

CURRENT AFFAIRS



BANK NAUKRI

CAC – 16th August 2017:

NATIONAL

India to Host Next Steering Committee Meeting of TAPI Gas Pipeline

India (New Delhi) will host the next steering committee meeting of the proposed 1,814 kilometre-long Turkmenistan-Afghanistan-Pakistan-India (TAPI) gas pipeline senior officials on both sides confirmed. The decision came during the sixth joint Inter-Governmental Committee (IGC) meeting on trade, economic, scientific and technological cooperation. The meeting was followed by a meeting between visiting Deputy Prime Minister and Foreign Minister of Turkmenistan Rashid Meredov and Minister of State for Petroleum and Natural Gas Dharmendra Pradhan.

Pro Tip:

TAPI – Turkmenistan-Afghanistan-Pakistan-India

TAPI natural gas pipeline being developed by the Asian Development Bank (ADB).

Minister of State for Petroleum and Natural Gas – Dharmendra Pradhan

Constituency – Bihar, Rajya Sabha

Asian Development Bank HQ – Mandaluyong, Metro Manila, Philippines

President of ADB – Takehiko Nakao

Narendra Modi has launched a website to honour all the gallantry award winners

Prime Minister Narendra Modi has launched a website to honour all the gallantry award winners since Independence. The portal will preserve and tell the stories of bravest men and women, civilians as well as armed forces personnel.

Pro Tip:

1st Prime Minister of India – Jawaharlal Nehru

1st Women Prime Minister of India – Indira Gandhi

Present Prime Minister of India – Narendra Modi

INTERNATIONAL

Australian state government has approved the world's biggest single tower solar thermal power plant

Australian state government has approved the world's biggest single tower solar thermal power plant, a 150-megawatt structure to be built in South Australia by 2020. Solar thermal technology uses mirrors to concentrate the Sun's light at the top of a tower. This heats the stored molten salt and the heat is then used to operate steam turbines. The Aurora Solar Energy Project will be built and managed by Solar Reserve company.

Pro Tip:

Country – Australia

Capital – Canberra

Currency – Australian Dollar

Norway has the fastest mobile Internet in the world, report by broadband testing Ookla

According to global leader in broadband testing Ookla, Norway has the fastest mobile Internet in the world. The Netherlands and Hungary are ranked number two and three on the list of the world's fastest mobile networks. In only 13 months, Norway has jumped from 11th to first place on the list of world best providers of fast Internet connection.

Pro Tip:

1st – Norway (capital – Oslo, currency – Norwegian krone)

2nd – Netherlands (capital – Amsterdam, currency – Euro)

3rd – Hungary (capital – Budapest, currency – Hungarian forint)

China halts iron, iron ore and seafood imports from North Korea

China halts iron, iron ore and seafood imports from North Korea, following through on new UN sanctions over its ally's nuclear program. The United Nations Security Council, including permanent member Beijing, approved tough sanctions against Pyongyang that could cost the country \$1 billion a year. China, which is suspected of failing to enforce past UN measures, accounts for 90% of North Korea's trade.

Pro Tip:

Country – North Korea

Capital – Pyongyang

Currency – North Korean won

Kim Jong-un is the Supreme Leader of North Korea

Melbourne (in Australia) has been named world's most liveable city

Melbourne (in Australia) has been named world's most liveable city for a record seventh year in a row, according to the Economist Intelligence Unit's Global Liveability Report 2017. Melbourne scored an overall rating of 97.5 out of 100 on the liveability index. Damascus in Syria was deemed the world's worst among the 140 cities surveyed. It is the first time in the survey's 15-year history that a city has held the No 1 rank in its own right for seven consecutive years. Vienna (in Austria) and Vancouver (in Canada) were on 2nd and 3rd Positions, respectively.

