VIII. MEETING

June

1. 106th Session of International Labour Conference (ILC) held in Geneva (Switzerland). Minister of State for Labour and Employment (IC), Bandaru Dattatreya participated on India’s behalf.
2. 16th North East Region Commonwealth Parliamentary Association (NERCPA) Conference held at Imphal (Manipur).
3. 2017 Biotechnology Innovation Organization (BIO) International Convention held in San Diego (USA), attended by Y S Chowdary on India’s behalf (Minister of State for Science & Technology and Earth Sciences).
4. 2nd Mission Innovation Ministerial and 8th Clean Energy Ministerial held at Beijing (China). Dr. Harsh Vardhan (Minister for Science & Technology, Earth Sciences and Environment, Forest & Climate Change) represented India.
   - During this meet, India announced mounting a National Mission on advanced ultra-supercritical technologies for cleaner coal utilisation at a total cost of US $ 238 million and setting up of two Centres of Excellence on Clean Coal Technologies at US $5 million each.
5. Defence Minister Arun Jaitley attended 5th International Forum for Technological Development TECHNOPROM in Russia.
6. Group of Seven (G7) Environment Ministers Meeting held in Bologna (Italy).
   - G7 Nations - Canada, France, Germany, Italy, Japan, the United Kingdom and the United States.
7. Home Minister Rajnath Singh inaugurated 2-day national level conference on Capacity Building of SDRF (State Disaster Response Force) - 2017, organised by National Disaster Response Force in Delhi.
8. Minister of State for External Affairs V K Singh attended BRICS Foreign Ministers’ Meet in Beijing (China).
9. Shanghai Cooperation Organisation (SCO) 2017 -
   - It was 17th SCO Summit, hosted by Astana (Kazakhstan). India was represented by PM Narendra Modi.
   - India and Pakistan are now included as Full members of SCO.
   - SCO Headquarters is in Beijing (China). All 8 Members are - China, Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Russia, Tajikistan, Uzbekistan, India and Pakistan.
10. World Summit on the Information Society (WSIS) Forum 2017 held in Geneva (Switzerland). It represents world’s largest annual gathering of the ICT for development community.

July

1. 17th South Asian Association for Regional Cooperation (SAARC) Artists Camp and Exhibition of Paintings held at Kathmandu (Nepal).
2. 19th Regional Comprehensive Economic Partnership (RCEP) Trade Negotiating Committee (TNC) meetings held in Hyderabad (Telangana).
   - RCEP is a proposed free trade agreement (FTA) between 10 member states of the Association of Southeast Asian Nations (ASEAN) (Brunei, Cambodia, Indonesia, Laos, Malaysia, Myanmar, the Philippines, Singapore, Thailand, Vietnam) and six states with which ASEAN has existing free trade agreements (Australia, China, India, Japan, South Korea and New Zealand).
3. 2017 BRICS National Security Advisors (NSAs) meeting held in Beijing (China), with Ajit Doval (NSA) representing India.
4. 2017 BRICS Youth Forum opened in Beijing (China) to discuss the development of youth in BRICS countries with theme Enhance BRICS Partnership, Promote Youth Development.
5. 22nd World Petroleum Congress held in Istanbul (Turkey), attended by Dharmendra Pradhan (Minister of State (I/C) for Petroleum and Natural Gas) on India’s behalf.
6. 4th National Summit on Good, Replicable Practices and Innovations in Public Health Care Systems held at Indore (Madhya Pradesh).
7. 8th meeting of South Asian Association for Regional Cooperation (SAARC) Ministers of Law and Order (Interior/Home Affairs) held in Colombo (Sri Lanka).
8. BRICS countries’ Heads of Revenue Meeting held in Hangzhou (China), with Hasmukh Adhia (Revenue Secretary) attending on India’s behalf. A Memorandum of Cooperation (MOC) in respect of tax matters signed by BRICS nations on this occasion.
11. India International Institute of Democracy and Election Management (IIIDEM) and International IDEA conducted 2 day International Consultative Workshop on Leveraging Electoral Training Facilities for Global Democracies in New Delhi.
12. India will host Global Conference on Cyber Space (GCCS) 2017, world’s largest conference on cyber space and related issues in New Delhi in November 2017. GCCS will take place outside Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD) nations for the first time. Theme for 5th GCCS 2017 is CyberAll: An Inclusive, Sustainable, Developmental, Safe and Secure Cyberspace.
13. Indian Chamber of Commerce and West Bengal government will host Horasis Asia Meeting (a global business meet) in Kolkata in November 2017.
14. Meeting of BRICS Education Ministers held in China’s Beijing (attended by HRD Minister Prakash Javadekar) and 2nd Meeting of BRICS Culture Ministers held in Tianjin (China).
15. Minister of State (IC) for Labour & Employment Bandaru Dattatreya participated in BRICS Labour & Employment Ministers’ Meet in Chongqing (China).
16. Model United Nations (MUN) Regional Conference held at Kathmandu (Nepal), organised by US Embassy in partnership with Youth Thinker’s Society. Conference simulate four UN committees - UN Environment Programme (UNEP), Economic and Financial Committee (ECOFIN), UN Security Council (UNSC) and UN Human Rights Council (UNHRC).
17. PM Narendra Modi visited Germany, after 3-day visit to Israel.
   - In Germany, he attended 12th G20 Summit held in Hamburg (Germany) with theme Shaping an Inter-connected World. 5 BRICS nations also had an informal meeting on sidelines of G20 Summit in Hamburg (Germany). Note that 9th BRICS Summit will be held in September 2017 in Xiamen (China).
18. Tax authorities of BRICS (Brazil, Russia, India, China and South Africa) Nations met in China and signed BRICS Taxation Cooperation Memorandum to establish a mechanism for taxation cooperation. It is BRICS’s first document that elevates taxation cooperation to institutional level.
August

