

EVERYDAY CURRENT AFFAIRS – DEC 5, 2019

TAMIL NADU

- ◆ **A ten-member delegation from Chongqing Province in China - held talks with officials of Tamil Nadu government and industrial bodies in Chennai**
 - ✓ The Chongqing Province had signed a sister city agreement with Chennai in 2015 during the visit of PM Narendra Modi to China.
 - ✓ This is the first visit by delegation from the Chongqing Province following the second informal summit between Prime Minister Narendra Modi and Chinese President Xi Jinping in October 2019.
 - ✓ The delegation visited the Mahindra World City and also held talks on mutual cooperation and investments with State officials.
 - ✓ As per the agreement, the Greater Chennai Corporation and the Municipality of Chongqing Province will exchange resources 'mutually' for development on education, environment, urban planning and waste management
- ◆ **SRM Institute of Science and Technology, Kattankulathur - won the Annual Swachhta Ranking Award, under the Residential University category, at the All India Council for Technical Education (AICTE).**
 - ✓ The award was presented at a function held in New Delhi on December 3.
 - ✓ The objective of the award is to focus on the commitment of institutions towards the Swachh Bharat Abhiyaan, the Centre's flagship project.
- ◆ **The Public Works Department - has proposed to build 19 hostels in various districts, including Chennai and Tiruvallur, to help working women from economically weaker sections.**
 - ✓ The projects will be constructed with funds from Social Welfare Department, which would be running the hostels

- ✓ The Social Welfare Department is already running such hostels in different districts, including Dharmapuri, Madurai, Thoothukudi, Chennai and Cuddalore.
- ✓ Each of these hostels, which would accommodate 50 persons, will be built at a cost of nearly ₹1 crore each
- ✓ Women who earn up to ₹25,000 a month in Chennai and nearly ₹15,000 in other districts are eligible for admissions in these hostels

STATES

◆ **The Gujarat cabinet - made helmets “temporarily” optional for two-wheeler riders in all cities and towns in municipal areas**

- ✓ Earlier, Gujarat became the first state to adopt the amended Motor Vehicles Act with reduced fines for several traffic violations.
- ✓ Before the amended act came into force on September 16, the fine was Rs100 for each offence, which was later revised to Rs 500
- ✓ However, it will be mandatory to wear a helmet while riding a two-wheeler on National, state highways and panchayat roads

◆ **Chief Minister Arvind Kejriwal - announced the installation of 11,000 hotspots across Delhi as part of the free Wi-Fi scheme on December 4**

- ✓ The scheme was promised by the Aam Aadmi Party (AAP) in its 2015 manifesto.
- ✓ The announcement would make the AAP the only party to fulfill all the schemes proposed by a political party prior to contesting elections in the Capital.

NATIONAL

◆ **The Union Cabinet - cleared a revised Citizenship (Amendment) Bill, 2019 (CAB) on December 4**

- ✓ The bill seeks to amend the Citizenship Act, 1955 and provide Indian citizenship for six minorities from Pakistani, Bangladeshi and Afghanistan who entered India on or before December 31, 2014, to escape religious persecution.
- ✓ The six minorities, Hindu, Sikh, Christian, Parsi, Jain and Buddhist immigrants, belonging to three muslim-majority countries shall be eligible for Indian citizenship from the date of their entry into the country
- ✓ However, the latest draft excludes the tribal areas of Assam, Meghalaya, Mizoram and Tripura covered under the Sixth Schedule of the Constitution as well as areas where Inner Line Permit is applicable (viz., states of Arunachal Pradesh, Mizoram and Nagaland)
- ✓ Citizens of other States require ILP to visit the three States (viz., states of Arunachal Pradesh, Mizoram and Nagaland) as per the Bengal Eastern Frontier Regulation, 1873

