



Current Affairs:- July 11 – July 20, 2019

- The Institute of Company Secretaries of India has rolled out an initiative a Unique Document Identification Number to pursue heightened sense of self-governance and strengthen the practising side of company secretaries. UDIN will provide ease of maintaining register of attestation and certification services. Note: The ICSI functions under the Ministry of Corporate Affairs.
 - Internal committee of the RBI has suggested that the foreign exchange market could function from 9 am to 9 pm. At present, the currency market works from 9 am to 5 pm. The panel suggested call money market timings could be extended till 6 pm instead of the 5 pm now.
 - The United Nations observed 11 July as World Population Day. Note: Antonio Guterres is the Secretary General of the United Nations.
 - Singer Taylor Swift has topped the Forbes' Celebrity 100 list and emerged as the highest-paid celebrity with her 2019 estimated earnings of over USD 185 million. India's Akshay kumar is placed 33rd in the list.
 - Indian girl, Isha Kanth is one of the two persons in the world to have bagged an internship programme at the International Court of Justice.
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- North Korea has revised its constitution to make Kim Jong Un as official head of state. Earlier Kim ruled as a chairman of state Affairs Commission. The previous constitution stated that the chairman of SAC served as a Supreme Leader.
 - The Delhi government has announced that the Rajghat thermal power plant will be officially shut and turned into a solar park. A 5,000 KW of solar power will be produced at the 45 acre plant site.
 - Film Divisions will launch documentary film club “KSHITIJ” in Mumbai. The club will be launched by Films Division, Ministry of Information & Broadcasting, Government of India, in association with Indian Documentary Producer’s Association (IDPA). The acclaimed documentary film “Secret Life of Frogs” by Ajay & Vijay Bedi will be screened as the inaugural film.
 - The World Bank Group announced that Anshula Kant, an Indian national, has been appointed Managing Director and Chief Financial Officer. Ms. Kant will be the first woman CFO of the Bank. Note: Headquarter of World Bank: Washington DC (USA). Established in: 1944; President: David Malpass.
 - YouTube is bringing a new education feature “Learning Playlists” with dedicated landing pages for educational videos on topics like math, science, music and language. Note: CEO of YouTube: Susan Wojcicki; YouTube Established in: February 2005.
 - In Table Tennis, Indian pair G. Sathiyan and Anthony Amalraj won the bronze at the World Tour Platinum Australian Open. They defeat Korean pair of Jeoung Youngsik and Lee Sangsu.
 - President Ram Nath Kovind has appointed Kalraj Mishra as the Governor of Himachal Pradesh. Acharya Devvrat has been transferred from Himachal Pradesh and appointed as the governor of Gujarat.
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- Former India wicket keeper-batsman Kiran More will take charge as the interim coach of the senior USA cricket team.
 - Chandrakant Kavlekar to be the new Deputy Chief Minister of Goa. He replaces Vijai Sardesai as the deputy chief minister of Goa.
 - Serbian Novak Djokovic won his fifth Wimbledon title after defeating Swiss tennis ace Roger Federer. He is now level with Bjorn Borg as a five-time Wimbledon winner.
 - India wrestler Vinesh Phogat has won her second consecutive gold in 53kg, at Yasar Dogu International in Istanbul.
 - England lifted the ICC Cricket World Cup Trophy 2019 at the Lord's cricket stadium in London. England defeated New Zealand with more number of boundaries in the Super Over thriller in the grand finale of ICC Cricket World Cup Trophy 2019. Note: Player of the tournament: Kane Williamson (New Zealand). Player of the Match Award: Ben Stokes (England). Highest run scorer of the tournament: Rohit Sharma (India). Highest wicket taker of the tournament: Mitchell Starc (Australia). The 13th edition of ICC Cricket World Cup will be held in India from February 9 to March 26, 2023.
 - The United Nations observed 15 July as World Youth Skills Day.
 - U.S. celebrated the Apollo 11 mission's 50th year anniversary.
 - U.S.'s Federal Trade Commission have approved a \$5 billion penalty to be levied on Facebook. The penalty have been approved to settle a probe into the social network's privacy and data protection lapses. It would be the largest penalty ever imposed by the FTC for privacy violations. Note: Facebook Headquarters: California, US; CEO: Mark Zuckerberg.
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- A UN report named, 'The State of Food Security and Nutrition in the World' has said, more than 821 million people suffered from hunger worldwide last year.
 - Private sector lender HDFC Bank has terminated and delisted its 22 outstanding global depository receipts (GDRs) from the Luxembourg Stock Exchange. Note: MD of HDFC Bank: Aditya Puri; Headquarters: Mumbai, Maharashtra.
 - Director Kaushik Ganguly's Bengali film 'Nagarkirtan', has won 4 awards in SAARC film festival. The movie was honoured with 'Best Feature Film', 'Best Director', 'Best Actor' and 'Best Original Score' awards.
 - International Shooting Sport Federation approved India's application to host the ISSF World Cup stages. World Cup will be held in New Delhi from March 15 to 26, 2020. The last edition of ISSF World Cup was held in Munich, Germany.
