

## EVERYDAY CURRENT AFFAIRS – SEP 23, 2019

### TAMIL NADU

- ◆ **The Centre - has released ₹ 300 crore to the Tamil Nadu government to implement a deep sea fishing scheme in four districts of Palk bay, including Ramanathapuram district**
  - ✓ Deep sea fishing boats will prevent fishermen from the four districts crossing the IMBL (International Maritime Boundary Line), thus preventing arrests by the Sri Lankan navy
  - ✓ The assistance is part of the Centrally-sponsored blue revolution scheme, where it provides the budget towards distribution of sea safety kits consisting of communication equipment, GPS facility and lifesaving appliances to fishermen
  - ✓ The money was released to the state government under a new sub-component of the blue revolution scheme

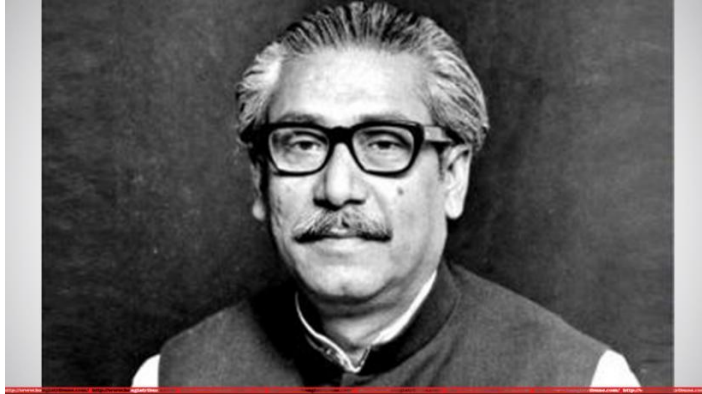
### MARINE BOUNTIES



- ✓ It has been released to provide resource-specific deep sea fishing vessels to traditional fishermen
- ✓ The total cost of the scheme is ₹1,600 crore, of which the Centre's share is ₹800 crore

# INDIA AND NEIGHBOURS

- ◆ **India - will join Bangladesh to commemorate 100 years of 'Bangabandhu', the founding father Sheikh Mujibur Rahman, in 2020, and an International Fleet Review in 2021 to mark 50 years of the Liberation of Bangladesh**



- ✓ Navy chief Admiral Karambir Singh is currently on a visit to Dhaka where these issues would be discussed along with other maritime and security issues.
- ✓ There is also a proposal to bring Bangladesh into India's coastal radar chain network which several other countries in the region have already joined.
- ✓ As part of its foreign cooperation initiatives, the Navy already imparts training to Bangladesh at all levels and also provides assistance in hydrography among others
- ✓ The Chittagong Dry Dock Limited is looking to build six frigates for which India has already offered to build some, under the \$500-million Line of Credit to boost 'Make in India' efforts

## ECONOMY

- ◆ **Thomas Cook, one of the world's best and oldest travel companies – has gone bankrupt**

- ✓ The collapse of the British travel giant has also left thousands of travelers stranded across Europe
- ✓ The British Aviation Authority has been asked to launch a repatriation program to return the stranded British customers to the United Kingdom between September 23 and October 6 under the name 'Operation Matterhorn'
- ✓ The last-ever Thomas Cook flight landed at the Manchester Airport on September 23



- ✓ The British Government had earlier rejected a request from Thomas Cook for a bailout fund worth 150 million pounds (\$187.1 million)
- ✓ Thomas Cook was founded in 1841 by cabinet-maker Thomas Cook in Leicestershire, England
- ✓ The Thomas Cook UK Plc and all associated UK entities entered into compulsory liquidation on September 23
- ✓ The Thomas Cook Group included Thomas Cook airlines, which served leisure destinations across the world from its base at Manchester Airport and Gatwick Airport
- ✓ Overall, the travel giant ran hotels, resorts and airlines catering to 19 million people a year across 16 countries.
- ✓ Thomas Cook India has confirmed that it is not a part of Thomas Cook UK, as it is owned by a Canadian company, Fairfax Financial Holdings.

## SPORTS

- ◆ **Deepak Punia – settles for Silver medal at the World championships in Nur-Sultan, Kazakhstan after pulling out of the final bout against Iranian legend Hassan Yazdani in the 86kg division**



- ✓ Deepak cited an ankle injury to his left foot sustained during the opening round of his first bout a day earlier.
- ✓ The 20-year-old had also secured a quota place for the Tokyo Olympics following his win over Colombia's Carlos Arturo Mendez in the quarters.
- ✓ Four Indians have now qualified for the 2020 Olympics in their respective weight categories and they include Vinesh Phogat, Ravi Kumar Dahiya, Bajrang Punia and Deepak Punia
- ✓ The Jhajjar-based Punia not only became the youngest Indian wrestler to reach the final of the event, but also won silver which no other wrestler from the country managed to win in the current edition.
- ✓ Deepak, a former World cadet champion, had claimed the World junior title in August
- ✓ He ended up being the fourth Indian to secure a silver after Bishambhar Singh (1967), Amit Kumar (2013) and Bajrang Punia (2018).
- ✓ Two-time Olympic medal winner, Sushil Kumar is currently the only Indian to have won a gold medal at the 2010 World Championships.

◆ **Rahul Aware - defeated Tyler Graff of the USA to win bronze medal in the 61kg category at the World championships in Nur-Sultan, Kazakhstan**



- ✓ Aware's was a non-Olympic weight category – 61kg -- so there was no Olympic quota here
- ✓ Rahul has Junior Worlds, Asian and Commonwealth Games medals to his credit.
- ✓ With his win, India's campaign in the tournament ended with the best-ever haul of 5 medals (1 Silver and 4 Bronze) and 4 Olympic quotas.
- ✓ The other Indian medal winners at the World Wrestling Championships 2019 included Bajrang Punia, Ravi Dahiya and Vinesh Phogat, who all secured a bronze medal each
- ✓ India's previous best was in 2013 when India won three medals, one silver and two bronze.
- ✓ Amir Dahiya had won the silver medal, while Bajrang Punia and Sandeep Tulsii Yadav secured the bronze.

