

EVERYDAY CURRENT AFFAIRS – SEP 11, 2018

TAMIL NADU

- ◆ **Tamil Nadu – Government has unveiled its ICT (Information, Communication and Technology) Policy – with special focus on MSME's and Start-ups**



- ★ It has provisions for incubating startups and creation of research parks,
- ★ The vision of the new policy is to make Tamil Nadu the “destination of choice” for foreign investors in the IT/ITeS segment

◆ **Chennai Airport – A giant Antonov AN-124 aircraft operated by Russian freight company Volga-Dnepr Airlines - landed at Chennai Airport on 9th Sep 2018**



- ★ It was carrying 53.46 tonnes of machinery including windmill components from Xi'an Xianyang in China
- ★ This is the first time an AN-124 aircraft is landing in Chennai with a considerable amount of payload
- ★ AN-124 aircraft is designed for long-range delivery and air dropping of heavy and large cargo
- ★ It has a payload capacity of up to 150 tons

◆ **Chennai Airport – Airports Authority of India to set up a simulator to train people to drive on the airfield at Chennai airport**

ROAD AHEAD
▶ Simulator on the lines of car or flight training to be set up
▶ Drivers will have to qualify in the simulator to get airfield driving permits (ADP)
▶ Drivers will be able to understand the restrictions better
▶ Those who already have ADP can brush up their skills

- ★ The simulator intends to avert the runway and taxiway incursions by the various vehicles like cars, vans, shuttle buses for passengers and crew, tow vehicles and pushback vehicles

◆ **IIT, Madras – to help the Government in installing Low-cost Air quality monitor in Rameswaram**

- ★ The equipment will be installed at the Vivekananda Kendra with the data being linked to the Air Research Laboratory at IIT, Madras
- ★ The equipment will show PM10 and PM2.5 levels in the atmosphere, besides providing data on humidity levels, temperature and carbon monoxide and carbon dioxide levels
- ★ It was developed at a cost of Rs 3.32 Lakh with Imported Sensors

STATES

◆ **Gujarat - PM Narendra Modi will inaugurate the World's Tallest statue - of Sardar Vallabhbhai Patel on October 31, 2018, which marks the 143rd birth anniversary of the 'Ironman of India'**



- ★ The statue is named as 'Statue of Unity' and is constructed on Sadhubet island at Sardar Sarovar Dam in Bharuch district, Gujarat (around 200 km from Ahmedabad)
- ★ The Statue is twice the height of 'Statue of Liberty' at 182-metre (600 ft), constructed at a budget of Rs 29.9 billion
- ★ The project was announced by Modi in 2013 when he was the chief minister of Gujarat
- ★ The statue was built with 5000 squares of Bronze and 22500 mton of Cement
- ★ Currently, the World's tallest statue is the Spring Temple Buddha in China at 128 m (420 feet) high
- ★ Sardar Vallabhbhai Patel was the first deputy Prime Minister of India post Independence

NATIONAL

◆ **Indian Army Restructuring – Based on the recommendations of the committee headed by Lt General (retired) D B Shekatkar (Report submitted in 2016)**

- ★ Indian Army – to reduce 1.5 lakh jobs from its current strength of 13 lakh
- ★ The reduction move will save Rs 5000 to 7000 crore annually in revenue expenditure
- ★ Indian army – also considering to abolish the rank of ‘Brigadier’ and cancellation of ‘Brigadier headquarters’
- ★ These changes will now be placed at the ‘Army’s Commanders Conference’ in October 2018 for final approval

◆ **National Rail and Transportation Institute – India’s 1st Railway University – started functioning at Vadodara, Gujarat**



- ★ At present it is functioning at the National Academy of Indian Railways, **Vadodara**
- ★ It is funded by Ministry of Railways
- ★ University of California, Berkeley and Cornell University are its international partners
- ★ It offers two undergraduate courses: BSc, Transportation Technology and BBA, Transportation Managements

◆ **Min of Health – implements HIV AIDS Act 2017 from Sep 10, 2018**

★ **Key features**

- ★ Every HIV infected person below the age of 18 has the right to live in a shared household and enjoy its facilities
- ★ The act criminalises any kind of discrimination against people suffering from AIDS in terms of treatment, employment and workplace
- ★ The Act makes Anti-Retroviral Treatment (ART) a legal right for all HIV/AIDS patients
- ★ If a person is tested HIV positive during testing, he will be entitled to free treatment by the state and central government.
- ★ It also makes it mandatory for the state government to appoint an Ombudsman to inquire into complaints related to the violation of the Act
- ★ Those violating the act could be jailed for up to two years or fined up to Rs1 lakh or both
- ★ As of now, India has the third largest number of people living with HIV with the number estimated at 21.17 lakhs

