

Current Affairs=25-06-2020

Harsh Vardhan released Annual TB Report 2020 prepared by Central TB Division; 14% rise in TB patients in 2019



The poster for the India TB Report 2020 features the national emblem at the top left. The main title is 'INDIA TB REPORT 2020'. Below it, a collage of photos shows diverse people. A yellow banner reads 'NATIONAL TUBERCULOSIS ELIMINATION PROGRAMME ANNUAL REPORT'. To the right, a calendar icon indicates the date '24th June 2020'. The text states: 'National TB Elimination program has decentralized Drug Resistant TB (DR-TB) treatment at the district level'. A dark blue box lists 'Benefits:'. Three icons illustrate the benefits: a person in a hospital bed for 'More accessible services for patients', a hand holding a coin for 'Reduced out of pocket expenses', and a medical cross for 'Prompt initiation of treatment'. At the bottom, the 'Central TB Division' logo and contact information are provided: 'Ministry of Health and Family Welfare, Nirman Shawan, New Delhi - 110011, www.tbcindia.gov.in'. Social media handles for mohfw.gov.in, @MoHFWIndia, @MoHFW_INDIA, mohfwindia, and @mohfwindia are also listed.

i. Ministry of Health and Family Welfare's (MoHFW) Union Health Minister Dr Harsh Vardhan and its Minister of State (MoS), Ashwini Kumar Choubey launched the Annual "India TB (Tuberculosis) Report 2020" through a virtual event which is released by Central TB Division (CTD), MoHFW. The salient feature of 2020 report is that for the first time CTD introduced a quarterly ranking on TB elimination efforts by all the states and UTs.

ii. It should be noted that the sustainable goal of eradicating TB globally is 2030, but the Indian government is committed to achieve this target in the country by 2025.

iii. In the categories of larger states with more than 50 lakh population, Gujarat has been ranked 1st followed by Andhra Pradesh and Himachal Pradesh at 2nd & 3rd position as best performing States.

iv. Near-complete on-line notification of TB patients have been achieved through the **NIKSHAY system**

About NIKSHAY:

NI-KSHAY-(Ni=End, Kshay=TB), a web enabled patient management system for TB control under the NTEP is developed and maintained by the CTD in collaboration with the National Informatics Centre (NIC), and the World Health Organization (WHO) Country office for India.

World Tuberculosis Day– **March 24**

2020 theme– **It's Time**

TB Campaign (India)– **TB Harega Desh Jeetega**

Jitendra Singh e-Inaugurates "Puneja Bridge" & "Devika Bridge" in J&K

Union Minister of State (MoS) (Independent Charge) Development of North Eastern Region (DoNER), MoS PMO, Personnel, Public Grievances & Pensions, Atomic Energy and Space Jitendra Singh inaugurated Jammu and



Kashmir's "Puneja Bridge" in Doda district and "Devika Bridge" in Udhampur district over a virtual platform.

Key People:

DG, BRO, Lt Gen Harpal Singh, Municipal Commissioners and DCs of Udhampur and Doda, Members of Civil Society and BRO.

Devika Bridge:

i. 10 meter long is built to ease the traffic congestion and to meet the

development requirements of the Udhampur town area.

ii. This will provide a smooth passage for the Army convoys and vehicles.

iii. The bridge was constructed in about 1 year time span by the Border Roads Organisation (BRO) amid the lockdown due to COVID-19 and labour shortage..

iv. The estimated cost of building the bridge is Rs 75 Lakhs.

Puneja Bridge:

i. The 50-meter-long Puneja bridge is built over the Puneja stream on the Bhandarwah-Basholi-Pathankot national highway under construction.

ii. The bridge was built by 114 RCC of the Border Roads Organisation (BRO) in 36 months

iii. The estimated cost of building the bridge is Rs.4 crore.

Bhandarwah-Basholi-Pathankot national highway:

This 185 Km long highway is strategically important in the defence point of view which will provide an alternate route to connect Doda, Kishtwar and Ramban districts without entering Jammu and Udhampur via Lakhanpur.

Cabinet approvals on June 24, 2020

On June 24, 2020, Union Cabinet chaired by the Prime Minister, Narendra Modi has given its approval to the following proposals:

– **Cabinet approves declaration of Kushinagar Airport in Uttar Pradesh as an International Airport**

The reason behind this move is to provide improved connectivity to Kushinagar, an important Buddhist pilgrimage site, located in the north-eastern part of UP



Union Cabinet Approves Term Extension Of Commission To Examine Sub-Categorization Of OBCs till Jan 21, 2021

- In October 2017, the commission was instituted under the chairmanship of Justice (Retd.) G. Rohini. to examine the issue of

Sub-categorization of Other Backward Classes (OBCs)

–Historic Reform: Private sector participation in Space activities approved

- As a part of this approval, the newly-created Indian National Space Promotion and Authorisation Centre (IN-SPACe) will guide private enterprise participation in space activities and the use of the country's space infrastructure.

