

Important Current Affairs 20th September 2017 with PDF

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Current Affairs Quiz - 19th September 2017

- **Presence of aerosol over Asia**
 - A joint study by ISRO & NASA which had commenced after satellite images showed presence of an aerosol layer over Asia region, has confirmed the same.
 - The study also found presence of nitrate, which is a new finding
 - Aerosol are sub-micron size particles suspended in air that are produced from a variety of man-made & natural processes such as vehicle exhaust, waste-burning & wind blown dust.
- **Countries that faced natural disasters**
 - According to UN secretary-general Antonio Guterres, India ranked 3rd among the countries that have faced the most natural disasters in the last half century.
 - U.S, followed by China, India, Philippines and Indonesia, have experienced most disasters since 1995 - more than 1,600, or once every 5 days.
 - Climate change was among the 7 global threats that he listed needing immediate global action.
- **Top retail destination in 2017**



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- India has replaced China as the numero uno retail destination in 2017 as part of the global retail development index.
- The change in ranking was an outcome of 4 factors including increased consumer spending, rising mobile and internet penetration, favourable foreign investment climate and GST.
- Over the past 12-15 months, 100% cash and carry operations are gaining significance in India.
- **Emblem and slogan for Women's World Cup**
 - The official emblem and slogan for FIFA Women's World Cup France 2019 has been unveiled.
 - The emblem features the competition trophy wrapped in blue and white, with eight shards of light around football at the top of the trophy symbolising the eighth edition of the FIFA Women's World Cup.
 - The slogan of the tournament "Dare To Shine" reflects the development of football.
- **Bill on fugitive economic offenders**
 - The law ministry has given its concurrence to a draft bill that will give powers to the government to confiscate property of economic offenders and defaulters who flee India.
 - The proposed law will be applicable in cases where the value of offences is over Rs 100 crore.
 - The bill also has provision for appointment of an administrator to dispose off the property to pay off the creditors.
- **Centre to exit 3 ITDC hotels**
 - Centre has decided to exit 3 ITDC hotels including Jaipur Ashok and handover them to the state govts concerned.
 - The cabinet approved transfer of Hotel Jaipur Ashok & Lalitha Mahal Palace Hotel, Mysore, to govts of Rajasthan and Karnataka, respectively.
 - The policy has been formulated in line with the view that running & managing hotels is not the job of govt or its entities.
- **Tata Steel, Thyssenkrupp Sign MoU**



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- Tata Steel and Thyssenkrupp AG have signed MoU to create Europe's second-largest steel enterprise by combining the flat steel businesses of the two companies.
- The proposed 50:50 joint venture would be focused on quality and technology leadership, and the supply of premium and differentiated products to customers.
- The new company is likely to be headquartered in Amsterdam region.
- **Saudi Arabia to unblock internet calling**
 - Saudi Arabia has decided to lift ban on internet calling apps as it faces criticism over censorship.
 - All online voice & video call services like Skype & WhatsApp that satisfy regulatory requirements will become accessible.
 - It is aimed at improving business confidence as kingdom transitions into a post-oil era, access to VoIP will reduce operational costs & spur digital entrepreneurship.
- **Merger of 17 govt presses into 5 units**
 - The Cabinet has approved the merger and modernisation of 17 Government of India Presses (GIPs) into five GIPs.
 - The modernisation will enable these presses to undertake confidential, urgent and multi-colour printing work of the Central Government offices all over the country.
 - The five presses are to be redeveloped and modernised through monetisation of their surplus land.
- **Zannah Mustapha wins UN award**
 - Zannah Mustapha won the annual Nansen Refugee Award for his 'crucial mediating' role and efforts to help children affected by the insurgency in the country.
 - Mustapha is the founder of Future Prowess Islamic Foundation School, a school that provides free Islamic-based education to children orphaned by insurgency.
 - The school also provides free meals, uniforms and health care to its pupils.
- **P2P platform as NBFC business**