INDIA AND THE WORLD

◆ **e-VidyaBharati and e-ArogyaBharati Network Project - a Pan-Africa digital bridge launched between India & Africa**



- ★ External Affairs Ministry signed an agreement with the Telecommunications Consultants India Ltd to reach out Africa in the critical areas of education and health

COMMITTEES

◆ **National Green Tribunal – sets up 3 committees to monitor disposal of Garbage – as per the directions given by NGT and other rules like Solid Waste Management Rules, 2016**

- ★ Apex monitoring Committee – Headed by Justice D K Jain
- ★ Regional Monitoring Committees – to look into bio-medical wastes
- ★ State level committees – to look into the functional aspects

CONFERENCES & SUMMITS

◆ **1st Regional Workshop on RERA, Pune**



- ★ Inauguration – Hardeep Singh Puri, Minister of State (Independent Charge) for Housing and Urban Affairs
- ★ Objective – to solve the problems of Home buyers
- ★ RERA - Real Estate Regulatory Authority
- ★ Launch – 2016
- ★ Objective – to ensure transparency in real estate sector by means of ‘online’ information sharing – for consumer protection
- ★ Provision - The states to set up Regulatory Authority and the Appellate tribunal for more transparency
- ★ Maharashtra is one of the first states to implement the provision of RERA, having maximum number of projects registered with the authority

DEFENCE

◆ **Nomadic Elephant 2018 – Bilateral military exercise between India and Mongolia – commenced in Ulaanbaatar, Capital of Mongolia**



- ★ These exercises were commenced in 2006 and is held annually between Indian Army and Mongolian Armed forces
 - ★ This year it is the 13th edition of exercise and will be held for 12 days between 10th and 21st Sep, 2018
 - ★ Indian contingent is represented by contingent of 17 PUNJAB Regiment
 - ★ This exercise is being held to enhance tactical and technical skills in joint counter insurgency and counter terrorist operations in rural and urban scenario
- ## ◆ **First ‘Wet’ mid-air refueling of Light Combat Aircraft (LCA) Tejas – successfully carried out by using IAF’s Russian-origin Ilyushin-78 (IL-78) tanker at an altitude of 20,000 feet over Gwalior, Madhya Pradesh**



- ★ Before this wet contact trial, IAF had successfully conducted ‘dry’ air refueling contact trials last week

- ★ With this first trial of air-to-air refueling, LCA gets much closer to the final operational clearance (FOC)
It also enhances the potential of aircraft to stay airborne for much longer periods of time, thus increasing its range and endurance
- ★ IAF currently operates 9 LCA Tejas fighters, built indigenously by Hindustan Aeronautical Limited (HAL)
- ★ These jets are being flown by No. 45 Squadron named 'Flying Daggers' based at Sulur Air Force Station in Tamil Nadu
- ★ 'Flying Daggers' is the first LCA Tejas Squadron, raised in 2016

◆ **Vostok 2018 (East 2018) – Russia to launch its' biggest Military drill in history with 3,00,000 troops on Sep 11, 2018**



- ★ The Russian exercise also involves 36000 military vehicles, 1000 planes, 80 warships, 2 naval fleets and all its airborne units
- ★ China was sending nearly 3,200 troops, 900 weapons, and 30 fixed-wing aircraft and helicopters to the exercise
- ★ The week-long exercise will take place in Eastern Serbia, along with the association of Chinese and Mongolian armies
- ★ This is the largest military drill after the erstwhile USSR's 1981 war games, that saw between 1,00,000 and 1,50,000 Warsaw Pact soldiers taking part in "Zapad-81" (West-81) of the Soviet era

AWARDS

- ◆ **Bibek Debroy, Chairman, Economic Advisory Council to the PM – Conferred the ‘Honoris Causa’ – by the University of Engineering & Management in Kolkata**



- ★ He is also the Member of NITI Aayog
- ★ Apart from Debroy, two other top corporate figures were also given ‘Honoris Causa’

- ◆ **Viswanathan Anand – honoured with ‘Order of Friendship’ by Russia at the Russian Centre of Science and Culture**



- ★ Anand was conferred The Order by Sergey Kotov, Consul General of the Russian Federation in South India, on behalf of the Federation
- ★ Present on the occasion was also Tamil Nadu State Sports Minister P. Balakrishna Reddy and the Director of the Russian Centre of Science and Culture Gennadil A. Rogalev

BOOKS & AUTHORS

◆ Forbes-nominated author 'Preeti Shenoy' launches her new book 'The Rule Breakers'



- ★ The book is published by Westland Books
- ★ It covers complex themes of women's equality, gender, inclusion etc
- ★ The novel set in the '90s is the story of Veda, who harbours big dreams, but finds herself trapped in an arranged marriage and realizes that her opinions in real life don't matter.

