

Daily Current Affairs 9 and 10 June 2018

Sports News

Intercontinental Cup final: India beat Kenya 2-0 to win

- India lifted the Intercontinental Cup on Sunday after defeating Kenya 2-0 at Mumbai Football arena under the captaincy of Sunil Chettri.
- India started itself on a victory note as seven minutes into the game it managed to score its first goal which was a flick from a free-kick.
- Though the second half of the game belonged to Kenya, Chettri steered the team to victory as he became the joint second highest goal scorer among active players along with Argentinean star player Lionel Messi. The highest active goal scorer is Cristiano Ronaldo.
- Chettri scored his 64th goal for the country.
- In a previous match of the same tournament, India had blanked Kenya by 3-0.
- Chettri alone had scored eight goals in four matches including a hat-trick against Chinese Taipei.

Asian Junior Athletics: Middle distance runner Anu Kumar bags gold

- Middle distance runner Anu Kumar help India bag third gold medal in the men's 800m on the third day of the 2018 Junior Asian Athletics Championships here on Saturday.
- With a single day of competition remaining, Indian athletes have already won three gold medals, one silver and nine bronze medals.
- The Uttarakhand based runner, clocked 1:54.11 seconds to get the better of Iran's Abdolrahim Dorzadeh who clocked 1:54.23 seconds.
- The third step on the podium was claimed by Japan's Fuki Torii who clocked a time of 1:54.55 seconds.
- Kumar, who is one of the brightest prospects in middle distance running in India, had earlier won a silver medal in the 800m at the World School Games in France and had clocked 1:50.60 seconds to take gold at the Junior Federation Cup in April this year.
- While Kumar won gold much as he was expected to, there was a sense of relief for sprinter Gurvinder Singh who managed to secure a bronze medal in the men's 4x100m relay.

French Open: Nadal wins record 11th title

- World No. 1 and Spaniard tennis star Rafael Nadal outclassed Dominic Thiem of Austria in the men's final match of French Open to lift a record 11th Roland Garros title here on Sunday.
- Thiem, who was considered the underdog and the only player to beat Nadal twice on clay in the last two years, was no match for the Spaniard's swift serves and aggressive athleticism. He was defeated 6-4, 6-3, 6-2 in straight sets in a match that lasted beyond 2.5 hours.
- It was also Nadal's 17th grand slam title, three short of Swiss tennis ace Roger Federer's all-time men's record.

French Open: Simona Halep beats Sloane Stephens for first Grand Slam title

- Top seed and Romanian tennis ace Simona Halep won her first ever grand slam title after surging past a fighting Sloane Stephens of the United States in the final of women's singles at the Roland Garros here on Saturday.
- Halep, who had lost the last three major finals, won the match 3-6, 6-4, 6-1 in just over two hours.
- The Romanian was outclassed in the first set by Stephens, but recovered well to win the second set.
- In the second set, when both players were going neck and neck and were tied at 4-4, Halep re-discovered her red-hot form to win the next games and force the match to go into the next set.
- In the last set, Halep played a handful of excellent serves to leave Stephens in a spot of bother.

India related news

CUK signs MoU with HDFC bank to strengthen industry-academia linkage

- The Central University of Kashmir (CUK) on Saturday signs Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) with the Housing Development Finance Corporation (HDFC) bank with an aim and objective to strengthen and further the industry-academia linkage and to provide modern banking facilities and solutions to the varsity, staff, students and other stakeholders.
- On behalf of CUK, registrar Prof. M Afzal Zargar and on behalf of HDFC Bank, senior president state head Jammu and Kashmir Zubair Iqbal signed MoU in the presence of varsity Vice-Chancellor Prof. Mehrajud Din Mir at a small function here.
- CUK in a statement said that the MoU has been signed in order to further boost the research and academic growth of the university, in partnership with the HDFC.
- According to MoU, the Bank will be also providing following services and facilities to the University: Institutional accounts to be opened wherein no service/commission or any other charges will be levied (charges if any will be reversed), all the services to be provided free of cost.

India to soon start producing first indigenous Lithium-Ion batteries

- The Central Electro Chemical Research Institute (CECRI), Karaikudi, Tamil Nadu under Council of Scientific & Industrial Research (CSIR) and RAASI Solar Power Pvt Ltd on June 10, 2018 signed a Memorandum of Agreement (MoU) for transfer of technology for India's first Lithium Ion (Li-ion) Battery project.
- The Agreement was signed by Dr Vijayamohan K Pillai, Director, CECRI and C Narasimhan, Chairman-cum-Managing Director of RAASI Group in the presence of Union minister for Science & Technology Dr Harsh Vardhan.
- CSIR-CECRI Tamil Nadu has set up a demo facility in Chennai to manufacture prototype Lithium-Ion cells.

