



Current Affairs For 20th July 2018

(Important Current affairs)

DEBATE ON NO-CONFIDENCE MOTION IN LOK SABHA

- *Speaker Sumitra Mahajan announced that the Lok Sabha has taken up the debate on no-confidence motion moved by Oppn parties.*
- *The motions dealt on issues like special status to Andhra Pradesh, cow vigilantism, lynching and dilution of the SC/ST Act.*
- *A motion of no-confidence is a statement or vote which states that the ruling govt is no longer deemed fit to hold the position of power.*

CPIIB TO STEP UP INVESTMENTS IN INDIA

- *Canada's biggest public pension scheme, Canada Pension Plan Investment Board (CPIIB) views India as its main focus for investment in Asia.*



- *CPPIB manages Canada's national pension fund, has invested nearly C\$7 billion (\$5.30 billion) in India.*
- *CPPIB currently owns shares in some leading fast moving consumer goods companies like ITC Ltd., Hindustan Unilever Ltd. & Britannia Industries Ltd.*

EX-PREZ PARK TO SPEND ANOTHER 8 YRS IN JAIL

- *South Korean court sentenced Ex-President Park Geun-hye to 8 more years in prison after finding her guilty on charges of causing loss of govt funds & interfering in a 2016 parliamentary election.*
- *The court handed Ms. Park 6 years on the spy fund charges and 2 further years in jail for improperly intervening in the selection of election candidates.*
 - *The current President is Moon-Jae-in.*

MOU BETWEEN INFOSYS & BMRCL

- *The Infosys Foundation signed a MoU with the Bangalore Metro Rail Corporation Limited (BMRCL) to build a metro station at Electronic City.*
- *The station, part of Phase II metro line under from R.V. Road to Bommsandram, will be named the 'Infosys Foundation – Konappana Agrahara Metro station'.*
- *The Foundation is spending close to Rs. 200 crore to build the station at Konappana Agrahara.*



PM TO VISIT RWANDA, UGANDA AND SOUTH AFRICA

- *Prime Minister Narendra Modi will visit Rwanda, Uganda and South Africa from July 23-27.*
- *Modi will attend the BRICS Summit in South Africa and will visit Rwanda for a two-day visit, the first by an Indian prime minister where he will sign defence cooperation agreement.*
- *During his BRICS summit in South Africa international peace and security will be his main agendas.*

GOOGLE ANNOUNCES ANDROID DEV SUMMIT

- *The Android Dev Summit is being organized at the Computer History Museum, Mountain View, California on 7 – 8 Nov 2018.*
 - *The last one was in 2015, and it also happened at the Computer History Museum.*
- *Android Developer Days, or ADD, is an open conference held at various locations worldwide each year.*

FIRST HIGH-LEVEL '2+2 DIALOGUE' WITH INDIA



- *The inaugural ‘two-plus-two dialogue’ between India and the US will be held on September 6 in New Delhi.*
- *Secretary of State Mike Pompeo and Defence Secretary James Mattis would travel to India for the dialogue.*
- *The landmark discussions would be covered by the US to recognize that its purchase of the S-400 air defense system from Russia and CAATSA.*

SRI LANKA TO FINALIZE MATTALA AIRPORT DEAL

- *Sri Lankan government said that it is in the process of finalizing a joint venture with India for operating the Matalla international airport, located in the south of the Sri Lanka.*
- *AAI will own 70% majority stake in the venture while the rest will be owned by Sri Lankan govt.*
 - *Matalla airport is the world’s emptiest airport as there is no passenger flight in service.*

TN GOVT LAUNCHES 24H HELPLINE FOR COUPLES

- *The Tamil Nadu govt has informed the Madras High Court that a 24-hour helpline has been set up to investigate issues faced by inter-caste couples and offer them necessary assistance and protection.*



- *A special cell has been formed in all districts and cities in the state, comprising district-level officers at the city level, to receive complaints of harassment & threat to inter-caste couples.*

INDIA AND GHANA INK 2 MOUS

- *India and Ghana signed two agreements in an effort to enhance the bilateral cooperation between the two countries.*
- *The 2 MOUs were signed on Cultural Exchange Programme & on cooperation between Bureau of Indian Standards and Ghana Standards Authority.*
- *Sushma Swaraj & Ghanaian counterpart Shirley Botchway discussed enhancing cooperation, capacity building, trade & people-to-people relations.*

