

EVERYDAY CURRENT AFFAIRS – OCT 18, 2018

STATES

- **Telangana – ‘Bharosa’, a 24-hour centre to support women and children affected by violence was inaugurated in Hyderabad**



- ✓ It has been set up on the instructions of the DGP, Telangana
- ✓ It would ensure speedy justice to women in distress and has facilities to record statements of children in POCSO cases

NATIONAL

- **India's first Cryptocurrency ATM – opens at Kemp Fort Mall in Bengaluru**



- ✓ The virtual currency exchange, Unocoin, has installed the currency deposit and dispensing ATM
- ✓ The kiosk allows its customers to deposit and withdraw minimum amount of Rs 1000 from the platform

- ✓ Users can deposit money to buy currencies like Bitcoin and Ethereum using an OTP received on their registered numbers
- ✓ In order to withdraw money, a request has to be first made on the Unocoin website.
- ✓ First of its kind in India, this ATM circumvents the RBI regulation against bitcoin transaction
- **Muzaffarpur's Shahi Litchi - got official recognition as it receives the Geographical indication (GI) tag**



- ✓ The GI registration was done in the name of 'Litchi Growers Association of Bihar', who had applied for the tag
- ✓ The sweet, pulpy and juicy Litchi is mostly grown in Muzaffarpur and adjoining areas of Bihar
- ✓ The first product to get a GI tag in India was the Darjeeling tea in 2004
- ✓ There are a total of 325 products from India that carry this indication
- ✓ Alphonso Mango of Maharashtra has recently got the Geographical Indication (GI) Tag

COMMITTEES

- **Government – constitutes a panel of Judges - to look into the legal framework to control sexual harassment at workplaces after the impact of #MeToo campaign**
- ✓ In early 2013, a three-member committee headed by former judge J.S. Verma including Justice Leila Seth and senior lawyer Gopal was formed



- ✓ The committee had termed Sexual Harassment Bill "unsatisfactory"
- ✓ It also said that the bill did not reflect the spirit of the 'Vishakha guidelines' framed by the Supreme Court in 1997 for the sexual harassment at the workplace

CONFERENCES & SUMMITS

➤ **Expo Cihac, Mexico City**

- ✓ 45 Indian companies representing various sectors of the construction industry like building materials, construction equipment, interior furnishing, manufacturing and marketing of ceramic vitrified tiles are taking part in the event



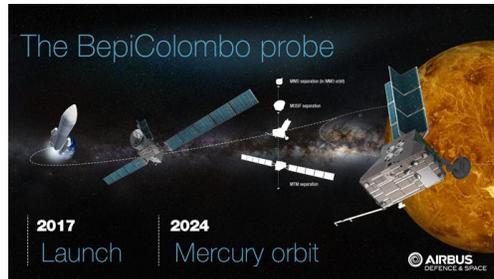
- ✓ Trade promotion council of India is leading the Indian delegation to the expo
 - ✓ It is the leading event for the construction industry being held in Mexico till October 20, 2018
 - ✓ More than 570 exhibitors from the field of architecture, engineering, interior design, lighting, home automation and machinery are participating in the expo
 - ✓ The event brings together the best products, technologies and innovations in construction from all over the world
- **2nd edition of 'Goa Maritime Symposium-2018'** – was inaugurated by Admiral Sunil Lanba, Chief of Naval Staff at INS Mandovi at Goa



- ✓ The symposium aims to promote maritime security in the Indian Ocean Region (IOR)
- ✓ Theme - *"Building Stronger Maritime Partnerships in IOR"*
- ✓ On the occasion, "Naval War College Journal", an academic collection of papers from various writers on maritime strategy and security was released
- ✓ The inaugural symposium was held in November 2016

SCIENCE, TECHNOLOGY & ENVIRONMENT

- **European Space Agency – to launch a first-of-its-kind ‘BepiColombo’ mission with two orbiters – to explore Mercury and search for Water**