1. 15th BIMSTEC (Bay of Bengal Initiative for Multi-Sectoral Technical and Economic Cooperation) Ministerial Meeting held in Kathmandu (Nepal), attended by External Affairs Minister Sushma Swaraj on India’s behalf.

2. 17th Meeting of Financial Stability and Development Council (FSDC) held in New Delhi under Chairmanship of Finance Minister Arun Jaitley.

3. 7th Meeting of BRICS Trade Ministers held in Shanghai (China) with Indian delegation led by Commerce and Industry Minister Nirmala Sitharaman.

4. 8th Melgong Ganga Cooperation Ministerial Meeting held in Manila (Philippines), attended by V.K. Singh (Minister of State for External Affairs) on India’s behalf.

   1. Ganga is an initiative by India and five ASEAN countries, Cambodia, Laos, Myanmar, Thailand and Vietnam for cooperation in tourism, culture, education, as well as transport and communications. It is named after Ganga and Mekong which both are civilizational rivers.

5. 8th World Renewable Energy Technology Congress & Expo 2017 Organized in New Delhi, with Theme Renewable Energy: What Works.

6. 8th meeting of Regional Technical Group of Confidence Building Measure on Trade, Commerce & Investment Opportunities under Heart of Asia – Istanbul Process held in New Delhi.

7. 9th Meeting of Heads of Governments of Shanghai Cooperation Organization (SCO) held in Kyrgyzstan. Home Minister Rajnath Singh Attended on India’s behalf.

8. India and USA will co-host Global Entrepreneurship Summit (GES) at Hyderabad (Telangana) from 28-30 November, 2017.

9. India-ASEAN Youth Summit 2017 held in Bhopal (Madhya Pradesh). It marks 25th anniversary of ASEAN-India dialogue partnership with theme Shared Values, Common Destiny.

10. International Snow Leopard & Ecosystem Forum (Summit 2017) held in Kyrgyzstan capital Bishkek, Attended by Science and Technology Minister Harsh Vardhan on India’s behalf.

11. Italy will host summit of Group of Seven Interior Ministers on security issues in October 2017.


September

1. 12th Edition of ASEAN Computer Emergency Response Team Incident Drill (ACID) held in Hanoi (Vietnam), amid growing cyber challenges witnessed in recent years.

2. 3 day International Hindu Conference held in Kathmandu (Nepal), with theme Emerging spiritualism: Renaissance of Hinduism.

3. 5th East Asia Summit Economic Ministers Meeting held in Pasay City (Philippines).

4. 61st IAEA (International Atomic Energy Agency) General Conference held at Vienna (Austria). It was attended by Sekhar Basu (Chairman of Atomic Energy Commission & Secretary in Department of Atomic Energy) on India’s behalf.

5. 70th Regional Committee Session of WHO South East Asia Region concluded in Male (Maldives). It called for complete Tuberculosis elimination by 2030.

6. 7th ASEM (Asia-Europe Meeting) Economic Ministers’ Meeting held in Seoul (South Korea) with Theme Innovative Partnership for Inclusive Prosperity.

