

EVERYDAY CURRENT AFFAIRS – JULY 27, 2019

TAMIL NADU

- ◆ **The renovated memorial for Kargil martyr, Major M Saravanan - was unveiled at the St Vestry school roundabout in Trichy on the 20th Kargil Vijay Diwas anniversary on June 26**



- ✓ The renovated memorial has four pillars with the Ashoka emblem, logo of the Indian Army, Bihar regiment and Veer Chakra
- ✓ Also called the hero of Batalik, he was posthumously awarded the Vir Chakra
- ✓ During the inauguration ceremony, a postal stamp of Major Saravanan was released by Brigadier Natraj (special appointment Dakshin Bharat Area) and was received by corporation commissioner N Ravichandran.
- ◆ **Tamil Nadu police team - won the overall championship award at the 62nd all India police duty meet - 2019 held at Lucknow, Uttar Pradesh**
 - ✓ A total of 51 members from the fingerprint division, scientific aid, investigation team and forensic sciences unit participated in 20 different competitions organised.
 - ✓ The team won 13 medals with four gold, thereby securing the overall championship award
 - ✓ Dogs Linga and Bhavani secured the first and second places at narcotics and explosive tracking event.
 - ✓ Tamil Nadu emerged victorious in forensic sciences division also
 - ✓ Members of central police forces, states and union territories police participated in the meet held from July 16 to 20.

◆ **Rajiv Jain - took over as the principal chief commissioner of Income Tax (I-T), Tamil Nadu and Puducherry**



- ✓ He replaces N Sankaran, principal chief commissioner of IT, Andhra Pradesh and Telangana
- ✓ Jain, a 1984 batch Indian Revenue Service officer, worked in various capacities in the department and also served in Delhi, Allahabad, Meerut and several other places.

◆ **The Chennai Metropolitan Water Supply and Sewerage Board (CMWSSB) - has introduced the 'DIAL FOR WATER 2.0' scheme, effective from July 29**

Water on call



PHOTO: B.VELANKANNI RAJ

Capacity of tanker	Booking pattern	Booking time	Payment details (in ₹)
3 KL	Over phone	9.00 a.m. to 6.00 p.m.	400
	Online payment	6.00 a.m. to 6.00 p.m.	
6 KL	Online payment	8.00 a.m. to 6.00 p.m.	475
9 KL		10.00 a.m. to 6.00 p.m.	700
12 KL		12.00 noon to 6.00 p.m.	900
16 KL		12.00 noon to 6.00 p.m.	1,200

- ✓ Under the scheme, the consumers will get water supply within two days from the day of booking
- ✓ Under the new scheme, 9 Kilo Litres (KL), 12 KL and 16-KL capacity water tankers will be available for multi-storeyed buildings (MSB) and 3KL, 6KL and 9-KL capacity tankers are made available for non-MSBs.
- ✓ Consumers can either book online at www.chennaietrowater.tn.gov.in or over the phone by calling 044-4567 4567

STATES

◆ Gujarat assembly – passes a law that makes water theft punishable with a jail term of up to two years and another that seeks to curb its misuse

- ✓ The Gujarat Irrigation and Drainage (Amendment) Bill 2019 and the Gujarat Domestic Water Supply (Protection) Bill 2019 were passed by a majority vote in the assembly
- ✓ Henceforth, anyone found guilty of water theft will be liable for imprisonment and a fine of up to ₹2 lakh or both
- ✓ The move intends to curb illegal drawing of water from canals, dams and such water bodies
- ✓ A similar law, Bangalore Water Supply and Sewerage and Certain Other Laws (Amendment) Act 2009, was already passed in Karnataka which provides for a maximum jail term of three years for water theft.