- ✓ Mercury, which is closest to the Sun, has the surface temperatures ranging about 450 degree Celsius
- ✓ The spacecraft will be launched from the European Spaceport in Kourou, French Guiana, on October 20 and will take seven years to reach Mercury, arriving in 2025
- ✓ Only two spacecraft have been to Mercury until now
 - ✓ NASA’s ‘Mariner 10’ - which flew past the planet in 1974 and 1975
 - ✓ NASA’s ‘Messenger’ - which orbited the planet between 2011 and 2015
- **China – launches 2 new satellites in the BeiDou-3 navigation series – to strengthen its GPS-style network**



- ✓ The satellites were launched from a Long March-3B carrier rocket
- ✓ These satellites are the 39th and 40th of the BeiDou navigation system, and the 15th and 16th of the BeiDou-3 family
- ✓ China plans to send three more BeiDou-3 satellites into space by the end of 2018
- ✓ The name BeiDou was given after the Chinese term for the ‘Big Dipper’
- ✓ The BeiDou system became functional for China in 2000 and the Asia-Pacific region in 2012

DEFENCE

- **7th edition of Hand-in-Hand (HIH) combat military drill – between India and China – to resume in December** in the Chengdu region of China



- ✓ The annual exercise was cancelled after the Doklam stand-off in 2017

ECONOMY

- **BSNL and Nokia – signs MoU to implement ‘Industry 4.0’ industrial automation** solution to the manufacturing excellence at Nokia’s factory in Oragadam, Chennai



- ✓ The various emerging technologies like Augmented and Virtual Reality (AR/VR), connected Robotics, Artificial Intelligence, Big Data Analytics, and the Internet of Things (IoT) will be employed to enhance operations and increase productivity

AWARDS

- **Anna Burns (Ireland) – wins Man Booker Prize 2018 – for her novel ‘Milkman’**

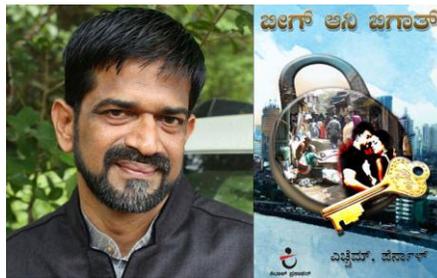


- ✓ Burns received the prestigious award from Prince Charles' wife Camilla for her 3rd novel after her previous novels, 'No Bones' and 'Little Constructions'.
- ✓ She is the first writer from Northern Ireland to win the Booker Prize
- ✓ She is also the first woman to win the award since 2013, when Eleanor Catton took the award for ‘The Luminaries’
- ✓ Milkman is an exploration of Northern Ireland's three decades of violence expressed through the voice of a young woman

- ✓ The other finalists who competed for the award are –
 - ✓ Esi Edugyan for “Washington Black”
 - ✓ Daisy Johnson for “Everything Under”
 - ✓ Rachel Kushner for “The Mars Room”
 - ✓ Richard Powers for “The Overstory”
 - ✓ Robin Robertson for “The Long Take”
- ✓ Man Booker Prize
 - ✓ It recognizes the best original novel written in English and published in the UK”
 - ✓ In 2014, it was opened to the authors of all English speaking countries
Instituted in – 1969
 - ✓ 2017 Winner - “Lincoln in the Bardo” of American writer, George Saunders
- **Suheil F. Tandon, Social Entrepreneur – wins International Olympic Committee's ‘Sport and Active Society Commission's Grant Award’** for his contribution to sports development



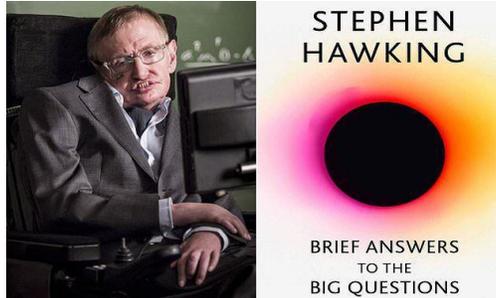
- ✓ Suheil is the Founder of Pro Sport Development (PSD) and Executive Director of Martha Farrell Foundation
- ✓ The award ceremony was held during the ‘Olympism in Action’ forum at Buenos Aires, Argentina, on 5th and 6th October 2018
- **H M Pernal - bagged the prestigious ‘Vimala V Pai Vishwa Konkani’ best book award for the year 2018**



