

**EVERYDAY CURRENT AFFAIRS – SEP 16, 2018**

**TAMIL NADU**

- ◆ **Tamil Nadu Government – announced that only Class XII board examination marks will be considered for College admissions in the State**
  - ★ The maximum marks has been reduced back to 600 from the earlier 1200
- ◆ **Chennai – Institute of Child health and Hospital for children, Egmore gets a new Lab to screen ‘Newborns’**
  - ★ It will be set up by Neuberg Ehrlich, a clinical laboratory
  - ★ It can screen upto 500 newborns in a day, to identify various inherited or infected disorders
- ◆ **Chennai Central Railway Station – received ‘Indian Green Building Council Certification’ for adopting Green building features and concepts in the Station**



- ★ With this, the railway station becomes the first station in Southern Railway to be awarded Green Building Certification
- ★ The Indian Green Building Council (IGBC), instituted by the CII, awarded the certificate during the Railway Swachhta programme at the Chennai Central railway station on 15<sup>th</sup> Sep, 2018
- ★ The Central Railway station has several green building projects, which include facilities like 100% LED lighting fixtures, installation of 5-star rated fans, solar energy, solar water heaters and segregation of waste at source along with waste recycling
- ★ R.K. Kulshrestha - General Manager , Southern Railway

◆ **Chennai based Craniomaxillofacial surgeon, Dr S M Balaji – awarded the Pakistan Dental Association’s ‘Humanitarian Award’**



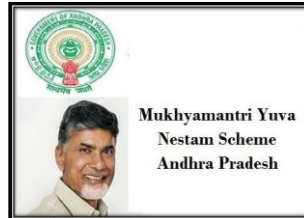
- ★ The award was conferred on the sidelines of the 40<sup>th</sup> Asia pacific Dental federation 2018 meeting in Manilla, Phillipines

◆ **Hon’ble Tamil Nadu Chief Minister - announced a budget of Rs 1 crore every year for ‘Sorkuvai’ scheme, which was earlier announced on June 28<sup>th</sup>, 2018 in the Assembly**

- ★ The Scheme intends to classify various Tamil words in sync with the ever-improving technical jargon, for the usage of Tamil scholars and literature writers

## SCHEMES

- ◆ **Andhra Pradesh – to launch ‘Yuva Nestam scheme’ for providing ‘unemployment allowance’ to the state’s youth from October 2018**



- ★ For this purpose, the CM launched website ‘yuvanestham.ap.gov.in’, where candidates has to register
- ★ The scheme provides an allowance of Rs 1000 for the unemployed youth in the age group of 25 years to 35 years

## STATES

- ◆ **Odisha – French company investors have expressed interest to invest in the State – as per the discussions with the French team by the CM of the State, Navin Patnaik**



- ★ The investments will be in the fields of Power, Electrical equipment and Iron etc.,
- ★ Odisha accounts for around 54% of Aluminium production in the entire country
- ★ It also has the largest reserves of Iron, Bauxite and Chromite in the country

## NATIONAL

### ◆ **Government – to convert 1.5 lakh Primary health centres and sub-centres into ‘Wellness centres’ by 2022**

- ★ These ‘Wellness centres’ will facilitate screening of every individual aged 30 or above for blood pressure, diabetes, tuberculosis, breast cancer and leprosy among others
- ★ It has to be recalled that ‘Kayakalp’ initiative has been launched by the Government to encourage every public health facility stay, clean and hygienic
- ★ The centre's flagship scheme ‘Ayushman Bharat - National Health Protection Mission’ will be launched on September 23, 2018

### ◆ **15<sup>th</sup> Pravasi Bharatiya Divas (Non-resident Indian Day), Varanasi**

- ★ The conference associated with the event will be held on January 21<sup>st</sup> to 23<sup>rd</sup> instead of the customary January 7<sup>th</sup> to 9<sup>th</sup>, 2019
- ★ Yogi Adityanath, CM of UP and Sushma Swaraj, Min of External Affairs – launched the website for the online registration of the participants for the Biennial event



