

NEWS ANALYSIS

For Civil Services Exams

Issue II

June 16-30, 2017

CONTENTS

Lead Article

- GST: Way ahead

National News

- UNESCO names Sharjah as World Book Capital
- PM Modi inaugurates Centenary Celebrations of Sabarmati Ashram
- World Bank clears \$250-million loan for Skill India Mission
- Government launches Index to Rank 116 Cities
- NITI Aayog Selects CCMB as Incubation Centre for Biotech Start-ups
- Government launches VAJRA Scheme

International News

- US to sell C-17 Globemaster Transport Aircraft to India
- US issues New Visa Criteria for Six Muslim Countries
- China has launched its Biggest Naval Destroyer
- EU slaps Google with 2.42 billion euros Fine
- Romania: Mihai Tudose named as Prime-Minister Designate

Science & Technology

- ISRO successfully launches GSAT-17 Satellite
- ISRO's Satellite-based chips for Unmanned Rail Crossings Context:
- POSOCO-IMD Weather Portal & Web Portal 'MERIT' launched
- ISRO to launch Earth Observation Satellite
- NASA's Kepler Telescope finds 10 Earth-Like Planets
- ISRO's Mars Orbiter Mission completes 1000 Earth Days in Orbit

Defence

- First Indigenously built Floating Dock Launched by L&T
- Lockheed and Tata sign Pact to make F-16 Planes in India

Awards

- 2 Indian-Americans to be honoured with Great Immigrants award
- Nisha Dutt bags Social Entrepreneur of the Year Award
- Ramamani Iyengar Memorial Yoga Institute bags PM's Yoga Award

Business & Economy

- ADB commits USD 10 billion to support development of States in India

Places in news

- SIERRA ODC building has been recognised as the world's second highest ranking Green Building.
- Uttarakhand and Haryana Declared Open Defecation Free States

Persons in News

- Dr. Manoj Soni takes Oath as UPSC Member
- Kaushik Basu takes over as President of IEA
- Imran Khawaja Appointed as ICC Deputy Chairman

Sports

- BCCI forms Committee to oversee Lodha Panel Reforms
- ISSF Junior World Rifle/Pistol Championship: Yashaswini Deswal and Anish Bhanwala Wins Gold
- K Srikanth Wins Australian Open Super series Title
- K Srikanth wins Indonesian Open



PANACEA BHARTI
Institute

- Opp. New Court, Near Bhaiwala Chowk, Ferozepur Road, Ldh
- PAU Gate No. 3 Road • SCO 37, 32 Sector Market, Chd. Road, Ludhiana

M : 9888 405 906 | www.panaceabharti.com

Lead Article

GST: Way ahead

Brief introduction:

The GST will replace the present very complex system where the Centre levies a central excise duty on goods up to the production stage and a service tax on services while the states levy a state VAT (value added tax) on sales of goods, but do not tax services. Each of these taxes has a VAT (value added tax) structure, but they are applied on different bases. And in addition, there are a number of additional taxes e.g. the additional duty, special excise duty and various central cesses by the Centre and luxury tax, entertainment tax, octroi etc. by the states. All these taxes by the Centre will be subsumed into a single central GST and the multiple state taxes by the state into a state GST (legally a different tax in each state). These taxes will be applied on a common base and at the same rate for each commodity across the country. This is a major simplification which should be welcomed.

Timeline:

In 2006, then finance minister P. Chidambaram, in his budget speech for 2006, set the target of moving a Constitutional Amendment Bill in 2010. It was moved by United Progressive Alliance finance minister Pranab Mukherjee in 2012, but could not be passed before the election. The National Democratic Alliance government took up the baton after coming to power in 2014. Fortunately, differences were resolved and the Bill was passed in 2016. The goods and services tax (GST) will now finally come into force on 1 July

Weaknesses in present GST:

International experience suggests that the full benefits of a VAT are only reaped if the VAT is near universal in coverage, with very few exemptions and there are no more than two rates.

- GST is very far from being universal and according to some it excludes 50% of the gross domestic product. Major items such as petroleum, natural gas, alcohol, electricity, and real estate/construction are left out. Residential apartments have been included but all other construction, including commercial construction and factories, is not. In addition, a very large number of commodities have been exempted. This suggests that revenue may fall short of expectations.

- The second flaw is too many rates: 3% (on gold), 5%, 12%, 18% and 28 %, plus an extra GST cess on some luxury or socially undesirable items. Multiple rates are an invitation to misclassification and disputes/harassment arising from suspicion of misclassification. This reduces the efficiency gains.
- A National Council of Applied Economic Research study had estimated that the GST would add between 1 and 2 percentage points to the economy's growth rate. That was based on an ideal GST. Since what we have is very far from the ideal, the benefits will be correspondingly less.
- If revenues are lower because of the exclusions and the large number of items at a very low rate, the revenue loss will be entirely borne by the Centre. This is because it will not only have less revenue under the central GST, but it is also committed to compensate the states if their revenue grows at less than 14% per annum in nominal terms.
- The requirement that taxpayers must register in each jurisdiction in which they operate is an issue. If a unit operates in several states, it must register in each state in which it operates, and be taxed in each jurisdiction, and also maintain records that allow the tax paid in each jurisdiction to be audited.

Benefits:

Despite these weaknesses, the GST will still be beneficial in many respects.

- The replacement of multiple taxes with a single rate for each commodity (taking Central and state GST together) is an advantage.
- The fact that the same rate will be imposed on all imports in addition to the normal import duty, is a major gain. It will level the playing field for domestic producers vis-a-vis imports because at present imports escape the state taxes, which erodes the protective benefit of customs duty.
- The elimination of border posts will be a major benefit.

Way forward:

- The GST Council should set up an expert group that could assess the performance of the system based on results of the first year and work on a revised GST rate structure to be implemented after the general election in 2019. One of the terms of reference of the group should be to pronounce on the desirability of migrating to fewer rates.

- The GST Council should be serviced by an independent secretariat which can undertake or farm out studies that may be desired by state finance ministers, and also comment on studies that may be put before the GST Council by either the finance ministry, or any of the states. The Central government revenue department has a great deal of expertise, but for it to service the GST is inconsistent with cooperative federalism. A separate secretariat, with people taken on deputation from the Centre and the states, and with outside experts brought in as consultants, would be ideal.
- The GST was meant to unify the country into a single market. This means more and more organizations will set up in different jurisdictions and will need to operate seamlessly across them. A single registration valid across all states would have been the right thing to do.

Conclusion:

No new system is without glitches. The new system should be judged not by whether there are problems, but by whether the problems that arise are promptly corrected. We must recognize that the birth of the GST is only a beginning. A systematic effort should be launched to correct deficiencies over time through the mechanism of the GST Council.