NEW MANUFACTURING FACILITY FOR EVM PRODUCTION

- *Election Commissioner Shri Sunil Arora inaugurated a new Manufacturing Facility For EVM Production At Bharat Electronics Limited, Bangalore.*
- *Braille EPICards were also distributed for the first time in Karnataka to visually impaired voters.*
- *Electronic Voting Machines (EVM) are being used in Indian General and State Elections to implement electronic voting and are part from 1999 elections.*



2018 BRICS MEDIA FORUM IN SOUTH AFRICA

- *A decision to establish a BRICS Media Academy and a BRICS news portal was taken at the 2018 BRICS Media Forum at Cape Town in South Africa.*
- *The Forum, a high-level dialogue among media organizations from Brazil, Russia, India, China and South Africa, was held over 2 days under the theme — ‘Fostering an Inclusive, Just World Order’.*
 - *The forum unanimously agreed to adopt the above declaration.*

ANDHRA CM LAUNCHES E-PRAGATI PLATFORM

- *Andhra Pradesh CM N. Chandrababu Naidu launched ‘e-Pragati’ project, a digital platform for governance in the state.*
- *The e-Pragati project, launched at Undavalli, Guntur plans to achieve digitalization in the state & bring transparency in governance; it will work through cloud management.*
- *Reforms in education, agricultural marketing, panchayat raj are also available on this platform.*

THE 6TH MEETING OF INDIA-NEPAL MECHANISM



- *The 6th meeting of India-Nepal oversight Mechanism was held to review the progress of all the bilateral projects in New Delhi on 19 July 2018.*
- *The projects included cross-border rail projects, integrated check posts, Terai Roads Project, cross-border transmission lines, Arun-II hydropower project.*
 - *The Current PM of Nepal is Khadga Prasad Oli.*

RS PASSES PREVENTION OF CORRUPTION BILL

- *The Rajya Sabha passed the Prevention of Corruption (Amendment) Bill, 2013 which seeks to make giving bribes an offense with a provision of punishment.*
- *The Bill introduces the offense of giving a bribe as a direct offense. However, a person who is compelled to give a bribe will not be charged with the offense if he reports the matter to law enforcement authorities within 7 days.*

POET GOPAL DAS SAXENA 'NEERAJ' PASSES AWAY

- *Famous Hindi poet Gopal Das Neeraj passed away at the AIIMS trauma center on 19 July.*
 - *He was a Professor of Hindi at Dharma Samaj College in Aligarh.*



- *He was also accorded the rank of a cabinet minister by the previous Akhilesh Yadav government in UP.*
- *He was awarded Padma Shri in 1991 and Padma Bhushan in 2007.*

INTERNATIONAL ARMY GAMES 2018, MOSCOW

- *Indian Army team has reached Moscow to participate in the International Army games scheduled from July 28 to August 11.*
- *India is participating in 2 competitions including the Tank Biathlon and Elbrus Ring – which is mountain warfare combat patrol competition near Elbrus Mountain.*
- *The Army games 2018 will be held in 7 countries – Armenia, Azerbaijan, Belarus, China, Iran, Kazakhstan & Russia.*

FUGITIVE OFFENDERS BILL PASSED

- *The Lok Sabha passed the Fugitive Economic Offenders Bill that replaces the Ordinance by the same name promulgated by the President in April.*
- *The Bill empowers courts to direct the govt to confiscate all the assets belonging to a fugitive economic offender.*



- *A Fugitive Offender is a person against whom an arrest warrant has been issued & who has left India so as to avoid criminal prosecution.*

JANA SMALL FINANCE BANK LAUNCHES OPERATIONS

- *Jana Small Finance Bank announced the commercial launch of its banking operations to convert itself into a small finance bank (SFB), 3 years after the RBI gave its in-principle approval.*
- *The bank was earlier called Janalakshmi Financial Services and weathered huge losses on account of demonetization.*
- *Ajay Kanwal is managing director and chief executive officer of Jana Small Finance Bank.*

ISRAELI PARLIAMENT PASSES JEWISH NATION LAW

- *The Israeli parliament has passed a bill that defines the country as an exclusively Jewish state.*
- *The bill also removes Arabic as official language giving it a “special status” that enables its continued use in Israeli institutions.*
- *There are 1.8 million Arabs, about 20% of the population of Isreal who viewed the move against their interest.*



- *The Current PM of Isreal is Benjamin Netanyahu.*