

National News

An MoU has been entered into between the Government of Rajasthan and NLC for supply of 300 MW of solar power.

- Central state-owned **NLC India** has on **August 18** announced a joint venture agreement with the **Rajasthan government's Urja Vikas Nigam (RUVNL)** to supply nearly **300 MW of solar power under the CPSU scheme**.
- NLC said that the agreement has been entered into with the primary objective of providing solar power for the **next 25 years in the capital of the state, Jaipur**. It is noteworthy that this is the first time that **NLCIL** has expanded this capacity outside **Tamil Nadu** and so far it has included a **1.40 GW capacity in the southern state**.

International news

The UAE and Ethiopia have entered into various development MoUs to boost the economies of both countries.

- The President of the United Arab Emirates, **Sheikh Mohammed bin Zayed**, and the Prime Minister of the Democratic Republic of Ethiopia, **Abiy Ahmed**, on **August 18** signed various memorandums of understanding for the development of several institutions between the two countries.
- It is significant that these MoUs have been entered into with the aim of promoting economic development and cooperation between the two countries and **fostering corporate partnerships**.

The official website for the International Conference on Fishing Communities around the World 2023 has been launched.

- **The International Conference on Fishing Communities Around the World 2023 (ICFC 2023)** is scheduled to be held from **September 19 to September 21** at the massive **Busan Port International Exhibition and Convention Center (BPEX)** in South Korea.
- The Maidan is planned to bring together union representatives of fishing communities from around the world and from different countries to address challenges, issues, **transboundary fisheries disputes and develop cooperative solutions**.

State news

The G20 Trade and Investment Ministerial Conference is scheduled to be held in Jaipur.

- The G20 Trade and Investment Ministerial Conference under Indian leadership is scheduled to be held in **Jaipur, Rajasthan** on **August 24**. It is a **two-day conference** to be held on **24th and 25th August**.
- It is notable that this conference is being held with the **theme of discussion** on implementation of trade action plans presented by the President of India and building consensus on various issues related to **global trade and investment**.

Project for implementation of Bhagwan Birsa Munda Road Development Project in Maharashtra State.

- Maharashtra State Cabinet on **18th August 2023** announced the implementation of **Bhagwan Birsa Munda Road Development Scheme** to improve road connectivity in tribal areas in **17 districts of the state**.
- According to the state government, the scheme is designed to connect the remote rural and **hill tribal areas of the state with major roads**.

Appointments

Vishvas Vidu Sapkal has been appointed as the Ambassador of India to Bolivia.

- India's ambassador to **Peru, Vishvas Vidu Sapkal**, has been appointed as ambassador to **Bolivia**, according to a notification issued in August.
- It is notable that in **November 2015** at the **Indo-African Summit** held in **New Delhi**, he made special efforts to improve the strategic relations between the two countries.

Appointment of Neil Rippington as Director, Global IHM Group.

- **International restaurant management firm IHM** has appointed **Neil Rippington** as global director to its leadership team, according to its latest announcement.
- A renowned **chef** and **culinary educator**, he is said to enhance the company through his consistent efforts and activities. It is notable that he has won various awards for his **global culinary and hospitality industry experience and mastery of raw material techniques**.

Awards

Shri Rakesh Kumar Jain has been conferred with the Leadership CFO Award.

- **Shri Rakesh Kumar Jain** has been conferred with the **Best Leadership CFO Award** at the **14th edition of CMO Asia Awards** at an award ceremony held in **Singapore** on **August 17, 2023**.
- It is significant that this award is given in recognition of his commendable leadership skills, strong skills in financial operations and **unwavering commitment to the development** of the company as the **CFO of GAIL**.

THDC has been awarded 'NTPC Rajbhasha Shield Award 2023'.

- In its August 2023 announcement, **THDC India** has received the prestigious '**NTPC Rajbhasha Shield (Consolation) Award** for the year 2022 and 2023.
- **RK Vishnoi, Chairman and Managing Director (CMD)** of THDC received this prestigious award. It is also notable that the award has been presented by the Minister for New and Renewable Energy and Power **RK Singh**.

Businessman Ratan Tata has been conferred with Maharashtra prestigious 'Udyog Ratna' award.

- Senior industrialist and Padma Vibhushan **Ratan Tata** was conferred with Maharashtra State Government's first '**Udyog Ratna**' award by Chief Minister **Eknath Shinde** on **August 19** for his distinguished contribution to **India's industrial sector**.
- Notably, Chief Minister **Shinde** and **Deputy Chief Ministers Ajit Pawar** and **Devendra Fadnavis** presented the prestigious award along with a cheque of **Rs 25 lakh**, its commemorative **medal** and **certificate** of appreciation to **Ratan Tata** at his residence in **Colaba, Mumbai**.

Sports news

India mixed air pistol team has won gold at the 2023 ISSF World Championships.

- **Team India** defeated **Turkey** to win **gold** in the **10m air pistol mixed event** at the 2023 ISSF World Championships in **Baku, Azerbaijan** on **August 18**.
- It is notable that the Indian pair of shooters **Shiva Narwal** and **Isha Singh** defeated the Turkish team by **16-10** to win the medal. **India** is **second in the ranking list** while **China's team** is at the top with **five gold** and other medals.

Rana Pratap has won gold in the 2023 National Junior Aquatic Championship.

- **Rana Pratap** bagged **Jharkhand's first individual gold medal** at the **39th Sub Junior** and **49th National Junior Aquatic Championships 2023** in Odisha's capital **Bhubaneswar**.
- It is also notable that he set a new national record of **2:21.88 minutes** in the Division I Men's **200m category** with sensational swimming skills.

Important day

World Mosquito Day 2023

- **August 20** is observed every year as "**World Mosquito Day**" to commemorate British physician **Sir Ronald Ross's** discovery in **1897** that "**Female mosquitoes transmit malaria to humans**".

- There is **no theme for this year**. It is observed on this day for the purpose of creating awareness among the people of the world about the ways to **protect ourselves** from these diseases that can cause serious danger like **malaria**.

Akshay Urja Diwas 2023

- **Akshay Urja Day** is observed on **20th August** every year with an aim to create awareness about the developments of **renewable energy in India** and confirm its major development projects among the general public.
- The day has been observed by the **Ministry of New and Renewable Energy** since **2004** and it is significant that the day commemorates the birthday of **former Prime Minister of India, Rajiv Gandhi**.