National News

UNESCO names Sharjah as World Book Capital

UNESCO has named Sharjah as the World Book Capital for 2019. Sharjah was chosen for its efforts to make books accessible to its entire population.

Salient Highlights

Sharjah was selected to underline the efforts taken by it to make books accessible for reading to as many people as possible, especially the marginalised populations. It has followed an innovative and inclusive community-focused activity programme to engage people, in particular, the very large migrant population. Sharjah is the 19th city to be named as World Book Capital by the UNESCO. The earlier cities which were named as World Book Capital are: Madrid (2001), Alexandria (2002), New Delhi (2003), Antwerp (2004), Montreal (2005), Turin (2006), Bogota (2007), Amsterdam (2008), Beirut (2009), Ljubljana (2010), Buenos Aires (2011), Yerevan (2012), Bangkok (2013), Port

Harcourt (2014), Incheon (2015), Wroclaw (2016), Conakry (2017) and Athens (2018). Sharjah has become the first among the Gulf Cooperation Council and third in the Arab world and the Middle East to receive this prestigious recognition. The GCC countries include Bahrain, Kuwait, Oman, Qatar Saudi Arabia and the UAE. Earlier, it has received various accolades like Capital of Arab Culture (1998), Capital of Islamic Culture (2014), and Capital of Arab Tourism (2015) etc.

World Book Capital City

UNESCO has been annually designating a city as World Book Capital City beginning with the designation of Madrid as World Book Capital City in 2001. For designating a city, UNESCO invites the International Publishers Association, the International Federation of Library Associations and Institutions, and the International Booksellers Federation to nominate and take part in deciding the World Book Capital. The designation of a city does not include any financial prize, it rather acknowledges the programmes followed by the city dedicated to books and reading.

PM Modi inaugurates Centenary Celebrations of Sabarmati Ashram

Prime Minister Narendra Modi has inaugurated the centenary celebrations of Sabarmati Ashram in Ahmedabad. The Prime Minister has also released the coin and postal stamp in the honour of Shrimad Rajchandraji on his 150th birth anniversary at Abhay Ghat. Shrimad Rajchandraji was the guru to Mahatma Gandhi

Sabarmati Ashram

Sabarmati Ashram otherwise called as Gandhi Ashram, Harijan Ashram, or Satyagraha Ashram is located on the banks of the River Sabarmati. Sabarmati Ashram served as one of the residences of Mahatma Gandhi for twelve long years. The ashram has been declared as a national monument by the Indian government. Gandhiji started the Dandi march also called as Salt Satyagraha from Sabarmati Ashram on 12 March 1930.

Shrimad Rajchandraji

Shrimad Rajchandra is a Jain poet, philosopher, scholar and reformer born in the year 1867 in Vavania near Morbi. His mother was a Jain and father a Vaishnava Hindu. He was the spiritual guide to Mahatma Gandhi. He is known for his teachings on Jainism. He has written a large

number of letters and commentaries and also translated some religious texts. He got into fame by performing Avdhan, a memory retention and recollection test which gained him popularity.

World Bank clears \$250-million loan for Skill India Mission The World Bank has cleared a USD 250-million loan to aid the Skill India mission. The loan amount would be used for making Indian youth more employable through reskilling.

Salient Highlights

The USD 250 million Skill India Mission Operation (SIMO) is set to increase the market relevance of short-term skill development programmes (3-12 months or up to 600 hours) both at the national and state levels. It will help the government of India to better equip the young workforce with employable skills. SIMO will be a six-year programme in support of National Policy for Skill Development and Entrepreneurship (2017-23). Under the programme, persons in the age group of 15-59 will acquire skill training irrespective of their employment status. This will benefit 1.2 crore youngsters in the age bracket of 15 and 29 years who are entering the labour market every year. The programme is expected to benefit approximately 15,000 trainers and 3,000 assessors. The programme has also a mandate to offer placement and entrepreneurship opportunities to women and increase their exposure to skill training.

Need

As per the official estimates, India is in need of additional 109 million skilled workers to work in 24 key sectors by 2022. SIMO will support the government's vision of increasing women's participation in the labour force and increase greater off-farm employment. Higher skilled labour force will have an improved employment opportunity to raise their earnings.

World Bank

World Bank is one of five institutions created at the Breton Woods Conference in 1944. World Bank is part of the United Nations system, but its governance structure is different. World Bank's headquarter is situated at Washington DC. World Bank provides loans to developing countries for capital programmes. World Bank comprises only two institutions viz. the International Bank for Reconstruction and Development (IBRD) and the International Development Association (IDA). In contrast, World Bank Group comprises three

more viz. International Finance Corporation (IFC), Multilateral Investment Guarantee Agency (MIGA), and International Centre for Settlement of Investment Disputes (ICSID).

Government launches Index to Rank 116 Cities The urban development minister M. Venkaiah Naidu has launched its first liveability index which will rank the country's 116 major cities on the basis of the quality of life.

Salient Highlights The index named 'City Liveability Index' will cover cities with a population above one million, including the capital cities. The index will help cities to analyse where they stand in terms of the quality of life. It will help them to come up with interventions required to improve it. The index will assess cities based on a comprehensive set of 79 parameters such as availability of roads, education, healthcare, mobility, employment opportunities, emergency response, grievance redressal, pollution, availability of open and green spaces, cultural and entertainment opportunities etc. The rankings based on the index would be released in 2018. Soon, the government will select the agency for undertaking the assessment and data collection for the rankings would be completed in the next 6 months.

Incentives to States The urban development minister has disbursed Rs500 crore as an incentive to 16 states that have performed well in implementing urban reforms during 2016-17. Andhra Pradesh has topped the list of 16 states with the highest score in implementing urban schemes. The second place has been occupied by Odisha which is followed by Jharkhand, Chattisgarh, Madhya Pradesh, Telangana, Rajasthan, Punjab, Kerala, Goa, Mizoram, Gujarat, Chandigarh, Uttar Pradesh and Maharashtra. While ranking, the progress achieved by these states in terms of reforms like e-governance, an audit of accounts, tax revision policies, extent of tax revenue collection, energy and water audit, establishing state level financial intermediaries for resource mobilisation and credit rating was taken into account. Further, it has been proposed by the government to increase the incentive fund to Rs 10,000 crore for the next three years to promote next generation urban reforms.

