



EVERYDAY CURRENT AFFAIRS – NOV 5, 2019

TAMIL NADU

- **The Tamil Nadu government – to establish a new Veterinary College and Research Institute (VCRI) on Thalivasal Koot Road in Salem city**
- ✓ The college will offer Bachelor of Veterinary Science and Animal Husbandry course with an annual admission of 80 students per year from the academic year 2020-21
- ✓ The proposed Institute will come up at the proposed site for establishment of Advanced Institute for Integrated Research in Livestock and Animal Sciences.
- ✓ The government will allocate a budget of ₹82.13 crore for the infrastructure facilities in the Institute.
- ✓ Currently, TN Veterinary and Animal Sciences University (TANUVAS) admits 360 students in Madras Veterinary College, VCRI Namakkal, Tirunelveli and Thanjavur.
- ✓ The government has proposed to increase the seats to 440 from the 2022-23 academic year onwards, due to the growing demand for veterinary education programme in the State
- ✓ Salem district is the home to rich animal resources with 5.58 lakh cattle, 79,841 buffaloes, 3.45 lakh sheep, 4.49 lakh goats, and 43.60 lakh poultry.
- ✓ The district produces around 3.8 lakh litre of milk per day during peak season.
- ✓ Further, 20.70 lakh poultry chicks were produced in the district out of which 9.31 lakh were sold for breeding

STATES

- **Bihar Government - has announced a ban on government vehicles older than 15 years to tackle the increasing pollution in the state**
- ✓ It had banned all commercial vehicles older than 15 years in the capital Patna.

- ✓ Also, all private vehicles older than 15 years will have to undergo pollution checks compulsorily
- ✓ Bihar's capital Patna is among the top 10 cities with the highest air pollution in the country.

NATIONAL

- **India – has decided to drop out of the Regional Comprehensive Economic Partnership (RCEP) on November 4**

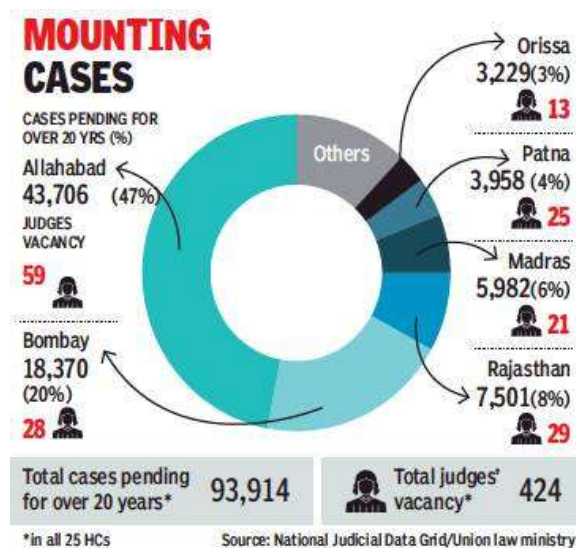
NO BUFFER AGAINST CHINESE IMPORTS	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ RCEP (Regional Comprehensive Economic Partnership) attempts to establish the world's largest free trade bloc, comprising as many as 16 countries ➤ Key negotiation item was reduction or elimination of import duty on nearly 90% goods. In case of China, India was looking to allow zero-duty imports of around 80% of goods 	WHY DID INDIA OPT OUT? <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Fear of surge in Chinese imports, including re-routing of goods via other RCEP countries 2. Reluctance of other countries to move base year from 2014 to a more recent year to reflect latest duty 3. No safeguard measures to check against import surge 4. No credible commitment on non-tariff barriers 5. Inadequate attention to services

- ✓ The decision was announced by the PM Modi at the RCEP Summit in Thailand
- ✓ India has been negotiating the 6-nation ASEAN (Association for South East Asian Nations)-led RCEP (Regional Comprehensive Economic Partnership) or Free Trade Agreement for the past seven years, in a bid to create what could have been the world's largest trading bloc.
- ✓ This is the second time that the government has taken a tough stand on global trade issues.
- ✓ Earlier in 2014, soon after taking charge, India had threatened to walk out of the WTO's Bali package, which could have affected the country's food procurement programme.
- ✓ This time, the main issue was the gradual elimination of tariffs, which will pave way for the Chinese goods and agricultural produce from Oceania to flood the Indian market, harming local producers
- ✓ Without RCEP, India will now focus on bilateral trade deals with key countries in the Asian region
- ✓ India has already identified Indonesia, Vietnam, Australia, Japan and Singapore as its key economic partners in this region
- ✓ India's Asean FTA will continue, which is being re-negotiated, as are the ones with Thailand and even South Korea