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- RBI has said that Peer-to-peer lending platforms will be treated as non-banking financial companies and thus regulated by the RBI.
- P2P lending is a form of crowd-funding used to raise loans which are paid back with interest. The interest rate may be set by the platform or mutual agreement b/w borrower & lender.
- RBI had floated a consultation paper in April 2016 on such lending platforms.
- **North East Festival to return to Delhi**
 - The fifth edition of the North East Festival, which brings together the numerous colours and talents of the region, will begin in Delhi.
 - The three-day festival, to be held at IGNCA, Janpath, will present Naga warrior dance, Thang ta of Manipur, Hojagiri of Tripura and much more.
 - Various northeastern states, developmental councils will present investment and tourism potential of the region.
- **WHO grants \$175,000 for Rohingyas**
 - WHO has released its first tranche of emergency funding of \$175,000 to provide lifesaving healthcare to "vulnerable population" in Bangladesh.
 - Grant will support 20 mobile medical teams to provide essential services for at least two months.
 - WHO is working closely with UNFPA, UNICEF & other health, partners in ensuring that adequate health services are provided to the vulnerable population.
- **China issues stamp**
 - China has issued a commemorative stamp in honour of the world's largest radio telescope located in Guizhou province.
 - With an investment of 1.2 billion yuan, the telescope is single-dish with a diameter of half a kilometre.
 - The telescope is designed to probe space for the faintest signs of life and is sensitive to any electromagnetic interference.
- **Advani renominated as chairman**
 - Veteran BJP leader L K Advani has been renominated as chairman of the Lok Sabha Ethics Committee by Speaker Sumitra Mahajan.
 - Besides Advani, all other 14 members have also been given another term.



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- The Ethics Committee examines every complaint relating to the unethical conduct of a member referred to it.
- It is also free to take up suo motu investigation into matters relating to ethics.
- **MS Dhoni for Padma Bhushan award**
 - BCCI has nominated MS Dhoni for country's 3rd highest civilian award - The Padma Bhushan for his contribution to the game.
 - Dhoni is already a recipient of prestigious Arjuna, Rajeev Gandhi Khel Ratna & Padma Shri award.
 - If Dhoni is conferred with Padma Bhushan, he will become the 11th Indian cricketer to get the honour.
 - BCCI has not sent any other nominations for Padma awards this year.
- **100 greatest living business minds**
 - 3 Indian entrepreneurial legends, Ratan Tata, Lakshmi Mittal & Vinod Khosla have been included in Forbes's list of world's '100 Greatest Living Business Minds'.
 - Other Honorees featured on the list include Donald Trump, Mark Zuckerberg and others.
 - List includes individuals who have either created something with a lasting impact on world or innovated in a way that transcends their given field
- **BIMSTEC Disaster Management Exercise**
 - The First 'BIMSTEC Disaster Management Exercise- 2017' (BIMSTEC DMEx-2017) will be conducted by NDRF as the lead agency in Delhi & NCR.
 - It will be a platform for sharing Best Practices on all aspects of Disaster Risk Reduction, strengthening regional response among BIMSTEC member countries.
 - Majority of BIMSTEC countries are situated in South Asian Region, prone to natural disasters.
- **Rs 100 coin released by Venkaiah Naidu**
 - Celebrating the legacy of Carnatic music icon M S Subbulakshmi, Venkaiah Naidu released special commemorative coins of Rs 100 & Rs 10 denominations.
 - She had many firsts to her credit, from being the first musician to be awarded Bharat Ratna to winning Ramon Magsaysay Award, & performing at UNGA





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- A nearly 2 week-long exhibition, titled 'Kurai Ondrum Illai', is being held in honour of Subbulakshami
- **24 additional judges**
 - 24 judges to Allahabad and Calcutta high courts were appointed today.
 - Allahabad high court, with an approved strength of 160 judges is functioning with 91 judges while Calcutta high court has an approved strength of 72 judges, but is working with 31.
 - These are the first set of fresh appointments to the high court after Justice Dipak Misra took over as Chief Justice of India.

Attempt Current Affair Quiz for 20th September 2017