- ✓ The CAB, 2019, seeks to insert a proviso in Section 2(1)(b) of the Citizenship Act 1955, mentioning that such immigrants who are exempted by the Centre under the Passport (Entry into India) Act, 1920 and Foreigners Act, 1946, “shall not be treated as illegal migrants for the purposes of the Citizenship Act”.
- ✓ The Bill also proposes to protect the applicants under this category from all pending legal cases.
- ✓ At present, it is mandatory for a person to stay in the country for at least 11 years to get citizenship of India.
- ✓ The new bill will enable people from these minority communities to get Indian citizenship within 6 years of stay
- ✓ The new reworked bill will be introduced in Parliament for the approval in Rajya Sabha on December 9.
- ✓ The bill was first time introduced in the Lok Sabha on 19 July 2016 and was referred to the Joint Parliamentary Committee on 12 August 2016, which submitted its report on 7 January 2019
- ✓ The earlier form of the Bill was cleared by the Lok Sabha on 8 January 2019, but could not be introduced in the Upper house that time.
- ✓ During that time, northeastern states protested against the Bill as it will nullify the provisions of the Assam Accord of 1985, which fixed March 24, 1971, as the cut-off date for deportation of all illegal immigrants, irrespective of religion.
- ✓ The National Register of Citizens (NRC) in Assam was updated as per the accord.
- ✓ In such a scenario, the immediate beneficiaries of this amendment would be the non-Muslim people out of the over 19 lakh people who were excluded from Assam’s National Register of Citizens (NRC) published on August 31.

◆ **The Government - has decided to expand the definition of ‘care-givers’ under the Maintenance and Welfare of Parents and Senior Citizens Act, 2007**

- ✓ It has now included, apart from biological children, even sons-in-law and daughters-in-law responsible for looking after family members.

ADOPTED CHILDREN & STEP KIDS TO BE INCLUDED IN ACT

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ The Maintenance and Welfare of Parents and Senior Citizens Act, 2007, will remove the cap of Rs 10,000 as maximum maintenance ➤ Definition of ‘maintenance’ will include housing, safety and security ➤ Will include adopted children as well as stepsons and daughters ➤ Care-givers can 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ be jailed up to 6 months, instead of current 3 months, in case of any violation ➤ Application for monthly allowance for maintenance to be disposed of within 90 days from the date of receipt of the application by the tribunal ➤ Such application to disposed of within 60 days in case of senior citizens who are over 80 years
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- ✓ The amendments to the Act was cleared by the Union Cabinet on December 4
- ✓ The Act has been expanded to include parents-in-law and grandparents, whether or not senior citizens.
- ✓ The bill proposes to remove the cap of Rs 10,000 as maximum maintenance
- ✓ It is likely to be brought to Parliament next week
- ✓ Care-givers who are not complying with the new provisions will face a jail term of up to 6 months instead of the current maximum of 3 months.
- ✓ The definition of “maintenance” has also been proposed to be expanded to include housing, safety and security.
- ✓ The quantum of maintenance may be decided on the basis of earning and standard of living of senior citizens and parents, children and relatives.
- ✓ The proposed changes also seeks to include adoptive children and stepsons and daughters
- ✓ The amendment proposes provision for registration of “Senior Citizens Care Homes” and the Centre will prescribe minimum standards for establishment, running and maintenance.
- ✓ Every police station will have to appoint a nodal officer to help out the senior citizens.

◆ **The Government - has set up a committee to suggest necessary amendments to the Indian Penal Code (IPC) and Code of Criminal Procedure (CrPC) to deal with certain crimes like mob lynching and has started a consultation process with the states.**

- ✓ A group of ministers was constituted to work on a law to specifically handle cases of lynching and make recommendations.
- ✓ Lynching incidents can be dealt with under Section 300 and 302 of IPC.
- ✓ Offence under Section 302 (murder) attracts maximum punishment of death or imprisonment for life besides fine

◆ **The Union Cabinet - approved a proposal to extend reservation for Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes in the Lok Sabha and State Assemblies for 10 years**

- ✓ The provisions for reservation for SCs/STs and Anglo- Indians are extended under Article 334 (a) and (b) of the Constitution
- ✓ Two members of the Anglo Indian community have been nominated in the Lok Sabha since the adoption of the Constitution, under article 334(b)
- ✓ However, there is no clear information from the Government whether it has extended reservation for two seats in the Lok Sabha for the Anglo-Indian community.

