



EVERYDAY CURRENT AFFAIRS – SEP 12, 2019

TAMIL NADU

- Tamil Nadu Government - to introduce online, single window admissions from the next academic year (2020-21) to various arts and science colleges in the state, similar to the engineering admissions

CHIEF SECY OKAYS PROPOSAL

Representational image

- No. of seats in 91 government arts colleges | **Over 1 lakh**
- Seats in various aided and private colleges | **Over 3 lakh**

Merits of single-window admission system

➤ Will stop fleecing of students	➤ Uniform fee structure across all colleges in the state
➤ Seats in aided courses can be filled before self-financing courses	➤ Students can choose courses based on his/her marks and wish



- ✓ The new system will enable students to join any arts/science college in the state with a single application
- ✓ The move would enable the students to join a college anywhere in Tamil Nadu with a single application enabling merit-based admission

NATIONAL

- Prime Minister Narendra Modi – launches National Animal Disease Control programme and Artificial Insemination Programme in Mathura



Realizing the dream of doubling farmers' income by 2022

PM Modi launches the 'National Animal Disease Control Programme'

- A Central government funded programme to vaccinate **500 million livestock**
- This aims to eradicate FMD (foot and mouth disease) & brucellosis in cattle
- Rs. 12,652 crores** to be spent in the next five years
- Artificial insemination to be initiated as well
- Move to enhance the income of farmers all across the nation

Prosperous farmers / Prosperous New India

- ✓ National Animal Disease Control Programme is aimed at doubling farmers' income, eradicating Foot and Mouth Disease and Brucellosis in livestock.
 - ✓ It intends to vaccinate over 500 Million Livestock against the Foot and Mouth Disease (FMD)
 - ✓ The entire funding of Rs 12,652 crores for the programme will be provided by the Central Government over a period of five years till 2024
 - ✓ When a cow or buffalo gets infected with FMD, the milk loss is up to 100% which could last up to 6 months.
 - ✓ On the other hand, in the case of Brucellosis, the milk output reduces by 30% during the entire life cycle of animal, besides causing infertility among animals
- **HRD minister Ramesh Pokhriyal – launched the 'National students and faculty startup policy 2019' in the presence of minister of state, Sanjay Dhotre**



- ✓ As per the policy, higher educational institutions (HEIs) have to set aside at least 1% of their total annual budget for funding and supporting innovation and startups through creation of an 'innovation fund'

- ✓ The institutions will also need to create pre-incubation and incubation facilities which will have to be available 24X7 to the students and faculty members of all disciplines.
- ✓ Students and faculty will also be allowed licensing of Intellectual Property Rights (IPR) from the institute and will be allowed to work part-time for the startups during study.
- ✓ According to the startup policy for HEIs, student entrepreneurs will also be allowed to sit for exams even if they are below the permissible minimum attendance.
- ✓ Students and faculty will also be allowed semester and year breaks to work in the startups and then rejoin the programme.
- ✓ The framework was prepared by a 15-member committee under Prof Ashok Jhunjunwala of Indian Institute of Technology, Madras

INTERNATIONAL

- **UK Prime Minister Boris Johnson - announced the return of the two-year post-study work visa for international students**
- ✓ According to the new move, Indian graduates in any subject will be able to stay in the UK for two years to work or look for a job after graduation
- ✓ The announcement, bringing cheer to thousands of Indians in UK, will enable students to work at any skill level and then later switch if they found a job that met the requirements
- ✓ The graduate visa route will be available to all international students who start degree courses — whether it is undergraduate, postgraduate, or doctoral — in the autumn of 2020
- ✓ Students who are in the middle of courses at the time the new visa is introduced will also be eligible for the benefit
- ✓ Currently, international students pursuing bachelor's and master's degrees can work for only four months after they graduate and those at 27 universities on a pilot scheme get six months (in an MA programme), while those doing a PhD get a year.
- ✓ In 2012, then home secretary Theresa May had scrapped the two-year post-study work visa in order to bring down UK immigration figures, leading to a 55% drop in number of Indian students coming to Britain

