

EVERYDAY CURRENT AFFAIRS – OCT 9, 2018

TAMIL NADU

- **Tamil Nadu Government – announces that ‘Tamil’ language (for Class X exams) is not compulsory for CBSC/ICSE students moving to State board schools till 2023-24**
 - ✓ The students from linguistic minority schools who made a similar switch are likely to be exempted at least for another two years
 - ✓ Through the Tamil Compulsory Learning Act, 2006, the subject was made mandatory for Class I students in all schools irrespective of the board they were affiliated to, and extended to higher classes in the following years
 - ✓ Accordingly, Tamil became mandatory for Class X students appearing for the board exams in 2015-16

- **National Institutional Ranking Framework (NIRF) – has cancelled the ranking of ‘Bishop Heber College’ of Trichy as the 3rd best in the country among arts and science colleges**
 - ✓ The cancellation follows the error in the data submission process from the college
 - ✓ The college had not submitted details of its self-financing programmes, including student and faculty strength, which had helped the institution to gain an advantage over other colleges

- **Sharjah International Book fair – to introduce ‘Tamil books’ for the very first time from this year onwards**
 - ✓ This year the fair starts on October 31 and concludes on November 10

SCHEMES

- **Karnataka – launches ‘Unnati’ scheme – to identify and promote entrepreneurs from SC/ST background**

"Unnati" scheme initiated
to help entrepreneurs
from marginalised
background



- ✓ Unnati, the Rs 20 crore funded scheme, intends to create end-to-end support infrastructure for startups and entrepreneurs from the marginalised backgrounds
- ✓ The scheme is open to all the startups that are under four years

STATES

- **Rajasthan – launches a ‘Free electricity scheme’ to the farmers of the state**
 - ✓ As per the scheme, more than 12 lakh farmers of the state will receive free electricity up to Rs 10,000 for a year on their agricultural electricity connection
 - ✓ Upon successful payment of the bill by the farmers, a Direct Benefit transfer (DBT) with maximum of Rs. 833 per month would be deposited to the accounts of the farmers
 - ✓ The scheme will be effective from Nov 2018
 - ✓ The state Government has allotted Rs 40,000 crore for Electricity infrastructure development
- **Telangana – passes a new bill named as ‘the Telangana Prevention of Dangerous Activities of Bootleggers, Dacoits, Drug-Offenders, Goondas, Immoral Traffic Offenders and Land-Grabbers (Amendment) Bill, 2017’**
 - ✓ The new act seeks punishment for sexual offenders, cyber criminals and traditional unlawful acts like bootlegging and dacoity
 - ✓ This will replace the 1986 Act that had jurisdiction for the undivided Andhra Pradesh, but not for Telangana

- Arunachal Pradesh – launches 2 new schemes, the Chief Minister’s ‘Sashakt Kisan Yojana’ and Chief Minister’s ‘Krishi Samuh Yojana’



- ✓ They are aimed to increase the income of farmers by 2022

NATIONAL

- Government – reconstitutes ‘Security Policy Group’ (SPG) under ‘National Security Advisor’ to assist ‘National Security Council’
- ✓ It will be a 16-member body chaired by National Security Advisor (NSA), **Ajit Doval**



- ✓ The new SPG will deal with all matters regarding external, internal and economic security of the country
- ✓ SPG was first constituted in April 1999 during regime of former PM, Atal Bihari Vajpayee

INTERNATIONAL

- **Google – to shut down the consumer version of ‘Google+’ after the revelation of Data expose bug present in the system**



- ✓ Google said a ‘Software glitch’ in the social site gave outside developers potential access to private Google+ profile data between a major redesign in 2015 and March 2018, when internal investigators discovered and fixed the issue

PERSONALITIES

- **Richie Benaud, renowned Australian Cricketer and Commentator – was posthumously honoured as ‘Legend’ by Sport Australia Hall of Fame**



- ✓ He becomes the 40th Legend of Australian Sport and the 3rd cricketer, after Don Bradman (1993) and Keith Miller (2004) - to be bestowed with the prestigious Annual honour
- ✓ It will be made official at the 34th Sport Australia Hall of Fame induction and awards gala dinner in Melbourne on October 11, 2018
- ✓ Benaud, who never lost a series as captain, was the first to achieve the Test double of 2000 runs and 200 wickets

- ✓ Benaud, a leg-spinning all-rounder, scored 11,719 first-class runs, including 23 centuries, and 945 wickets
- ✓ He captained Australia 28 times over 63 Tests and became an influential cricket broadcaster over a career spanning an incredible 48 years.
- **Boeing, American aerospace major – has selected Pratyush Kumar, its India President - to lead the F-15 fighter aircraft programme in the US**



