



CURRENT  
AFFAIRS

SUPER  
NUTS

26<sup>th</sup>  
APR 2018

### **15th SCO Defence Ministers meeting in China**

- ❖ India is participating in the Shanghai Cooperation Organisation (SCO) Defence Ministers Meeting for the first time. The 15th SCO Defence Ministers Meeting was held at Beijing in China on 24 April 2018. Speaking at the meeting, Raksha Mantri Smt. Nirmala Sitharaman highlighted India's keen interest in developing an expanded partnership with the broader Eurasian region.

### **Railways to hand over century-old heritage bridge to UP government**

- ❖ In a bid to save its heritage structures, the Railways has decided against dismantling the 113-year old Lord Curzon Bridge in Allahabad and will hand it over the Uttar Pradesh government for its preservation. The construction of the 61-metre-long Lord Curzon Bridge that caters to both rail and vehicular traffic was sanctioned in 1901 as a state railway bridge. The engineer-in-charge was Robert Richard Gales.

### **PM launches Rashtriya Gram Swaraj Abhiyan**

- ❖ Prime Minister Narendra Modi launched the Rashtriya Gram Swaraj Abhiyan, at a public meeting, in Mandla in Madhya Pradesh. He unveiled a Road Map for overall development of tribals during the next five years. He laid the foundation stone of an LPG bottling plant of Indian Oil Corporation at Maneri, Mandla District. He also launched a Local Government Directory.

### **Conclusion of Exercise Gaganshakti-2018**

- ❖ The Indian Air Force conducted pan India Exercise Gagan Shakti-2018 from 08-22 Apr 2018. The aim of the exercise was real time coordination, deployment and employment of air power in a short and intense battle scenario. During Gagan Shakti-2018, IAF exercised its entire war fighting machinery to validate its concept of operations and war waging capability.

### **Rajnath Singh chairs third meeting of Island Development Agency**

- ❖ Diu Smart City has become the first city in India, that runs on 100% renewable energy during daytime setting a new benchmark for other cities to become clean and green. Diu had been importing 73% of its power from Gujarat until last year.

## International SME Convention – 2018 begins in New Delhi

- ❖ The Union Home Minister, Shri Rajnath Singh, chaired the third meeting of the Island Development Agency (IDA) In Delhi. The Island Development Agency reviewed the progress made towards preparation of Development Plans for identified Islands (four in A&N Islands i.e. Smith, Ross, Long, Avis and five in Lakshadweep i.e. Minicoy, Bangaram, Thinnakara, Cheriya, Suheli).

## India and World Bank Signs Agreement to Improve Rural Road Network in MP

- ❖ The Government of India, the Government of Madhya Pradesh and the World Bank have signed a \$210 million loan agreement for the Madhya Pradesh Rural Connectivity Project. The Project is expected to improve the durability, resilience and safety of the gravel surfaced rural roads and enhance the capacity of the state to manage its rural roads network. The Project will cover 10,510 km stretch of rural roads in Madhya Pradesh that fall under the Chief Minister's Gram Sadak Yojana (CMGSY) program.

## Egyptian photojournalist wins 2018 World Press Freedom Prize

- ❖ Egyptian photojournalist Mahmoud Abu Zeid, known as Shawkan, is the recipient of the 2018 UNESCO/Guillermo Cano World Press Freedom Prize. Abu Zeid, a freelance photographer who has worked for photo agencies such as Demotix and Corbis, is one of the longest-detained journalists in Egypt.

## India win 8th South Asian Judo Championship

- ❖ India have clinched the title of team champion in the 8th series of South Asian Judo Championship in Kathmandu. In the men's team category, India defeated arch-rivals Pakistan 3-2 in the finals to claim the title. Under the women's team category, India thrashed hosts Nepal 5-0 to seal the title.

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