NITI Aayog Selects CCMB as Incubation Centre for Biotech Start-ups NITI-Aayog has chosen the CSIR-Centre for

Cellular and Molecular Biology (CCMB) in Hyderabad for hosting the 10-crore Atal Incubation Centre for biotechnology start-ups. Salient Facts The centre will identify promising start-ups and create facilities for them to succeed in the field of biotechnology. The CCMB is one of the 10 organisations that have been identified to host the 'Atal Incubation Centre'. The government will release a Grant-in-aid of Rs 10 crore for a maximum of 5 years. After that, it is expected that the Centre would become self-sustainable. The CCMB is a constituent laboratory of Council of Scientific and Industrial Research (CSIR). It is the only one in the States of Telangana and Andhra Pradesh to be chosen as an incubation centre under Atal Innovation Mission (AIM). Background Atal Innovation Mission (AIM) under NITI Aayog is aimed at promoting a culture of innovation and entrepreneurship in the country. It aims to create high-class incubation facilities with necessary infrastructure in terms of capital equipment and operating facilities, coupled with the availability of sectoral experts for mentoring the start-ups. The scheme is known as Atal Incubation Centre scheme. The incubation centres would support and encourage start-ups in the sectors like manufacturing, transport, energy, health, education, agriculture, water and sanitation etc. The scheme focuses on the establishment of incubation centres in underserved and unserved areas to support inclusive growth. Under the scheme, Atal Incubation Centre can be established either in Publicly funded institutions or Private sector funded institutions or in Public Private Partnership (PPP) mode

- **Government launches VAJRA Scheme** Department of Science and Technology has launched VAJRA (Visiting Advanced Joint Research) Faculty scheme that enables NRIs and overseas scientific community to participate and contribute to research and development in India. on 8th January 2017, during the 14th Pravasi Bharatiya Divas Convention, Prime Minister had announced that a new scheme called VAJRA (Visiting Advanced Joint Research) Faculty scheme would be launched by the Department of Science and Technology.

Salient Highlights

The Science and Engineering Research Board (SERB), a Statutory body of the Department of

Science and Technology will implement the Scheme. Under this scheme, foreign researchers abroad of Indian origin or otherwise can collaborate with faculties in public funded Indian institutions. The researchers would receive endowments at par with those in their own countries. They would be given USD 15,000 in the first month of residency and USD 10,000, for the remaining months. The scheme would promote broad areas of research like energy, health, advance material among others. Public funded academic institutions and national laboratories will be eligible for hosting the VAJRA Faculty. The VAJRA faculty can reside in India for a minimum of 1 month and a maximum of 3 months a year. The applications received from the interested foreign researchers would be evaluated by a Selection Committee of eminent scientists. The Committee will meet twice a year in January and July and make recommendations.

DST

Department of Science & Technology (DST) was established in May 1971 and functions under the ambit of Ministry of Science and Technology. The department functions with an objective of promoting new areas of Science & Technology. It acts as a nodal department for organising, coordinating and promoting S&T related activities in the country. The DST funds scientific projects in India and supports researchers in the country to attend conferences abroad and to conduct experimental works.

International News:

US to sell C-17 Globemaster Transport Aircraft to India US has decided to sell one C-17 transport aircraft to India. US and India have built a close defence relationship in recent years. The US along with Russia and Israel has emerged as a top three arms supplier to India.

Salient Facts

The sale of USD 366.2 million C-17 transport aircraft manufactured by Boeing also includes one Missile Warning System, one Countermeasures Dispensing System, one Identification Friend or Foe (IFF) Transponder and precision navigation equipment. This proposed sale is expected to improve the capability of India to meet current and future strategic airlift requirements as the country lies

in a region prone to natural disasters. It will also provide additional capability for humanitarian assistance and disaster relief. In addition, India will be able to provide more rapid strategic combat airlift capabilities for its armed forces. The proposed sale is expected to improve the capability of India to meet current and future strategic airlift requirements as the country lies in a region prone to natural disasters. It will also provide additional capability for humanitarian assistance and disaster relief. In addition, India will be able to provide more rapid strategic combat airlift capabilities for its armed forces. At Present, India is using C-17 aircraft and according to Pentagon, the sale of this aircraft will not alter the basic military balance in the region. The Boeing C-17A Globemaster III military airlift aircraft is one of the most flexible cargo aircraft of the US Air Force fleet. The aircraft is capable of strategic delivery of up to 170,900 pounds of personnel and/or equipment to operating locations. In addition, the aircraft is capable of short field landings with a full cargo load. The Boeing C-17A Globemaster III military airlift aircraft is one of the most flexible cargo aircraft of the US Air Force fleet. The aircraft is capable of strategic delivery of up to 170,900 pounds of personnel and/or equipment to operating locations. In addition, the aircraft is capable of short field landings with a full cargo load. The aircraft will have a fully integrated electronic cockpit and advanced cargo delivery system. It can carry out tactical airlift and airdrop missions as well as transport litters and ambulatory patients. The aircraft will have a fully integrated electronic cockpit and advanced cargo delivery system. It can carry out tactical airlift and airdrop missions as well as transport litters and ambulatory patients.

US issues New Visa Criteria for Six Muslim Countries The US has issued new criteria for visa applicants from six Muslim countries. The US Supreme Court has partially restored President Trump's executive order that banned travel of people from the six Muslim-majority countries. President's executive order was widely criticised as a ban on Muslims.

Salient Facts

As per the new criteria, applicants from the six Muslim-majority countries must prove a

relationship with a parent, spouse, child, adult son or daughter, son-in-law, daughter-in-law or sibling in the US. In short, the applicants must prove a "close" family or business tie to the United States. As per the new guidelines, grandparents, grandchildren, aunts, uncles, nieces, nephews, cousins, brothers-in-law and sisters-in-law, fiancées or other extended family members will not be considered as close relations by the US State Department. However, the applicants can be exempted from the ban if they can prove a "bona fide relationship" with a US person or entity. The Supreme Court has given only a broad guidelines on such relationships and has suggested that such bonafide relationships would include a relative, job offer or invitation to lecture in the US. The Government lawyers must determine how to define such a relationship. The new guidelines are expected to come into force immediately.

Background

Earlier this year, US President Donald Trump had signed an executive order that banned travel of people from Muslim-majority countries into the US for a period of 90 days. These countries were Iraq, Iran, Libya, Yemen, Somalia, Sudan and Syria. Besides, the order had also suspended US Refugee Admissions Programme for 120 days and indefinitely barred entry of refugees from Syria. The executive order and the controversial ban had sparked protests and debates across the US. Even, the lower courts of these countries had labelled the ban as discriminatory. Subsequently, the White House had asked the Supreme Court to reinstate a travel ban on people from the six Muslim-majority countries. Ultimately, the Supreme Court's nine justices overturned the rulings of the lower court and have partially restored President Trump's order.

China has launched its Biggest Naval Destroyer China has launched its most powerful naval destroyer, the Type 055, at the Shanghai port. The naval destroyer is one among the largest warships in the world.

