

Top Current Affairs of the Week (01 June- 07 June 2020)

UK to create 5G club of 10 democracies

- British government has approached US with the prospect of creating '**5G club of 10 democracies**', including India due to the growing security concerns related to Chinese telecom giant Huawei.
- The club will be named 'D10' and will include G7 countries: UK, US, Italy, Germany, France, Japan, and Canada along with Australia, South Korea, and India.
- It is framed to create alternative suppliers of 5G equipment and other technologies to avoid relying on China.

Russia hosts BRICS Heads of Tax Authorities meeting

- **Heads of Tax Authorities meeting of the BRICS countries** was held to discuss the response of BRICS Tax Authorities to the COVID-19 pandemic through video conference
- The meet was also held to explore potential areas of cooperation in tax matters.
- It was hosted by the **Federal Tax Service of Russia**, which currently holds the BRICS Presidency.
- BRICS stands for Brazil, Russia, India, China and South Africa.
- **Headquarter of BRICS: Shanghai, China.**

Govt invites bid for One Sun One World One Grid

- Government of India has invited '**One Sun One World One Grid**' (**OSOWOG**) initiative to set up a framework for **global ecosystem of interconnected renewable energy resources**.
- It may also leverage the International Solar Alliance that has 67 countries as members.
- "**The Sun Never Sets**" is its vision.
- It will encourage sharing of solar resources among more than 140 countries of West Asia and South East Asia in the first phase.

IT Minister Launches National AI Portal of India

- Union Minister for Electronics and IT **Ravi Shankar Prasad** has launched India's national Artificial Intelligence Portal '**www.ai.gov.in**'.
- It has been jointly developed by MeitY and IT industry and will be run by NASSCOM.
- This portal will work as a one stop digital platform for AI related developments in India with learning and new job roles related to AI.
- "**Responsible AI for Youth**" has also been launched to empower the youth with AI reducing the skill gap.

MoPPGP launches DARPG e-booklet

- Union Minister of State for Personnel, Public Grievances and Pensions **Dr. Jitendra Singh** has launched the **e-booklet on DARPG achievements** on the completion of 1 year of Modi Government 2nd term through videoconferencing.
- **DARPG** has provided immense impetus to **e-Governance** in India by implementation of e-Office and conduct of 22nd and 23rd National e-Governance Conferences.
- It has made significant reforms in handling Public Grievances by pursuing CPGRAMS reforms.

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Virat Kohli only Indian in recent Forbes top 100 highest-paid athlete

- Indian Cricket Team Captain **Virat Kohli** becomes the Indian to feature in the **Forbes' Top 100 highest paid athletes of 2020**.
- He is ranked 66 in the list.
- Tennis player **Roger Federer** tops Forbes top 100 highest-paid athletes list for the first time with estimated earnings 106.3 million USD followed by Cristiano Ronaldo (\$105 million), and Lionel Messi (\$104 million).
- The 2020 list included athletes from 21 countries and 10 sports.

PM announces "My Life My Yoga" Video Blogging contest

- PM **Narendra Modi** has announced 'My Life My Yoga' ('Jeevan Yoga') **Video Blogging contest** at national and international level.
- The contest will be run by **AYUSH Ministry** and **Indian Council for Cultural Relations**.
- This will raise awareness about Yoga inspiring people to participate in IDY 2020.
- Participants must upload **2 min yogic postures video** with a short inspiring message on **Facebook, Twitter or Instagram** with hashtag **#MyLifeMyYogaINDIA**.
- Winners will be given cash prizes.

Music director-singer Wajid Khan passes away

- Bollywood music composer and Singer **Wajid Khan (42 years)** passes away.
- He was known by the duo partnership as **Sajid-Wajid** with his brother Sajid Khan.
- He made his Bollywood debut in 1998 with movie **Pyaar Kiya Toh Darna Kya** followed by **Garv, Tere Naam, Partner** and various others.
- His singing career started with 'Partner' in 2008.
- He mentored the shows "**Sa Re Ga Ma Pa 2012**" and "**Sa Re Ga Ma Pa Singing Superstar**".
- Origin: **Saharanpur, Uttar Pradesh**.

Lt General Manoj Pande took charges as 15th CINCAN

- Lt General **Manoj Pande** will take charges as the 15th Commander-in-Chief of the Andaman & Nicobar Command (CINCAN) succeeding **Podali Shankar Rajeshwar**.
- Prior to this, he was Director General at Army Headquarters.
- During his 37 years of distinguished service, he has taken part in Operation **Vijay and Parakram**.
- He was honoured with **Param Vishisht Seva Medal (PVSM) in 2020** and appointed as an Honorary Aide-de-Camp (ADC) to the President of India in November 2019.

