

## Testwale Current Affairs PDF

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### **1. Centre sets up 733 One Stop Centres for women security across the country so far ( June 8, 2023 )**

733-One-Stop-Centres-for-women-security

According to Union Minister **Smriti Irani** the government has set up **733 One Stop Centres** across the country so far and also sanctioned a budget for **300 more such centers for women security.**

#### **An overview of the news**

- These one stop centers are providing a range of integrated services including police facilitation, medical aid, legal aid, counseling and temporary shelter to women affected by violence or in distress.
- In the last nine years, more than **34 women helplines** are working in the country for the welfare of women in the country.

#### **Anganwadi services**

- Anganwadi services have been strengthened in the country and all **Anganwadi centers** have been linked through smart phone mobiles.
- So far **11 lakh smartphones** have been distributed to Anganwadi workers.

#### **Poshan Tracker**

- A system called Poshan Tracker has been set up and more than nine crore beneficiaries are taking advantage of it.

#### **Maternity Benefit Scheme**

- Maternity Benefit Scheme- Under the **Pradhan Mantri Matru Vandana Yojana**, about **3 crore 32 lakh women** in the country have received Rs 13,650 crore in their bank accounts through **DBT.**

#### **Fast-track courts**

- The government has set up **1,023 fast-track courts** in the country, of which **418 are exclusively POCSO courts.**
- More than **780 district-wise anti-human trafficking units** are functioning in the country.

#### **Nirbhaya Fund**

- In the last nine years, the NDA government has taken forward projects worth **Rs 12,000 crore**, including the Nirbhaya Fund.

## **One Stop Centres Scheme**

- One Stop Center is a **Centrally Sponsored Scheme of the Ministry of Women and Child Development (MWCD)** to address the problem of violence against women.
- It is a sub-scheme of the **National Mission for Empowerment of Women scheme.**
- One Stop Centers have been set up across the country to provide integrated support and assistance under one roof to women affected by violence in private and public spaces.
- The scheme is funded through **Nirbhaya Fund.**

## **2. India emerges as the world's second largest producer of crude steel ( June 8, 2023 )**

According to the Union Minister of Steel and Civil Aviation, Shri **Jyotiraditya M. Scindia**, India has moved from the fourth largest producer of crude steel to the **second largest producer.**

### **An Overview of the News**

- From 2014-15 to 2022-23, India sees a **42% increase in crude steel production**, from **88.98 MT to 126.26 MT.**
- China remains the largest exporter of crude steel globally and India has emerged as the second largest producer.
- India is a net exporter of steel, exporting 6.72 MT of finished steel in 2022-23, while importing 6.02 MT.
- In the financial year 2022-23, India is expected to produce **122.28 MT of finished steel**, showing a growth of 49% as compared to 81.86 MT in 2014-15.
- Steel CPSEs (SAIL, NMDC, MOIL, KIOCL, MSTC, and MECON) mobilised ₹90,273.88 crore of their own resources for CAPEX from 2014-15 to 2022-23.
- Steel CPSEs paid a dividend of ₹21,204.18 crore to the Government of India during the same period.

### **Top 10 steel producing countries in the world by March 2023**

1. **People's Republic of China:** 95.7 million metric tons (MT)
2. **India:** 11.4 MT
3. **Japan:** 7.5 MT
4. **United States:** 6.7 MT
5. **Russia:** 6.6 MT
6. **South Korea:** 5.8 MT

7. **Türkiye:** 3.3 MT
8. **Germany:** 2.7 MT
9. **brazil:** 2.7 MT
10. **Iran:** 2.2 MT

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#### **4. Center approves new metro line between HUDA City Center and Cyber City in Gurugram, Haryana ( June 8, 2023 )**

The Union Cabinet approved the construction of a new metro line between HUDA City Center and Cyber City in Gurugram, Haryana.

An Overview of the News

- The expansion project includes Metro connectivity extension from HUDA City Center to Cyber City, which also includes the Dwarka Expressway.
- The entire project will be elevated and the estimated cost of this project is around Rs 5,452 crore.
- The metro line will cover a distance of over 28 kilometres and the line will have a total of 27 stations along the route.
- The network will also be connected to Gurgaon Railway Station and the main feature of this metro line is to connect New Gurugram to Old Gurugram.
- In the next phase, plans were made to provide connectivity to the Indira Gandhi International Airport (IGI Airport).

