

EVERYDAY CURRENT AFFAIRS – OCT 10 & 11, 2019

TAMIL NADU

- ◆ **Governor Banwarilal Purohit - launched the 7th Economic Census in Tamil Nadu at a function in Chennai on October 9**



- ✓ The census provides basic information on various operational and structural economic aspects of all establishments in the state
- ✓ Of the 50.29 lakh establishments operating in TN, 53.43% were in rural areas.
- ✓ Unlike the previous census, this one will be completely digital and done by using an app
- ✓ The enumerators will ask owners of establishments questions about the size and number of people working, the turnover, type of machinery used, products manufactured among others
- ✓ The key feature of the present census is that it will include geo-tagged data of business enterprises to ensure that only genuine enterprises are included in the official statistics
- ✓ The census is organised by the Union Ministry of Statistics and Programme Implementation.
- ✓ In the last economic census conducted in 2013, 50,29,402 establishments were operating in the State, and 1,16,95,183 people were found to be employed.
- ✓ The manufacturing sector was the biggest employer in the state, providing jobs to 28,76,243 people, followed by the livestock sector employing 27,89,700 people and the retail trade employing 22,71,470 people.

- ◆ **Tamil Nadu's State Industries Promotion Corporation (SIPCOT) - is planning to establish SIPCOT Industrial Innovation Centres (SIIC) in two of SIPCOT's Industrial parks — one at Sriperumbudur and the other at Hosur.**

RESEARCH FOCUS	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ SIPCOT plans to establish Industrial Innovation Centres at Sriperumbudur and the other at Hosur 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Industry 4.0, Industrial IoT and advanced manufacturing
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ At the Sriperumbudur innovation centre the focus will be on nurturing startups and innovation in mobility and defence & aerospace 	 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Each centre will require an investment of around Rs 8 crore
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Hosur IIC aims to attract deep tech entrepreneurs focused on 	

- ✓ SIPCOT has chosen the Coimbatore Innovation and Business Incubator (CIBI)'s 'Forge' accelerator as its partner incubator and expects the centres to be operational by end of January 2020
- ✓ Forge will be assigned the responsibility to establish, operate and manage the proposed IICs

NATIONAL

- ◆ **Union HRD minister Ramesh Pokhriyal - inaugurated the Prime Minister Innovative Learning Programme "Dhruv" at the Indian Space Research Organisation (Isro) head office in Bengaluru**



- ✓ 60 talented students selected from the streams of science, mathematics and performing arts will undergo a 14-day programme with an objective of developing their skills and knowledge
- ✓ The selected students will be mentored by the experts in their respective fields in different centres of excellence across the country
- ✓ The programme that started on October 10 will conclude at IIT-Delhi on October 23

◆ **Union minister for science and technology and earth sciences, Dr Harsh Vardhan – launched Gemini (GAGAN Enabled Mariner’s Instrument for Navigation and Information) device and mobile app on October 9**

SAFE AT SEA	
<p>HOW IT WORKS</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Gemini, a soap-box size device fitted to fishing boats, will have a receiver ➤ Servers in INCOIS, Hyderabad, will receive data on various ocean parameters including sea surface temperature, currents and wind speed and direction ➤ A suite of numerical models is run to generate forecast on daily weather, disaster warning for cyclone and tsunami and potential fishing zones (PFZ) ➤ The forecast is transmitted to Gemini device receiver through Gagan (GPS Aided Geo Augmented Navigation) satellite system, linked to GSAT-8, GSAT-10 and GSAT-15 	<p>Gagan is used by Airports Authority of India for aircraft landing and takeoff. INCOIS has tied up with AAI to use the technology for its Gemini device</p> 
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Gemini sends the information to a mobile application downloaded by fishermen through Bluetooth, in all regional languages ➤ PFZ forecast is sent three days in advance and alerts on weather systems are sent once every hour

