

EVERYDAY CURRENT AFFAIRS – SEP 25, 2019

TAMIL NADU

- ◆ **Train services on the city's suburban section and from Chennai to six major cities - are among the 24 routes the railways is planning to introduce privately operated trains.**
 - ✓ On the indicative list of 24 routes are the heavy traffic routes of Chennai-Delhi, Chennai-Mumbai, Chennai-Bengaluru, Chennai-Madurai, Chennai-Coimbatore and Chennai-Howrah
 - ✓ Chennai's suburban services are used by more than 11 lakh daily commuters
 - ✓ This is part of the 100-day action plan of the Centre which aims at providing world class services.
 - ✓ Private operators would be identified through a 'participative' bid process to run passenger day/overnight trains connecting important cities across the country
 - ✓ Other 'shortlisted' routes include Mumbai-Ahmedabad, Mumbai-Pune, Mumbai-Aurangabad, Mumbai-Madgaon, Delhi-Chandigarh/Amritsar, Delhi-Jaipur/Ajmer, Howrah-Puri, Howrah-Tata, Howrah-Patna, Secunderabad-Vijayawada and Ernakulam-Trivandrum
- ◆ **The Tamil Nadu government - has submitted proposals to the Centre for starting six new government medical colleges in the districts of Ramanathapuram, Virudhunagar, Nilgiris, Dindigul, Tirupur and Namakkal.**
 - ✓ In August, the cabinet committee on economic affairs had approved setting up of 75 government medical colleges in the entire country by 2021-22
 - ✓ Now, the state has 23 government medical colleges, including 4 in Chennai.
 - ✓ The state had made a policy decision to increase the number of medical colleges or add seats to existing colleges every year.

- ◆ **Tamil Nadu Tourism Development Corporation (TTDC) - is planning to establish an adventure sports park with facilities for mountain biking and a variety of rope adventures at Nilgiris**

OBSTACLE COURSE



OBSTACLE COURSE AREA

1.4 acres
near Ooty Boat House

Around **18,000** tourists expected every month

PICK YOUR CHALLENGE

MOUNTAIN BIKING

- Will have four tracks, each for a difficulty level
- **EASY** level will have gently

undulating routes, with riders covering 30-60km

- **GENTLE**, course will have Rolling terrain with occasional moderate or challenging climbs, with up to 80km riding distance

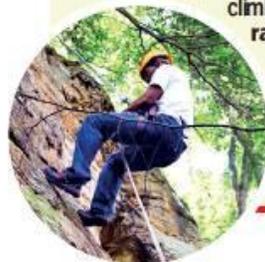
- **MODERATE** section will have steep climbs and drops putting riders' experience to test for 95km

- The hardest one will be the **CHALLENGE** course with multiple long, steep ascents, drops, for a distance of upto 160km



OTHER ACTIVITIES

- Low rope course challenges, rope swing, spider web climbs, treasure Island hunts, wall climbing, rappelling



- **SEGWAY TOURS:** A guide will take visitors around in a Segway, which is a self-balancing, electric-powered, motorised two-wheeler



- ✓ This is the first such government-run facility to come up at a tourist place in the entire state.
- ✓ Nearly 1.4 acres have been chosen near the Ooty Boat House beside the lake for the project, which is estimated to cost ₹50 lakh

- ✓ Work is expected to begin in November, so that the park can be opened from next summer
- ✓ The main attraction of the park will be the mountain terrain biking zone.
- ✓ Low-rope courses, wall climbing and rappelling, cable walks, wobbly bridges and log swings will be other activities in the setup

◆ **The Madurai Kamaraj University - is all set to become the first university in the state to study Keeladi finds**

- ✓ It will sign a tripartite agreement with Tamil Nadu Department of Archaeology and Harvard University to research the findings at Keeladi in Sivaganga district
- ✓ Tamil Nadu minister for Tamil language, archaeology and culture K Pandiarajan submitted a memorandum to Union minister Prahald Singh Patel asking Centre to release funds to set up a museum at Keeladi site.
- ✓ Once the MoU is signed, all findings of Keeladi and other archaeological excavations including Mannalur and Konthagai will be studied at Madurai Kamaraj University before sending it to a laboratory at the Harvard University, US, for further analysis and testing

STATES

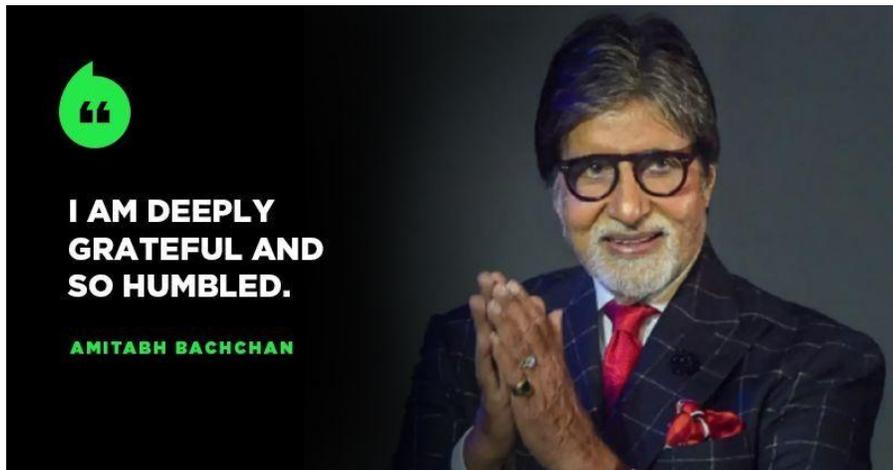
◆ **Delhi – to become the first state in the country to implement the Street Vending Act, 2014, to provide legal protection to street vendors and hawkers across the capital**

