



CURRENT  
AFFAIRS

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26<sup>th</sup>  
AUGUST 2017

### **Cristiano Ronaldo wins UEFA Player of the Year award**

- ❖ Cristiano Ronaldo has won his third UEFA men's player of the year award in four seasons, beating Lionel Messi and Gianluigi Buffon to get the trophy. Ronaldo helped Real to a second consecutive Champions League title and finished as the tournament's top scorer with 12 goals last season. He has now won the award three times, one more than Messi. Martens guided the Dutch women's team to their first international title when they won the European championship this year.

### **Rajan's book on RBI stint in 'turbulent times'**

- ❖ Raghuram Rajan explains economic concepts and talks of issues like tolerance and connection between political freedom and prosperity in his new book — I Do What I Do: On Reform, Rhetoric & Resolve — which is a collection of essays and speeches during his stint as RBI head. When Rajan took charge as RBI Governor in September 2013, the rupee was in free fall, inflation was high and exchange reserves were falling. Rajan's commentary and speeches in the book convey what it was like to be at the helm of the central bank in those turbulent but exciting times.

### **Karnataka ties up with Microsoft to develop India's first Farm Price Forecasting Model**

- ❖ The Agriculture Department of Karnataka government has signed a Memorandum of Understanding with Microsoft India to develop an unique 'farm price forecasting model' using the latest IT tools in a bid to help farmers, administrators and other stakeholders understand the market behaviour in advance. The proposed initiative is said to be the first-of-its-kind in the country, as it is a 'multi-variate' one that takes into consideration various factors beyond the conventional supply-demand equation. It will examine a slew of related factors, including weather, rainfall and external factors, that impact market behaviour. The initiative appears to have caught the attention of the Centre, which has sought suggestions from the KAPC on the importance of price forecasting for its initiative to double farmers' incomes. Microsoft would also develop software for providing sowing advisory services to farmers.

### **Nilekani as Chairman of Infosys**

- ❖ Infosys co-founders led by N R Narayana Murthy had their way as they got their peer Nandan Nilekani appointed the chairman of the IT major in place of R Seshasayee, who quit under their pressure. Nilekani, 62, who was CEO of the company between 2002 and 2007 and is credited as the architect of the world's largest biometric ID card programme Aadhaar, will take over as Chairman of Infosys with immediate effect. Co-chairman Ravi Venkatesan has also resigned, although he would continue as an independent director. Two other independent directors -- Jeffery S Lehman and John Etchemendy -- also quit the Infosys board with immediate effect.

## **Right To Privacy Is Fundamental Right Under Constitution, Declares Supreme Court**

- ❖ A nine-judge bench of the Supreme Court has ruled that Indians enjoy a fundamental right to privacy, that it is intrinsic to life and liberty and thus comes under Article 21 of the Indian constitution. The bench, led by Chief Justice J.S. Khehar, pronounced a unanimous judgement even if the judges had slightly different arguments as to how privacy is intrinsic to right to life and liberty. The bench comprised Chief Justice Khehar and Justices J. Chelameswar, S.A. Bobde, R.K. Agrawal, Rohinton Nariman, A.M. Sapre, D.Y. Chandrachud, Sanjay Kishan Kaul and S. Abdul Nazeer.

## **TRAI signs deal with Malaysian Communications and Multimedia Commission**

- ❖ The Telecom Regulatory Authority of India (TRAI) signed a letter of intent (LoI) with the Malaysian Communications and Multimedia Commission (MCMC) to jointly conduct capacity building exercises in the fields of broadcasting and telecommunications regulation. The agreement would help both regulators to work closely in enhancing mutual cooperation and bilateral relations. The agreement will facilitate exchange of information and regulatory best practices in the fields of broadcasting and telecommunications, including new and emerging areas.

## **Sushma inaugurated first Videsh Bhavan**

- ❖ External Affairs Minister Sushma Swaraj inaugurated the country's first Videsh Bhavan at the Bandra Kurla Complex. As a pilot project, four offices of MEA — Regional Passport Office, Protector of Emigrants office, Branch Secretariat and Regional Office of ICCR — have been assimilated and brought under one roof. The pilot project of the Videsh Bhavan of Mumbai is part of the Centre's policy to bring together different offices of the MEA under a single roof and work closely with states as more and more Indians are going abroad for employment, education, business and tourism. Currently, many of the 90-plus RPOs and PoEs function from rented offices and the implementation of Videsh Bhavans in different state capitals is expected to cut costs besides ensuring improving efficiency and hastening delivery of services.

## **India LaRoda crowned Miss India America 2017 in Los Angeles**

- ❖ Indian-African American India LaRoda was crowned Miss India America 2017 at the 25th anniversary. The title of Mr. India America 2017 was grabbed by Karan Malik from Virginia. Other 2017 winners included: Jaskiran Waraich, Miss India Globe; Georgia's Satrugna Chowdry, Mr. India Globe; Veena Gurbani of Michigan, Miss India Global; Ricky Prasad, Mr. India Galaxy; Anisha Gupta, Miss India Galaxy; Aditi Parikh, Miss India North America; and Navjot Kaur, Miss India California 2017. India LaRoda and Karan Malik also won JINmodels.com's Mr. & Miss Photogenic 2017. Navjot Kaur and Arizona's Nitish Singh were the winners of the People's Choice Awards for 2017.

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