

## EVERYDAY CURRENT AFFAIRS – JUNE 24, 2019

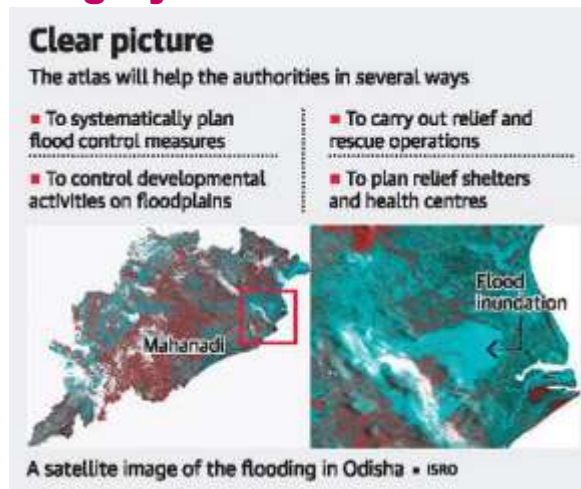
### STATES

- ◆ **Telangana Chief Minister, K. Chandrashekhar Rao - inaugurated the Rs. 80,190 crore Kaleshwaram irrigation project on June 21, 2019 at its starting point in Medigadda (Jayshankar Bhupalapally) district**



- ✓ This project is designed to sort out issues of drinking water in the state and also irrigation to the dried up areas of Telangana
- ✓ About 225 thousand million cubic feet (TMC) of water will be drawn through this project through Godavari river basin.
- ✓ The project, which will involve building reservoirs at various places, is expected to irrigate 18.24 lakh acres of land in the state with 165 TMC of water, provide 56 TMC of drinking water and supply another 10 TMC for industrial purposes.
- ✓ L&T Construction, which has completed the iconic Medigadda Barrage in just 24 months, is in charge of the project
- ✓ This project is originally called Pranahita-Chevella project, which was undertaken by the Congress-ruled erstwhile Andhra Pradesh
- ✓ It was redesigned as Kaleshwaram project after Rao's Telangana Rashtra Samithi (TRS) came to power in Telangana in 2014
- ✓ Under the projects, 3 barrages and 19 reservoirs will be constructed for the storage capacity of 141 TMC and about 4992.47 mega watts (MW) is required for its functioning.
- ✓ The entire length of the water supply route will be 1,832 kilometers.

◆ **Odisha - has come out with a first-of-its-kind 'Flood hazard atlas' aided by satellite imagery**



- ✓ It was released by Odisha Chief Minister Naveen Patnaik at the State-level Natural Calamity Meeting
- ✓ The atlas is expected to help the coastal state manage floods more efficiently
- ✓ It is compiled on basis of historic flood inundation captured via satellite imagery over 18 years period from year 2001 to 2018
- ✓ The National Remote Sensing Centre (NRSC) of Indian Space Research Organisation (ISRO), Hyderabad had undertaken a study on Odisha's flood hazard zonation
- ✓ As per NRSC analysis during 2001-2018, about 8.96% (13.96 lakh hectares) of land in Odisha was affected by floods

◆ **The Bihar Government - announced ban on felling of trees in different cities of Bihar to combat increasing pollution and heatwave**

- ✓ This new scheme is valid only for State Government owned properties and not for people who privately own a tree
- ✓ Bihar is ranked in list of World's most polluted cities which includes- Patna (7th position), Muzaffarpur (13th position), Gaya (18th position) and Bhagalpur
- ✓ The current order against banning tree felling was passed under Forest Conservation Act (FCA), 1980
- ✓ According to an official data, on Patna's Bailey Road over 2200 trees have been chopped in last 2.5 years
- ✓ As of date Bihar has been able to increase its green cover from 7% to 15% under the Green Mission
- ✓ As per the Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980 Prior permission/approval of the Central Government is essential for De-reservation/ Diversion of forest land for non-forestry purpose
- ✓ The act extends to whole of India except state of Jammu and Kashmir

# NATIONAL

## ◆ India - now has a state-of-the-art Central Command Centre for Air Traffic Flow Management (C-ATFM) in New Delhi

✓ The centre will optimise utilisation of resources such as airspace and aircraft at the capacity-constrained Indian airports

### TO DECONGEST THE SKIES

With forecast of growth in the aviation sector, a system to ensure regulated flow of traffic to minimise delays and congestion is needed. AAI has commissioned a system, to be implemented in three phases, to streamline air traffic flow in the country



#### WHAT IS C-ATFM

Air Traffic Flow Management is an air traffic control system to provide a safe and orderly flow of traffic. It will minimise delays by balancing traffic demand with capacity of air space and airports. This is done through continuous coordination among airlines, airports, defence and stakeholders, and analysis from a central control centre