Analysis

The Type055 vessels will weigh more than 12,000 tonnes when fully armed. The Type055 vessels are larger and more powerful than India's latest Project- 15B "Visakhapatnam" class destroyers. India is yet

to commission Project- 15B “Visakhapatnam” class destroyers. India’s destroyers when fully armed will displace only 8,200 tonnes and are capable of carrying only a mix of nearly 50 surface-to-air, anti-ship and land attack missiles. On the other hand, the Type055 vessels will combine nearly 120 missiles, making it one of the most heavily-armed ships in the world. Chinese vessels are fitted with powerful phased array radars that are capable of focusing on targets at sea, on land and in the air. The vessel is more modern and has more sophisticated control and battle management system. Chinese vessels are fitted with powerful phased array radars that are capable of focusing on targets at sea, on land and in the air. The vessel is more modern and has more sophisticated control and battle management system than India’s vessels under construction. In the last five years, China has launched several naval vessels. From March 2014, China has commissioned five Type 52D destroyers which have similar capability to that of India’s Visakhapatnam’ class warships. In addition, China has planned to build a fleet of at least 18 such naval ships. India, on the other hand, has planned to build only seven ships belonging to the Vishakhapatnam class. Earlier this year, China had also launched its first indigenous aircraft carrier whose construction began only in 2013. India’s indigenous aircraft carrier, the Vikrant whose construction is carried out since 2009 is unlikely to be completed before 2023. Growing Chinese naval prowess is a cause of worry to India. In the last five years, China has increasingly begun to deploy its nuclear submarines, warships and other support vessels in the Indian Ocean. India’s important maritime ally, the United States has also expressed its deep concerns about the expansion of the Chinese Navy, particularly in the Indian Ocean.

EU slaps Google with 2.42 billion euros Fine The European Union’s competition watchdog has fined Google a record 2.42 billion euro for breaching the anti-trust rules by illegally favouring its shopping service. The European Commission regulates EU competition rules

Salient Highlights

According to the European regulators, Google has abused its market dominance by offering an illegal advantage to its another product, its comparison shopping service. The fine of 2.42 billion euro is the biggest fine for a single company in an EU antitrust case. It exceeds the 1.06-billion-euros slapped on Intel in 2009. EU’s action has come after a 7 year-long investigation from the complaints received from Google’s rivals such like Yelp, TripAdvisor, UK price comparison site Foundem, News Corp and lobbying group FairSearch. The EU has asked Google to stop its anti-competitive practice in 90 days or be prepared to face penalty payments up to 5% of Alphabet’s average daily worldwide turnover.

Time Line

November 2010: The EU opened its formal inquiry to ascertain whether Google manipulates search results in a way that favours its own business.

April 2013: Google came forward to change its practice in the hope of ending the EU investigation.

July-December 2013: EU rejected Google’s offer to change its search results as not good enough.

February 2014: A tentative agreement was reached between the EU and Google on how to fix the search results.

May 2014: In a separate case, the European Court of Justice had asked Google on the plea of EU citizens’ to remove irrelevant or embarrassing personal information that is being served on a search of their names. **September 2014:** Acting upon the complaints of Google’s competitors, the EU made a U-turn on its settlement with Google on search results.

April 2015: EU formally charged Google and opened a preliminary investigation to ascertain whether Google used its Android mobile operating system to rig the market for apps.

June 2017: The EU has slapped Google a record 2.42 billion euros (\$2.72 billion) for breaching antitrust rules with its online shopping service.

Romania: Mihai Tudose named as Prime-Minister Designate In Romania, President Klaus Iohannis has appointed outgoing economy minister Mihai Tudose as

Prime Minister and thus paved the way for the formation of a new leftist Social-Democrat-led government in that country. According to the President of Romania, the decision has been taken keeping in mind the political crisis that risked damaging the country's record economic recovery. The ruling Social Democrat Party (PSD) was ousted from the power following an internal power struggle. PSD filed a no-confidence motion against ex-Prime Minister Sorin Grindeanu for causing delays in implementing reforms. Grindeanu has been ousted from power barely six months after PSD swept back to victory in elections. The Prime Minister-designate Mihai Tudose will have 10 days to gain the vote of confidence. **Romania**

Romania is the second poorest country of the European Union. It is the largest of the Balkan countries and has a coastline on the Black Sea. Romania was under the rule of the Roman, Ottoman and the Austro-Hungarian Empires. In the 2004 Romania got admitted into NATO and in 2007 it joined the European Union (EU).

Science and Technology

ISRO successfully launches GSAT-17 Satellite

ISRO has successfully launched GSAT-17 communication Satellite onboard the Ariane-5 launch vehicle from the Guiana Space Center at French Guiana on June 28. GSAT-17 will be the ISRO's third satellite that is launched within a span of three months.

Salient Highlights

The 3,477-kg GSAT 17 communication satellite will be placed in the geostationary orbit and will have a mission life of 15 years. The satellite will be an addition to the current fleet of 17 Indian communication satellites that are already providing services from space. Apart from providing communication services, the satellite will provide meteorological and satellite-based data to help rescue services which were earlier provided by geostationary satellites called Indian National Satellite System (INSAT). GSAT-17 will provide continuity of services of operational satellites in C, extended C and S bands. Once launched, ISRO's Master Control Facility at Hassan in Karnataka and Bhopal in Madhya Pradesh will take over and place the

satellite in geostationary orbit. GSAT-17 was designed and assembled at the ISRO Satellite Centre in Bengaluru. In addition, GSAT-17 will also launch communication satellite Hellas Sat 3-Inmarsat S EAN. Hellas Sat 3 will provide directly to home television and telecom services across Europe, West Asia and South Africa. Inmarsat is set to provide in-flight Internet facilities for European airlines.

Launch Vehicle

As ISRO is yet to have a launcher that is capable of lifting payloads above 2,000 kg. ISRO has just started testing the GSLV-Mark III for this purpose. GSAT-17 will be the 21st Indian launch for the Arianespace. ISRO's upcoming GSAT-11 which will weigh more than 5,000 kg will also be launched by Arianespace.

ISRO's Satellite-based chips for Unmanned Rail Crossings

Context: ISRO's satellite-based chips are set to alert people at unmanned rail crossings

Salient Facts

Satellite-based chip systems developed by ISRO will be used to alert road users at unmanned level crossings about approaching trains. These chips will also help the railways in tracking train movement on a real-time basis. Initially, on a pilot basis the ISRO-developed integrated circuit (IC) chips will be installed in the Mumbai and Guwahati Rajdhani trains. Hooters will be installed at 20 unmanned level crossings on Rajdhani routes for Guwahati and Mumbai. The system will warn the road users by hooters once a train approaches an unmanned level. The hooters will get activated when the train is present at a distance of about 500 metres from the level crossing, warning both road users as well as the train driver near the crossing. The sound of the hooters will become louder as the level crossing nears, and finally it will become silent after the passage of the train. In a phased manner, more trains would be equipped with the ISRO-developed integrated circuit (IC) chips. The satellite based system will also be used for tracking trains about their movement on real time basis. It will be useful to passengers as at present the movement of trains are tracked manually. Need Safety at unmanned level crossings is a matter of concern for the Indian Railways as around

40% of accidents involving the railways happen in unmanned crossings. India has a total 10,000 unmanned railway crossings in the country. The railways has set a target for eliminating all the railway crossings in the next 2-3 years. It has eliminated 1,148 unmanned crossings in 2014-15 and 1,253 in 2015-16. The new technology will also help Indian railways at the time of train accidents as it can be used to get details about the exact location of trains and topography.

