

Top 25 Current Affairs of 1 July 2020

NATIONAL AFFAIRS

Harsimrat Kaur Badal virtually launched Rs 10,000 cr PM-FME Scheme; Operation Greens scheme extended to 18 more fruits, vegetables



As a part of Rs 20 Lakh crore “Atmanirbhar Bharat Abhiyan” to tackle the COVID-19 impact, Minister for Food Processing Industries (FPI) Harsimrat Kaur Badal launched Centrally Sponsored Prime Minister Formalisation of Micro food processing Enterprises (PM FME) scheme named “**Sapno ki Udaan**” to be implemented over a period of five years from **2020-21 to 2024-25**. One District One Product (ODOP) approach will be adopted for this scheme under which the states will identify food product (specialized or perishable or cereal) for a district on the basis of availability of raw material. 35% Credit-linked capital subsidy will be provided for upgradation of micro food processing units. Operation Greens scheme has been extended to additional **10 fruits** (Mango, Banana, Guava, Kiwi, Lichi, Papaya, Citrus, Pineapple, Pomegranate, Jackfruit) and **8 vegetables** (French beans, Bitter Gourd, Brinjal, Capsicum, Carrot, Cauliflower, Chillies (Green) and Okra).

Dharmendra Pradhan Inaugurates Asia's First Continuous Rebar Production Facility in Punjab



On 29th June 2020, Dharmendra Pradhan, Union Minister of Steel & Petroleum and Natural Gas virtually inaugurated **Asia's first** Continuous Rebar Production Facility near Gobindgarh, Punjab launched by Madhav KRD Group in association with International Zinc Association with the support of Hindustan Zinc Limited.

Government bans 59 Chinese mobile apps prejudicial to sovereignty and integrity of India



The Ministry of Electronics and Information Technology (MEITY), invoking its power under section 69A of the Information Technology Act read with the relevant provisions of the **Information Technology (Procedure and Safeguards for Blocking of Access of Information by Public) Rules 2009** has decided to ban 59 apps due to their activities which are prejudicial to sovereignty and integrity of India, defence of India, security of state and public order.

- It should be noted that all of the blocked apps are **Chinese** including popular ones such as TikTok, Helo, WeChat, UC Browser, Shareit and CamScanner.
- This move comes at a time of rising tensions between India and China following clashes at the Line of Actual Control (LAC).
- This decision also followed the exhaustive recommendations of the Indian Cyber Crime Coordination Centre (I4C), Ministry of Home Affairs (MHA) for blocking these malicious apps.

Background:

MEITY and Computer Emergency Response Team (CERT-IN) have received many complaints from various sources about misuse of some mobile apps available on Android and iOS platforms for stealing and surreptitiously transmitting users' data in an unauthorized manner to servers which have locations outside India. Therefore, this decision has been taken to safeguard data and privacy of 130 crore Indians.

Nitin Gadkari publicized consolidated notification for classification and registration of MSME; MSME named as Udyam



Minister of Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises (MSME) Nitin Jairam Gadkari released the consolidated notification in the form of guidelines for classification and registration of MSMEs, which are facing several challenges due to the COVID-19 impact. The steps and strategies involved in this notification are extremely simple resulting in Ease of Doing Business. As per the notification, in exercising of the powers conferred by sub-section (1) read with sub-section (9) of section 7 and sub-section (2) read with sub-section (3) of section 8, of the Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises Development Act, 2006, hereafter, MSME will be known as **Udyam**, and accordingly, the registration process will be known as **Udyam Registration** w.e.f July 1, 2020.

5 years of PMAY (U), Smart Cities Mission (SCM) and AMRUT completed on June 25, 2020



On June 25, 2020, Ministry of Housing and Urban Affairs (MoHUA) organized an online event to mark the 5th Anniversary of Pradhan Mantri Awas Yojana(Urban) (PMAY-U), Smart Cities Mission (SCM) and Atal Mission for Rejuvenation and Urban Transformation (AMRUT). The event addressed by **Hardeep Singh Puri**, Minister of State for Housing and Urban Affairs(I/C) organized to celebrate the achievements and boost implementation of the urban missions.