7. 9th BRICS Summit 2017 in Xiamen (China) with Theme BRICS: Stronger Partnership for a Brighter Future. Documents signed -

   1. Strategic Framework of BRICS Customs Cooperation
   3. BRICS Action Agenda on Economic and Trade Co-operation
   4. MoU between BRICS Business Council and New Development Bank on Strategic Cooperation
   5. Five banks of BRICS Nations (Brazilian Development Bank, Vnesheconombank, Export-Import Bank of India, China Development Bank and Development Bank of South Africa) established credit lines in national currencies and cooperate on credit ratings. Also, New Development Bank (NDB) approved 1.4 billion US dollar loans for sustainable development projects in India, Russia and China.
   6. China will give $76.4 million for a BRICS economic and technology cooperation plan, and another $4 million for projects at BRICS countries’ New Development Bank.

8. Conference on Sustainable landscapes and forest ecosystems: Theory to Practice held in New Delhi.


10. First ever Mobile, Internet and Technology event in India - India Mobile Congress 2017 held at Pragati Maidan, led by Department of Telecom and Cellular Operators Association of India (COAI).

11. India will conduct first BIMSTEC Disaster Management Exercise- 2017 (DMEs-2017) in October 2017 in New Delhi.

12. India will host 11th World Congress on Adolescent Health in October 2017 with theme Investing in Adolescent Health: the Future is Now.

13. Minister for Petroleum and Natural Gas and Skill Development and Entrepreneurship, Dharmendra Pradhan visited Astana (Kazakhstan) to co-chair 13th Meeting of Inter-Governmental Commission (IGC) with Kazakhstan.

14. National Institution for Transforming India (NITI) Aayog in partnership with USA will host 8th annual Global Entrepreneurship Summit (GES 2017) in Hyderabad (Telangana) in November 2017 with theme Women First, Prosperity for All. This is the first time GES is being held in South Asia.

15. PM Narendra Modi inaugurated Rajaswa Gyan Sangam at Vigyan Bhawan in New Delhi, organised by Central Board of Direct Taxes and Central Board of Excise and Customs.

16. Second World Congress of Optometry began in Hyderabad (Telangana) with theme Accessible, quality vision and eye health.

IX. NATIONAL

June

1. Government approved setting up 100 Ayurveda, Unani, Siddha, and Homeopathy (AYUSH) hospitals across country.

2. ISRO's First interplanetary mission - Mars Orbiter Mission (MOM) completed 1000 Earth days in orbit, well beyond its designed mission life of six months. MOM completed 388 orbits of Mars in this period. India will launch Mangalyaan 2.0 and new mission to Venus after 2020.

3. Indian Airliner Spicejet named as world's best-performing airline stock (124% stock gain in 2017) with $26 billion in plane orders to boot.
   - Recently, Spicejet announced to purchase 50 Q400 turboprop aircraft worth $1.7 billion (over Rs 10,900 crore) from Bombardier (Canadian Aerospace Firm).

4. Shipping Corporation of India (Under Ministry of Shipping) organised 'Sabka Saath Sabka Vikas sammelan in Mumbai (Maharashtra).

5. 22nd APEDA Export awards held in New Delhi. Commerce Secretary Rita Teotia stated that -
   - India is now 7th largest exporter of agri-products globally, with India representing over 12 % of total exports.
   - Total merchandise exports during 2016-2017 are approx 276 billion USD, of which agricultural exports are nearly 33 billion USD.
   - 82 APEDA awards were presented for 2014-2015 and 2015-2016.

6. 22nd edition of European Union Film Festival (EUFF) started in Delhi with screening of Filmmakers Katrin Maimik and Andres Maimiks Estonian film "Cherry Tobacco".

7. 2nd edition of National Health Editors' Conference on Yoga held in New Delhi.

8. 31st anniversary of the signing of the historic Mizo peace accord on June 30, 1986 celebrated in Mizoram. Mizo Accord was signed by Mizo National Front (MNF) and Mizoram State Government. It bought peace in state after 20 years of violence and disturbance.

9. Vatsalya – Maatri Amrit Kosh - National Human Milk Bank and Lactation Counselling Centre has been opened at Lady Hardinge Medical College in New Delhi, as largest public sector human milk bank and lactation counselling centre in North India. It has been opened in collaboration with Norwegian government.

10. According to NGO Child Rights and You (CRY) Over 8 Lakh children are engaged in Child labour in India -
    - Top 3 States with Most Children (aged 5 - 14) engaged in Child labour - Uttar Pradesh (2.5 lakh), Bihar (1.3 lakh) and Maharashtra (83000 Thousand).

