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1. FIFA suspends All India Football Federation (AIFF) (Aug. 18, 2022)

World football governing body FIFA has suspended the Football Federation of India (AIFF) with immediate effect due to third party interference.

IMPORTANT FACTS -

- The decision was taken unanimously by the Bureau of the FIFA Council.
- The suspension has been decided due to undue influence of third parties, which is a serious violation of FIFA law.
- The suspension means that the FIFA U-17 Women's World Cup 2022, to be held in India from 11-30 October 2022, will not take place in India as planned.
- India's Supreme Court in May dissolved the AIFF and appointed a three-member committee to govern the sport, amend the AIFF's constitution and hold elections pending for 18 months.
- FIFA and the Asian Football Confederation sent a team led by AFC Secretary General Windsor John to meet the stakeholders of Indian football.
- A roadmap was prepared by the team for the AIFF to amend the rules by the end of July and conclude the elections by 15 September.
- Earlier, FIFA had threatened to suspend the Football Federation of India for third party interference.

How can the ban be lifted?

- FIFA said the lifting of the ban needed to address two main concerns.
- The mandate of the CoA has to be completely repealed.
- To gain complete control over the day-to-day affairs of the AIFF administration.

Federation of International Football Association (FIFA) :

- It was established on May 21, 1904, by seven national associations — Belgium, Denmark, France, Netherlands, Spain, Sweden and Switzerland.
- It is the highest governing body of football in the world.
- It is a non-profit organisation.
- It regulates football and promotes football around the world.
- It is modernising football to be global, accessible and inclusive in all aspects.
- FIFA currently consists of 211 member countries. It is headquartered in Zurich and its current president is Gianni Infantino.

2. Asia's oldest football tournament Durand Cup begins on 16 August (Aug. 16, 2022)

The 131st season of the Durand Cup football tournament will be held in several cities across West Bengal, Assam and Manipur for the first time from August 16, 2022.

Important facts

- This year the tournament has increased from 16 to 20 teams in which apart from 11 ISL clubs, 5 clubs from I-League and 4 teams from Armed Forces will also take part.
- The third oldest football tournament in the world and the oldest in Asia, the Durand Cup was first held in Dagshai (Himachal Pradesh) in the year 1888.
- Mohun Bagan and East Bengal are the most successful teams in the history of Durand Cup having won it sixteen times.
- In the previous edition of the tournament, Goa won their maiden Durand Cup title by defeating Mohammedan Sporting 1-0.

131st Durand Cup

- The tournament will have a total of 47 games, with Guwahati and Imphal hosting 10-10-game matches of both Group C and Group D.
- All the seven knockout games will be held at three venues in West Bengal.
- The inaugural pool matches will begin from 16 August at the Vivekananda Yuva Bharati Krirangan (VYBK) Stadium in Kolkata.
- The matches will be held on August 17 at the Indira Gandhi Athletic Stadium in Guwahati and on August 18 at the Khuman Lampak Stadium in Imphal.
- The tournament will culminate with the Grand Finale to be held at VYBK on 18 September 2022.

Groups of the tournament

- **Group A** - FC Goa, Mohammedan Sporting, Bengaluru FC, Jamshedpur FC, Indian Air Force
- **Group B** - ATK Mohun Bagan, East Bengal, Mumbai City FC, Rajasthan United, Indian Navy
- **Group C** - Chennaiyin FC, Hyderabad FC, NEROCA, TRAU, Army Red
- **Group D** - Kerala Blasters, NorthEast United, Odisha FC, Sudeva Delhi FC, Army Green

3. India, with 22 gold medals, rank 4th at Commonwealth Games (Aug. 9, 2022)

India ended its campaign by winning a total of 61 medals at the Birmingham Commonwealth Games 2022.

