

29 june

1) **June 28 marks Sant Kabir's 500th death anniversary and is celebrated as Kabir Jayanti** across the country.

- Sant Kabir Das was a very renowned **saint, poet and social reformer** of India who lived during the 15th century. His esteemed works and poems describe the greatness and oneness of the Supreme Being.
- **He did not believe in any religious discrimination and readily accepted all the religions.** Sant Kabir Das propagated that there is the presence of same Supreme Being in all religions.
- Sant Kabir Das was a highly acclaimed poet of his time. His writings significantly **influenced the Bhakti movement.** Some of his famous writings include **'Sakhi Granth', 'Anurag Sagar', 'Bijak' and 'Kabir Granthawali'.**

2) **Jones Lang LaSalle Inc. (JLL)** has released the Global Real Estate Transparency Index 2018.

The 2018 Global Real Estate Transparency Index covers 100 markets and is based on 186 indicators.

These variables are divided into six areas –performance measurement, market fundamentals, governance of listed vehicles, regulatory & legal frameworks, transaction process and environmental sustainability.

The Index scores markets on a scale of 1 to 5 (with 1.00 being the highest possible score). Depending on their overall performance, markets are assigned to one of five transparency tiers.

3) In a blow to Pakistan, the Financial Action Task Force has placed it on the 'grey list' for failing to curb anti-terror financing. The decision was taken at the global financial watchdog **Financial Action Task**

Force's (FATF) plenary session held recently in Paris.

- The process began in February 2018 when FATF approved the nomination of Pakistan for monitoring under its International Cooperation Review Group (ICRG) commonly known as 'grey List'.
- Pakistan was asked to prepare a plan to address international body's concerns and get its approval or it could risk being moved to the black list.

4) **United Nations Relief and Works Agency (UNRWA):**

A total of 20 countries, including India, announced contributions to the 2018 budget of the United Nations Relief and Works Agency (UNRWA) for Palestine Refugees. India has pledged USD 5 million. The contributions are to help bolster "severe funding crisis" following US' cut in its annual aid to UNRWA.

UNRWA has been providing health, education, relief and social services, as well as emergency humanitarian assistance, to some 5.3 million Palestinian refugees across its five fields of operation — Jordan, Lebanon, Syria, the West Bank and the Gaza Strip — for 65 years

5) The Ministry of Health and Family Welfare has restricted the manufacture of Oxytocin formulations for domestic use to public sector only. Coupled with this, it has also banned the import of **Oxytocin** and its formulations. The order comes into effect from July 1.

Only **Karnataka Antibiotics & Pharmaceuticals Ltd. (KAPL)**, a public sector company, will manufacture this drug for domestic use. It will supply the drug to registered hospitals and clinics in public and private sector directly.

- The drug is misused in the dairy industry where livestock is injected with Oxytocin to make them release milk at a time convenient to farmers.
- Oxytocin is also used to increase the size of vegetables such as

pumpkins, watermelons, eggplants, gourds, and cucumbers.

Carbetocin: The World Health Organization (WHO) has come up with a safe and effective alternative to the controversial drug oxytocin.

6) Indian Space Research Organisation (ISRO)'s second moon mission — the Rs 800 crore '**Chandrayaan-2**' — will hunt for deposits of Helium-3 — a waste-free nuclear energy that could answer many of Earth's energy problems.

- The isotope of **Helium**, which is abundant on the moon, could theoretically meet global energy demands for three to five centuries.
- This kind of energy is also expected to be worth trillions of dollars (one expert estimated Helium-3's value at about five billion US dollars a ton).
- There are approximately 1 million metric tons of Helium-3 embedded in the moon, although only about a quarter of that can realistically be brought to Earth.
- Chandrayaan-2 includes soft-landing on Moon and moving a rover on its surface. It is an advanced version of the previous Chandrayaan-1 mission. It consists of an orbiter, lander and rover configuration.
- The Orbiter spacecraft when launched from Sriharikota will travel to the Moon and release the Lander, which will in turn deploy a tiny Rover to roam the lunar surface — all three sending data and pictures to Earth.

6) Union Home Ministry has instituted 'Home Minister's Special Operation Medals' to honour officers of state police, central paramilitary forces and other security organisations engaged in special operations.

- ***The three medals are*** — Antarik Suraksha Medal, Asadharan Aashuchan Padak and Utkrisht & Ati-Utkrisht Seva Medal.
- While the Home Minister's Special Operation Medal and Asadharan Aashuchan Padak will be awarded on August 15, Antarik Suraksha Medal and Utkrisht & Ati-Utkrisht Seva Medal will be announced on Republic Day.