11. According to Oxford Poverty and Human Development Initiative (OPHI) Report - about 31% of the world's multidimensionally poor children live in India (approx 2 crore). This is followed by Nigeria (8%), Ethiopia (7%) and Pakistan (6%). A multidimensionally poor child is one who lacks at least one-third of ten indicators, grouped into three dimensions of poverty: health, education and standard of living.

12. Adani Group commissioned 50 megawatts (MW) solar photovoltaic (PV) plant in Mahoba (Uttar Pradesh). The plant has been set up with an investment of 315 crores under National Solar Mission Scheme.

13. An MoU signed between National Skill Development Corporation and Bird Academy for skilling of unemployed youth in the aviation and aerospace sector. Under This, 30000 unemployed youth across various states including North Eastern states with special focus to train and empower minimum 5,000 women & tribal youths will be trained.

14. Andhra Pradesh government launched the AP MSME Development Corporation with a corpus fund of Rs 100 crore to promote micro small and medium enterprises (MSME) in State.

15. Arunachal Pradesh Government demanded for a separate time zone for northeastern states to improve work efficiency and save electricity in region.

16. Arunachal Pradesh Government decided to increase retirement age of regular state government employees from 58 years to 60 years, to be implemented from 1st of January 2018.

17. As per Forbes, Aamir Khan starrer Dangal became first Indian movie to earn INR 2,000 crore qworldwide. It also became 5th highest-grossing non-English film ever. Note That Major portion of Dangal's Finances came from China where it earned over 1300 Crores. Baahubali 2 is India's second highest grosser ever with 1700 Crores.

18. Bengaluru became first city where one can have fuel delivered at one's doorstep, owing to a Startup Mypetrojump. Diezel can be received at doorstep with One rupee additional per litre.

19. CSIR-Structural Engineering Research Centre (Chennai) developed a cost-effective toilet, weighing under 500kg, life span of 25-30 years and can be assembled in 5 hours. It has been built with the help of textile reinforced concrete prototyping technology (TRCPT). TRC panels can be used as doors, roofing, walls and even flooring.

20. Central Council for Research in Yoga & Naturopathy (CCRYN) under Ministry of AYUSH initiated a Yoga Awareness Drive through Mascots and Flash Mobs (YogMob) prior to International Yoga Day (21st June).

21. Central Government will soon replace Higher Education Bodies University Grants Commission (UGC) and All India Council of Technical Education (AICTE) with one Higher Education Regulator - HEERA (Higher Education Empowerment Regulation Agency).

22. Central Industrial Security Force (CISF) and National Skill Development Corporation (NSDC) signed MoU, aimed at increasing employability of youth.

23. Central Reserve Police Force (CRPF) launched 24x7 helpline Madadgaar to help Kashmiri citizens at toll free number (14411).

24. Commerce & Industry Minister Nirmala Sitharaman launched Startup India Virtual Hub as an online platform for all stakeholders of entrepreneurial ecosystem in India to discover, connect and engage with each other.

25. Competition Commission of India (CCI), imposed fine of $13.6 million on South Korean automaker Hyundai Motor's India Unit, accusing it of anti-competitive behaviour by imposing certain arrangements upon its dealers including monitoring maximum permissible discount level and mandating use of recommended lubricants and oils.

26. Directorate General of Civil Aviation (DGCA) suspended flying licence of Coimbatore-based carrier Air Carnival, which has not operated a single flight since early April.

27. Election Commission of India (EC) announced that election for post of Vice-President of India will be held on 5 August 2017. Note that Elections for post of President of India will be held on July 17.

28. Election Commission of India joined hands with Facebook to launch nationwide voter registration reminder, Between July 1- 4, 2017. Facebook will activate a unique 'Register Now' button reminding all the eligible Indian users to enrol themselves as voters.

29. Elections for Elected 14th President of India will be held on 17 July 2017.

30. External Affairs Minister Sushma Swaraj inaugurated Know India Programme (KIP) for NRI and PIO youth, to provide them with an exposure to origin country.

31. First 50 MW unit of 100 MW Sainj Hydro Power project of Himchal Pradesh Power Corporation Limited (HPPCL) has been commissioned with Coaching For: BANK PO / CLERK, NEET, JEE, TNPSC Gr-I, II, III, IV VII & YAO, SSC, RRB, TET, TRB, MAT, POLICE, SI, NIC-AO, LIC-ADO & AO, TANET AND ENTRANCE EXAMS E-MAIL: info@arunacademy.in, cell: 9360246557 / 0427-4056557

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