

CURRENT AFFAIRS OF JUNE 2015

Awards

The Indian scientist, Bharat Ratna awardee who has been conferred Japan's highest award the Order of the Rising Sun, Gold and Silver Star – **C.N.R. Rao**

The legendary playback singer who has been awarded the Harivarasanam Award instituted by the Kerala government – **S.P. Balasubramaniam**

The novel written by Ali Smith which has been chosen for the 2015 Baileys Prize (the prize was earlier known as Orange Prize and is awarded to a female author of any nationality for the best original full-length novel written in English, and published in the United Kingdom in the preceding year) – **How to be both**

The Indian monument which has been ranked third in the list of top landmarks by TripAdvisor's 2015 Travellers Choice Attractions Awards (The top two places were taken by Machu Picchu in Peru and Angkor Wat in Cambodia respectively) – **Taj Mahal**

The former Indian Prime Minister whom Bangladesh has decided to honour with Friends of Bangladesh Liberation War Award for his outstanding support for the country's independence from Pakistan in 1971 – **Atal Bihari Vajpayee**

Banking

The private sector bank which has launched PayZapp a complete digital payment and purchase solution, a one-stop online portal offering customers "great deals at one place" – **HDFC Bank**

The private sector bank which launched 'Scan N Pay', a mobile application that allows customers to instantly transfer money to any of its accounts through android phones (The recipient will key in the transaction amount in his/her 'Scan N Pay' App and generate a dynamic QR code. The payer will scan the QR code using the Scan N Pay App installed in his/her mobile phone, feed in his/her MPIN and initiate the payment.) – **Federal Bank**

Defence

The joint military exercise between armies of India and UK, being conducted from 13 June to 28 June 2015 at Westdown Camp, Salisbury Plains Training Area, UK – **Ajeya Warrior**

The port at which India's maiden indigenous aircraft carrier INS Vikrant was undocked for the first time after completion of structural work – **Kochi**

Places – India

The district of West Bengal which has been awarded the United Nations Public Service Award 2015 in the category of improving delivery of public services (having become the first open defecation free district in India) – **Nadia**

The birth place of socialist leader Jayaprakash Narayan in Bihar where the Union Govt has decided to set up a national memorial – **Lala Ka Tola, Sitab Diara, Dist Chhapra (Saran)**

The mountain pass between Sikkim and Tibet which has been opened for the first time to inaugurate a new route for Kailash Mansarovar pilgrims – **Nathu La**

The state which has chosen the Blue Mormon (Papilio polymnestor) butterfly as the state butterfly, thus becoming the first state in the country to have a State butterfly – **Maharashtra**

The two districts of Haryana and one district of Uttar Pradesh which have been added to National Capital Region (taking the total number of district from Haryana to 13 and from U.P. to 6) – **Jind, Karnal and Muzaffarnagar**

The cities in which the Central govt has decided to hold the 12th South Asian Games in November-December 2015 (Note: The games had earlier been offered to Kerala - Refer Current Affairs of May 2015) – **Guwahati and Shillong**

The city of Rajasthan where one of the fastest built metro systems in the country, became operational when the Chief Minister Vasundhara Raje flagged off the inaugural train – **Jaipur**

Places - World

The largest city of Chile where an emergency situation was declared after the air pollution had reached a critical level – **Santiago**

The Asian country which has lowered the voting age from 20 to 18 to raise the young generation's involvement in politics – **Japan**

The country in which experts have recently completed restoration of an 800-year-old Buddha statue, the Qianshou Guanyin, famous for its 1,000 hands – **China**

The middle-east nation which has opened its stock market for the first time for foreign investors (The stock exchange is named Tadawul and its all-share index is named TASI) – **Saudi Arabia**

The Asian country which has reported several cases of MERS (Middle East Respiratory Syndrome) with some of the patients succumbing to the disease – **South Korea**

The venue of 41st G-7 Summit held from June 7 to Jun 8, 2015 – **Schloss Elmau, Bavaria (Germany)**

