

**CURRENT AFFAIRS SNIPPETS: JUNE 2018****BUSINESS & TRADE****India's E-waste Generation: Key Facts from ASSOCHAM-NEC Study**

A recent ASSOCHAM-NEC study on "Electricals & Electronics Manufacturing in India" has revealed that India recycles only 5% of its e-waste and the country is one of the biggest contributors of e-waste in the world. E-waste of electronic waste refers to the electronic equipment being thrown away. It includes discarded computer monitors, motherboards, Cathode Ray Tubes (CRT), Printed Circuit Board (PCB), mobile phones and chargers, compact discs, headphones, white goods such as Liquid Crystal Displays (LCD)/ Plasma televisions, air conditioners, refrigerators and so on.

**FDI in India rises to US \$61.96 billion in 2017-18: DIPP**

According to Department of Industrial Policy & Promotion, FDI in India increased to US \$61.96 billion in 2017-18. FDI inflow in previous fiscal was US \$60 billion. In last four years period, FDI in flows has jumped to US 4222.75 billion from US \$152 billion.

**WhatsApp Payment service launched in India**

WhatsApp Pay will partner HDFC Bank, ICICI Bank & Axis Bank to process transfers, and SBI will join once it has necessary systems in place, in an attempt to win market share from rivals Paytm and Google Tez in digital payments place

**Axis tops value, Paytm volumes in mobile banking**

At 17.2%, Axis Bank commands the largest value share of mobile banking transactions but it's Paytm that tops volumes with 22%. However, Paytm's value share is a meagre 0.25%, according to State SBI's annual report for 2017-18 which has put out RBI's data for January 2018.

**NSE launches 'Tri-Party Repo Market' platform for corporate bonds**

The NSE has launched a 'Tri-Party Repo Market' platform that will give a fillip to the demand for corporate bonds and provide liquidity boost to the debt segment of the bourse.

**Tata Steel, Thyssenkrupp seal landmark steel joint venture**

Germany's Thyssenkrupp and India's Tata Steel signed a final agreement on Saturday to establish a long-expected steel joint venture, the European steel industry's biggest shake-up in more than a decade. The final agreement comes after months of negotiations since an initial agreement was announced in September. Both companies hope it will help them respond to challenges in the volatile steel industry, including overcapacity.

**GOVERNMENT****Pradhan Mantri Awas Yojana (Urban): Government approves construction 1.5 lakh affordable houses**

The Union Ministry of Housing & Urban Affairs has approved construction of another 1.5 lakh affordable houses under Pradhan Mantri Awas Yojana (Urban) for benefit of urban poor. Decision in this regard was taken at 34th meeting of Central Sanctioning and Monitoring Committee. It approved investment of Rs 7,227 crore with Central assistance of Rs 2,209 crore.

**Government launches 5000 Wi-Fi Choupals in partnership with CSC**

MeITY launched 5000 Wi-Fi Choupals in villages in partnership with common service centres. It was jointly inaugurated by Union Electronics and IT Minister Ravi Shankar Prasad and Railway Minister Piyush Goyal in New Delhi. The aim of Wi-Fi Choupals is to transform rural Internet connectivity through BharatNet.

**Atal Tinkering Labs: NITI Aayog selects 3,000 more schools**

NITI Aayog's Atal Innovation Mission has selected 3,000 additional schools for establishment of Atal Tinkering Labs (ATLs). The new additions take number of such ATLs to 5,441 representing all states and five out of seven union territories. It will facilitate the creation of over one million neoteric child innovators by 2020.

### **ReUnite Mobile app launched to trace missing children**

The Union Minister of Commerce & Industry and Civil Aviation has launched mobile application "ReUnite" in New Delhi to track and trace missing and abandoned children in India. The app is available for both Android and iOS. It has been developed by Nobel Laureate Kailash Satyarthi's NGO Bachpan Bachao Andolan and IT company Capgemini.

### **PM approves setting up of E Sreedharan committee to lay down standards for metro rail systems**

Prime Minister Narendra Modi has approved setting up of committee to lay down standards for metro rail systems in the country. The committee will be headed by E Sreedharan (famously known as metro man of India) who is credited for changing face of public transport in India with his leadership in building Konkan Railway and Delhi Metro.

### **India Smart Cities Award 2018: Surat Smart City selected for City Award for implementation of projects**

Surat smart city from Gujarat was selected for 'City Award' for showing great momentum in implementation of projects under India Smart Cities Awards 2018 especially in categories of urban environment, transport and mobility and sustainable integrated development. Total nine awards in three categories including Innovative Idea Award, Project Award, and City Award were announced by Union Ministry of Housing and Urban Affairs under India Smart Cities Awards 2018.

