

EVERYDAY CURRENT AFFAIRS – AUGUST 26, 2019

TAMIL NADU

- ◆ Chief minister Edappadi K Palaniswami - flagged off Chennai's first electric bus from the state secretariat on August 26, 2019



- ✓ These air-conditioned buses have a maximum capacity of 72, including standees.
- ✓ The new electric buses, built by Ashok Leyland, will be operated on Thiruvanniyur-Chennai Central Railway Station and CMBT-Broadway routes.
- ✓ These buses can touch a maximum speed of 100km/hour and have hydraulic power steering systems and dual circuit air brakes
- ✓ The batteries recharged at charging stations in MTC depots will be replaced at the end of every trip or 40km
- ✓ The buses were built at a depot in Mamandur, 90km from Chennai
- ✓ The Centre had sanctioned funds for procuring 525 battery-operated buses for Tamil Nadu under Faster Adoption and Manufacturing of Electric Vehicles (FAME) in India scheme.
- ✓ The last of the 100 A/C Volvo buses, procured in 2008, was discontinued in December.

NATIONAL

◆ Prime Minister Narendra Modi – participated at the 45th G7 summit at the special invitation of French President Emmanuel Macron

- ✓ It has to be noted that India is not a member of the group of seven, which comprises of the UK, France, Germany, Italy, Japan, Canada and the United States.
- ✓ PM Modi reached Biarritz, France for the summit on August 25 after his three-nation tour of France, UAE and Bahrain



- ✓ PM will discuss with US President Donald Trump on issues concerning trade, Kashmir and other topics of mutual interest during the meet
- ✓ This would be the second meeting between the two leaders in 2019 after the previous meeting on the sidelines of the G20 summit in Osaka, Japan.
- ✓ The PM addressed a dedicated session for climate change titled 'Biodiversity, Oceans, Climate' on the sidelines of the meeting
- ✓ India has been specially invited as a "Biarritz partner country" for the 45th G7 summit along with other nations including Australia, Chile, South Africa, Rwanda, Senegal, Egypt and Burkina Faso
- ✓ The main theme of the G7 summit this year is "combating inequality" and its main focus will be on the climate and biodiversity.
- ✓ India was last invited to the G7 summit in 2005, when the then British Prime Minister Tony Blair had invited the then Indian PM Manmohan Singh to attend the G7 summit in Gleneagles, Scotland
- ✓ The last G7 summit in 2018 was hosted by Canada in La Malbaie, Quebec
- ✓ The Group of Seven or G7 originally came into being in 1975 when the heads of the world's six leading industrial nations- the US, UK, France, Germany (West), Japan and Italy came together to form a group

INDIA AND OTHER COUNTRIES

◆ India and Bahrain – signed four MoU's during the official state visit of PM Narendra Modi to the gulf nation



- ✓ It is the first ever visit by an Indian prime minister to Bahrain
- ✓ During the visit, the PM held bilateral meetings with king Hamad bin Isa Al Khalifa and prince and Prime Minister Khalifa bin Salman Al Khalifa.
- ✓ The MoU's were signed for cooperation in the areas of space technology, International Solar alliance (ISA) and Cultural exchange between both the countries
- ✓ The two sides agreed to further enhance cooperation in the field of security, maritime security, counter-terrorism and the exchange of intelligence and information
- ✓ Both the countries also agreed to focus on enhancing cooperation in energy, covering the areas of joint exploration and training of human resources
- ✓ They have discussed ways and means to further promote cooperation in cyber security, including prevention of use of cyber space for terrorism, radicalization and for disturbing social harmony.

COMMITTEES

◆ The Central Vigilance Commission (CVC) - has constituted the Advisory Board for Banking Frauds (ABBF) to examine bank fraud of over ₹ 50 crore and recommend action

- ✓ The committee will be headed by former Vigilance Commissioner T.M. Bhasin



- ✓ The four-member board's jurisdiction would cover those cases involving the level of officers of General Manager and above in the Public sector banks
- ✓ The board was earlier called as the Advisory Board on Bank, Commercial and Financial Frauds.