- ✓ Kumar has over five years experience in India across Boeing's three business units - Boeing Commercial Airplanes, Boeing Defense, Space and Security and Boeing Global Services
- ✓ Kumar's Achievements in India
- ✓ Launched Boeing's 'Engineering and technology centre' in Bangalore to drive innovation
- ✓ Scale up its aerospace supply chain in India
- ✓ Established a joint venture in Hyderabad with Tata - to manufacture fuselages for the Apache attack helicopter

SCIENCE, TECHNOLOGY & ENVIRONMENT

- **“Quintero One” - World's First Full-Scale Hyperloop Passenger Capsule Unveiled**



- ✓ It was developed by the US-based, Hyperloop Transportation Technologies or HyperloopTT

- ✓ It is a 32-metre, 5 tonne capsule that has 72 sensors, 75,000 rivets and 7,200 square metres of fibre
 - ✓ It is made out of a special 'dual-layer' smart composite material called "Vibranium"
 - ✓ It can move at speeds of more than 750 miles (1,200 kilometers) per hour and has a capacity to hold 30 to 40 passengers at a time
 - ✓ It will be operational in 2019
 - ✓ HyperloopTT would also build the first Hyperloop system in China in the Guizhou province
 - ✓ India's Association with Hyperloop
 - ✓ In May 2018, Andhra Pradesh signed MoU with HyperloopTT to set up the Hyperloop transportation system connecting Anantapur, Amaravati, Vijayawada and Visakhapatnam (700 to 800 kms)
 - ✓ Maharashtra government - had signed a pact with the Richard Branson-led, Virgin Group to build the Mumbai-Pune Hyperloop
- **NASA's 'New Horizons probe' – to visit the most distant object ever visited by a spacecraft on Jan 1, 2019**
- ✓ The probe will flyby the 'Kuiper Belt' object nicknamed 'Ultima Thule', which is at 6.6 billion kms from Earth
 - ✓ New Horizons is already at a distance of 6.35 billion kms from its home, NASA

ECONOMY

- **International Monetary Fund (IMF) – retains India's growth at 7.3% for FY19 and projects 7.4% in FY20 in its latest World Economic Outlook**
- ✓ Earlier in its January projections, it had predicted 7.5% for FY 20
 - ✓ China is forecast to grow 6.6% and 6.2% in 2018 and 2019 respectively
 - ✓ The Indian economy grew 6.7% in FY18
- **World Bank – projects India's growth at 7.3% in the 2018-19 fiscal and 7.5% in 2019 & 2020 – in its South Asia Economic Focus 'Budget Crunch' report**
- **Flipkart – ties up with Bajaj Allianz – to offer insurance for Mobile phones**
- ✓ This marks the entry of Flipkart into the insurance sector, after it secured a 'Corporate agent licence' from the insurance regulator, IRDAI
 - ✓ The minimum insurance price for the scheme is Rs. 99 for a year, which will be operational the day the device is delivered to a customer
 - ✓ The insurance will be available from October 10, when Flipkart's 'Big Billion Days' begins

AWARDS

- **Nobel Prize in Economics 2018**
- ✓ **American Economists, William D. Nordhaus from Yale University & Paul M. Romer from New York University** – wins the ‘2018 Nobel memorial Prize’ in Economic Sciences



- ✓ Professor William D Nordhaus (77 years)
- ✓ Graduation – Yale University in 1963
- ✓ Doctoral degree in Economics – MIT in 1967
- ✓ Occupation – Economics faculty in Yale from 1967
- ✓ Nordhaus is best known for his four decade-work on climate economics, trying to persuade governments to address climate change, preferably by imposing a tax on carbon emissions
- ✓ To assess the costs of climate change, including crop failures and flooding, Professor Nordhaus developed an economic model he called the ‘Dynamic Integrated Climate-Economy model’ or ‘DICE’
- ✓ Professor Paul M Romer (62 years)
- ✓ Graduation and Doctoral degree – University of Chicago
- ✓ Occupation – Economics faculty in New York University
- ✓ Romer of NYU's Stern School of Business, has demonstrated that government policy plays a critical role in improving technological innovation
- ✓ He was honored with the Award for his work on the determinants of economic development
- ✓ In 2016, Professor Romer was named as the ‘Chief economist’ of the World Bank

- ✓ The Nobel prize in Economics is also known as ‘The Sveriges Riksbank Prize’ and was established in 1968