INTERNATIONAL DAY

◆ Patriot Day in United States & National Day of Service and Remembrance of the victims of the 9/11 attacks – September 11

- ★ The day remembers the loss of thousands of lives in the deadly terror attack at United States on Sep 11th, 2001
- ★ Time-Line of the Events
- ★ On September 11, 2001, terrorists attacked the United States.
- ★ They hijacked four airplanes in mid-flight.
- ★ The terrorists flew two of the planes into two skyscrapers at the World Trade Center in New York City. The impact caused the buildings to catch fire and collapse.
- ★ Another plane destroyed part of the Pentagon (the U.S. military headquarters) in Arlington, Virginia.
- ★ The fourth plane crashed in Shanksville, Pennsylvania.
- ★ In all, nearly 3,000 people were killed in the 9/11 attacks



ATTACK ON THE WORLD TRADE CENTER

12:46 American Airlines Boeing 767, Flight 11
Boston to Los Angeles, crashes into
Tower One of World Trade Center
between the 93th and 99th floors

13:03 United Airlines Boeing 767, Flight 175
Boston to Los Angeles, crashes into
Tower Two between 77th and
85th floors

92 (including 5 hijackers)

65 (including 5 hijackers)



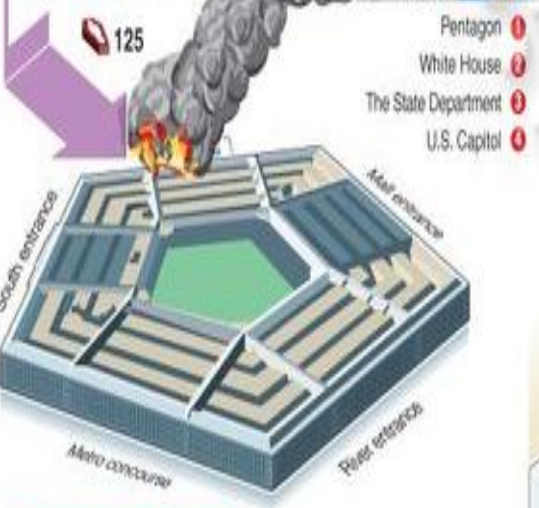
ATTACK ON THE PENTAGON

13:37 American Airlines, Boeing 757, Flight 77
Washington Dulles to Los Angeles,
crashes into The Pentagon's
U.S. Defence HQ

64 (including 5 hijackers)



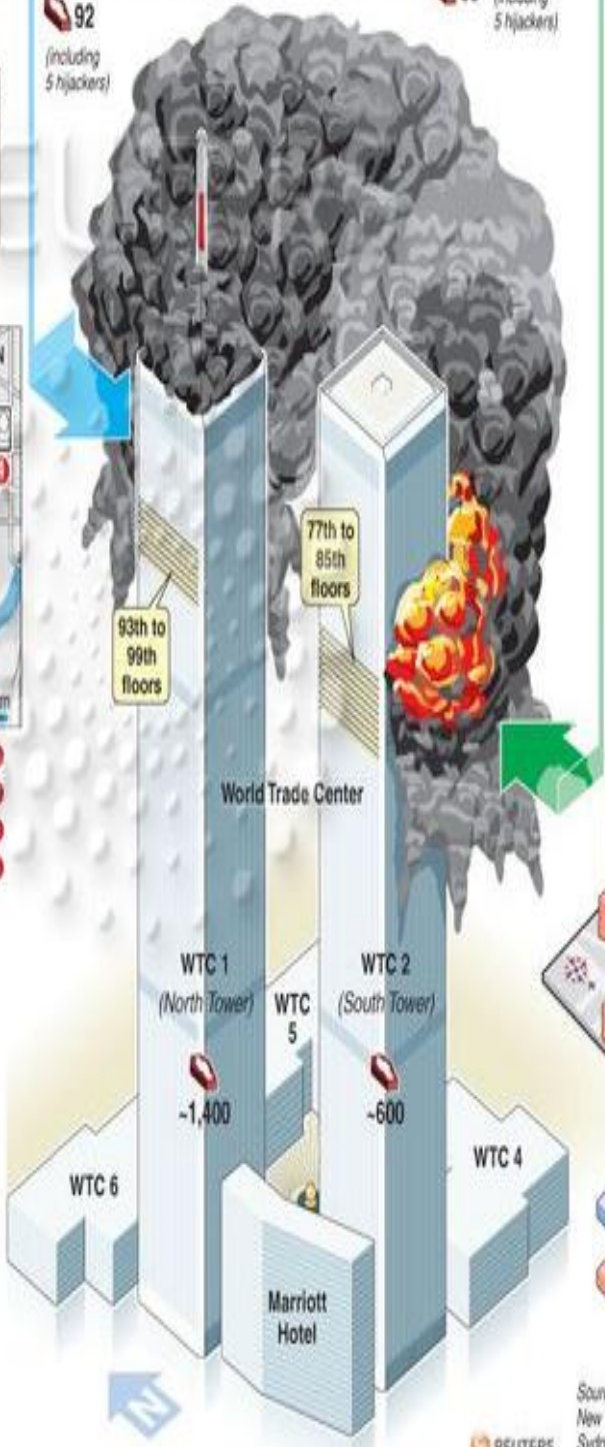
Part of the outermost ring of the building was hit by the plane and collapsed, afterwards engulfed by fire



