

## ***National News***

### **1. India To Host European Union Film Festival**

**i. The European Union Film Festival (EUFF)** will premiere in **New Delhi** at the **Siri Fort Auditorium**. With a selection of 24 latest European films from 23 EU Member States, this year's film festival brings some unusual stories for the world cinema enthusiasts.

**ii. The European Union Film Festival is organized by Directorate of Film Festivals.** Ministry of Information and Broadcasting, Government of India partnering with the Delegation of the European Union and embassies of EU Member States in various city film clubs.

**iii.** The Festival will be inaugurated by the Hon'ble Union Minister of State for Information and Broadcasting, Mr Rajyavardhan Singh Rathore.

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

- The EU, which consists of 28 countries, has the world's largest economy and its third largest population, after China and India.

### **2. NLCIL's Three 100 MW Solar Power Projects Dedicated to the Nation**

**i.** The Union Minister for Railways, Coal, Finance & Company Affairs, Mr Piyush Goyal inaugurated **Neyveli Lignite Corporation India Limited (NLCIL)'s three 100 MW Solar Power Projects** for commercial operation and dedicated these projects to the Nation in Tamil Nadu.

**ii.** The Solar Power projects were erected at a cost of Rs.1300 Crores, which includes Operation & Maintenance cost for 15 Years.

**iii.** An MoU was also signed by NLCIL and Anna University. The MoU would help set up a pilot project on solar drying of lignite, in order to increase its Caloric Value from 2700 Kcal to 4350 Kcal. The cost of the pilot project is Rs.2 Crore 69 Lakhs.

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

- NLCIL is a 'Navratna' profit-making, Government of India Enterprise engaged in mining of lignite and generation of power through lignite based thermal power plants.
- NLCIL was established by Gol in 1956, following the discovery of lignite deposits in Neyveli, Tamil Nadu.

### **3.20 States Sign MoU For Implementing Ayushman Bharat - NHP Mission**

- i. Mr J P Nadda, Union Minister of Health and Family Welfare** exchanged the MoU with the State Health Ministers of 20 States marking their commitment towards the launch of the **Ayushman Bharat – National Health Protection Mission (AB-NHPM)**.
- ii.** Smt. Anupriya Patel, Ministers of State for Health and Family Welfare and Amitabh Kant, CEO NITI Aayog were also present at the function. A web portal for initiating the empanelment of hospitals under the mission was also launched.

### **4. PM Modi Inaugurates Developmental Projects in Chhattisgarh**

- i. Prime Minister Narendra Modi** is on a one-day visit to **Chhattisgarh** where he dedicated the **modernised and expanded Bhilai steel plant** to the nation. He also took part in programmes in **Naya Raipur - the upcoming capital city of the state.**
- ii.** The PM inaugurated **Integrated Command and Control Centre at Naya Raipur**. Thereafter, in Bhilai, he inaugurated Raipur-Jagdalpur air service, laid the foundation stone for the new building of **Indian Institute of Technology (IIT), Bhilai.**
- iii.** He also inaugurated **air connectivity between Raipur and Jagdalpur under the Centre's 'Udaan' scheme.**

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

- **Chhattisgarh Chief Minister- Raman Singh, Governor- Balram Das Tandon.**

### **5. Conference On Implementation of NPS by the CABs Held in Delhi**

- i. A Conference on Implementation of National Pension System (NPS)** by the **Central Autonomous Bodies (CABs)** was organized by **Pension Fund Regulatory and Development Authority (PFRDA)** in Delhi.
- ii.** The prime objective was to provide a forum to all the CABs, where the progress in the implementation of NPS with respect to compliance of timelines in various NPS related activities could be brought to the fore and a way forward could be provided.

## ***International News***

### **6. World Blood Donors Day: 14 June**

- i. Every year, on **14 June**, countries around the world celebrate **World Blood Donor Day**. The theme of the World Blood Donors Day 2018 is **'Be there for someone else. Give blood. Share life'**.
- ii. The event serves to thank voluntary, unpaid blood donors for their life-saving gifts of blood and to raise awareness of the need for regular blood donations.

## ***Appointments/Resignation***

### **7. Former World Bank Economist Omar al-Razzaz Sworn in as Jordan PM**

- i. **Former World Bank Economist Omar al-Razzaz** was sworn in as **Jordan's Prime Minister** after **King Abdullah** issued a decree approving the **new** government.
- ii. The 58-year-old, who studied at Harvard University, was tasked with reviewing the country's disputed tax system. **Omar succeeded Hani al-Mulki** who resigned following mass protests over price hikes and other government economic policies.

