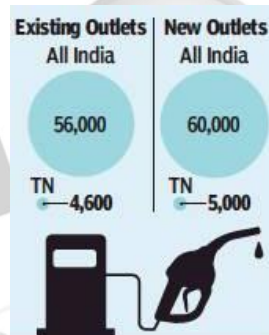


EVERYDAY CURRENT AFFAIRS – NOV 26, 2018

TAMIL NADU

- Tamil Nadu and Puducherry – to have 5257 more fuel outlets in the state to boost employment generation



- ✓ The fuel outlets are commissioned with an investment of Rs 2 crore each
- ✓ Tamil Nadu will have 5125 more outlets along with 132 more in Puducherry

STATES

- Bihar Chief Minister, Nitish Kumar – unveiled the 70-foot tall Buddha Statue at Rajgir in Nalanda district



- ✓ It is second tallest statue of Buddha in the country, after the 80-foot tall Buddha statue in Saranath, Varanasi
- ✓ It has been installed in the middle of lake Ghora Katora, which is a natural lake surrounded by five mountains
- ✓ The CM later inaugurated a three-day Rajgir Mahotsava in the state
- ✓ It has to be recalled that Gujarat is also planning to install the 80-foot tall Buddha statue in Gandhi Nagar district

- **West Bengal – to be the home of ‘The India Autism Centre’ soon**
- ✓ The world-class Autism township, planned to be built near Kolkata, will accommodate children and adults suffering from the developmental disorder for the treatment and training
- ✓ It is expected to come up at Sirakol in South 24 Parganas, at a cost of Rs 500 crore
- ✓ The construction is expected to be completed by 2023
- ✓ It is the first-of-its-kind initiative in the entire world with housing facilities for trainers, patients and guests
- ✓ The project was announced during the Bengal Global Business Summit (BGBS) in January 2018.

- **Uttarakhand – to rename the Dehradun airport after Atal Bihari Vajpayee, former prime minister**
- ✓ The state Government has approved the renaming of ‘Jolly Grant’ Airport in Dehradun at a meeting chaired by its CM, Trivendra Singh Rawat

- **Delhi Government – has launched ‘Open Transit Data Platform’ portal – to increase transparency and build transport solutions**
- ✓ It is a major step to promote innovative transport solutions for the people of Delhi
- ✓ It provides real-time datasets free of cost
- ✓ It was designed and developed by IIT Delhi on behalf of the Delhi government.

- **Lucknow-based CSIR-National Botanical Research Institute – has developed ‘Transgenic rice’ with reduced Arsenic accumulation**
- ✓ It was done by inserting a novel fungal gene to increase yield and at the same time, reduce the arsenic content in rice grains

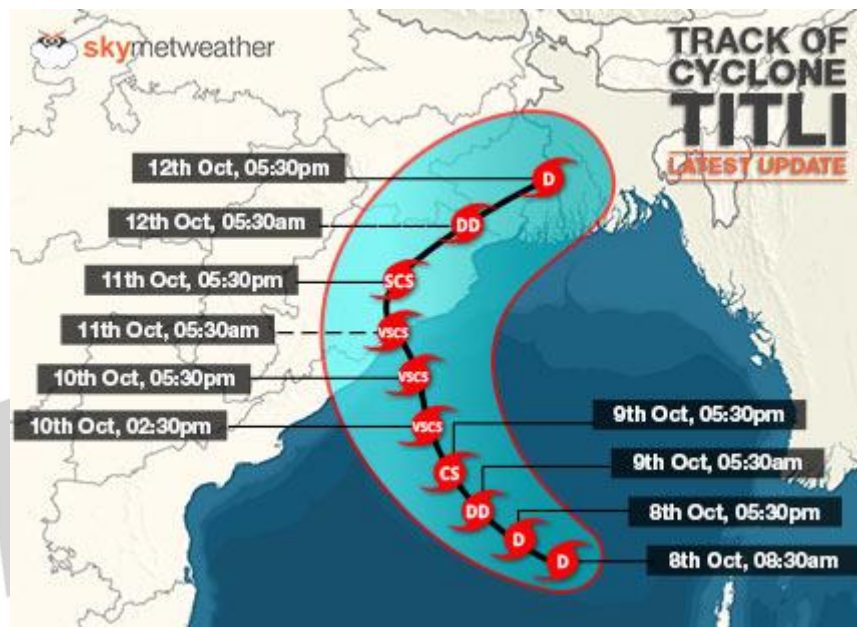
- **Uttar Pradesh Government – to build 221 meter tall ‘Ram Statue’ in Ayodhya**