PM launches CHAMPIONS technology platform to empower MSMEs

- PM Narendra Modi has launched '**CHAMPIONS**' technology platform.
- It will solve grievances of smaller units along with encouraging, supporting, and handholding them in becoming champions.
- **CHAMPIONS** stand for **Creation and Harmonious Application of Modern Processes for Increasing the Output and National Strength**.
- It is a **one-stop-shop solution of MSMEs Ministry** with control room-cum-management information system.

- It has ICT tools, AI, Data Analytics and Machine Learning.

DRDO develops Ultra Swachh for disinfection of materials

- **Defence Research and Development Organisation (DRDO)** has developed '**Ultra Swachh**' to disinfect materials including Personal Protective Equipment (PPEs), electronics items, fabrics, etc.
- It is disinfection unit that uses **advanced oxidative process** with multiple barrier disruption approach using **double layer Ozonated Space Technology** for disinfection.
- It also has catalytic converter for environment friendly exhaust.
- It operates on **15 Amp, 220 Volts, 50 Hts power supply**.

Kisan Credit Cards (KCC) campaign launched for dairy farmers

- The Government has launched **Kisan Credit Card (KCC) campaign** for **1.5 crore dairy farmers** belonging to Milk Unions and Milk producing Companies to boost productivity within the next 2 months.
- It is a part of **Atma Nirbhar Bharat package**.
- Dept of Animal Husbandry and Dairying with Financial Services has circulated circulars and KCC application format.
- In the 1st phase, all farmers without KCC will be the target.
- Farmers with KCC can enhance KCC credit limit.

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Government launches PM SVANIDHI for street vendors

- **Housing and Urban Affairs Ministry**, Govt of India has launched **PM SVANIDHI** (Pradhan Mantri Street Vendor's Atmanirbhar Nidhi) scheme.
- It is a special **micro-credit facility scheme** for providing affordable loan to street vendors for resuming livelihoods amidst COVID-19.
- This scheme will benefit over **50 lakh street vendors** in urban areas.
- The scheme will be applicable till **March 2022**.
- Under this, street vendors can avail 10k, repayable in monthly installment in 1 year.

Former Olympic Sprint Champion Bobby Morrow Passes Away

- Former Olympic American sprinter **Bobby Joe Morrow (84 years)** passes away.
- He was known as '**The San Benito Bullet**'.
- He won three athletics gold medals for **100m, 200m and 4x100m relay at the 1956 Melbourne Olympic Games**.
- He was the first man after American Jesse Owens (1936) to win sprint treble.
- Carl Lewis (1984) and Usain Bolt (2012 and 2016) are other who won the three sprint titles at the same Games.
- He was named as the "**Sportsman of the Year**" in 1956.

WHO launches COVID-19 Technology Access Pool

- **World Health Organization (WHO)** along with **Costa Rica** has launched '**COVID-19 Technology Access Pool (C-TAP)**'.
- C-TAP will ensure the latest and best science benefits to all including vaccines, tests, diagnostics, treatments in the covid-19 response.

- It will be made **universally available as global public goods**.
- Participation in C-TAP will be voluntary and based on social solidarity.
- 30 countries are participating in C-TAP as of now.
- WHO HQ: **Geneva, Switzerland**.

ks 23rd in StartupBlink's Ecosystem Ranking Report

- **StartupBlink** has launched '**Startup Ecosystem Rankings Report 2020**' that ranks 1,000 cities and 100 countries.
- **India** has dropped to **23rd rank in 2020** with 5.698 score from the 17th rank in 2019.
- **US has topped the rank list** with 123.167 score followed by **UK, Israel, Canada, and Germany**.
- The ranking is based on **Quantity, Quality and Business Environment**.
- Only 4 Indian cities are placed in top 100 in 2020.
- **StartupBlink** is global startup ecosystem map and research center.

Cricket Australia announces India's cricket tour to Australia dates

- **Cricket Association of Australia** has announced the dates for **India's tour to Australia** that will consist of **4 Tests, ODIs as well as T20 International**.
- Indian team will be facing first T20 series in October 11 at Brisbane followed by matches on October 14 and 17.
- In December 4-test series will be held at Brisbane followed by 3 ODI match series beginning from January 12, 2021.
- **Indian women's team** will also travel to Australia for an ODI series in January 2021.

