## Collins

## General Awareness

## The week from 19 Aug to 25 Aug 2024

A commemorative coin was issued to mark the birth centenary of five-time Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu Kalaignar M Karunanidhi 24. The late Mr Karunanidhi was a prolific writer, poet, and playwright whose works enriched Tamil literature and cinema. His son, MK Stalin, is current CM of Tamil Nadu.

Mushfiqur Rahim's 191 was the cornerstone of Bangladesh's first ever Test win over Pakistan, allowing them to score 565 in reply to Pakistan's 448. Pakistan was then dismissed for 146, and Bangladesh knocked off the 30 runs required, to win the first test at Rawalpindi by 10 wickets. Pakistan has now gone 9 consecutive tests at home without a win, a sequence that includes 4 losses and 5 draws.

Nasa said astronauts Sunita Williams and Barry Wilmore, stuck on the International Space Station (ISS) would return to Earth in February 2025 on a SpaceX Crew Dragon spacecraft. The pair took off on what was planned to be an eight-day mission on 5 June on the Boeing Starliner, but several snags made their return on the Starliner a risky proposition.

The jersey worn by American baseball legend Babe Ruth when he "called the shot" during the 1932 World Series was sold for US\$ 24.12 Million (approx. Rs 202 crores). This makes it the most expensive item of sporting memorabilia ever to be sold. Amul was ranked the world's strongest food brand in Brand Finance's Global Food & Drinks Report 2024. It's brand value saw an 11 per cent increase from 2023, reaching \$3.3 billion in the latest ranking. Amul, started in 1946, and ably led by Dr Verghese Kurien, spearheaded the 'white revolution' in India.

Botswana's President, Mokgweetsi Masisi, unveiled the world's second largest diamond, exclaiming "God is good," while holding the 2,492-carat stone. A Canadian firm, Lucara, discovered the diamond in the Karowe mine. The world's largest stone, found in South Africa in 1905, weighed 3,106-carat.

PM Modi visited Poland and Ukraine, making this the first visit by an Indian PM to Poland in the past 45 years; and the first to Ukraine since the country was established in 1991.Mr Modi's visit to Ukraine was especially significant because he had earlier met Russian President Vladimir Putin in Russia. Ukraine and Russia have been at war since February 2022.

The 2024 Democratic National Convention was held at the United Center in Chicago, USA. Delegates of the US Democratic ceremonially reported their vote to nominate VP Kamala Harris for President, and her chosen running mate Governor Tim Walz for Vice President in the 2024 Presidential election.



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\*press minds