



EVERYDAY CURRENT AFFAIRS – OCT 22, 2019

TAMIL NADU

- **The byelection in the Vikravandi assembly constituency in Villupuram district - recorded 84.36% voter turnout on October 21**
- ✓ In the Nanguneri constituency in Tirunelveli district, only 66.1% voters exercised their franchise.
- ✓ During the 2016 Assembly elections, Vikravandi and Nanguneri recorded 81% and 71.35% voter turnout respectively
- ✓ The election in Vikravandi was caused by the death of DMK MLA K Radhamani.
- ✓ In Nanguneri, Congress leader Vasanthakumar vacated the seat after his victory in the Kanyakumari Lok Sabha election.

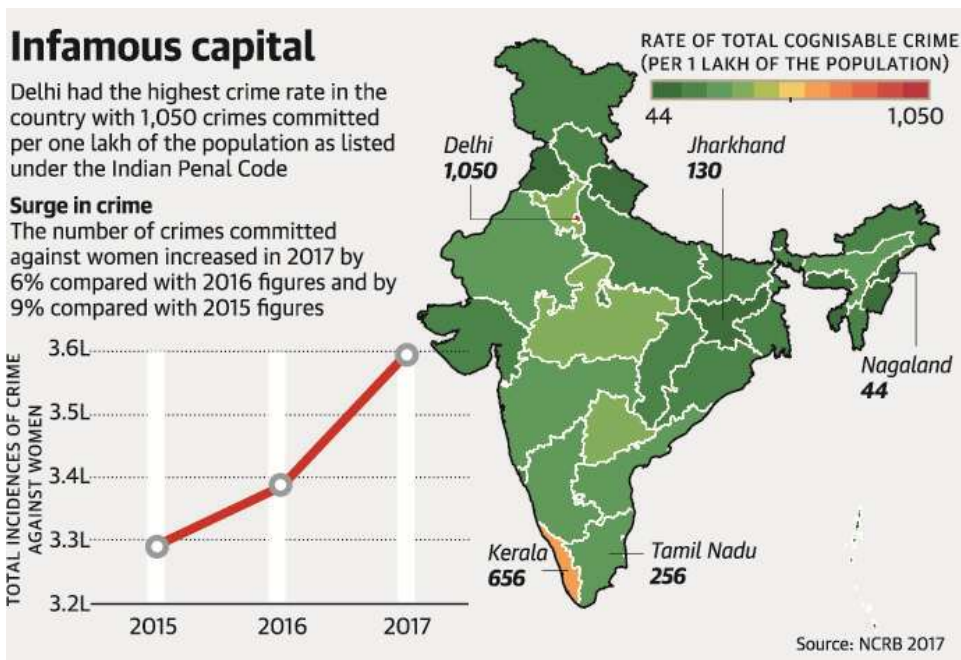
- **Tamil Nadu – has been approved to start six new government medical colleges by MCI, thereby adding 900 MBBS seats into the matrix**
- ✓ After the consent of Medical Council of India, the state awaits the final nod from the Union Health ministry now

SEAT MATRIX			
Government medical colleges	23	Seats in govt medical colleges	3,250
		Seats handed over for all India quota	506
		State govt seats in TN quota	2,744
State-run (category B colleges)		3	New colleges expected
			Seats in each new college
			150
			New colleges proposed
			3

- ✓ The addition of these six new colleges — in Ramanathapuram, Virudhunagar, the Nilgiris, Dindigul, Tirupur and Namakkal — will take the total number of MBBS seats in government colleges to 4,150.
- ✓ Tamil Nadu, which has 23 medical colleges, proposed medical colleges in these six unserved areas to the Centre
- ✓ Now, after the current approval, the state is planning to apply for three more medical colleges in Krishnagiri, Nagapattinam and Tiruvallur, adding another 450 MBBS seats
- ✓ In August, the cabinet committee on economic affairs had approved setting up of 75 government medical colleges by 2021-22
- ✓ The state had earlier announced a policy decision to open one medical college in every district and increase seats in existing medical colleges every year

NATIONAL

- **Maharashtra and Haryana assembly elections held on October 21 - saw a voter turnout of 60.5% and 65.6% respectively**
 - ✓ In Maharashtra, the voter turnout almost matched the 63.08% polling recorded in the last state elections in 2014.
 - ✓ However, in Haryana, the turnout of the voters was significantly down from its highest-ever turnout of 76.13% in the 2014 state polls
 - ✓ The elections were held for 288 assembly seats in Maharashtra, whereas in Haryana the voting concluded for 90 assembly seats
 - ✓ Counting of votes in both Haryana and Maharashtra Assembly polls will take place on October 24.
 - ✓ Before the elections, BJP's Devendra Fadnavis was the Chief Minister of Maharashtra while Manohar Lal Khattar of BJP was the CM of Haryana
 - ✓ In the 2019 Lok Sabha elections, Haryana had registered a voter turnout of 70.34% whereas Maharashtra's was 61.02%.
- **The annual Crime in India Report 2017 - was published by the National Crime Records Bureau (NCRB) on October 21**
 - ✓ As per the NCRB report, 50 lakh cases of cognizable crime were registered across the country during the period 2017-18.
 - ✓ Uttar Pradesh alone accounted for 10.1% of the total crimes covered under the Indian Penal Code.
 - ✓ According to the report, 3,59,849 cases of crime against women were reported in the country.
 - ✓ In this, Uttar Pradesh topped the list with 56,011 cases followed by Maharashtra with 31,979 cases and West Bengal 30,002.



