

## Testwale Current Affairs PDF

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### **1. Saudi Arabia's Crown Prince Mohammed bin Salman appointed as the Prime Minister ( Sept. 28, 2022 )**

The Saudi King Salman has appointed the Crown Prince **Mohammed bin Salman** as the Prime Minister of the country, according to a royal decree published on 27 September 2022.

Prince Mohammed is already de facto ruler of the **world's largest oil exporter**, and the appointment formalises his role as leader of the kingdom's government.

The crown prince, known by his initials MBS, previously served as deputy prime minister as well as defence minister. He is being replaced as defence minister by his younger brother, Khalid bin Salman, who was deputy defence minister.

#### **Kingdom of Saudi Arabia**

- Saudi Arabia is a West Asian kingdom founded by Ibn Saud in 1923. The country is known for its oil and Islam.
- According to the BP Statistical Review of World Energy 2020, Saudi Arabia has the world's 2nd largest oil reserves in the world after Venezuela.
- At present it is the world's largest exporter of crude oil.
- It has two of the holiest shrine of Islam, Mecca and Medina mosque
- The world's **largest mosque Al-Haram** or forbidden mosques is in Mecca.
- The world's second largest mosque, Mosque of the Prophet, or **Masjid al-Nabawi** is in Medina.
- The Organisation of Islamic Countries (OIC) headquarters is also in **Jeddah**, Saudi Arabia.
- The world's largest sand area, the Rub al-Khali ("Empty Quarter") which is spread around 647,500 square km, is also in Saudi Arabia.

Capital of Saudi Arabia: **Riyadh**

Currency: **Saudi Riyal**

King of Saudi Arabia: **King Salman bin Abdulaziz Al Saud**

### **2. Bangladesh launches interactive gaming portal to mark Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina's birthday ( Sept. 28, 2022 )**

Bangladesh launched its first **interactive gaming platform** named '**Hasina and Friends**' to mark the **75th birth anniversary** of Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina on September 28.

#### **Important facts**

- Unveiling this platform, Minister of State for ICT **Junaid Ahmed Palak** said that it is the first learning platform built in Bangladesh.
- The Minister announced that from now on every year **Hasina and Friends Festival** will be organized in which children will also be rewarded.

### **About interactive gaming platform 'Hasina and Friends'**

- It is designed to educate children about the **environment, education and digital connectivity**.
- Children will be able to learn many life skills through this gaming platform.
- It has been designed to foster creativity among children, make them smart and inculcate in them progressive and liberal values.
- This will give a boost to **Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina's Vision 2041** to make Bangladesh a developed country.
- Through this platform, children will be taught the lessons of the **history, culture and development of Bangladesh**.

### **About Sheikh Hasina**

- Sheikh Hasina secured a **fourth term** as prime minister after winning the 2018 general election.
- Hasina has become the longest-serving Prime Minister of Bangladesh since independence.

### **3. NDMA 18th Foundation Day ( Sept. 28, 2022 )**

**28 September, 2022** is NDMA's **18th Foundation Day**. Addressing the 18th Foundation Day of National Disaster Management Authority (NDMA) in New Delhi, Home Minister Amit Shah said that India has significantly reduced the damage caused by disasters in recent years.

#### **Important facts**

- Minister of State for Home, **Nityanand Rai** said, since 2014 the government has taken practical steps in disaster response.
- He said that **Aapda Mitra Scheme** is being implemented which has helped in involving the local people in disaster management.
- India has achieved great success in the direction of overall strengthening of disaster management and several schemes are being implemented in this direction.

#### **National Disaster Management Authority (NDMA)**

- NDMA was established through the Disaster Management Act, 2005 and was constituted in Dec 2006.
- The aim of the National Disaster Management Authority is to build a safer and disaster-resilient India by developing a holistic, proactive, multi-disaster and technology-driven strategy for disaster management.

#### **Organisational Structure**

- The **Prime Minister is the ex-officio chairperson** of the NDMA.
- The Cabinet Minister is the **Vice-Chairman**.
- The NDMA Secretariat, headed by a Secretary, is responsible for providing secretarial support and continuity.
- Along with this, NDMA has 8 Ministers of State as its Members.

### **Steps taken by indian government in Disaster Management**

- India is a signatory to the **Sendai Framework** for Disaster Risk Reduction.
- India is working closely with the **United Nations International Strategy for Disaster Reduction (UNISDR)**.
- India has formulated the **National Disaster Management Plan (NDMP)**.
- NDMA has taken an initiative on **Earthquake Disaster Risk Indexing (EDRI)** for 50 important cities and 1 district in seismic zone IV and V zones.
- 30 most flood affected districts of 25 states have been included in NDMA's **Aapdamitra scheme**.
- The government has constituted a **National Crisis Management Committee and a Crisis Management Group**.

