

## EVERYDAY CURRENT AFFAIRS – NOV 12, 2019

### TAMIL NADU

- ◆ **Deputy chief minister O Panneerselvam - was decorated with the 'International Rising Star of the Year Asia' Award by the Multi Ethnic Advisory Task Force in Chicago**



- ✓ The award was presented to him at the Global Community Oscars, 2019 on November 11
- ✓ The Deputy CM is currently on an official tour in the US
- ◆ **Justice Amreshwar Pratap Sahi - was sworn in as the Chief Justice of the Madras High Court by Governor Banwarilal Purohit in the Raj Bhavan on November 11**

- ✓ Chief Minister Edappadi K. Palaniswami and Acting Chief Justice of the Madras High Court Vineet Kothari were present during the ceremony along with other dignitaries



- ✓ Justice Sahi was serving as Chief Justice of the Patna High Court from November 17, 2018 till he was announced to head the Chennai High court
- ✓ Justice Sahi graduated in law in 1985 and started his practice at the Allahabad High Court on civil and constitutional law.
- ✓ He became an Additional Judge of the Allahabad High Court on September 24, 2004, and later as a permanent judge of the court on August 18, 2005.

# NATIONAL

## ◆ **A tribunal headed by a Delhi high court judge - has confirmed the five-year ban imposed by the Centre on the Liberation Tigers of Tamil Eelam (LTTE) after hearing all the stakeholders**

- ✓ The tribunal was set up by the government on May 27 under the Unlawful Activities (Prevention) Act (UAPA) to decide whether to continue the ban on the terror organization.
- ✓ The tribunal was headed by Justice Sangita Dhingra Sehgal
- ✓ India banned the LTTE after the assassination of former Prime Minister Rajiv Gandhi in 1991.
- ✓ Since then, the Centre has been imposing a ban on the terror group every five years.
- ✓ Earlier, the ministry of home affairs (MHA) extended the ban on LTTE for five years on May 14, 2014.
- ✓ The LTTE, a terror outfit based in Sri Lanka but with a broad base of agents, supporters, and sympathisers in India, was launched in 1976.

## ◆ **Suranga Bawadi – is included in the World Monument Watch list for 2020 along with 24 other monuments from across the world.**



- ✓ It is an integral part of the ancient Karez system of supplying water through subterranean tunnels, which was built during Adil Shahi era in Karnataka
  - ✓ The monument has been chosen under the “Ancient Water System of the Deccan Plateau” by the World Monuments Fund (the NGO), which monitors restoration of ancient monuments across the globe.
  - ✓ Though the Karez underground system was built in the 16th century by Ali Adil Shah-I, his successor, Ibrahim Adil Shah-II, strengthened it with more structures.
- ## ◆ **The National Green Tribunal - recommended the central government to pay compensation or a stipend to the daily wage labourers in Delhi-NCR**
- ✓ The Supreme Court of India had banned all construction and demolition activities in Delhi-NCR till further orders on November 4, after the air pollution level hit the 'severe' category in the region

- ✓ The NGT bench headed by Chairperson Justice Adarsh Kumar Goel observed that the daily-wage workers are worst-affected from the ban, as they depend on construction sites to make a living.

## COMMITTEES

### ◆ **Rajya Sabha chairman Venkaiah Naidu - has nominated former PM Manmohan Singh to the parliamentary standing committee on finance replacing Digvijaya Singh**

- ✓ Digvijaya Singh has now been nominated to the standing committee on urban development
- ✓ Digvijaya Singh resigned from the finance committee claiming that he had been on the panel for a long time
- ✓ Former PM. Manmohan Singh, who was finance minister between 1991 and 1996, was a member of the Committee from September 2014 to May 2019 before his tenure in the Rajya Sabha ended in June
- ✓ In August, he was elected unopposed to the Rajya Sabha from Rajasthan.

### ◆ **The Union Water Resources Ministry - has finalised a committee to draft a new National Water Policy (NWP).**

- ✓ It will be chaired by Mihir Shah, who is a former Planning Commission member and a renowned water expert.
- ✓ The committee has 10 principal members, which includes Shashi Shekhar, a former secretary of Water Resources, and A.B. Pandya, former chairman of the Central Ground Water Board.
- ✓ The committee is expected to table the report within six months.
- ✓ The NWP currently in force was drafted in the year 2012
- ✓ The policy will incorporate an Integrated Water Resources Management approach that took the “river basin/ sub-basin” as a unit for planning, development and management of water resources.
- ✓ It also proposed to set aside a portion of river flows to meet ecological needs.

