



EVE **RYDAY CURRENT AFFAIRS-june** **STATES**

- On June 22, Odisha chief minister Naveen Patnaik - met Pope Francis, the head of the Catholic Church, in Vatican City during his visit to Rome



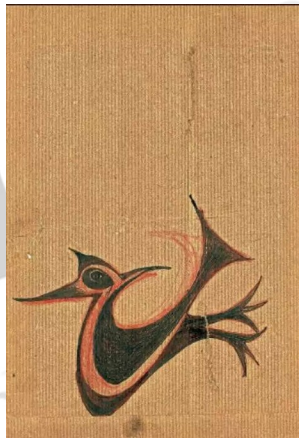
- ✓ With this, Patnaik becomes the first Chief Minister of an Indian state to meet the Pope in Vatican city.
- ✓ Naveen presented the Pope the state's famous Pattachitra (scroll) painting depicting the tree of life.
- ✓ Though the meeting lasted a few minutes, Naveen expressed his pleasure and thanked "His Holiness" for a warm reception.
- ✓ The meeting was the most awaited one during Naveen's ongoing 10-day foreign tour, which is only his second as CM in the past 22 years.
- ✓ The CM also apprised Pope Francis of his government's support to the organisations run by the Missionaries of Charity
- ✓ Missionaries of Charity is the Kolkata-based philanthropic organisation founded by Mother Teresa
 - ✓ The first Missionaries of Charity was inaugurated in Odisha in 1974
 - ✓ The state has 13 centres for the sick, abandoned, elderly, leprosy patients, mentally disabled and orphans in the state.

- ✓ Last December, Naveen had asked the district collectors to ensure that no inmate of these organisations suffers, especially because of food scarcity and health-related distress, during the FCRA issue.
- ✓ Pattachitra is a unique, ancient, traditional, cloth-based scroll painting from Odisha.
- ✓ This art form is known for its intricate detail, natural colours and mythological themes.

NATIONAL

- **The Common University Entrance Test-Undergraduate (CUET-UG) – is all set to become the longest entrance exam ever to be conducted in the country**
 - ✓ The test has over 54,000 subject combinations, with the aspirants allowed to appear in up to nine papers
 - ✓ Over 11 lakh candidates have registered for the first edition of CUET, which will be conducted by NTA from July 15 to August 10.
 - ✓ The test will be conducted across 554 cities in India and 13 cities abroad.
 - ✓ In March, the University Grants Commission (UGC) announced that CUET-UG scores, and not Class XII marks, would be mandatory for admission to 45 central universities which can also fix their minimum eligibility criteria.
 - ✓ A total of 44 central universities, 12 state universities, 11 deemed universities, and 19 private universities are conducting their undergraduate admissions to the 2022-23 academic sessions based on CUET scores.
 - ✓ The exam will be conducted in a Computer-Based Test (CBT) mode.
 - ✓ Under the CUET-UG scheme, an applicant has to take a language test and can opt for an additional language test depending on the admission requirement of specific universities.
 - ✓ Candidates can also choose up to six domain specific subjects and an optional general test.
 - ✓ It will be held in 13 languages — namely Tamil, Telugu, Kannada, Malayalam, Marathi, Gujarati, Odiya, Bengali, Assamese, Punjabi, English, Hindi and Urdu.
 - ✓ A candidate can also pick from 19 other languages like French, German, Japanese, Russian, and many more.
- **On June 22, the Union Home Ministry – extended the validity of Foreign Contribution Registration Act (FCRA) licences of NGOs whose renewal applications are pending or whose validity is going to expire soon**
 - ✓ As per the notification issued, the validity of registration certificates of such entities will stand extended till September 30 or till the date of disposal of renewal application

- ✓ The extension will be applicable in case of entities whose FCRA licence was/is expiring between September 29, 2020 and September 30, 2022
 - ✓ On March 24, the government had extended the validity of such NGOs whose registration was expiring on or before March 31 till June 30, 2022.
 - ✓ All NGOs intend to receive foreign fundings are mandatorily required to register under the Foreign Contribution (Regulation) Act, 2010.
 - ✓ However, those NGOs whose renewal application has been rejected will not be able to receive foreign fundings
 - ✓ As per the MHA's FCRA website, there are around 16,800 NGOs and associations active as on 22.06.2022
 - ✓ The government has cancelled FCRA registration of nearly 1,900 NGOs for violating various provisions of law in the last five years.
- **Rabindranath Tagore's drawing on brown paper, titled 'Bird' - will be auctioned in Mumbai on June 23-24.**



- ✓ This artwork is originally from the family collection of Nandalal Bose.
- ✓ This piece of work in the public domain is a national treasure and can't be taken out of the country
- ✓ This is an extremely rare work owing to the fact that Tagore started painting late in his life, at the age of 60 and Tagore's works are not auctioned regularly
- ✓ The bidding of all art works at this auction starts from Rs.20,000.
- ✓ For this work, the minimum estimated value is Rs.8 lakh to Rs.10 lakh.
- ✓ In the previous 'Collectors Choice' auction in May this year, a unique letter by Tagore was sold at Rs.7,94,022.

