



Current Affairs - October to December 2018

Month Type



- [23 Current Affairs were found in Last Three Months for Type - Committees and Schemes](#)

Committees

- ▶ 9-member group has been constituted with Shivaji B Zaware as convener, to enquire and list ongoing issues with Infrastructure Leasing & Financial Services Limited (IL&FS).
- ▶ A Panel of governors constituted by President Ram Nath Kovind submitted its report named *Approach to Agriculture : A Holistic Overview*, on approach to agriculture for doubling farmer's income. It was headed by Uttar Pradesh Governor Ram Naik.
- ▶ A parliamentary panel has been formed to examine functioning of retirement fund body Employees Provident Fund Organisation (EPFO), its coverage and recovery of arrears. It will be headed by BJP MP Kirit Somaiya.
- ▶ A single-member DS Hooda panel, set up by Defence Ministry and National Security Advisory Board (NSAB) has recommended creation of new specialised units for information warfare in areas where counter-insurgency operations are being conducted. Mr Hooda oversaw surgical strikes conducted across Line of Control (LoC) in 2016.
- ▶ Baba Kalyani led committee tasked to study existing SEZ policy of India submitted its report to Commerce Minister Suresh Prabhu.
- ▶ Central Board of Direct Taxes (CBDT) created a 12 member committee headed by S K Dash for a fresh cadre review and restructuring of Income Tax Department.
- ▶ Committee chaired by Cabinet Secretary P K Sinha released its recommendations for stressed thermal power projects, focusing on 34 thermal power stations of capacity 40 gigawatt (GW), entirely fuelled by coal and lignite. Problems arose when after 12th Five Year Plan, 99 GW capacity of plants were added against a requirement of 88GW which led to overabundance and lower productivity.
- ▶ Corporate affairs ministry set up a 10-member panel to check on the discounts offered by online retailers. It will be headed by Injeti Srinivas (Secretary in Ministry of Corporate Affairs (MCA)).
- ▶ Government constituted a Group of Ministers (GoM) to examine existing legal and institutional frameworks for dealing with matters of sexual harassment of women at workplace. It will be chaired by Home Minister Rajnath Singh. With 3 other Union Ministers as Members.
- ▶ Government constituted a Group of Ministers headed by Finance Minister Arun Jaitley to vet recommendations of a high-level panel on stressed power projects, which was headed by Cabinet Secretary P K Sinha and submitted its report in November 2018.
- ▶ Government constituted a panel to select managing directors of public sector insurance companies, to be headed by Banks Board Bureau (BBB) chairman B P Sharma.
- ▶ Government constituted committee to look at selling as many as 149 small and marginal oil and gas fields of state-owned Oil and Natural Gas Corp (ONGC) and Oil India Ltd (OIL) to private and foreign companies to boost domestic output. It will be headed by NITI Aayog Vice Chairman Rajiv Kumar.
- ▶ Government will soon appoint a committee to oversee the implementation of recommendations of the Doubling Farmers' Income (DFI) committee headed by Ashok Dalwai.
 - ▶ DFI Committee was formed in 2016, headed by Ashok Dalwai, to suggest ways to reform agricultural ecosystem, so that farmers' income can be doubled by 2022.
- ▶ Insurance Regulatory and Development Authority of India (IRDA) formed a panel to examine claims in installments, headed by Suresh Mathur. Panel look in to feasibility of proposal of general and health insurance companies for payment of claims in installments as against lump sum payments.
- ▶ Internet and Mobile Association of India (IAMAI) formed a new industry expert committee to develop and promote an augmented reality/virtual reality (AR/VR) ecosystem in India, chaired by Namrita Mahindro (Mahindra Group).

16. ▶ Logistics Development Committee under Chairmanship of Bibek Debroy (Chairman of Economic Advisory Council to the Prime Minister) submitted its report about key challenges in logistics development and associated commerce and suggest policy reforms for ease of doing trade in India. Reform agenda comprises of a number of specific policy actions covering entire logistics value chain.
17. ▶ Minister for Women and Child Development has set up a four-member committee to examine all #MeToo campaign cases, which has become popular recently with various sexual assault allegations on several famous names.
18. ▶ Ministry of Women and Child Development constituted a committee under Vinod K. Paul, for deciding parameters and operational modalities for Conditional Cash Transfer to be carried out in few blocks of two districts each in Uttar Pradesh and Rajasthan.
19. ▶ National Green Tribunal (NGT) appointed U C Dhyani as head of 3 member committee to oversee rejuvenation work of Ganga River.
20. ▶ National Green Tribunal formed committee to conduct an inspection and submit report about the waste dumping issue at the Polavaram dam in Andhra Pradesh, headed by NGT Chairperson Adarsh Kumar Goel.
21. ▶ Odisha government constituted a 3-member inter-ministerial committee to address issues raised by farmers, headed by state Finance Minister Shashi Bhusan Behera.
22. ▶ RBI has set up an expert committee headed by its former governor Bimal Jalan, to suggest how the central bank should handle its reserves and whether it can transfer its surplus to the government. Former RBI deputy governor Rakesh Mohan is committee's vice chairman.
23. ▶ University Grants Commission (UGC) has set up a Consortium of Academic and Research Ethics (CARE) which will prepare a fresh list of credible quality journals in non-science disciplines, amid high share of poor quality research articles published in India. CARE will be headed by UGC Vice Chairman (Currently Bhushan Patwardhan).

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