



Daily Current Affairs Dated On 27-June-2018

National Statistics Day.

In recognition of the notable contributions made by Late Professor Prasanta Chandra Mahalanobis in the fields of statistics, statistical system and economic planning, Government of India in 2007, has designated 29th June as the "Statistics Day" in the category of Special Days to be celebrated every year at the National level.

29th June, 2017 marked the beginning of the 125th year of birth of Prof. P.C. Mahalanobis.

ISI has held year-round celebrations which will be culminated on 29th June, 2018.

Objective of celebration :

to create public awareness about the importance of statistics in socio-economic planning and policy formulation, to acknowledge the contribution of Prof. Mahalanobis, and to pay homage to him.

The theme selected for the Statistics Day this year is "***Quality Assurance in Official Statistics***".

The theme has been chosen to underscore the importance of compliance with essential parameters of quality in statistical systems and products.

About ISI:

The Indian Statistical Institute (ISI) at Kolkata, set up by Prof. Mahalanobis in 1931, and was declared an autonomous "Institute of National Importance" through an act of Parliament in 1959, celebrates 29th June as the "Worker Day".

2+1 Dialogue Format

The spirit of the Wuhan informal summit echoed strongly last week during the visit of Nepal Prime Minister K.P. Oli to Beijing, with [China](#) proposing a new dialogue mechanism that would also involve India.

Chinese side proposed to Mr. Oli a "two plus one" format for dialogue.



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What is it?

This is different from a trilateral mechanism.

Under the Chinese proposal, China and India can jointly conduct a dialogue with a third regional country," the source said.

The Chinese initiative is not Nepal-specific.

During Mr. Oli's visit, the Chinese side made its intent clear to engage deeply with [Nepal](#), and develop special ties with its Himalayan neighbour.

Yet, Beijing also made it plain that China-Nepal ties would be docked with India's shared interests as well.

Why shift in Chinese policy?

China was inclined to fulfill its ambitious agenda with Nepal gradually, after ensuring that such steps were in sync with India's interests.

Analysts say, that the Nepali side has understood the "big picture", appreciating that China is keen to build bridges with India, as Beijing's friction with the U.S. under the Trump administration begins to mount.

Besides, bringing India on board is essential for enhanced regional connectivity, including a trans-Himalayan corridor through Nepal, if President Xi's Belt and Road Initiative is to achieve its full potential," the source observed.

Women in Prisons' report

Why in News?

The Ministry of Women and Child Development (MWCD) has come up with its report titled '*Women in Prisons*' which aims to build an understanding of the various entitlements of women in prisons, the various issues faced by them and possible methods for resolution of the same.



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Highlights of the report- important recommendations:

Who is vulnerable? Women- elderly, disabled, pregnant, mothers who have recently given birth but whose children are not with them in prison, those who have miscarried, or those who have recently undergone abortion.

Arrangements for women with care-giving responsibilities: Prior to their imprisonment, women with care-giving responsibilities must be allowed to make arrangements for their children, and a reasonable suspension of detention may also be provided for this purpose. Provisions for extended and frequent visits, and admission of children into Childcare institutions have also been proposed.

Bail: Bail should be granted to those under-trial women who have spent one-third of their maximum possible sentence in detention, by making necessary changes in Section 436A of the CrPC which provides for release after half of the maximum sentence has been served.

Special care for pregnant and lactating women: A separate accommodation for mothers in post-natal stage to maintain hygiene and protect the infant from contagion, for at least a year after childbirth has been proposed. There are special provisions relating to health and nutrition be made for women who have recently given birth outside prison, or who have undergone abortion or miscarriage. Instruments of restraint, punishment by close confinement or disciplinary segregation should never be used on pregnant and lactating women. Pregnant women must be given information and access to abortion during incarceration, to the extent permissible by law.

Legal aid: To make legal aid more effective, legal consultations must be conducted in confidentiality and without censorship. For persons with language barriers or sensory disabilities, adequate arrangements must be made by the prison administration to ensure that such persons do not face any disadvantage by providing an independent interpreter.

Rehabilitation: A comprehensive after-care programme to be put in place, covering employment, financial support, regaining of child custody, shelter, counselling, continuity of health care services etc. Counselling should also be provided to family members and employers to adequately receive the woman after release.



