

Current Affairs=02-07-2020

Indian marine fish landings rose 2.1% to 3.56mt in 2019: CMFRI; Tamil Nadu tops



In accordance with the report “Annual Marine Fish Landings in India for 2019” by Central Marine Fisheries Research Institute (CMFRI), India’s marine fish production has increased marginally by **2.1%** to 3.56 million tonnes (mt) in 2019 as compared to 3.49 mt in 2018.

As per the report, Tamil Nadu grabbed the top in annual fish production with 7.75 lakh tonnes

followed by Gujarat (7.49 lakh tonnes), which had been holding the first position earlier, and Kerala (5.44 lakh tonnes) which retained the third position.

The estimated value of fish landings in the country last year was **Rs 60,881 crore** with 15.6% increase over 2018.

It should be noted that the term “Landing” in the report means getting fish out of the water and brought to the land. Notably, in the global front, India is ranked **3rd** after China and Indonesia in marine fish production.

Central Marine Fisheries Research Institute (CMFRI):

The Fishery Resources Assessment Division of the CMFRI estimated the annual marine fish landings through its online data collection system.

Director– Dr. A. Gopalakrishnan

Headquarter– Kochi, Kerala

DFPD estimated Rs 1,48,938 cr as cost for distribution of foodgrains and pulses under PMGKAY during April – Nov 2020

On July 1, 2020, Department of Food and Public Distribution (DFPD) under Ministry of Consumer Affairs, Food and Public Distribution has worked out estimated cost for distribution of food grains (Rice and Wheat) and pulses under PMGKAY, which will be Rs 1,48,938 crore approx for a period between 8



months from April to November 2020.
ii. On June 30, 2020, Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi, during televised address to the nation, has announced the extension of Pradhan Mantri Garib Kalyan Ann Yojana (PMGKAY) from July, 2020 till the end of November 2020.

About Pradhan Mantri Garib Kalyan Ann Yojana:

Initially launched from April, 2020 for 3 months, the scheme aims to provide 5 kg free wheat or rice per month along with 1 kg free whole chana (pulses) to each family per month covering 80 crore poor people which are severely impacted by the lockdown to contain COVID-19 spread.

GoI approved special liquidity scheme for NBFCs and HFCs through SBICAP as SPV



On July 1, 2020, the Government of India (GoI) has approved a scheme for improving the short-term liquidity position of non-banking finance companies (NBFCs)/housing finance companies (HFCs) through a Special Purpose Vehicle (SPV) in the form of Special Liquidity Scheme (SLS) Trust set up by **SBI Capital Markets Limited** (SBICAP), a subsidiary of the State Bank of India (SBI).

ii. It should be noted that the finances provided to the NBFCs/HFCs under this scheme should be

used to **repay existing liabilities** and not to expand assets. **Period of scheme:** The Scheme will remain open for **3 months** for making subscriptions by the Trust i.e. till **September 30, 2020**. **Instruments used in this scheme:** Commercial papers (CPs) and Non-Convertible Debentures (NCDs)

Pulitzer Prize Winner Siddhartha Mukherjee and Prof Raj Chetty Named among '2020 Great Immigrants' Honourees



Carnegie Corporation of New York has named 2 renowned Indian-Americans, Siddhartha Mukherjee, a Pulitzer prize winner and Raj Chetty, Economics Professor at Harvard University among '2020 Great Immigrants' honourees.

ii. Siddhartha Mukherjee has educated the public about the coronavirus through essays

and through various modes of social media.

iii. Raj Chetty has helped to launch a resource to monitor the real-time economic impact of COVID-19 on people, businesses, and communities across the United States

Shashank Manohar Steps Down as ICC Chairman, Imran Khwaja Takes Charge as Interim Chairman



i. Shashank Manohar stepped down as International Cricket Council (ICC) chairman after his two 2 year tenure (4 years). He is the first independent chairman.

ii. His tenure ended on July 1, 2020. Deputy Chairman Imran Khwaja will take charge as interim chairman until the next chairman is elected.

iii. Shashank Manohar was elected as

ICC's first independent Chairman in May 2016. Imran Khwaja was elected as ICC's deputy chairman in 2017.

About ICC:

Headquarters– Dubai, United Arab Emirates

Chief Executive Officer– Manu Sawhney

Agricultural Experts Prof. Rattan Lal & Dr. Uma Lele from India Named by UN Chief to Scientific Group for 2021 Food Summit



Antonio Guterres, Chief of United Nations, named Prof. Rattan Lal and Dr. Uma Lele (Agricultural experts) from India as members of International Scientific group to offer foremost scientific evidence for sustainable food systems for global food summit 2021.

i) It aims to raise awareness about the food system challenges to be solved by the nations and to change food systems to provide safe and nutritious food around the globe.

ii) The stakeholder Advisory Committee will provide guidance and feedback on Food Summit's overall development and implementation.