- ✓ Gemini is a device capable of receiving weather information through geosynchronous communication satellites and transmitting it to a mobile app, even when fishermen are more than 6,000km away from the Indian coast.
- ✓ It is a box-shaped receiver that has an antenna and in-built battery which can last three to four days
- ✓ It will alert about nine lakh Indian fishermen about storms even when they are at deep sea in the Indian Ocean
- ✓ The updates will automatically translated to the regional language for better understanding of the fishermen
- ✓ The device will be fully operational this northeast monsoon
- ✓ To boost the reach of the device, the service is operated through Gagan (GPS Aided Geo Augmented Navigation) satellite system consisting of three communication satellites- GSAT-8, GSAT-10 and GSAT-15.
- ✓ GAGAN, developed by ISRO and the Airports Authority of India, is an India-made global positioning system



- ✓ It was developed by the Scientists from Indian National Centre for Ocean Information Services (INCOIS), Hyderabad in association with Accord, a private company
- ✓ At present, fishing boats are fitted with Navic devices developed by Isro and is linked to IRNSS satellite constellation
- ✓ INCOIS provides ocean state forecast, potential fishing zones and other disaster alerts to mobile phones of fishermen through this Navic enabled receiver device.
- ✓ However, the range of the device is limited as fishermen only within 1,500km from the coast will be able to receive alerts.

INTERNATIONAL

◆ **Singapore - will become the first country in the world to ban all advertisements for the most 'unhealthy' sugary drinks**

- ✓ The move is aimed at controlling the increasing diabetes rate in the country
- ✓ The country has sought to ban 'most unhealthy' products from appearing in ads across all media platforms, including broadcast, print and online channels.
- ✓ Products considered "less healthy" must now display labels grading their nutritional and sugar content

INDIA AND NEIGHBOURS

◆ **Chinese President Xi Jinping - will arrive in Chennai on October 11 to take part in the second "informal summit" with Prime Minister Narendra Modi scheduled on October 12**

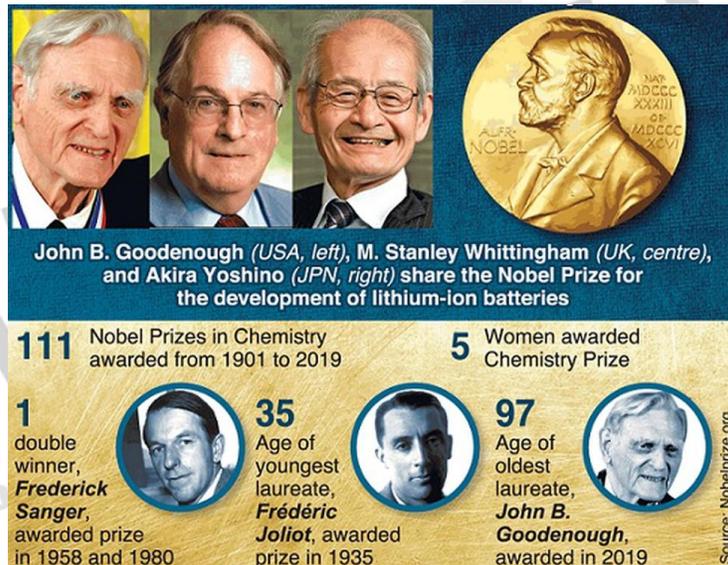
- ✓ The meeting, scheduled to take place at Mamallapuram near Chennai, between the two leaders is expected to enhance bilateral cooperation.
- ✓ The first informal summit between the two leaders was held in Wuhan last April
- ✓ The two leaders will hold talks on bilateral issues, including enhancing trade, resolving the boundary dispute and possible new Confidence Building Measures (CBM), regional issues including Afghanistan, Indo-Pacific policy, terrorism and other global and bilateral trade issues.
- ✓ Mamallapuram is a Unesco World Heritage site, popular for its historic stone carvings and rock-cut temples belonging to the Pallava dynasty period