The country from which Indian Oil Corporation is to import crude oil to fill up first of India's strategic reserves at Visakhapatnam with a capacity of 1.33 million tonnes of crude oil – **Iraq**

The city in which China has prohibited smoking in all indoor public places, including offices, shopping malls and airports and increased the fines drastically for violations – **Beijing**

Persons

The head of Missionaries of Charity organisation since the death of Mother Teresa in 1997 who passed away on 23 June 2015 – **Sister Nirmala**

The former German tennis star who has been appointed Ayurveda brand ambassador of Kerala – **Steffi Graf**

The British actor who achieved fame for his role as Dracula in many films and also in Star Wars and The Lord of the Rings, passed away on 12 June 2015 – **Christopher Lee**

The creator of iconic Rock Garden in Chandigarh and Padma Shri awardee who passed away on 12 June 2015 – **Nek Chand**

The 2004 Chemistry Nobel Prize winning biochemist for discovering a way that cells destroy unwanted proteins (the basis for developing new therapies for diseases such as cervical cancer and cystic fibrosis) who passed away on 02 June – **Irwin Rose**

Railways

The division of Northern Railways which has rolled out a broad gauge non-AC coach which uses a solar photovoltaic system for power requirements of light and fan for the first time across railways – **Delhi**

The city in Kerala where the Railway Minister Suresh Prabhu flagged off India's first diesel electric multiple unit (DEMU) train service with an air-conditioned coach – **Kochi**

Space

The SpaceX rocket Falcon 9 carrying Dragon space capsule which exploded minutes after take-off on 28 June 2015 was launched from – **Cape Canaveral, Florida**

The Portuguese football player after whom a newly found galaxy, the brightest galaxy in the early universe that contains the first generation of stars, has been named – **Cristiano Ronaldo**

The Indian organisation which has been awarded the 2015 Space Pioneer Award by the U.S. National Space Society during the 34th Annual International Space Development Conference held at Toronto in Canada from May 20 to 24, 2015 – **Indian Space Research Organisation**

Sports - Cricket

The Indian cricketer who has been chosen to captain the team on its Zimbabwe tour scheduled in July 2015 – **Ajinkya Rahane**

The former Pakistan cricket player who has been appointed as the President of International Cricket Council for a one-year term – **Zaheer Abbas**

The Bangladesh cricketer who has become the country's highest run scorer in test cricket surpassing Habibul Bashar's eight year old record of 3026 runs – **Tamim Iqbal**

The former West Indies cricketer who has been inducted into the ICC Cricket Hall of Fame becoming the 18th from West Indies to be honoured (Note: Betty Wilson, Anil Kumble and Martin Crowe were inducted earlier this year into the hall.) – **Wesley Hall**

The Indian cricketer who is the only Indian sportsperson to figure in the Forbes magazines' 100 highest-paid athletes in the world which is led by American boxer Floyd Mayweather – **M.S. Dhoni (Rank 23)**

The former Indian cricketer who has been appointed the coach of the India A and under-19 cricket teams by the BCCI – **Rahul Dravid**

The Indian umpire who has become the first Indian after S. Venkataraghavan to be inducted in the International Cricket Council's (ICC) Elite Panel of Umpires – **Sundaram Ravi**

The three Indian cricketers who have been inducted into the BCCI's newly-constituted cricket advisory panel to guide the Board in all matters related to the game – **Sachin Tendulkar, Sourav Ganguly, VVS Laxman**

Sports – Other Sports

The Indian pair of badminton players who has won the Canada Open women's doubles title defeating the Dutch pair of Eefje Muskens and Selena Piek in the finals – **Jwala Gutta and Ashwini Ponappa**

The Indian boxer and winner of bronze medal at the 2008 Olympics who has turned a professional boxer (he will not represent India anymore) – **Vijender Singh**

The Indian tennis player who has become the 47th player in the world to partner with 100 different players in doubles matches when he teamed up with Spain's Marcel Granollers at the Aegon Open Tennis tournament – **Leander Paes**

