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Important Current Affairs 1st September 2017 with PDF

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Important Current Affairs 1st September 2017

Santosh Sharma takes charge

- The Ministry of Mines has appointed Santosh Sharma as Chairman and Managing Director of Hindustan Copper for a period of five years.
- Sharma joined the Company as General Manager (Operations) in 2013 and thereafter, he became Executive Director (Operations).
- He became Director (Operations) of the company with effect from March 1, last year.

• First gene therapy for cancer

- U.S. has approved first gene therapy in the nation, a treatment that uses a
 patient's own immune cells to fight childhood leukemia.
- The therapy turns a patient's cells into a "living drug" & trains them to recognize
 & attack the disease.
- Marketed as Kymriah & made by Novartis, was approved for children and young adults for an aggressive type of leukemia — B-cell acute lymphoblastic leukemia.



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• National Nutrition Week

- National Nutrition Week will be observed throughout India from 1st to 7th
 September.
- The objective of this annual event is to intensify awareness generation on the importance of nutrition for health which has an impact on development, economic growth & ultimately National development.
- The theme of National Nutrition Week for 2017 is "Optimal Infant & Young Child Feeding Practices: Better Child Health".

• First Civilian Drone Base

- Civil Aviation Administration of China has announced the opening of the country's first test-flight base for civilian drones in Shanghai.
- The base, located in the district of Qingpu, will provide service to thousands of unmanned aerial vehicles.
- There are over 120,000 registered drones in China.
- China has approximately 500 drone manufacturers, controlling almost 70 percent of market share.

• Canara Bank cuts interest rate

- Canara Bank has reduced the interest rate on savings bank accounts by 50 basis points to 3.5% on deposits of up to Rs 50 lakh.
- However, the bank will continue to pay 4 per cent interest on deposits of above Rs 50 lakh.
- Earlier this year, PSU lender, Bank of Baroda and Bank of India also slashed the savings account interest rate to 3.5 per cent on deposits of up to Rs 50 lakh.

CSIR ranked 9th

- Council of Scientific & Industrial Research has been ranked 9th amongst 1,207
 govt institutions, according to Scimago Institutions ranking World Report 2017.
- Known for its cutting edge R&D in science & technology, CSIR has a dynamic network of 38 national laboratories & 38 outreach centers.
- It also provides significant technological intervention in many areas with regard to societal efforts.

• Rajiv Kumar takes charge as Niti's VC











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- Noted economist Rajiv Kumar today took over as the vice-chairman of government think tank Niti Aayog.
- Kumar replaced Arvind Panagariya, an Indian-American economist who left the think tank to return to academia.
- Kumar had also served as the chief economist of CII and held senior positions in the Asian Development Bank, the Indian Ministry of Industries, and the Ministry of Finance.

· Cabinet clears pact with Brazil

- Union Cabinet has approved an agreement b/w India & Brazil for cooperation in fields of zebu cattle genomics & assisted reproductive technologies.
- MoU would facilitate scientific cooperation and set up of genomic selection program in zebu cattle.
- MoU will promote the development of genomics & Assistant Reproductive Technologies in cattle through joint activities between the two countries.

Union Bank, Dena Bank reduce MCLR rates

- Union Bank of India & Dena Bank have reduced their marginal cost of lending rates across various tenors with effect from today
- O Union Bank has cut its MCLR by 20 basis points across all tenor. New 1 year MCLR has been set at 8.20% as against 8.40% earlier
- Dena Bank has reduced MCLR by 15 basis points across 1 year, 6 months, 3 months & 1 month. It has fixed its 1year MCLR at 8.40% from 8.55%.

• Joint MD and CEO of DHFL

- Housing finance company, DHFL has elevated Harshil Mehta as Joint Managing Director & CEO of the company with effect from September 1.
- Prior to this elevation, Mehta was the Chief Executive Officer of the company.
- This development is reflective of DHFL's commitment to continue the successful implementation of the Group's vision and ambitious growth strategies.

