

# CURRENT AFFAIRS



## CAC – 3<sup>rd</sup> August 2017:

### NATIONAL

#### World Bank allowed India to construct hydroelectric power facilities on tributaries of the Jhelum and Chenab rivers

World Bank allowed India to construct hydroelectric power facilities on tributaries of the Jhelum and Chenab rivers with certain restrictions under the 1960 Indus Waters Treaty (IWT). Pakistan opposes the construction of the Kishanganga (330 megawatts) and Ratle (850 megawatts) hydroelectric power plants being built by India in Jammu and Kashmir.

#### *Pro Tip:*

World Bank HQ –Washington D.C

President –Jim Yong Kim

### INTERNATIONAL

#### The 7th Meeting of BRICS Trade Ministers held in Shanghai, China

The 7th Meeting of BRICS Trade Ministers was held in Shanghai, China. A six-member delegation led by Commerce and Industry Minister Smt. Nirmala Sitharaman. Mr. Zhong Shan, Minister of Commerce from China, presided over the meetings. Sitharaman discussed with her Chinese counterpart, Zhong Shan, the trade deficit in India-China bilateral trade which stands at \$51 billion for 2016-17 from the \$71.48 billion bilateral trade between the two countries.

#### *Pro Tip:*

Minister of state independent charge for commerce & Industry – Nirmala Sitharaman  
Constituency –Rajya Sabha, Karnataka

#### US Senate confirms Christopher Wray to lead FBI

The US Senate has confirmed Christopher Wray to lead the FBI. Christopher had replaced James Comey, who was fired by President Donald Trump.

#### *Pro Tip:*

Country – United States of America

Capital – Washington D.C

Currency –US Dollar

#### Facebook acquires AI startup to make Messenger smarter

Facebook has acquired an artificial intelligence (AI) startup Ozlo that specialises in understanding text-based conversations. However, there are no details so far about the financial terms of the deal.

### US urges Americans to leave N Korea before ban kicks in on September 1

US has urged Americans in North Korea to get out before a travel ban goes into effect on September 1. The State Department has issued a new travel warning for North Korea that reflects the Trump administration's new travel ban.

#### *Pro Tip:*

Country – North Korea

Capital – Pyongyang

Currency – North Korean won

## BANKING & ECONOMY

### SBI, Samsung collaborate to advance Digital India initiative

The State Bank of India (SBI) and Samsung India has announced the availability of Samsung Pay for higher variants of SBI debit card to advance Digital India initiative. Samsung Pay is currently available on Samsung smartphones. It enables consumers to make offline payments without the need for a physical Card. Samsung Pay works on 2.5 million Point of Sale (PoS) Card machines across the country through its Magnetic Secure Transmission (MST) technology. The Bank aimed to be the Banker to Digital India and has been at the fore-front of all digital initiatives in the banking space. Samsung Pay consumers holding eligible SBI Debit Cards can avail a flat Rs. 100 cashback on minimum transaction amount of Rs. 500.

#### *Pro Tip:*

Samsung HQ – Seoul, South Korea

## AGREEMENT

### India and Somalia signed a bilateral agreement for the transfer of sentenced persons

India and Somalia signed a bilateral agreement for the transfer of sentenced persons. The move is step forward in deepening humanitarian cooperation between the two nations. The agreement was signed between External Affairs Minister Sushma Swaraj and Foreign Minister of the Federal Republic of Somalia Yusuf Garaad Omar.

#### *Pro Tip:*

Country – Somalia

Capital – Mogadishu

Currency – Somali shilling

## Union Cabinet signed MoU with BRICS countries to set up BRICS Agriculture Research Platform (BRICS-ARP)

The Union Cabinet chaired by the Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi has given its ex-post facto approval for a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) signed among India and various BRICS countries for establishment of the BRICS Agriculture Research Platform (BRICS-ARP). During the 7th BRICS Summit held in July 2015 at Ufa in Russia, PM Modi proposed to establish BRICS Agriculture Research Centre which will be a gift to the entire world. The Centre will promote sustainable agricultural development and poverty alleviation through strategic cooperation in agriculture to provide food security in the BRICS member countries.

### *Pro Tip:*

BRICS – Brazil, Russia, India, China, South Africa  
BRICS Bank is named as New Development Bank  
New Development Bank HQ – Shanghai, China  
President – K. V. Kamath

## APPOINTMENT

### Dhirendra Swarup has been appointed as the chairman of the board of directors of the BSE

SEBI has approved the appointment of Dhirendra Swarup as the chairman of the board of directors of the BSE. Dhirendra Swarup, who was a public interest director at the BSE, replaces incumbent Sudhakar Rao. Swarup was the former Chairman of the Pension Funds Regulatory and Development Authority (PFRDA).

### *Pro Tip:*

SEBI – Securities and Exchange Board of India  
Headquarter of SEBI – Mumbai  
Chairman of SEBI – Ajay Tyagi  
BSE – Bombay Stock Exchange  
PFRDA – Pension Funds Regulatory and Development Authority

### MeitY has appointed Justice B.N Srikrishna to head committee to study issues related to data protection

The Ministry of Electronics and Information Technology (MeitY) has appointed an expert panel committee that would study various issues relating to data protection in the country and will suggest a draft data protection Bill. It is a 10 member panel and it is headed by former Supreme court Judge Justice B N Srikrishna. The committee will design a broader framework which will cover all other kinds of data and ensure that the deliberations on the issue start as soon as possible.

### *Pro Tip:*

Minister of Electronics and Information Technology – Ravi Shankar Prasad  
Constituency – Bihar, Rajya Sabha

### Peter O'Neill : Re-Elected Prime Minister of Papua New Guinea

Peter O'Neill has been reappointed as Prime Minister of Papua New Guinea. The election has been widely criticized because thousands of voters were excluded and there were blaring abuses of the electoral process.

*Pro Tip:*

Country – Papua New Guinea

Capital – Port Moresby

Currency – Papua New Guinean kina

### AWARD

### Dhanraj Pillay was honoured with the 'Bharat Gaurav' by East Bengal Football Club

Former India hockey captain Dhanraj Pillay was honoured with the 'Bharat Gaurav' by East Bengal Football Club.

### SCIENCE & TECHNOLOGY

### The Indian Army has developed a mobile application named 'Humraaz'

The Indian Army has developed a mobile application named 'Humraaz' through which serving soldiers can track details like postings and promotions. Through the app, soldiers can also view their monthly salary slips and the Form 16 and also download them. The mobile app has been developed in-house by the Army and will be launched in the second week of August for prompt communication of information to junior commissioner officers and other personnels.

*Pro Tip:*

Chief of Army Staff – Bipin Rawat

Union Minister of Defence – Arun Jaitley

Constituency – Gujarat, Rajya Sabha