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

- **Jordan Capital-** Amman, **Currency-** Jordanian dinar.

### **8. Georgia's PM Giorgi Kvirikashvili Resigns**

- i. **Giorgi Kvirikashvili**, prime minister of Georgia, has **announced his resignation** amid a disagreement with Bidzina Ivanishvili, the leader of the ruling party.
- ii. Kvirikashvili, 50, has been the country's prime minister since 2015.

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

- **Georgia Capitals-** Tbilisi, Kutaisi, **Currency-** Georgian Lari **President-** Giorgi Margvelashvili.

## ***Banking/Business News***

## 9. PhonePe Partners With Ola

- i. **Flipkart-owned PhonePe** has partnered **cab aggregator Ola** that will allow riders to book rides using the former's payment platform.
- ii. With this partnership, users can enjoy the ease of using their preferred ride-sharing app from within PhonePe while being assured of the reliability and integrity of their payments. PhonePe has also added '**Auto-pay**' feature that allows users to make payments seamlessly.

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

- Headquarter of Ola is in Bangalore, Karnataka.
- CEO of Ola is Bhavish Aggarwal.

## 10. MARG ERP Limited Partners With ICICI Bank

- i. **Marg ERP limited**, a leading Inventory and Accounting software solution company has **partnered with ICICI Bank**, India's largest private sector bank by consolidated assets, **to offer an integrated payments platform to Micro, Small and Medium Enterprise (MSME) customers**, using MARG's accounting software.
- ii. This integration aims to promote 'Connected Banking' and enables ICICI Bank's current account holders to securely connect their bank account with the MARG ERP software.

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

- ICICI Bank stands for Industrial Credit and Investment Corporation of India.
- Chanda Kochhar is the MD and CEO of ICICI Bank.
- Headquarters of ICICI Bank: Mumbai.

## ***Ranks and Reports***

### **11. Niti Aayog's Composite Water Management Index: Gujarat Tops, Jharkhand Lowest**

- i. **Minister for Water Resources Nitin Gadkari** released **Niti Aayog's composite water management index report** in New Delhi. **Gujarat topped the list** while **Jharkhand was adjudged as the worst performer**. Gujarat is followed by Madhya Pradesh, Andhra Pradesh, Karnataka and Maharashtra.

ii. In the northeastern and Himalayan states, **Tripura has been adjudged as the top state in 2016-17** followed by Himachal Pradesh, Sikkim and Assam.

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

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

### **12. HDFC, 5th Biggest Consumer Financial Services Company Worldwide: Forbes**

i. **Housing finance major HDFC** has been ranked as the **5th biggest public company globally** in the '**consumer financial services category**' on a list compiled by **Forbes magazine**. HDFC's rank has moved up from 7th place last year. **American Express has topped this category**, while Indiabulls Housing Finance is the only other Indian company (at 13th place) on the list.

ii. In the overall list, **topped by China's banking behemoth ICBC**, HDFC took 321st place, up from 404th a year ago. **There are a total of 58 Indian companies on the overall list of 2,000 firms** from across the world. **These include Reliance Industries at 83rd place, the only from India in the top-100**. Besides, HDFC Bank is at 202nd, ONGC at 266th, Indian Oil at 270th and ICICI Bank at 320th.

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

- **Forbes**- American Business Magazine, **Founded in**- 1917.
- **Headquarters**- New York City, USA.

### **13. Fitch Ups India Growth Forecast to 7.4% for FY'19**

i. **Fitch Ratings** raised **India growth forecast for 2018-19 to 7.4% from 7.3%** but cited higher financing costs and rising oil prices as risks to growth.

ii. For 2019-20, it estimated the country to grow at 7.5%. The economy grew at 6.7% in 2017-18 and 7.7% in January-March quarter.

## ***Sports News***

### **14. Smriti Mandhana to Become 1st Indian to Play in England's Kia Super League**

i. **India Women's Cricket team opener Smriti Mandhana** will become the **first Indian player to appear in Kia Super League** - the women's cricket

super league in England.  
**ii.** Smriti was signed by Western Storm and will represent them in the upcoming edition of the tournament that features six teams.