

**Cabinet approves agreement between India and Cyprus on Merchant Shipping**

The Union Cabinet chaired by the Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi has given its ex-post facto approval to the Agreement between India and Cyprus on Merchant Shipping, which was signed in April 2017.

- The Agreement in Merchant Shipping will pave the way for cooperation in eliminating any hindrances which may hamper the development of sea trade between the two nations.
- The MoU will encourage participation in the transport of goods between the countries, and also from third countries.
- The MoU further seeks to enhance cooperation for employment, improvement of conditions of work and for the welfare of seafarers employed on each other's vessels.

**INTERNATIONAL  
RELATIONS**

**India and Mali for standardization and conformity assessment**

The Union Cabinet chaired by the Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi has given its ex-post facto approval to the

- Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) between Bureau of Indian Standards (BIS), India and Direction Nationale De Industries (MLINDI), Republic of Mali on Standardization and Conformity Assessment.
- The MoU aims to facilitate closer cooperation and provide a mechanism by which India and Mali can work together
- It can work towards the common aim of strengthening standardization and conformity assessment activities in order to facilitate sharing of expertise and mutual trade.

**INTERNATIONAL  
RELATIONS**

**Cabinet approves Signing of Memorandum of Understanding between Securities and Exchange Board of India and European Securities and Markets Authority**

The Union Cabinet chaired by the Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi has given its approval to the

- Securities and Exchange Board of India (SEBI) for entering into a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) with European Securities and Markets Authority (ESMA) in relation to Mutual Co-operation.

**INTERNATIONAL  
RELATIONS**

- The MoU is likely to establish cooperation arrangements as a precondition for ESMA to recognize Central Counter Parties (CCPs) established in India
- It will be supervised by the Securities and Exchange Board of India to provide clearing services to clearing members or
- trading venues established in the European Union and to provide ESMA with adequate tools to monitor the on-going compliance by the Covered CCPs with the Recognition Conditions.

### **India's Seafood Export at all-time High in 2016-17 :MPEDA**



Riding on a robust demand for its frozen shrimp and frozen fish in international markets, India exported 11,34,948 MT of seafood worth an all time high of US\$ 5.78 billion (Rs 37, 870.90 crore) in 2016-17 as against 9,45,892 tons and 4.69 billion dollars a year earlier, with USA and South East Asia continuing to be the major importers while the demand from the European Union (EU) grew substantially during the period.

- Frozen shrimp maintained its position as the top item of export, accounting for 38.28 per cent in quantity and 64.50 per cent of the total earnings in dollar terms.
  - Shrimp exports increased by 16.21 per cent in terms of quantity and 20.33 per cent in dollar terms.
  - Frozen Fish was the second largest export item, accounting for a share of 26.15 per cent in quantity and 11.64 per cent in dollar earnings, registering a growth of 26.92 per cent in terms of value.
  - USA imported 1,88,617 MT of Indian seafood, accounting for 29.98 per cent in terms of dollar. Export to that country registered a growth of 22.72 per cent, 33 per cent and 29.82 per cent in terms of quantity, value in rupee and US dollars, respectively.
  - South East Asia remained the second largest destination of India's marine products, with a share of 29.91 per cent in dollar terms, followed by the EU (17.98 per cent), Japan (6.83 per cent), the Middle East (4.78 per cent), China (3.50 per cent) and other countries (7.03 per cent).
  - Overall, exports to South East Asia increased by 47.41 per cent in quantity, 52.84 per cent in rupee value and 49.90 per cent in dollar earnings.

### Health Secretary inaugurates 'Vatsalya – Maatri Amrit Kosh', a National Human Milk Bank and Lactation Counselling Centre



Shri C K Mishra, Secretary (Health and Family Welfare) inaugurated the „Vatsalya – Maatri Amrit Kosh“, a National Human Milk Bank and Lactation Counselling Centre at the Lady Hardinge Medical College (LHMC), here today.

- Speaking on the occasion, Shri C K Mishra congratulated the LHMC, Delhi for this initiative and said that this would be the largest human milk bank and lactation counselling centre available under the public sector in North India.

- The Health Secretary further added that it is envisaged that with this donor human milk bank, all newborns in and around Delhi will have access to life saving human milk regardless of the circumstances of their birth. Mr Nils Ragnar Kamsvag, Ambassador of Norway to India, was also present at the occasion.

- “Vatsalya – Maatri Amrit Kosh” is established in collaboration with the Norwegian government, Oslo University and Norway India Partnership Initiative (NIPI).

- Speaking at the function, Shri Mishra said that even when we know the potential of mother’s milk for a child, breastfeeding rates are low in India.

- He informed the participants that the early initiation of breastfeeding is only 40%, even when the institutional delivery has increased to 78.9%. “In view of this, we launched Mothers Absolute Affection (MAA) programme to create awareness regarding breastfeeding as being the most cost-effective way of enhancing the child’s immunity,” Shri Mishra stated.

### Ramkumar Ramanathan wins ITF Futures title in Singapore

Indian player Ramkumar Ramanathan lifted the \$15,000 ITF men's Futures tennis title after outplaying Raymond Sarmiento of the USA in straight sets here.

- The top seeded Indian hardly broke a sweat on his way to a 6-2, 6-2 win over the second seeded player from USA in the final of event last night.

- It was the first title of the season for Ramkumar and 15th of his career.
  - Ramkumar, a regular in India's Davis Cup team, had recently competed in the qualifying event of the French Open but failed to

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make it to the main round of the Grand Slam tournament.

### Government to appoint Nyaya Mitras to accelerate pending cases



The Union government would be appointing Nyaya Mitras across the country to speed up the hearing of cases that have been pending in the lower courts for the last 10 years.

- The same was confirmed by Union Law and Information Technology Minister Ravi Shankar Prasad while addressing a function at the Lucknow bench of the Allahabad High Court to inaugurate the Tele Law

Service through Common Service Centers on 6 June 2017.

- The Minister announced that retired judges will be appointed as Nyaya Mitras to expedite over seven lakh fifty thousand cases that are pending across the country.
- He further stated that the government is committed to providing justice to the poor people in a fast, smooth and affordable manner.

### Kerala Government implements 'green protocol' for weddings



The Government of Kerala has implemented a „green protocol“ to make auspicious occasions such as weddings more nature-friendly.

- With the implementation of the protocol, the use of plastic and other non-degradable articles including disposable glasses, plates and thermocol decorations would be prohibited at marriage functions.
- Instead, people would be encouraged to use tumblers, plates and utensils made from glass and other environment-friendly metals.
- To ensure proper implementation of the protocol, inspections will be held at marriage halls, convention centres, hotels and other venues of the wedding ceremony.

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BHARAT SCHOOL OF BANKING JUNE 7 DAILY CURRENT  
AFFAIRS