

EVERYDAY CURRENT AFFAIRS – SEP 25, 2018

TAMIL NADU

- **Chennai – to get ‘Piped Gas’ to households by 2020** – after the finalization of tenders by The Petroleum & Natural Gas Regulatory Board

ONE-TIME FEE OF ₹5,000

44L Piped Natural Gas connections will also be installed as part of Centre's City Gas Distribution (CCGD) project

CHENNAI, TIRUVALLUR AND KANCHEEPURAM

CNG stations

333

PNG connections

44,51,111

Steel pipe

7,334 (inch-km)



OTHER PARTS OF TAMIL NADU

Number of CNG stations **557**

Number of PNG connections

16,28,745

Steel pipe

5,787 (inch-km)

- ✓ Torrent Gas Private Limited and AG&P LNG Marketing Pvt Ltd - will set up the pipeline for uninterrupted supply of natural gas in the city
- ✓ Adani Gas Limited, Indian Oil Corporation and a few other private players - to set up pump stations and PNG connections in other parts of Tamil Nadu
- ✓ The CNG, costing Rs 40/kg, can be used to run the vehicles instead of Petrol or diesel

STATES

- **Uttar Pradesh – secured 1st place in the implementation of ‘Pradhan Mantri Awas Yojana’**
- ✓ Under the scheme launched in 2015 by the PM Modi, a target of 20 million affordable homes by March 31, 2022, was set
- **Karnataka – Mysore city police to launch ‘Mysuraksha’ App – to ensure the safety of the passengers using Cab and Auto**



- ✓ The App has the SOS button which can be pressed in case of any trouble, which sends signals to the Police through the GPS and QR code fixed in the vehicle

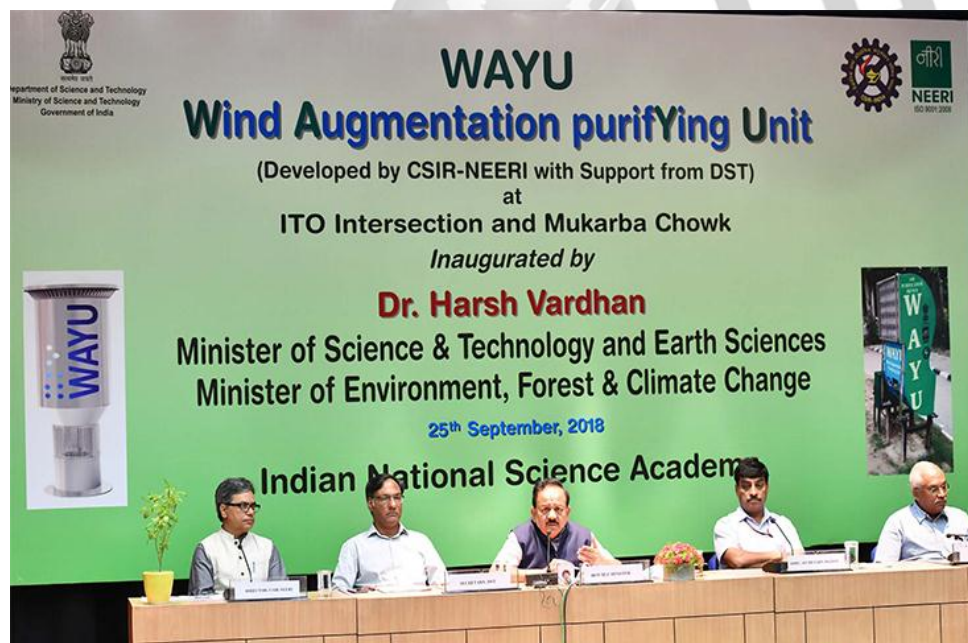
NATIONAL

- **Vice President – inaugurates the country’s 1st ever ‘Indian Culinary Institute’ at Tirupati, Andhra Pradesh**



- ✓ The 2nd Culinary Institute is under development in Noida, near New Delhi
- ✓ The institute at Tirupati was developed at a budget of Rs 99 crore by National Building Construction Corporation (NBCC)

- ✓ The admission into the institute is through JEE
- ✓ The Vice President – also inaugurated two projects in Nellore and East Godavari Districts of Andhra Pradesh, implemented under the ‘Coastal Circuit’ theme of Swadesh Darshan Project of Ministry of Tourism
- **BSNL – signs MoU with Japan’s Softbank and NTT Communications** – to roll out 5G and IoT technology in India
 - ✓ It has to be recalled that BSNL had already signed agreement with Nokia and Cisco as well for developing 5G ecosystem in the country
 - ✓ On August 25, 2018, a 5G forum under Prof. AJ Paulraj - submitted its report to DoT for induction of 5G by 2020
 - ✓ On Sep 13th 2018, NITI Aayog and BSNL signed pact - for the test trials of 5G
- **Dr Harsh Vardhan**, Minister for Science & Technology and Earth Sciences and Environment, Forest and Climate change – **inaugurated Air pollution control device ‘WAYU’ (Wind Augmentation PurifYing Unit) at 2 traffic junctions in New Delhi**