POSOCO-IMD Weather Portal & Web Portal 'MERIT' launched Union Minister of State for Power, Coal, New & Renewable Energy and Mines Piyush Goyal has launched Weather Portal for Power Sector & Web Portal 'MERIT' (Merit Order Despatch of Electricity for Rejuvenation of Income and Transparency).

- **POSOCO-IMD Weather Portal** The weather portal has been developed in association with POSOCO and IMD. The portal will have information regarding weather forecast to the state Discoms. The weather variations have an impact on load demand, energy production, transport and distribution management, as well as on energy prices. Extreme events associated with weather like heat waves or cold waves, windstorms or floods can have adverse impacts on the production and can inflict physical damage to the infrastructure. Hence, the portal aims to provide weather related information and help states to take pro-active steps regarding management and plan for infrastructure availability as well as to ensure cost effective and reliable supply.
- **MERIT**
- **MERIT** (Merit Order Despatch of Electricity for Rejuvenation of Income and Transparency) has been developed by Ministry of Power in association with POSOCO and Central Electricity Authority. The Web portal provides information regarding the merit order of Electricity procured by States. The information includes daily state-wise marginal variable costs of all generators, daily source-wise power purchases of respective states/UTs with, energy volumes and purchase prices.

The Portal will help state Discoms in optimising their power procurement more efficiently and will help in lowering the cost of power to consumers. The main advantages of the portal: Empowerment of consumers and facilitates participative governance; Disseminates information pertaining to marginal variable cost and source wise purchase of electricity transparently; Promotes economy and efficiency in operations; Optimization of the power procurement costs; Demystifies the utility portfolio and its complexity; Facilitates renewable integration and handling of the variability and uncertainty of renewables; and Indication of supply side reliability, adequacy, and cost of power procurement.

ISRO to launch Earth Observation Satellite Indian Space Research Organisation (ISRO) is all set to launch earth observation satellite Cartosat-2 series weighing 712 kg and 30 nano-satellites using Polar Satellite Launch Vehicle (PSLV).

Salient Highlights

Out of the 30 nano-satellites, 29 will be of foreign origin and one will be of India's. The 29 nano-satellites will be from 14 countries such as Austria, Belgium, Britain, Chile, Czech Republic, Finland, France, Germany, Italy, Japan, Latvia, Lithuania, Slovakia, and the US. These 29 satellites will be launched by ISRO as part of the commercial arrangements between ISRO's commercial arm, the Antrix Corporation Ltd with these nations. The 30 satellites will together weigh 243 kg. The total weight of the 31 satellites would be 955 kg. The PSLV-XL will be launched from the Sriharikota rocket port. The rockets will be placed into a 505 km polar sunsynchronous orbit (SSO). This will be the seventeenth flight of PSLV in 'XL' configuration. It uses solid strap-on motors.

PSLV

Polar Satellite Launch Vehicle (PSLV) is the third generation launch vehicle of India which is hailed as the reliable and versatile workhorse launch vehicle of India. PSLV's first successful launch took place in October 1994. Since then the launch vehicle has 38 consecutively successful missions by February 2017. It

has launched 46 Indian satellites and 180 foreign satellites between 1994-2017. PSLV is also India's first launch vehicle to be equipped with liquid stages. There are three variants of PSLV, namely, PSLV-G, PSLV-CA, PSLV-XL. PSLV was used to successfully launch Chandrayaan-1 in 2008 and Mars Orbiter Spacecraft in 2013.

NASA's Kepler Telescope finds 10 Earth-Like Planets

NASA's Kepler Telescope has identified 10 Earth-like planets outside the solar system that are expected to host life due to their right size and temperature. This finding is a boost in the hope for life elsewhere. Exoplanet: It is a planet that does not orbit the Sun and instead orbits a different star, stellar remnant, or brown dwarf. It is also termed as extrasolar planet. After an extensive search carried out for four years, NASA's Kepler space telescope has detected a total of 49 planets in the Goldilocks zone. This number is set to increase as Kepler telescope has so far looked only in one quarter of one percent of a galaxy that holds about 200 billion of stars. Goldilocks Zone refers to a habitable zone where the temperature is neither too high nor too low. NASA has announced the discovery of 10 planets as a part of 219 new planets identified by the Kepler telescope as part of the final batch of planets since Kepler was launched in 2009. Kepler's main mission got ended in 2013 after two of its four wheels that control its orientation in space got failed. Kepler has identified more than 4,000 planet candidates and confirmed more than half of them. The number of potentially habitable planets could be lot more as Kepler was only able to identify only those planets that move between the telescope vision and its star. By using Kepler and other methods, scientists have discovered around 3,600 exoplanets and about 62 potentially habitable planets. With the launch of James Webb Space Telescope (JWST) by NASA in 2018, chances of studying planets and detecting a familiar atmosphere will increase manifold. JWST will succeed the Hubble space telescope.

Kepler Space Telescope

Kepler Space Telescope (KST) is an unmanned space observatory launched in 2009 by National Aeronautics and Space Administration (NASA).

It is tasked with determining how many Earth-like planets occur throughout the Milky Way galaxy. It has been designed for a statistical mission and not to probe into the environmental conditions of planets that exist in the so-called Goldilocks zone (Habitable zone) of their stars.

ISRO's Mars Orbiter Mission completes 1000 Earth Days in Orbit

ISRO's Mars Orbiter Mission (MOM) completes 1000 earth days in orbit. The orbiter has outlived its lifespan which is more than 5 times the number of days the orbiter was designated to last in orbit. The MOM has at present completed 388 orbits of Mars and has sent 715 images back to earth. According to the scientists, the MOM is in good health and shows no signs of slowing down. India has plans to send Mangalyaan 2.0 and a new mission to Venus after 2020.

