

EVERYDAY CURRENT AFFAIRS – JANUARY 27, 2019

TAMIL NADU

- Tamil Nadu Chief Minister, Edappadi K Palaniswami – presented the Anna Award for Gallantry to 3 meritorious persons – during the Republic day celebrations held in Chennai



சூடியரசு தின விழாவில் வீரதீரச் செயலுக்கான அண்ணா பதக்கங்கள், காந்தியடிகள் காவலர் பதக்கம், வேளாண்மைத் துறை சிறப்பு விருது ஆகிய பதக்கங்களை பெற்றவர்களுடன் முதல்வர் எடப்பாடி கே.பழனிசாமி.

- ✓ The winners are
 - ✓ G Ranjithkumar from Bodinaikanur – who has rescued 8 trekkers trapped in the Kurangani forest fire in March 2018 apart from alerting the officials concerned for speedy evacuation
 - ✓ N Surya Kumar from Thirumanagalam, who caught a robber trying to flee after snatching a chain from a doctor who was alone at her clinic in Anna Nagar
 - ✓ R Sridhar of Thanjavur – who rescued 6 women and children from drowning in a lake

- ✓ The award comes with a certificate and a prize money of Rs 1 lakh and a medal worth Rs 5,000
- ✓ 5 Police officers – have also received Gandhi Adigal Police medal – for their contribution in curtailing the illicit liquor sale
- ✓ The Chief Minister also gave a special award to S Xavier, a farmer from Pudukottai district – for getting the highest yield in paddy cultivation using the Rice intensification method
- **Ministry of Information and Broadcasting – won the first prize in the Republic day parade held in Chennai**
- ✓ This year, overall 15 state Government departments have projected their achievements through their parade vehicles at the event
- ✓ Agriculture and Horticulture Department secured the second prize while Health and Sanitation department secured the third prize
- **8th Annual Pulicat Day – will be observed on February 2 at Pazhaverkadu – to create an awareness about the importance of protecting the Pulicat lagoon among the people**



- ✓ The Day is celebrated on the World Wetlands Day with various activities along the lagoon
- ✓ It is the second largest brackish water body in the entire country
- ✓ Located north of Chennai, it covers an area of 750 sq km only now, having lost more than 315 sq km in the last four decades due to urbanization

- ✓ The depth of the lagoon has been reduced to 1.5 feet from the original 11 feet, causing an ecological disaster
- ✓ Located in the centre of Buckingham canal, which stretches 798 km from Kakinada (Andhra Pradesh) to Marakkanam (Tamil Nadu), Pulicat was once a prominent port of south east coast for cotton export
- ✓ It had attracted the Arabs (AD 700), Europeans (AD 1502) and Japanese (AD 1619) to it
- ✓ The lagoon is shared by Tamil nadu and Andhra Pradesh

NATIONAL

- **The Government – had approved ‘subsidized’ flights from 6 Water airports in the country**



- ✓ The airports are expected to come up at Guwahati riverfront, Nagarjuna sagar, Shatrunjay Dam, Umrangso reservoir and Sabarmati river front
- ✓ They will be developed under the 3rd round of ‘Ude desh ka aam nagrik’ (Udan) scheme
- **The Union Government - has decided to renovate and develop around 400 abandoned airstrips across the country to strengthen air-connectivity**
- ✓ The first such MoU was signed with Jharkhand government to develop the abandoned airstrip at Dhalbhumgarh
- ✓ The Dhalbhumgarh airstrip had been developed by Britishers during the World War II in Ghatsila sub-division of East Singhbhum district
- **The President of India has approved the conferment of Jeevan Raksha Padak Series of Awards – 2018 on 48 people, 8 of them posthumously**

- ✓ They are given under 3 categories for the meritorious act of human nature in saving the life of a person
 - ✓ Sarvottam Jeevan Raksha Padak
 - ✓ Uttam Jeevan Raksha Padak
 - ✓ Jeevan Raksha Padak
- ✓ This year, the Sarvottam Jeevan Raksha Padak will be given to 8 people, Uttam Jeevan Raksha Padak to 15 and Jeevan Raksha Padak to 25 people
- ✓ Tamil Nadu's M Padmanabhan was the sole winner for the state in the category of 'Jeevan Raksha Padak'

COURT VERDICT

- **A Supreme Court Bench headed by Justice R.F. Nariman - upheld the constitutional validity of the Insolvency and Bankruptcy Code (IBC) "in its entirety"**



- ✓ As per the law, the National Company Law Tribunal (NCLT) is the adjudicating authority for companies and limited liability partnerships
- ✓ The Debt Recovery Tribunal (DRT) is the adjudicating authority for individuals and partnership firms
- ✓ Currently, Insolvency and Bankruptcy Code (Second Amendment) Bill, 2018 is pending for its passage in the parliament
- ✓ The Bill seeks to replace the Insolvency and Bankruptcy Code (Amendment) Ordinance 2018, which replaced the earlier, Insolvency and Bankruptcy Code, 2016
- ✓ Insolvency is a situation where an individual or company is unable to repay their outstanding debt to creditors

- **Allahabad High Court's Lucknow bench – has ruled that Aadhaar card details alone cannot be taken as 'conclusive proof' during an investigation into a criminal case – under the Evidence Act**
- ✓ These entries may be subjected to verification in case of doubt, it had held
- ✓ An Aadhaar card was a document that provided a conclusive link between the card holder's photograph, his/her fingerprints and iris scan with the Aadhaar number