SpaceX's Dragon spacecraft landed at International Space Station

- **SpaceX's Dragon spacecraft** along with **two NASA astronauts Bob Behnken and Doug Hurley** successfully docked with the International Space Station.
- It was launched from the **Kennedy Space Center in Florida**.
- The spacecraft has marked the dawn of a new age in commercial space travel after traveling 19 hours.
- With this, SpaceX became the 1st private company to launch people into orbit.
- **US, Russia and China** are the only countries which had made this significant move earlier.

International Archery coach Jayantilal Nanoma passes away

- Former International Archer turned coach **Jayantilal Nanoma (34 years)** passes away in a road accident in Rajasthan.
- He won the medal in Asian Cup and Asian Grand Prix in 2010.
- He was the recipient of prestigious **Maharana Pratap State Sports Award**.
- He was presently serving as a **coach at the District Sports Officer in Dungarpur** and had worked in various overseas competitions.
- He is known for generating national and international archers from Rajasthan.
- Origin: Rajasthan.

US President postpones G7 Summit

- **US President Donald Trump** has **postponed G7 Summit** till September 2020.
- He has also expressed to expand the Group of G7 to G10 or G11 by including **India** and three other nations **Russia, Australia, and South Korea** to the grouping of the world's top economies.
- **Group of Seven (G7)** is an international intergovernmental economic organization.

- G7 members: **US, Canada, France, Germany, Italy, Japan, and UK** at present.

Kiren Rijju launches Khelo India e-Pathshala programme

- Union Minister for Youth Affairs & Sports **Kiren Rijju** has inaugurated '**Khelo India e-Pathshala**' programme through webinar.
- The webinar featured participation of young archers, archery coaches and experts from across the nation.
- It is **first ever National-level open online coaching and education programme**.
- Eminent athletes and coaches will teach modules to improve the technical skills of athletes across India.
- The programme has been launched by SAI along with NSF.

Union Power Minister launches pan-India Real Time Electricity Market

- **Union Power Minister R. K. Singh** launched **pan-India Real-Time Electricity Market** through video conference in New Delhi to enable the buyers and sellers to meet their energy requirement.
- This places India among the few real-time electricity market of the world.
- It will bring **flexibility, grid management and diversity** in the market.
- **Gate Closure** has been introduced for schedule firmness.
- GoI's target of 175 GW RE Capacity by 2022 is driving renewable penetration.

Government launches electronic incentive scheme

- Govt has launched **three electronic incentive schemes** with a total outlay of **₹48,000 crore** to boost large-scale manufacturing of electronics.
- The three schemes are **Production Linked Incentive** (₹41,000 crores and will incentivize 10 firms), **Component Manufacturing Scheme** (₹3,300 crores) and **Modified Electronics Manufacturing Clusters** (₹3,800 crores).
- It is aimed to manufacture electronics worth ₹8 lakh crore while generating employment for about 10 lakh people.

CSIR-CMERI develops new indigenous ventilator

- **Central Mechanical Engineering Research Institute (CMERI)**, Durgapur have **indigenously developed ventilator** for COVID-19.
- It is designed to meet the requirement as per the patient's parameter.
- It will cost around **Rs 80,000 to Rs 90,000**.
- It automatically responds to the fluctuating variables of a patient.
- The ventilator will act as the substitute for imported ones.
- This will also help in massively upgrading the tertiary health care infrastructure of the Nation.

India signs MoU with Bhutan on environment cooperation

- **Govt of India** and **Bhutan** has signed **MoU on Cooperation in the areas of Environment**.
- The MoU covers **Air, waste, chemical management, climate change** and other associated areas.
- It will enable establishment and promotion of closer and long-term cooperation with management of natural resources on the basis of equity, reciprocity and mutual benefits.
- The participants must hold **Joint Group/ bilateral meetings** to review and analyze the progress.
- Bhutan Capital: **Thimphu**.

Legendary Filmmaker Basu Chatterjee passes away in Mumbai

- Legendary Filmmaker **Basu Chatterjee** (93 years) passes away in Mumbai due to age-related ailments.
- He was known for films like **Chhoti Si Baat, Khatta Meetha, Us Paar, Baton Baton Mein, Piya Ka Ghar** and **Rajnigandha** also hit TV serials namely "**Byomkesh Bakshi**" and "**Rajani**".
- He had worked in Hindi and Bengali.
- He was honoured with **National Film Award** for Best Film on Family Welfare for his film Durga in 1992.
- Born: **Ajmer**.