MOM

The Mars Orbiter Mission (MOM) was launched into space on November 5, 2013, from Satish Dhawan Space Centre using a Polar Satellite Launch Vehicle (PSLV) rocket C25. The MOM entered into the orbit of Mars on September 2014. The Mangalyaan was built in a fraction of the cost of similar space missions launched by NASA and the European Space Agency (ESA). It was indigenously designed, built and launched by ISRO in a record period of fewer than two years in 450 crore rupees (73 million US dollars) budget which is considered as cheapest inter-planetary mission till date to reach Mars. The spacecraft has five instruments mounted on it for collecting scientific data of Mar's morphology, atmospheric processes, surface temperature, surface geology and atmospheric escape process. These five instruments are Lyman-Alpha Photometer (LAP), Methane Sensor for Mars (MSM), Mars Exospheric Neutral Composition Analyser (MENCA), Thermal Infrared Imaging Spectrometer (TIS) and Mars Colour Camera (MCC) In September 2014, India created a space history by becoming In September 2014, India created a space history by becoming the first nation in the world to successfully launch an interplanetary mission to Mars in a maiden attempt. ISRO also become first Asian and fourth space agency in the world

to reach Mars orbit after the Roscosmos of Russia, NASA and European Space Agency.

Defence

First Indigenously built Floating Dock Launched by L&T

Larsen & Toubro has launched the first indigenously built Floating Dock (FDN-2) to repair Indian Navy ships at its Shipyard at Kattupalli, north of Chennai. The floating shipyard would be handed over to the Indian Navy after conducting three to four months of trial.

Salient Highlights

After the trials, FDN-2 will be moved to Andaman & Nicobar Islands. There it would be used for repairing assets of the Indian Navy and also of other services. These floating docks are capable of being installed either along a jetty, moored in calm waters and also moved to high seas enabling round-the-year operation. FDN-2 will be capable of repairing up to 8,000-tonne ships with draught up to 7 metres, including submarine FDN-2 will be capable of simultaneous docking of multiple ships. In addition, off-center docking options were also feasible. It has hauling-in system to handle a ship's docking and undocking operations. It can also cater to the ships berthed along its side. At any point of time, FDN-2 can cater to six ships for repairs or refit. The FDN-2 is a wholly Made in India product. The 468 crore FDN-2 was lowered into the Bay of Bengal by Anjali Deshpande, wife of the Vice-Admiral Controller Warship Production and Acquisition of Indian Navy, DM Deshpande.

Background

FDN-2 is the first Naval shipbuilding project for L&T. L&T has been undertaking repairs and refits of Naval and Coast Guard ships. It has delivered six ship refits including the largest Logistics Tanker ship INS Jyoti. L&T has so far invested around Rs 5,000 crore in the Kattupalli Shipyard.

Lockheed and Tata sign Pact to make F-16 Planes in India

Lockheed Martin and India's Tata Advanced Systems have signed a pact to produce F-16 fighter planes in India. The two companies have announced their agreement at the Paris Airshow. Lockheed Martin's move to forge a joint venture with Tata is aimed at winning billions of dollars worth

order from the Indian military. Lockheed Martin is one of the largest aerospace, defense, security, and advanced technologies companies having worldwide interests. It is headquartered in Maryland. The company was formed after the merger of Lockheed Corporation and Martin Marietta in 1995.

Background

India's airforce is in requirement of hundreds of aircraft in order to replace its soviet-era aircrafts. But Prime Minister Narendra Modi's Make-in-India initiative require the foreign suppliers to forge partnership with a local partner to make planes and build a domestic industrial base in India. This is aimed at cutting outright imports. But Make-in-India initiative appears to be in conflict with President Donald Trump's America First campaign under which Trump wants the companies to invest in the United States and create jobs instead of establishing factories abroad. To allay these concerns, both the companies have said that moving the production base to India would still retain jobs in the United States. Establishing a production base in India for the manufacture of F-16 will create new manufacturing jobs in India and is expected to position Indian industry at the centre of the most extensive fighter aircraft supply ecosystem in the world, Sweden's Saab is the other contender to supply aircraft to the Indian Air Force. The company has offered to make its Gripen fighter in India. However, it is yet to announce a local partner In India. Gripen fighters are pitched as a modern alternative to the F-16s. US and India have built a close defence relationship in recent years. US along with Russia and Israel has emerged as a top three arms supplier to India. F-16s are flown by air forces by 26 countries around the world. In addition, Lockheed Martin is offering model Block 70 which is the most modern of all F-16s.

Awards

2 Indian-Americans to be honoured with Great Immigrants award

Two Indian-Americans, Adobe Chief Shantanu Narayen (54) and former US Surgeon General Vivek Murthy (39) have been chosen for prestigious Great Immigrants: The Pride of America Award 2017. They are among 38

distinguished US immigrants representing more than 30 countries of origin around the world honoured with this year's award for their role in advancing US's economy, society, and culture. Some the honourees include Canadian-origin social entrepreneur Jeff Skoll, PayPal cofounder of Ukrainian origin Max Levchin, Iranian-origin philanthropist and entrepreneur Hushang Ansary.

Vivek Murthy

Murthy was born in the UK. He is alumnus of Harvard and Yale. He was appointed as Surgeon General by former President Barack Obama in 2014, making the first-ever Indian-American and also the youngest to occupy the post. He was dismissed this in April 2017 by the Trump administration.

Shantanu Narayen

Narayen is a native of Hyderabad. He holds an undergraduate degree in electronics engineering, a master's degree in computer science, and an MBA from UC Berkeley. He is a board member of Pfizer and US-India Business Council. At present, he is CEO of Adobe Systems

About Great Immigrants: The Pride of America Award The award is given annually on the occasion of Independence Day of United States i.e. 4th July to naturalised citizens of US for their contribution in advancing US's economy, society, and culture. The award has been instituted by New York-based Carnegie Corporation in 2006. The honourees are recognised with a full-page public service announcement in The New York Times and an online public awareness initiative. The Carnegie Corporation was established in 1911 by Scottish immigrant Andrew Carnegie to promote the advancement and diffusion of knowledge and understanding. Carnegie Corporation's founder Andrew Carnegie was one of pioneer American capitalist who had shaped the modern American industry and philanthropy. He was the son of impoverished immigrants who had settled in US.

Nisha Dutt bags Social Entrepreneur of the Year Award Nisha Dutt, Chief Executive Officer of Intellectap has become the first Indian woman leader to have been honoured with the "Social Entrepreneur of the Year" award at The 7th Asian Awards in

London. Nisha Dutt has been honoured in recognition of her work in making Intellectap a globally known enterprise that focuses on social capital. Her key contribution lies in integrating technology with challenges of healthcare, financial services, incubation and conceptualising programs such as Innovations Labs. The previous winners of the award include Ratan Tata, Amitabh Bachchan, Shahrukh Khan, Asha Bhosle, Zayn Malik etc. In the Social Entrepreneur category, Professor Muhammad Yunus, Masa Kogure and Vikram Patel have been honoured with the award in the past.

