

Current Affairs

17th June 2021



Today's Important News

Microsoft CEO Satya Nadella named
as chairman of the board

1. Microsoft CEO Satya Nadella named as Chairman of the board

- Microsoft CEO Satya Nadella has been named as the Chairman of the Microsoft Corp.
- He will succeed John Thompson, who will now serve as a lead independent director.
- Nadella took over as CEO in 2014 from Steve Ballmer.
- He has been instrumental in scaling up its business including billion-dollar acquisitions like LinkedIn, Nuance Communications, and ZeniMax.
- Nadella has transformed the software titan into America's second-largest firm by value after tech giant Apple.



Foot Notes:

About Microsoft:

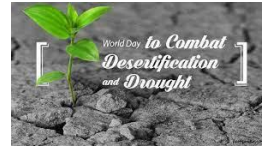
CEO: Satya Nadella

Founded: April 4, 1975

Founders: Bill Gates, Paul Allen

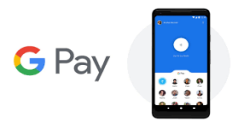
2. World Day to Combat Desertification and Drought 2021: 17th June

- Every year on June 17, World Day to Combat Desertification and Drought is observed.
- The day's focus is to turn the degraded land that has lost its natural productivity due to human activity into healthy land.
- The UN-designated day is all about a green planet, sustainable development, and the health and welfare of people.
- This year's theme is "Restoration.Land Recovery. We build back better with healthy land".



3.Google Pay to allow 'tokenized' payments through SBI, IndusInd cards

- Google Pay has tied up with a clutch of leading Indian banks to offer 'tokenized' card services to customers on its UPI app.
- It has now added debit cards by SBI, IndusInd Bank, and Federal Bank and Credit cards by IndusInd Bank and HSBC India to its tokenized offerings.
- It is a feature that enables users to make debit or credit card payments through a secure digital token attached to their phone.
- The network partner for these transactions is VISA.



Foot Notes:

About Google:

Founded: September 4, 1998

CEO: Sundar Pichai

Headquarters: Mountain View, CA

Founders: Larry Page, Sergey Brin

4.Asian Development Bank, India sign \$ 484 mn loan to upgrade road network in TN industrial corridor

- The ADB and the GoI signed a \$484 million loan to improve transport connectivity and
- facilitate industrial development in the Chennai–Kanyakumari Industrial Corridor (CKIC) in Tamil Nadu.
- CKIC is part of India's East Coast Economic Corridor (ECEC).
- ADB is the lead partner of the Government of India in developing ECEC.
- The project will upgrade about 590 km of state highways in the CKIC influence areas that cover 23 of the 32 districts b/w Chennai and Kanyakumari.



Foot Notes:

About Asian Development Bank:

Headquarters: Mandaluyong, Philippines

Founded: December 19, 1966

Leader: Masatsugu Asakawa

5. IIT Bombay Hosts Conference of BRICS Network Universities as part of 13th B

- A 3-day virtual Conference of BRICS Network Universities (BNU) on the theme of electric mobility was inaugurated at IIT Bombay.
- This conference is part of the engagements that India is hosting under the education stream during its Chairship of the 13th BRICS Summit.
- Over 100 students, researchers, and faculty from the BNU of the 5-member countries are expected to participate in the conference.
- IIT Bombay is the lead institution of India for the BNU.



6. India extends \$ 100 million LoC to Sri Lanka for Solar Energy Projects

- India has signed an agreement extending a \$100 mn Line of Credit (LOC) to Sri Lanka for projects in the Solar Energy Sector.
- The agreement was signed between Sri Lanka and the EXIM Bank.
- This LOC will help finance various projects in the solar energy sector in Sri Lanka.
- Some of the projects were announced during the Founding Conference of the ISA held in March 2018 in Delhi.
- Thus far 89 countries, including Sri Lanka, have signed the Framework Agreement of the ISA.



Foot Notes:

About Sri Lanka:

Capital: Sri Jayawardenepura Kotte

President: Gotabaya Rajapaksa

7. China sends its first crew to new space station

- China launched a spacecraft 'Shenzhou-12' carrying 3 astronauts to part of its own space station.
- It was launched from Gobi Desert.
- China becomes the third country to send astronauts into space.
- This is a third of the 11-mission needed to complete China's space station by 2022.
- The Chinese station reportedly is intended to be used for 15 years and may outlast the International Space Station.



- This is also China's 7th crewed mission overall.

Foot Notes:

About China:

President: Xi Jinping

Capital: Beijing

Currency: Renminbi

8. Centre appoints Finance Ministry official Anand Mohan Bajaj to SEBI Board

- The Govt of India has appointed Anand Mohan Bajaj as a Member of the Board of Securities and Exchange Board of India (SEBI).
- Currently, he is holding the post of Additional Secretary in the Finance Ministry since May 2020.
- He will succeed Tarun Bajaj, who is now the Revenue Secretary.
- He had rejoined the Finance Ministry in September 2018 as Joint Secretary.
- He had earlier served as Director (capital markets) in the Finance Ministry between July 2006-June 2011.



Foot Notes:

About SEBI:

Chairperson: Ajay Tyagi

Headquarters: Mumbai, Maharashtra

Founder: Government of India

Founded: April 12, 1992

9. PM Modi addresses Europe's biggest startup & tech event - Viva Tech

- PM Modi addressed the 5th edition of Viva Tech, the largest digital, and start-up event in Europe.
- The Prime Minister has been invited as a Guest of Honour.
- He said that India is adaptable and agile even in the middle of the pandemic.
- VivaTech is being held in Paris every year since 2016.
- It is jointly organized by Publicis Groupe, a prominent advertising and marketing conglomerate, and Les Echos – a leading French media group.



10. TRAI launches TV Channel Selector Portal

- TRAI has launched TV Channel Selector Portal.



- This portal will facilitate those subscribers who do not own a mobile phone but want to use a web browser for the selection of TV channels.
- This portal will help the subscriber to check their own subscription and view all the channels provided by the DTH and Cable operators.
- The portal also allows the subscriber to modify the existing subscriptions.
- The users can also provide feedback through the portal.

Foot Notes:

About TRAI:

Headquarters: New Delhi, India

Founded: February 20, 1997



The advertisement features a dark blue background with white text and a white smartphone graphic on the right. The text on the left reads: "India's No.1 App for Bank | SSC | Railways Competitive Exams". Below this, a list of features is provided: "• Job Alerts", "• Daily Quiz • Free PDF's", and "• Videos • Test Series • Current Affairs". The smartphone graphic on the right displays the "Make My Exam" logo, which consists of a red open book with the letters "M" and "Y" on its pages, and the text "Make My Exam" below it. Above the logo is the text "Download Now" and below it is "Powered by IBT".

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