- **The Income tax department - to launch a facility to instantly issue permanent account number (PAN) online, with the details available in the Aadhaar database**
 - ✓ The service is expected to be launched within the next few weeks
 - ✓ The electronic PAN (ePAN) facility would help those with an existing PAN get a duplicate in a matter of minutes without any expenditure involved.
 - ✓ Since the data provided in Aadhaar such as address, father's name and date of birth are accessed online by the IT department, there will be no requirement to upload any document apart from basic information.
- **Union minister of social justice and empowerment Thaawarchand Gehlot - to launch an indigenously designed standing wheelchair which enables a person on a wheelchair to stand without any help.**



- ✓ It will be launched by IIT Madras in collaboration with Phoenix Medical System on November 5
- ✓ The wheelchair called Arise, was designed and developed by TTK Centre for Rehabilitation Research and Device Development (R2D2) at IIT Madras
- **The country's largest HC, Allahabad high court - accounts for 47% or 44,000 cases pending for more than 20 years in the entire country**



- ✓ There are 94,000 cases pending for more than 20 years in 25 high courts in the entire country
- ✓ The Allahabad high court functions at 63% of its sanctioned strength of 160 judges, which is a key reason for pendency, besides lack of administrative reforms in courts
- ✓ As on November 1, there are 40% judges posts vacant in these high courts on a sanctioned strength of 1,079 judges.
- ✓ The five other HCs which also have over 20-year old cases include the HCs of Bombay, Rajasthan, Madras, Patna and Orissa.
- ✓ Together these 6 high courts have 82,746 cases pending for more than two decades, accounting for 88% of all such pendency.
- ✓ Though the Supreme Court is currently functioning at its full strength, it also has 59,600 cases pending disposal
- ✓ Overall, there are 44.62 lakh cases pending in 25 HCs across the country, again the highest in the Allahabad HC where the pendency is at an all-time high of 7.31 lakh cases

SUPREME COURT VERDICT

- **The Supreme Court - directed UP, Haryana and Punjab governments to immediately stop stubble burning in their states or face contempt proceedings.**
- ✓ A Bench of Justices Arun Mishra and Deepak Gupta has banned all construction and demolition till further orders, prescribing a fine of ₹1lakh for violations.
- ✓ It also prohibited the use of diesel-run generators and directed the states to ensure round-the-clock electricity supply.
- ✓ The apex court has been monitoring Delhi's air pollution all along and passing orders such as banning polluting firecrackers and introducing cleaner fuel in a bid to clean the air

INDIA AND NEIGHBOURS

- **Alliance Air - is set to start commercial flights from Chennai to Jaffna on November 11.**
- ✓ The airline, a wholly owned subsidiary of Air India, launched the inaugural international flight between Chennai International airport and Jaffna international airport on October 17.
- ✓ The regular flights will be operated on thrice a week on Mondays, Wednesdays and Saturdays.
- ✓ The flight provides an opportunity for the Tamil community in Sri Lanka to travel to Chennai to visit pilgrimage centres in the state.

- ✓ Sri Lankans used to take the route of Colombo-Jaffna-Chennai to travel to southeast Asia via Chennai before the civil war.
 - ✓ Alliance Air is the first international air service undertaken to Jaffna after the airport was opened almost 40 years after civil war.
 - ✓ Jaffna has several Hindu and Buddhist pilgrimage sites which includes Kadurugoda temple, Nagapooshani Amman Kovil and Nagadeepa Purana Viharaya.
 - ✓ The city celebrates the 25-day long Nallur festival in July and Nainativu, one of the 16 most sacred pilgrimage sites in Sri Lanka, is among some of the attractions in the city.
 - ✓ Jaffna Library, Delft island where around 2,000 wild horses roam, and Chundikulam bird sanctuary are other tourist attractions in Jaffna
- **Pakistan - did not participate in the inaugural session of the Shanghai Cooperation Organisation (SCO) joint exercise on urban earthquake and rescue in Delhi.**
- ✓ The session was addressed by Union Home Minister Amit Shah
 - ✓ Being a member of SCO, Pakistan is expected to participate in the drill being organised by the National Disaster Response Force from November 5 to 7.
 - ✓ The joint exercise would be helpful in developing understanding among counterpart teams to tackle any disaster situation

