

Important Current Affairs 28th June 2018

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Important Current Affairs 28th June 2018

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- **India signed JDI with Germany in Aviation**
 - The Cabinet signed a Joint Declaration of Intent (JDI) between India and Germany on Cooperation in the field of Civil Aviation.
 - The Declaration will lead to the promotion of the effective and efficient development of air transport between India and Germany.
 - It would cover Aviation Safety and Air Traffic Management, Helicopter Emergency Medical Services and Training and Skills Development.
- **Caninet approves MoU with Denmark**
 - The Cabinet gave approval for the memorandum of understanding (MoU) between India and Denmark in the field of animal husbandry and dairy.
 - Under this, a joint working group consisting of representatives from both the countries will be created to formulate joint programmes.
 - This will facilitate the exchange of knowledge & expertise in the areas of animal breeding, animal health.
- **Fourth National Consultation of Ministers**
 - The fourth National Consultation Meeting of Ministers of States & UTs, in-charge of Food, Civil Supplies and Consumer Affairs is being held on 29th June 2018 in New Delhi.
 - The meeting will be chaired by Shri Ram Vilas Paswan, Union Minister of Consumer Affairs.
 - The consultation will be on measures for improving consumer protection and welfare including Public Distribution System etc.
- **India votes against the draft at OPCW meet**

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- India has voted against the draft addressing the threat from chemical weapons use at a conference of the Organisation for the Prohibition of Chemical Weapons (OPCW).
- The conference has been called by the UK, the US & the West to have discussions on upholding the global ban against the use of chemical weapons.
- India's Ambassador and Permanent Representative to the OPCW is Venu Rajamony.
- **Research institute to come up at Maghar**
 - Prime Minister Narendra Modi will address a public rally and lay the foundation stone of a research institute at Maghar in Uttar Pradesh.
 - This will mark the 500th death anniversary of Kabir Das, the mystic poet and saint.
 - PM will visit the Sant Kabir cave and unveil a plaque to mark the laying of foundation stone of the Kabir Academy.
- **RBL Bank raise stakes in SFPL to 100%**
 - RBL Bank has fully acquired Mumbai-based microlender firm Swadhaar FinServe Pvt Ltd (SFPL) where it had 60.49% holding earlier.
 - SFPL operates 331 branches across 16 states and two union territories and has an AUM (Assets under management) of around Rs 2,000 crore and reaches 750,000 customers.
 - SFPL distributes loans and savings products, to low-income households and microenterprises.
- **National Statistics Day on 29th June**
 - Vice President Venkaiah Naidu will attend the closing ceremony of the 125th birth anniversary of Professor P. C. Mahalanobis on Statistics Day on 29th June.
 - The theme of 2018 is - Quality Assurance in Official Statistics.
 - The objective of the celebration is to create public awareness about statistics in socio-economic planning, to acknowledge the contribution of Prof. Mahalanobis.
- **Govt hikes ethanol price by Rs 3 per litre**
 - The government hiked the price of ethanol, used for doping in petrol, by almost Rs 3 per litre to Rs 43.70.
 - This move is to cut India's oil import dependence as well as give the higher price for sugarcane to farmers.
 - The govt has approved the mechanism for procurement of ethanol by public sector oil marketing companies to carry out the Ethanol Blended Petrol Programme.
- **1st Inter-state translocation proj. of tigers**
 - In the country's 1st inter-state translocation of tigers project, a female cub was shifted from Bandhavgarh Tiger Reserve, MP to Satkosia Tiger Reserve, Odisha.
 - India has a population of 3891 tigers, according to 2016 census.