PERSONALITIES

- **The US – has designated the chief of the banned Tehreek-e-Taliban Pakistan, Noor Wali Mehsud as a global terrorist**



- ✓ Mehsud was designated as a 'specially designated global terrorist' by the US department of state on September 10, on the eve of the 18th anniversary of the 9/11 attacks
- ✓ The move aims to impose sanctions on the resources of the proclaimed offender, denying the terrorists the financial freedom to plan and carry out attacks.
- ✓ All of their property and interests in property subject to US jurisdiction are blocked and US persons are also prohibited from engaging in any transactions with the offenders
- ✓ Mehsud took over the Tehreek-e-Taliban Pakistan (TTP) in June 2018 following the death of Mullah Fazlullah in Afghanistan.
- ✓ Since its establishment in 2007, the TTP has remained a major threat and the most dangerous Islamist terrorist organisation in Pakistan
- ✓ The TTP has been involved in more than 1,400 terrorist attacks in Pakistan over the last 12 years.

DEFENCE

- **The Army - to conduct a major Exercise 'HimVijay' beginning October in Arunachal Pradesh and Assam with its newly created Integrated Battle Groups (IBG) involving 15,000 troops**
- ✓ The exercise will coincide with the proposed visit of Chinese President Xi Jinping for the second informal summit with Prime Minister Narendra Modi.
- ✓ The Panagarh based 17 Mountain Strike Corps will conduct Exercise HimVijay spread over a month and half, starting from October
- ✓ The IBGs, each of them based on threat, terrain and task, are part of the overall force transformation initiated by Army Chief Gen. Bipin Rawat

APPOINTMENTS

- **P K Mishra, additional principal secretary to PM - appointed as the new principal secretary to PM**



- ✓ He replaces Nripendra Misra who recently resigned the post
- ✓ Along with Mishra, former cabinet secretary P K Sinha was appointed principal adviser to PM.
- ✓ P K Mishra has worked with Prime Minister Narendra Modi when he was the chief minister of Gujarat.
- ✓ P K Mishra has been a former agriculture secretary and also worked in the area of disaster management
- ✓ He was actively involved in initiatives like national agriculture development programme and the national food security mission
- ✓ He is a PhD in economic-development studies from the University of Sussex

AWARDS

- In a first in the history of Indian sports, the name of a woman athlete — six-time world champion boxer M C Mary Kom — has been recommended by the Sports Ministry for the prestigious Padma Vibhushan award

VIBHUSHAN FOR MARY KOM?

Names recommended by sports ministry	
<p>PADMA VIBHUSHAN</p> <p>M C Mary Kom (boxing)</p>	<p>PADMA BHUSHAN</p> <p>P V Sindhu (badminton)</p>
<p>PADMA SHRI</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Vinesh Phogat (wrestling) ➤ Harmanpreet Kaur (cricket) ➤ Rani Rampal (hockey) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Suma Shirur (shooting) ➤ Manika Batra (table tennis) ➤ Twins Tashi & Nungshi Malik (mountaineering)

- ✓ Again, for the very first time, the Sports Ministry has recommended nine 'woman' athletes for the Padma awards
- ✓ Reigning world champion, badminton star P V Sindhu, has been nominated for the Padma Bhushan, the country's third highest civilian award

