

# CURRENT AFFAIRS



## CAC – 4<sup>th</sup> September 2017

### 1. Portfolios of the Council of Ministers | Narendra Modi Cabinet reshuffled- 9 New Faces as Ministers

#### Portfolios-of-the-Council-of-Ministers

- i. As a fresh set of ministers have been inducted into the Narendra Modi-led NDA government, the third reshuffle since 2014. Nine new ministers were into the council of ministers and four have been promoted to the Union Cabinet.
- ii. Piyush Goyal has been appointed as the Union Railway Minister after being inducted into the Union Cabinet. He replaced former Railway Minister Suresh Prabhu, who had earlier offered to resign following multiple train derailments. Further, Nirmala Sitharaman was given the Defence Ministry, becoming only the second woman to hold the post after Indira Gandhi.

### 2. 9th BRICS Summit Kicks off in Xiamen, China

- i. The 9th BRICS Summit has started in Xiamen, China with a group photograph of leaders of the five countries (Brazil, Russia, India, China, and South Africa) and was preceded by a warm handshake between Prime Minister Narendra Modi and Chinese President Xi Jinping.
- ii. Modi was the third leader to reach the convention center, venue of the 9th BRICS Summit in this port city of China and was followed by Russian president Vladimir Putin.

#### *Pro Tip:*

The theme of the 9th BRICS Summit is "Stronger Partnership for a better future".  
The 8th BRICS Summit held on 16th October 2016 at Goa, India.

### 3. China Announced \$80 Million Funding Plan for BRICS

- i. China will give 500 million yuan (\$76.4 million) for a BRICS economic and technology cooperation plan, and another \$4 million for projects at the BRICS countries' New Development Bank stated Chinese President Xi Jinping.
- ii. The announcement came amid questions over the relevance of BRICS and China's commitment to its New Development Bank (NDB) in light of the Belt and Road initiative and the China-led Asian Infrastructure Investment Bank.

#### *Pro Tip:*

The 9th BRICS Summit was held in China.  
Xi Jinping is the President of China.

### 4. Nepal Signs UN Development Assistance Plan

- i. Nepal has signed a USD 635 million UN assistance package for 2018-2022 to lay out the country's development strategy for the next five years. The package involves 26 individual UN agencies.
- ii. The National Planning Commission, apex advisory body of the Government of Nepal, and the United Nations Country Team (UNCT) in Nepal signed the United Nations Development Assistance Framework (UNDAF).

*Pro Tip:*

The Chairman of the National Planning Commission is Swarnim Wagle.  
Antonio Guterres is the Secretary-General of the United Nations.

### 5. National Nutrition Week: 1st-7th September

- i. The National Nutrition Week is observed throughout the country from 1st to 7th September. The theme of the National Nutrition Week for 2017 is "Optimal Infant & Young Child Feeding Practices: Better Child Health".
- ii. The basic objective of this annual event is to intensify awareness generation on the importance of nutrition for health which has an impact on development, productivity, economic growth and ultimately National development.

### 6. Kenneth I. Juster Named U.S Ambassador to India

- i. Kenneth I. Juster, deputy director of the National Economic Council at the White House, has been nominated as the next U.S ambassador to India.
- ii. The appointment will take effect once the U.S Senate confirms him. The post has been vacant since January 20, 2017.

*Pro Tip:*

Donald Trump is the Present and 45th President of America.

### 7. Fincare Small Finance Bank Starts Banking Operations

- i. Fincare Small Finance Bank (previously known as Disha Microfin Limited) kick-started its banking operations with about 25 operational branches across Gujarat, Tamil Nadu, Karnataka and Andhra Pradesh.
- ii. The bank was given final small finance bank (SFB) license from the Reserve Bank of India (RBI) in May 2017.

*Pro Tip:*

Rajeev Yadav is the CEO of Fincare Small Finance Bank.  
It is headquartered in Bengaluru, Karnataka.