 - Ministry of Health and Family Welfare will launch a Jan Jagrukta Abhiyaan in Delhi to accelerate measures for prevention and control of Vector Borne Diseases like Malaria, Dengue and Chikungunya.
 - Finance Ministry has cut the rate of General provident fund (GPF) by 10 basis points from 8% to 7.9% with effect from July 1, 2019 to 30th September 2019. Note: Finance Ministry of India: Nirmala Sitharaman.
 - Ursula von der Leyen has been confirmed as the European commission's first female President. Note: European Union Headquarters: Brussels, Belgium.
 - President Ram Nath Kovind has appointed Anusuiya Uikey as Governor of Chhattisgarh. Biswa Bhusan Harichandan has been named as Governor of Andhra Pradesh. Note: CM of Chhattisgarh: Bhupesh Baghel; CM of Andhra Pradesh: Jaganmohan Reddy.
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- GoI plan to increase the total production of coal in the country to 1 billion tone by 2022-23. Note: Union Coal Minister of India: Prahlad Joshi.
 - Former Supreme Court judge, Justice AK Sikri, has been appointed as an international judge of the Singapore International Commercial court (SICC). Note: President of Singapore: Halimah Yacob.
 - Sports and Youth Affairs Minister conferred Arjuna Awards to tennis player Rohan Bopanna and Women cricketer Smriti Mandhana. Note: Mandhana was the ICC women's player of the year 2018. Sports and Youth Affairs Minister: Kiren Rijiju.
 - The Union Cabinet has approved National Medical Commission Bill, 2019. The bill provides for setting up of a National Medical Commission in place of Medical Council of India and repeal the Indian Medical Council Act 1956.
 - Asian Development Bank lowered India's GDP growth rate from 7.2% to 7% for the current fiscal year. Note: President of ADB Bank: Takehiko Nakao; HQ of ADB Bank: Manila, Philippines.
 - Maharashtra government increased financial aid to families of jawans martyred in war or war-like situations or conflict related to national security from Rs.25 lakh to Rs.1 crore. Personnel wounded in conflict will get monetary compensation ranging from Rs.20 lakh to Rs.60 lakh each, depending on the severity of their injury.
 - Google India and Tata Trusts initiative named "Internet Saathi" is aimed at facilitating digital literacy among women in rural India. This initiative will be expanded to villages in Punjab and Odisha.
 - World Day for International Justice was observed all around the world on 17th July.
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- The “Find the Incredible You” campaign of the Tourism Ministry, has won the Pacific Asia Travel Association (PATA) Gold Award, 2019.
 - The United Nations observed 18 July as Nelson Mandela International Day.
 - Star Indian sprinter Hima Das clinched gold in a 200m race in 23.25 seconds creditable timing in the Tabor Athletics Meet in Czech Republic.
 - “Kargil: Untold stories from the War” book was released. The book published by Penguin Random House, is authored by Rachna Bisht Rawat.
 - The Cabinet Committee on Economic Affairs gave the approval to the 2,880 megawatts Dibang hydropower project in Arunachal Pradesh. The Dibang river is a tributary river of the Brahmaputra that originated and flows through the Mishmi Hills & northeast India from the state of Arunachal Pradesh.
 - Former Olympic track and field athlete P T Usha has been nominated for the International Association of Athletics Federations Veteran Pin for her ‘long and meritorious service to the cause of World Athletics’.
 - International Cricket Council has inducted India’s batting icon Sachin Tendulkar, South African pace legend Allan Donald and two-times World Cup-winning Australian woman cricketer Cathryn Fitzpatrick into the ICC’s Hall of Fame. Other Indians on the list are Bishan Singh Bedi, Sunil Gavaskar, Kapil Dev, Anil Kumble, Rahul Dravid.
 - Bimal Jalan led six-member panel on Economic Capital Framework (ECF), formed by RBI has finalised its report on surplus RBI reserves. The panel has recommended that surplus reserves held by the central bank should be transferred to the government in tranches over three to five years.
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- Sri Lanka has signed an agreement with India to upgrade tracks in a key railway segment connecting the north and south at a cost of \$ 91.26 million.
 - International Cricket Council has suspended Zimbabwe for failing to ensure there is no government interference in its running of the sport.
 - International Monetary Fund chief Christine Lagarde has submitted her resignation as IMF chief. David Lipton will remain the IMF Acting Managing Director in the interim period. Note: Christine Lagarde was the first woman to head the IMF.
 - Commerce and Industry Minister will launch the Global Innovation Index (GII) on 24th July 2019 in New Delhi. The launch of GII will reveal the innovation rankings of economies. Theme for 2019: Evaluating the Medical Innovation Scenario of the Next Decade.
 - India has made a record by winning gold in both men's and women's category of the 21st Commonwealth Table Tennis Championship taking place in Odisha.
 - Three-time Delhi Chief Minister and senior Congress leader Shiela Dixit passed away in New Delhi. She served as Delhi's chief minister for 15 years.
 - India and China will carry out a major military exercise called 'Hand-in-Hand' in December, 2019. The exercise will take place at Umroi, Meghalaya. It will be based on counter-terrorism, humanitarian assistance and disaster relief operations.
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