- ✓ WAYU – developed by - Council of Scientific and Industrial Research – National Environmental Engineering Research Institute (CSIR-NEERI) as part of ‘Technology Development Project’ being funded by ‘Department of Science and Technology’
- ✓ This device can purify the air in an area of 500 square meters at a maintenance cost of Rs 1500 per month
- ✓ The Ministry also plans to install 54 more devices at busy traffic intersections by Oct 15th, 2018

SUPREME COURT VERDICT

- **Supreme Court – ruled that MPs/MLAs cannot be restricted from practicing the dual role of a Lawyer and a Legislator on Sep 25th, 2018**
- ✓ The 3 Judge Bench comprising Chief Justice Dipak Misra, Justice AM Khanwilkar and Justice DY Chandrachud - pronounced the Judgment on a petition filed by BJP leader and Advocate, Ashwini Kumar Upadhyay
- **Supreme Court – held that candidates contesting elections cannot be disqualified, in case they have charges framed against them in a criminal case**
- ✓ A 5-judge constitution bench of the SC, chaired by Chief Justice Dipak Misra and comprising of Justices RF Nariman, AM Khanwilkar, DY Chandrachud and Indu Malhotra pronounced the ruling on Sep 25th, 2018
- ✓ The judgment came on a batch of petitions filed by advocate, Ashwini Kumar Upadhyay, former Chief Election Commissioner JM Lyngdoh and NGO Public Interest Foundation

INTERNATIONAL

- **Ibrahim Mohamed Solih – wins Presidential elections in Maldives to become the country's 6th President - replacing the incumbent, Abdulla Yameen**



- ✓ Solih won 58% of the total votes against 42% for Yameen
- ✓ He belongs to the Maldivian Democratic Party (MDP) as one of its founding members
- ✓ In 2011, he became the leader of MDP's parliamentary group

COMMITTEES

- **Supreme Court – constitutes 3-member committee under former SC judge, Amitava Roy** – to look into the problems in Jail and suggest reform measures
- ✓ The committee will look into the inhuman conditions across the 1,382 prisons in India and suggest remedial measures for the same

CONFERENCES & SUMMITS

- **4th India International Science Festival – to be inaugurated by the President of India in Lucknow on Oct 5th, 2018**



- ✓ Theme of the Festival - "Science & Technology- Building Partnerships, Impacting Societies"
- ✓ Focal Theme – “Science for transformation”
- ✓ Organized by - Ministry of Science and Technology, Ministry of Earth Sciences in association with Vijnana Bharati
- ✓ The festival is expected to be attended by 10000 delegates including 5000 students, 550 teachers, 200 students from North-East Region, 20 international delegates and approximately 200 startups
- ✓ In IISF 2018, a world record attempt will be made to "isolate DNA" by 500 students from classes VIII to X
- ✓ The festival would be dedicated to the former PM, Atal Bihari Vajpayee who coined the slogan ‘Jai Vigyan’ for developing Science
- ✓ History of IISF
- ✓ 1st IISF – held at IIT, New Delhi in December, 2015
- ✓ 2nd IISF – held at CSIR-National Physical Laboratory, New Delhi in December, 2016
- ✓ 3rd IISF – held at IIT, Madras and Anna University, Chennai, Tamil Nadu in October, 2017

PERSONALITIES

- **Kevin Systrom and Mike Krieger, Co-founders of the Instagram - Resigned from their respective positions in Facebook**



- ✓ Mike Krieger is the Chief Technical Officer, while Kevin Systrom is the Chief Executive Officer
- ✓ They founded the photo-sharing app in 2010 and sold it to Facebook in 2012 for about \$1 billion
- ✓ Instagram was founded in 2010 as a location check-in app called 'Burbn', which was later reconfigured and renamed
- ✓ It has to be recalled that Jan Koum, Co-founder of WhatsApp also resigned from Facebook in May 2018

SCIENCE, TECHNOLOGY & ENVIRONMENT

- **'Citizen Science platform' initiative – launched to save Hornbills in the country**



- ✓ The platform was launched by scientists, Aparajita Datta and Rohit Naniwadekar from 'Nature Conservation Foundation' and Ramki Sreenivasan and Vikram Hiresavi from 'Conservation India'
- ✓ It is introduced basically to provide the information on hornbill distribution in the country.
- ✓ An interactive web interface named the 'Hornbill Watch initiative' (www.hornbills.in) allows a person to report on hornbills anywhere in India
- ✓ Hornbills are called the 'Farmers of the forest'
- ✓ They play a very important role in the dispersal of seeds that grow into trees
Hornbills are relatively large birds that are easily recognizable because of their large size, beaks and distinctive calls
- ✓ There are about 9 hornbill species in India

APPOINTMENTS

- **Facebook – appoints Ajit Mohan as 'Managing Director' & 'Vice President' for India**



- ✓ He was the former CEO of Hotstar and expected to take charge by early next year
- ✓ The post was lying vacant after the resignation of Umang Bedi as the Managing Director of Facebook India & Southeast Asia in October 2017

- **Google – appoints Keith Enright, Privacy Lawyer – as its 'Chief Privacy Officer'**



- ✓ Before Joining Google, Enright worked as the Chief Privacy Officer at Macy's and was also a senior consultant at IBM.