About Haryana

- It is a state located in North India, which is bordered by New Delhi on three sides.
- The eastern boundary of Haryana is formed by the Yamuna River, which separates it from the state of Uttar Pradesh.
- It shares its western border with the state of Punjab.
- Haryana has Zakir Hussain Rose Garden, which is located in Chandigarh.
- Rock Garden is located in Chandigarh, which displays sculptures made using recycled materials.

Capital - Chandigarh

Governor - Bandaru Dattatreya

Chief Minister - Manohar Lal Khattar

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#### **6. The Union Cabinet approved the third revival package for BSNL ( June 8, 2023 )**

On June 8, the government **approved a revival package** of over **Rs 89,000 crore for BSNL.**

#### **An Overview of the News**

##### **Revival Package:**

- The total outlay of the revival package is **Rs 89,047 crore.**
- The package includes **allocation of 4G and 5G** spectrum for BSNL through equity infusion.
- The authorised capital of BSNL will be increased from **Rs 1,50,000 crore to Rs 2,10,000 crore.**

## **Revival Package Objectives**

- BSNL will emerge as a stable telecom service provider focused on providing connectivity to remote parts of India.
- The spectrum allocation will enable BSNL to provide pan India **4G and 5G services**.
- BSNL will provide 4G coverage in rural and unserved villages under various connectivity projects.
- **Fixed Wireless Access (FWA)** services for high-speed internet will be offered by BSNL.
- BSNL will provide services and spectrum for the **Captive Non-Public Network (CNPN)**.

## **Previous Revival Package**

- The first revival package for **BSNL and MTNL** was approved in 2019, amounting to **Rs 69,000 crore**.
- The **second revival package** for BSNL and MTNL was approved in **2022 amounting to Rs 1.64 lakh crore**.

## **About BSNL**

- BSNL was incorporated on **15 September 2000**.
- It is a **100% Government of India owned public sector undertaking**
- It is a technology oriented integrated telecom service provider company.
- It provides wire line services, **2G, 3G, 4G and GSM** mobile services including Value Added Services (VAS), Internet and Broadband services, Wi-Fi services, Data Center services etc.

Headquarters - **New Delhi, India**

## **7. RBI Monetary Policy Announcement ( June 8, 2023 )**

RBI Governor **Shaktikanta Das** announced the **second monetary policy** of this financial year on 8 June. There has been **no change** in the **repo rate for the second time in a row**.

### **An overview of the news**

- After the meeting of the **Monetary Policy Committee**, the RBI announced the monetary policy, saying that the **repo rate would remain unchanged at 6.5%**.
- **Consumer Price Inflation** eased but remains above the target.
- Continued efforts to manage liquidity and currency circulation.

- The current account deficit is expected to narrow further in the fourth quarter.
- **Net inflows into non-resident deposits** increased to **US\$ 8 billion** in FY23 from **US\$ 3.2 billion** in the previous year.
- The Indian Rupee has remained stable since January this year. Conditions are favorable to accelerate capital expenditure.

### **Monetary Policy Committee's Decision**

- Policy **repo rate** remains unchanged at **6.5%**.
- **Standing Deposit Facility** (SDF rate) remains at **6.25%**.
- **Marginal Standing Facility** and bank rates stand at **6.75%**.

### **Inflation Trends in India**

- **Consumer Price Inflation** eased during March-April 2023.
- Inflation moved into the tolerance band, declining from **6.7% in 2022-23**.
- **Headline inflation** remains above the target and is expected to continue in 2023-24.
- **Projected CPI headline inflation** for 2023-24 is **5.1%, assuming a normal monsoon**.

### **Withdrawal of Rs 2000 Note**

- Decline in currency circulation and increased government spending.
- System liquidity expansion due to RBI's market operations.
- Deposit of **Rs 2000 banknotes** in banks further **augmented liquidity**.
- **So far ₹1.8 lakh crore worth ₹2,000 banknotes** have come back after the central bank announced to take these out of circulation.
- This is 50% of the total ₹3.62 lakh crore-worth notes in circulation as of March 31.

