

NATIONAL CURRENT AFFAIRS

Centre clears kambala Bill

- The Prevention of Cruelty to Animals (Karnataka Amendment) Bill 2017 has cleared by the Union Ministry of Law and Justice.
- Now the bill will send it to the President for his assent, said P.P. Choudhary.
- The bill was passed by Karnataka Legislative Assembly to exempt kambala and bullock-cart racing from the ambit of the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals Act, 1960 on February 13, 2017

National Human Milk Bank opens at Lady Hardinge Medical College in Delhi for newborn babies

- A national human milk bank and lactation counseling centre known 'Vatsalya – Maatri Amrit Kosh' has opened at Lady Hardinge Medical College in New Delhi.
- It will be helpful to provide breast milk to newborns and promote breastfeeding.
- The bank has been established in partnership with the Norwegian government, Oslo University, and Norway-India Partnership Initiative (NIPI).

Tamil Nadu govt signs MoU with Aviation Ministry for implementation of UDAN scheme

- Low-cost flight services are set to be in towns like Hosur and Neyveli in Tamil Nadu in the first phase of implementation of the Centre's UDAN("Ude Desh ka Aam Naagrik") scheme to promote regional air connectivity.
- UDAN making regional connectivity at low cost so that common people could opt for air travel.

INTERNATIONAL CURRENT AFFAIRS

BRICS Media Forum held in Beijing & One Million Dollar Fund Established for BRICS Media

- BRICS Media Forum was held in Beijing, China from 7th to 8th June 2017.
- The forum was attended by the leaders of over 25 media groups from Brazil, Russia, India, China and South Africa.
- BRICS Media Forum held in Beijing & One Million Dollar Fund Established for BRICS Media.
- This fund will be utilised for the implementation of the action plan to strengthen cooperation among BRICS Media.

WHO revises antibiotics protocol

- In an effort to curb antibiotic resistance, World Health Organization (WHO) has divided the drugs into three categories viz. 'access', 'watch' and 'reserve' and has specified utilisation norms for each category.

- This is considered as the biggest revision of the antibiotics section in the 40-year history of the essential medicines list (EML).
- WHO antibiotic protocol – Categories:
 1. 'Access' category
 2. 'Watch' category
 3. 'Reserve' category
- This categorisation will serve as guidelines for member countries and will help in curbing antibiotic resistance.

IIT Delhi replaces IISc Bangalore as highest-ranked Indian institute in QS world university rankings

- For the first time the Indian Institute of Technology-Delhi has replaced Indian Institute of Science, Bangalore, as the highest-ranked Indian university in Quacquarelli Symonds (QS) World University Rankings 2018.
- Top 5 Global Universities as per QS World University Rankings 2018:

Rank	Institute	Country
1	Massachusetts Institute of Technology (MIT)	US
2	Stanford University	US
3	Harvard University	US
4	California Institute of Technology (Caltech)	US
5	University of Cambridge	UK

BUSINESS AND ECONOMY

SBI organized farmers' meet on June 8 to understand their credit need

- India's one of the most lender State BISBI organized farmers' meet on June 8 to understand their credit needank of India took a step to meet nearly 10,000 farmers to understand their credit needs and also to provide finance help.
- The meeting organized at the bank's 15,500 rural and semi-urban branches across the country.
- During the meeting, branches will make some arrangements to get applications for fresh loans and also renewal or enhancement of existing loan.
- Depends on the upcoming kharif season, SBI tracks the lending to farmers in line with the scale of finance fixed for various crops.
- For crop loans up to Rs 3 lakh, the effective interest rate is only 4 per cent per annum, if the repayment is made on time.

HDFC Bank to charge for UPI transactions from 10 July

- HDFC Bank on Monday informed to all of its customers that it will impose the new transaction charges on all outward UPI transactions as well as the benefits of using UPI for transferring funds from July 10.
- Transactions from Rs 1 to Rs 25,000 will be charged Rs 3 plus taxes while transactions above Rs 25,000 to Rs 1 lakh will be charged Rs 5, as against this the NEFT charges are Rs 2.5 for transactions up to Rs 10,000 and Rs 5 for transactions above Rs 10,000.

US, China, India to be top prospective destinations for FDI – UNCTAD

- According to the 'World Investment Report 2017: Investment and the Digital Economy', published by United Nations Conference on Trade and Development (UNCTAD), US, China and India are considered as top prospective destinations for foreign direct investment (FDI).
- In 2016, global FDI flows reduced marginally by 2% to \$1.75 trillion.
- This reduction is on account of weak economic growth and significant policy risks perceived by multinational enterprises.
- US attracted highest, \$391 billion FDI inflows in 2016.

Fortune 500: Tesla and 19 Companies Joined the List in 2017

- Elon Musk's electric car startup Tesla along with other 19 companies has featured in Tesla bought German automation firm Grohmann Fortune magazine's annual list of America's top 500 companies for the first time.
- Tesla ranked 383 on the list on account of stellar sales growth of 73% last year.
- Walmart topped the Fortune 500 list for fifth year in a row.

India among top five consumer markets in Asia: BMI Research

- India places among the top five consumer markets in Asia.
- It becomes an average of 6.1 per cent over the next five years in retailer consumer spending growth.
- Increasing access to consumer credit, lower inflation, and a more favorable regulatory environment for foreign-owned retailers bodes well for India's consumer sectors over the coming years.
- E-commerce has been dominated by local firms such as Flipkart and Snapdeal. Amazon is recently announced USD 500 mn investment to roll-out online food retailing in India.

PEOPLE IN NEWS

Indian-American Raja Chari selected by NASA among 12 new astronauts

- Lt Col Raja Chari is the first Indian American after Kalpana Chawla to be chosen by NASA for one of its missions from 18,000 applicants at NASA's Johnson Space Center in Houston.
- The 12 new candidates include six military officers, three scientists, two medical doctors, a lead engineer at SpaceX and a NASA research pilot.
- Indian-American Raja Chari selected by NASA among 12 new astronauts.

LVB appoints BK Manjunath as part-time chairman

- Lakshmi Vilas Bank has appointed B K Manjunath as a part-time chairman for three years.
- LVB informed the stock exchange that subsequent to approval granted by the Reserve Bank of India (RBI), the Board of Directors of the bank at their meeting have co-opted B K Manjunath as additional director in the category of Non- Executive and Independent Director.

SCIENCE & TECHNOLOGY

Digital India takes hit as India ranks 74 in internet data speed, below Pakistan, Sri Lanka

- According to a report by OpenSignal, India has ranked 74th, below neighbouring countries Pakistan and Sri Lanka in terms of internet data speed.
- OpenSignal is a London-headquartered company that specialises in wireless coverage mapping.
- Singapore scored the highest in 4G speed while South Korea scored highest in 4G availability. The global average 4G download speed was 16.2 Mbps.
- The report has highlighted that download speeds in India have dropped more than one megabit per second in the last six months as traffic has surged, mainly on the back of Reliance Jio Infocomm's free services.

SPORTS

Virat Kohli only Indian in Forbes top 100 paid athletes, Serena Williams lone female athlete

- Virat Kohli is the only Indian sportsperson to feature among the world's 100 highest paid athletes in the latest Forbes list.

- With a total pay of \$ 22 million that includes \$ 3 million from salary and winnings and another 19 million from endorsements, Virat Kohli, ranked 89th on the 2017 Forbes list of 'The World's highest paid athletes'.
- The list is topped by Chirstiano Ronoldo.
- In females, tennis star Serena Williams is top ranked at 51st.

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