◆ The country's first space museum – inaugurated in Hyderabad on July 26



- ✓ Housed in the Birla Science Museum, the space museum has set up in association with the Indian Space Research Organisation (ISRO)
- ✓ The museum is an initiative of the Birla Archaeological and Cultural Research Institute (BACRI)
- ✓ Governor ESL Narasimhan inaugurated the museum on the occasion of the Golden Jubilee celebrations of the Birla Archaeological and Cultural Research Institute.
- ✓ It aims to spread knowledge across a variety of fields such as science and technology and to encourage young minds to explore new horizons.
- ✓ The museum has various exhibits and models contributed by ISRO including the GSLV MK III, the launch vehicle of Chandrayaan 2, satellites like Rohini, Chandrayaan 1, Mangalyaan, the International Space Station and many more.

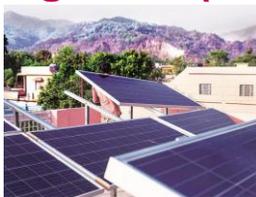
NATIONAL

◆ **Rajnath Singh - will head for Mozambique on his first foreign visit as defence minister on July 28**



- ✓ During his visit, India will gift Mozambique two fast-interceptor boats and 44 military SUVs
- ✓ Both the countries will sign three MoUs on EEZ (exclusive economic zone) surveillance, sharing of White Shipping information and hydrography to further strengthen the bilateral defence cooperation during the visit from July 28 to 30.
- ✓ Bilateral relations are in an upswing since Prime Minister Narendra Modi's visit to the African country in July 2016
- ✓ Singh will be accompanied by defence secretary Sanjay Mitra and other senior officials
- ✓ In March this year, India conducted a military exercise called Africa-India field training exercise-2019 (AFINDEX-19), which included Mozambique and 16 other countries from the continent, at the Aundh military station at Pune
- ◆ **The Road transport ministry - has proposed in a draft notification to hike the Registration and renewal fees in most categories of vehicles running on conventional fuel**
 - ✓ The move is aimed at discouraging petrol and diesel vehicles, phasing out old ones and promoting electric vehicles
 - ✓ For two-wheelers, the new registration fee will be ₹1,000 against the current ₹50 and the renewal charges will be ₹2,000.
 - ✓ In case of cabs, the registration fee and renewal charges will be ₹10,000 and ₹20,000, up from the current ₹1,000
 - ✓ The draft notification proposes to hike registration fee of imported vehicles from ₹5,000 to ₹40,000 and for imported motorcycles, it will be ₹20,000 from ₹2,500.
 - ✓ The ministry has already notified a draft proposal to cancel the registration fee of electric or battery-operated vehicles
 - ✓ Moreover, people buying new vehicles after scrapping old polluting ones will be exempt from paying the registration fee.

◆ **The Government - has set a target for installation of Rooftop Solar projects (RTS) of 40,000 MegaWatt (MW) by 2022 in the country**



- ✓ Union Ministry of New and Renewable Energy (MNRE) is running Grid Connected Rooftop Solar programme by Projects include installation of solar panels on rooftop of houses
- ✓ In terms of installed rooftop solar panel capacity, Gujarat is on the top with 261.97 MW followed by Maharashtra with 198.52MW and Tamil Nadu with 151.62MW
- ✓ As per the Central government data, the total capacity of rooftop solar installations in India is 1700.54 MW.
- ✓ The government of India has provided total financial assistance or incentives of Rs 678.01 crore in fiscal 2016-17, Rs 169.73 crore for fiscal 2017-18 and Rs 446.77 crore in fiscal 2018-19 under the Grid-Connected Rooftop Solar programme

COURT VERDICT

◆ **The Punjab and Haryana high court (HC) - has directed Punjab, Haryana and Union Territory of Chandigarh to ensure that no loudspeaker or public address system shall be used by any person**

- ✓ The restriction includes the religious bodies, in temples, mosques and gurdwaras without written permission of the authorities
- ✓ It will be applicable even during day time, that too, by getting an undertaking that the noise level shall not exceed more than 10dB (A) peripheral noise level.
- ✓ The Court further directed both the states and the UT to ensure that loudspeaker, public address system, musical instrument and sound amplifier are not played during night time
- ✓ However, the exceptions in night time were given for auditoria, conference rooms, community halls, banquet halls as per norms laid down under the Noise Pollution (Regulation and Control) Rules, 2000.

