

**July – 11**

## **NATIONAL**

### **India-Russia Strategic Economic Dialogue**

- ❖ The Second India-Russia Strategic Economic Dialogue (IRSED) was held in New Delhi.
- ❖ India was represented by the chairmanship of Dr. Rajiv Kumar, Vice-Chairman, National Institution for Transforming India (NITI) Aayog.
- ❖ The IRSED was established following a bilateral Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) signed between NITI Aayog and the Ministry of Economic Development of the Russian Federation.
  - It was established during the 19<sup>th</sup> edition of the Annual India-Russia Bilateral Summit held on October 5, 2018 in New Delhi.
- ❖ The First India-Russia Strategic Economic Dialogue was held in St. Petersburg between November 25-26, 2018.

### **Port Integrity Campaign**

- ❖ Maritime Anti-Corruption Network (MACN) has launched Port Integrity Campaign in India.
- ❖ It aims to reduce and (in the long term) eliminate integrity issues and bottlenecks to trade during operations in Indian ports.
- ❖ MACN is a global business network of over 110 companies working to tackle corruption in the maritime industry.
- ❖ Ministry in charge: Ministry of Shipping.

### **Cabinet – Key decisions**

#### **Ponzi scam**

- ❖ Cabinet approved ‘The banning of Unregulated Deposit Schemes Bill, 2019’.
- ❖ The Bill will help tackle the menace of illicit deposit taking activities in the country.

#### **Inter State River Water Disputes**

- ❖ Cabinet approved ‘The Inter-State River Water disputes (Amendment) Bill, 2019’.

- ❖ The Bill seeks to amend the Inter State River Water Disputes Act, 1956.
- ❖ The bill seeks constitution of a single tribunal with different Benches, and the setting of strict timelines for adjudication.

### Rural roads

- ❖ The Cabinet Committee on Economic Affairs has approved the third phase of the Pradhan Mantri Gram Sadak Yojana (PMGSYIII).
- ❖ Under this, 1.25 lakh km of roads in rural areas will be upgraded.

### Railway Protection Force

- ❖ The Union Cabinet accorded Organised Group A Service status to the Railway Protection Force.

#### Note:

- ❖ Earlier this month, the benefits were extended to Central Reserve Police Force, Border Security Force, Central Industrial Security Force, Indo-Tibetan Border Police and Sashastra Seema Bal.

### Child abuse – Death Penalty

- ❖ The Union Cabinet approved an amendment to the Protection of Children from Sexual Offences Act, 2012.
- ❖ The Bill provides for stringent punishment, including death, for sexual assault of children.

### Transgenders – support

- ❖ The Union Cabinet approved the Transgender Persons (Protection of Rights) Bill, 2019.
- ❖ The Bill looks at providing social, economic and educational empowerment to transgender persons.
- ❖ Sending the Bill to the Parliament again was on the first 100-day agenda of the present NDA government.

### Code on Occupational Safety, Health and Working Conditions Bill, 2019

- ❖ The Code on Occupational Safety, Health and Working Conditions Bill, 2019 was approved by the cabinet.
- ❖ The Bill seeks to merge 13 labour laws into one code on occupational safety, health and working conditions.
- ❖ It would apply to all establishments with 10 or more workers.

## **RSDP – Myanmar**

- ❖ India will hand over 200 houses on to Myanmar built for Rakhine State under the Rakhine State Development Programme (RSDP).
- ❖ India signed a development programme for Rakhine State in Myanmar in late 2017.
- ❖ This programme was designed to assist the Myanmar government in Rakhine State to build housing infrastructure for displaced persons.



- ❖ More than 700,000 minority Rohingya Muslims fled from Myanmar's Rakhine state to neighbouring Bangladesh since August 2017, triggering a massive refugee crisis.

## **SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY**

### **Artist Ai-Da**

- ❖ Ai-Da is the world's first ultra-realistic humanoid artist.
- ❖ She is the brainchild of Aidan Meller.
- ❖ It uses Artificial Intelligence (AI) technology.



- ❖ Ai-Da is named after Ada Lovelace, the English mathematician and writer often called the world's first computer coder.
- ❖ Developed by: Oxford University.

## ENVIRONMENT

### Sea level rise – India

- ❖ According to data tabled in the Lok Sabha by the Ministry of Earth Sciences, Diamond Harbour has recorded the maximum sea level increase.
- ❖ Diamond Harbour is located in West Bengal at the mouth of river Hooghly.
- ❖ The sea level rise is higher in West Bengal, particularly in the Sunderbans delta because of the deltaic sediment deposition as a result of the mixing of fresh water and saline water
- ❖ The sea level rise in the country has been estimated to be 1.3 mm/year along India's coasts during the last 40-50 years.
- ❖ The rise in Diamond Harbour was almost five times higher at 5.16 mm per year.
- ❖ Kandla port in Gujarat, Haldia in West Bengal and Port Blair in Andaman and Nicobar Islands has also recorded higher sea level rise.
- ❖ Studies over Indian region have shown a warming trend of 0.6°C on all India average basis.



## STATES

### Meri Fasal Mera Byora

- ❖ The Haryana government has launched 'Meri Fasal Mera Byora' portal.
- ❖ The farmers can avail benefits of several government schemes directly after uploading their crop-related details.
- ❖ The portal would help farmers to avail subsidy on agricultural implements in an easy manner.

## SPORTS

### G Kosanov Memorial International Event

- ❖ G. Kosanov Memorial international was held at Almaty in Kazakhstan.

#### Medallist:

| <b>Gold</b>            |                     |
|------------------------|---------------------|
| 800 meter (Men)        | Mohammed Afsal      |
| Discus throw (Men)     | Gagandeep Singh     |
| Discus throw (Women)   | Navjeet Kaur        |
| Triple jump            | Mohammed Salahuddin |
| Long jump              | M.Sreeshankar       |
| Javelin throw          | Sahil Silwal        |
| <b>Silver</b>          |                     |
| Discus throw           | S. Mithravarun      |
| Hammer throw (Women's) | Jyothi              |
| Triple jump            | Mohammed Zuber      |
| Javelin throw          | Rohit Yadav         |
| <b>Bronze</b>          |                     |
| Hammer throw (Women's) | Anita               |

### Dutee Chand – Gold

- ❖ Sprinter Dutee Chand became the first Indian ever to win gold in the 100m race at a global meet.
- ❖ She finished first in the event at the World Universiade in Napoli (Italy).
- ❖ She clocked 11.32 seconds to win the gold.



- ❖ Her national record was 11.24 seconds.
- ❖ Dutee chand hails from Odisha.
- ❖ She has now become only the second Indian sprinter to win a gold in a global event after Hima Das.
- ❖ Hima Das clinched gold in 400m in the World Junior Athletics Championships 2018.

## **IMPORTANT DAYS**

### **World Population Day – July 11**

- ❖ World Population Day is adopted on July 11 every year.
- ❖ World Population Day seeks to focus attention on the urgency and importance of population issues.
- ❖ It was established by the then Governing Council of the United Nations Development Programme in 1989.



- ❖ The Day was first marked on 11 July 1990.
- ❖ Theme: None
  - This year's calls for global attention to unfinished business of 1994 International Conference on Population and Development.

-----