

EVERYDAY CURRENT AFFAIRS – NOV 8, 2019

TAMIL NADU

- ◆ **The Chennai Smart City Limited (CSCL) - was awarded in the category of 'social innovation for accelerating transition to sustainable cities' at the Digital Transformation Award 2019 event held in New Delhi on November 6**
 - ✓ Greater Chennai Corporation and CSCL were honoured with the award for incorporating the best features of Digital transformation in four of their projects — Namma Chennai app, solar rooftop, cycle sharing system and 28 smart classrooms.
 - ✓ The projects improved the liveability and comfort by providing cutting-edge technology in service delivery by the government.
 - ✓ The Namma Chennai app was launched in 2018 as a grievance redressal app.
 - ✓ The smart class project has implemented 28 digital classrooms in 28 corporation-run schools.
 - ✓ The cycle sharing system was inaugurated in February 2019.
 - ✓ The solar rooftop project was launched by the Chief minister on August 14.
 - ✓ The awards event was organised by Governance Now, a media and public policy organization
- ◆ **Chief minister Edappadi K Palaniswami-led cabinet - cleared two new industrial projects in the energy sector, with a cumulative investment of ₹ 876 crore.**
 - ✓ The state signed memorandum of understanding (MoUs) last month with Shreevari Energy Systems Private Limited to set up a unit in Melakarandai in Tuticorin district at an investment of ₹250 crore and Vestas Wind Technology India Private Limited in Oragadam with an investment of ₹626 crore.
 - ✓ Vestas is expected to provide direct employment to 600 people and Shreevari will employ 228 people

- ✓ The government offers 100% stamp duty concession for projects proposed in southern districts.
- ✓ The companies also get a back-ended capital subsidy and electricity tax exemption on power purchased from Tangedco.

◆ **The Tamil Nadu government - will soon introduce 750ml 'Amma' water bottles and double its daily production**

LOW-COST, SAFE DRINKING WATER

The state government plans to launch 750ml bottles and double production

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> > Launched in 2011 by late CM J Jayalithaa > 310 selling points at bus stands, hospitals and public places > 80,000 one-litre plastic bottles sold everyday > Old manufacturing equipment to be replaced at ₹250 crore > Production to be more than doubled to 2lakh units a day 	 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> > Smaller version (750 ml) to be launched soon > Glass to be used instead of plastic > Cost per unit ₹5 or 7
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- ✓ Instead of plastic, these smaller bottles will be made of glass
- ✓ To reduce the wastage of 1 litre bottles, the government will sell 750ml bottles and its cost is likely to be around ₹7 a bottle.
- ✓ At present, around 80,000 one-litre bottles, each costing ₹10, are sold to bus commuters and general public everyday
- ✓ Institute of Road Transport (IRT), an agency functioning under the state transport department, will install necessary machines for manufacturing one litre and 750ml packaged drinking water at its 2.4 acre Gummidipoondi campus for the next five years.
- ✓ The low-cost mineral water scheme, launched in 2013 by late chief minister J Jayalithaa, was recently expanded to some government hospitals

NATIONAL

◆ **The government - has granted political clearance to former cricketer and politician, Navjot Singh Sidhu to travel through the Kartarpur Corridor for its inauguration on November 9**

- ✓ The clearance by the Centre followed an announcement by Pakistan that it had given a visa to Sidhu to allow him to attend the Kartarpur inauguration
- ✓ Earlier, Pakistani PM Imran Khan had invited Sidhu to attend the Kartarpur Corridor inaugural ceremony

INTERNATIONAL

◆ **The word “Climate strike” - has been crowned Collins Dictionary’s word of 2019.**

- ✓ The phrase refers to a form of protest made famous by Swedish environmentalist Greta Thunberg
- ✓ Greta’s #Fridays-For-Future movement attracted thousands of school children globally to strike protesting the lack of action by the Governments to combat climate change.
- ✓ Collins has also pointed to a range of ‘new’ key words that have emerged this year, which include “bopo”, short for body positivity, and “non-binary” in reference to people who choose not to identify as male or female and prefer “they” pronouns as opposed to “he” or “she”.
- ✓ Other words listed as ‘significant’ by the dictionary include “influencer” and “cancelled”, which refers to the act of boycotting someone on social media following something controversial they said or did
- ✓ Collins has also unveiled a “Brexicon” list of terms relating to Brexit, such as “Project Fear” and “milkshake”, which it defines as “to throw a milkshake or similar drink over a public figure in order to humiliate him or her”

INDIA AND NEIGHBOURS

◆ **The government - said its new political map accurately depicted the sovereign territory of India on November 7**

- ✓ The move follows a formal protest by Nepal against the depiction of the Kalapani area in the map as part of the Indian State of Uttarakhand.
- ✓ The Nepal government had said on November 6 that the Kalapani area situated in the country’s far-west lied within the Nepalese boundary.