CONFERENCES & SUMMITS

- ◆ **The Seventh Community Radio Sammelan - to be held at Dr. BR Ambedkar Bhawan, New Delhi from 27th to 29th August 2019**



- ✓ Theme 2019 - 'Community Radio for SDGs'
- ✓ The theme focuses upon the experiences and possibilities of Community radio programming for better public awareness on the Sustainable Development Goals.
- ✓ On the occasion, Union Minister Prakash Javadekar will give awards to Community Radio Stations for their achievements in various broadcasting development programmes

SCIENCE, TECHNOLOGY & ENVIRONMENT

- ◆ **Council of Scientific & Industrial Research (CSIR)-National Physical Laboratory (NPL) – has been authorized by the Centre to certify air quality monitoring instruments in the country**

- ✓ The Ministry of Environment had designated CSIR-NPL as national verification agency for certifying instruments and equipments for monitoring emissions and ambient air
- ✓ The move assumes significance against the backdrop of the National Clean Air Campaign, which requires low cost air quality monitoring instruments that can monitor levels of nitrous oxides, ozone and particulate matter.
- ✓ The Centre in January launched a National Clean Air programme to reduce particulate matter (PM) pollution by 20%-30% in at least 102 cities by 2024
- ✓ Currently, the equipment used by State and Central Pollution Control Boards (SPCB and CPCB) are imported, costing up to ₹1 crore to install and about ₹50 lakh to maintain over five years

SPORTS

- ◆ **India's Manasi Joshi - clinched the women's singles SL3 gold defeating World No. 1 and compatriot Parul Parmar in the BWF Para World badminton championship at Basil, Switzerland**



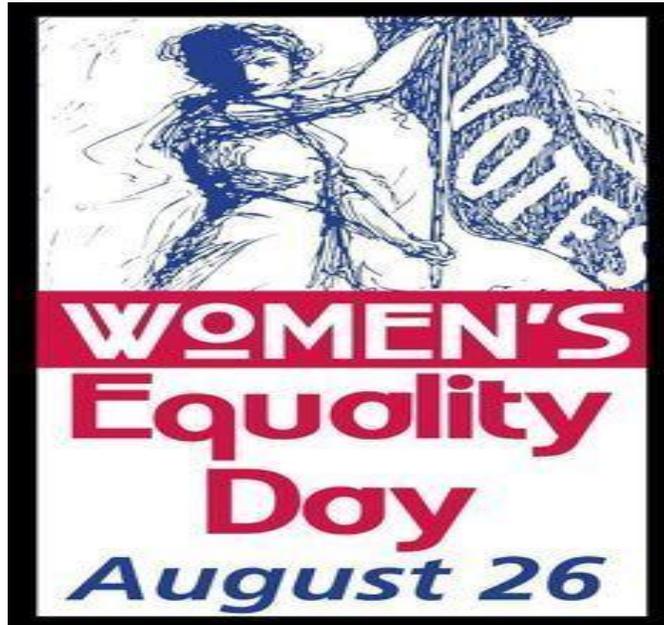
- ✓ This was the maiden title for the 30-year old, who trains at the Gopi Chand Academy in Hyderabad
- ✓ Manasi, who became a champion in her third appearance in the Worlds, had earlier won a bronze in 2017
- ◆ **Gokulam Kerala FC – defeated Mohun Bagan to lift the Durand Cup 2019**
- ✓ Mohun Bagan is a 16-time champion but lost the final match with Gokulam Kerala
- ✓ With the win, Gokulam Kerala has become second football club of Kerala to win the title after 22 years
- ✓ It was 1997 when FC Kochin won the title for the first time with I.M. Vijayan being the captain



- ✓ Marcus Joseph, Captain of Gokulam FC won the Golden Boot and Golden Ball awards. The Durand Cup, inaugurated in 1888, is Asia's oldest football tournament and a third oldest football tournament in the world
- ✓ Mohammedan Sporting Club from Kolkata was the first civilian team who won the tournament in 1940
- ✓ Mohun Bagan and East Bengal are the most successful teams with 16 wins each.

INTERNATIONAL DAY

◆ Women's Equality Day – August 26



- ✓ The day marks the passage of the 19th Amendment in the United States of America that provides voting rights to the women.
- ✓ The US congress designated the day in 1971 to be celebrated as Women's Equality Day
- ✓ In India, Madras state was granted women's suffrage (right of women to vote in elections) for the first time by the British in 1921
- ✓ The universal suffrage was granted in 1950 as voting rights to all women.
- ✓ In our constitution voting rights to women is mentioned in Article 326.
- ✓ India is on 20th position in the world in terms of representation of women in Parliament

