

# CURRENT AFFAIRS



## CAC – 18<sup>th</sup> August 2017:

### NATIONAL

#### HRD ministry to Conduct National Assessment Survey (NAS) for the students of class 3, 5, and 8

The Human Resource Development (HRD) Ministry has announced November 13 as the date for conducting its National Assessment Survey (NAS) for the students of class 3, 5, and 8. So far, during several rounds of the survey, a total of 4.45 lakh students have been tested for various learning outcomes. This time, approximately 30 lakh students will be assessed in the year 2017-18 making it the world's largest sample survey of student learning achievement.

*Pro Tip:*

Union minister for Human Resource Development – Prakash Javadekar  
Constituency – Madhya Pradesh, Rajya Sabha

#### Union Cabinet chaired by PM Modi Approves Completion of North Koel Reservoir Project in Jharkhand and Bihar

The Union Cabinet chaired by the Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi has given its approval to the proposal to complete the balance works of the North Koel Reservoir Project in Jharkhand and Bihar at an estimated expenditure of Rs.1622.27 crore to be incurred during three financial years from the start of the project. The Cabinet also approved storage of water in dam restricted at lower level than envisaged earlier to reduce the submergence and to protect Betla National Park and Palamau Tiger Reserve.

*Pro Tip:*

Betla National Park – Jharkhand  
Palamau Tiger Reserve – Jharkhand

#### Tata Power has become the first power utility to introduce a QR code based bill payments system in India

Tata Power has become the first power utility to introduce a QR code based bill payments system in India. The QR code linked to Unified Payments Interface (UPI) will be printed on the electricity bills. The customers can scan the QR code with BHIM app or any other UPI linked bank app and pay their bills without any hassle.

*Pro Tip:*

MD and CEO of TATA Power – Anil Sardana

### Vishal Sikka has resigned as Managing Director and Chief Executive of Infosys Ltd

Vishal Sikka of Infosys Ltd has resigned as Managing Director and Chief Executive of the company with immediate effect. U.B. Pravin Rao has been appointed as interim-managing director and chief executive. Mr. Sikka has now been appointed as executive vice-chairman of the company.

*Pro Tip:*

Interim-managing director and chief executive – U.B. Pravin Rao

Vishal Sikka has been appointed as executive vice-chairman of the company

## INTERNATIONAL

### US Declares Hizbul Mujahideen as Global Terrorist Group

The United States named Pakistan-based Hizbul Mujahideen (HM) as a Foreign Terrorist Organisation and a Specially Designated Global Terrorist group. The Hizb is one of the two most active Pakistan-based terrorist groups operating in Jammu and Kashmir, and claimed responsibility for several attacks, including the April 2014 explosives attack in Kashmir.

*Pro Tip:*

Country – United States of America

Capital – Washington D.C

Currency – US Dollar

President – Donald Trump

Vice President – Mike Pence

## BANKING, BUSINESS & ECONOMY

### Government has banned exports of gold jewellery, medallions and other articles above 22-carat purity

The government has banned exports of gold jewellery, medallions and other articles above 22- carat purity in a bid to check round tripping of the precious metal. According to the Directorate General of Foreign Trade (DGFT), certain provisions of the foreign trade policy (2015-20) are amended to allow export of gold jewellery and articles containing gold of 8 carats and above up to a maximum limit of 22 carats only from domestic tariff area and export-oriented units, electronics hardware technology parks, software technology parks and bio technology parks.

*Pro Tip:*

DGFT – Directorate General of Foreign Trade

## AGREEMENT

### Finance Ministry and the World Bank signed a \$24 Million to Enhance India's Forest Ecosystem Services

The Finance Ministry and the World Bank signed a grant agreement of \$24.64 million from the Global Environment Facility (GEF) of the World Bank for ecosystem service improvement project. The project would be financed entirely by the World Bank out of its GEF Trust Fund. The project's duration is five years. The objective of the Project is to strengthen the institutional capacity of the departments of forestry and community organizations to enhance forest ecosystem services and improve the livelihoods of forest dependent communities in central Indian highlands.

#### *Pro Tip:*

Union Finance Minister – Arun Jaitley

Constituency – Gujarat, Rajya Sabha

World Bank HQ – Washington D. C

President of World Bank – Jim Yong Kim

## SPORTS

### Young Indian shuttler Lakshya Sen Wins Bulgaria Open International Series

Young Indian shuttler Lakshya Sen clinched the Bulgaria Open International Series title after notching up a hard-fought win over Croatia's Zvonimir Durkinjak in the men's singles final in Sofia, Bulgaria. The 16-year-old shuttler defeated second seed Zvonimir 18-21 21-12 21-17 in a 57-minute match.