INTERNATIONAL

◆ **Pakistanis holding dual nationality – are allowed to contest elections in the country**

- ✓ The decision to this effect was taken at a cabinet meeting led by PM Imran Khan
- ✓ The decision will require an amendment to Article 63 (c) of the Constitution.

- ✓ Earlier, in October, the Supreme Court had disqualified PML-N senators Haroon Akhtar and Sadia Abbasi, the sister of ex-PM Shahid Khaqan Abbasi, for being dual nationals at the time of filing of their nomination papers.
- ✓ The move provides overseas Pakistanis an opportunity to take part in the political process in the interest of the country.

COMMITTEES

◆ **The Centre - has formed a high-level committee to coordinate and strategise the preparation for the 2020 Tokyo Olympics and 2024 Paris Olympics**

- ✓ It will be headed by Sports Minister Kiren Rijiju and consists of illustrious Olympic medal winners such as tennis player Leander Paes and shooter Gagan Narang



- ✓ The other members of the committee include prominent government and sports officials including IOA President Narinder Batra, IOA Secretary General Rajeev Mehta, Secretary of Department of Sports Radhey Shyam Julaniya, President of Indian Athletics Federation Adille Sumariwalla and Boxing Federation of India chief Ajay Singh.
- ✓ It will also be responsible for preparing a strategy for the bidding of multidisciplinary sporting events in the future.

SCIENCE, TECHNOLOGY & ENVIRONMENT

◆ **A team of scientists at Aryabhata Research Institute of Observational Sciences (ARIES) in Nainital - has identified 28 new variable stars in the halo or outer part of the Milky Way galaxy**



- ✓ Using a powerful 3.6-metre optical telescope, the Devasthal Optical Telescope (DOT), the scientists observed the stars at a distance of 60,000 light years away in the constellation Coma Berenices, visible in the northern night sky.
- ✓ The stars were found in globular cluster NGC 4147, which is a large but compact cluster of stars around a galactic core and is spherical in shape.

- ✓ The DOT telescope is useful to study the magnetic field structure of stars and the evolution of the Milky Way, and search for extra solar planets and stars in the outer region and the halo of the Milky Way.
- ✓ ARIES, located on a hill near Nainital, conducts research on solar, planetary, stellar, galactic and extragalactic astronomy
- ✓ The first successful Indian optical observation of the afterglow of the gamma-ray burst was carried out from ARIES in 1999

◆ **Students at the Indian Institute of Technology (IIT) Madras - have developed a "smart agricopter" to eliminate manual spraying of pesticides in agricultural fields**

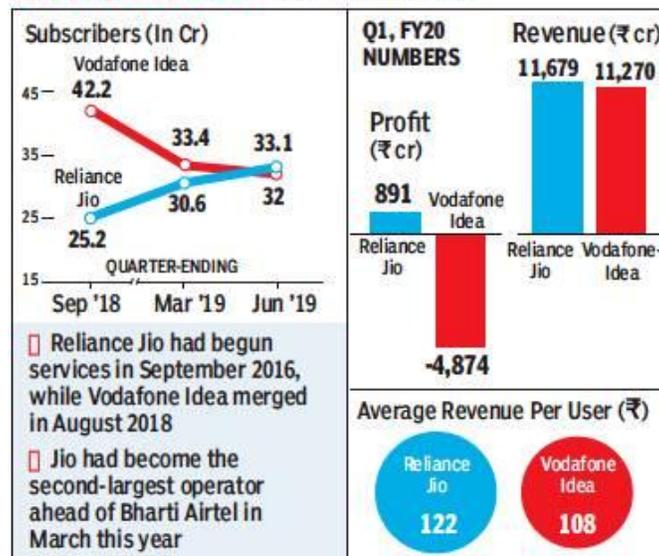


- ✓ The agricopter will also be utilized to identify crop health by using an imaging camera.
- ✓ The innovation will allow spraying pesticides ten times faster and with 100% precision at the same cost as manual spraying
- ✓ A team of three at the Centre for Innovation, IIT Madras has also filed a patent for the agricopter whose cost is estimated to be around ₹5.1 lakh
- ✓ The team has also got a ₹10 lakh worth equity-less funding after their product won the Indian Innovation Growth Programme (IIGP 2.0) University Challenge held at IIT Bombay