#### FUNCTIONS

Flights will get the shortest possible route between airports as airspace, altitude and weather patterns will be available instantly

Enroute slots for over-flying planes, re-routing of flights, holding of flights in air will be hassle free

Collecting and sharing of information about weather, availability of air space in coordination with military



#### ON A DEADLINE

► Pre-implementation meetings and trials going on

► Phase I operations to begin in September 2015 in Delhi

► Terminal management units (TMU) in Kolkata, Mumbai, Chennai, Hyderabad and Bengaluru will be set up in 2016

► Personnel and locations have been identified for

TMU in Chennai

► PHASE II | It will cover the entire Indian airspace of 1.04million square nautical miles

► PHASE III | It will be expanded to 12 neighbouring countries and will cover air traffic over 1.74million square nautical miles of the Bay of Bengal, the Arabian Sea and the Indian Ocean



1 The central command centre in Delhi will receive flight plans, weather details, airspace availability, air traffic pattern and airport information

2 The information will be analysed and shared with traffic management units located in Chennai, Mumbai, Hyderabad, Bengaluru and Kolkata. It will be on a website

3 This helps airlines and airports to plan operations by monitoring ground situations at airports. This will minimise delays by interlinking airlines, airports, Met department, air traffic control and military



India is a vital link between East Asia, South East Asia and Europe

<b>14</b> Flight information regions	<b>93</b> International routes	<b>178</b> Domestic routes	<b>12</b> Neighbouring states	<b>125</b> Airports	<b>1.86</b> million aircraft movement in a year
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- ✓ C-ATFM is a world class system where on one large screen anyone can see country's all civil aviation infrastructure such as planes on ground, planes which are in air, etc. as all of it is integrated with the ATC (air traffic control)
- ✓ C-ATFM system has actively connected top 36 airports of India that are handling traffic
- ✓ India has now become 7th country after the US, Europe, Australia, South Africa, Japan, Brazil to have a Centralised Air Traffic Flow Management System

◆ **ONGC Videsh Ltd, the overseas investment arm of ONGC, and its consortium partners - have announced the Final Investment Decision (FID) in the Mozambique LNG project**

- ✓ The Indian consortium is expected to collectively invest \$20 billion in the two-train Golfinho/Atum Mozambique LNG Project.
- ✓ ONGC Videsh holds 16% interest in the Mozambique Rovuma Area-1 Offshore Project, out of which 10% PI is held directly by ONGC Videsh and another 6% interest is held through its 60% shareholding in Beas Rovuma Energy Mozambique Limited (BREML)

◆ **The Centre - distributed 'Doordarshan (DD) Free Dish' Set Top Boxes to people living in border areas of Jammu and Kashmir region in Srinagar**

- ✓ It was given away by Prakash Javadekar, Union Minister of Information and Broadcasting, along with Jammu and Kashmir (J&K) governor Satyapal Malik
- ✓ The event was organized by DD Kashir, which is a regional subsidiary television station of Doordarshan
- ✓ The Set Top Box will be provided free of cost and audience will be able to view over 100 channels for free
- ✓ DD Kashir launched a news bulletin titled 'Dogri News' for Jammu region on the DD channel
- ✓ Doordarshan's DTH service, also known as DD Free Dish, was launched in 2004
- ✓ At present, it has 104 SDTV channels along with 40 Radio channels

◆ **National Thermal Power Corporation Limited (NTPC Ltd) and Power Grid Corporation of India Limited (PGCIL) - have signed an agreement to set up National Electricity Distribution Company Limited (NEDCL)**

- ✓ The agreement signed by both the PSUs will pave way for them to enter into consumer electricity distribution business in various states/UTs
- ✓ As per the agreement NEDCL will be a joint venture of NTPC and PGCIL on 50:50 equity basis
- ✓ NTPC is a leading power generator and Power Grid owns India's largest power transmission network

## INTERNATIONAL

### ◆ Saudi Arabia - launched a new special residency scheme aimed at luring wealthy expats as the petro-state seeks to boost non-oil revenue

- ✓ The scheme offers a permanent residency for 800,000 riyals (\$213,000) and a one-year but renewable residency costing 100,000 riyals (27,000), according to the online portal for registrations
- ✓ The scheme will allow expats to do business without a Saudi sponsor, buy property and sponsor visas for relatives
- ✓ Saudi Arabia is currently home to some 10 million overseas workers, many of whom are subjected to what labour activists describe as restrictive residency rules

