

Current Affairs

1. Piyush Goyal To Take Over Finance Ministry, Smriti Irani Moved Out Of I&B



i. In the Cabinet rejig, Piyush Goyal to take additional charge as Finance Minister until Finance Minister Arun Jaitley is under treatment. Smriti Irani to handle only the Ministry of Textiles and Rajvardhan Rathore has been given the charge of Information and Broadcasting Ministry.

2. 4 States Ink MoUs With Centre On Health Protection Mission



i. The states of Himachal Pradesh, Jammu and Kashmir, Haryana and Uttarakhand agreed to implement the ambitious national health protection mission, which aims to provide an annual coverage of Rs 5 lakh per family. The four states and the Union Territory of Chandigarh inked MoUs with the Union Health Ministry for the implementation of Ayushman Bharat-Pradhan Mantri Rashtriya Swasthya Suraksha Mission.

ii. Union Health Minister J P Nadda presided over the MoU signing ceremony at a regional workshop for northern states in Shimla, Himachal Pradesh.

Static/Current Takeaways Important for Dena Bank PO Exam 2018-

- PMSSY was announced in 2003.
- Jagat Prakash Nadda is a member of Rajya Sabha from Himachal Pradesh.

3. President Kovind Inaugurates Global Exhibition On Services- 2018



- i. President Ram Nath Kovind has inaugurated the 4th edition of Global Exhibition on services in Mumbai. He has also released the logo for Services and launched the portal.
- ii. 25 Indian states and around 100 countries are expected to participate in Global Exhibition on Services, this year, with 625 exhibitors and 500 overseas delegates.

4. IIM-Ahmedabad Launches Bharat Inclusive Initiative



- i. IIM-Ahmedabad's Centre for Innovation, Incubation and Entrepreneurship (CIIE) has launched a Bharat Inclusion Initiative to build knowledge and foster innovation and entrepreneurial activity across areas such as financial inclusion, livelihood, education and health. CIIE at IIM Ahmedabad helps entrepreneurs turn ideas into viable businesses.
- ii. The initiative will aim at channelizing approximately \$25 million over the next 3-4 years towards backing game-changing start-ups, leveraging the ongoing digital transformation in India, to create access to services that were hitherto inaccessible for a large segment of Indians.

Economy/Business/Finance

5. Retail Inflation Surges To 4.58%, WPI At 4-Month High In April



i. The first month of the current financial year has brought some bad news on the inflation front with both retail (Consumer Price Index or CPI) and producer (Wholesale Price Index or WPI) inflation showing a surge raising the possibility of a policy rate hike by the Reserve Bank in the near future.

ii. A statement issued by the Ministry of Statistics and Programme Implementation revealed that an increase in fruit and vegetable prices, coupled with egg prices, has pushed CPI to 4.58 percent in April, from 4.28 percent in March. The Consumer Food Price Index, however, was a tad lower at 2.8 percent in April, from 2.81 percent in March. The latest number has put a break on the slide in CPI since January this year.

6. Foxconn Unit Writes Off Another \$40 Million In Snapdeal Investment



i. FIH Mobile, the investment subsidiary of Foxconn Technology Group, the world's largest contract manufacturing giant, has written off an additional \$40 million of its \$200 million bet on Gurgaon-based online marketplace Snapdeal.

ii. The latest write-down comes about nine months after the Hong Kong-listed unit of the Apple iPhone manufacturer announced that it had undertaken an impairment loss of \$160 million. In its 2017 annual report, FIH Mobile has stated the company had come to the view that its entire \$200 million investment in Jasper Infotech, first announced in September 2015, cannot be recovered.

7. Bharti Airtel Completes Acquisition Of Telenor India



i. The government has approved the merger of the local unit of Norway's Telenor with Bharti Airtel, clearing the last hurdle for the deal to go through. The Department of Telecom (DoT) had transferred all licences and liabilities of Telenor India to Bharti Airtel.

ii. Airtel will begin integrating Telenor India's operations across seven circles- Andhra Pradesh, Bihar, Maharashtra, Gujarat, UP (East), UP (West) and Assam.

Miscellaneous

8. WHO Launches 'REPLACE' To Eliminate Trans Fat In Foods By 2023



i. The World Health Organization (WHO) has launched a comprehensive plan to eliminate industrially-produced artificial trans fats from the global food supply by 2023. WHO calls on governments to use the 'REPLACE' action package to eliminate industrially-produced trans-fatty acids from the food supply.

ii. Elimination of trans fats is key to protecting the health and saving lives. The global health body estimates that every year, trans fat intake leads to over 5,00,000 deaths worldwide from cardiovascular diseases.