The Indian basketball player who has become the first Indian to be selected in the United States National Basketball Association (He was selected by Dallas Mavericks team) – **Satnam Singh Bhamara**

The football club which has won the UEFA Champions League football tournament defeating Juventus in the finals – **FC Barcelona**

Miscellaneous

The last date for exchanging pre-2005 currency notes has been extended by the Reserve Bank of India to – **31 Dec 2015**

The merchant vessel which sank off the coast of Mumbai and the crew of which were rescued by Indian Navy and Coast Guard personnel – **MV Coastal Pride**

The pharmaceutical company which has been notified to replace private sector electricity producer Tata Power in the 30-share index of Bombay Stock Exchange 'Sensex' – **Lupin Ltd.**

The new minimum support price (MSP) of paddy for 2015-16 kharif season as announced by the Cabinet Committee on Economic Affairs (a hike of Rs. 50 over last year) – **Rs. 1410**

The telecom service provider with which Archaeological Survey of India has tied up to provide free wi-fi service for 30 minutes at the historic Taj Mahal – **BSNL**

The bird which has been chosen as the National Bird of United Kingdom in a nationwide poll by securing 34% of votes in its favour – **Robin**

The residential premises in New Delhi where a sewage treatment facility was inaugurated by the President Pranab Mukherjee to meet 80% of its demand for horticulture – **Rashtrapati Bhavan**

The theme of World Environment Day observed on 05 June 2015 – **Seven Billion Dreams. One Planet. Consume with Care**

The telecom service provider which has decided to provide free national roaming from June 15, 2015 for a period of one year – **BSNL**

The river in which a Chinese cruise ship named Dongfangzhixing or Eastern Star with over 450 people aboard capsized during a storm – **Yangtze river**

Charles Correa - Architect

Born - 1930

Died - 2015, June 16

Famous for designing - Gandhi Smarak Sangrahalaya Ahmedabad, the Handloom Pavilion in Delhi, Bharat Bhavan and Vidhan Bhavan in Madhya Pradesh, Jawahar Kala Kendra in Jaipur, the Permanent Mission of India at the U.N., New York, Kala Academy in Goa and Navi Mumbai

Awards - Padma Shri in 1972 and Padma Vibhushan in 2006

Founder of - Urban Design Research Institute (UDRI) in Mumbai

Renaming of Zoo and Bird Sanctuary

Lucknow Prani Udyaan renamed as **Nawab Wajid Ali Shah Prani Udyan**.

Nawabganj Bird Sanctuary in Unnao district as **Shaheed Chandra Shekhar Azad Pakshi Vihar**.

Global energy Prize 2015

Shuji Nakamura (USA): For the invention, commercialization and development of energy-efficient white LED lighting technology.

Jayant Baliga (USA): For invention, development and commercialization of Insulated Gate Bipolar Transistor, which is one of the most important innovations for the control and distribution of energy.

(Note: Given for the first time in 2003, the Global Energy Prize is presented each year in St. Petersburg by the President of the Russian Federation where winners receive a prize of RUB 33 million.)

Fragile States Index 2015 released by Fund for Peace

The Fragile States Index (formerly the Failed States Index) is an annual report published by the United States think-tank the Fund for Peace and the magazine Foreign Policy since 2005. Finland at 178 is the only nation in the Very Sustainable list.

Very High Alert		Alert
1. South Sudan		27. Myanmar
2. Somalia		32. Bangladesh
3. Central African Republic		34. Sri Lanka
4. Sudan		36. Nepal
High Alert		Warning
8. Afghanistan		68. India
13. Pakistan		74. Bhutan
		83. China

New Appointments

Shri KV Choudhary – Chief Vigilance Commissioner

Shri Vijai Sharma – Chief Information Commissioner

Ms. Ameenah Gurib-Fakim – First Woman President of Mauritius

Shri M.K. Sharma – Non-Executive Chairman of ICICI Bank in place of Shri KV Kamath who has been chosen to head BRICS Bank

