

Daily Current Affairs 15 June 2018

India

Swajal Launched in 115 Aspirational Districts of India

- A National Consultation on the National Rural Drinking Water Programme (NRDWP) and Swajal was held in the Capital today to discuss the reforms needed in NRDWP and to outline a road map for the Swajal scheme.
- The consultation was chaired by the Union Minister of Drinking Water and Sanitation, Sushri Uma Bharti.
- Union Minister for Drinking Water and Sanitation announced that Swajal schemes in 115 aspirational districts of the country will involve an outlay of Rs 700 crores through flexi-funds under the existing NRDWP budget.
- These schemes will aim to provide villages with piped water supply powered by solar energy. The scheme will train hundreds of rural technicians for operation and maintenance of Swajal units. The Minister spoke about the relevance of Swajal in remote rural areas in the aspirational districts of the country.
- Centre to Spend Rs 1000 Crores to Provide Clean Drinking Water to 27,500 Quality-Affected Habitations.

National Tribal Museum proposed to be set up at Delhi

- A National Tribal Museum along with a National Level Tribal Research Institute is proposed to be set up at Delhi by the Ministry of Tribal Affairs.
- Briefing mediapersons on four years of initiatives and achievements of the Tribal Affairs Ministry, the Minister of Tribal Affairs Shri Jual Oram said that the Museum will showcase the rich tribal culture and heritage using state-of-the-art technologies.
- The proposal to set up the Museum and TRI has already been sent to the Niti Ayog. The Ministers of State for Tribal Affairs Shri Jaswantsinh Bhabhor and Shri Sudarshan Bhagat were also present at today's briefing.
- As per the announcement made by the Prime Minister, Shri Narendra Modi in his Independence Day Speech on 15th August, 2016, MoTA is setting up six Tribal Freedom Fighters Memorials including two of national importance ie.
- Narmada (Gujarat) and Birsa Munda Central Jail (Ranchi), the Minister disclosed.
- Rs. 5405 cr disbursed as pre/post matric scholarships in last 4 years, 30 lakh ST students benefitted every year .
- 70000 tribals currently enrolled with Tribes India for sale of products, numbers expected to increase to 1.5 lakh soon.

India to host European Union Film Festival

- Putting a spotlight on the latest European cinema, the European Union Film Festival (EUFF) will premiere in New Delhi on 18th June, 2018 at the Siri Fort Auditorium.
- With a selection of 24 latest European films from 23 EU Member States, this year's film festival brings some unusual stories for the world cinema enthusiasts.
- The European Union Film Festival is organized by Directorate of Film Festivals, Ministry of Information and Broadcasting, Government of India partnering with the Delegation of the European Union and embassies of EU Member States in various city film clubs.
- The festival will traverse through 11 cities in India including New Delhi, Chennai, Port Blair, Pune, Puducherry, Kolkata, Jaipur, Visakhapatnam, Thrissur, Hyderabad and Goa from 18th June till 31st August.
- The EU Film Festival 2018 to be held from 18 - 24 June in Delhi, brings to the city a selection of some of the finest and most riveting films coming out of Europe today.

Bombay High Court rules that any notice delivered through WhatsApp in PDF is valid

- Bombay High Court has just ruled that any notice that is delivered using the online messaging platform WhatsApp in PDF format will be considered valid.
- According to a report by LiveLaw, "Justice GS Patel was hearing an execution application". Rohit Jadhav, the respondent was evading the "service of notice under Order XX1 Rule 22 of the Code of Civil Procedure 1908."
- To simplify, a notice was required to be sent to him according to the law but he was repeatedly trying to evade it.
- Claimants pointed out that Jadhav was trying to evade calls and other efforts from legal representatives to reach to him.
- An authorized office from the claimant, SBI Cards and Payments Services was trying to serve him the notice and the office sent a PDF along with the message to Jadhav on WhatsApp.

Narendra Modi to chair 4th meeting of Niti Aayog's governing council on 17 June

- Prime Minister Narendra Modi will chair the fourth meeting of Niti Aayog's governing council on Sunday to discuss various issues, including measures taken to double farmers' income and progress of flagship schemes.
- Besides, development agenda for 'New India 2022' is expected to be approved in the meeting. The council, apex body of Niti Aayog, includes all chief ministers, lieutenant governors of union territories, several union ministers and senior government officials.
- The governing council, according to an official statement, is expected to discuss important subjects, including measures taken to double farmers' income; progress of flagship schemes such as Ayushman Bharat, National Nutrition Mission and Mission Indradhanush; development of aspirational districts; and celebration of the 150th birth anniversary of Mahatma Gandhi.
- Niti Aayog has been working on the strategy document or development agenda for 'New India 2022' for a while. Earlier, it had planned to come out with three documents—a three-year action agenda, seven-year medium term strategy paper and a 15-year vision document.