- ✓ Pernal, a noted writer, journalist and critic, was conferred this award for ‘Beeg Ani Beegath’, a collection of short stories in Konkani published in 2002
- ✓ H M Pernal is the pen name of Henry M Mendonca, a native of Pernal in Udupi district, who currently lives in Mangaluru

BOOKS & AUTHORS

- **Stephen Hawking's final book "Brief Answers to the Big Questions" –** launched by his Children



- ✓ The book tackles issues from the existence of God to the potential for time travel
- **"Maharana Pratap: The Invincible Warrior"** - authored by Rima Hooja, Historian was released



- ✓ The book narrates the life of Maharana Pratap, the great Rajput warrior and also talks about the famous battle of Haldighati.

SPORTS

- **Youth Olympics, Buenos Aires**
- ✓ **Praveen Chitravel** (Tamil Nadu) – wins 'bronze' medal in Triple jump with a combined jump of 31.52m in stage 1 and 2



- ✓ This gave India their second medal in the track and field events
 - ✓ Earlier, He had won Gold at the inaugural Khelo India School Games
 - ✓ He was selected and coached under the state Government's 'J Jayalalithaa's Centre of Excellence scheme' since 2012 and took to Triple jump only in March 2016
- **Akash Malik** (Haryana) – has become the country's first silver-medallist in archery in the Youth Olympics



RANKINGS

- **World's most depressed country – as per World Health Organisation**
- ✓ 1 – India
 - ✓ 2 – China
 - ✓ 3 – United States
 - ✓ According to the 2015-16 National Mental Health Survey (NMHS), every sixth person in India needs mental health help of some sort
 - ✓ In India, atleast 6.5% of the population suffer from some form of the serious mental disorder
- **Data Breach Level Index – Released by Gemalto, digital security firm**
- ✓ As per the report, India is second to the US in terms of Data breach
 - ✓ It is due to compromises in the Aadhaar database
 - ✓ India accounted for over 1 billion data during the first six months of 2018
 - ✓ Overall, 4.5 billion data records being compromised worldwide in the first half of 2018
 - ✓ Data breach of over 2 billion users on social media platform Facebook was ranked as top incidence globally

INTERNATIONAL DAY

- **National Ayurveda Day – October 17**



- ✓ It is celebrated every year on the occasion of Dhanwantari Jayanti
- ✓ Lord Dhanvantari is considered as divine propagator of Ayurveda
- ✓ National Dhanwantari Ayurveda Award is conferred on this day every year by the Ministry of AYUSH
- ✓ Last year on this day, country's 1st All India Institute of Ayurveda was inaugurated by the Prime Minister at New Delhi
- ✓ This year, on the occasion, Airports Authority of India has planted 40000 saplings at 21 airports in South India
- ✓ Moreover, Ministry of AYUSH is going to organise First National Summit on Invest in AYUSH in New Delhi on 4th November, 2018
- ✓ NITI Aayog and Department of Industrial and Policy and Promotion are the partner organisations of this first National summit in AYUSH

OBITUARY

- **N D Tiwari, Former Chief Minister of Uttar Pradesh and Uttarakhand (93 years)**



- ✓ He passed away on the day of his 93rd birthday (October 18)
- ✓ Tiwari was thrice chief minister of Uttar Pradesh in varied periods between 1976–77, 1984–85, 1988–89
- ✓ He was also the third chief minister of Uttarakhand from 2002-2007.
- ✓ He was also the Governor of Andhra Pradesh from 2007 to 2009
- ✓ He also served in the Ministry of External Affairs in the Rajiv Gandhi Cabinet between 1986-87
- ✓ He had the unique distinction of having served as the chief minister of two states, Uttar Pradesh and Uttarakhand, where his native place is located.

