

June – 07

TNPSC BITS

- ❖ A study by the UNICEF has found that ‘Swachh Bharat (Grameen)’ initiative of the government has helped to reduce ground water contamination.
- ❖ A recent paper published in the Journal of the Association of Physicians of India has stated that it is imperative to test all pregnant women for “gestational diabetes”.
- ❖ The 8th FIFA Women’s football world cup has begun in France. The first World Cup was held at China in 1991.
 - United States of America is the most successful team in Women’s football world cup tournament (4-time winners).
- ❖ In an attempt to boost digital transactions, RBI has decided not to levy charges on RTGS and NEFT transactions and banks will be required to pass this benefit to their customers.

NATIONAL

Cabinet Committees

- ❖ The Government of India has reconstituted six Cabinet Committees.
- ❖ It has also formed two new Committees.
- ❖ They are
 - Appointments Committee of the Cabinet
 - Cabinet Committee on Accommodation
 - Cabinet Committee on Economic Affairs
 - Cabinet Committee on Parliamentary Affairs
 - Cabinet Committee on Political Affairs
 - Cabinet Committee on Security
 - Cabinet Committee on Investment and Growth
 - Cabinet Committee on Employment and Skill Development.
- ❖ Prime Minister will head all committees except two.
- ❖ Home Minister Amit Shah will head Cabinet Committee on Parliamentary Affairs and Accommodation.

- ❖ Cabinet Committee on Investment and Employment and Skill Development are the two newly formed committees.
- ❖ The Prime Minister constitutes Standing Committees of the Cabinet and sets out the specific functions assigned to them.
- ❖ He can add or reduce the number of committees.

Draft Education Policy

- ❖ Former ISRO chief Dr. Kasturirangan led Committee submitted the draft National Educational Policy (NEP) to HRD Minister Ramesh Pokhriyal.
- ❖ It was constituted in 2017 to revise NEP.
- ❖ The existing NEP was framed in 1986 under Prime Minister Rajiv Gandhi and later revised in 1992 under PM Narasimha Rao.
- ❖ The policy draft recommends:
 - Incorporation of Indian knowledge systems in the curriculum
 - Constituting a National Education Commission
 - Curbing arbitrary fees hikes by private schools.
- ❖ The expert panel also proposed massive transformation in Teacher Education by moving all teacher preparation and education programmes into large multidisciplinary universities or colleges.
- ❖ The committees thrust on 3-language formula which mandated compulsory learning of Hindi in all states was met with vehement opposition in Non-Hindi speaking states and Southern states.
- ❖ Then the draft policy dropped the mandatory Hindi clause but still the compulsory three language formula is not revised.
- ❖ The Former Cabinet Secretary T.S.R. Subramanian's 'Committee for Evolution of the New Education Policy' had earlier submitted its report in 2016.

Fixed Dose Combination

- ❖ The Drugs Technical Advisory Board (DTAB) has asked pharma companies to submit "precise data" to prove that 324 FDCs drugs are safe and effective for patients to consume.
- ❖ Fixed Dose Combination (FDC) drugs include two or more active pharmaceutical ingredients combined in a single dosage form.

- ❖ It is manufactured and distributed in fixed doses.
- ❖ The FDCs are more economic than single ingredient drugs.
- ❖ Common example of FDC: Vicks Action 500.



ECONOMY

Key Economic Indicators

- ❖ The growth rate of India's Gross Domestic Product (GDP) fell from 7.2 per cent in Financial Year (FY) 2017-18 to 6.8 per cent in FY 2018-19.
- ❖ Poor performance in agriculture and manufacturing sectors are considered as the reasons for this slow down.
- ❖ In January-March 2018-2019 quarter, the GDP growth slowed down to 5.8%.
- ❖ This is the slowest growth rate since 2014-15.
- ❖ Central Statistics Office also released the unemployment rate data.
- ❖ It stood at a 45 year high of 6.1%.
- ❖ The fiscal deficit data released by the Controller General of Accounts (CGA) stood at 3.39 percent of GDP (Rs. 6.45 lakh crores).

PMI Index

- ❖ The Nikkei India “” Manufacturing” Purchasing Managers’ Index (PMI) improved to 52.7 in May from 51.8 in April.
- ❖ PMI has been above the 50-point mark for 22 consecutive months.



- ❖ A PMI index above 50 indicates expansion in the manufacturing sector.

Monetary Policy Review

- ❖ In its bi-monthly monetary policy review, the Reserve bank of India (RBI) has reduced repo rate by 25 basis points to 5.75% from current 6.0% with immediate effect.
- ❖ This is RBI's third cut this year.
- ❖ This is also the lowest repo rate at lowest since 2010.

PERSONALITIES, AWARDS AND EVENTS

Global Leadership Award

- ❖ Google's India-born CEO Sundar Pichai and NASDAQ president Adena Friedman have been chosen for the prestigious Global Leadership Awards 2019 by USIBC.
- ❖ This award recognises top corporate executives from the United States and India whose companies play a major role in promoting growth in business and commerce between the two countries.
- ❖ US-India Business Council (USIBC) is a Washington-based business advocacy group which awards them.
- ❖ The award is given annually since 2007.

SPORTS

ISSF World Cup

- ❖ India produced their best performance with a total of 5 gold and a silver medal, to top the medals tally at the International Shooting Sport Federation World Cup in Munich.
- ❖ Manu Bhaker and Saurabh Chaudhary won the 10m Air Pistol mixed team title.
- ❖ Anjum Moudgil and Divyansh Singh Panwar won the 10m Air Rifle mixed team gold cup.
- ❖ The other winners are
 - Apurvi Chandela - 10m Air Rifle Women - Gold

- Rahi Sarnobat - 25m Pistol Women - Gold
- Saurabh Chaudhary - 10m Air Pistol Men - Gold

IMPORTANT DAYS

World Food Safety Day - June 7

- ❖ The first annual world food safety day was observed on June 7.
- ❖ The theme of the day was “Food Safety, Everyone’s Business”.
- ❖ The day is celebrated to observe the importance of safe food and to reduce the problems related to unsafe food.
- ❖ In both developed and developing countries an estimated three million people around the world die every year from food and waterborne disease.
- ❖ An UNGA resolution in 2018 decided to observe annual World Food Safety day.
- ❖ The celebration of the inaugural edition of World Food Safety Day was jointly organised by World Health Organisation (WHO) and Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO).



World Ocean Day - June 8

- ❖ The World ocean day is observed every year on June 8.
- ❖ The day is to celebrate the majesty of the world's oceans and raise awareness about their preservation.