Important facts

- India's total of 61 medals won in CWG 2022 include 22 gold, 16 silver and 23 bronze medals.
- PV Sindhu, Lakshya Sen and Satwiksairaj Reddy and Chirag Shetty won gold medals for India on the last day of the Birmingham Commonwealth Games.
- Achanta Sharath Kamal also won gold medals in table tennis on the last day.
- On the last day, G Sathiyam bagged a bronze medal in table tennis while the Indian men's hockey team had to be content with a silver medal.
- India had finished third in the table in 2018 in Gold Coast by winning 66 medals including 26 gold.
- India got the most gold and most medals from wrestling, where the country won 12 medals including six gold, one silver and five bronze.
- The lifters started the Indian campaign well, winning 10 medals including three gold, three silver and four bronze.
- Sanket Sargar (men's 55kg) opened India's account in Birmingham 2022 by winning the silver medal.

Medal table of different countries

| Country | Gold | Silver | Bronze | Total |
|---------------------|-------------|---------------|---------------|--------------|
| Australia | 67 | 57 | 54 | 178 |
| England | 57 | 66 | 53 | 176 |
| Canada | 26 | 32 | 34 | 92 |
| India | 22 | 16 | 23 | 61 |
| Newzeland | 20 | 11 | 17 | 49 |
| Scotland | 13 | 11 | 27 | 49 |
| Nigeria | 12 | 9 | 14 | 35 |
| Wales | 8 | 6 | 14 | 28 |
| South Africa | 7 | 9 | 11 | 27 |

| | | | | |
|----------------|---|---|---|----|
| Malesia | 8 | 8 | 8 | 24 |
|----------------|---|---|---|----|

India's medal tally in 2018 Commonwealth Games

| Gold | Silver | Bronze | Total |
|-------------|---------------|---------------|--------------|
| 26 | 20 | 20 | 66 |

India's medal tally in 2022 Commonwealth Games

| Gold | Silver | Bronze | Total |
|-------------|---------------|---------------|--------------|
| 22 | 16 | 23 | 61 |

4. Uzbekistan will host the Chess Olympiad 2026 (Aug. 9, 2022)

The 2026 World Chess Olympiad will be held in Uzbekistan (Tashkent or Samarkand). This decision has been taken by the International Chess Federation (FIDE).

Important facts

- Most of the delegates voted to hold the contest in Uzbekistan.
- Uzbekistan will host these competitions for the first time.
- The World Chess Olympiad in 2024 will be hosted by Budapest (Hungary).
- The Chess Olympiad for the year 2022 is being held in Chennai.

About Chess Olympiad

- It is a biennial team event, in which teams from around 190 countries compete for honours over a period of two weeks.

- This championship has been organised since 1927.
- International Chess Federation (FIDE) organises the tournament and selects the host nation.
- FIDE is an international organisation based in Switzerland that links various national chess federations and serves as the governing body of international chess competition.
- It was founded in Paris, France, on July 20, 1924.
- In 1999, FIDE was recognized by the International Olympic Committee.
- FIDE President - Arkady Dvorkovich

Indian champion

- Vishwanathan Anand of India is the only Indian player who has won a World Chess title .
- He has won it five times 2000,2007,2008,2010,2012.

5. Rupal Chaudhary becomes first Indian to win two medals at U20 Worlds (Aug. 6, 2022)

Rupal Chaudhary from Uttar Pradesh, scripted history by winning two medals and became the first Indian athlete to win two medals in a single edition of the World U20 Athletics Championships in Cali, Colombia on 4 August.

Important facts

- Rupal won the bronze medal in the women's 400m race. Earlier, she had won a silver medal in the 4x400m relay.
- In the women's 400m race, Rupal clocked 51.85s to finish third behind Great Britain's Yemi Mary John (51.50) and Kenya's Damaris Mutunga (51.71).
- Earlier she was part of the relay team which won the silver medal in the 4x400m race.
- Rupal had competed in the first round of the individual 400m race on the same day and thereafter went into the semi-finals and final.
- Rupal is the second Indian to win a medal in the women's 400m race at the World Under-20 Athletics Championships.
- Earlier in 2018, Hima Das won the gold medal with a timing of 51.46 seconds.
- Olympic champion javelin thrower Neeraj Chopra was the first Indian to win a gold medal in this championship tournament. In 2016, he won the gold medal in the competition played in Poland.