Background

- The Asian Awards is an annual awards function which was founded by businessman and philanthropist Paul Sagoo. The annual award ceremony takes place in the United Kingdom. The awards reward exemplary achievement across 14 categories such as business, philanthropy, entertainment, culture and sport. Initially, the awards were presented to only those people born in or with direct family origin from India, Sri Lanka, Pakistan, Bangladesh etc. In 2013, the awards have been thrown open to people of South and Eastern Asian origin.

Ramamani Iyengar Memorial Yoga Institute bags PM's Yoga Award

Ramamani Iyengar Memorial Yoga Institute, Pune has become the first recipient of the Prime Minister's Award for outstanding contribution to promotion and development of Yoga.

Salient Facts

PM's Yoga Award was instituted at the 2nd International Day of Yoga celebrations at Chandigarh by Prime Minister Narendra Modi. Prime Minister had instituted the award for promoting the ancient Indian spiritual discipline. The Ministry of AYUSH framed guidelines for the awards and constituted two committees, namely, screening committee (for preliminary evaluation) and evaluation committee (Jury). The Institute has been selected from among 85 nominations and 15 more recommended by the Screening Committee. The Award was recommended by an Evaluation Committee (Jury) under the Chairmanship of the Cabinet Secretary.

Ramamani Iyengar Memorial Yoga Institute has worked to spread Yoga both domestically and internationally over a period of four decades. It has also published a number of books on yoga which has been translated into multiple languages.

Business & Economy

ADB commits USD 10 billion to support development of States in India

The Asian Development Bank has committed USD 10 billion to support infrastructure building and to cater to the immediate development needs of less-developed States in India. This has been stated by ADB President Takehiko Nakao during his 3-day visit to India.

Salient Highlights

The ADB president has said that the bank is ready to meet immediate critical infrastructure needs of less developed states like Uttar Pradesh, Bihar, Jharkhand, Odisha and Chhattisgarh over a period of five years. ADB has also assured its support to relatively lesser developed states in the area of power, transport, urban development, and health services. ADB's President has also in-principle accepted India's suggestion of setting up a regional hub in New Delhi to cater to the needs of the South Asia region. As per the estimates of ADB, India is expected to grow by 7.4% in the current financial year and 7.6% in 2018-19.

ADB

ADB is multilateral lending agency based in Manila, Philippines. It was established on 19 December 1966. It aims to reduce poverty in Asia and the Pacific region through inclusive environmentally sustainable growth, and regional integration. It provides finance to both sovereign countries as well as to the private parties. It provides hard loans to middle-income countries and soft loans to poorer countries. ADB has 67 members – 48 from the Asia-Pacific region including India and is collectively owned by these 67 members. The non-Asia Pacific region members are only developed countries. Most of the ADB's lending is concentrated in five operational areas viz. Education; Environment, Climate Change & Disaster Management; Finance Sector

Development; Regional Cooperation & Integration; and Private sector lending.

Places in News

SIERRA ODC building has been recognised as the world's second highest ranking Green Building.

The building has scored 103 points out of 110 under LEED certification.

Salient Facts

The SIERRA ODC is a three-storeyed building which has been constructed by laying specific emphasis on increasing the efficiency of resource use such as energy, water or materials. The building has managed water use efficiency of 89% by using water saving fixtures and curbing wastage. In the building, water is recycled 100%. The building is a carbon-neutral building. The building was the first to implement a technology called Amorphous Silicon Thin Building Vortec for the first time in South India. By using this technology, photovoltaic modules produce power at the low cost per watt.

Green Buildings

Green Buildings are designed and operated to reduce the overall impact of the built environment on human health and the natural environment. The green buildings efficiently use energy, water, and other resources, protects occupant health, improves employee productivity, and reduces waste, pollution and environmental degradation. Besides a Green Building has tremendous environmental benefits and provides a better place for the occupants to live and work in. So the main challenge of a green building is to achieve all its benefits at an affordable cost. The aim of a green building design is to minimize the demand on non-renewable resources, maximize the utilization efficiency of these resources, when in use, and, maximize the reuse, recycling, and utilization of renewable resources.

Uttarakhand and Haryana Declared Open Defecation Free States

Under the Swachh Bharat Mission Gramin (SBM-G), rural Uttarakhand and rural Haryana have been declared as the 4th and 5th Open Defecation Free (ODF) States of India. Already, Sikkim, Himachal Pradesh and Kerala, have been

declared ODF. As per the government sources, nationally the sanitation coverage has increased from 42% to over 64% since the launch of SBM. Uttarakhand has 13 districts, 95 blocks, 7256 gram panchayats and 15751 villages while Haryana has 21 districts, 124 blocks, and 6083 gram panchayats. All these have been declared as ODF. With this, the total number of ODF states in the country have increased to 5 covering more than 2 lakh villages and 147 districts across the country.

Background

The Swachh Bharat Mission (SBM) was launched in October 2014 to achieve universal sanitation coverage and to put focus on sanitation. The mission aims to achieve Swachh Bharat or make India clean by 2019, as a fitting tribute to the 150th Birth Anniversary of Mahatma Gandhi. The SBM consists of two sub-missions Swachh Bharat Mission (Gramin), implemented in rural areas, and Swachh Bharat Mission (Urban), implemented in urban areas. SBM-G seeks to eliminate open defecation in rural areas by improving access to sanitation by ensuring the use of toilets, besides their construction. It also seeks to generate awareness to motivate communities to adopt sustainable sanitation practices, and encourage the use of appropriate technologies for sanitation. Open defecation is an important factor for causing various diseases like intestinal worm infections, diarrhoea, polio, hepatitis etc.

Sports

BCCI forms Committee to oversee

Lodha Panel Reforms The Board of Control for Cricket in India (BCCI) has constituted a special seven-member committee to analyse the few contentious Lodha panel reforms which are being opposed by the state units.

Salient Highlights

The seven-member Lodha committee has been formed under the head of Rajeev Shukla. The other members of the committee include former India captain Sourav Ganguly, T.C. Mathew (Kerala Cricket), Naba Bhattacharjee (North East representative), Jay Shah (Gujarat Cricket Association), BCCI Treasurer Anirudh Chaudhary and BCCI acting secretary Amitabh Choudhary. The decision to form the panel was

arrived at the BCCI's Special General Meeting in Mumbai. One of the major reforms of the Lodha Committee which are being opposed by the state units speaks about disqualifying any individual who is more than 70-years-old, and who has already completed nine years in cricket administration. The BCCI committee has been asked to submit its written report by July 10. BCCI's move to constitute a committee is widely seen as its attempt to delay the implementations of the reforms suggested by the Lodha Committee.