COMMITTEES

- ◆ **The Ministry of Railways - constituted an empowered group of secretaries to work on the development of 50 railway stations as well as handing over operations of 150 trains to private operators.**
 - ✓ The committee will be chaired by NITI Aayog CEO Amitabh Kant, with the Railway Board Chairman, Economic Affairs Secretary, Urban Affairs Secretary and Financial Commissioner (Railways) as members
 - ✓ The committee will look into the approval and monitoring of the bidding process along with bid documents to ensure award of projects “in a time-bound manner”

AWARDS

- ◆ **John B. Goodenough, M. Stanley Whittingham and Akira Yoshino – to share the Nobel prize in Chemistry for their work on lithium-ion batteries**



- ✓ John B. Goodenough, 97, is a German born American engineering professor at the University of Texas
- ✓ M. Stanley Whittingham, 77, is a British-American chemistry professor at the State University of New York at Binghamton
- ✓ Akira Yoshino, 71, is from Chemicals Company Asahi Kasei Corp. and Meijo University in Japan
- ✓ Goodenough, an intellectual genius of solid state chemistry and physics, is the oldest person to win a Nobel Prize — overtaking Arthur Ashkin, who was 96 when he was awarded the Nobel for physics last year.
- ✓ Lithium-ion batteries have reshaped energy storage and transformed cars, mobile phones and many other devices apart from reducing the world’s reliance on fossil fuels
- ✓ Lithium-ion batteries, the first truly portable batteries, took more than a decade to develop

- ✓ The first lightweight, safe, durable and rechargeable commercial Li-ion batteries to be built, entered the market in 1991.

◆ **Austrian writer Peter Handke and Polish author Olga Tokarczuk - won the 2019 and 2018 Nobel Prize for Literature respectively**



- ✓ The 57 year old Tokarczuk becomes the 15th woman to win the prestigious distinction
- ✓ The 76 year old Handke, a native of the Austrian province of Carinthia bordering Slovenia, established himself as one of the most influential writers in Europe after World War II
- ✓ He also co-wrote the script of the critically acclaimed 1987 film “Wings of Desire”.
- ✓ He was the author of acclaimed books such as “The Goalie’s Anxiety at the Penalty Kick” and “Slow Homecoming”
- ✓ Tokarczuk trained as a psychologist before publishing her first novel in 1993.
- ✓ Since then, she has produced a varied stream of works and her novel “Flights” won her the Man Booker International Prize last year.
- ✓ She was the first Polish author to win the award
- ✓ Two prizes were awarded this year after last year’s award was postponed over a sexual assault scandal
- ✓ Till now, 116 literature laureates were honoured since 1901

SPORTS

◆ **Indian boxing legend, MC Mary Kom – assured of a record eighth medal at the ongoing Women’s Worlds in Ulan Ude, Russia**

- ✓ The 36-year-old defeated Rio Olympics bronze-medallist, Colombia’s Valencia Victoria, by an unanimous 5-0 verdict in a 51kg category quarterfinal bout
- ✓ Mary Kom’s earlier medals came in the pinweight (46kg) and light-flyweight (48kg) category and this will be her first medal in the flyweight (51kg) division, which is an Olympic category.
- ✓ With the win, Kom becomes the first and only boxer to secure eight medals at the Worlds since the tournament’s inception in 1974.

➤ Ageless Mary Kom, 36, becomes the **most successful boxer of all time**, male or female, in World Championships by assuring herself of her eighth medal

➤ Mary has stormed into semis of World Women's Boxing Championships in Russia, which means she'll return with at least a bronze medal to add to her kitty of 6 gold and 1 silver

➤ She betters the record of Cuban great **Felix Savon** who had bagged

7 World medals. The heavyweight legend fought from 1980 to 2000, winning six consecutive gold at the World's besides three Olympic gold

➤ **3 other Indian pugilists** – Manju Rani (48kg), Jamuna Boro (54kg) and Lovlina Borgohain (69)kg – also reach semis. All semifinals on Saturday

Mary Kom (in red) beat Colombia's Valencia Victoria in the quarter-finals



- ✓ Earlier, both Mary Kom and Cuba's Felix Savon in the men's event were tied as the most successful boxers at the Worlds with seven medals — six gold and a silver
- ✓ Ireland's Katie Taylor was the other most successful boxer at the women's Worlds with six medals — five gold and a bronze.
- ✓ Besides six world titles, Mary Kom's exemplary career boasts of an Olympic bronze (London 2012), five Asian titles and gold medals at the CWG and Asian Games
- ✓ This year alone, Mary Kom won gold at the India Open in Guwahati and President's Cup in Indonesia.