6. Bajrang Punia, Deepak Punia and Sakshi Malik clinch Gold medals (Aug. 6, 2022)

In the Commonwealth Games, Bajrang Punia, Deepak Punia and Sakshi Malik clinched gold medals for India on 6 August.

Important facts

- In men's freestyle wrestling, Bajrang Punia won the gold medal by defeating Lachlan McNeil of Canada 9-2 in the 65kg category, while Deepak Punia won the gold medal in the 86kg category by defeating Pakistan's Muhammad Inam 3-0.
- Mohit Grewal won the bronze medal by defeating Jameson Aaron Johnson in the 125kg category.
- In women's freestyle wrestling, Sakshi Malik won the gold medal by defeating Godinez Gonzalez of Canada in the 62kg category, while Anshu Malik won the silver medal in the 57kg category after losing 3-7 to Folasade Adeguroye of Nigeria.
- Divya Kakran won the bronze medal by defeating Tiger Lily Cocker Lemali of Tonga in the 68kg category.
- In athletics, India has set a new Asian record in the men's 4X400m relay. He has qualified for the finals.

India's famous wrestlers

- **KD Jadhav** - Maharashtra's wrestler Khashaba Dadasaheb Jadhav became India's first individual Olympic medallist at the 1952 Helsinki Olympics.
- **Udey Chand** - In 1961 he became the first Indian wrestler to win a world championship medal - bronze in the 67kg category.
- **Alka Tomar** - She laid the foundation for women's wrestling in India. She won the gold medal at the Commonwealth championships in 2005.
- **Sushil Kumar** - He won bronze in 66kg freestyle at Beijing Olympics 2008. He won the world championships gold medal in 2010.
- **Yogeshwar Dutt** - He is a two-time Commonwealth Games champion and won Asian Games gold in 2014 in the 65kg category.
- Sakshi Malik - She won gold at the Commonwealth championships in 2017 and a bronze at the 2018 Commonwealth Games.

7. India beats South Africa in Women's Lawn Bowls Final to win first-ever gold medal (Aug. 3, 2022)

In the Commonwealth Games 2022 being played in Birmingham, the Indian women's team defeated South Africa in the final 17-10 to win the gold medal in the lawn ball event.

Important facts

- This is the first time that India has won any medal in this event in the Commonwealth Games.

- The Indian team includes 42-year-old Lovely Choubey (Lead) of Ranchi, 41-year-old Pinky (Second) of Delhi, 34-year-old Roopa Rani (Skip) of Ranchi and 32 years old Nainmouni Saikia (Third) of Assam.

History of Lawn Ball in Commonwealth Games

- Lawn ball was included in the Commonwealth Games in 1930.
- India took part in lawn ball for the first time as a host at the 2010 Commonwealth Games in Delhi.
- India's lawn ball team has participated in the Commonwealth Games four times, but has not won any medals in the last three times.
- The record for winning the most gold medals in lawn ball is held by England, who has won 21 gold medals, while Scotland is in second place with 20 gold.

Lawn Ball Game

- Lawn ball is an outdoor game in which a ball is thrown on the field i.e. that ball is rolled and pushed forward by the player.
- This ball is made of rubber, wood or any other material and can weigh up to 1.59 kg.
- A key word in this game is jack. The aim of the players is to get the ball as close to the jack as possible.
- The player whose jack is closest gets the point.
- The length of the jack is about 23 metres.
- The game is usually played on a flat lawn, approximately 40–42 yards (37–38 m) across.
- Lawn ball games can include teams of singles, doubles, three and four players. During this time, there are separate teams for both men and women.