- ✓ Under the Street Vending Act, 2014, 28 town vending committees have been set up, each with 30 members
- ✓ Twelve members have been elected from among street vendors and hawkers
- ✓ These town vending committees will conduct a survey of vendors, following which certificates will be given to the street vendors
- ✓ Thereafter, licenses bearing the name of the owner, address and the place of vending will be given to the vendors

AWARDS

◆ **Megastar Amitabh Bachchan – was named the Dadasaheb Phalke award recipient for the year 2018 for his contribution to the Indian film industry.**

- ✓ Union minister for information and broadcasting Prakash Javadekar announced the same in the twitter
- ✓ The award comes in a year when 76-year-old Bachchan completes 50 years as an actor
- ✓ The award is named after the father of Indian cinema, Dhundiraj Govind Phalke, and is considered the highest honour for an artiste in Indian cinema



- ✓ Bachchan was born to renowned Hindi poet Harisvanshrai Bachchan and Teji Bachchan in 1942
- ✓ He made his debut in 1969 with Khwaja Ahmad Abbas' Saat Hindustani about seven Indians attempting to liberate Goa from Portuguese colonial rule.
- ✓ During the course of his illustrious career, the legendary actor has won as many as four Best Actor National Awards for his performances in films like Agneepath (1990), Black (2005), Paa (2009) and Piku (2015) apart from 15 Filmfare awards
- ✓ The government honoured him with the Padma Shri in 1984, the Padma Bhushan in 2001 and the Padma Vibhushan in 2015 for his contributions to the arts.
- ✓ The Dadasaheb Phalke award was introduced by the government in 1969 to commemorate the "father of Indian cinema" who directed Raja Harishchandra (1913), India's first feature film, and it was awarded for the first time to Devika Rani, "the first lady of Indian cinema."

SPORTS

◆ Manipur – wins the title in the senior women's National football championships at Pasighat, Arunachal Pradesh



- ✓ Manipur defeated Railways by a solitary goal in the final, scored by Bala Devi
- ✓ Bala emerged the highest scorer with 21 goals, while Manipur custodian Panthoi Chanu was named the 'best goalkeeper.'

CENSUS 2021 – A REPORT

For the first time, India's population census will be a paperless affair, with the Census 2021 being conducted digitally, according to Union home minister Amit Shah. The 16th Indian census since 1865 is also set to be the costliest so far. So what does it take for a headcount of all Indians?



Cut-off date

➤ Each Census has its 'census moment' or reference date so that all the data refers to a well-defined period of time in order to get accurate information about the population

➤ For the 2021 census, the reference points are **October 1, 2020**, for the states of J&K, Himachal Pradesh and Uttarakhand. For the rest of the country, the reference date will be **March 1, 2021**



➤ This means that anyone born after these dates, or those who died before these dates, will be excluded from the census

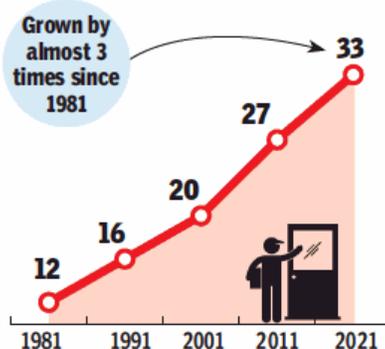
➤ Counting in J&K will be conducted from September 1 to September 30, 2020. In Himachal and Uttarakhand, counting will take place between October 1 and October 5, 2020

➤ Counting exercise in Union Territories will happen between February 9 and February 28, 2021

➤ A revision count will be conducted from March 1 to March 5, 2021, to collect data from anyone initially left out

An app to collect population data

No. of enumerators (in lakhs)



➤ Much of the census preparation will focus on teaching officials how to collect the data, which for the first time will be collected on a mobile app

➤ The digital procedure will ensure data is published sooner than for Census 2011, which only became public seven years later

Costliest census



A rise of more than 445% in 10 years

Step by step

➤ The first exercise will involve the house-listing operations, usually conducted about six months prior to counting



➤ While the first step involves classification of buildings, including household amenities and construction material used, even whether you have tiled flooring or not, the second step involves recording details of the individuals residing in the country – whether an Indian national or a foreigner

Polyglot census

➤ Census 2021 will be conducted in 16 languages – the same as Census 2011



➤ Last time, in 2011, the number of languages (spoken by at least 10,000 people) recognised by the census was 121 – with 19,569 languages and dialects identified as mother tongues

Marking their territory

➤ A year before the Census exercise begins, territorial boundaries will be fixed and the state, as well as the Centre, are requested not to effect any changes till after the census to ensure accurate maps can be drawn for the enumerators and no overlap takes place



PSST, IT'S A SECRET: While the Census of India Act, 1948, makes it incumbent on every citizen to furnish all information truthfully, it also guarantees secrecy of the information collected – with the details of an individual neither open for inspection nor admissible as evidence in any court