## SCIENCE, TECHNOLOGY & ENVIRONMENT

### ◆ **NASA's Voyager-2 spacecraft - has become the second spacecraft to reach the interstellar space, which is outside the periphery of the solar system.**

- ✓ Earlier, only Voyager-1 of NASA reached near interstellar space in 2012
- ✓ Interstellar space or heliopause is a place where warm and low-density plasma of solar winds always remains along with the cold and dense solar winds
- ✓ Voyager-2 was launched on August 20, 1977 and later on September 5, 1977, Voyager-1 was launched

✓ Voyager-1 is the farthest man-made object from the earth, as of now, at a distance of 13.76 billion miles from Earth

◆ **Sudan's first-ever satellite, SRSS-1, was launched by China recently from the Taiyuan Satellite Launch Center in Shanxi Province in north China.**

✓ The remote-sensing satellite has been launched to conduct research in economic, military and space technology.

✓ Sudan's remote-sensing satellite, SRSS-1, was developed by the Shenzhen Aerospace Oriental Red Sea Satellite Co, China

✓ The satellite was launched aboard China's Long March-4B rocket along with other Chinese satellites including Gaofen 7, Xiaoxiang-1 08 and Whampoa 1

✓ Sudan's now-ousted leader Omar al-Bashir had established the Institute of Space Research and Aerospace to develop space technologies in 2013.

✓ Sudan is also planning to launch its communication satellite, SUDASAT-1 into space soon.

◆ **Dhruv Prajapati, an Ahmedabad Ecologist - has discovered two new species of Asian jumping spiders.**

✓ He named these species - 'Marengo Sachin Tendulkar' and 'Inomarengo Chavarapatera.'

✓ Dhruv is a researcher in the Gujarat Ecological Education & Research (GEER) Foundation.

✓ Inomarengo Chavarapatera spider was located in Kerala while Marengo Sachin Tendulkar was belonging to Gujarat, Tamil Nadu and Kerala.

◆ **Defence Research & Development Organisation's (DRDO) Igniter complex -was recently inaugurated at the High Energy Materials Research Laboratory (HEMRL) in Pune.**

✓ The ignition process is the most important and highly critical phase in the ignition chain of Rocket motor.

✓ This ignition centre consists of several facilities like Planetary Mixer, Pelleting Machine, Granulating Machine and Sieve Shaker.

## AWARDS

◆ **Renewable energy company Siemens Gamesa - has received the prestigious Deming Medal from JUSE**



- ✓ The company received the award during the official Deming prize award ceremony that took place at Keidanren Kaikan – the head office of Japan Business Federation in Tokyo, Japan.
- ✓ With the honour, Siemens Gamesa becomes the first wind energy company in the world to have won this quality award
- ✓ The company has received the coveted honour for delivering exceptional performance through Total Quality Management (TQM) at its industrial operations across all the four of its manufacturing units in India.

## SPORTS

- ◆ **Indian cricketer, Yuzvendra Chahal - has become the fastest Indian bowler to take 50 T20I wickets during the 3rd T20I between India and Bangladesh at the VCA Stadium in Nagpur.**



- ✓ Chahal also became the third Indian bowler and 32<sup>nd</sup> overall to reach the milestone of 50 T20I wickets.
- ✓ Only Jasprit Bumrah and R Ashwin have crossed the milestone before him
- ✓ Chahal was the fastest to achieve the feat in his 34th innings, while Bumrah took 42 innings and Ashwin took 46 innings.
- ✓ Chahal became the fifth fastest bowler to take 50 T20I wickets, after Ajantha Mendis, Imran Tahir, Rashid Khan and Mustafizur Rahman.