➤ **Employees' State Insurance Corporation (ESIC) - was awarded ISSA (International Social Security Association) Good Practice Award for Asia and Pacific Region, 2018**



- ✓ The award was given at the 'Regional Social Security Forum for Asia and the Pacific' held at Kuala Lumpur, capital of Malaysia
 - ✓ The award was given to ESIC for the extension of coverage of 'Scheme for Promoting Registration of Employers and Employees' (SPREE), reduced rate of contribution for 24 months in newly implemented areas and raising wage limit for coverage under ESI Act, etc
 - ✓ International Social Security Association
 - ✓ Established – 1927 under International Labour Organization (ILO)
 - ✓ Headquarters – Geneva, Switzerland
 - ✓ Members – 330 organisations in 158 countries
 - ✓ Employees' State Insurance Corporation (ESIC)
 - ✓ Established – Under Employees State Insurance Act, 1948
 - ✓ Headquarters – New Delhi
 - ✓ Ministry - Union Ministry of Labour and Employment
- **Vice President - presented the 'Ramineni Foundation's Outstanding person award' to badminton coach, Pullela Gopichand**



- ✓ The Ramineni Foundation, based in the US, was established in 1995 and in every year since then, it honours eminent persons for their achievements in various fields
- ✓ Special awards were also presented to Telugu literary wizard, Garikapati Narasimha Rao, Film director, Nag Ashwin Reddy and Writer, C Venkata Ramana

- **14th Hospitality India and Explore the World Annual International Travel Awards 2018** , New Delhi
- ✓ **Chandragiri Hills Limited (Nepal)** - got the **best tourism destination of Nepal** award in the **hospitality and tourism sector**
- ✓ The Minister of State for Tourism, India, Mr. K.J. Alphons was guest of honour in the occasion
- **Mid-day Young Achiever Icons Award for 2018**
- ✓ **Ruhaan Rajput, Actor** – won the award in the ‘film and television category’ for his work in the industry in a short period of time



- ✓ Ruhaan Rajput is the director of “Einfolge”, a company that deals with patents, trademarks, etc
- ✓ He is also the owner of “Gloss Skin and Hair Clinic”
- ✓ The Mid-day awards is hosted every year to honour youngsters for their remarkable work in various fields

SPORTS

- **Youth Olympic Games 2018, Buenos Aires, Argentina**
- ✓ **Jeremy Lalrinnunga (15 years, Mizoram, Weight lifting)** – wins India’s first **Gold medal at the Youth Olympics**



- ✓ He won the medal in the men’s 62 kg category
- ✓ In 2018, he broke two National Records claiming Bronze medal (Junior) and Silver medal (Youth) in Asian Championships
- ✓ Jeremy Lalrinnunga had also won Gold medal in 2017 Commonwealth Youth Championships in Gold Coast
- ✓ So far, India had won three silver medals from Tushar Mane (10m Air Rifle), Tababi Devi (44kg Judo) and Mehuli Ghosh (10m Air Rifle) in the Games
- ✓ Earlier, Thangjam Tababi Devi (16 years, Manipur) became India’s first judo medallist at the Olympic level in any category
- ✓ She bagged Silver medal in Women’s 44kg category

- ✓ Youth Olympics
 - ✓ Organised by - International Olympic Committee (IOC)
 - ✓ Age limit – 14 to 18 years
 - ✓ Duration – Once in every 4 years
 - ✓ 1st Summer Youth Olympics - Singapore from August 14 to 26, 2010 (India won 6 silver and 2 bronze – the best performance so far)
 - ✓ 1st Winter Youth Olympics - Innsbruck, Austria from January 13 to 22, 2012
 - ✓ Last Youth Olympics – Nanjing, China in 2014 (India won 2 medals, Silver and a bronze)
 - ✓ Indian contingent in 2018 – 47 athletes, the biggest ever in the Games
- **Indian pair of Meghana Reddy and Tasnim Mir - won the Under-15 girls doubles title in the Badminton Asia Junior Under-17 and Under-15 championships, at Mandalay, Myanmar**



- ✓ India had won a total of 5 medals in the championships with 1 gold and 4 bronze medals
- **Para Asian Games, Jakarta**
- ✓ **Sandeep Chaudhary (India, Javelin throw) – has set a new World record in clinching India's 1st Gold of the Games in the men's F42-44/61-64 category with a best throw of 60.01m**