- **Atal Mission for Rejuvenation and Urban Transformation (AMRUT)**

Launched on June 5, 2015, AMRUT aims at ensuring universal coverage of drinking water supply and substantial improvement in coverage and treatment capacities of sewerage across 500 cities, covering more than 60% of urban population.

- **Smart Cities Mission (SCM)**

Launched on June 25, 2015, its objective is to promote cities that provide core infrastructure and give a decent quality of life to its citizens. ClimateSmart Cities and DataSmart Cities are two important programs under the Smart Cities Mission.

- **Pradhan Mantri Awas Yojana – Urban (PMAY-U)**

Launched on June 25, 2015, the objective of PMAY-U is to provide pucca house to all eligible beneficiaries of Urban India by 2022 with the vision of 'Housing for All'. The Ministry of Housing and Urban Affairs (MoHUA) has received a validated demand of about

1.12 Cr houses under PMAY (U). Approvals for 1.05 Cr houses have already been sanctioned.

INTERNATIONAL AFFAIRS

45.8 million Women Missing in India Over the Past 50 Years: UNFPA Report



On June 30, 2020, According to the report, “**State of World Population 2020: Against my will - Defying the practices that harm women and girls and undermine equality**”, which focuses on gender biased sex selection (GBSS) and female genital mutilation (FGM), released by United Nations Population Fund (**UNFPA**), **India** accounts for 45.8 million of the world’s 142.6 million “missing females” over the past 50 years & it has the highest number of missing women after China (72.3 million).

BANKING & FINANCE

GoI and World Bank Sign Agreement to Increase Access to Affordable Housing in Tamil Nadu



THE WORLD BANK
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On 29 June, The World Bank and the government of India signed an agreement along with the Government of Tamil Nadu to help the low-income groups in the state of Tamil Nadu to get access to affordable housing.

Agreements signed:- Legal agreements of two projects were signed to strengthen the state's housing sector policies, institutions, and regulations.

- **First Tamil Nadu Housing Sector Strengthening Programme** worth \$200 million (Rs 1,510 crore),
- **Tamil Nadu Housing and Habitat Development Project** worth \$50 million (Rs 377 crore).

Swiggy in Partnership with ICICI Bank Launches an Industry- First Instant Digital Wallet, 'Swiggy Money'



Swiggy has launched its own digital wallet, '**Swiggy Money**' in partnership with **ICICI Bank** to enable a 'single-click checkout experience' on its platform. It is an industry- first instant digital wallet. The Swiggy Money is powered by ICICI Bank's 'insta wallet service' which is built on a cloud platform with Application Programming Interface (API) integration. Swiggy customer can immediately use the wallet if he/she is an existing ICICI Bank customer.

AWARDS & RECOGNITIONS

Former RBI Governor Chakravarthi Rangarajan Receives the First Prof. P. C. Mahalanobis Award on National Statistics Day



- i. On 29th June 2020, On account of National Statistics Day The Ministry of Statistics and Programme Implementation (**MoSPI**) presented the first Prof. P. C. Mahalanobis National Award in Official Statistics'2020 to **Dr. Chakravarthi Rangarajan**, Former Governor, Reserve Bank of India for his contribution to the National Statistical System(**NSS**).
- ii. Prof. P.V. Sukhatme National Award in Statistics 2020 is jointly presented to, Dr Arvind Pandey and Dr. Akhilesh Chandra Kulshreshtha.

APPOINTMENTS & RESIGNATIONS

KK Venugopal Reappointed as Attorney General of India for a Year & Tushar Mehta as Solicitor General for 3 Years



The Appointments Committee of the Union Cabinet has approved the re-appointment of senior advocate **K.K. Venugopal** as **Attorney General of India** for a year, whose 3 year tenure ends in June 2020. Senior advocate **Tushar Mehta** as **Solicitor General** for a period of three years. K.K. Venugopal succeeded Mukul Rohatgi on June 30, 2017. He is the 15th Attorney General of India.

Gudni Johannesson Re-elected as President of Iceland



On June 28, **Gudni Johannesson**, president of Iceland was re-elected and won with **91% of votes** in the Presidential election.

Key Points:-

- i)** In 2016, Gudni became the **youngest president** of Iceland since Independence in 1944.
- ii)** He enjoyed a solid support from 76 to 86 percent throughout his first term.
- iii)** Iceland is the Second European country to hold polls during the COVID 19 pandemic.