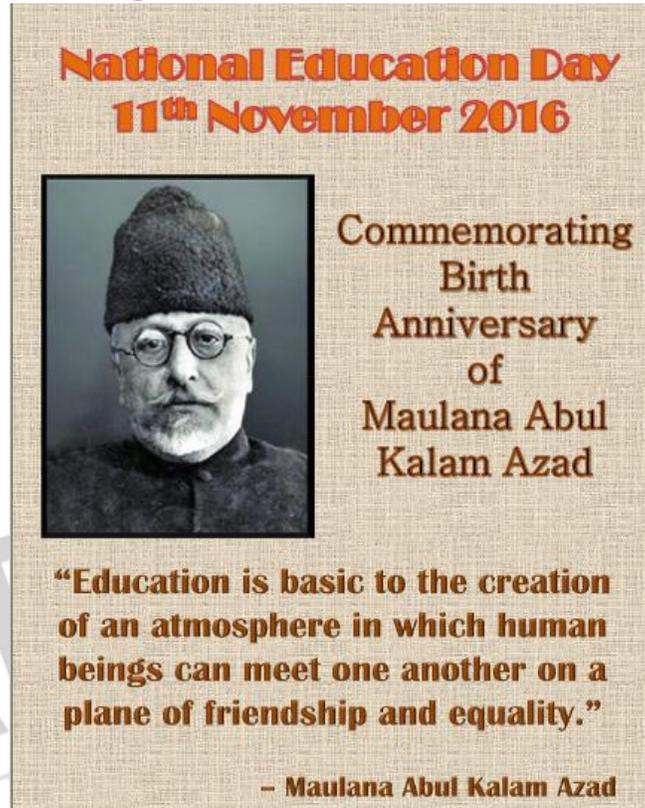
## RANKINGS

- ◆ **China - was ranked as the world's worst abuser of internet freedom for the fourth consecutive year with an overall score of just 10 in the 'Freedom on the Net' report 2019.**
- ✓ The Freedom on the Net report 2019 titled 'The Crisis of Social Media' was released by an international internet watchdog, the Freedom House, recently
- ✓ Iceland was recorded as the world's best protector of internet freedom, as no civil or criminal cases were registered against the citizens for online expression during the coverage period.
- ✓ Iceland was ranked the highest with an overall score of 95
- ✓ India was given an overall score of 55 in the report and the internet freedom status in the country was reported to be 'partly free'
- ✓ Pakistan was declared as 'not free' in terms of internet freedom status for the ninth consecutive year with a score of just 26
- ✓ The report evaluated 65 countries and 33 among them showed an overall decline in internet freedom since June 2018.

- ✓ Some of the countries that showed the biggest decline in internet freedom include Sudan, Kazakhstan, Brazil, Bangladesh and Zimbabwe.
- ✓ The country that witnessed the biggest improvement in its internet freedom score in 2019 included Ethiopia.

## NATIONAL DAY

### ◆ National Education Day – November 11



- ✓ The day honours the birth anniversary Maulana Abul Kalam Azad, who was born on this day in the year 1888
- ✓ On this day, various programs and campaigns were organized to spread awareness about education and make every person literate.
- ✓ Maulana Abul Kalam Azad served as the first Education Minister of India from 1947 to 1958 in Pandit Jawaharlal Nehru's cabinet
- ✓ He established the University Grants Commission (UGC) after India's independence on 28 December 1953.
- ✓ He had also established IISc, School of Architecture and Planning apart from being the brain behind the modern-day IITs

## SIGNIFICANCE OF THE DAY

➤ **National Education Day** commemorates the birth anniversary of **Maulana Abul Kalam Azad**, the first education minister of independent India

➤ On September 11, 2008, the MHRD had announced, that it would commemorate his birthday by recalling his contribution to the cause of



education in India. November 11 every year, from 2008 onwards, will be celebrated as the National Education Day, without declaring it a holiday

➤ Educational institutions are needed to hold seminars, symposia, elocution competitions, workshops and rallies with banner cards and slogans

- ✓ He founded the Sangeet Natak Akademi (1953), Sahitya Akademi (1954) and Lalit Kala Akademi (1954) to promote education and culture in the country
- ✓ Maulana Azad was the youngest, at the age of 35, president of the Indian National Congress
- ✓ During the British Rule, Maulana Abul Kalam Azad set up secret revolutionary centres throughout North India and Bombay within 2 years after meeting two of Bengal's leading revolutionaries Arvind Ghosh and Shri Shyam Sundar Chakraborty
- ✓ In 1912, Maulana Abul Kalam Azad started a weekly Urdu newspaper called 'Al-Hilal' to promote the feeling of patriotism among Muslims
- ✓ He was awarded the country's highest honour, Bharat Ratna in 1992 for his contribution as a freedom fighter and educationist