Pro Tip:

1st city – Melbourne (Australia)

2nd city – Vienna (Austria)

3rd city – Vancouver (Canada)

Austria (capital – Vienna, currency – Euro)

Canada (capital – Ottawa, currency – Canadian Dollar)

Earth's Largest Volcanic Region Discovered in Antarctica

The largest volcanic region on Earth, with nearly 100 volcanoes, has been discovered two km below the surface of the vast ice sheet in West Antarctica. Researchers from the University of Edinburgh in Britain found a staggering 91 previously unknown volcanoes, adding to the 47 others. These newly discovered volcanoes range in height from 100 to 3,850 meters, with the highest almost as tall as Switzerland's 3,970 meters Eiger mountain. These active peaks are concentrated in a region known as the West Antarctic rift system.

BANKING & ECONOMY

ICICI Prudential Mutual Fund has launched a new website 'PlanYourGoal.com'

ICICI Prudential Mutual Fund has launched a new website 'PlanYourGoal.com' to help users plan their investments according to their future financial goals. The website guides the users to plan their big spends, tax investments as well as the corpus required during retirement. The website also provides recommendations based on calculations.

Pro Tip:

Headquarters of ICICI – Mumbai
CEO – Chanda Kochhar

APPOINTMENT

Santosh Sharma has Appointed as CMD of Hindustan Copper Limited

Santosh Sharma has appointed as Chairman and Managing Director of Hindustan Copper Limited (HCL). He is at present Director (Operations) in the HCL. The Appointments Committee of the Cabinet (ACC) has approved his appointment to the post for a period of five years, an order issued by the Department of Personnel and Training (DoPT).

Sankara Rao has been appointed as MD & CEO of IFCI

IFCI Ltd, a government company, is set to have a new Managing Director & CEO in E Sankara Rao, who is currently Chief General Manager at India Infrastructure Finance Company Ltd (IIFCL). The Appointments Committee of Cabinet has given its nod for the Department of Financial Services (DFS) proposal to appoint Emandi Sankara Rao as Managing Director & Chief Executive Officer of IFCI Ltd. Rao's appointment will be valid for three years. Rao is also currently a director and chief executive officer at IIFCL Asset Management Company Ltd.

Pro Tip:

IFCI – Industrial Finance Corporation of India
IIFCL – India Infrastructure Finance Company Ltd

AWARD

Preethi Srinivasan receives Kalpana Chawla award

Preethi Srinivasan, the former State under-19 cricket captain, who braved a crippling accident to support those suffering from spinal cord injuries like her, was on Tuesday presented with the 'Kalpana Chawla Award for Courage and Daring Enterprise' award by Chief Minister Edappadi K. Palaniswami during the 71st Independence Day celebrations at Fort St. George in Chennai.

Pro Tip:

State – Tamil Nadu

Capital – Chennai

CM – Edappadi K. Palaniswami

Governor – Vidyasagar Rao

SPORTS

Alexander Zverev Beats Roger Federer to Win Rogers Cup

Alexander Zverev won 6-3 6-4 at the Rogers Cup to claim his second Masters 1000 title and extend his winning run to 10 matches. Zverev is the youngest Rogers Cup finalist since Novak Djokovic in 2007. Alexander Zverev and Roger Federer now have five tournament titles this year.

Pro Tip:

Winner – Alexander Zverev (Germany)

Runner – Roger Federer (Switzerland)

Country – Germany

Capital – Berlin

Currency – Euro

Country – Switzerland

Capital – Bern

Currency – Swiss Franc

Indian cricket team celebrates nation's 71st Independence Day at Pallekele, Sri Lanka

The Indian cricket team celebrated the nation's 71st Independence Day at Pallekele with captain Virat Kohli hoisting the tricolour in the presence of the entire squad. The Indian cricket team, which whitewashed hosts Sri Lanka 3-0 in the three-match Test series, is now gearing up for five ODIs and one-off Twenty20 game. The first 50-over encounter between the two teams is slated to be held in Dambulla on August 20.

Pro Tip:

Pallekele – Pallekele is a suburb of the city of Kandy in Kandy District, Sri Lanka

Country – Sri Lanka

Capital – Sri Jayawardenepura Kotte (Legislative capital), Colombo (commercial capital)

Currency – Sri Lankan Rupee