

CURRENT AFFAIRS



CAC – 20th September 2017:

1. India to Conduct the First 'BIMSTEC Disaster Management Exercise- 2017'

- i. The First 'BIMSTEC Disaster Management Exercise- 2017' (BIMSTEC DMEEx-2017) will be conducted by the National Disaster Response Force (NDRF) as the lead agency from October 10-13, 2017 in Delhi and the National Capital Region (NCR).
- ii. This Exercise will be a platform for sharing Best Practices on all aspects of Disaster Risk Reduction (DRR), strengthening regional response and coordination for Disaster Management among the BIMSTEC member countries.

Pro Tip:

Delegates from all seven nations of the 'Bay of Bengal Initiative for Multi-Sectoral Technical and Economic Cooperation' (BIMSTEC) grouping will be present.

BIMSTEC - namely Bangladesh, Bhutan, India, Myanmar, Nepal, Sri Lanka and Thailand 17th BIMSTEC Senior Officials Meeting was held in Kathmandu, Nepal in February 2017.

2. Cabinet Approves Merger of 17 Govt Presses into 5 Units

- i. The Union Cabinet has given its approval for rationalization/merger and modernization of 17 Government of India Presses (GIPs)/Units into 5 Government of India Presses (GIPs) at Rashtrapati Bhavan, Minto Road, and Mayapuri, New Delhi; Nashik, Maharashtra and Temple Street, Kolkata, West Bengal.
- ii. These 5 Presses will be redeveloped and modernized by monetization of their surplus land. Modernisation of the Presses will enable them to undertake important confidential, urgent and multi-color printing work of the Central Government Offices all over the country.

3. World's Biggest Wealth Fund Hits \$1 Trillion Value for First Time

- i. Norway's sovereign wealth fund, the largest in the world, reached the value of \$1 trillion for the first time. This amount equals nearly \$189,000 (157,000 euros) for each of the 5.3 million people living in Norway.
- ii. The fund mainly invests not only in stocks but also in bonds and real estate. With stakes in nearly 9,000 companies, it owns 1.3 percent of the world's market capitalization, and 2.3 percent in Europe.

Pro Tip:

Oslo is the Capital of Norway.

The Currency of Norway is Norwegian krone.

4. Akshay Kumar Appointed Uttarakhand Swachh Bharat Mission Brand Ambassador

- i. Uttarakhand Chief Minister Trivendra Singh Rawat announced the appointment of actor Akshay Kumar as the brand ambassador of the Swachh Bharat Mission in the state.
- ii. Akshay was also appointed as the brand ambassador for the cleanliness campaign in Uttar Pradesh in August 2017 and his film "Toilet: Ek Prem Katha" was made tax-free in the state.

Pro Tip:

Dehradun is the Capital of Uttarakhand.
Krishan Kant Paul is the Governor of Uttarakhand.

5. Three Indians Among World's '100 Greatest Living Business Minds'

- i. Three Indian entrepreneurial legends, Ratan Tata, Lakshmi Mittal and Vinod Khosla have been included in Forbes's special list of the world's '100 Greatest Living Business Minds.
- ii. Some of the notable honorees alongside Blank are- Warren Buffett, Bill Gates, Jeff Bezos, Mark Zuckerberg, Ted Turner, Rupert Murdoch, Donald Trump and more.

Pro Tip:

Forbes magazine was founded 100 years ago on September 17, 1917, by B.C. Forbes.

6. India Appoints Ajay Bisaria New High Commissioner to Pakistan

- i. India's ambassador to Pakistan Gautam Bambawale will now head the Indian mission in China, while envoy to Poland Ajay Bisaria will replace him in Islamabad.
- ii. The reshuffle was necessitated by appointment of India's ambassador to China Vijay Gokhale as Secretary (Economic Relations) in MEA. Gokhale played the lead role in defusing the Doklam crisis with Beijing.

Pro Tip:

The capital of China is Beijing.
President of China is Xi Jinping.

7. Tata Steel, Thyssenkrupp Sign MoU for European Steel JV

- i. Tata Steel and Thyssenkrupp of Germany have signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) in a deal that is poised to create one of Europe's largest steel companies. The two partners have been in merger talks for more than a year.
- ii. They will form a 50:50 joint venture to create a powerful No. 2 in the European steel market. The merger will lead to substantial cost savings for both steel players.

Pro Tip:

Natarajan Chandrasekaran is the Chairman of Tata Steel.
Dr. Heinrich Hiesinger is the CEO of Thyssenkrupp.

8. BCCI Nominates MS Dhoni for Padma Bhushan Award

- i. The Indian cricket board, BCCI has nominated Mahendra Singh Dhoni for the country's third highest civilian award - the Padma Bhushan, for his contribution to the game.
- ii. A senior BCCI official confirmed that the Board has only sent one name for the Padma awards this year and it was a unanimous decision to nominate India's most successful captain.

Pro Tip:

Dhoni is already a recipient of the prestigious Arjuna, Rajeev Gandhi Khel Ratna, and the Padma Shri award.