DEFENCE

◆ **The ministry of defence - has placed an order for 464 units of Bhisma, the newest main-battle tanks (MBTs) that the Army is using, at a budget of ₹ 20,000 crore with the Heavy Vehicles Factory at Avadi in Chennai.**

- ✓ Once the production and delivery is complete, the Army will have over 1,500 of these Russian-origin T-90 main battle tanks
- ✓ The purchase is meant to improve the shock-and-awe capabilities of the armed forces along the western sector of the India-Pakistan border.
- ✓ According to the present production capability of the factory, which is about 120 tanks a year, it could take about 4 years for it to deliver all 464 tanks



- ✓ Pakistan is in direct talks with Russia to acquire more than 300 such tanks
- ✓ The Avadi factory has been manufacturing heavy battlefield equipment since 1961 and has also delivered the T-72 MBTs being used by the Indian Army.
- ✓ The T-90 MBT entered Russian army service in 1992.
- ✓ India signed a contract for about 300 such tanks in 2001, of which 124 were entirely built in Russia while the rest were assembled here
- ✓ The 46.5-tonne tank is powered by a 1,000HP engine and has a 125mm smoothbore gun capable of firing all types of ammunition, including laser-guided missiles to a range of up to 5km

SPORTS

- ◆ **Reigning and former world chess champions Magnus Carlsen and Viswanathan Anand - were expected to ring the customary Eden bell on one of the days during the historic day/night India-Bangladesh Test here from November 22-26.**



- ✓ Anand has already accepted the invitation and they are now awaiting the acceptance from Carlsen for the event
- ✓ The Norwegian world champion, Carlsen, would be competing in the Tata Steel Chess India - Rapid & Blitz 2019, the penultimate leg of the Grand Chess Tour.
- ✓ The day one's proceedings of the first Test will commence with Bangladesh Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina ringing the Eden Bell.
- ✓ A host of Indian sports stars including cricket icon Sachin Tendulkar, Olympic champion Abhinav Bindra, tennis star Sania Mirza, world badminton champion PV Sindhu and sixtime boxing world champion MC Mary Kom among others would be present during the Test
- ✓ The Cricket Association of Bengal (CAB) will felicitate the team members of Bangladesh-India first ever Test in 2000, a game where Sourav Ganguly, the incumbent BCCI president, made his debut as Test captain.
- ◆ **The Central Crime Branch of Bengaluru police - arrested wicketkeeper-batsman CM Gautam and left-arm spinner Abrar Kazi, both former Karnataka Ranji players, for alleged match-**

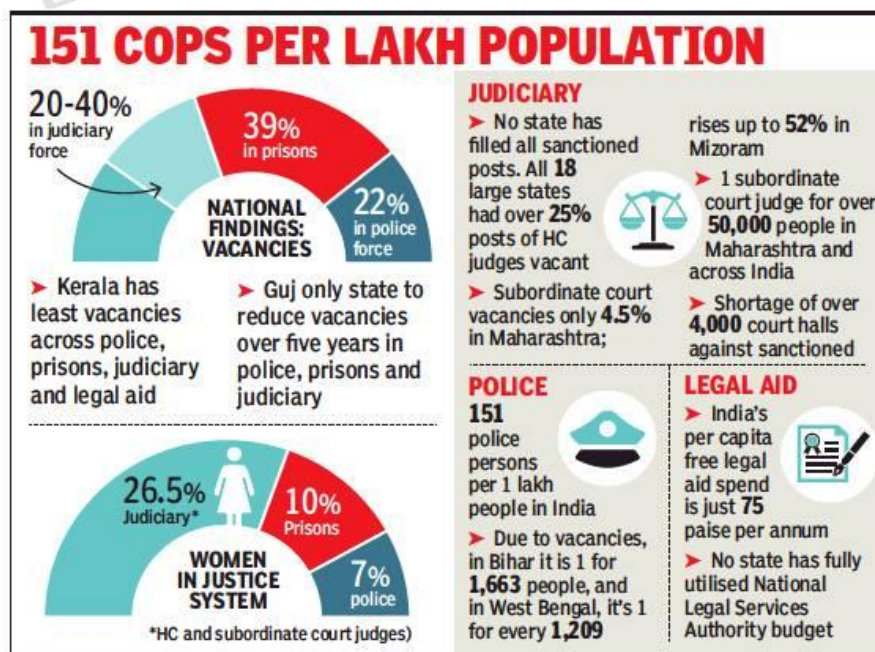
fixing and betting scam during the final of 2019 Karnataka Premier League (KPL).