Places where Govt has cleared proposal for setting up of new IIMs

1. Visakhapatnam (Andhra Pradesh)
2. Amritsar (Punjab)
3. Sirmour (Himachal Pradesh)
4. Sambalpur (Odisha)
5. Nagpur (Maharashtra)
6. Bodh Gaya (Bihar)

21st Asian Athletics Championship

Venue: Wuhan, China

#	Country	Gold	Silver	Bronze	Total
1.	China	15	13	13	41
2.	Qatar	7	2	1	10
3.	India	4	5	4	13
4.	Japan	4	3	11	18
5.	Bahrain	3	3	2	8

Indian Gold Medal Winners at the championship

1. Vikas Gowda - Discus throw
2. Tintu Luka - Women's 800 m
3. Lalita Babar - Women's 3000m Steeplechase
4. Inderjeet Singh - Shotput

French Open 2015

Event	Winner	Nationality	Runner-up	Nationality
Men's Singles	Stanislas Wawrinka	Switzerland	Novak Djokovic	Serbia
Women's Singles	Serena Williams	USA	Lucie Safarova	Czech
Men's Doubles	Ivan Dodig Marcelo Melo	Croatia Brazil	Bob Bryan Mike Bryan	USA
Women's Doubles	Bethanie Lynn Mattek-Sands Lucie Safarova	USA Czech Republic	Casey Dellacqua Yaroslava Shvedova	Australia Kazakhstan
Mixed Doubles	Bethanie Lynn Mattek-Sands Mike Bryan	USA	Lucie Hradecka Marcin Matkowski	Czech Poland

Abbreviations in news

AMRUT – Atal Mission for Rejuvenation and Urban Transformation

FSSAI – Food Safety and Standards Authority of India

Revision Questions on Current Affairs of June 2015

- Who among the following is the new Chief information Commissioner?
(a) Shri KV Choudhary (b) Shri MK Sharma (c) Shri Vijai Sharma (d) Shri VS Sampath
- Charles Correa who died recently was a renowned -
(a) Architect (b) Cardiologist (c) Historian (d) Politician
- Tadawul, the stock exchange which opened for the first time for foreign investors is located in -
(a) Iran (b) Turkey (c) Egypt (d) Saudi Arabia
- Women's Doubles title at which of the following tournaments was recently won by the Indian pair of Jwala Gutta and Ashwin Ponappa?
(a) Malaysia Open (b) Canada Open (c) Indonesia Open (d) Thailand Open
- In which of the following states is Nathu La pass located?
(a) Jammu & Kashmir (b) Himachal Pradesh (c) Sikkim (d) West Bengal
- Who of the following won the French Open Men's Singles title for 2015?
(a) Roger Federer (b) Stanislas Wawrinka (c) Novak Djokovic (d) Rafael Nadal
- Which of the following banks has recently launched Scan N Pay mobile application for its customers?
(a) Axis Bank (b) HDFC Bank (c) ICICI Bank (d) Federal Bank
- Which of the following has become the first state in India to have a State Butterfly, by adopting Blue Mormon as its state butterfly?
(a) Sikkim (b) Himachal Pradesh (c) Maharashtra (d) Uttarakhand
- Ajeya Warrior, was a joint military exercise conducted by the armies of India and -
(a) France (b) United Kingdom (c) Russia (d) Indonesia
- In which country were several cases of MERS (middle East Respiratory Syndrome) reported recently?
(a) Malaysia (b) South Korea (c) China (d) Taiwan
- Nek Chand who passed away in June 2015 was the creator of the famous -
(a) Brindavan Garden, Mysore (b) Mughal Garden, Delhi
(c) Eden Gardens, Kolkata (d) Rock Garden, Chandigarh
- What is the new MSP (Minimum support Price) of paddy for the kharif season 2015-16?
(a) Rs. 1360 (b) Rs. 1380 (c) Rs. 1420 (d) Rs. 1410
- Satnam Singh Bhamara, who was in news recently is associated with which of the following sports?
(a) Volleyball (b) Basketball (c) Baseball (d) Boxing
- Which Indian tennis player recently achieved the landmark of having played with 100 different partners in men's doubles category?