Lodha Committee

Justice Lodha committee was appointed by the Supreme Court in 2014 to make recommendations to the BCCI in order to prevent frauds and conflict of interest in cricket administration. The committee was appointed in the wake of the spot-fixing scandal in Indian Premier League (IPL). The recommendations of the committee are aimed at resolving issues of governance, transparency, and conflict of interest in BCCI. As per the Lodha Committee recommendations approved by the Supreme Court, no official should hold a position for more than three tenures of three years each, with no two consecutive terms. The office bearers are subjected to an age cap of 70. Office-bearers cannot be ministers or bureaucrats and they should distance themselves from the state association which they represent.

ISSF Junior World Rifle/Pistol Championship: Yashaswini Deswal and Anish Bhanwala Wins Gold

Indian shooters Yashaswini Singh Deswal and Anish Bhanwala has bagged gold in the Women's 10m Air Pistol and Men's 25m Standard Pistol competition respectively in the Junior World Rifle/Pistol Championship held in Germany. Yashaswini Singh Deswal fired a record 235.9 points to clinch the gold. Earlier in 2016, Yashaswini Singh Deswal had managed to clinch silver in the 10m air pistol event at the junior world cup held in Germany. In the Junior 25m Standard Pistol competition, pistol shooter Anish Bhanwala clinched gold with a world record score of 579 which was also instrumental in helping India bag the Team Silver in the event. Meanwhile, this result adds to India's growing list of the gold medal tally.

On Saturday, Anish Bhanwala also won gold in the Junior Men's 25m Standard Pistol competition, with a world record score of 579. In the team event, Anish and his teammates bagged silver. The team had put a combined score of 1678.

K Srikanth Wins Australian Open Super series Title

The world No.11 Kidambi Srikanth has sealed his second successive Super Series win by defeating reigning Olympic champion Chen Long in the Australian Open summit clash in Sydney. Chen Long is World No.6 and also the current All England champion. Srikanth had lost all of his previous five encounters with Chen Long. Srikanth has also become the fifth player in the world to take part in three successive Super Series finals by reaching the summit clash in Singapore, Indonesia and Australia. Last Week, Srikanth had won the Indonesian Open title. In the last edition of Australian Open tournament, Srikanth was a semi-finalist.

K Srikanth wins Indonesian Open

India's Kidambi Srikanth has lifted the Indonesia Open Super Series badminton title at Jakarta by defeating Japan's Kazumasa Sakai in straight sets 21-11, 21-19. For Srikanth who is currently World No. 22 this is a big title win. It is Srikanth's third Super Series title after 2014 China Open and 2015 India Open. Indonesian Open Super Series is an annual badminton tournament organised by Persatuan Bulutangkis Seluruh Indonesia (PBSI). The tournament was first conducted in 1982. It has become part of the BWF Superseries in 2007 and earned the Superseries Premier Status in 2011.

Persons in News

Dr. Manoj Soni takes Oath as UPSC

Member Dr Manoj Soni has taken Oath of Office and Secrecy as a member of the Union Public Service Commission (UPSC). The Oath was administered to him by the UPSC Chairman Prof. David R. Syiemlieh. Born on 17th February 1965, Dr Manoj Soni was a former Vice-Chancellor of Dr Babasaheb Ambedkar Open University. He became the youngest-ever Vice Chancellor in independent (India). Manoj Soni is a scholar of Political Science with specialisation in

International Relation Studies. He has earned his doctorate in "Post-Cold War International Systemic Transition and Indo-US Relations" from Sardar Patel University. He has received several awards and recognitions such as "Honorary Mayor-President of the City of Baton Rouge" from Mayor-President of Baton Rouge, Louisiana, USA and World Education Congress Global Award for Distance Learning Leadership.

UPSC

UPSC is a constitutional body that conducts the prestigious civil services examination. It has been established under Article 315 of the Constitution and consists of a Chairman and ten Members, who are appointed and removed by President. The chairman and members of the Commission hold office for a term of six years or until they attain the age of 65 years, whichever is earlier. Article 316 of the Constitution deals with the appointment and term of office of members

Kaushik Basu takes over as President of IEA

Kaushik Basu has taken over as president of the International Economic Association (IEA). Basu will serve a three-year term as the President. Kaushik Basu has served as India's chief economic adviser from 2009 to 2012. He has also served as senior vice-president and chief economist at the World Bank from 2012 to 2016. At present, Basu is the C. Marks Professor of International Studies at Cornell University.

IEA

The International Economic Association (IEA) is one of the key organisations of professional economists and has been significant in determining global economic policy and research. Amongst the past presidents of IEA were the Nobel Laureates Robert Solow, Amartya Sen and Joseph Stiglitz. IEA produces a large number of research papers and books and organises roundtables on topics of present-day interest. Its principal activities include International Congress organised every 3 years. The occasion serves as one of the major assemblies of economists from around the world.

Imran Khawaja Appointed as ICC Deputy Chairman

The International Cricket Council (ICC) has appointed Imran

Khawaja as its deputy chairman. Imran Khawaja is Chairman of Associates counties and a veteran administrator from Singapore. Recently, the ICC Full Council had brought a constitutional change approving the creation of the post of deputy chairman. Imran Khawaja was part of a five member ICC working team that framed ICC's new constitution last year. Following his election, Khawaja will deputise the ICC meetings in the absence of chairman Shashank Manohar. Imran Khawaja is a senior lawyer and has been serving in the ICC Board for several years. He had also served as a part of influential committees of the ICC.

ICC

The International Cricket Council (ICC), which is the international governing body of cricket was founded in 1909 as the Imperial Cricket Conference. It was founded by the representatives of England, Australia and South Africa. The body was renamed as International Cricket Conference in 1965 and again renamed as International Cricket Council (ICC) in 1989. The ICC consists of 105 members, out of which 12 are full members, 37 are associate members and another 56 are affiliate members. ICC is responsible for setting professional standards of discipline for international cricket.

LET US GROOM YOU FOR YOUR DREAM CAREER

PANACEA BHARTI Institute
A PANACEA FOR YOUR DREAM CAREER

Commerce
+1,+2,B.Com,BBA,M.Com
Tuition for All Subjects by Expert Team

SciTech
B.Sc (Agriculture)
+1, +2, Physics, Chemistry, Biology Maths

Professional
Coaching for Entrance Tests
LLB/CLAT
NIFT, BBA
Hotel Mgt.

Overseas
Coaching by Expert Team
GRE, GMAT
IELTS, TOEFL
Spoken English

PANACEA BHARTI Institute

- Opp. New Court, Near Bhaibala Chowk, Ferozpur Road, Ludhiana.
- PAU Gate No. 3 Road, Gobind Nagar, Ludhiana.
- SCO 37, Sector 32 Mkt. Chandigarh Road, Ludhiana

M : 9888 405 906 www.panaceabharti.com