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Finance and Banking

AIIB to invest USD 200 million in NIIF

- The Asian Infrastructure Investment Bank (AIIB) will invest USD 200 million in India's National Investment and Infrastructure Fund (NIIF).
- The AIIB, in a statement, said the proposal as a "concept" has been approved by the bank and the memorandum of approving the first tranche of USD 100 million is being presented for the Board of Directors' approval at the 3rd annual meeting going to be held on June 25-June 26 in Mumbai.
- The meeting will be inaugurated by Prime Minister Narendra Modi.
- The two-day event will be held at the Hotel Trident/Oberoi and NCPA. In the past, AIIB annual meetings have been held in Beijing, China, in 2016 and in Jeju, South Korea, in 2017.

Gujarat launches SKY Scheme for farmers to generate solar power

- The Gujarat government on Saturday launched a solar power scheme for farmers- Suryashakti Kisan Yojana (SKY) enabling them to generate electricity for their captive consumption as well as sell the surplus power to the grid and earn an extra buck.
- Announcing the pilot project of the scheme in Gandhinagar, chief minister Vijay Rupani termed it a revolutionary step towards empowering farmers to generate their own electricity using solar energy and help doubling their income.
- As per the scheme, farmers having existing electricity connection will be given solar panels as per their load requirements. The State and Central governments will give 60 per cent subsidy on the cost of project. The farmer is required to take 5 per cent cost, while 35 per cent will be provided to him as an affordable loan with interest rates of 4.5-6 per cent.
- The scheme duration is 25 years, which is split between 7-year period and 18-year period.

PM Modi to inaugurate AIIB Annual Meeting 2018

- The Department of Economic Affairs, Union Ministry of Finance and the Asian Infrastructure Investment Bank (AIIB) on June 22, 2018 announced to jointly host the third Annual Meeting of the Asian Infrastructure Investment Bank (AIIB) on June 25-26, 2018 in Mumbai, India.
- The theme for this year's meeting is 'Mobilising Finance for Infrastructure: Innovation and Collaboration'.
- Prime Minister Narendra Modi will inaugurate the third Annual Meeting of AIIB on June 26, 2018.
- Industries Department of the Maharashtra Government is the nodal Department, while the Maharashtra Industrial Development Corporation (MIDC) is the nodal agency.

- The Confederation of Indian Industry (CII) is the Professional Conference Organiser (PCO); Research and Information Systems for Developing Countries (RIS) is the knowledge partner for the third Annual Meeting of AIIB.
- This year meeting will see leaders from varied organizations and levels of government to share ideas and experiences for creating a sustainable future through sound infrastructure investment.
- The inaugural Asian Infrastructure Forum will be launched, which will gather infrastructure practitioners in a practical and project-driven discourse, focused on matching innovative finance to critical infrastructure needs.

Prime Minister lays foundation stone of paperless Vanijya Bhawan

- Prime Minister Narendra Modi laid the foundation stone of Vanijya Bhawan, a new office complex for the Union Department of Commerce, in New Delhi on June 22, 2018.
- The Bhawan, located near the India Gate, will be built on a plot of 4.33 acres, belonging to previous Directorate General of Supplies and Disposals (DGS&D).
- While retaining the Central Vista architecture, the Vanijya Bhawan will have all modern technology-driven features. Once ready, it will accommodate about 1000 officers and staff.
- The new building aims to become a symbol of India's growing economic might and the adoption and use of technology in governance.

India

1.50 lakh wellness centres to be set up by 2022: Nadda

- Over 1.50 lakh wellness centres will be set up by 2022 across the country and each centre will have yoga facility, Minister of Health and Family Welfare J P Nadda said at an event to mark the fourth International Yoga Day in Shimla on June 21.
- The Union minister along with Himachal Governor Acharya Dev Vrat, Chief Minister Jai Ram Thakur, and Education Minister Suresh Bhardwaj participated at the event held in the historic Ridge Ground here. It was organised by the Department of Ayurveda.
- The Minister also stated that 1.50 lakh health sub centres and primary health centres would be upgraded into wellness centres with modern facilities for treatment.

ISRO clears GSAT-11 for launch

- The 5,700-kg GSAT-11 satellite was slated for launch on May 26 from Kourou, a site in South America which India uses to launch its heavy-weight satellite.
- In a setback to the ISRO, the space agency lost contact with GSAT-6A after it was launched in March this year. Although the ISRO has been trying to establish with GSAT-6A, a satellite meant for military communication, it has found little success.
- This also led to the ISRO recalling GSAT-11 for conducting thorough checks.
- After a thorough check and additional tests, the satellite has been deemed fit for launch.

- The space agency is now waiting for a slot from Arianespace, the company which will launch the satellite.