World Environment Day being observed today

- **World Environment Day** is observed every year on June 5 to encourage awareness and environmental protection.
- It was first observed in 1974 with the theme "**Only One Earth**".
- UN General Assembly in 1972 established World Environment Day on the first day of the Stockholm Conference on the Human Environment and later **United Nation Environment Programme (UNEP)** was created.
- World Environment Day Theme 2020: "**Biodiversity**".

The Urban Learning Internship Program (TULIP) launched for graduates

- HRD Minister Ramesh Pokhriyal and MoHUA Minister Hardeep. S. Puri launched '**The Urban Learning Internship Program (TULIP)**' in New Delhi.
- It is an **internship opportunities to fresh graduates** in all Urban Local Bodies (ULBs) and Smart Cities.
- For smooth functioning, **MoU between MoHUA and AICTE** has been signed for 5 years.
- It originates in Budget 2020 under '**Aspirational India**'.
- B. Tech, B. Arch, BSc, etc student can apply within 18 months from date of their graduation.

'One Year of Modi 2.0 - Towards A Self-Reliant India' e-booklet launched

- **I&B Ministry** has launched **e-Booklet** on 1-year achievements of Modi Government 2.0 through Video Conferencing.
- The 92-page booklet is named as '**One Year of Modi 2.0 – Towards A Self-Reliant India**'.
- The book consists of all the major steps taken during the second term of the Govt ranging from **scraping article 370, triple talaq, citizenship act, economic reforms, Atmanirbhar Bharat package** and the **measures related to COVID-19**.
- I&B Minister: **Prakash Javadekar**

Govt launches SWADES initiative for skill mapping of overseas citizens

- Govt. has launched **SWADES (Skilled Workers Arrival Database for Employment Support)** initiative to conduct skill mapping of overseas Indian under Vande Bharat Mission.
- It is a joint initiative of **Ministry of Skill Development & Entrepreneurship, Ministry of Civil Aviation** and **Ministry of External Affairs**.
- It will create qualified citizens database based on skillsets and experience for placement opportunities in companies by filling up an online **SWADES Skills Card**.

PM Modi addresses virtual Global Vaccine Summit 2020

- **PM Narendra Modi** addresses virtual **Global Vaccine Summit** elaborating the vaccination need in the world.
- The Summit was hosted by **UK Prime Minister Boris Johnson** and attended by business leaders, UN Agencies, and others of 50 countries.
- India has pledged \$15 Million to Gavi, an international vaccine alliance.
- It witnessed new era of global health cooperation with commitment to equitable immunisation and health security due to COVID-19.
- Gavi HQ-**Geneva, Switzerland**.

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Kritika Pandey awarded with Commonwealth Short Story Prize 2020

- Indian writer **Kritika Pandey** has won the coveted honour of the regional award for Asia in **Commonwealth Short Story Prize 2020**.
- She is awarded for her unpublished work '**The Great Indian Tee and Snakes**' that depicts about love in an age of hatred and prejudice.
- She has been nominated for **Pushcart Prize** earlier.
- Commonwealth Short Story Prize is awarded for the best unpublished short fiction to commonwealth citizens aged 18 and above.

RBI announces Payments Infrastructure Development Fund creation

- **Reserve Bank of India (RBI)** announces **Payments Infrastructure Development Fund (PIDF)** creation with initial contribution of Rs 250 crore.
- PIDF will to encourage acquirers to deploy **Points of Sale (PoS)** in both physical and digital modes across tier-3 to tier-6 centres and north eastern states.
- It will provide impetus to infrastructure project especially in undeserved regions.
- It will be governed by **Advisory Council** and managed by RBI.
- Governor: **Shaktikanta Das**.

Rajeev Topno appointed as Senior Advisor to WB's Executive Director

- Senior bureaucrat and private secretary to the prime minister, **Rajeev Topno (1996 batch IAS officer)** has been appointed as the Senior Advisor to Executive Director (ED) of World Bank for 3 years.
- Along with him, **Brajendra Navnit** (1999 batch IAS officer) has been appointed as Ambassador to the Permanent Mission of India (PMI) to the World Trade Organisation (WTO) for 3 years.
- He served in PMO as Joint Secretary.
- WTO HQ: **Geneva, Switzerland**
- WB HQ: **Washington DC, USA**.