◆ **The Union Cabinet - approved the introduction of the Personal Data Protection Bill in Parliament on December 4**

- ✓ The draft bill, the Personal Data Protection Bill, 2018, was prepared by a high-level expert committee, which was headed by former Supreme Court judge B.N. Srikrishna
- ✓ The Bill mentions the broad guidelines on the collection, storage, and processing of personal data, the consent of individuals, penalties and compensation, and a code of conduct.
- ✓ The draft Bill classifies 'sensitive personal data' as including passwords, financial data, health data, sex life, sexual orientation, biometric data, genetic data, transgender status, intersex status, caste or tribe, and religious or political belief or affiliation
- ✓ As per the bill, such sensitive personal data can be processed only with the explicit consent of the person, and this consent needs to be informed, clear, and specific, as defined by the Bill itself.
- ✓ Personal data is to be stored in India, but can be processed outside with the consent of the person.
- ✓ The Personal Data Protection Bill is likely to be introduced in Parliament during the ongoing Winter session.

◆ **The Rajya Sabha - approves the bill to merge the union territories of Dadra and Nagar Haveli and Daman and Diu on December 3, 2019**

- ✓ The Lok Sabha had passed the bill earlier on November 27.
- ✓ The bill is aimed to ensure better utilization of manpower, boost administrative efficiency, reduce expenditure and enable better monitoring and implementation of schemes
- ✓ The name of the new Union Territory will be the 'Union Territory of Dadra and Nagar Haveli & Daman and Diu'.
- ✓ It will fall under the jurisdiction of the Bombay High Court.
- ✓ Earlier, Union Minister of State for Home Affairs, G.D. Kishan Reddy had introduced the bill in the Lok Sabha on November 27, 2019
- ✓ The Union Territory of Dadra and Nagar Haveli currently has only one district, while the Daman and Diu UT has 2 districts.
- ✓ There is only a distance of 35 km between the two islands and both have a different budget for their expenses.
- ✓ Daman and Diu have two districts while Dadra Nagar Haveli has one district.
- ✓ The new union territory will be allocated two Lok Sabha seats
- ✓ Both the union territories were ruled by the Portuguese for a long time.
- ✓ Daman & Diu was freed from Portuguese rule in December 1961.
- ✓ It remained part of the Goa Union Territory till 1987, before becoming separate when Goa became a full state.
- ✓ Dadra and Nagar Haveli became independent on August 2, 1954 and later joined India in 1961.

INDIA AND OTHER COUNTRIES

- ◆ **Prime Minister Narendra Modi and President Ram Nath Kovind – held meetings with the King of Sweden Carl XVI Gustaf and Queen Silvia, who were on a five-day visit in India**



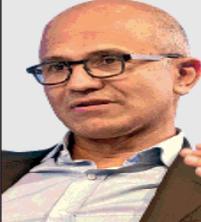
- ✓ During the visit, three agreements were signed between both the countries for cooperation in the fields of polar science, innovation & research and safety in maritime environment.
- ✓ India is the third-largest trade partner in Sweden after China and Japan in Asia

PERSONALITIES

- ◆ **Sundar Pichai — to take over as the CEO of Alphabet, the parent company of search engine giant Google.**

- ✓ The move follows after Larry Page and Sergey Brin, who co-founded Google in 1998, have decided to step down from their executive roles at Alphabet.
- ✓ Page was serving as Alphabet CEO and Brin as its president.
- ✓ Page and Brin were not involving much in day-to-day operations since 2015 when they turned Google into Alphabet, a holding company that includes the self-driving car company Waymo under its umbrella.
- ✓ Page and Brin, who are both 46, will still remain directors on Alphabet's board and the company's two largest individual shareholders.
- ✓ They both still retain a majority of the company's voting shares, eventually giving them effective control over the board and ensure their say over the company's future.
- ✓ Pichai, 47, has been the face of Google as CEO of its main business since 2015
- ✓ Google has a sales value of \$128 billion, second only to Microsoft's \$137 billion
- ✓ Sundar Pichai, an alumnus of IIT-Kharagpur, who also holds an MS from Stanford and MBA from Wharton, joined Google in 2004
- ✓ During the beginning of his career, he started work on the development of the Chrome browser, Gmail and Google Maps.