SPORTS

- **Junior World Wrestling Championship** – concludes in **Trnava, Slovakia (Sep 17 to 23, 2018)**
 - ✓ Overall, India won 7 medals, including 4 silver and 3 bronze
- **5th Track Asia Cup (cycling) 2018** - concluded in **New Delhi (Sep 21 to 23, 2018)**
 - ✓ 1st Position - India – 6 Gold, 5 Silver, 2 Bronze
 - ✓ 2nd Position – Indonesia – 4 Gold, 3 Silver, 1 Bronze
 - ✓ 3rd Position – Hong Kong – 4 Gold, 2 Bronze
 - ✓ Indian Gold medal Winners
 - ✓ Mayuri Lute - Women's junior 500 m
 - ✓ Esow, Abhishek, Jemsh Singh - Men's junior team sprint
 - ✓ E Chaoba Devi - Women's elite 3 km individual pursuit
 - ✓ Swasti Singh - Women's junior 2 km individual pursuit
 - ✓ Esow Alben - Men's junior 200 m sprint
 - ✓ Mayuri Lute - Women's junior 200 m sprint
- **Chinese Open Badminton Championships, Changzhou**
 - ✓ Men's Singles Winner – **Sinisuka Ginting** (Indonesia)
 - ✓ Women's Singles Winner – **Carolina Marin** (Spain)
- **2nd Laver Cup, Chicago**
 - ✓ **Team Europe beats Team World** to retain the trophy by 13-8 games



- ✓ Teams
- ✓ Team Europe - Bjorn Borg (Captain), Roger Federer, Novak Djokovic, Sascha Zverev, Grigor Dimitrov, David Goffin and Kyle Edmund
- ✓ Team World - John Mcenroe (Captain), Kevin Anderson, John Isner, Diego Schwartzman, Jack Sock, Nick Kyrgios and Frances Tiafoe

- ✓ The tournament, a tennis equivalent of the Ryder Cup (Golf), is named after the great Australian player, Rod Laver
- ✓ Team Europe won the inaugural edition in Prague in Sep 2017
- ✓ Next year's competition will take place in Geneva, Switzerland from 20-22 September, 2019
- **M S Dhoni – becomes the 2nd most ‘Capped’ Cricketer in India** – after playing his 505th match against Pakistan on 23rd Sep, 2018
- ✓ Before Dhoni, Rahul Dravid was the second most capped player for India with 504 caps in international cricket
- ✓ Sachin Tendulkar is the top most capped player for India with a record 664 matches for India

RANKINGS

- **Top Performing States in “Ease of Living Index” under AMRUT (Atal Mission for Rejuvenation and Urban Transformation) Scheme** – Released by Ministry of Housing and Urban Affairs



- ✓ **1st – Andhra Pradesh**
- ✓ **2nd – Odisha**
- ✓ **3rd – Madhya Pradesh**
- ✓ The three States were awarded best performing States at the National Dissemination Workshop on Ease of Living Index, 2018
- ✓ The survey covered 112 cities out of the selected 116 cities, with 4 cities of West Bengal, Howrah, New Town Kolkata, Kolkata and Durgapur not participating
- ✓ Naya Raipur of Chhattisgarh and Amravati of Andhra Pradesh did not fulfill the parameters, as they are green-field cities
- ✓ The MoHUA released the first ever ‘Ease of Living Index’ covering 111 Indian cities on 13 August, 2018 with Pune topping the charts
- ✓ AMRUT Scheme – launched by PM, Narendra Modi in June 2015
- ✓ Objective – to ensure the required infrastructure for better quality of life in urban areas

INTERNATIONAL DAY

➤ World Pharmacists Day – September 25



- ✓ It was first observed in 2010 as per the suggestion of International Pharmaceutical Federation (FIP) at its Council meeting in 2009 at Istanbul, Turkey
- ✓ The day September 25 marks the day in which FIP was founded in 1912
- ✓ The day is to meant to encourage pharmacists to promote their profession
- ✓ Theme for 2018 - "*Pharmacists: your medicines experts*"

REPORT

➤ Status of Judges Strength in Indian courts – Data released by Ministry of Law

- ✓ According to the report, India has 19 judges per 10 lakh people on an average
- ✓ The working strength of the Subordinate courts, i.e. lower judiciary is 16,726 while the approved strength is much higher at 22,474
- ✓ In the case of high courts, the approved strength is 1079, the actual strength is 673
- ✓ The Supreme Court, with a sanctioned strength of 31 judges, has six vacancies
- ✓ Thus, the total number of vacancies in the SC, the HCs and the lower courts come to 6,160 judges
- ✓ It has to be noted that there are a total of 2,76,74,499 cases pending in the District and Subordinate Courts of the country, as per the Law Minister Ravi Shankar Prasad