8. England beats Germany 2-1 in UEFA Women Euro 2022 final (Aug. 1, 2022)

The England women's football team made history late on 31 July and became the UEFA Women's European Champion.

Important facts

- In the final of this competition, popularly known as Euro 2022, England defeated 8-time champions Germany 2-1 in extra time and became the fourth team to win the title as hosts.
- Earlier, Norway (1987), Germany (1989, 2001) and Netherlands (2017) have won the Euro title as hosts.
- This final match was played at the famous Wembley Stadium in London.

- In the match, both the teams gave equal competition to each other from the beginning and kept the defence strong.
- Neither team could score in the first half. In the second half, Alla Toon scored in the 62nd minute to give England a 1-0 lead.
- Lena Magul scored for Germany in the 79th minute to level the match.
- The hero of England's victory was Chloe Kelly, who scored a goal in extra time to give England a decisive 2-1 lead.
- England's team last reached the final in 2009 and then Germany won the title by defeating them.

UEFA Women's EURO 2022

- The Women's Euro or UEFA European Women's Championship, established in 1984, is the top competition for women's football featuring teams from the UEFA Confederation.
- The tournament was started in 1984 with four teams: Sweden, Italy, Germany and Norway.
- From 1997, the Women's Euro expanded to an eight-team tournament and later in 2009 to a twelve-team competition.
- Four more teams were added from 2017 onwards.
- The initial winner of the tournament was Sweden, and in 1987 the second edition was won by Norway.

9. Indian weightlifter Achinta Shuli lifts record 313 kg to win gold medal in Commonwealth Games (Aug. 1, 2022)

Indian young player and weightlifter Achinta Shuli has made the entire nation proud by winning a gold medal at the ongoing Commonwealth Games in Birmingham, England.

Important facts

- This is India's third gold medal in the current Games.
- Earlier, Mirabai Chanu had won a gold medal in the 49kg event.
- 19-year-old Jeremy Lalrinnunga, competing in the 67kg category, also lifted gold medals in snatch and clean and jerk by lifting a total of 300kg.
- Shuli, who comes from West Bengal, created a new Commonwealth Games record by lifting a total of 313 kg.

Achinta's Snatch Round

- 1st attempt - 137kgs
- Second attempt - 140 kgs

• Third attempt - 143 kg

Six medals in Commonwealth 2022 so far

- So far all six medals in Commonwealth 2022 have been taken to India by lifters.
- Mirabai Chanu, Jeremy Lalrinnunga and Achinta Shuli won gold medals.
- Sanket Mahadev Sargar and Bindiyarani Devi won silver medals.
- Apart from this, Gururaja Pujari was successful in winning the bronze medal in the 61 kg weight category.

10. India to host Women's ODI World Cup in 2025 (July 29, 2022)

According to the International Cricket Council (ICC), India will host the ICC Women's ODI World Cup for the year 2025.

Important facts

- The Council has selected four countries to host the ICC Women's World Cup from 2024 to 2027.
- These countries are India, Bangladesh, England and Sri Lanka.
- Bangladesh will host the Women's T20 World Cup competition in the year 2024.
- The 2026 edition of the Women's T20 World Cup will be held in England.
- Sri Lanka will host the 2027 Women's T20 Champions Trophy but it will depend on whether they qualify for the competition.
- The host countries were selected through a bidding process conducted under the supervision of a subcommittee of the ICC Board.
- The committee also included Sourav Ganguly, President of the Board of Control for Cricket in India.

International Cricket Council (ICC)

- Establishment- 15 June 1909
- Headquarter- Dubai, United Arab Emirates
- The ICC currently has 104 member states: 12 full members and 92 associate members.
- President- Greg Barkley

Board of Control for Cricket in India (BCCI)

- Establishment- 1928
- Headquarters- Mumbai, Maharashtra

- President- Sourav Ganguly
- Secretary- Jay Shah