Re-development of 7 Delhi colonies to increase green coverage by 3 folds

- The redevelopment of the seven government colonies in Delhi will lead to an increase the green area coverage by about 3 times from the existing green space area, as per Union Ministry of Housing & Urban Affairs.
- The government colonies include Nauroji Nagar, Netaji Nagar, Sarojini Nagar, Mohammadpur, Srinivaspuri, Kasturba Nagar and Thyagaraj Nagar.
- The redevelopment of the seven colonies is being done with complete adherence to environmental sustainability and green building concepts and special care and attention is being given towards retaining maximum number of existing trees and incorporating them in a large cluster, as an integral part of landscaping design scheme.
- The compensatory plantation of trees will be done in the ratio of 1:10 thereby resulting in enhanced tree coverage area.

Rajasthan ranked No. 1 in water conservation

- Rajasthan has been ranked first by the NITI Aayog among all states after it registered a significant increase in groundwater level due to the water conservation structures built under Chief Minister's Jal Swavlamban Abhiyan.
- The state also witnessed an increase of 81% in irrigation capacity.
- As many as 4 lakh structures were built in Rajasthan in the last three years.

India, Cuba sign MoUs to enhance co-operation in field of Biotechnology, medicine & homoeopathy

- India and Cuba on June 22, 2018 signed two Memorandum of Understandings (MoUs) in the field of biotechnology, traditional medicine and homoeopathy.
- The agreements were signed following delegation-level talks between President Ram Nath Kovind and his Cuban counterpart Miguel Mario Díaz-Canel at Revolution Palace in Havana, Cuba.
- The President was accompanied by a delegation including Minister of state for steel Vishnu Deo Sai and two Members of parliament.

Maharashtra bans single-use plastic; announces stiff actions against violators

- Maharashtra Government on June 23, 2018 imposed the statewide ban on single-use plastic items; announced heavy fine on those caught using these items.
- The announcement was made after a review meeting with Maharashtra Pollution Control Board officials.

Appointed

Arijit Basu to be new Managing Director of State Bank of India

- The appointments committee of the cabinet has appointed Arijit Basu as the new Managing Director of State Bank of India.
- In a notification, the cabinet committee said Basu has been appointed as MD till October 31, 2020.
- Prior to this, Basu was heading the corporate accounts group as the deputy managing director and handling stressed assets. Basu returned to SBI two months ago after serving as the Managing Director and Chief Executive Officer at SBI Life Insurance for four years.

Sports

18-year-old Manav Thakkar trumps World No. 18 in Ultimate Table Tennis 2018-06-22

- Young Indian table tennis player Manav Thakkar stunned World No. 18 Kristian Karlsson 2-1, inspiring Empowerji Challengers to a 15-6 victory over Maharashtra United in the CEAT Ultimate Table Tennis in New Delhi on June 21.
- The 18-year-old Thakkar rattled his Swedish rival, ranked 223 places above him with an attacking display to win 11-9, 8-11, 11-8.

England set a new ODI world record with 481/6

- England made the highest one-day international total of 481-6 as they defeated Australia by 242 runs at Trent Bridge. The England broke their own record of 444-3 set against Pakistan in 2016 at same venue.
- With this the England captain, Eoin Morgan became the highest ODI run scorer for his country.
- This is England's biggest ODI win and Australia's heaviest defeat in terms of runs.

Days

International Widows' Day observed on 23 June

- International Widows' Day was observed globally on 23 June, 2018.
- The theme for 2018 was "Invisible Women, Invisible Problems".

United Nations Public Service Day observed

- United Nations Public Service Day was observed on 23 June, 2018.

World

WHO releases new ICD 11

- The World Health Organization in Geneva released the latest edition (11th) of the International Classification of Diseases (ICD-11).
- The ICD is the standard disease coding for statistics and information regarding diseases around the world.
- These codes are common for healthcare professionals worldwide and provides a common sharing platform for reporting diseases and condition.

Nepal, Bhutan spend more than India on health

- India spends 1% of its gross domestic product on public health.
- According to the National Health Profile 2018 report, there is one allopathic doctor for 11,082 people in the country's villages.
- Low-income nations like Bhutan and Nepal spend 2.5% and 1.1% of its GDP respectively on public health.

Obituaries

Veteran journalist Prabhakar Choubey passes away

- Veteran journalist and litterateur Prabhakar Choubey passed away after a prolonged illness at a city hospital in Raipur on June 21, 2018. He was 83-year-old.
- Chhattisgarh Chief Minister Raman Singh condoled Choubey's death and said that the senior journalist, in his career spanning 54 years, made invaluable and memorable contribution in the fields of journalism and literature,.
- His last rites were conducted on June 22.