PERSONALITIES

- **Gita Mehta, eminent writer – declined to accept the Padma Shri award in the field of 'Literature and education'**



- ✓ She was the elder sister of Odisha chief minister and Chief of Biju Janata Dal, Naveen Patnaik and daughter of former CM Biju Patnaik
- ✓ She cited the timing of the awards could be 'misconstrued' in an election year, if she accepts it
- ✓ Gita was the author of prominent books like 'Karma Cola', 'A River sutra', 'Snakes and Ladders: Glimpses of modern India', 'Eternal Ganesha: From Birth to Rebirth'

DEFENCE

- **India – has finalized Rs 5,750 crore defence plan in Andaman and Nicobar Islands**
- ✓ It is an exclusive infrastructure development plan spread over 10 years for the 572-Island A&N archipelago

- ✓ The plan will allow stationing of additional warships, aircraft, drones, missile batteries and infantry soldiers against the backdrop of China's rapidly increasing presence in the Indian Ocean region (IOR)
- ✓ A&N Command is the country's only theatre command with assets and manpower of the army, Navy, IAF and Coast Guard under one operational commander
- **Navy Chief Admiral, Sunil Lanba -commissioned the new Naval Air Base 'INS Kohassa' at Diglipur in Andaman and Nicobar Islands**



- ✓ The INS Kohassa will be used to handle operations of helicopters and small aircraft like the Dornier
- ✓ The new base would further strengthen the defence capabilities of the country in the Indian Ocean region
- **The Centre for Military Airworthiness and Certification (CEMILAC), a premier military certification agency - cleared the use of indigenously produced bio-fuel for use in the military aircraft**
- ✓ The approval will enable the Indian Air Force to fulfill its commitment to fly the maiden IAF An-32 aircraft on January 26, 2019 with a blend of bio-jet fuel
- ✓ The Biojet fuel is produced from non-conventional sources like non-edible vegetable or tree borne oil.



- ✓ The bio-jet fuel, used in military aircraft, has been produced from seeds of Jatropha plant sourced from Chhattisgarh and processed at CSIR-IIP's lab at Dehradun.

APPOINTMENTS

- Piyush goyal, Railway minister – was given the temporary, additional responsibility of Finance Minister



- ✓ He may present the Union Budget 2019-20 on February 1, 2019 - in the absence of former finance Minister, Arun Jaitley, who is currently in United States for a medical treatment
- ✓ Goyal had held the finance portfolio while Jaitley had undergone a kidney transplant last year
- ✓ Jaitley will remain a minister without portfolio till he recuperates

AWARDS

- **Subhash Chandra Bose Aapda Prabandhan Puraskar 2019**
- ✓ 8th Battalion of the National Disaster Response Force (NDRF), located at Ghaziabad, was selected for the inaugural 'Subhash Chandra Bose Aapda Prabandhan Puraskar' for the year 2019 - for its commendable work in Disaster Management
- ✓ The Government - had earlier instituted an annual award titled 'Subhash Chandra Bose Aapda Prabandhan Puraskar' to mark the 122nd birth anniversary of Netaji Subhash Chandra Bose
- ✓ The award scheme will recognise the efforts of organisations or individuals who work to alleviate suffering of the affected population in the aftermath of any disaster
- ✓ The award will be announced every year on 23 January on the birth anniversary of Netaji Subhash Chandra Bose
- ✓ It will be conferred to those who have excelled in areas of Disaster Management like Prevention, Mitigation, Preparedness, Rescue, Response, Relief, Rehabilitation and Early Warning
- ✓ In the recent Kerala Floods, the battalion rescued 5338 victims and evacuated 24000 persons to safety



- ✓ Other major disasters in which this NDRF battalion participated are Leh Cloud Burst (2011), Kedarnath Floods (2013), Cyclone Hudhud (2014), Chennai Floods (2015) and Tripura Floods (2018).
- ✓ Their teams were also sent to Japan during Fukushima Daiichi nuclear disaster (2011), to Nepal in the aftermath of Nepal Earthquake in 2015 and recent Tsunami in Indonesia (2018)

SPORTS

- **Japan's Naomi Osaka – wins the Australian Open Tennis Championships 2019**



- ✓ She defeated Czech Republic's Petra Kvitova to win her 2nd consecutive Grand Slam after her win at last year's US Open, defeating Serena Williams in September 2018
- ✓ The Grand slam victory made her the new World No 1, the first for an Asian
- **Nepal Cricketer, Rohit Paudel – becomes the world's youngest batsman to score an International fifty**
- ✓ Rohit, all of 16 years and 146 days, had scored 55 against UAE in the 2nd one day match in Dubai
- ✓ In the process, he has overtaken the record of cricket legend, Sachin Tendulkar, who had scored 50 against Pakistan in 1989 in a Faisalabad test match, when he was just 16 years and 214 days



- ✓ He also became the youngest man to score an ODI half century, beating Pakistan's Shahid Afridi, who smashed 102 runs against Sri Lanka in Nairobi in 1996 at 16 years, 217 days
- ✓ South African women cricketer, Johmari Logtenburg – holds the overall record having scored fifties in both Test and ODI cricket as a 14 year old