- ★ After the convention, participants would be given the opportunity to visit Prayag (Allahabad) for Kumbh Mela and witness the Republic Day Parade at Delhi
- ★ Former PM, Atal Bihari Vajpayee launched it on January 9, 2003 to mark the day in 1915 when Mahatma Gandhi returned to India from South Africa
- ★ Kumbh Mela starts on January 14<sup>th</sup>, 2019

## INTERNATIONAL

- ◆ **Typhoon Mangkhut - made landfall on the northeastern tip of Luzon island in the Philippines with top-of-the-scale Category 5 winds of 165 mph**



- ★ **Hurricane Florence** – had arrived at **North Carolina's coast in United States** after weakening to a Category 1 storm with 90 mph winds
- ★ Hurricanes and typhoons are the same type of storm; both are tropical cyclones, but those that occur in the Pacific west of the International Date Line are called typhoons

## CONFERENCES & SUMMITS

### ◆ Kerala Police – to host a 2-day International Cyber Security Conference ‘COCON XI’ in Kochi on Oct 5<sup>th</sup> and 6<sup>th</sup>, 2018



- ★ COCON, an annual event, is conducted as part of the International Information Security Day
- ★ COCON is specially designed for the IT industry, Government departments, banking institutions and public sector undertakings with an IT Infrastructure
- ★ Kerala Police will partner with British Columbia-Canada based POLCYB (the Society for the Policing of Cyberspace) and ISRA (Information Security Research Association), a registered non-profit organization for the event
- ★ The conference will debate on latest trending topics of data privacy, blockchain, cyber crimes, cyber warfare and Internet-of-Things
- ★ The Kerala Police CyberDome has already won many accolades, including a 'Showcased Honoree in the Managerial Professional for an InfoSec Project Category for #ISLA Asia-Pacific 2018', the SKOCH Order of Merit, the FICCI Smart Policing Awards 2018 in the category of Cyber Security, and the K7 Medal of Honour

# SCIENCE, TECHNOLOGY & ENVIRONMENT

## ◆ ISRO – to launch PSLV-C42 from Satish Dhawan Space Centre, Sriharikota on the night of Sep 16, 2018



- ★ It will carry two earth observation satellites, NovaSAR and S1-4, from the United Kingdom to space
- ★ The entire flight up to the release of the satellites will be completed within 17.5 minutes
- ★ The satellites are owned by Surrey Satellite Technologies Ltd., which signed a commercial launch contract with Antrix Corporation
- ★ NovaSAR is an S-Band synthetic aperture radar satellite, which will be useful to map forest, land use and monitor ice cover, flood and disaster
- ★ S1-4 is a high resolution optical Earth observation satellite that will be used for surveying resources, urban management and monitoring of the environment and disasters
- ★ This will be the 44th PSLV (polar satellite launch vehicle) series launch of ISRO and the 1<sup>st</sup> commercial launch for this year

◆ **NASA – launches its most-advanced space satellite ‘ICESat-2’ to precisely measure Earth’s sea ice, glaciers and oceans from Vandenberg Air Force base in California on September 15, 2018**



- ★ The half-ton, USD 1 billion satellite was launched aboard a United Launch Alliance (ULA) Delta II rocket
- ★ ICESat-2 – acronym for ‘Ice, Cloud and land Elevation Satellite-2’
- ★ ICESat-2 will carry a photon-counting laser altimeter, ATLAS (Advanced Topographic Laser Altimeter System)
- ★ This instrument will measure height by determining how long it takes photons to travel from the spacecraft to Earth and back



- ★ The new laser, ATLAS, will fire 10,000 pulses of green light in one second, compared to the original ICESat which fired 40 times a second
- ★ The mission will provide insight into Earth's frozen regions -- the Cryosphere -- which is rapidly changing with our warming climate
- ★ The first ICESat, which was launched in 2003 and ended in 2009, revealed the disappearance of ice from coastal areas of Greenland and Antarctica

## APPOINTMENTS

- ◆ **Indian-American Bimal Patel – has been nominated as an Assistant Secretary of the Treasury for Financial Institutions by the American President, Donald Trump**