AWARDS

- **A BBC documentary on Real Kashmir - won the 'Single Documentary' category award at the prestigious British Academy of Film and Television Arts (BAFTA) film awards in Scotland.**



- ✓ The documentary was nominated in two categories — it's director Greg Clark was nominated in the 'Director-Factual' category but missed out to Matt Pinder, who was adjudged winner for his film 'Murder Case'.

- ✓ The hour-long documentary was made at a budget of approximately 120,000 pounds (1 crore 4 lakh)
- ✓ The storyline of the documentary revolves around Aberdeen and Rangers legend, David Robertson, who is the chief coach of Real Kashmir.
- ✓ The story is about Robertson's journey from Scotland to Kashmir, and how he mentored aspiring footballers from the war-torn Valley and motivated them to gain success in Indian football.
- ✓ Srinagar-based football club Real Kashmir FC finished third in its debut I-League season (2018-19)
- ✓ David Robertson joined Real Kashmir as Coach in January 2017

SPORTS

- **Grandmasters SP Sethuraman (from Chennai) and Sandipan Chanda - finished joint third at the 23rd Open International Bavarian Chess Championships which concluded in Tegernsee, Germany**



- ✓ Ukraine GMs — Vitaliy Bernadskiy and Pavel Eljanov — won the first and second spots respectively.
- **India 'B' - defeated favorites India 'C' in the final of Deodhar Trophy at JSCA International Cricket Stadium in Ranchi**



- ✓ Opting to bat in the final, India-B overcame a slow start to post 283 for seven and then restricted India-C for 232 for nine.
 - ✓ Shubman Gill, 20-year-old, has become the youngest player to captain India-C team in the final of the Deodhar Trophy
 - ✓ Shubman Gill was 20 years and 57 days old during the final match
 - ✓ Gill had broken the record held by Virat Kohli, who captained the North Zone in 2009-10 when he was 21 years and 124 days old
- **National Anti-Doping Agency (Nada) – slaps a ban of 4 years to Weightlifters Ravi Kumar Katulu, Purnima Pandey, Gurmail Singh, Discus thrower Dharam Raj Yadav and 100 and 200m Sprinter Sanjeet**
- ✓ Weightlifter Ravi Kumar Katulu won gold at the 2010 Commonwealth Games (69 kg category) and a silver in 2014 (77 kg) CW Games
 - ✓ He is the reigning national champion in 89kg category
 - ✓ Ravi Kumar Katulu's urine sample has tested positive for banned substance Ostarine, a 'selective androgen receptor modulator' (SARM), which helps increase muscle mass.
 - ✓ Ostarine is an investigational drug that has not yet been approved by the US Food and Drug Administration (FDA).
 - ✓ It is mostly found in supplements used by bodybuilders and has also been tried on those who have suffered muscle wastage due to long-term illness or have been diagnosed with osteoporosis.
 - ✓ Purnima Pandey was the 2016 junior Commonwealth Championships gold-winning weightlifter
 - ✓ Discus thrower Dharam Raj Yadav was the winner of Federation Cup
 - ✓ Dharam Raj's urine sample tested positive for increased testosterone level while Purnima's sample had traces of steroids.
 - ✓ Both Ravi Kumar and Purnima, who were tested during the 71st men and 34th women senior national weightlifting championships in Vishakhapatnam in February 2019, have been banned retrospectively from the month of their sample collection.
 - ✓ Dharam Raj's ban has retrospectively started from September 19, 2018
 - ✓ Sanjeet was tested during the Inter-Services athletics championship in September last year