◆ **Nirmala Sheoran, India's top 400m runner and 2017 Asian Champion – was handed a four-year ban by the Monaco-based 'Athletics Integrity Unit (AIU)'**



- ✓ With the ban, all her results from August 2016 to November 2018 were disqualified.
- ✓ Hence, India will lose the 400m gold she won in the 2017 Asian Championships in Bhubaneswar and also the 4x400m gold.
- ✓ India had won 12 gold medals to top the tally with a haul of 29 medals (12-5-12) ahead of China (20 medals, 8-7-5) in the 2017 Asian Championships
- ✓ Earlier, Nirmala failed a dope test and found positive for steroids drostanolone and metenolone during the Inter-State Athletics meet held in Guwahati in June, 2018.

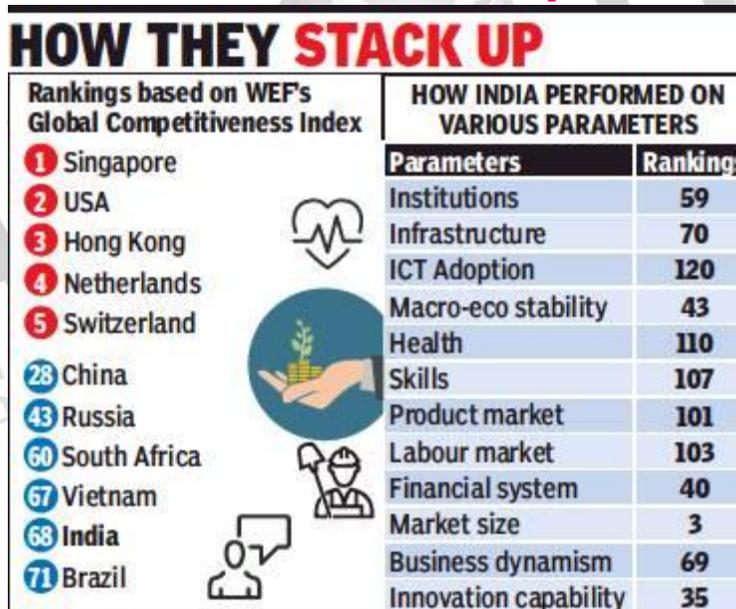
◆ **Iranian women - were allowed to watch the national soccer team play on October 10 for the first time in over 40 years**



- ✓ The Iranian authorities allowed women in four sectors of Tehran's 78,000 capacity Azadi Stadium, following pressure from FIFA, World Football governing body
- ✓ However, Iran allocated only 4,000 tickets for women to watch the 2022 World Cup qualifier between Team Melli and Cambodia
- ✓ Iranian women have been banned from stadiums hosting men's soccer matches since the 1979 Islamic revolution

RANKINGS

◆ **India - slipped 10 places from last year's ranking to 68th rank in the World Economic Forum's Global Competitiveness Index**



- ✓ In the global rankings covering 141 countries across 12 parameters, Singapore outscored the US to emerge at the top of the index, with Hong Kong moving up four places to be placed third
- ✓ India was ranked beyond 100th place in the rankings on five parameters — ICT adoption, health, skills, product market and labour market
- ✓ Only on four pillars India is among the top five countries, including market size, innovation capability, financial system and macro-economic stability.
- ✓ India had the highest score in market size, where it was ranked third.
- ✓ Among its neighbours, India was ranked ahead of Sri Lanka, Pakistan, Bangladesh and Nepal.
- ✓ Only China ranked better than India, being at the 28th position

SATURN GETS 20 NEW MOONS – COMPARISON

PIC GETTY IMAGES

