

## ***National News***

### **1. I&B Minister Inaugurates EU Film Festival in New Delhi**

**i. Information and Broadcasting Minister Col Rajyavardhan Rathore** inaugurated the **European Union Film Festival at Siri Fort Auditorium in New Delhi**. The festival will improve cultural ties between India and European countries.

**ii. 24 latest European movies from 23 European countries will be screened.** The festival is organized by **Directorate of Film Festivals** under Ministry of Information and Broadcasting.

### **2. 4th Governing Council Meeting of NITI Aayog Held In Delhi**

**i. The fourth meeting of the Governing Council of NITI Aayog** was held under the chairmanship of the **PM Narendra Modi at Rashtrapati Bhavan in New Delhi**. It was attended by 23 Chief Ministers and the Lieutenant Governor of Andaman & Nicobar Islands, apart from Union Ministers, who are ex-officio members and special invitees.

**ii. The PM highlighted the importance of the Governing Council of NITI Aayog** as a platform to inspire cooperative federalism, stressing the need for effective centre-state cooperation to advance development outcomes and achieve double-digit growth for India. States were called up to fix growth targets for their economies as the world looks towards **India soon becoming a USD 5 trillion economy**.

### **Static/Current Takeaways Important for competitive exams**

- **NITI-** National Institution for Transforming India.
- **NITI Aayog Vice-Chairman-** Rajiv Kumar, **CEO-** Amitabh Kant.

### **3. 11th Common Review Mission Report Released**

**i. Ashwini Kumar Choubey, Minister of State for Health and Family Welfare** released the **11th Common Review Mission (CRM) report of the National Health Mission**.

**ii. As per the Report, India has registered a record 22% reduction in MMR** since 2013, which is the highest percentage decline so far when compared to all the previous reductions in MMR as per the earlier rounds of

SRS. **Maternal Mortality Ratio** in India has declined from 167 in 2011-2013 to 130 in 2014-2016.

## ***International News***

### **4. EAM Sushma Swaraj Embarks On 4- Nation Tour**

i. **External Affairs Minister Sushma Swaraj** has left for a 4-nation tour to **Italy, France, Luxembourg and Belgium**. On her first leg of the tour, she will visit Italy. It will be the first major political exchange between India and Italy following the swearing-in of **Mr Giuseppe Conte as Italy's new Prime Minister**.

ii. She will be in France on the second leg and will meet her counterpart, Jean-Yves Le Drian in Paris to review the bilateral relations. Mrs Swaraj will reach Luxembourg on the 3rd leg and she will be visiting Belgium on the last and 4th leg.

### **Static/Current Takeaways Important for competitive exams**

- **Italy Capital-** Rome, **Currency-** Euro.
- **France Capital-** Paris, **Currency-** Euro and cfp franc.
- **Luxembourg Capital-** Luxembourg City, **Currency-** Euro.
- **Belgium Capital-** City of Brussels, **Currency-** Euro.

### **5. World Bank Approves \$700 mn to Improve Primary Education in Bangladesh**

i. **The World Bank has approved \$700 million** to help **Bangladesh** achieve its education for all vision by improving the primary education sector.

ii. The **Quality Learning for All Program (QLEAP)** will cover more than 18 million children studying in pre-primary level to grade 5. It will also finance implementation of the government's **Fourth Primary Education Development Program (PEDP4)**.

### **Static/Current Takeaways Important for competitive exams**

- President of the World Bank- **Jim Yong Kim**.
- Headquarters of World Bank- **Washington, DC**.

### **6. Ivan Duque Wins Election to Become Colombia's President**

- i. **Colombia has chosen Ivan Duque to be its next president** after a long and divisive campaign that often centred on a controversial peace process with leftist rebels the **Revolutionary Armed Forces of Colombia (FARC)**.
- ii. Duque, who will turn 42 just before taking office will be **Colombia's youngest ever President**.

### **Static/Current Takeaways Important for competitive exams**

- He will replace **Juan Manuel Santos**.
- **Colombia** Capital- Bogota, **Currency**- Colombian peso.

### **7. US Pips India As Top Greenfield FDI Investment Destination: Report**

- i. **The U.S. has surpassed India** to become the **top destination for greenfield foreign direct investment in 2017**, according to the **FDI Report 2018**, compiled by FDI Intelligence, a division of The Financial Times Ltd. The number of greenfield FDI projects in India during the year fell sharply by 21% to 637.
- ii. India had maintained the top slot in greenfield FDI investment in 2015 and 2016. However, in 2017, the U.S. reclaimed the spot from India, recording \$87.4 billion of announced FDI. **In the Asia and Pacific region, China was on top** in terms of FDI in the total number of new projects and capital investment, followed by India.

## ***Banking News***

### **8. Muthoot Fincorp, NSDC to Train 10,000 Youth Under PMKVY**

- i. **Muthoot Fincorp Limited** announced its partnership with **National Skill Development Corporation** to train over 10,000 youth over the next three years and make them job ready.
- ii. With the partnership, Muthoot Fincorp claims to have **become the first major private sector player** to partner with **National Skill Development Corporation (NSDC)** to launch the **Pradhan Mantri Kaushal Vikas Yojana (PMKVY.2)** programme.

### **Static/Current Takeaways Important for competitive exams**

- Muthoot Fincorp Ltd. is the flagship company of Muthoot Pappachan Group and is one of the largest NBFCs in India, registered with the Reserve Bank of India.

- Thomas John Muthoot is the Group Chairman & Managing Director of Muthoot Fincorp.
- It Headquarters in Kochi, Kerala.

## ***Sports News***

### **9. Brooks Koepka Wins 2nd US Open Golf Title 2018**

- i. **American golfer Brooks Koepka** has made history and finished strong as he became **the first player in 29 years to win back-to-back US Open titles** at Shinnecock Hills in New York. The 28-year-old Florida native emerged victorious by one shot **over England's Tommy Fleetwood**.
- ii. The **World number one Dustin Johnson** finished third at plus-three on account of a 70. With this, Koepka becomes the first player since Curtis Strange in 1988-89 to win back-to-back U.S. Open events.

### **10. Roger Federer Wins 98th ATP Title in Stuttgart, Regained No. 1 Title**

- i. **Roger Federer claimed his 98th ATP title** and re-established his unrivalled superiority on grass with a victory over **Milos Raonic** in the **Stuttgart Cup final**. Top-seeded Swiss beat his Canadian opponent for the 11th time in 14 meetings while winning a first Stuttgart title.
- ii. The 36-year-old regained the world number one ranking. Federer made a return to the top ATP ranking for the sixth time. **Tim Putz and Phillip Petzschner (Germany)** won the **Men's Doubles** title after defeating **M. Matkowski (Poland) and R. Lindstedt (Sweden)**.

### **Static/Current Takeaways Important for competitive exams**

- **The Stuttgart Open** (also called the Mercedes Cup) is an ATP World Tour 250 series tennis tournament on the ATP Tour.
- Stuttgart Open was held in Germany.