• 1st Private Sector-Built Satellite Fails

 India's first private sector built satellite IRNSS-1H failed after its launch from Sriharikota spaceport in Andhra Pradesh.











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- Indian Regional Navigation Satellite System is an independent regional navigation satellite system developed by India on par with US-based GPS.
- It was due to a "trivial issue" of satellite's protective heat shield not getting separated & dropping off that led to failure

· Govt clears the first batch of reforms

- Cabinet Committee on Security has approved implementation of 1st phase of recommendations of Shekatkar Committee which pertain to Army.
- The first phase of reforms involves redeployment & restructuring of approx 57,000 posts of officers.
- The committee headed by Lt Gen DB Shekatkar had given 99 recommendations to govt in its report out of which Ministry of Defence decided to implement 65 suggestions.

Singapore's Acting President

- JY Pillay, an Indian-origin veteran civil servant, was appointed as Singapore's acting president until a new head of state is sworn in later in September.
- He took over from Tony Tan Keng Yam who completed a six-year term.
- This is the first time the office has fallen vacant since the elected presidency was introduced in 1991.

ItzCash partners with HDFC Ergo

- HDFC ERGO has entered into a strategic agreement with payments solutions company ItzCash to offer general insurance products on its platform.
- The partnership inked will offer a wide range of general insurance policies including health, motor, fire, and auto.
- The partnership will allow customers to pay their premium at the nearest ItzCash outlet.

• GDP growth hits three-year low of 5.7%

- The economic growth of India slipped to a 3 year low of 5.7% in April-June as disruptions caused by demonetization spilled over to the third straight quarter.
- According to the government data, the GDP had expanded by 6.1 per cent in the preceding quarter.











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 With this, India lagged China in terms of growth in gross domestic product for the second consecutive quarter.

• Rajiv Mehrishi appointed as CAG

- Senior bureaucrat Rajiv Mehrishi has been appointed to lead the country's top audit body Comptroller and Auditor General.
- The former Union Home Secretary will replace Shashi Kant Sharma whose term ends on September 23.
- The CAG is appointed for a term of six years or till the incumbent attains the age of 65 years, whichever is earlier.

• Sunil Arora appointed as the new EC

- Govt has appointed former I&B secretary Sunil Arora as the Election Commissioner.
- He is a 1980 batch IAS officer of Rajasthan cadre, has worked in ministries such as finance, textiles.
- He has been brought in to fill the vacancy created by former CEC Nasim Zaidi.
- He will get 4 years in Election Commission & will most likely oversee the conduct of Lok Sabha polls in 2019 as the CEC.

Rajiv Kumar appointed as new DFS Secy

- Senior bureaucrat Rajiv Kumar has been appointed Secretary in the Department of Financial Services.
- Kumar, a 1984 batch IAS officer of Jharkhand cadre, is at present Special Secretary & Establishment Officer in the Ministry of Personnel.
- Kumar has spearheaded several reforms in Indian bureaucracy including an online system for recording of the bureaucrats' annual performance appraisal reports

• Rajiv Pratap Rudy resigns

- Ahead of the likely Cabinet reshuffle, Union Minister for Skill Development and Entrepreneurship Rajiv Pratap Rudy has resigned.
- Rudy, who represents Bihar's Saran Lok Sabha constituency, is expected to be given an organisational assignment in the BJP.









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 The Cabinet reshuffling exercise is expected to be completed before Prime Minister Narendra Modi leaves for China to attend BRICS Summit.

• Railways to get Swiss tilting trains

- India will collaborate with Switzerland for developing trains which will tilt on approaching a bend, just like a motorbike on a winding road.
- Tilting train rounds a curve at speed it cause objects to slide about. During a curve to the left, the train tilts to the left and vice versa.
- Such trains are now operational in 11 countries including China, Russia, Germany, and Romania.

Attempt Current Affair Quiz for 1st September 2017