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Grievance redressal: Apart from the prisoner herself, her legal adviser or family members should be allowed to make complaints regarding her stay in prison. An inmate register can also be placed at an accessible spot in the prison for submitting grievances. All official visitors must hold special one-on-one interviews with prisoners away from prison authorities during inspection visits.

Challenges faced by women in prisons:

- Women in prisons face *greater hardships than their male counterparts* due to many factors such as social stigma, financial dependence on their families or husbands etc. These difficulties are further exacerbated when the woman has children.
- Women have to face numerous problems in prisons owing to *inadequacy of female staff* which often translates to the reality that male staff becomes responsible for female inmates, which is undesirable.
- Women are not provided with *meals that are nutritious* and according to their bodily requirements.
- Women are at a most disadvantageous position when it comes to *their reintegration in society after release*. Many are abandoned or harassed post-release, mainly due to the stigma attached with incarceration, which is even more pronounced in cases of women.
- Women also tend to *lose ties with their children* over the years, due to inadequate child custody procedures. Also, a robust grievance redressal mechanism was required to tackle cases of sexual harassment, violence and abuse against women in jails.

Governors vs CM:

Why in News?

The Opposition in Tamil Nadu is speaking out against Governor Banwarilal Purohit.

Delhi Chief Minister Arvind Kejriwal and his Ministers staged a nine-day sit-in inside the Lieutenant Governor's residence demanding a meeting. and Puducherry Lt. Governor Kiran Bedi has had frequent run-ins with the government.

Here's a look at what powers the post of a Governor holds.



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How powerful is a Governor?

The powers a Governor has in the state they administer is equivalent to that of the President.

They can appoint Chief Ministers, Ministers, the State Election Commissioner and judges of the District Courts. They also serve as Chancellors of all the universities in the state.

The Governor can also dissolve the state Assembly if they see the need, and if the Assembly is not in session, they can promulgate ordinances.

Based on the recommendation of the Election Commission, the Governor can also disqualify a legislator.

Another power the Governor holds is to rule the state in case the ruling party loses its majority in the Assembly, as in Jammu and Kashmir now.

What about a Lieutenant Governor?

A Lieutenant Governor also has the same powers. Only three Union Territories — Andaman and Nicobar, Delhi and Puducherry — have Lt. Governors.

These powers are in place to ensure checks and balances for the state government and its functioning.

Why is there a hue and cry when the Governors impose their powers?

Well, that's because of another set of powers the Governor has, called discretionary powers.

It is here that the Governor differs from the President, in that their powers are far larger, and ill-defined.

One such power is that the Governor can use his discretion to select a chief ministerial candidate.

As seen in Karnataka recently, Governor Vajubhai Vala invited the BJP, the single-largest party to form the government, even after the Congress-JDS combine had the numbers to prove a majority.



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Meanwhile, Governors in Goa and Manipur invited the BJP to form the government, using their discretionary powers, and the party formed post-poll alliances to supplement its numbers in the states.

Moreover, the Governor can report to the President about the failure of constitutional machinery in the state. The Governor can also reserve or refuse to sign a Bill that has been passed by the Assembly.

Is it true that the Lt. Governor of Delhi has more power?

In an observation made in November 2017, the Supreme Court said that the Lt. Governor of Delhi has more powers than the Governor of a State — he does not have to listen to the advice of the Council of Ministers.

In the case of Delhi, since portfolios like land, police and public order fall under the domain of the Centre, of which the Lt. Governor is a representative, he holds more powers than a Governor.

Oxytocin formulations ban to come into effect

The Ministry of Health and Family Welfare has restricted the manufacture of Oxytocin formulations for domestic use to public sector only from 1st July 2018.

It has also banned the import of Oxytocin and its formulations.

From 1st July 2018, no private manufacturer will be allowed to manufacture the drug for domestic use.

Only Karnataka Antibiotics & Pharmaceuticals Ltd (KAPL), a public sector company, would be manufacturing this drug for domestic use from that date.

About Oxytocin:

The Union government banned the hormone oxytocin to stop its misuse in the livestock industry, where activists say it causes hormonal imbalances and shortens the lives of milch animals.



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Often called the 'love hormone', oxytocin is released naturally in human bonding activities such as sex, childbirth and breastfeeding.

The drug's abuse in animals shortens their lives and makes them barren sooner, India's Women and Child Development Minister Maneka Gandhi has said.