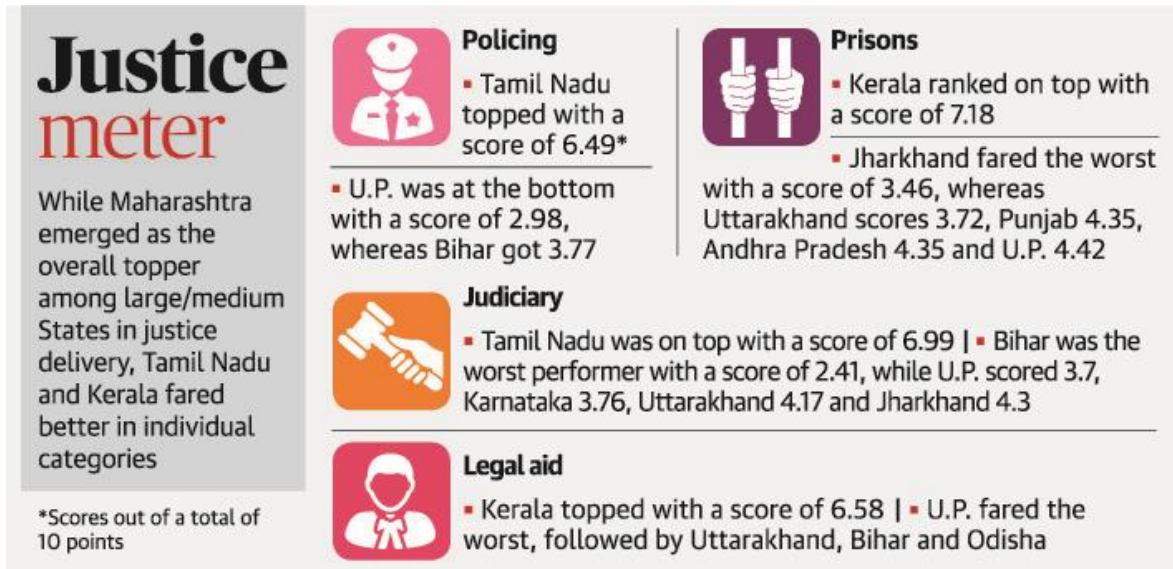
- ✓ At present, Gautam represented the Goa state team as its captain, while Kazi was a member of the Mizoram team.
- ✓ The two played together for KPL team Ballari Tuskers, which lost the final against Hubli Tigers in Mysuru on August 31.
- ✓ Gautam, who captained Tuskers, has been accused of deliberately “batting slow” in this game and taking Rs 20 lakh for the act.
- ✓ Kazi is accused of taking Rs 7.5 lakh to ‘give away’ runs in a league stage match against Bengaluru Blasters.
- ✓ Gautam, a veteran wicket keeper, previously captained the Karnataka Ranji team and shifted to Goa this season.
- ✓ He also represented India A and was a member of at least three Indian Premier League (IPL) teams, Royal Challengers Bangalore, Mumbai Indians and Delhi Daredevils

RANKINGS

- ◆ **Maharashtra - has topped the list of 18 large-medium States for justice delivery in the country in the first-ever such ranking comprising performances in police, prison, judiciary and legal aid—the four pillars of justice**



- ✓ Kerala and TN were ranked second and third, followed by Punjab and Haryana in the India Justice Report, 2019, released on November 7
- ✓ In this category, Jharkhand, Bihar and Uttar Pradesh are at the bottom
- ✓ Maharashtra scored a high of 5.92 out of 10, while Kerala scored 5.85 and TN 5.76.



- ✓ TN ranked first on police and judiciary, but 10th and 12th on prisons and legal aid.
- ✓ Among the 7 smaller states, Goa was followed by Sikkim and HP.
- ✓ The ranking, an initiative of the Tata Trusts in collaboration with Centre for Social Justice, Common Cause, Commonwealth Human Rights Initiative, Daksh, TISS-Prayas and Vidhi Centre for Legal Policy, involved an 18-month quantitative research of several statistics from government sources