SCIENCE & TECHNOLOGY

Defence Minister Shri Rajnath Singh launches NOC issuance portal for power, oil and gas projects



Defence minister Rajnath Singh launches a online Portal for issue of No Objection Certificate (NOC) for power projects and research, survey, exploration and Exploitation (RSEE) and activities in the Indian Territorial Waters (TW) and Exclusive Economic Zone (EEZ), in the presence of Minister of state for Defence Shri Shripad Y Naik.

Portal: <https://ncog.gov.in/modnoc/home.html>

About Portal:-

- The portal establishes an effective, speedy and transparent mechanism to process the proposals.
- Applications are received from: Ministry of New and Renewable Energy, Ministry of Power, Ministry of Petroleum and Natural Gas and the Ministry of Shipping.

Rijju Launches NADA App to Help Athletes Stay Updated on Banned Substances



On 30 June, the first mobile app for the National Anti-Doping Agency was released by Sports Minister Kiren Rijju. The initiative is an important step towards dope free sports, providing updates about the banned substances and their use.

Key Points:-

- It acts as a bridge between athletes and the NADA by providing easy accessible information about sports and banned substances and their use which affects the career of athletes.
- The app allows doping control officers to record their availability to conduct a test through this app for quicker process of dope test for athletes.

Ministry of Housing & Urban Affairs Launches Webportal for Street Vendors loan scheme 'PMSVANidhi'



On June 29, 2020, **Shri Durga Shanker Mishra**, Secretary of Housing & Urban Affairs has rolled out the Beta version webportal for street vendors loan scheme Pradhan Mantri Street Vendors' AtmaNirbhar Nidhi –**PMSVANidhi** (<http://pmsvanidhi.mohua.gov.in/>) developed by SIDBI to provide end-to-end solutions for scheme management. **PMSVANidhi scheme:** Started on June 1, 2020 in the wake of coronavirus (COVID-19) crisis, this loan scheme provides a working capital loan of up to Rs. 10,000 to street vendors.

SPORTS

Nitin Menon Becomes the 3rd Indian & Youngest Umpire to Enter ICC Elite Panel



Nitin Menon(36 years old) from India became the **youngest** member of the International Cricket Council's(**ICC**) **Elite Panel of Umpires**. He replaces Nigel Llong(England) for the

upcoming 2020-21 season. He becomes the **3rd Indian umpire** to be included in the ICC's after former captain Srinivas Venkatraghavan and Sundaram Ravi.

Liverpool wins the top-flight title in 2020 Premier League Championship



On 25th June 2020, Liverpool won its 19th top-flight title of the 2020 Premier League Championship football tournament after Manchester City lost to Chelsea 2-1 at Stamford Bridge.

Key Points:

1. Between 1973 and 1990 Liverpool won 11 Premier league championships and this is Liverpool's first title since 1989-90.
2. On 24th June 2020, At Anfield, Liverpool won against Crystal Palace 4-0 moving within 2 points towards the title.
3. Liverpool won the 19th title with the record of seven games left to play after Manchester City was defeated with a difference of 23 points.
4. Liverpool won the title earlier than any other champions in the past breaking the record of five games by City and Manchester United.
5. The players of Liverpool including Alisson (goalkeeper), Virgil van Dijk (defender) and Alex Oxlade-Chamberlain (midfielder) celebrated together after the game.

IMPORTANT DAYS

International Day of Parliamentarism 2020: June 30



United Nations (UN) **International Day of Parliamentarism** is observed annually on **June 30** to celebrate parliaments. The day highlights the ways in which parliamentary systems of government improve the daily lives of people around the world. The year 2020 marks the **3rd edition** of the day. The United Nations General Assembly, in its resolution **A/RES/72/278** adopted the day

International Asteroid Day 2020 – June 30



United Nations International Asteroid Day is observed annually on 30th June of every year to create awareness about asteroids and the hazards of asteroid impacts and to organise events around the world to educate about the Near Earth Objects(**NEO**) and Asteroids. The United Nations General Assembly (**UNGA**) designated 30th June as International Asteroid Day in the resolution **A/RES/71/90** adopted in December 2016. June 30th is chosen to

observe the international anniversary of the impact of “Tunguska” over Siberia, Russian Federation on 30th June 1908.