- ✓ The bronze statue will have Lord Ram structure at 151 meter height with its pedestal at 50 metre and overhead umbrella at 20 metre
- ✓ There will also be a “modern museum” inside the base that will showcase the history of Ayodhya and its rulers
- ✓ It will also house detailed description of all the “Avatars” of Lord Vishnu

NATIONAL

- **Regional Integrated Multi-Hazard Early Warning System (RIMES) for Africa and Asia - has termed ‘Titli’, the severe cyclonic storm that devastated Odisha in October 2018 as a ‘rarest of rare cyclone’**



- ✓ India Meteorological Department (IMD) – had also earlier called the formation of ‘Titli’ cyclone as a rarest case, due to the change of path after landfall, a phenomenon which is uncommon
- ✓ Thailand-based RIMES observed this in its recent report on ‘Forecast uncertainties and disaster management challenges of post-landfall cyclone impacts’
- ✓ The report compared Titli with Hurricane Mitch (Central America, 1998), Tropical Storm Alison (USA, 2001), Cyclone Aila, (South Asia), Typhoon Morakot, (Taiwan, 2009), Rain Storm (China, 2010) and Typhoon Manghkut (Philippines and China this year) which caused unprecedented damage
- ✓ RIMES was established and registered with the United Nations in 2009
- ✓ It has 45 countries in Asia Pacific and Africa Region under it
- ✓ India is the chairman of the body

- **Sashastra Seema Bal - to provide security to the Dudhwa Tiger Reserve (DTR) – to check forest and wildlife crimes**



- ✓ DTR – is located in Uttar Pradesh
 - ✓ It comprises of Dudhwa National Park, Kishanpur Wildlife Sanctuary and Katarniaghat Wildlife Sanctuary
 - ✓ The area is vast Terai alluvial floodplain with numerous streams
 - ✓ Sashastra Seema Bal – is a central Armed police force which guards the border with Nepal and Bhutan
 - ✓ It was established in 1963 with its headquarters in New Delhi
 - ✓ It comes under the aegis of Ministry of Home Affairs
- **India Missions in foreign countries – to soon issue Passport within 48 hours to its citizens abroad**



- ✓ This was announced by V K Singh, Minister of State for External Affairs during the launch of 'Passport Seva' project at the Indian Embassy in New Delhi
- ✓ The 'Passport Seva' project was first rolled out in the United Kingdom in October 2018.
- ✓ In the United States, the project was first launched in New York on November 21, followed by Washington on November 24

- **United Nations – had selected Uttar Pradesh's Noida and Greater Noida to participate in its ‘Global Sustainable Cities 2025’ initiative**
- ✓ The twin-cities in Gautam Buddha Nagar district have been selected in the "University City" category
- ✓ They are the only cities selected from India, ahead of Bengaluru and Mumbai
- ✓ Overall, 25 cities across the world have been selected in five categories by the UN Global Sustainable Development Goals (SDG) cities initiative
- ✓ In September 2015, the UN General Assembly adopted the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development that includes 17 SDGs, otherwise known as the Global Goals.

- **Two Indian Movies – are shortlisted for 2018 International Council for Film, Television and Audio-visual Communication (ICFT) UNESCO Gandhi Medal**
- ✓ They are Tamil film ‘Baaram’ and Ladakhi movie ‘Walking with the Wind’
- ✓ Apart from them, 10 other foreign films were nominated by The International Film Festival of India for the award

- **Nariman House, the Jewish centre of worship in Colaba - will be renamed Nariman Light House on November 26, 2018**



- ✓ The six-storeyed building was subjected to the 2008 Terror attack which killed several Israelis and left behind several bullet marks on the wall of its second floor
- ✓ The rooftop has a large plaque with the names of all the 168 people who fell victim to the terrorists
- ✓ The Ram Pradhan committee which probed lapses behind the attack pointed to the ignorance about the jewish settlement in the Nariman house by the Police authorities

- **Southern Railways – to set up state-of-the-art ‘Quick watering systems’ to speed up water refilling at its railway stations**
- ✓ The new system can fill the water tanks in a 24-coach train within 5 minutes
- ✓ It is already in practice at Erode in Tamil Nadu and Vijayawada in Andhra Pradesh
- ✓ The new facility will be soon set up at Chennai Central, Egmore, Katpadi, Madurai, Trichy and Tirunelveli Railway stations

