

CURRENT AFFAIRS 20 MAY 2016

INTERNATIONAL

1. Govt Sets up FRBM committee on fiscal deficit range

- ❖ The Union Government has constituted a five member committee to comprehensively review and give recommendations on the Fiscal Responsibility and Budget Management (FRBM) road map for the future.

NATIONAL

2. India successfully test fires its indigenously developed Prithvi-II missile

India has successfully blasted off its indigenously developed nuclear capable Prithvi-II missile as part of a user trial by the army from a launch complex-3 of the Integrated Test Range (ITR) at Chandipur in Odisha.

- ❖ The Missile have a strike range of 350 km also capable of carrying 500 kg to 1,000 kg of warheads and is thrustured by liquid propulsion twin engines also ninemetre-tall. It uses advanced inertial guidance system with manoeuvring trajectory to hit its target.
- ❖ DRDO developed Prithvi is India's first indigenously-built ballistic missile.

Instant Review

Prithvi II Missile was test fired from: Chandipur, Odisha

Range of Prithvi II Missile: 350 KM

3. World's largest Single Rooftop Solar Power Plant inaugurated in Amritsar

World's largest single rooftop stretch of 42 acre solar power plant of 11.5 Mw capacity was installed in India

- ❖ It was inaugurated by New & Renewable Energy Resources Minister of Punjab Bikram Singh Majithia at Beas in Punjab.
- ❖ Mandalay Bay Resort Convention Centre, Las Vegas in the United States is next biggest solar photovoltaic power station

Instant Review

World's largest single rooftop solar power plant is inaugurated in: Punjab

What is the capacity of World's largest single rooftop solar power plant: 11.5 MW

4. Trial run of Delhi Metro's new 'driver-less' train begins

The country's first driverless-metro train was tested on track in the capital, equipped to run on Unattended Train Operations mode.

- ❖ The train was flagged off by Urban Development Minister Venkaiah Naidu and Delhi Chief Minister Arvind Kejriwal at new Mukundpur depot.
- ❖ The trial run started at the Mukundpur depot and ended at Majalis Park station on the Majlis Park-Shiv Vihar corridor.

Instant Review

Which Metro has conducted driverless a trial Run recently: Delhi Metro

TRADE / BANKING

5. Govt opens Tatkal window for faster patents to startups

Union government has opened a Tatkal window to fastrack patent proposals. Start-ups by new applicants that fills the criteria allowed to use this route for obtaining faster clearances.

- ❖ By March 2018 the government also plans to significantly cut down the time period for granting of patents to one-and-a-half years from the existing five to seven years.
- ❖ This makes entities can choose the fast track for obtaining patent by paying additional fees if • they select India as International Search Authority or International Preliminary Examining Authorities and file their applications in India first.

v. The application fees for individuals and start-ups have been kept at Rs 8,000 while for companies, it could be as much as Rs 60,000.

Instant Review

Window for faster patent of Startups: Tatkal

IACE – INDIAN ACADEMY OF COMPETITIVE EXAMS

6. Associate banks to merge with SBI

Country's largest lender State Bank of India has planned to merge its five associate banks and also to merge Bharatiya Mahila Bank. All six are state owned.

- ❖ The five associate banks have a collective advances base of Rs.3.78 trillion and a deposit base of Rs.5.03 trillion.
- ❖ While the BMB was created in 2013 by the UPA government, particularly to cater to women's lending needs based in Delhi.
- ❖ The Banks to be merged with the SBI are,
 1. State Bank of Bikaner and Jaipur,
 2. State Bank of Hyderabad,
 3. State Bank of Mysore,
 4. State Bank of Patiala,
 5. State Bank of Travancore,
 6. Bharatiya Mahila Bank Limited.

State Bank of India

Headquarters: Mumbai

Founded: July 1, 1955

Chairperson: Arundhati Bhattacharya

Instant Review

Associate banks of SBI are to be merged with: SBI

Which, other than associate banks is going to merge into SBI: Bhartiya Mahila Bank

7. Ola signs MoU with govt. to benefit 'Safai Karamcharis'

Cab aggregator Ola has signed a MoU with National Safai Karamcharis Finance and Development Corporation (NSKFDC) to focus on building a sustainable framework by supporting entrepreneurship, skill development training and self-defence courses for Safai Karamcharis and Scavengers.

- ❖ This partnership has the potential to generate synergies that will result in a better future for driver entrepreneurs by creating sustainable careers and livelihoods for them.
- ❖ This initiative is in line with Ola's mission to up-skill drivers and create an ecosystem that is conducive for them to grow as entrepreneurs belonging to the families of Safai Karamcharis.

Instant Review

Which company has signed MoU with govt. to benefit 'Safai Karamcharis': Ola Cabs

8. Google launches group-sharing app Spaces on iOS, Android

Google launches Group-Sharing App Spaces to let out users easily share content and commentary, group-messaging style, on any topics they wish.

- ❖ With this it is simple to find and share articles, videos and images without leaving the app, since Google Search, YouTube, and Chrome come built on.
- ❖ With new Spaces App someone shares something new to a space, the conversational view lets you see what the group is talking about without missing a beat on Android, iOS, desktop, and mobile web for all Gmail accounts.

Instant Review

Name of group sharing app by Google: Spaces

AWARDS

9. England cricketer Joe Root bags top three England cricket awards and awarded ODI Cricketer of the Year

Eminent England Cricket Batsman Joe Root has been honored with England's Test and One Day International Cricketer of the year during England Cricket Board Annual Awards

- ❖ Root clinched the award beating Stuart Broad and Ben Stokes in test while Jos Butler and David Willey in Limited overs.

Instant review

Which English player has won Cricketer of the year award at England Cricket Board Annual Awards: Joe Root

10. Syamantak Payra wins Intel Foundation Young Scientist Award

- ❖ Indian American from Texas Syamantak Payra (15-year) has won the \$50,000 Intel Foundation Young Scientist Award.

***** ALL THE BEST *****