- ✓ Wrestler Vinesh Phogat, table tennis star Manika Batra, T20I skipper Harmanpreet Kaur, hockey captain Rani Rampal, former shooter Suma Shirur and mountaineer twin sisters, Tashi and Nungshi Malik were nominated for the Padma Shri awards
- ✓ Besides the names of the women sportspersons, the sports ministry has recommended the names of archer Tarundeep Rai and hockey Olympian MP Ganesh for the Padma Shri award.
- ✓ The recommendations by the Sports ministry have been forwarded to the Padma awards committee in the ministry of home affairs (MHA).
- ✓ The final list of the awardees will be released on January 25, 2020 by the Padma awards committee.
- ✓ Padma Vibhushan is the country's second highest civilian honour after Bharat Ratna
- ✓ The Padma Vibhushan has been given to three male sportspersons in the past - Chess legend Viswanathan Anand (2007), cricket stalwart Sachin Tendulkar (2008) and mountaineer Sir Edmund Hillary (2008), who got the award posthumously.
- ✓ Mary Kom, bronze medalist at the 2012 London Olympics, was honoured with the Padma Bhushan in 2013 and Padma Shri in 2006.
- ✓ Mary Kom has also been conferred with the Arjuna award in 2003 and the Rajiv Gandhi Khel Ratna award in 2009
- ✓ She is also the first Indian female boxer to win gold at the Asian Games (2014) and Commonwealth Games (2018).
- ✓ Mary Kom, 36, was nominated as a member of the Rajya Sabha in April 2016
- ✓ Sindhu was recommended for the Padma Bhushan in 2017, but failed to make the final list of awardees.
- ✓ Sindhu was conferred with the Padma Shri in 2015, Arjuna award in September 2013 and the Rajiv Gandhi Khel Ratna award in August 2016.
- ✓ Sindhu became the only Indian to win the World Badminton Championship title after beating Japan's Nozomi Okuhara recently
- ✓ Sindhu is also the first Indian badminton player to win a silver in the Olympics

SPORTS

- **India - topped the medal tally in the Track Asia Cup cycling competition in New Delhi**
- ✓ India finished the tournament bagging 10 gold, 8 silver and 7 bronze medals
- ✓ Ronaldo Laitonjam won four Gold medals in the meet for the country
- ✓ Esow Alben also won a gold in men' elite keirin event
- ✓ Uzbekistan finished overall second with 4 gold and 3 silver while Malaysia secured third place with 4 gold and 1 silver

- **Karate, sport climbing and baseball/softball - have been added to the programme for the 2022 Asian Games at Hangzhou**
- ✓ The new additions bring the number of approved sports at the event to 40
- ✓ The three are already part of next year's Olympic Games in Tokyo which will feature a total of 33 sports.
- **Noted hockey umpire Javed Shaikh and the Bengaluru-based Raghu Prasad - are the two Indians included in the men's panel that will officiate at the 2020 Tokyo Olympics**



Javed Shaikh

Raghu Prasad

- ✓ Bibhu Nayak has been included in the three-member medical officers' panel.
- ✓ The hockey events at the Games will be held from July 25 to August 7
- ✓ The 2020 Tokyo Olympics is scheduled to take place between July 25 and August 7 next year

RANKINGS

- **Times Higher Education (THE) World University rankings 2020**

IIT-ROPAR MAKES STRONG DEBUT

Indian universities in top 500*		
University	2020	2019
Indian Institute of Science	301-350	251-300
IIT, Ropar	301-350	NR
IIT, Indore	351-400	351-400
IIT, Bombay	401-500	401-500
IIT, Delhi	401-500	501-600
IIT, Kharagpur	401-500	501-600
		
Global best	2020	2019
University of Oxford (UK)	1	1
California Institute of Technology (US)	2	5
University of Cambridge (UK)	3	2
Stanford University (US)	4	3
Massachusetts Institute of Technology (US)	5	4

- ✓ University of Oxford - continues to lead the rankings for the fourth consecutive year.
- ✓ Besides Oxford, the California Institute of Technology rose three places to second, Cambridge dropped one place to third and Stanford and Massachusetts Institute of Technology (MIT) joined them at the top of the list to round off the top five
- ✓ Indian Institute of Technology, Ropar made it to the top 350 on debut in the list.
- ✓ It is the joint Indian topper along with Indian Institute of Science, Bangalore.
- ✓ No Indian university featured in the top 300 for the first time since 2012
- ✓ In total, there are 6 Indian universities in the top 500, as against 5 in the 2019 rankings
- ✓ The total number of entries from India went up from 49 in 2018 to 56 this year.
- ✓ India is the fifth most-represented nation in the rankings, with 56 institutions
- ✓ 10 Indian universities which participated for the first time made it to the global ranking list of 1,300 universities from 92 countries
- ✓ Globally, the US has 60 universities in the top 200, 10 of which come from the state of California alone
- ✓ China now has the top two universities in Asia with Tsinghua, the leader from continent at 23rd place and Peking at 24th overtaking the National University of Singapore