### **What is the repo rate?**

- Repo rate is the rate at which the central bank of a country (RBI in India's case) lends money to commercial banks when they are short of funds. Here the central bank buys securities.

### **What is the Monetary Policy Committee?**

- **Under Section 45ZB of the amended RBI Act 1934**, the Central government is empowered to constitute a six-member Monetary Policy Committee (MPC) to determine the policy interest rate required to achieve the inflation target.
- The first such MPC was constituted on **September 29, 2016**.

- As per the RBI Act, the MPC must meet a minimum of four times in a year.
- The meeting of the Monetary Policy Committee was held from **6 to 8 June 2023**.

## **8. Indian Navy undertakes first combat firing of Varunastra torpedo ( June 8, 2023 )**

The **Indian Navy and the country's Defence Research and Development Organisation (DRDO)** undertook the **first 'combat' test-firing of the Varunastra** heavyweight torpedo on 5 June.

### **An overview of the news**

- It will enhance the **anti-submarine warfare capabilities** of the indigenous Navy and give it a formidable force.
- The torpedo was fired from a submarine and successfully hit the target at a **distance of 40 km**.
- The test was conducted in the **Arabian Sea** in the presence of senior officials from the Indian Navy and the Defense Research and Development Organization (DRDO).

### **About Varunastra torpedo**

- It has been designed and developed by the **Naval Science and Technological Laboratory at Visakhapatnam** under the Defense Research and Development Organisation.
- **Bharat Dynamics Limited (BDL)** is responsible for the **production of the Varunastra missile system**.
- This would become the mainstay of **anti-submarine torpedoes for all Navy warships**.
- It will **replace the old torpedoes** on all naval ships that can fire heavy-weight torpedoes.

### **Features of the Varunastra**

- It is **seven to eight meters long, weighs 1,500 kg** and has a **diameter of 533 mm**.
- When fired it can travel at **40 knots, or 74 kmph**.
- The **operational range is 40 km** and it can carry a warhead weighing 250 kg.
- Varunastra was inducted by Indian Navy **in 2016**
- It can be fired from all **Anti-submarine warfare (ASW)** ships capable of firing heavy-weight torpedoes in an intense countermeasures environment.

### **Benefits of the Varunastra Torpedo**



- It is a powerful and sophisticated weapon that will significantly enhance the **Navy's ability to detect, track, and engage enemy submarines.**
- It is the first indigenously developed heavyweight torpedo that is capable of meeting the Navy's operational requirements.
- This will reduce the Navy's dependence on foreign weapons systems.
- It is a cost-effective weapon that will save the Navy money in the long run.

## **9. NHPC inks MoU with Maharashtra Government ( June 7, 2023 )**

NHPC-inks-MoU-with-Maharashtra-Government

State-owned **NHPC Limited** has announced its **collaboration with the Department of Energy, Maharashtra government** through a **Memorandum of Understanding (MoU)** on 7 June.

### **An overview of the news**

- The primary objective of this partnership is to establish **Energy Storage Systems, specifically Pumped Storage Systems**, alongside other Renewable Energy Sources like Solar, Wind, and Hybrid, with **a total combined capacity of 7,350 MW.**
- The introduction of energy storage systems, such as **Pumped Storage Systems**, is crucial for storing excess energy during periods of low demand and utilizing it during peak hours.
- These systems play a vital role in ensuring a **reliable and uninterrupted power supply.**
- They contribute to grid stability, enable efficient energy management, and facilitate the **integration of intermittent renewable energy sources into the power grid.**
- By combining pumped storage systems with **solar, wind, and hybrid power generation**, this collaboration aims to optimize the utilization of renewable energy resources.

### **NHPC Limited**

- NHPC Limited, formerly known as the **National Hydroelectric Power Corporation**, is a state-owned company in India.
- It was **incorporated in 1975.**
- Its objective is **developing, operating, and maintaining hydroelectric power projects in India.**
- It is a government-owned company, with the **majority of shares held by the Government of India.**
- It operates under the administrative control of the **Ministry of Power.**

- Some of its major projects include the **Indira Sagar Project** in Madhya Pradesh, the **Teesta Low Dam Project** in West Bengal, and the **Parbati Hydroelectric Project** in Himachal Pradesh.

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