(a) Mahesh Bhupathi (b) Rohan Bopanna (c) Somdev Devvarman (d) Leander Paes

15. Which district in West Bengal has been awarded United Nations Public Service Award 2015 in the category of improving delivery of public services?

(a) Darjeeling (b) Nadia (c) Hooghly (d) Malda

16. In which country was the voting age reduced from 20 years to 18 years?

(a) Japan (b) Indonesia (c) South Korea (d) Malaysia

17. In which of the following cities were the 21st Asian Athletics Championships held in June 2015?

(a) Guangzhou (b) Tianjin (c) Wuhan (d) Macau

18. Which country is at the top of Fund for Peace's Fragile States Index 2015 (i.e. the country considered the most fragile)?

(a) Iraq (b) South Sudan (c) Somalia (d) Afghanistan

19. Who of the following is not in the BCCI's newly constituted cricket advisory panel to guide the board?

(a) Sachin Tendulkar (b) Sourav Ganguly (c) Rahul Dravid (d) VVS Laxman

20. How many districts of Haryana are a part of National Capital Region to which some districts were added recently?

(a) 10 (b) 11 (c) 12 (d) 13

21. PayZapp, a complete digital payment and purchase solution has been launched by –

(a) HDFC Bank (b) ICICI Bank (c) Axis Bank (d) Federal Bank

22. Which former tennis star has been appointed Ayurveda brand ambassador of Kerala?

(a) Martina Navratilova (b) Steffi Graff (c) Boris Becker (d) Pete Sampras

23. Which company recently replaced Tata Power Ltd in the Bombay Stock Exchange's 30-share SENSEX?

(a) Lupin Ltd (b) Ranbaxy Ltd (c) Cipla (d) Sun Pharma

24. At which of the following places was India's first diesel electric multiple unit (DEMU) train service with an air-conditioned coach flagged off by the Railway Minister?

(a) Madurai (b) Kochi (c) Jaipur (d) Cuttack

25. Wesley Hall, a former cricketer who was inducted into the ICC Cricket Hall of Fame played for -

(a) West Indies (b) New Zealand (c) Zimbabwe (d) Australia

26. Charleston, the city which was in news for a shoot-out in church is located in which state of United States?

(a) South Carolina (b) California (c) South Dakota (d) Texas

27. Which of the following is the largest butterfly in India?

(a) Andaman Crow (b) Blue Mormon (c) Southern Birdwing (d) Tree Nymph

28. Softbank Corp which has recently formed a JV, SBG Cleantech, with Bharti Enterprise and Taiwan-based Foxconn Technology, to promote adoption of clean and safe energy in India is a company based in

(a) China (b) Japan (c) South Korea (d) Taiwan

29. Which country hosts the annual Salzburg Festival at which two artistes from Tamil Nadu – Bharathanatyam exponent Alarmel Valli and nagaswaram player Injikudi E.M. Subramaniam are scheduled to perform?

(a) Belgium (b) Brazil (c) Argentina (d) Austria

30. The proposed BCIM (Bangladesh, China, India and Myanmar) economic corridor is planned to connect Kolkata to which city in China?

(a) Guangzhou (b) Kunming (c) Shenzhen (d) Tianjin

31. Formosa Water Park at which a colour powder explosion seriously injured over 500 people is located in –

(a) South Korea (b) Taiwan (c) Japan (d) Thailand

32. In which country, passing through financial crisis, have the banks been shut for a week to prevent the country's financial system from collapsing in panic?

(a) Greece (b) Turkey (c) Tunisia (d) Spain

Answers

1. (c) 2. (a) 3. (d) 4. (b) 5. (c) 6. (b) 7. (d) 8. (c) 9. (b) 10. (b) 11. (d) 12. (d) 13. (b)
14. (d) 15. (b) 16. (a) 17. (c) 18. (b) 19. (c) 20. (d) 21. (a) 22. (b) 23. (a) 24. (b) 25. (a) 26. (a)
27. (c) 28. (b) 29. (d) 30. (b) 31. (b) 32. (a)

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