ATTACK ON FLIGHT 93

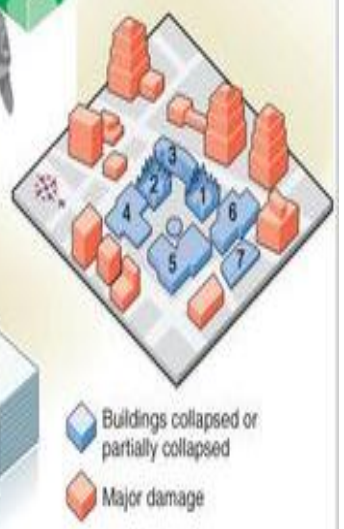
14:03 United Airlines, Boeing 757, Flight 93
Newark to San Francisco, crashes near Pittsburgh

44 (including 4 hijackers)



WORLD TRADE CENTER

- 1 North Tower, 110 floors
- 2 South Tower, 110 floors
- 3 Marriott Hotel, 22 floors
- 4 Southeast Plaza Building, Nine floors
- 5 Northeast Plaza Building, Nine floors
- 6 U.S. Customhouse, Eight floors
- 7 Salomon Brothers Building, 47 floors



Sources: New York State government, FEMA, New York Times, FlightExplorer.com, University of Sydney - Department of Civil Engineering



NEWS IN PICTURES

◆ Centre's new 'Drone Policy' – will come into effect from Dec 1, 2018

EYES ABOVE

OPERATORS IN THE CITY WELCOMED THE MOVE, SAYING IT WOULD ENCOURAGE LEGAL USE OF UAVS

WHAT DGCA RULES, 2017 SAY

- > Unique identification number will have to be issued
- > Purpose and area of operation, permission for all frequencies, security clearance from home ministry, verification or character and antecedents of remote pilot
- > In case of import, DGCA should give import clearance

PERMITS WON'T BE NEEDED

- > For drones that will be used below **50ft** or indoors
- > Police should be informed if operated below **200ft** in uncontrolled airspace

RESTRICTED AREAS FOR OPERATION

- > Within an area of 5km from airport or as notified by AAI in AIP
- > Densely populated areas
- > Within 50km of the nation's borders and, along the coastline, beyond 500m out over the sea

◆ **Jack Ma names Daniel Zhang to head Alibaba**

SINGLES' DAY PIONEER IS NEW BOSS

➤ Jack Ma will pass the baton on his 55th birthday next year to CEO **Daniel Zhang**. However, Ma will remain on the board of Alibaba until 2020



established brands to sell to customers and is credited with helping turn Singles' Day into a Chinese shopping bonanza

➤ A Shanghai-certified accountant, Zhang had joined Alibaba-owned consumer-to-consumer marketplace Taobao as CFO in 2007



➤ Since he became Alibaba CEO in 2015, the co's stock has surged 87% and now has a m-cap of \$420bn

➤ The 46-year-old pioneered the co's push into getting

➤ Zhang is known to Alibaba employees as "Xiaoyaozi" (free and unfettered one)