ECONOMY

◆ **Mukesh Ambani's Reliance Jio - has emerged as the country's largest mobile operator, knocking out Vodafone-Idea from the top position.**

JIO'S JOURNEY TO THE TOP



Source: Company Data

- ✓ Jio has also made more revenue than Vodafone-Idea in April-June quarter
- ✓ Jio, which started operations in September 2016, finished the quarter ending June 30, 2019 with a subscriber base of 33.1 crore
- ✓ Compared to this, Vodafone-Idea had 32 crore users in the same period as the company continued to remove low-spending customers as part of a new business strategy.
- ✓ Jio, the new 4G-only telecom entrant, had moved ahead of Bharti Airtel in March this year
- ✓ Vodafone-Idea had come into existence a year back after the merger of Vodafone India and Idea Cellular.

APPOINTMENTS

◆ **B S Yediyurappa, a seven time MLA - was sworn in as the 31st chief minister of Karnataka for the second time in 14 months**

PREVIOUS STINTS AS CM

Nov 12, 2007 - Nov 19, 2007	May 30, 2008 - July 31, 2011	May 17, 2018 - May 19, 2018	Even in this stint, BSY will not serve a full 5-year term as one year of the assembly's tenure is already over
8 days	3 yrs 2 mths	3 days	
 <p>B S Yediyurappa before taking oath as CM on Friday</p>			



- ✓ It was his fourth overall, making him only the second Karnataka CM to achieve the feat, after S Nijalingappa
- ✓ However, he has never completed a full term, though he assumed office thrice earlier in 2007, 2008 and 2018
- ✓ The state governor Vajubhai R Vala administered the oath of office to BJP's Lingayat strongman
- ✓ BJP enjoys a majority in the 208-member House, with the support of 105 party MLAs and one independent
- ✓ CM Yediyurappa's first acts were to announce a ₹100 crore loan waiver to weavers and provide an additional ₹4,000 to farmers under the Pradhan Mantri Kisan Samman Nidhi Yojana, apart from ₹6,000 provided by the Centre
- ✓ The amount will be disbursed in the first two instalments of income support to farmers.

AWARDS

- ◆ **Malayalam film 'Chola', directed by filmmaker Sanal Kumar Sasidharan - has been selected for this year's edition of the Venice Film Festival.**



- ✓ The film has been chosen as part of the 'Orizzonti' (Horizons) competition category, which runs parallel to the main competition.
- ✓ This special competitive section at the festival, dedicated to new currents in world cinema, was launched in 2004.
- ✓ Chola, which will have its world premiere at Venice, had also won big at the Kerala State Film Awards this year

SPORTS

- ◆ **Goa's Bhakti Kulkarni – retains her National chess champions title in the 46th National Women's Chess Championship in Karaikudi**



- ✓ The 27-year-old Woman Grandmaster (WGM) won the contest in 69 moves against Tamil Nadu's K Priyanka in the tenth and penultimate round
- ✓ Bhakti, with 9.5 points from 10 rounds, gained 42 Elo points in the competition and took her ELO rating to 2430
- ✓ Delhi's Vantika Agrawal was in the second spot with eight points after her win over three-time national champion Mary Ann Gomes
- ✓ Vantika earned a Woman Grandmaster (WGM) norm during the tournament
- ✓ Tamil Nadu's PV Nandhidhaa, Pratyusha and the Maharashtra duo of Divya Deshmukh and Mrudul Dehankar remain third with 7.5 points.
- ✓ Maharashtra's Mrudul Dehankar achieved the WIM norm during the tournament

◆ **Chandigarh – to make Ranji trophy debut this season**

- ✓ The debut becomes the eventuality after the Supreme Court-appointed Committee of Administrators (CoA) cleared the UT Cricket Association to run the sport in the Union Territory
- ✓ The development comes couple of days after the Chandigarh Cricket Association-Punjab decided to merge with the UT Cricket Association, thus paving the way for the Union Territory to be recognized as a separate entity.

