

Daily Current Affairs – July 02, 2019**IMPORTANT DAYS****July 2 – World UFO Day**

- The term ‘UFO’ for Unidentified Flying Object was coined by US Air Force officer Edward Ruppelt. World UFO Day was organized by WorldUFODay.com in 2001, and was put together to bring together enthusiasts of UFO’s and the evidence they’ve all gathered to support their existence.

NATIONAL**Centre constitutes chief ministers’ panel for agriculture reforms**

- Centre has constituted a high powered committee of Chief Ministers of several states for the transformation of Indian Agriculture. Maharashtra Chief Minister Devendra Fadnavis will be the convenor of the committee, while the chief ministers of Karnataka, Haryana, Arunachal Pradesh, Gujarat, Uttar Pradesh and Madhya Pradesh have been included as members.
- Union Agriculture, Rural Development and Panchayati Raj Minister will also be a member of the committee. Besides, NITI Aayog member Ramesh Chand has been named the Member Secretary.

INTERNATIONAL**New Zealand bans single-use plastic shopping bags**

- New Zealand has officially banned single-use plastic shopping bags. Companies that break the ban will face heavy penalties, including fines of up to 100,000 New Zealand dollars (USD 67,000). Under the new rules, thin plastic single-use shopping bags can no

longer be supplied, but reusable carriers are allowed. The legislation which was announced in August last year came into force.

Iran exceeds uranium limit set in nuclear deal

- Iranian Foreign Minister Mohammad Javad Zarif has said that the country has exceeded the 300-kilogramme limit on its enriched uranium reserves set by the 2015 nuclear deal.
- This was confirmed by the International Atomic Energy Agency inspectors. It is only permitted (until 2031) to produce low-enriched uranium, which has a 3-4 per cent concentration of U-235, and can fuel a power plant.

BUSINESS & ECONOMY

Government to introduce new return system for GST on trial basis

- The government will introduce the new return system on a trial basis on the second anniversary of Goods and Services Tax (GST). It will come into force from 1st of October this year on a mandatory basis. The Finance Ministry has also proposed Sahaj and Sugam returns for small taxpayers for the current fiscal.

SCHEMES

Jal Shakti Abhiyan

- Union Government has launched Jal Shakti Abhiyan to create awareness on the benefits of water conservation and declining sources of water in the country. The Jal Shakti Abhiyan has been launched in two phases. The first phase is 1st July to 15th September and is for all participating States and the second phase will be between 1st October to 30th November for States with retreating monsoon.
- There are five key intervention areas under the movement including water conservation and rainwater harvesting, renovation of traditional and other water bodies, reuse, borewell recharge structures, watershed development and intensive afforestation.

MoU, AGREEMENTS & CABINET APPROVALS**Parliament approves resolution to extend President rule in J&K**

- The Parliament has given its nod to the resolution seeking extension of President rule in Jammu and Kashmir for further period of six months with effect from 3rd July 2019 with the Rajya Sabha approving it. Jammu and Kashmir Reservation (Amendment) Bill, 2019 was also passed by Parliament with Rajya Sabha approving it. Both the resolution and the bill have already been passed by the Lok Sabha.
- The reservation bill proposes to give three per cent reservation in educational institutions and government jobs to people living within 10 kilometres of the International Border in Jammu.

AYUSH, MeitY ministries to collaborate for digitisation of AYUSH sector

- The Ministries of AYUSH and Electronics and Information Technology signed a Memorandum of Understanding in New Delhi to collaborate on the digitization of the AYUSH sector. It leads to transformation in the field of health care delivery at all levels, along with greater research, education, delivery of various health care programmes and better drug regulations.

UGC approves new initiative STRIDE

- The University Grants Commission (UGC) has approved a new initiative - Scheme for Trans-disciplinary Research for India's Developing Economy (STRIDE) to boost research culture in the country. This scheme will strengthen research culture and innovation in colleges and Universities.

DEFENCE**Defence Ministry issues RFPs for acquisition of ships, craft worth Rs 15,000 cr**

- Ministry of Defence has issued four shipbuilding Requests for Proposal, RPF amounting to 15,000 crore rupees for the acquisition of various ships and craft for the Navy and the Coast Guard.
- The RFP for six Next Generation Missile Vessels has been issued to seven shipyards, RFPs for eight Fast Patrol Vessels, twelve Air Cushion Vehicles and eight Missile-cum-Ammunition Barges have been issued to shortlisted Indian shipyards.

SPORTS**Vaibhav Yadav wins WBC Asia title**

- Indian pro boxer Vaibhav Yadav became the World Boxing Council (WBC) Asia silver welterweight champion after defeating Thailand's Fahpetch Singmanassak in the title bout held in Pattaya, Thailand.

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