

CURRENT AFFAIRS 21 APRIL 2016

INTERNATIONAL

1. Dharmendra Pradhan Visit of to Bangladesh

Petroleum and Natural Gas Minister Dharmendra Pradhan visited Bangladesh. During his visit he discussed all bilateral issues relating to hydrocarbon sector between the two countries.

- ❖ New Delhi based Indian Oil Corporation has inked an MoU with Bangladesh Petroleum Corporation to scrutinize the possibility of jointly working on setting up a LPG (Liquefied petroleum gas) import terminal at Chittagong port and other downstream infrastructure in that country.
- ❖ The minister's discussions with his counterpart authorities focused on laying a Chittagong-Tripura pipeline.
- ❖ Bangladesh is likewise signing up Indian engineering consultancy firm Engineers India• Ltd as consultants for extension of the Eastern Refinery.

Bangladesh

- ✓ Capital : Dhaka
- ✓ Currency : Taka
- ✓ Prime Minister : Sheikh Hasina
- ✓ President : Abdul Hamid

2. Finance Minister Arun Jaitley visit to US

Union Finance Minister Arun Jaitley on a 10-day itinerary to the US to attend the Spring Meetings of the International Monetary Fund and World Bank, a UN session on the drugs problem, and an interaction with American investors.

- ❖ He was accompanied by Reserve Bank of India Governor Raghuram Rajan and Chief Economic Advisor Arvind Subramanian and some Indian Delegations.
- ❖ FM Arun Jaitley will addresses World Bank in Washington
- ❖ Sixth Annual Ministerial Meeting of India- US Economic and Financial Partnership (EFP)
- ❖ G20 Finance Ministers and Central Bank Governors Meeting

NATIONAL

3. Harsha Vardhan launches Twinning Network Program in Kohima

Union Minister for Science and Earth Sciences Harsh Vardhan launched the Twinning Network Program under Department of Biotechnology in Kohima today.

4. President Pranab Mukherjee presents Hindi SeviSamman for 2012 – 12

President Pranab Mukherjee presented the Hindi SeviSamman for the year 2012, 2013 and 2014.

5. India's trade deficit declines 5.07 billion dollars in March

India's trade deficit touched 5.07 billion dollars in March from February's 6.54 billion. It is attributed to fall in global crude oil prices. On year on year basis, the deficit was down to 118.46 billion dollars from 137.69 billion.

6. PM Modi inaugurates Shri Mata Vaishno Devi Narayana super-specialty hospital in Katra

Prime Minister Narendra Modi inaugurated a 230 bedded Shri Mata Vaishno Devi Narayana Super specialty Hospital in Katra in Jammu and Kashmir.

- ❖ For the hospital operation the board has entered into an agreement with Narayana Hrudayalaya Ltd, Bangalore that operates 32 hospitals across the country.

TRADE / BANKING

7. India and Mauritius sign MoU to promote cooperation in the field of Traditional Medicine and Homoeopathy

Union Government inks Memorandum of Understanding with Mauritius for the following advantages

- ❖ Traditional system of Medicine and Homeopathy
- ❖ Exchange of Experts, Supply of traditional medicinal substances
- ❖ Joint research and Development
- ❖ Recognition of the traditional systems of health and Medicine

Mauritius

- ✓ Capital : Port Louis
- ✓ Currency : Rupee
- ✓ Prime Minister : Anerood Jugnauth
- ✓ President : Ameenah Gurib

IACE – INDIAN ACADEMY OF COMPETITIVE EXAMS

8. Govt. release commemorative coins to mark Tatya Tope Martyrdom Day

The NDA Government released a Rs.200 commemorative coin and a Rs.10 circulation coin on the occasion of the Martyrdom day of Tatya Tope, one of the outstanding Indian leaders of the 1857 revolt against the British.

9. RBL becomes first private sector bank to open dedicated branch for Startups

RBL Bank launches Bengaluru branch exclusively for startups. The dedicated branch will assist entrepreneurs in setting up new companies and offer banking services like foreign exchange, remittances and cash management.

- ❖ It will also provide a range of value added services including registration, legal and tax formalities through its affiliates and partners.

10. Morgan Stanley downgrades Bank of Baroda and ICICI Bank

Morgan Stanley downgraded India's biggest private sector bank ICICI as well as state-run Bank of Baroda, citing rising concerns about Non-Performing Assets(NPA).

- ❖ These banks will have to provide more money to cover for NPAs in the current and next fiscal year.

Morgan Stanley

- ✓ CEO: James P. Gorman
- ✓ Headquarters: New-York

11. World Bank Group to invest 2.5 billion US Dollars in Education Projects.

World Bank Group President Jim Yong Kim announced that the World Bank Group will invest 2.5 billion US dollars over 5 years in education projects that directly benefit adolescent girls.

AWARDS

12. Djokovic, Serena bag top honours at Laureus World Sports awards

Serbia, Novak Djokovic won "Sportsman of the year" Trophy for the third continuous victory

- ❖ Serena Williams also bagged the Women's top honour "Sportswoman of the year" for the third time.

APPOINTMENT

13. PCB appoints Inzamam-ul-Haq as new chief selector

Former Pakistan captain Inzamam-ul-Haq appointed as the head of the new selection committee of the Pakistan Cricket Board (PCB)

- ❖ Inzamam, who replaces former batsman HaroonRasheed.
- ❖ He was the Afghanistan cricket team coach for the past six months\

14. India's Durga Thakur Promoted as International Hockey Umpire

International Hockey Federation has promoted Durga Thakur of India as the international outdoor umpire. FIH's list currently has 14 Indians in the elite league of international umpires (10 men, 4 women).

- ❖ Thakur started her career as an umpire from the third Hockey India Sub-Junior Men & Women National Championship.
- ❖ She is a graduate of NSNIS in 2011 her first international assignment came in 2015 at the double six-Nation Cup in Breda, Netherlands

SPORTS

15. Hockey India decides to withdraw from Sultan of Johor Cup

Hockey India has decided to withdraw the National junior team from the sixth edition of annual Sultan of Johor Cup (SOJC) to be held from October 31 to November 6 in Johor Bahru, citing injury concerns.