### **Indian Railways: Now you can lodge your complaint using 'Rail MADAD' mobile app**

Railway Minister Piyush Goyal launched two mobile apps, 'Rail Madad' and 'Menu on Rails', to ease the travelling experience of the commuters.

The Rail Madad app is aimed at expediting & streamlining passenger grievance redressal while the 'Menu on Rails' app will allow passengers to check the list of meals and beverages served on all type of trains and their prices.

### **BJP, PDP split, J&K heads towards governor's rule again**

Jammu and Kashmir is heading for Governor's rule after the BJP withdrew support to the PDP-led coalition government, blaming chief minister Mehbooba Mufti for the deteriorating law and order situation. Mufti tendered her resignation to governor N.N. Vohra soon after the BJP's decision that reduced her government to a minority. Mufti's PDP has 28 MLAs in the 87-member J&K assembly and needs the support of 16 more legislators to cross the halfway mark.

### **President Ram Nath Kovind launches Solar Charkha Mission**

President Ram Nath Kovind launched the Solar Charkha Mission under which the government will disburse a subsidy of Rs 550 crore to thousands of artisans, generating employment in rural areas. Under this mission, the Ministry of Micro Small and Medium Enterprise (MSME) will cover 50 clusters and each cluster will employ 400 to 2,000 artisans.

### INDIA'S GLOBAL RANKINGS

#### **Global Peace Index 2018: India ranks 136<sup>th</sup>**

India was ranked 136th among 163 countries in Global Peace Index 2018 that was released by Sydney-based think tank Institute for Economics and Peace. In Last year's index, India was ranked 137th. 2018 GPI was twelfth edition of index since it was launched in 2006. Iceland was ranked most peaceful country in the world and it managed to retain its position since 2008.

#### **Global Real Estate Transparency Index: India ranks 35**

India was ranked 35th among 100 countries (countries) in recently released Global Real Estate Transparency Index (GRETI). The index was released by realty consultant JLL. India was ranked 36th in the index during the last bi-annual survey conducted in 2016 and 40th in 2014. Its real estate

market is currently placed in the 'semi-transparent' zone

### INTERNATIONAL

#### **G7 summit was held in Canada**

The 44th G7 summit was held on June 8–9, 2018, in La Malbaie, Quebec, Canada

#### **18th SCO summit 2018 at Qingdao, China**

Prime Minister Narendra Modi attended the Shanghai Cooperation Organisation (SCO) summit in Qingdao, China, leading the Indian-delegation for the first time since India was admitted as the newest member of the Eurasian security grouping. During the summit, PM Modi called for connectivity with neighboring nations top priority

#### **The UN quits UNHRC**

The United States under President Donald Trump administration has announced its withdrawal from United Nations Human Rights Council (UNHRC) terming it hypocritical and self-serving. It has blamed UNHRC for bias against Israel and refusing to eject members who are violators of human rights.

#### **World's first International Centre for Humanitarian Forensics launched in Gandhinagar, Gujarat**

The world's first International Centre for Humanitarian Forensics was launched in Gandhinagar, Gujarat. The centre is joint venture of Regional delegation of International Committee of Red Cross (ICCR) in India, Bhutan, Nepal and Maldives and also Gujarat Forensic Science University.

#### **US slaps 25% tariff on \$50 billion worth of Chinese goods**

United States has slapped stiff 25% tariff on US \$50 billion worth of Chinese goods. It has accused China of intellectual property (IP) theft and unfair trade practices. This decision has triggered full-fledged trade war between world's two largest economies.

#### **Giuseppe Conte was sworn-in as prime minister of Italy**

Giuseppe Conte was sworn in as prime minister of Italy's new populist government after a last-ditch coalition deal ended months of political deadlock and narrowly avoided snap elections in the eurozone's third largest economy.

#### **Pedro Sanchez was sworn in as Spanish PM**

Pedro Sanchez was sworn in after success of a motion of no confidence against former PM Mariano Rajoy

#### **Abdel Fattah al-Sisi was sworn in as the PM of Egypt**

The President was sworn-in for a second four-year term in office as the country faces major economic and security challenges

### AEROSPACE AND DEFENCE

#### **Dhanush, India's first indigenous long-range artillery gun ready for induction**

India's first indigenous, long-range artillery gun "Dhanush" has passed its final test at Pokhran, paving the way for its induction into the Army. Dhanush is a 155mm x 45mm calibre artillery gun and is also called the "desi Bofors".