Indra Mani Pandey appointed as Permanent Representative of India to UN and Others Organisations in Geneva



Indra Mani Pandey, Indian Foreign Service (IFS) Officer of 1990 and Additional Secretary in Ministry of External Affairs (MEA) was appointed as India's Permanent Representative and Ambassador to the United Nations and the

other International Organisations in Geneva, succeeding Rajiv Kumar Chander, IFS Officer of 1983 batch.

India's permanent representative at Geneva:

- i. Pandey will take charge as India's representative at the United Nations in Geneva.
- ii. Pandey served as the joint secretary in the Disarmament and International Security Affairs division of the Ministry of External Affairs.
- iii. He served in India's missions in Kabul (Afghanistan), Cairo (Egypt), Damascus (Syria), Muscat (Oman) and Islamabad (Pakistan).

Indian Air Force & CSIO Have Developed Indigenous 'Airborne Locust Control System' on Two Mi-17 Helicopters



Chandigarh based 3 Base Repair Depot (BRD) of the Indian Air Force (IAF) and Central Scientific Instruments Organisation (CSIO) have indigenously developed an Airborne Locust Control System (ALCS) for two Mi-17 helicopters for spraying

atomised pesticide malathion to arrest locust breeding. These helicopters will spray 800 liters of pesticide in 750 hectare area in just 40 minutes.

i. The Union Agriculture and Farmers' Welfare Minister **Narendra Singh Tomar** has flagged off a **Bell 206-B3 helicopter** for effective control of crop threatening locusts in the worst affected areas in Rajasthan. The Bell helicopter can cover an area of about 25 to 50 hectares in one flight with a pesticide capacity of 250 liters.

West Indies Cricketer Everton Weekes Passed Away at 95



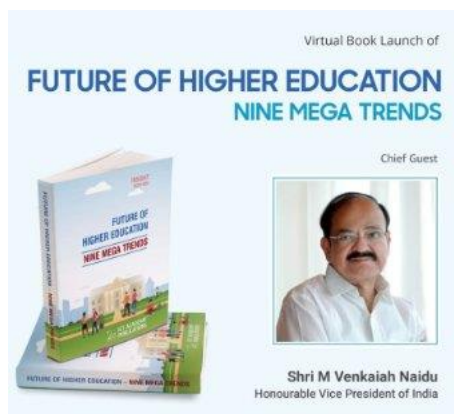
On July 1, 2020 West Indies cricketer **Everton de Courcy Weekes** passed away at 95. He is the last member of the legendary Three Ws, the legendary trio of cricketing knights. He was born in Pickwick Gap, Barbados on February 26, 1925.

- He was the 3rd oldest surviving men's Test cricketer, after South African John Watkins and England's Don Smith.

Gist about Everton Weekes

- Everton Weekes made his first-class debut at 19-year-old and his Test debut in 1948 at 22. His test career spanned between 1948 to 1958, where he played 48 Tests & scored 4455 runs at an average of 58.62
- He has made 15 centuries, which include 5 in an extraordinary sequence that still remains a record.
- He retired in 1958, after which he had served as a coach, administrator, and ICC match referee.

Vice President of India, M Venkaiah Naidu Virtually Releases a Book "Future of Higher Education – Nine Mega Trends"



Vice President of India, **M Venkaiah Naidu** virtually released a book, "**Future of Higher Education – Nine Mega Trends**". The book is authored by **CA V Patabhi Ram**, a Public Speaker, author and Teacher. The Virtual event was hosted by ICT Academy.

Essence of the book

- The book covers the new norms in the key areas of higher education such as Student-Teacher relationship, Learning methods,

Laboratories & Examinations among others which has taken a paradigm shift during this COVID pandemic.

ii. The book is based on a survey of about 5000 educators across India who were part of ICT Academy's "SkyCampus" Digital Knowledge Series.

World Sports Journalists Day 2020: July 2



World Sports Journalists

Day is observed annually on **July 2**. The day aims to acknowledge the work of sports journalists & to encourage them to do better at their work. The day was established in

1994 to mark the 70th anniversary of the International Sports Press Association (**AIPS**). This year 2020 marks the 96th anniversary of AIPS.

1st AIPSe-Conference

The 1st AIPS e-Conference will be held on July 2 at 2pm Central European Time (CET) on Zoom.us. on the topic "Has covid-19 affected journalists' independence and future?" **AIPS was established in 1924** as L' Association Internationale de la Presse Sportive, by Games Press Chief, Frantz Reichel, and the Belgian, Victor Boin during the Summer Olympics in Paris.