–2% Interest Subvention approved on prompt repayment of Shishu Loans under PMMY for 12 months

- The Cabinet has also approved a scheme for interest subvention of 2% for a period of 12 months to all Shishu loan accounts under Pradhan Mantri Mudra Yojana (PMMY) to eligible borrowers w.e.f. June 01, 2020 till May 31, 2021. The estimated cost of the Scheme is approximately Rs 1,542 crore.

–Cabinet approves establishment of Animal Husbandry Infrastructure Development Fund worth Rs. 15000 cr

- On the lines of the 20 Lakh cr Atma Nirbhar Bharat Abhiyan stimulus package, the Cabinet Committee on Economic Affairs (CCEA) has approved setting up of Animal Husbandry Infrastructure Development Fund (AHIDF) worth Rs. 15000 crore to incentivize MSMEs and private companies participation in the animal husbandry sector .

–Cabinet approves additional investment of US\$ 121.27 mn by ONGC Videsh Ltd. for development of blocks A-1 and A-3 of Myanmar

- OVL, the overseas arm of state-owned Oil and Natural Gas Corp (ONGC), had picked up a stake in the Shwe Project in Myanmar in 2002.

–Urban, multi-State cooperative banks to come under RBI supervision

- The Cabinet has approved an ordinance to bring nearly 1,482 urban and 58 multi state cooperative banks under the Reserve Bank of India's (RBI) supervision. It will give an assurance to 8.6 crore

depositors, who have saved Rs 4.84 lakh crore in these banks, that their money will stay safe.

Virtual conference of the Russia-India-China trilateral hosted by Moscow, Russia



Russia-India-China (RIC) Foreign Minister-level virtual conference was held following the cross border clash between Indian and Chinese troops in Galwan Valley in Ladakh on June 15, 2020, where India lost 20 Army personnel. It was the biggest ever confrontation between the two sides after a gap of 45 years. The conference was hosted by Moscow, Russia.

- From Indian side, External Affairs Minister **Subrahmanyam Jaishankar** participated in the meet. Chinese Foreign Minister Wang Yi and his Russian counterpart Sergei Lavrov were the other two participants of the conference.
- Russia has urged both the countries to resolve the border row through talks.

Notably on June 22, 2020 Defence Minister Rajnath Singh left for Russia on a three-day visit to attend a military parade in Moscow on June 24 to commemorate the 75th anniversary of victory of the Russian people in the Second World War.

Pakistan remains in Financial Action Task Force's Grey list



Financial Action Task Force(FATF) in its 3rd and final plenary meeting under the Chinese Presidency of Xiangmin Liu over a virtual platform, retained Pakistan on the grey list till October 2020, for failing to prosecute and penalise terrorist financing in the country before the deadline fixed by FATF . Note: Germany will take over the presidency of the FATF from July, 2020 for a year.

Key Points:

- i. In the FATF meeting in February 2020, Islamabad was told that all the deadlines have expired and if failed to prosecute and penalise terrorist financing by June 2020, the global terrorist financing watchdog will take action.
- ii. In the Paris plenary FATF expressed their concern at Pakistan's failure to complete its 27-point action plan before the deadline that ended in September 2019.
- iii. If Pakistan fails to comply with FATF directive by October 2020 the country will be put under "Black List".

Grey List:

- i. The countries on the grey list will have difficulties in getting financial aid from the IMF, World Bank, ADB and European Union.
- ii. The inclusion in grey list serves as a warning that the country may enter black list

Black List:

- i. Non-cooperative countries or a Territories (NCCTs) are put in black list.
- ii. Currently countries like North Korea and Iran are under black list

Priyanka Chopra & Anurag Kashyap Named Among 50 Ambassadors for 45th Edition of TIFF 2020



- i. Actor **Priyanka Chopra** and Filmmaker **Anurag Kashyap** named among the 50 ambassadors for the **45th edition** of Toronto International Film Festival (TIFF) **2020**, which is to be held virtually.
- ii. The festival will take place from September 10-19 with physical screenings and drive-ins, digital screenings, virtual red carpets, press conferences and industry talks.
- iii. This is the **1st time** TIFF will launch a **digital platform** for the

festival, offering new opportunities to connect with audiences beyond Toronto.

About TIFF:

Headquarters– Toronto, Canada

Former England Women Cricket Captain Clare Connor Becomes the 1st Female President of Marylebone Cricket Club in 233 years



Former England Women Cricket Captain **Clare Connor**(43 year old), an all-rounder, becomes the **1st female president** of Marylebone Cricket Club(MCC) in 233 years. Her tenure will begin on October 1, 2021, and will end on September 30, 2022. She will succeed **Kumar Sangakkara**.

- She is current head of women's cricket in the England and Wales Cricket Board (since 2007).

Key Points

- i. The current MCC president, Kumar Sangakkara who is the 1st non-British MCC president, nominated Clare Connor through video link from his native Sri Lanka during an annual general meeting on June 24. He is a former Sri lankan cricketer.
- ii. The tenure of MCC Presidents is for a year but Kumar Sangakkara's term is set to be extended by a further 12 months due to pandemic. He assumed the post in 2019.