INTERNATIONAL

- **United Arab Emirates – to offer long-term visas to rich property investors, senior scientists and entrepreneurs – to revive its Economy and real estate market**
- ✓ The country offers five year visa to entrepreneurs and 10-year visa for scientists and researchers with top qualifications
- ✓ Investors can bring spouses and children into the country
- ✓ Outstanding students can stay for five years in the country
- ✓ Also, the visas do not provide a path to UAE citizenship, as the country has 75% of its population as expats

COMMITTEES

- **Government – appoints Akhilesh Ranjan as the Convenor of the Task Force for drafting a New Direct Tax Legislation**



- ✓ Akhilesh Ranjan is currently serving as the Member (Legislation) of the Central Board of Direct Taxes (CBDT)
- ✓ The task force was constituted in November 22, 2017 and will submit its report to the Government by February 28, 2019

- ✓ Initially, Arbind Modi, the then Member (Legislation) of CBDT, was appointed as the Convener of the task force.
- ✓ Other members of the task force
 - ✓ Girish Ahuja, non-official Director of State Bank of India
 - ✓ Rajiv Memani, Chairman & Regional Managing Partner of E&Y
 - ✓ Mansi Kedia, Consultant, ICRIER, New Delhi
 - ✓ G.C. Srivastava, Retd IRS (1971 Batch) and Advocate
 - ✓ Mukesh Patel, Practicing Tax Advocate, Ahmedabad
- ✓ Besides, Chief Economic Adviser (CEA) Arvind Subramanian will be a permanent Special Invitee in the Task Force

CONFERENCES & SUMMITS

- **1st ever India-Russia Strategic Economic Dialogue – held at St Petersburg, Russia**
- ✓ Rajiv Kumar, Vice Chairman, NITI Aayog led the Indian delegation in the dialogue
- ✓ The two-day forum, held on Nov 25-26, brought together the key business figures from both countries to discuss the bilateral ties in trade, industry and investment
- ✓ The Dialogue was proposed by Indian PM, Narendra Modi and President Vladimir Putin in their informal summit held at Sochi in May 2018

SCIENCE, TECHNOLOGY & ENVIRONMENT

- **Marathon, a new Satellite system – to be created by Russia with Internet of Things (IoT) technology**



- ✓ The new system will be part of Russia's 'Sphere' satellite constellation, which will be fully functional by 2026
- ✓ The Sphere satellite constellation, launched by Russia's state owned Roscosmos, will have the deployment of around 640 satellites
- ✓ 3 Segments of Satellite Communication system
 - ✓ 1 – Voice satellite communication system – USA's Iridium
 - ✓ 2 – Broadband Internet communication system – OneWeb and Starlink
 - ✓ 3 – IoT communication system – to be explored

- ✓ IoT refers to the network of devices such as Smartphones, appliances etc., which exchanges data when connected to Internet
- ✓ They use the 'Blockchain' technology to address security risks, as it labels each data block separately eliminating data tampering
- **Indian Space Research Organisation (ISRO) - to set up space museums across the country, including Delhi and Thiruvananthapuram**
- ✓ The museums will educate people about space technologies and advancement in the space sector
- ✓ The proposed Dr Kalam Knowledge Centre, named after former President A P J Abdul Kalam, will also come up in Thiruvananthapuram under the space museum programme

SPORTS

- **Sameer Verma – wins the Men's single title in Syed Modi India Grand Prix Gold badminton title 2018 in Lucknow**



- ✓ In the finals, he defeated China's Lu Guangzu
- ✓ In the Women's final, India's Saina Nehwal lost to China's Han Yue
- ✓ The annual tournament was launched in 1991 by Uttar Pradesh Badminton Association (UPBA) in memory of Late Syed Modi
- ✓ In the year 2004, it was conducted as an international event
- ✓ In the year 2011, it was upgraded to BWF Grand Prix Gold tournament

- **6th edition of ICC Women's World T20 cup – won by Australia by defeating England in the final at Antigua, West Indies**



- ✓ This is Australia's 4th world cup victory after 2010, 2012 and 2014
 - ✓ Australia's wicketkeeper Alyssa Healy was named the Player of the Finals
 - ✓ Australia were beaten by West Indies in the last world cup in 2016
- **India's Harmanpreet Kaur – was named the captain of the ICC Women's World Twenty20 XI – chosen by an ICC Selection panel in Dubai**



- ✓ The selected XI also features Indian opener Smriti Mandhana and leg-spinner Poonam Yadav
- ✓ Besides the 3 Indian players, three players from England, two from Australia and one each from Pakistan, New Zealand and the West Indies were named in the eleven.