### 8. Karnataka Gvmt Launches Unified Health Scheme 'Arogya Bhagya'

- i. Karnataka government will merge the existing seven health schemes to launch a unified health scheme- 'Arogya Bhagya'. It will cover all 1.4 crore households of the state.
- ii. The main theme of the 'Arogya Bhagya' scheme is "Treatment First and Payment Next". According to the Law Ministry, the State Cabinet had given administrative sanction for the unified schemes and it will come to effect from 1st November.

*Pro Tip:*

Siddaramaiah is the Present CM of Karnataka.  
Vajubhai Vala is the Governor of Karnataka.

### 9. Karnataka Bank Bags IDRBT Award

- i. Karnataka Bank has bagged the 'best bank' award among small banks for the use of technology for financial inclusion at the 13th IDRBT Banking Technology Excellence Awards 2016-17.
- ii. Mahabaleshwara MS, MD & CEO of the bank, received the award from Sudarshan Sen, Executive Director of RBI, in Hyderabad.

*Pro Tip:*

Karnataka Bank Headquarters in Mangaluru.  
Mr.Mahabaleshwara M.S is the MD & CEO of Karnataka Bank.

### 10. Hyderabad Airport Bags Energy Efficiency Award

- i. Hyderabad International Airport Ltd has bagged the National Award for 'Excellence' in Energy Management at a conference hosted by the Confederation of Indian Industry (CII).
- ii. The event held here focused on recognizing companies that are engaged in energy efficiency initiatives and displaying commitment towards energy conservation.

*Pro Tip:*

GMR Hyderabad International Airport Limited (GHIAL) is a company promoted as a joint venture comprising the GMR Group (63%) in partnership with Government of India (13%), Government of Telangana (13%) and Malaysia Airports Holdings Berhad (11%).

### 11. Star India Bags IPL Media Rights

- i. Star India edged out Sony Pictures to secure the Indian Premier League's media rights with a bid of Rs 16,347.50 crore. The bidding for various media rights of the cash-rich league was held in Mumbai for a five-year period from 2018-2022.
- ii. The winning bid will allow Star India to air content on their properties for a period of five years (2018-2022). The second highest bid was made by Sony, who bid Rs. 11,050 crores, for the rights. However, Sony's bid was for the Indian region only as compared to Star's bid which is global.

*Pro Tip:*

In 2008, Sony Pictures Network won the IPL media rights for a period of 10 years with a bid of Rs 8200 crore.

### 12. Mahendra Singh Dhoni, 1st Wicketkeeper to Effect 100 Stumpings

i. Former India captain Mahendra Singh Dhoni became the first wicketkeeper in world cricket to effect 100 stumpings in One Day Internationals (ODIs). Dhoni achieved the feat in his 301st ODI in Colombo, Sri Lanka.

ii. 36-year-old Dhoni has also taken 281 catches apart from scoring 9,657 runs so far. In 90 Tests, Dhoni has taken 256 catches and effected 38 stumpings. In T20 Internationals, Dhoni has taken 43 catches and affected 23 stumpings.

*Pro Tip:*

Former Sri Lankan Skipper Kumar Sangakkara is on the second position with 99 Stumpings on his name.

### 13. India, 1st Visiting Country to Inflict 5-0 Whitewash on Sri Lanka

i. India has whitewashed host Sri Lanka 5-nil in One Day International cricket series. By winning all the 5 games, India became the first visiting country to inflict a 5-0 defeat on Sri Lanka.

ii. India had, earlier, also whitewashed the 3-match Test series. Indian Captain Virat Kohli made 30th ODI hundred in his only 194th game and is now jointly second highest in list of century makers alongside Ricky Ponting with only Sachin Tendulkar (49 hundreds) ahead of him.

*Pro Tip:*

Jasprit Bumrah was named as the Player of ODI Series.

### 14. Pulitzer-Prize Winning Poet John Ashbery Passes Away

i. Pulitzer-prize winning poet John Ashbery, a post-modern American trailblazer, has passed away at age of 90 in Hudson, New York.

ii. His 1975 collection "Self-Portrait in a Convex Mirror" made history when he became the lone writer to earn three major accolades the same year for the same work: the Pulitzer in addition to a National Book Award and a National Book Critics Circle Award.

*Pro Tip:*

In 2012, Ashbery received the National Humanities Medal from then-president Barack Obama.