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- The ambitious project is conceived by the Ministry of Environment, National Tiger Conservation Authority and Wildlife Institute of India to boost tiger population.
- **J P Nadda inaugurates the NIMHANS Academy**
 - J P Nadda, Union Minister of Health and Family Welfare inaugurated the NIMHANS Digital Academy.
 - The Academy will train 50 people in the virtual classroom with a cell phone/mobile phone with 3G connection required at the receiver's end.
 - It will serve the purpose of mental health care needs and will increase the capacity of human resources for mental health by training doctors, nurses.
- **WCD Ministry to organise TECH-THON 2018**
 - Ministry of Women and Child Development, Government of India will organize a seminar on technology partnerships for steering POSHAN Abhiyaan called 'TECH-THON' in Delhi.
 - The seminar aims to discuss technology and also share an overview of POSHAN Abhiyaan and combat malnutrition.
 - POSHAN Abhiyaan (National Nutrition Mission) was launched by the Prime Minister on 8th March 2018 in, Rajasthan.
- **WEP signs SoI with various organisations**
 - NITI Aayog's Women Entrepreneurs Platform (WEP) signed 5 Statement of Intent (SoIs) with financial institutions.
 - These are Shri Mahila Sewa Sahakari Bank Limited, Indiabulls Housing Finance Limited, SREI Infrastructure Finance Limited, Sreemanta Sankar Mission and the SEWA.
 - The WEP was established on International Women's Day in March 2018 to increase the number of women entrepreneurs.
- **Chaudhary sets world record at ISSF 2018**
 - Indian shooter Saurabh Chaudhary set a new world record on the way to winning a gold medal in the ISSF Junior World Cup 2018 in Suhl, Germany.
 - Saurabh shot a total of 243.7 in the 10m air pistol event at International Shooting Sports Federation tournament.
 - The junior world record prior to this was 242.5 by Chinese shooter Wang Zhehao at the first ISSF Junior World Cup in Sydney.
- **Govt funds ECGC, NEIA to boost exports**
 - The Cabinet Committee on Economic Affairs (CCEA) approved the capital infusion of Rs 2000 crore in Export Credit Guarantee Corporation (ECGC) and Rs 1040 cr to National Export Insurance Account Trust (NEIA).
 - The capital infusion of Rs 2000 crore in ECGC would to boost exports and benefit MSMEs in the country.
 - The grant to NEIA would promote infrastructure for export projects.
- **Sagarmala receives Gold Award at Skoch Summit**



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- The Ministry of Shipping's flagship programme for port-led-prosperity 'Sagarmala' received the 'Gold Award' at 52nd Skoch Summit 2018 in New Delhi.
- The Skoch Awards recognize leadership and excellence in accelerating socio-economic changes.
- Sagarmala is the programme of govt for port-led-development of the country through harnessing 7,500 km long coastline, 14,500 km of navigable waterways.
- **Govt proposes to replace UGC**
 - Government has unveiled draft of a bill to replace higher education regulator University Grants Commission with a Higher Education Commission.
 - The commission will not have grant-making authority, will promote reduced inspection system & will focus on quality outcome at universities & colleges.
 - It will be applicable to all higher education institutions established under any act of Parliament.
- **FATF puts Pak on 'grey list'**
 - Global anti-terror financing watchdog, Financial Action Task Force has decided to keep Pakistan on its 'grey list'.
 - US motion, to have Pakistan added to grey list of countries was reportedly backed by Britain, France & Germany.
 - Pakistan was previously on the grey list from 2012 to 2015.
 - FATF is an inter-governmental body established in 1989 to combat money laundering & terrorist financing.
- **U.S. postpones 2+2 dialogue with India**
 - US has postponed its inaugural 2+2 dialogue with India, citing "unavoidable reasons".
 - The dialogue was to be held on July 6, Sushma Swaraj and Nirmala Sitharaman were to take part in the meeting with US secretary of state Michael Pompeo and secretary of defence James Mattis.
 - The meeting was expected to focus on strengthening strategic, security, and defence cooperation.
- **Cabinet approves MoU between India & Singapore**
 - Union Cabinet has given its nod to a Memorandum of Understanding between India & Singapore for cooperation in urban planning and development.
 - The agreement will facilitate government agencies to tap into expertise offered by Singaporean agencies in urban development and management.
 - MoU aims is to facilitate government bodies like municipal corporations to help in rejuvenation of urban areas.

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