### ◆ Saudi Arabia - has become 1st Arab country to be granted full membership of Financial Action Task Force (FATF)

- ✓ The decision of the membership was taken at the FATF's Annual General Meeting held in Orlando, Florida in United States (US)
- ✓ At the beginning of 2015 Saudi Arabia had received an invitation from FATF as an observer member
- ✓ Since November 2004, Saudi Arabia has been a founding member of Middle East and North Africa (MENA) arm of FATF group
- ✓ FATF, global money laundering watchdog, was established in 1989 with its headquarters in Paris, France
- ✓ It comprises of 37-member jurisdictions and 2 Regional Organizations namely Gulf Cooperation Council (GCC) and European Commission (EC)
- ✓ During the meeting, FATF had given an ultimatum of October 2019 to Pakistan to complete its action plan on terror financing
- ✓ Pakistan is already in the grey list of FATF

## INDIA AND OTHER COUNTRIES

### ◆ Japan - gifted Imphal Peace Museum to Manipur



- ✓ The Peace Museum was built on the memories of Battle of Imphal, one of the fiercest battles of Second World War (WWII)
- ✓ The inauguration of Imphal Peace Museum marked 75th anniversary of Battle of Imphal

- ✓ The museum is funded by Nippon Foundation, a private, non-profit grant-making organization based in Japan
- ✓ The Peace Museum is located at Red Hill, which is around 20km from Imphal, the Capital of Manipur
- ✓ About 70,000 Japanese soldiers, alongside those of Indian National Army (INA) of Subhash Chandra Bose, died in battles with British-led Allied forces in areas around Imphal and Kohima from March-June 1944.
- ✓ The last of these battles was fought at Red Hill in Imphal
- ✓ In 1994 Japanese War Memorial was also built at Red Hill to mark 50th anniversary of battle
- ✓ The Battle of Imphal together with simultaneous Battle of Kohima (also known as Stalingrad of the East) was the main turning point of the Second World War's Burma Campaign
- ✓ In the Battle of Imphal, Japanese armies with an attempt to destroy Allied forces at Imphal invaded India, but were driven back into Burma (today's Myanmar) with heavy losses

◆ **Nepalese nationals - are required to have visa if they are entering India from Pakistan, China, Hong Kong and Macau, as per a recent notification issued by Nepal embassy in New Delhi**

- ✓ As per existing rule, a citizen of Nepal entering India by land/air directly from Nepal does not require a passport/Visa
- ✓ They just need to produce an identity card that establishes his/her identity as a Nepalese national
- ✓ The decision to implement the visa scheme is taken amidst security concerns as many Nepalese enter India and subsequently travel to Gulf countries for work

## PERSONALITIES

◆ **Viral Acharya, Reserve Bank of India's (RBI's) youngest deputy governor - has resigned from his role before end of his tenure**



- ✓ Acharya may return to New York University Stern School of Business (NYU Stern) in August, instead of February 2020.
- ✓ He had joined the RBI on January 23, 2017, for a three-year term
- ✓ In past six months, this is the second high profile resignation at the Reserve Bank of India (RBI).
- ✓ In December 2018, former governor Urjit Patel resigned nearly nine months before the end of his schedule term over.

- ✓ The RBI is now left with three deputy governors N S Vishwanathan, B P Kanungo and M K Jain.
- ✓ Viral Acharya has co-authored research papers with former RBI Governor Raghuram Rajan and has called him a source of inspiration.

## DEFENCE

### ◆ **India - is lining up defence deals worth around \$10 billion for the US over the next two-three years**

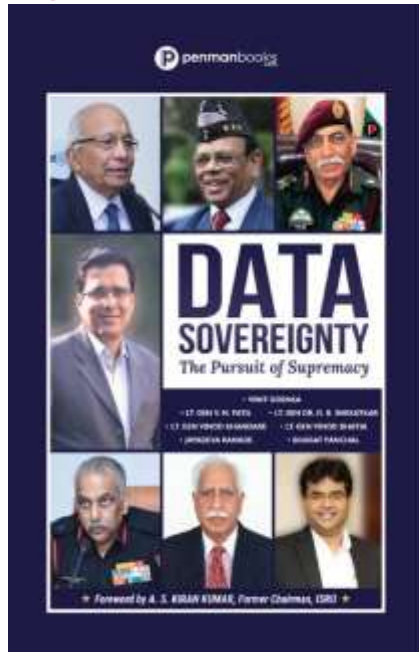
- ✓ The latest deal being finalised by India under the foreign military sales programme of the US is for the acquisition of 10 more Poseidon-8I long-range maritime patrol aircraft for over \$3 billion