#### **ISRO to transfer lithium ion cell technology to industries for mass production**

ISRO's rocket sciences arm Vikram Sarabhai Space Centre decided to transfer its own in-house lithium ion (Li ion) cell technology to successful Indian industries and start-ups on non-exclusive basis in automobiles for Rs. 1 crore. The initiative aims to accelerate development of indigenous electric vehicle (EV) industry and reduce dependence of imported lithium ion cell technology.

#### **SpaceX rocket launched a powerful communications satellite named SES**

SpaceX launched a Falcon-9 rocket from the Cape Canaveral Air Force Station in Florida. The rocket carried SES satellite to a Geostationary Transfer Orbit. SES satellite will allow telephone companies,

mobile network operators & internet service providers to deliver more reliable cellular backhaul & faster broadband.

### **EPIC planet: Indian PRL scientists discover new planet**

Scientists from Physical Research Laboratory, Ahmedabad have discovered for first time distant planet revolving around Sun-like star. Both the planet and the star have been named EPIC. With this discovery India joins handful of countries which have discovered planets around stars. The EPIC planet is six times bigger than Earth and revolves around host about 600 light years away.

### **CORPAT: India, Bangladesh navies institute annual coordinated patrol**

India and Bangladesh have agreed to institute Coordinated Patrol (CORPAT) as an annual exercise between navies of two neighbouring countries. The first edition of CORPAT between two navies was inaugurated by Indian Navy's Chief Admiral Sunil Lanba during his visit to Bangladesh. The aim Navy Chief's visit was to consolidate bilateral defence relations between India and Bangladesh and to explore new avenues for naval cooperation.

### **India, Japan, US: Malabar Exercise 2018 was held off coast of Guam in Philippine Sea**

Trilateral Naval Exercise Malabar 2018 between India, Japan and United States was held off the coast of Guam in Philippine Sea from June 6-15, 2018. It was 22nd edition of the naval exercise. The exercise comes at time of increased friction between China and US along with nations bordering resource rich South China Sea (SCS) as China is militarizing reclaimed islands in it to further strengthen its claim.

### **RIMPAC 2018: 26 countries including India to participate in biennial exercise in US**

The world's largest international maritime warfare exercise Rim of the Pacific (RIMPAC-2018) will see participation of 26 countries, including India. The exercise will be held from June 27 to August 2,

2018 in and around Hawaiian Islands and Southern California. Four countries Brazil, Israel, Sri Lanka and Vietnam are participating for first time. US had withdrawn invitation of Chinese navy in response to China's continued illegal militarization of islands in disputed South China Sea.

### **India to host first BIMSTEC military exercise**

India will host first military exercise of the BIMSTEC (Bay of Bengal Initiative for Multi-Sectoral Technical and Economic Cooperation) Countries in September 2018 in Pune, Maharashtra. The theme of the exercise includes counter-terrorism in semi-urban terrain and cordon and search.

### **Surya Kiran-XIII: India-Nepal joint military exercise concludes in Pithoragarh, Uttarakhand**

The thirteenth edition of India-Nepal joint military exercise was held at Pithoragarh, Uttarakhand from 30 May to 12 June 2018. The joint military exercise was aimed at further enhancing and strengthening level of defence cooperation between the two neighboring nations.

### **Hubble telescope discovered the most distant Agni 5 Missile Test Fired off Odisha Coast**

India successfully test fired its indigenously developed Agni- 5 missile on 3rd June 2018. The missile was launched from Dr Abdul Kalam Island off the Odisha coast. Agni missile is a surface to surface missile and is launched with the help of mobile launcher of the Integrated Test Range at Dr Abdul Kalam Island formerly known as Wheeler Island. This is the 6th test fire of the state-of-the-art Agni 5 missile.

## SPORTS

### **India's Sunil Chhetri becomes joint second highest international goal scorer**

India's talismanic football team captain Sunil Chhetri became joint second highest international goal scorer among active players along with Argentine superstar footballer Lionel Messi. He achieved this feat after he scored his 64th goal in

match between India and Kenya in Intercontinental Cup summit clash in Mumbai, Maharashtra. In this match, Chhetri scored two goals.

### **2018 FIFA world cup in inaugurated in Moscow (Russia)**

FIFA World Cup 2018 is scheduled to take place in Russia. Its official mascot is Zabivaka means “the one who scores” in Russian, a very suitable name for this wolf who radiates fun, charm and confidence. The tournament involves 32 national teams. Russia won the inaugural match 5-0 against Saudi Arabia.

### **Sebastian Vettel takes 50th win and F1 championship lead in Canada**

Sebastian Vettel claimed the 50th win of his career and reclaimed the lead of 2018 world championship when he ended Lewis Hamilton’s run of supremacy at the Canadian Grand Prix.