RANKINGS

◆ **Reliance Industries (RIL) - has become the top-ranked Indian company to feature in the latest Fortune Global 500 list**

- ✓ It is currently placed at 106th position with an improvement of 42 positions from the last rankings



- ✓ On the other hand, the earlier leader, IOC improved its position to 117th rank, registering a jump of 20 spots
- ✓ Other Indian companies in the Fortune Global 500 list include ONGC (160), State Bank of India (236), Tata Motors (265), Bharat Petroleum (275) and Rajesh Exports (495)
- ✓ In 2018, Reliance was ranked 148th and Indian Oil was at the 137th place
- ✓ In 2012, at the peak, Indian Oil and RIL were ranked at 83rd and 99th positions, respectively, on the Fortune 500 list.

- ✓ U.S. retail giant Walmart continues to top the Fortune 500 list followed by Chinese state-owned oil and gas company Sinopec Group, which moved up by one rank
Royal Dutch Shell Plc was ranked third followed by China National Petroleum and State Grid.
- ✓ Saudi Arabian Oil Co. appeared for the first time in Top 10 of the Fortune 500 list at sixth, while BP Plc, Exxon Mobil Corp., Volkswagen AG, and Toyota Motor Co. Ltd. are ranked 7th, 8th, 9th and 10th, respectively
- ✓ Chinese smartphone manufacturer Xiaomi has become the youngest company on the Fortune Global 500 list for 2019, ranked at 468th place, after just nine years of the launch
- ✓ The Fortune 500 list ranks companies according to their revenue and profit, focusing on the size of the companies

INTERNATIONAL DAY

◆ Kargil Vijay Diwas – July 26



- ✓ The day is celebrated to honour the victory of the Indian Armed Forces in 'Operation Vijay' against the infiltrating Pakistani troops on this day in the 1999 Kargil conflict
- ✓ Military personnel celebrate the day at Drass-Kargil sector and at Amar Jawan Jyoti, India Gate, New Delhi.
- ✓ The day is observed to respect and to show gratitude to the brave Indian soldiers of Indian Army who sacrificed their lives to keep India safe and secure.
- ✓ The day is celebrated with the theme - Remember, Rejoice and Renew.
- ✓ The war took place between May and July of 1999 in Kargil district of Jammu and Kashmir.
- ✓ Infiltration by Pakistani troops was code named 'Operation Badr'
- ✓ Indian Air Force's operation 'Safed Sagar' at a height of 32,000 feet was a major part of the Kargil war.
- ✓ The official death toll on Indian side was 527, while that on the Pakistani side was between 357 and 453.

◆ National Broadcasting Day – July 23

National Broadcasting Day

23 July



- ✓ On this day in 1927, the first ever radio broadcast in the country went on the air from the Bombay Station under the Indian Broadcasting Company, a private entity
- ✓ The Mumbai station began on 23 July 1927, and the Calcutta station followed on 26 August 1927
- ✓ The government took over the broadcasting facilities, beginning the Indian State Broadcasting Service (ISBS) on 1 April 1930 on an experimental basis for two years, and permanently in May 1932
- ✓ Later, on 8th of June, 1936, the Indian State Broadcasting Service became All India Radio
- ✓ Currently, All India Radio has 414 stations in 23 languages and broadcasts in 179 dialects, reaching nearly 92% of the country's area and 99.19% of the total population