Sundar Pichai's elevation to the top job at Alphabet, the parent company of Google, means it is yet another Indian-origin person now at the helm of a global business giant. Here's a look at some of the key members of this club

 <p>Sundar Pichai Alphabet Date of Appointment: Dec 4, 2019 Position: CEO</p> <p>Compensation \$200m in 2016</p>	 <p>Satya Nadella Microsoft Appointment: Feb 4, 2014 Position: CEO</p> <p>Compensation \$43m in 2019</p>	 <p>Shantanu Narayen Adobe Appointment: Nov 1, 2007 Position: Chairman & President/CEO</p> <p>Compensation \$22m in 2017</p>
 <p>Ajay Banga Mastercard Appointment: July 1, 2010 Position: President/CEO</p> <p>Compensation \$19m in 2017</p>	 <p>Ivan Menezes Diageo Appointment: July 1, 2013 Position: CEO/Executive Director</p> <p>Compensation €12m</p>	

HOW THE STOCK PERFORMED UNDER THEM

Company	Appointment date	Price on appointment date (\$)	Latest price (\$)	% Rise
Microsoft	Feb 4, 2014	32	149	370
Adobe	Nov 1, 2007	47	304	548
Mastercard	July 1, 2010	19	287	1,396
Google	Aug 10, 2015	634	1,295	104
Diageo	July 1, 2013	97	162	68

- ✓ In 2013 he started overseeing Android, the operating system for smartphones, which has been key to Google's continued success from desktops to the mobile era.
- ✓ Currently, over 85% of smartphones shipped globally use Android
- ✓ In 2015, Sundar Pichai became the CEO of Google and in 2017 he was included on the Board of directors of parent company Alphabet.
- ✓ Alphabet is the third-largest company in the world (after Apple and Microsoft) with a market capitalization of USD 893 billion (Rs 64 lakh crore)

SCIENCE, TECHNOLOGY & ENVIRONMENT

- ◆ **Nasa- is attaching a "Robot hotel" to the outside of the International Space Station with the upcoming launch of the Robotic Tool Stowage (RiTS), a protective storage unit for critical robotic tools**



Robots need a place to stay in space, too. 🤖

NASA is attaching a "robot hotel" to the outside of the @Space_Station. The protective storage unit for critical robotic tools is set to launch on Dec. 4 aboard the 19th SpaceX commercial resupply mission: go.nasa.gov/2YfjQLC



3,775 12:00 PM - Dec 4, 2019

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- ✓ RiTS is set to be launched on December 5 aboard the 19th SpaceX commercial resupply mission.
- ✓ Its first residents will be two Robotic External Leak Locators (RELL).
- ✓ These robotic tools are fitted with mass spectrometers to detect the presence of gases such as 'ammonia' and hence are used to detect leaks from the station.
- ✓ Two RELL units are on board the station right now - the first RELL was launched in 2015, and a second RELL was launched as a backup earlier this year.
- ✓ For each of its stored tools, RiTS will be capable of providing heat and physical protection from radiation and micrometeoroids, or tiny, high-speed objects hurtling through space
- ✓ Its thermal system also assist in maintaining ideal temperatures for the instruments, helping them stay functional
- ✓ This housing unit will also help the space station's robotic arm, Dextre, to easily locate, grab and put back these important tools

DEFENCE

◆ India - has asked France to fit the first four Rafale fighters with the top-notch 'meteor' air-to-air missiles

- ✓ These missiles have a strike range of 120 to 150-km and can destroy any missile that can be launched by Pakistani or Chinese jets.
- ✓ The first Rafale fighters will touch down at the Ambala airbase in May, 2020.

- ✓ The request for at least 8-10 Meteor Beyond visual range (BVR) missiles to be delivered with the first four Rafale jets was conveyed to France during defence minister Rajnath Singh's visit to France
- ✓ The defence minister was in France to formally accept the first fighter at Merignac in the Bordeaux region on October 8.
- ✓ As per the Rs 59,000 crore deal inked for 36 Rafale jets and their weapon packages in September 2016, the phased deliveries of the Meteor and the over 300-km range Scalp air-to-ground cruise missiles were to begin several months later

SPORTS

◆ Indian men - defeated Pakistan in the South Asian Games tennis competition in Kathmandu on December 4



- ✓ The Indian women's team too clinched the crown as they blanked Sri Lanka in the final