- ★ Currently, he serves as the Deputy Assistant Secretary of the Treasury for the Financial Stability Oversight Council
- ★ Additionally, he has served as an adjunct associate professor at Stanford University, teaching an undergraduate course on banking regulation.
- ★ Patel earned his B.A. from Stanford University, M.P.P. from the Kennedy School of Government at Harvard University, and J.D. from the Georgetown University Law Center

◆ **Girish Radhakrishnan and Tajinder Mukherjee have been appointed chairmen-cum-managing directors of the United India Insurance Company and the National Insurance Company Limited respectively**



★ Both are employed as general managers in New India Assurance Company Limited

## **AWARDS**

◆ **Tata Steel – bags ‘Steel Industry Leader’ Award in ‘Dow Jones Sustainability Index 2018’**

- ★ Tata Steel is the only India-based company to win among 60 sectors evaluated for DJSI 2018
- ★ It has been named the “Industry Leader” amongst 24 steel companies globally, for the second time in the last 3 years

## SPORTS

- ◆ **India – loses to Maldives 1-2 in the Final of 8<sup>th</sup> SAFF (South Asian Football Federation) Cup in Dhaka, Bangladesh**



- ★ India were the defending champions, but Maldives clinched the winner to take the Cup for the 2<sup>nd</sup> time after its victory in 2008 edition

- ◆ **Mumbai Marathon – gets the Gold label distinction from the International Association of Athletics Federations (IAAF)**



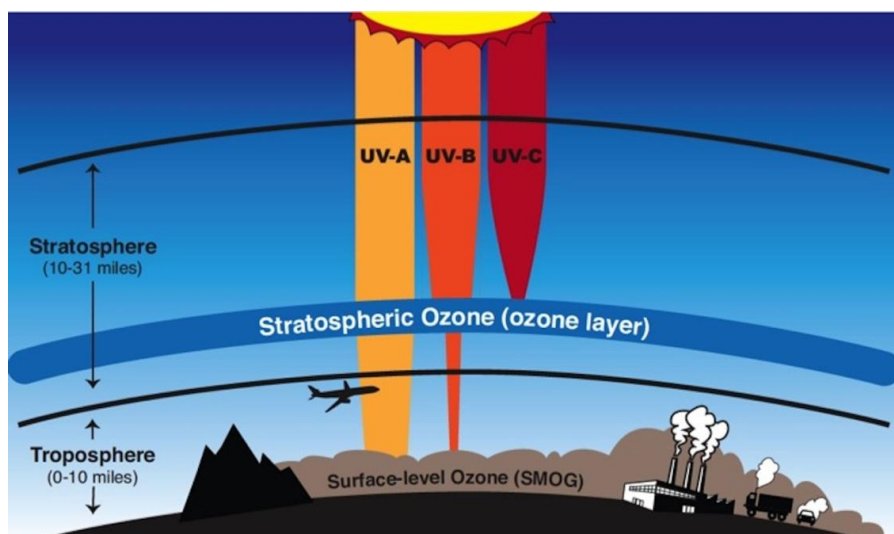
- ★ The 16th edition of the race, to be held on Jan 20, 2019, became the only gold label marathon in the country and joined the elite list of marathons in Asia
- ★ The event will have over 46,000 participants across 6 race categories and will have a prize money worth USD 405,000

# INTERNATIONAL DAY

## ◆ World Ozone Day – September 16



- ★ The International Day for Preservation of Ozone Layer (or World Ozone Day) is observed every year on September 16
- ★ The day is mainly intended to spread awareness of the depletion of the Ozone Layer and search for solutions to preserve it



- ★ Theme - *'Keep Cool and Carry On'*
- ★ This special day is held on September 16th to mark the day way back in 1987 when the Montreal Protocol on Substances that Deplete the Ozone Layer, was signed
- ★ The UN General Assembly proclaimed the date on December 19, 1994 and the day was first celebrated on September 16, 1995
- ★ The ozone layer is a fragile shield that protects the Earth from harmful rays from the Sun and Montreal Protocol helped control usage of substance that depleted ozone

