

# Testwale Current Affairs PDF

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## **1. 'Nepal International Tourism Expo' Kick Starts in Kathmandu ( June 15, 2024 )**

The two-day 'Nepal International Tourism Expo (NITE)' kicked off in Kathmandu on June 14 to promote Nepal's tourism globally.

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

- Held from June 14-15, 2024 at Bhrikutimandap Exhibition Hall.
- Organised in collaboration with Kathmandu Metropolitan City in collaboration with Nepal Tourism Board and other associations.

### **Inauguration and Goals**

- Inaugurated by Culture, Tourism and Civil Aviation Minister Hit Bahadur Tamang.
- Minister Tamang emphasised the event's potential to boost Nepal's international tourism presence.
- Minister Tamang noted ongoing efforts to meet the government's target of 1.6 million tourists this year, including resolving tourism sector issues and waiving VAT and unnecessary taxes on air tickets.

### **Participation and Networking**

- It aims to unite tourism related businesses such as hotels, resorts, homestays, travel/tour/trekking/mountaineering agencies, airlines and stakeholders from both domestic and international sectors.
- Participating countries include Nepal, India, Korea, Taiwan, Singapore, Maldives, USA, Netherlands, Sri Lanka, China, Thailand, UAE, Bangladesh, Vietnam, Malaysia and Bhutan, with a total of 155 entrepreneurs.
- Government of Bihar participated to promote tourism opportunities in ecotourism in Guru Circuit, Jain Circuit, Ramayana Circuit, Buddhist Circuit and Valmiki Tiger Reserve.
- Provides a two-day networking opportunity for national and international tourism stakeholders to foster collaboration and lasting partnerships.

### **About Nepal**

- The kingdom of Nepal was established by the Shah dynasty.
- It is a landlocked country in South Asia.
- Prime Minister - Pushpa Kamal Dahal
- President - Ram Chandra Paudel
- Capital - Kathmandu

• Currency - Nepalese Rupee

## **2. Cyril Ramaphosa Re-Elected South African President ( June 15, 2024 )**

Cyril Ramaphosa has been re-elected as the President of South Africa.

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

- This follows a landmark coalition deal between his African National Congress (ANC) and opposition parties.
- The new government combines Ramaphosa's ANC, the centre-right Democratic Alliance, and other smaller parties.

### **Parliament Vote**

- Ramaphosa won convincingly in a Parliament vote.
- He received 283 votes against Julius Malema's 44 in the 400-member house.
- Malema is the leader of the far-left Economic Freedom Fighters.

### **Crucial Agreement**

- Ramaphosa secured his second term after an agreement with the Democratic Alliance.
- This agreement was struck just hours before the presidential vote.
- The ANC lost its 30-year majority in Africa's national assembly.

### **Election Results**

- In the recent elections, the ANC's vote share dropped to 40%.
- The Democratic Alliance emerged as the second-largest party with 22% of the votes.

### **Co-Governance**

- The parties will now co-govern South Africa.
- This marks the first national coalition where no party has a majority.

### **About South Africa**

- It is located at the southernmost tip of the African continent and is known for its diverse ecosystems.
- Capital:- Pretoria (executive), Cape Town (legislative) and Bloemfontein (judicial)
- Largest city:- Johannesburg

### **3. IGNCA Signs MoU With Sansad TV ( June 14, 2024 )**

The Indira Gandhi National Centre for the Arts (IGNCA) and Sansad TV have signed a memorandum of understanding (MoU).

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

- The agreement aims **to enhance accessibility to Indian art and culture through collaborative efforts.**
- IGNCA will produce programs that will be telecast on Sansad TV as part of this initiative.
- **Dr. Sachchidanand Joshi**, Member Secretary of IGNCA, and **Rajat Punhani**, CEO of Sansad TV, signed the MoU.
- Dr. Joshi expressed satisfaction at the collaboration, highlighting the potential for joint programs.
- Mr. Punhani emphasized the benefits of the agreement, including the use of IGNCA's archival content on Sansad TV.