INTERNATIONAL DAY

➤ 69th Constitution Day – November 26



- ✓ The day marks the adoption of Indian Constitution by the Constituent Assembly on November 26, 1949, which came into force on January 26, 1950
- ✓ The observance of the day was declared on November 19, 2015 during the year-long celebration of the 125th birth anniversary of Dr BR Ambedkar
- ✓ Dr BR Ambedkar chaired the Drafting committee formed by the Constituent Assembly and entrusted with the job of drafting the Indian Constitution
- ✓ Dr BR Ambedkar is regarded as the father of the Indian Constitution
- ✓ The Constitution of India is the longest written constitution of any sovereign country in the world

➤ National Milk Day – November 26



- ✓ The day marks the birth anniversary of Dr. Verghese Kurien, father of the White Revolution in India
- ✓ The day was established in 2014 and this year marks the 97th birth anniversary of Dr Kurien

- ✓ The observance of the day was proposed by Indian Dairy Association (IDA) on the lines of World Milk Day (observed every year on June 1) under the aegis of UN Food and Agriculture Organisation (FAO)
- ✓ Verghese Kurien was a social entrepreneur who had started billion-litre idea-Operation Flood, which was the world's largest agricultural development programme
- ✓ He was credited for transforming milk-deficit country like India into the world's largest producer of milk
- ✓ He had founded around 30 cooperative institutions of excellence like AMUL, GCMMF, IRMA, NDDB
- ✓ He was founding chairman of the Gujarat Co-operative Milk Marketing Federation (GCMMF) that produces 'Amul' brand of dairy products
- ✓ Under his chairmanship, Amul achieved key invention of milk powder processed from buffalo milk
- ✓ He was the proud recipient of Ramon Magsaysay Award (1963), World Food Prize (1989), Padma Shri (1965), Padma Bhushan (1966), Padma Vibhushan (1999) among other such honours

➤ **10th Anniversary of 26/11 Mumbai Terror attacks – November 26**



- ✓ The attacks left 166 people dead and over 300 people injured
- ✓ In 2008, 10 terrorists of Lashkar-e-Taiba terrorist group sailed into Mumbai and carried out coordinated attacks that lasted for 3 days
- ✓ They carried out bomb and gun attacks at Taj Mahal Palace hotel, the Oberoi Trident, Chhatrapati Shivaji Terminus railway station, Leopold Cafe, Cama

Hospital, Nariman House Jewish community centre, the Metro Cinema and St. Xavier's College.

- ✓ To catch the attackers, Operation Black Tornado was conducted by National Security Guards at the Taj Hotel, Mumbai
- ✓ Ajmal Kasab was the only attacker who was captured alive and was later executed at Yerwada Jail in Pune on November 21, 2012
- ✓ On the eve of the day, US government had announced a cash reward of \$5 million for information on the perpetrators of the attack

CELEBRATING 'MAGNIFICENT MARY'

- Mary Kom won the sole Gold medal for India at the 10th World Women's Boxing Championships, held in New Delhi, India



- ✓ She defeated Ukraine's Hanna Okhota in a unanimous 5-0 verdict in the 48kg category final bout



- ✓ Earlier, She had won five straight gold medals at the World Boxing Championship, a feat that hasn't been accomplished by any women boxer before
- ✓ She is also the only woman boxer to have won a medal in each one of the seven world championships, with a silver medal in 2001
- ✓ She is the only Indian woman boxer to have qualified for the 2012 Summer Olympics in the flyweight (51 kg) category and winning the bronze medal.
- ✓ She won a Gold Medal in Flyweight category in 2014 Incheon Asian Games
- ✓ She also won a Gold medal in 2018 Commonwealth Games, held in Gold Coast, Australia.
- ✓ She was ranked at the top in AIBA World Women's Ranking Light Flyweight category
- ✓ In April 2016, Kom was nominated by the Indian President as a member of the Rajya Sabha, the upper house of the Indian Parliament
- ✓ In March 2017, She was appointed by the Ministry of Youth Affairs and Sports, along with Akhil Kumar, as National observers for boxing
- ✓ She is also the recipient of the Padma Bhushan (2013), Padma Shri (2006), Arjuna Award (2003), the Rajiv Gandhi Khel Ratna award (2009) apart from several such top honours and recognitions
- ✓ She married K Onler Kom in 2005 and blessed with three sons
- ✓ Her autobiography 'Unbreakable' was released by Harper Collins in 2013
- ✓ The famous Indian actress, Priyanka Chopra portrayed Mary Kom in a Bollywood movie based on her life

AFF
STUDY CENTRE