- A group at CSIR-CECRI headed by Dr Gopu Kumar has developed this indigenous technology of Lithium-ion cells in partnership with CSIR-National Physical Laboratory New Delhi, CSIR-Central Glass and Ceramic Research Institute Kolkata and Indian Institute of Chemical Technology (CSIR-IICT) Hyderabad.
- CSIR-CECRI has secured global Intellectual Property Rights (IPRs) for enabling cost reduction, coupled with appropriate supply chain and manufacturing technology for mass production.

India, China sign 2 MoUs on sharing of Brahmaputra river data and supply of non-Basmati rice

- India and China June 9, 2018 signed two Memorandums of Understanding (MoUs) for sharing the hydrological data of the Brahmaputra River; and for supplying non-Basmati rice to China.
- The two MoUs were signed after Prime Minister Narendra Modi held detailed discussions with Chinese President Xi Jinping on bilateral and global issues. PM Modi was on a two-day visit to the picturesque coastal city of China's Shandong province to attend the annual summit of the Shanghai Cooperation Organisation (SCO).

MoU on sharing of Brahmaputra River data

- Under this MoU, China will start sharing hydrological information of the Brahmaputra River with India again during the flood season from May 15 to October 15 every year.
- This MoU was signed between China's Ministry of Water Resources and India's Ministry of Water Resources, River Development and Ganga Rejuvenation.

MoU on supply of non-Basmati rice

- India and China also signed an agreement under which China has agreed to import non-Basmati rice from India.
- This MoU was signed between China's General Administration of Customs and India's Department of Agriculture, Cooperation and Farmers Welfare on Phytosanitary requirements for exporting rice from India to China.

Rural sanitation coverage crosses 85 per cent mark

- The sanitation coverage in rural India has risen to 85 per cent under Swachh Bharat Mission, the largest cleanliness drive in the world.
- A recent survey conducted by an Independent Verification Agency across 90,000 households in over 6000 villages found that the usage of toilets in rural India had risen to 93.4%. Two independent surveys conducted in the past by the Quality Council of India in 2017 and National Sample Survey Organization in 2016 also recorded the usage of toilets in rural India to be around 91 per cent and 95 per cent respectively.
- Through mobilisation of rural communities, around 7.4 crore toilets have been built across rural India, and as an outcome, over 3.8 lakh villages and 391 districts have been declared Open Defecation Free (ODF).
- The development is significant because under the Swachh Bharat Mission (Grameen), sanitation coverage increased to more than double the coverage at the time of the launch of the Mission.

- The success has reportedly been achieved due to the difference in approach to sanitation adopted by the Swachh Bharat Mission in comparison to the previous sanitation programmes in the country.

Union Government to constitute two border battalions

- Union Home Minister Rajnath Singh announced recently that nine new battalions would be constituted, among which two would be for the border areas.
- Singh added that two new women battalions have also been sanctioned for the J&K police, one for Kashmir Division and for Jammu Division. The battalions will primarily deal with incidents like stone pelting in Kashmir valley and other law and order duties. The move is expected to provide employment to around 2000 women from the state.
- The announcement was made by the Home Minister while addressing a press conference in Jammu on the second day of his visit to the state of Jammu and Kashmir. Reiterating the union government's commitment to safeguard the interests of border people and Kashmir migrants in Jammu and Kashmir, the Home Minister said that centre is fully aware of the hardships faced by these people and has been taking a number of initiatives to address them.

India and Norway sign MoU to extend health cooperation

- The Union Ministry of Health and Family Welfare on June 7, 2018 signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) with the Norwegian Ministry of Foreign Affairs to extend the cooperation within health sector.
- The cooperation will be extended through the Norway India Partnership Initiative (NIPI) for a period of three years starting from 2018 to 2020.
- This cooperation between India and Norway is aligned with the development goals of Indian Government as outlined in its National Health Policy 2017 for achievement of Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs).
- It will focus on global health issues of common interest.
- It will enable cooperation in the areas related to maternal, new-born, child health and shall build on experiences from NIPI phase I and II.