#### **About Indira Gandhi National Centre for the Arts (IGNCA):**

- Establishment: Founded on 19 November 1985 by Prime Minister Rajiv Gandhi.
- Purpose: Aims to study and promote various forms of arts, including literature (written and oral), visual arts (architecture, sculpture, painting, graphics), material culture (photography, film), and performing arts (music, dance, theatre).
- Autonomy: Operates as an autonomous institute under the Union Ministry of Culture.
- Activities: Hosts cultural performances and events like the 'Kathakar: International Storytellers Festival'.
- Trust: Governed by the Indira Gandhi National Centre for the Arts Trust, registered in New Delhi on 24 March 1987.
- President:- Ram Bahadur Rai

#### **About Sansad TV**

- It is an Indian government television channel established in March 2021.
- It was created by merging two existing house channels: Lok Sabha TV and Rajya Sabha TV.
- The channel broadcasts the proceedings of the two Houses of Indian Parliament (Bharatiya Sansad).
- Separate satellite channels are maintained for each House to broadcast their respective proceedings.
- Sansad TV also features programming focused on public affairs in addition to parliamentary sessions.

- CEO:- Rajit Punhani
- Headquarters - 23, Mahadev Road, New Delhi, Delhi, India
- Language(s) - Hindi, English

#### **4. India Sends Humanitarian Aid to Papua New Guinea ( June 13, 2024 )**

India dispatched a flight with 19 tons of humanitarian assistance and disaster relief supplies to Papua New Guinea.

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

- Response to Disaster: The aid is in response to a devastating landslide in Enga province, Papua New Guinea.

##### **Aid Details**

- Disaster Relief Material: 13 tons of supplies, including temporary shelters, water tanks, hygiene kits, and ready-to-eat meals.
- Medical Supplies: 6 tons of emergency use medicine and medical equipment, including dengue and malaria diagnostic kits and baby food.

##### **Geographical Background Of Papua New Guinea:**

- New Guinea, the world's second-largest island, covers an area of 785,753 km<sup>2</sup>.
- Situated in Oceania, it lies in the southwestern Pacific Ocean, adjacent to Australia, separated by the Torres Strait.
- The island is surrounded by numerous smaller islands to the west and east.

##### **India-Papua New Guinea Relations:**

- Diplomatic ties between India and Papua New Guinea were established in 1975 upon PNG's independence from Australia.
- India opened its resident mission in Port Moresby in 1996, reciprocated by PNG with a resident mission in New Delhi in 2006.
- Both nations, being Commonwealth countries, share warm relations, aligning closely on various global issues.
- Collaboration extends to international forums like the Commonwealth, Non-Aligned Movement, and the United Nations Organization.

##### **Humanitarian Aid and Assistance:**

- India extends humanitarian aid and disaster relief to PNG periodically.
- In 2023, assistance included drugs for HIV/AIDS patients.

- A grant-in-aid totaling US \$760,000 provided computers and peripherals to PNG in 2017-18.
- Capacity-building efforts involve training through programs like Indian Technical & Economic Cooperation Programme (ITEC) and the Colombo Plan.
- Ongoing implementation of aid proposals in various fields submitted by PNG under the annual grant-in-aid.
- A Centre of Excellence in Information Technology was established at the University of PNG with Indian financial and technical assistance.
- In 2018, Government of India provided assistance of US\$1 million for earthquake relief in areas affected by the PNG earthquake.

## **5. NCB Commences 'Nasha Mukth Bharat Pakhwada' to Fight Drug Abuse ( June 12, 2024 )**

The Narcotics Control Bureau (NCB) launched 'Nasha Mukth Bharat Pakhwada' to fight against drug abuse and illicit trafficking across the country.