Static/Current Takeaways Important for Bank of India Exam 2018-

- The World Health Organization is a specialized agency of the United Nations that is concerned with international public health.
- WHO began when our Constitution came into force on 07th April 1948.
- Tedros Adhanom Ghebreyesus is the Director General of the World Health Organization.

9. International Day Of Families: 15 May



- i. The International Day of Families is observed on the 15th of May every year. In 1993, the General Assembly of United Nations decided that 15 May of every year should be observed as The International Day of Families.
- ii. This day provides an opportunity to promote awareness of issues relating to families and to increase the knowledge of the social, economic and demographic processes affecting families. This year (2018), the theme for the event is 'Families and inclusive societies'.

Obituaries

10. Actor Who Played Lois Lane In Superman Dead At 69



- i. The actor Margot Kidder, best known for playing Lois Lane in the Superman films in the 1970s and 1980s, has died at the age of 69, a funeral home in Montana, US.
- ii. Canadian-born Kidder also appeared in the movie The Great Waldo Pepper and the 2014 children's TV series R.L. Stine's The Haunting Hour, for which she won an Emmy award.

11. Important Cabinet Approvals- 16th May 2018



i. The Union Cabinet **chaired by Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi** has given the following set of approvals. The important Cabinet Approvals are given as follows-

ii. **The Cabinet has approved-**

1. MoU between **India and France** on Technical Cooperation in the field of railways.
2. MoU between **India and Morocco** in the legal field.

[Find The Complete List Here](#)

12. Smriti Irani Chairs Meeting of Stakeholders on 'Samarth'- Scheme In Delhi



i. A meeting of stakeholders on '**Samarth**' – **Scheme for Capacity Building in Textile Sector** under the Skill India Mission was held in New Delhi to familiarize the stakeholders about the scheme and its guidelines. **The meeting was chaired by Union Minister of Textiles, Smriti Zubin Irani.**

ii. The broad objective of the new scheme is to skill the youth for gainful and sustainable employment in the textile sector covering the entire value chain of textiles, excluding spinning and weaving.

iii. The scheme targets to train 10 lakh persons (9 lakh in organised and 1 lakh in traditional sector) over a period of 3 years (2017-20), with an outlay of Rs. 1300 crore.

13. India Unveils National Wind-Solar Hybrid Policy



i. In yet another effort to boost clean energy generation, the **Ministry of New and Renewable Energy (MNRE)** unveiled a **National Wind-solar Hybrid Policy** which seeks to promote new projects as well as hybridisation of the existing ones.

ii. Under the scheme, the government would bid out wind-solar hybrid projects on tariff-based competitive bidding and these projects can be set up anywhere across the country depending on feasibility and land availability with bidders.

Static/Current Takeaways Important for NABARD Grade-A Exam 2018-

- **Raj Kumar Singh** is the Minister of State (I/C) of the Ministry of New and Renewable Energy.

14. CIPAM-DIPP Organizes a Conference on National IPR Policy



- i. **The Cell for IPR Promotion and Management (CIPAM)**, a professional body under the aegis of the **Department of Industrial Policy & Promotion (DIPP)**, Ministry of Commerce & Industry, had organized a conference on successful completion of two years of the **National Intellectual Property Rights (IPR) Policy** adopted by the Government of India in May 2016 in New Delhi.
- ii. Suresh Prabhu, Minister of Commerce and Industry and Civil Aviation, launched the IP Mascot at the event. In this context, an anti-piracy video featuring Mr Amitabh Bachchan was also launched at the event.

Static/Current Takeaways Important for NABARD Grade-A Exam 2018-

- The National IPR Policy is a vision document that aims to create and exploit synergies between all forms of intellectual property (IP), concerned statutes and agencies.

15. India Released Grant of NRs 18.07 crore to Nepal For River Training



- i. **India has released grant of Nepalese Rupees (NRs) 18.07 crore** for river training and construction of embankments along **Lalbakeya, Bagmati and Kamla rivers in Nepal**. Indian Ambassador to Nepal **Manjeev Singh Puri** handed over a cheque of the grant to **Dr Sanjay Sharma**, Secretary Ministry of Energy, Irrigation & Water Resources, Nepal **in Kathmandu**.
- ii. The river training and embankment work in the Lalbakeya, Bagmati and Kamla rivers in Nepal aimed at **flood control and water resources management**, which benefit several million people inhabiting in the watershed of these rivers in India and Nepal.