Bank and Economy

Karnataka Bank launches 'Deposit Only Card'

- Karnataka Bank Ltd has launched 'KBL-Deposit Only Card' that enables hassle-free cash deposit transactions at the bank's 24X7 e-lobby services.
- A press release by the bank said here on Thursday that this card is specially meant for the bank's current/overdraft customers.
- These customers can perform cash deposit transactions even with higher deposit limit at the bank's bunch note acceptor (BNA) or cash recycler kiosks by using this card.
- The limit for the cash deposit a day is Rs 10 lakh.

MARG ERP Limited partners with ICICI Bank

- Marg ERP limited, a leading Inventory and Accounting software solution company has partnered with ICICI Bank, India's largest private sector bank by consolidated assets, to offer an integrated payments platform to Micro, Small and Medium Enterprise (MSME) customers, using MARG's accounting software.
- This integration aims to promote 'Connected Banking' and enables ICICI Bank's current account holders to securely connect their bank account with the MARG ERP software and undertake an array of digital transactions from within the ERP platform itself.
- It will enable businesses to initiate vendor & salary payments via RTGS, NEFT or IMPS directly from this platform, automate reconciliation of banking and accounting entries, apply for working capital loans as well as schedule future dated payments, thereby offering exemplary command over day-to-day financial transactions for businesses.
- This pioneering initiative significantly enhances convenience for MSMEs as they are no longer required to toggle between a banking platform and an ERP software to undertake their business transactions.

NSE launches platform to facilitate repo in corporate debt securities

- Leading stock exchange NSE today launched 'Tri-Party Repo Market' platform in its debt segment to facilitate repurchase (repo) of corporate debt securities.
- The platform is a kind of repo contract where a third entity, apart from the borrower and lender, called tri-party agent acts as an intermediary to facilitate services like collateral selection, payment and settlement, custody and management during the life of the transaction.
- At the launch of the platform, NSE MD & CEO Vikram Limaye said: "The corporate bond market in India needs improved liquidity because a holder of a corporate bond typically ends up holding the security to maturity."
- Repo on corporate debt provides opportunity to borrow against the securities and provides short-term liquidity to participants, Limaye said.

Reliance investing in India's first carbon fibre unit

- Reliance Industries is investing in setting up India's first carbon fibre manufacturing unit to cater to aerospace and defence needs, the company said in its annual report.
- The owner of world's largest oil refining complex will also make low-cost and high-volume composite products like modular toilets, homes and composites for windmill blades and rotor blades.
- Without giving investment details, Reliance in its latest annual report said it has developed capabilities for 3D printing of wide-range of plastic and metals products.
- Reliance is developing new business verticals in the petrochemicals business to capture Rs30,000 crore composites market and has plans to produce graphene, enhanced plastics and elastomers, fibre reinforced composites which can replace steel.

NBCC to invest ₹ 500 cr to acquire 2 loss-making PSUs

- State-owned construction firm NBCC plans to invest around ₹ 500 crore to acquire majority stake in two loss-making public sector firms, a top company official said.
- "We are gradually moving towards consolidation in the construction business. As a part of the strategy, we acquired loss making HSCL. We will be completing the acquisition of two more PSUs by the second quarter of this fiscal," company's chairman-cum-managing director Anoop Kumar Mittal told reporters here today.
- He added that the company will invest around ₹ 500 crore from internal accruals to acquire the other two loss-making firms.
- Last year, the company acquired 51 per cent stake in Hindustan Steel Works Construction (HSCL), also a public sector company under the steel ministry, with an investment of ₹ 35.70 crore.

Books

Nitin Gadkari Releases Nabard Publication on Water Productivity Mapping of Major Indian Crops

- Union Minister for Water Resources, River Development and Ganga Rejuvenation, Shipping, Road Transport & Highways Nitin Gadkari released a book 'Water productivity mapping of major Indian crops' published by NABARD in a function at New Delhi today.
- Addressing the gathering Shri Gadkari said that there is no scarcity of water in the country but we have to improve upon the planning and management of water resources.
- Our Ministry and Government is thinking about innovative ways for better management of water resources.

Sports

Afghanistan lose maiden Test to India by innings in two days

- Afghanistan succumbed to top-ranked India by an innings and 262 runs inside two days of its maiden cricket Test on Friday.
- India completed its first innings in the morning on 474 then bowled out the Afghans for 109 and 103.
- It was the fourth instance in test history of a team being bowled out twice in one day.
- Left-arm spinner Ravindra Jadeja took six wickets, including 4-17 in the second innings, and Ravichandran Ashwin claimed five, including 4-27 in the first.
- India stand-in skipper Ajinkya Rahane believed better days were ahead for Afghanistan.

Days

2018 World Elder Abuse Awareness Day observed today

- 2018 World Elder Abuse Awareness Day was observed on 15 June, 2018.
- The theme this year is “Moving from Awareness to Action through a Human Rights based approach”.

Global Wind Day observed on 15 June