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

- This observance runs from June 12th to the 26th of the month, coinciding with the International Day against Drug Abuse and Illicit Trafficking.
- The goal is to raise public awareness about the harmful effects of drug abuse.
- NCB aims to encourage widespread participation in an 'e-pledge' against drug abuse.
- The Indian government has reiterated its commitment to achieving a 'Drug Free India'.
- The International Day against Drug Abuse and Illicit Trafficking is recognized annually on June 26th by the United Nations General Assembly.

### **About Narcotics Control Bureau (NCB)**

- NCB is an Indian central law enforcement and intelligence agency.
- It works under the Ministry of Home Affairs.
- It helps in combating drug trafficking as well as use of illegal substances as per the provisions of the Narcotic Drugs and Psychotropic Substances Act.
- It coordinates drug-related matters with state governments and other central departments in India.
- Established:- 1986

## **6. Harsh Malhotra Takes Charge as Minister of State for Corporate Affairs in New Delhi ( June 12, 2024 )**

Harsh Malhotra has taken up the role of Minister of State for Corporate Affairs in New Delhi on June 12.

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

- Upon assuming office, Malhotra received a briefing on the major initiatives and policy matters within the Ministry and its associated bodies.
- He was informed about the current ongoing issues and the anticipated hurdles ahead.
- Malhotra is a representative from the East Delhi Lok Sabha constituency.

### **About Harsh Malhotra**

- Malhotra, aged 60, is a first-time Member of Parliament (MP) representing the Bhartiya Janta Party (BJP) from East Delhi in the 18th Lok Sabha.
- Malhotra holds a science degree from Hansraj College, Delhi University.

### **Career Highlights in Public Service**

- Elected Councillor from Welcome ward in 2012
- Mayor of East Delhi Municipal Corporation (EDMC) in 2015
- General Secretary of BJP's Delhi unit

## **7. Prime Minister releases 17th installment of PM-Kisan Samman Nidhi ( June 10, 2024 )**

Narendra Modi started his third term as Prime Minister. Immediately after taking office, the Prime Minister approved the release of the 17th installment of PM-Kisan Samman Nidhi.

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

- Rs 20,000 crore has been allocated in this installment, which will benefit about 9.3 crore farmers. This reflects the government's unwavering dedication towards farmer welfare.

### **Prime Minister's commitment:**

- Prime Minister Modi reaffirmed his government's pledge to give priority to farmers and agriculture.
- Vowed to continue strong support for the agriculture sector in the future.

### **PM-KISAN Scheme Overview:**

- Launched in 2019, the PM-KISAN scheme aims to provide income support to all landholding farmer families across the country.
- Eligible families receive a financial benefit of Rs 6,000 per year.

- Implemented as a central sector scheme with full financial support from the central government.

**Direct Benefit Transfer:**

- Funds are transferred directly to the bank accounts of beneficiaries.
- Disbursed in three instalments of Rs 2,000 each.
- Over 11 crore farmer families have benefited from the scheme so far, with total transfers exceeding Rs 3 lakh crore.

**8. Newly-Formed NDA Government Convenes First Cabinet Meeting in New Delhi ( June 10, 2024 )**

The newly-formed NDA government held its first cabinet meeting in New Delhi on 10th June.

**An Overview of the News**

- The government will provide assistance for house construction to an additional three crore rural and urban households.
- This decision addresses the housing needs due to an increase in the number of eligible families.
- The central government has been implementing the Pradhan Mantri Awas Yojana since 2015.
- The scheme provides assistance to eligible rural and urban households for constructing houses with basic amenities.
- Over the last ten years, 4.21 crore houses have been completed under the scheme for eligible poor families.
- Houses constructed under the scheme include basic amenities such as household toilets, LPG connections, electricity connections, and functional household tap connections.
- These amenities are provided through convergence with other schemes of the Central Government and State Governments.

