

EVERYDAY CURRENT AFFAIRS – FEBRUARY 6, 2019

TAMIL NADU

- ◆ **Chennai Corporation – to roll out its new app for Smart parking in Chennai this month**



- ✓ The new 'GCC Smart Parking System app' will facilitate parking across 4,583 spaces in Anna Nagar, Purasawalkam High Road, Marina Beach and Besant Nagar
- ✓ The civic body had marked 'equivalent car spaces' (ECS) in these 4 places, where the drivers will be charged premium parking fees of Rs 40 per ECS
- ✓ The entire parking area will be monitored by the CCTV cameras to identify the violations, for which a penalty of Rs 80 per car will be levied
- ✓ For the initial 2 months, visitors to Marina beach will have free access to the parking space

NATIONAL

◆ The Government – launches ‘Shehri Samridhi Utsav’ to extend the outreach of DAY-NULM



- ✓ The scheme will be monitored by the Union Ministry of Housing & Urban Affairs
- ✓ It will facilitate access of Self-Help Group (SHG) members to the other government schemes apart from creating awareness about Deendayal Antyodaya Mission – National Urban Livelihoods Mission (DAY-NULM) to the urban poor

◆ The Union Ministry of Coal - signed a MoU with Ministry of Energy, Republic of Poland - on cooperation in the field of coal mining



- ✓ The agreement would promote clean coal technologies through the already established joint coal working group as well as research institutes and academia between the two countries

◆ Ministry of Union Labour and Employment - has allowed women to work in mines – as part of the efforts to build more opportunities for women

- ✓ This decision has been taken in line with the recommendations of the section 12 of the Mines act, 1952
- ✓ Women will be deployed in work between hours of 7 pm and 6 am
- ✓ The Mines act, 1952, restricted the women employment in underground mines and opencast during night hours

◆ International Society for Krishna Consciousness (ISKCON) - to set up a World Heritage Centre - housing ‘spiritual camps’ in 45 countries

- ✓ A similar centre would also be set up at Mayapur in West Bengal in the country
- ✓ The estimated budget of the proposed project is around 3000 crores

COURT VERDICT

◆ **The Madras High Court - has ruled against negative marking in entrance examinations on 1 February 2019**

- ✓ Justice R Mahadevan held that the practice should be done away with immediately as it prevents students from making intelligent 'guesses' and hence they are bad in 'law'
- ✓ The Judge also directed the CBSE to communicate the order to the National testing Agency which conducts the JEE (Main) exam

INTERNATIONAL

◆ **The United Kingdom along with other European nations such as Germany and France - set up a new transaction channel called 'INSTEX' on January 31, 2019**



- ✓ It will allow companies to continue trading with Iran despite US sanctions
- ✓ The company 'INSTEX' was registered in Paris with an initial 3,000 euros in capital and a supervisory board with members from France and Germany and headed by the UK.
- ✓ The new company is expected to receive the formal endorsement of all 28 EU members
- ✓ INSTEX - 'Instrument in support of trade exchanges'
- ✓ While the move was praised by Iran, it drew a warning from the United States
- ✓ The President of United States, Donald Trump had on May 8, 2018 announced the withdrawal of the US from the landmark 2015 nuclear deal with Iran.
- ✓ On November 5, 2018, the United States temporarily exempted eight countries (India, China, Japan, Italy, Greece, South Korea, Taiwan and Turkey) from the US sanctions for buying Iranian oil

CONFERENCES & SUMMITS

- ◆ **The 2nd Trump-Kim Summit – to take place in Vietnam on February 27-28, 2019**



- ✓ US President Donald Trump will meet the North Korean leader, Kim Jong Un as part of the efforts to denuclearize North Korea
- ✓ The two leaders had the historic first meeting in Singapore on June 12, 2018

- ◆ **2nd edition of Words Count Festival 2019 – was held in Pune, Maharashtra**



- ✓ It is a festival of words hosted by Varsha Chordia and Sabina Sanghvi and curated by columnist Advaita Kala
- ✓ It intends to bring together speakers from several socio-political spheres and share their insights on various issues
- ✓ Pavan Kumar Verma, a career diplomat and famous writer was honored with first Word Smith Award 2019 for his contribution in Indian Literature

SCIENCE, TECHNOLOGY & ENVIRONMENT

- ◆ **ISRO's communication satellite, GSAT-31 - was successfully launched by Arianespace aboard its launch vehicle, Ariane 5 from French Guiana on February 5, 2019**



- ✓ The launch vehicle Ariane 5 VA-247 carried 2 telecommunication satellites –
- ✓ Saudi Geostationary Satellite 1/Hellas Sat 4 and Hellas Sat
- ✓ ISRO's GSAT-31
- ✓ GSAT-31 is India's 40th communication satellite
- ✓ Weighing 2536 kg, it will provide the Ku-band transponder capacity for the next 15 years
- ✓ Arianespace has launched more than 590 satellites since 1980, using its three launchers, Ariane, Soyuz and Vega
- ✓ It has its headquarters in Evry, near Paris, France

DEFENCE

- ◆ **'Exercise Rahat', a Joint Humanitarian Assistance and Disaster Relief Exercise - will be conducted in Jaipur, Kota and Alwar in Rajasthan on Feb 11-12**



- ✓ It will be conducted by Jaipur based Sapta Shakti Command, on behalf of Indian Army, in coordination with National Disaster Management Authority
- ✓ The exercise will be conducted simultaneously in Jaipur, Kota and Alwar
- ✓ Armed Forces, National Disaster Management Response Mechanism (NDMRM), State Disaster Management Authority of Rajasthan and District LMAs will participate in the exercise

ECONOMY

◆ **The Government – is forecasting a GDP growth of 7.5% in 2019-20 - from the projected 7.2% for the current fiscal year**

- ✓ The Ministry of Finance expects a nominal growth of 11.5% and inflation at 4% for 2019-20
- ✓ The Government had also announced that a growth of 8.2% was achieved in 2016-17, when the demonetization was announced

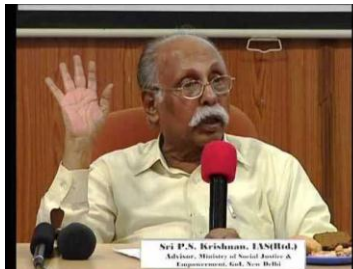
AWARDS

◆ **Azim Premji, Chairman of Wipro Ltd - will be felicitated with the Ernst & Young Lifetime Achievement Award**



- ✓ Ernst & Young, famously known as EY, is a multinational professional accounting services firm
- ✓ Premji was earlier conferred the Padma Bhushan in 2005 and Padma Vibhushan in 2011
- ✓ Premji is donating \$2 billion for improving school education in India, the first of its kind by any Indian billionaire

◆ **P.S. Krishnan, former Secretary of Government of India -was conferred with K. Veeramani award for Social Justice 2018**



- ✓ He was the author of acclaimed books like 'Social Exclusion and Justice in India' and 'Empowering Dalits for Empowering India: A Road-map'
- ✓ V P Singh, former Prime Minister was the first recipient of the award