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### **5. India, Netherlands formalise fast track mechanism for investments ( Sept. 28, 2022 )**

The **Department for Promotion of Industry and Internal Trade (DPIIT)** and the **Embassy of the Netherlands** on 27 September officially signed a Joint Statement to formalize the Bilateral **Fast-Track Mechanism (FTM)** between India and the Netherlands.

#### **Important facts**

- The Ambassador of The Netherlands to India, **Marten van den Berg**, and Secretary, DPIIT, **Anurag Jain**, formally signed the Joint Statement on 27th September 2022.
- It aims to serve as a platform for faster resolution of investment cases of Dutch companies operating in India.
- **Invest India**, the National Investment Promotion and Facilitation Agency, is the **executive body** of bilateral FTMs.

- The FTM will function in close collaboration between DPIIT, the concerned Ministries and Departments, Invest India and the Embassy of the Netherlands.
- This mechanism will strengthen bilateral efforts to enhance mutual investment activities, as well as support and develop business cooperation between companies in the two countries.

### **Diplomatic relations between India and The Netherlands**

- The diplomatic relations between both countries were established in **1947**.
- Since then, the two countries have developed strong political, economic and commercial ties and various regional cooperations.
- According to official Indian statistics, the Netherlands is the **fourth largest foreign direct investor** in India.
- Between April 2000 and June 2022, the cumulative inflow of foreign direct investment from the Netherlands to India reached approximately **US\$ 42.3 billion**.
- In 2021-2022, the bilateral trade between the two countries stood at **USD 17 billion**.
- India exports mainly mineral fuels and mineral based products, organic chemicals, electrical machinery and equipment, aluminum, iron and steel and pharmaceutical products to the Netherlands.

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## **7. Indian fertiliser firms sign MoU with Canada's Canpotex ( Sept. 28, 2022 )**

India's fertiliser companies- **Coromandel International, Chambal Fertilizers and Indian Potash Limited** signed an MoU with **Canpotex, Canada** on 27 September 2022.

### **Important facts**

- The MoU was presented to Union Minister of Chemicals and Fertilizers **Dr Mansukh Mandaviya, at Delhi**.
- As part of the MoU, Canpotex, Canada will supply **15 LMT** of potash annually to Indian fertilizer companies for a period of **3 years**.
- This supply sharing is expected to improve fertilizer availability within the country and reduce the cost of fertilizers.
- It is a significant step towards ensuring long-term fertiliser availability for the farming community.
- The MOU will reduce both supply and price volatility and ensure stable long-term supply of **Potassic fertilisers** to India.

### **Significance of Potash**

- Potash is a source of potassium and is used directly as a combination of '**N**' (**nitrogen**) and '**P**' (**potash**) nutrients in **MOP (Muriate of Potash)** as well as **NPK fertilizers**.
- India meets 100% of its potash requirement through imports.
- India imports approximately **40 LMT MOP** annually.

### **About Canpotex**

- It is a joint venture between leading fertiliser players, **Mosaic and Nutrien**, and markets Potash being produced at Saskatchewan region in Canada.
- Canpotex, Canada is one of the largest suppliers of potash globally, exporting approximately **130 LMT of potash** annually.
- It exports potash to more than **40 countries** and is one of the major suppliers of potash to India.

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## **9. Sixth anniversary of Surgical Strike ( Sept. 28, 2022 )**

The nation celebrates the **sixth anniversary** of surgical strike on **28 September**.

### **Important facts**

- On **28 September 2016**, the Indian Army launched surgical strikes against terrorist camps situated in **Pakistan-occupied Kashmir**.
- Eleven days after the **Uri attack**, in which 18 soldiers lost their lives, the Indian Army conducted surgical strikes on the intervening night of 28 and 29 September 2016, in which terrorists inflicted heavy losses.
- The Indian Army, including commandos of various units of the **Para (Special Forces)** stationed in Jammu and Kashmir, raided several positions across the border.
- With this action, India gave a befitting message that if needed, it can cross the border and attack terrorist hideouts.

### **What is a Surgical Strike?**

- A surgical strike or surgical operation is a military attack carried out only for the purpose of destroying a designated military target.
- In a surgical strike, every effort is made to cause less damage to the surrounding construction, vehicles, buildings or other public.
- Such an action requires tremendous coordination between the government, intelligence agencies and security forces.
- India has conducted surgical strikes against insurgent groups in **Myanmar in 2015** and terror launch pads along the **Line of Control in Pakistan-occupied Kashmir in 2016**.

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