- ✓ He had shattered the F44 world record, bettering the earlier mark of 59.82m, which Chinese, Mingjie Gao made in 1980
- ✓ Raju Rakshitha , Middle distance runner (women's T111500m) and Jadhav Suyash Narayan , Swimmer (men's S7 50m butterfly) added the other Golds later on the second day of competition
- ✓ With a total of 11 medals on Day 2, India's medal tally stood at 3 gold, 6 silver and 7 bronze to occupy the eighth spot in the medal table
- ✓ China is on top of the medal table with 35 gold, 14 silver and 17 bronze, followed by South Korea with 14 gold, 8 silver and 6 bronze

INTERNATIONAL DAY

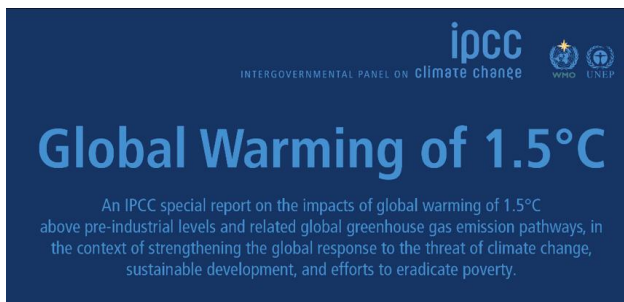
➤ World Postal Day – October 9



- ✓ Objective - To create an awareness about the postal sector in the everyday activities of people and its contribution to the social and economic development
- ✓ The day commemorates the anniversary of the establishment of the 'Universal Postal Union' (UPU) in 1874 in Bern, Switzerland
- ✓ In 1948, the UPU become an agency of the United Nations
It was celebrated since 1969, when it was declared by the 'Universal Postal Union Congress' held in Tokyo, Japan
- ✓ In India, the day is celebrated on October 10, 2018 as National Postal Day, which is an extension of World Postal Day
- ✓ India is an early and active member of the Universal Postal Union (UPU), which has its headquarters at Berne, Switzerland
- ✓ Postal facts
- ✓ First Post office in India – 1764 - Started by the British East Indian Company
- ✓ First Telegram – 1850 - Calcutta to Diamond harbour
- ✓ First Airmail flight in the world - February 1911
- ✓ First postal stamp in India - November 21, 1947 - depicting the picture of the National Flag of India
- ✓ First Person depicted in Indian Stamp - Mahatma Gandhi (1948)
- ✓ Pin code system in India - 15 August 1972 – introduced by Shriram Bhikaji Velankar
- ✓ Highest post office in the world - Sikkim, Himachal Pradesh, India (height is 4,700 m)
- ✓ Indian Post had ended two important services – Telegram in 2013 and Money order in 2015
- ✓ In India, there are 23 postal circles

REPORT

- **Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC) Report on Global warming of 1.5°C – Released on Oct 6 at Incheon, South Korea**



- ✓ The report says that going past 1.5°C will affect the planet's liveability and the temperature could be exceeded in just 12 years, by 2030
- ✓ The report is released after 3 years of intensive research and debates
- ✓ It will be a key scientific input to the 'Katowice Climate Change Conference' in Poland in December 2018, when governments review the Paris Agreement to tackle climate change
- ✓ The report also mentions that the world is completely off-track and heading towards an increase of 3°C
- ✓ As per the report, Global warming is likely to reach 1.5°C between 2030 and 2052, if it continues to increase at the current rate (0.8°C to 1.2°C)
- ✓ It states that to achieve this, global net human-caused emissions of carbon dioxide (CO₂) would need to fall by about 45% from 2010 levels by 2030, reaching 'net zero' around 2050
- ✓ The Global Warming of 1.5°C is the first in a series of special reports to be produced in the IPCC's Sixth Assessment Cycle



Effects of Global warming for 1.5°C and 2°C

1.5°C	2°C
By 2100, global sea level rise would be 10 cm lower	By 2100, global sea level rise would be 10 cm higher
The likelihood of an Arctic Ocean free of sea ice in summer would be once per century	The likelihood of an Arctic Ocean free of sea ice in summer would be at least once per decade
Coral reefs would decline by 70-90 percent	Virtually all Coral reefs or at least above 99 percent would be lost

- ✓ **The Special Report on Global Warming of 1.5°C (known as SR15)**
- ✓ Prepared by – 91 authors/review editors from 40 countries
- ✓ Purpose – As per the decision taken at the 21st ‘Conference of the Parties (COP21) to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change’ in December 2015, where 195 countries adopted the Paris Agreement
- ✓ **Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC)**
- ✓ Established by - United Nations Environment Programme (UN Environment) and the World Meteorological Organization (WMO) in 1988
- ✓ Objective - to provide policymakers with regular scientific assessments concerning climate change
- ✓ Member states – 195 countries