◆ **GM Koneru Humpy - won the FIDE women's Grand Prix which concluded in Skolkovo, Russia**



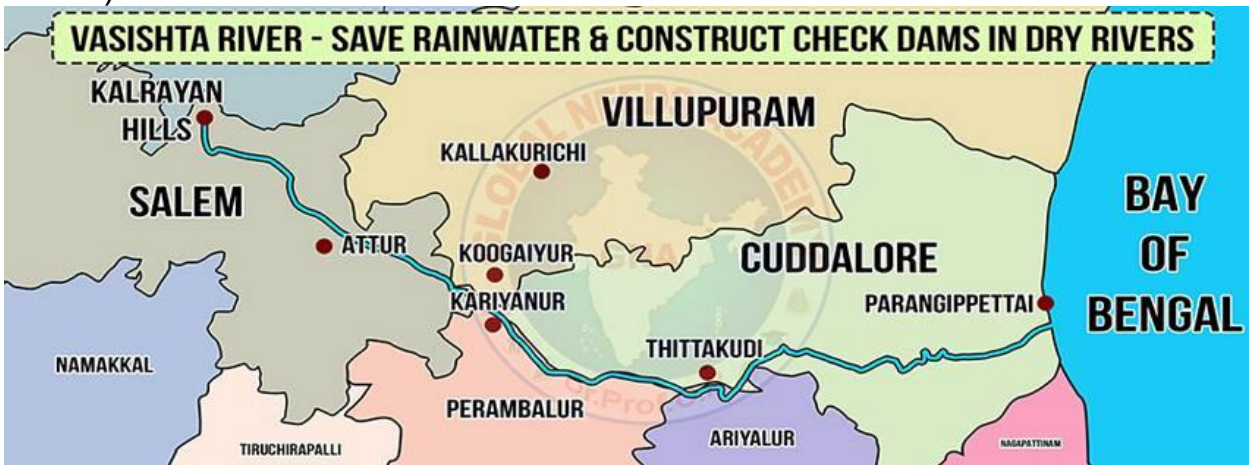
- ✓ Humpy's performance saw her rise to world no. 3 — behind Yifan Hou and Wenjun Ju, current women's world champion
- ✓ Humpy held the World No. 2 spot for the longest tenure (more than a decade) before her marriage in 2014 and the subsequent two year break saw her lose that spot.
- ✓ D Harika, who was also part of the tournament, finished in the sixth place with 5 points.
- ✓ The top-two finishers of the Grand Prix — which comprises a series of four tournaments — qualify for the 2021 Candidates clash that will ultimately decide the challenger for the world champion.
- ✓ This was the first of the four Grand Prix tournaments



# RANKINGS

◆ **River Vasishta (Tamil Nadu), Ghaggar (Haryana and Punjab), Bhadar (Gujarat), Mithi (Maharashtra), Sabarmati (Gujarat), Hindon (Uttar Pradesh) and Sutlej (Punjab) – ranked in the Top 5 Dirtiest river stretches in the Country**

- ✓ These rivers were ranked as the top 25 dirtiest patches of 351 polluted river stretches according to the analysis done by Central Pollution Control Board (CPCB)



- ✓ The highly polluted stretches have virtually no oxygen which means no life can exist
- ✓ They have very high Biochemical Oxygen Demand (BOD) level — a key indicator of organic pollution which affects dissolved oxygen (DO) level that impacts aquatic life.
- ✓ As per the report, the number of polluted river stretches in the country increased from 121 in 2009 to 302 in 2015 and further to 351 in 2018 with more rivers coming into the monitoring regime in the past 15 years



- ✓ As far as Ganga is concerned, only one of its five polluted stretches is in the critical category where the BOD level is more than 30 mg/l.
- ✓ This stretch was found on Varuna river, a minor tributary of Ganga, from Rameshwar to its confluence with the Ganga in Varanasi
- ✓ Data shows that over 60% of sewage (untreated industrial and municipal waste) generated in urban areas across the country enter into rivers without any treatment.

- ✓ The country has the capacity to treat only 23,277 million litres per day (MLD) of sewage against the generation of 61,948 MLD of sewage, leading to pollution in one or the other river in all states except Arunachal Pradesh.
- ✓ Maharashtra was ranked at the top in terms of high number of polluted river stretches in 2015 and 2018, followed by Assam
- ✓ The number of polluted stretches in the north-east increased from 14 in 2009 to 60 in 2015 and further to 85 in 2018.

## INTERNATIONAL DAY

### ◆ International Day of Sign Languages – September 23



- ✓ The day is celebrated annually across the world on 23 September every year along with International Week of the Deaf
- ✓ On 19 December 2017, the UN General Assembly declared 23 September as International Day of Sign Languages
- ✓ The choice of 23 September commemorates the date the World Federation of Deaf (WFD) was established in 1951
- ✓ The objective of the day is to create an awareness on sign languages and strengthen the status about sign languages.
- ✓ In 1958, the first International Week of the Deaf (IWDeaf) was launched in Rome, Italy
- ✓ IWDeaf is celebrated annually by the global Deaf Community on the last full week of September to commemorate the same month the first World Congress of the WFD was held
- ✓ The theme of Sign languages Day 2019 is – Sign Language Rights for All.
- ✓ On the eve of the day, Thaawarchand Gehlot, Social Justice and Empowerment Minister, distributed awards to the winners of the Second Indian Sign Language Competition 2019