- ✓ The procurement case for the 10 P-8I aircraft was cleared by an MoD committee last week.
- ✓ It will now be sent for approval to the Defence Acquisitions Council headed by the defence minister by August
- ✓ These 10 P-8Is will be more advanced than the 12 such aircraft already procured by India
- ✓ The Navy inducted the first eight Boeing-manufactured P-8Is, which are packed with sensors and armed with Harpoon Block-II missiles, MK-54 lightweight torpedoes, rockets and depth charges to detect and destroy enemy submarines, under a \$2.1 billion deal inked in January 2009.
- ✓ The next four P-8Is are slated for delivery by 2021-2022 under another \$1.1 billion contract signed in July 2016.
- ✓ The other deals in the pipeline include 24 naval multi-role MH-60 'Romeo' helicopters (\$2.6 billion), the National Advanced Surface to Air Missile System-II for the missile shield over Delhi (almost \$1 billion) and six more Apache attack helicopters (\$930 million).
- ✓ Moreover, the US is also in contention for several major Make in India projects such as supply 114 fighter jets to IAF for around \$20 billion.
- ✓ The Trump administration has expressed its opposition to India's \$5.43 billion contract for S-400 Triumf missile systems with Russia in October 2018, which was followed by \$3 billion deal for lease of a Akula-1 nuclear-powered attack submarine in March 2019
- ✓ US still continue the threat of imposing financial sanctions on India under the CAATSA (Countering America's Adversaries through Sanction Act).
- ✓ The law enacted by US Congress in 2017 seeks to deter countries from buying Russian weapons or Iranian oil.

## BOOKS & AUTHORS

### ◆ 'Function of Data Sovereignty: The Pursuit of Supremacy' – Co-authored by Vinit Goenka



- ✓ He is founder member of Centre for Knowledge Sovereignty (CKS), which is an endeavour to acquire knowledge through experts of eminence in respective fields
- ✓ The Book focuses in-depth on steps and concrete actions required to build highly capable data centres that will ensure data security and data sovereignty
- ✓ India is one of the world's biggest markets in data generation i.e. India generates data and consume data
- ✓ In 2018, Indian data centre infrastructure market was valued at US\$27 billion, which by 2020 is expected to be second largest market within Asia-Pacific

## SPORTS

### ◆ The defending five-time World champion, Lewis Hamilton (Mercedes, Great Britain) – won the French Open Formula One Grand Prix on June 23

- ✓ The victory was his fourth win in succession, sixth this season and 79th of his career



- ✓ His victory extended Mercedes' unbeaten start to the 2019 season to eight races and their overall winning streak to 10



- ✓ After eight of this season's 21 races, Hamilton leads the championship with 187 points ahead of his Mercedes teammate Valtteri Bottas on 151.
- ✓ Bottas finished second in the race followed by Charles Leclerc finishing at third place

◆ **Jehan Daruvala - completed a hat-trick of podiums by finishing third in the FIA Formula 3 Championship at Le Castellet, France**



- ✓ He has started the race at eighth position in the grid due to the regulations which dictate that the top eight finishers are reversed for the start of the sprint race.
- ✓ This was Jehan's third consecutive podium in four races.
- ✓ Jehan's Prema Racing teammate Robert Shwartzman finished first with Brazilian Pedro Piquet in second.
- ✓ Jehan continues to lie second in the championship with 58 points.

◆ **National record-holder M. Sreeshankar - won the men's long jump gold in the Sopot Grand Prix athletics at Sopot, Poland**



- ✓ Sreeshankar topped the event with a second-round effort of 7.78m while Norway's Henrik Flaetnes was second with 7.65.
- ✓ He had earlier won the gold at the Copenhagen Athletics Games in Denmark this month

◆ **International Olympic Committee (IOC) - has formally opened its new headquarters in Lausanne, Switzerland - exactly 125 years after Olympic Games were revived**

- ✓ The International Olympic Committee was founded by a great Visionary, Pierre de Coubertin
- ✓ The \$145 million Olympic House has been built on site of former Olympic headquarters, and 95% of old materials were reused and recycled
- ✓ The renewable energy supplied to building is provided using solar panels on roof and pumps taking water from Lake Geneva
- ✓ It is designed by architecture firm 3XN of Denmark, the energy-efficient building has won international awards for sustainability
- ✓ Thomas Bach of Germany is the current President of IOC

# INTERNATIONAL DAY

## ◆ World Music Day 2019 – June 21



- ✓ The day is celebrated on the same day as the International Yoga Day
- ✓ It is an annual celebration of music and on the occasion, people are urged to play music in public places and parks and various free concerts are also organized, where musicians play for free.
- ✓ The day is also known as 'Fête de la Musique' (Festival of Music) in French language
- ✓ World Music Day Theme 2019 - 'Music at the intersections'
- ✓ The International Music day was first celebrated in Paris in 1982 in Paris as the Fête de la Musique
- ✓ It was initiated by French Minister of Culture, Jack Lang and Maurice Fleuret.

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