY PROJECTS

- The Cabinet Committee on Economic Affairs has approved three Railway Ministry projects costing around ₹6,456 crore, which will expand the network by 300 km in seven districts.
- These projects will create 14 new stations, improve connectivity of Nuapada and East Singhbhum districts and connect around 1,300 villages.
- These initiatives launched under the PM-Gati Shakti Yojana will enhance connectivity and increase freight capacity by 45 MTPA, benefiting a population of around 19 lakh.

# WOMEN'S SHE-BOX PORTAL LAUNCHED



- A centralized platform called SHe-Box has been launched by the Union Ministry of Women and Child Development to register and track complaints of sexual harassment of women at work. It acts as a central repository for data about newly established Local Committees (LCs) and Internal Committees (ICs) that include representatives from the public and private sectors.
- It provides a unified platform for reporting issues, monitoring their progress, and guaranteeing that ICs address complaints within a set amount of time. It also offers a quicker procedure and guaranteed complaint relief.
- Women and Child Development Minister Annapurna Devi stated, "This initiative is a critical step forward in providing a more efficient and secure platform for addressing workplace-related sexual harassment complaints."



# "IT IS MANDATORY TO REGISTER MUSLIM MARRIAGES."

- A bill to mandate the government's registration of Muslim marriages and divorces was approved by the 126-member Assam Assembly .

The Assam Marriages and Divorces Registration Act, 1935, which was enacted during the British

- colonial era, will be superseded by the Assam Compulsory Registration of Muslim Marriages and Divorces Bill, 2024. Chief Minister Himanta Biswa Sarma called the Bill historic and stated that in addition to prohibiting Muslim child marriage, the government wanted to abolish the Qazi system.
- The legal age of marriage, which is 21 for boys and 18 for girls, must now be observed, and marriages will be required to be registered with the government. It will also enhance girls' general development and serve as a strong deterrence against adolescent pregnancy.