INTERNATIONAL

- **Britain - has declared a national incident after finding evidence suggesting local spread of poliovirus in London.**
- ✓ No cases of polio have been identified so far, and the risk to the public is low.
 - ✓ But health authorities urged anyone who is not fully immunised against poliovirus, particularly young children, to immediately seek vaccines.

- ✓ The last case of polio in Britain was in 1984, and the country was declared polio-free in 2003.
- ✓ The routine surveillance of sewage in the country picks up poliovirus once or twice a year, between February and May

CONFERENCES & SUMMITS

- **On June 22, Prime Minister Narendra Modi – delivered a keynote speech at the opening ceremony of 14th BRICS summit hosted by China in virtual mode**



- ✓ The two-day business forum will also feature a High-Level Dialogue on Global Development with guest countries on June 24
- ✓ President Xi Jinping will host the High-level Dialogue on Global Development in Beijing on June 24 and deliver a keynote speech on June 22.
- ✓ China is hosting the summit in its capacity as the chair of the grouping for the current year
- ✓ The discussions during the Summit are expected to cover intra-BRICS cooperation in areas such as counter-terrorism, trade, health, traditional medicine, environment, S&T and innovation, agriculture, technical and vocational education & training, and MSMEs
- ✓ The Summit will be held in virtual format under the theme of "Foster High-quality BRICS Partnership, Usher in a New Era for Global Development."
- ✓ Russian President Vladimir Putin, Brazilian President Jair Bolsonaro and South African President Cyril Ramaphosa are also set to attend the summit
- ✓ Earlier, National Security Advisor Ajit Doval attended the 12th meeting of BRICS National Security Advisers and High Representatives on National Security on June 15
- ✓ BRICS is a multilateral forum consisting of five major emerging economies of the world, namely Brazil, Russia, India, China and South Africa.

- ✓ These developing countries represent 41% of the global population, 24% of the global GDP and 16% of the global trade.
- ✓ The BRICS mechanism was established on June 16, 2009, with the primary goal of promoting peace, security, development, and cooperation among the member nations

ECONOMY

- **On June 22, the CBI - has booked Dewan Housing Finance Ltd, its former CMD Kapil Wadhawan, director Dheeraj Wadhawan and others for bank fraud of Rs. 34,615 crore**



- ✓ This is the biggest such case probed by the premier investigating agency
- ✓ Following the registration of case on June 20, a team of over 50 officials from the agency carried out coordinated searches on 12 premises in Mumbai belonging to FIR-listed accused.
- ✓ The action follows a complaint from the Union Bank of India (UBI), leader of 17-member lender consortium which had extended credit facilities to the tune of Rs. 42,871 crore between 2010 and 2018.
- ✓ As per the bank, Kapil and Dheeraj Wadhawan in criminal conspiracy with others misrepresented and concealed facts, committed criminal breach of trust and abused public funds to cheat the consortium by defaulting on loan repayments from May 2019 onwards.
- ✓ The audit of DHFL account books showed that the company allegedly committed financial irregularities, diverted funds, fabricated books, round tripped funds to “create assets for Kapil and Dheeraj Wadhawan” using public money.
- ✓ Both are in judicial custody in connection with previous fraud cases against them.
- ✓ The DHFL loan accounts were declared nonperforming assets at different points of time by lender banks

APPOINTMENTS

- **US President Joe Biden – has named Dr Aarti Prabhakar, leading Indian-American scientist and physicist, as his top science advisor**

- ✓ If confirmed by the Senate, Dr Aarti will be the first woman, immigrant, or person of colour to head the Office of Science and Technology Policy (OSTP).



- ✓ 63-year-old New Delhi-born Aarti has been unanimously confirmed by the Senate before, to lead the National Institute of Standards and Technology (NIST), and was the first woman to hold that role.
- ✓ She later served as director of the Defense Advanced Research Projects Agency (DARPA), where breakthrough technologies like stealth aircraft and the Internet took shape.
- ✓ So far, Aarti has led two different federal R&D agencies and worked with startups, large companies, universities, government labs, and nonprofits across a wide variety of sectors.
- ✓ She is an engineer and applied physicist with extensive management and leadership credentials.
- ✓ She was the first woman to earn a PhD in applied physics from California Institute of Technology.
- ✓ Aarti served as director of Defense Advanced Research Projects Agency (Darpa) from 2012 to 2017.
- ✓ Under her leadership, Darpa kickstarted the development of a rapid-response mRNA vaccine platform, making possible the fastest safe and most effective vaccine development in world history in response to Covid-19.