- ✓ Based on the report, 58,880 incidents of rioting were reported, of which the maximum incidents were reported from Bihar - 11,698, followed by Uttar Pradesh - 8,990 and Maharashtra - 7,743.
- ✓ The incidents registered under the Scheduled Caste Prevention of Atrocities Act saw a rise from 5,082 in 2016 to 5,775 in 2017.
- ✓ Incidents of crime related to Scheduled Tribes declined from 844 in 2016 to 720 in 2017.
- ✓ A total of 95,893 cases of kidnapping and abduction were registered during 2017, showing an upswing of 9.0% over 2016 (88,008 cases).
- ✓ A total of 63,349 children (20,555 male, 42,691 female and 103 transgender) were reported missing in 2017
- ✓ The NCRB for the first time collected data on circulation of “false/fake news and rumours.”
- ✓ Under this category, maximum incidents were reported from Madhya Pradesh (138), Uttar Pradesh (32) and Kerala (18).

INTERNATIONAL

- **United Arab Emirates (UAE)** - has announced the setting up of the world's first Graduate-level, Research-based Artificial Intelligence (AI) university
- ✓ This university has been named as Mohamed bin Zayed University of Artificial Intelligence
- ✓ It will facilitate students, governments and businesses to make progress and do research in the artificial intelligence field.



- ✓ The university will provide MSc and PhD degrees in the programmes – Computer Vision, Machine Learning and Natural Language Processing.
- ✓ The PhD programme in Natural Language Processing will be started in 2021

INDIA AND NEIGHBOURS

- **India - has agreed to sign the Kartarpur Corridor agreement with Pakistan on October 23**
- ✓ However, Pakistan refused to accept India's request not to charge pilgrims for visiting Kartarpur Sahib.
- ✓ Pakistan had proposed a levying of service fee of \$20 per pilgrim per visit
- ✓ The corridor is being built by both nations to connect Dera Baba Nanak in Gurdaspur and Gurdwara Darbar Sahib in Kartarpur, Pakistan, just about four km from the international border
- ✓ Kartarpur Gurdwara is located in Shakargarh in Narowal district of Pakistan's Punjab province.
- ✓ Sikh pilgrims are expected to travel through the corridor in large numbers on the eve of their founder, Guru Nanak's 550th birth anniversary on November 12
- ✓ On November 9, the Prime Minister would flag off the first jatha (group) of 550 pilgrims to Kartarpur Sahib and also inaugurate the Integrated Check Post (ICP)

SCIENCE, TECHNOLOGY & ENVIRONMENT

- **India - to install world's largest facial recognition system to track criminals by November 2019**
- ✓ The National Automated Facial Recognition System (AFRS) will be employed for information gathering, criminal identification, verification and its dissemination among various police organizations in the country
- ✓ With the help of the software, the state police personnel can check the suspect with the database of criminals.

- ✓ Currently, the leading face recognition softwares used globally includes Amazon Rekognition, Face Recognition and Face Detection by Lambda Labs, Microsoft Face API, Google Cloud Vision and IBM Watson Visual Recognition, among others.
- ✓ In April last year, Delhi police identified almost 3,000 missing children in just four days during a trial of a facial recognition system

DEFENCE

- **Indian Air Force (IAF) and Royal Air Force of Oman (RAFO) – have launched a bilateral joint exercise named Ex-Eastern Bridge-V.**
- ✓ It will be held at Air Force Base Masirah in Oman.
- ✓ The joint exercise will conclude on October 26, 2019.
- ✓ The Indian Air Force's contingent comprises of C-17 aircraft, MiG-29 fighter jets, and other related latest equipment.
- ✓ It is for the first time when MiG-29 fighter aircrafts are participating in an international military exercise outside India.
- ✓ Earlier in 2017, the exercise Ex-Eastern Bridge-IV was held at Jamnagar, India.

ECONOMY

- **Apple Inc - has started selling its popular, top-end iPhone XR smartphones assembled in India**
- ✓ The phones are being assembled at Chinese contract manufacturer Foxconn's India factory in Sriperumbudur near Chennai
- ✓ iPhone XR boxes with an 'Assembled in India' tag were sold within the country, with a price tag of ₹49,900 Indian (\$704) for the 64 GB version
- ✓ The company has reduced considerably iPhone XR prices in India to counter a prolonged sales slowdown amid tough competition from other premium smartphones