**About NDA**

- The National Defence Academy (NDA) is the joint training institute for the Indian Armed Forces.
- Cadets from the Indian Army, Navy, and Air Force train together at the NDA.
- After NDA, cadets proceed to their respective service academies for further training before commissioning.
- Established:- **7 December 1949**
- Commandant:- **Vice Admiral Ajay Kochhar, AVSM, NM**

## **9. Supreme Court of India Revamps Gender Sensitization Committee ( June 3, 2024 )**

The Supreme Court of India has restructured its Gender Sensitization and Internal Complaints Committee (GSICC) to align with the 2013 regulations on Gender Sensitization and Sexual Harassment.

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

- This move underscores the judiciary's commitment to addressing gender issues.

### **Committee Leadership**

- Led by the Chief Justice of India.
- Justice Hima Kohli appointed as chairperson.
- Justice BV Nagarathna and Dr. Sukhda Pritam appointed as members.
- Leadership combines legal and academic expertise for enhanced effectiveness.

### **Membership Composition**

- Includes representatives from:
  - Supreme Court Bar Association
  - Supreme Court Advocate-on-Record Association
  - Supreme Court Bar Clerks' Association
- Notable members appointed by the Chief Justice of India:
  - Shruti Pandey
  - Jaideep Gupta
  - Dr. Leni Chaudhuri
  - Dr. Menaka Guruswamy
- Ensures a multidisciplinary approach.

### **Continuity and Forward Planning**

- Justice Hima Kohli's leadership ensures stability and continuity.
- Her experience is crucial for fair handling of gender sensitization and sexual harassment complaints.
- Structured approach reinforces the committee's role in promoting gender equality in the judiciary.



## **Facts about the Supreme Court of India**

### **• Establishment and Structure**

- Established: January 28, 1950.
- Location: New Delhi, designed by Ganesh Bhikaji Deolalikar, the first Indian chief architect of CPWD.
- Initial Judges: 8
- Current Judges: 34

### **• Significant Aspects and Contributions**

- First Judgment: Delivered in 1950 in State of Bihar v. Kameshwar Singh.
- Symbol: Features the Scales of Justice superimposed on Ashoka's Lion Capital.
- Notable Case: Ayodhya land dispute, the longest hearing lasting 40 days.
- Emergency Period (1975-1977): Supreme Court's powers were significantly curtailed.

### **• Legal and Social Impact**

- Retired judges are prohibited from practicing law in any court or before any authority in India.
- Enhanced gender sensitivity by permitting women to serve at night in previously restricted professions and spaces.

## **10. Indian Diaspora Artists Curate a Unique Art Showcase Centered around Paramount Classics ( June 9, 2024 )**

The PaintBrush Art Community, consisting of Indian diaspora artists in the UAE, organized the "Retro Revival" exhibition.

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

- This collaborative artistic venture unites 22 artists hailing from 8 different countries, aiming to honor the iconic Paramount movies from Hollywood's golden era.

### **Artistic Homage**

- Vibrant paintings revisit beloved films such as The Terminator, Titanic, The Godfather, Sleepy Hollow, Tomb Raider, and Top Gun.
- The artworks aim to capture the essence and magic of these classic movies, transporting viewers to a time of cinematic excellence.

### **Cultural Icons Depicted**

- "Retro Revival" extends beyond cinema, encompassing artistic representations of legendary personalities such as Marilyn Monroe, Michael Jackson, and Bob Marley.
- These artworks serve as a homage to the cultural giants and the eras they defined.

### **Inspiration from Paramount Pictures**

- The exhibition draws inspiration from Paramount Pictures, one of the oldest and most influential film studios globally.

### **UAE as a Hub for the Arts**

- The UAE has witnessed a significant rise as a hub for the arts, fostering a dynamic environment for creative expression.
- Government-backed initiatives, including world-class museums, galleries, and renowned events like World Art Dubai and the Sharjah Biennale, contribute to this vibrant scene.
- This focus on arts and culture has attracted not only Indian artists but has also empowered the local art community.