STATE NEWS

Maharashtra CM Launches ‘Platina’, World’s Largest Convalescent Plasma Therapy-Cum-Trial Project



Maharashtra Chief Minister **Uddhav Thackeray** launched the **world’s largest convalescent plasma therapy-cum-trial** project, ‘**Platina**’ to treat COVID-19 patients, through video conference at Nagpur’s government medical college. The project will benefit 500 lives of critically ill COVID-19 patients in the state and Rs 16.65 crore is allocated for this project from the Chief Minister’s Relief Fund. He also inaugurated 4 other services namely; plasma donation, plasma bank, plasma trial, and emergency authorisation at the college.

Arvind Kejriwal Launched India’s First Plasma Bank for COVID-19 Treatment



On 29th June 2020, Chief Minister of Delhi, Arvind Kejriwal launched India's first Plasma Bank for the treatment of the patients tested positive for coronavirus. The Institute of Liver and Biliary Sciences (**ILBS**) will house the plasma bank. The plasma bank will start its operation by 2nd July 2020.

Madhya Pradesh launches “Hamara Ghar-Hamara Vidyalaya” scheme



On 27th June 2020, Principal Secretary Rashmi Arun Shami **launched “Hamara Ghar-Hamara Vidyalaya”** over a virtual platform to maintain academic regularity of the students during the Lockdown due to COVID-19 pandemic. The scheme will start from 6th July 2020.

Department of School Education(M.P.):

Minister- Prabhu Ram Choudhary

Principal Secretary- Rashmi Arun Shami

CoM of Assam passes MSME Ordinance



On June 29, 2020, In a big boost to Aatma Nirbhar Assam, Council of Ministers (CoM) of Assam has passed the **MSME(micro, small and medium enterprises) Ordinance** that gives provision to put an end to the process of taking multiple permissions for setting up MSME in the state for next 3 years. The state government also decided to change the **academic year to April-March** from existing January-December in order to make-up for academic loss due to the coronavirus (COVID-19) pandemic outbreak.

Goa Government Allots Land to 49 MSME Units to Set Up India's First Marine Cluster

The Government of Goa allotted land to a consortium of 49 Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises(**MSME**) units to set up **India's first Marine Cluster**, Pramod Sawant, Chief Minister of Goa provided 14,380 square Metres of land to set up the Common Facility centre.

Marine Cluster:

1. The Project is aimed to create a world class facility for ship designing, ship building, ship repairers and marine equipment manufacturing.
2. The project is supported by the Union shipping ministry, Directorate General of Shipping, and Ministry of Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises (**MSME**).
3. The 49 MSME units under this project will provide direct benefits to an additional 180 units.
4. The ships built in the centre will be used for local purpose and will be exported to the European and Asia-Pacific Region.

Karnataka Chief Minister Launches a Portal, 'Skill Connect Forum' to Connect Job Seekers and Employers

On June 29, 2020 **Karnataka** Chief Minister BS Yediyurappa launched a portal, '**Skill Connect Forum**' to connect job seekers(skilled workers) and employers(private entrepreneurs) on a common platform. The portal provides information on available jobs and those who need job.

Gist about the portal:

1. Job seekers can register on <https://skillconnect.kaushalkar.com> by uploading details of their educational qualification, skill sets and other details.
2. Employers will also register on the portal. The portal matches the requirement and availability.
3. The job seekers can search for jobs in different sectors and different regions within the state.

Other Initiatives for employment generation

- The state will undertake a talent acceleration programme with the help of the skill development department to help 1,000 graduates upgrade their skills at a cost of Rs 2 crore.
- Karnataka Skill Development Corporation is also organizing an online job fair on July 7, to help people who have lost their jobs due to the pandemic.

AC GAZE

Madhya Pradesh to launch 'Kill Corona' campaign

In order to control the spread of Covid-19, Madhya Pradesh has decided to launch a 15-day campaign called '**Kill Corona**' from July 1, 2020. This campaign includes door-to-door surveys and tests would also be done on citizens for other diseases.