### **Mitali Raj became the first Indian to score 2000 T20I runs**

Indian cricketer Mitali Raj became the first Indian to score 2000 runs in T20I cricket. She achieved the feat during India's Women's T20 Asia Cup match against Sri Lanka in Kuala Lumpur.

### **Afghanistan cricket team makes test match debut**

Afghanistan embarked on a new journey in their cricket history as they made their Test debut against India in the historic one-off Test at the M Chinnaswamy Stadium on 14th June 2018.

### **Rafael Nadal won 11th French Open title by beating Dominic Thiem**

Rafael Nadal is the only second player in history to win same Grand Slam on 11 occasions after Margaret Court, who won 11 Australian Open titles between 1960 & 1973

### **The US, Mexico and Canada win joint bid for 2026 World Cup, topping Morocco in FIFA vote**

The US, Canada and Mexico were awarded the right to host the 2026 World Cup, returning the world’s most popular sports competition to North America for the first time since 1994.

### **Rahul Dravid was inducted in ICC Hall of Fame**

Cricketer Rahul Dravid, also called The Wall, is the fifth Indian cricketer to join the list. He joined the club of Kapil Dev, Sunil Gavaskar, Bishan Singh Bedi and Anil Kumble as the members of the Indian ICC Hall of Fame members. Former Australia captain Ricky Pointing was also inducted into ICC Hall of Fame.

### **Aaron Finch: Australia captain hits 172 against Zimbabwe for new record T20 international score**

Australia captain Aaron Finch broke his own record for the highest Twenty20 international score by hitting 172 from 76 balls against Zimbabwe in Harare.

## AWARDS & HONORS

### **BCCI awards announced for 2016-17 and 2018-19 Season**

The BCCI Awards recognise and honours the top domestic and international cricketers across all age groups.

#### **2016-17 Season**

Col CK Nayudu Lifetime Achievement Award – Pankaj Roy  
 BCCI Lifetime Achievement Award For Women – Diana Edulji (Declined)  
 BCCI Special Award – Abbas Ali Baig and Naren Tamhane  
 Polly Umrigar Award – Virat Kohli  
 Best International Cricketer - Women – Harmanpreet Kaur

#### **2017-18 Season**

Col CK Nayudu Lifetime Achievement Award – Anshuman Gaekwad  
 BCCI Lifetime Achievement Award For Women – Sudha Shah  
 BCCI Special Award – Budhi Kunderan  
 Polly Umrigar Award – Virat Kohli  
 Best International Cricketer - Women – Smriti Mandhana

### **The 'World's Highest-Paid Athletes 2018' list topped by Mayweather**

American boxing champion Floyd Mayweather topped the list. Virat was the only Indian in the list, ranked 83rd with earnings of USD 24 million

### **Kendrick Lamar received Pulitzer Prize in Music**

Kendrick Lamar received Pulitzer Prize in music for album "Damn." Lamar is the first rapper in history to be given the award. Previous recipients included Bob Dylan, Hank Williams and Duke Ellington

### **World Food Prize 2018 awarded to Lawrence Haddad and Dr. David Nabarro**

The World Food Prize 2018 was awarded to Lawrence Haddad and Dr. David Nabarro for their individual but complementary global leadership in elevating maternal and child undernutrition within food security. The World Food Prize is most prominent global award for individuals whose breakthrough achievements alleviate hunger and promote global food security. This year's \$250,000 prize will be divided equally between two recipients.

### **Winners of IIFA Awards 2018**

Best Film - Tumhari Sulu

Best Director - Saket Chaudhary – Hindi Medium

Best Actor In A Leading Role (Male) - Irrfan Khan – Hindi Medium

Best Actor In A Leading Role (Female) - Late Sridevi – Mom

Best Actor In Supporting Role (Male) - Nawazuddin Siddiqui – Mom

Best Actor In Supporting Role (Female) - Meher Vij – Secret Superstar

### PERSONALITIES

### **The government appointed MK Jain as the deputy governor of the RBI**

IDBI Bank MD Mahesh Kumar Jain was appointed as a Deputy Governor of RBI in place of S.S. Mundra, who had completed his three-year term in July last year.

### **A R Rahman appointed as Brand Ambassador of the Sikkim government**

Sikkim Government has appointed renowned music composer AR Rahman as Brand Ambassador of the State for a year. In his new role, he will promote and project Himalayan state's achievements nationally and globally. Earlier Rahman was made state's Brand Ambassador of tourism and business.

### **YES Bank re-appoints Rana Kapoor as MD & CEO for 3 years**

Private sector lender YES Bank has re-appointed Rana Kapoor as MD & CEO of the bank for a period of three years. The decision was taken at the 14th annual general meeting of the shareholders of the bank.