

EVERYDAY CURRENT AFFAIRS – SEP 3, 2019

NATIONAL

- ◆ **Prime Minister Narendra Modi - to be honoured with the prestigious 'Global Goal Award' award from Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation for his exemplary leadership and commitment in Swachh Bharat Abhiyaan**



- ✓ The PM will receive the award at the fourth annual Goalkeepers 'Global Goals Awards' on September 24.
- ✓ The prime minister will be the keynote speaker at the Bloomberg Global Business Forum on September 25
- ✓ He will be attending the high-level UN general assembly session that begins later this month at New York, the world body's headquarters and address the world leaders at the 193-member UNGA's General Debate on September 27
- ✓ Swachh Bharat Abhiyan, one of the ambitious projects of the PM, was launched on October 2, 2014, on the occasion of Gandhi's birth anniversary.
- ✓ It aims to make India 'Open Defecation Free' by 2019.
- ✓ So far, 90 million toilets have been built to eliminate open defecation by October 2, 2019 and currently 98% of India's villages have rural sanitation coverage instead of 38% four years ago.
- ✓ The award is the Prime Minister's third honour in the span of the last ten days.
- ✓ Prime Minister Narendra Modi was on August 24, 2019 honoured with the Order of Zayed, UAE's highest civilian award
- ✓ The Prime Minister was also conferred Bahrain Order-First Class by Bahrain's King, King Hamad bin Isa Al Khalifa on August 26, 2019
- ✓ The award is also known as the King Hamad Order of the Renaissance.

◆ **Khadi and Village Industries Commission – launches a first ever unique project named ‘Terracotta Grinder’ at Sewapuri in Varanasi.**



- ✓ This machine will grind the wasted and broken pottery items for re-using in pottery-making.
- ✓ This Terracotta grinder will make grinding of wasted pottery items faster than the traditional mortar and pestle apart from reducing the cost of production and solving the problem of shortage of clays
- ✓ The grinder was designed by KVIC Chairman, and fabricated by a Rajkot-based engineering unit.

INDIA AND NEIGHBOURS

◆ **Reliance Power - has signed a partnership agreement with Japan's power utility JERA to set up a 750MW, gas-based combined cycle power plant in Meghnaghat, Bangladesh**

- ✓ Reliance Power will hold a 51% stake while JERA will hold a 49% stake in the joint venture.
- ✓ The project would be developed on a build-own-operate model at an estimated investment of \$750 million.
- ✓ RPower is planning to relocate one module of its combined cycle power project at Samalkot in Andhra Pradesh for the Phase-1 of this project in Bangladesh.
- ✓ This project is India's largest foreign direct investment in Bangladesh and from Japan to Bangladesh in the power sector
- ✓ Energy relations between India and Bangladesh also includes an agreement signed by State-run power major NTPC's trading arm to supply 300 MW power to the country in September last year.
- ✓ India's Tripura also supplies power of around 190 MW power to Bangladesh.

CONFERENCES & SUMMITS

◆ **Prime Minister Narendra Modi - leaves for Russia to participate in the fifth edition of Eastern Economic Forum as its ‘Chief guest’ at Vladivostok**



- ✓ Several other countries also participate in this three-day summit including China, South Korea, North Korea, Singapore and Indonesia
- ✓ Apart from this summit, PM Modi will also participate in the 20th annual summit between Russia and India.

- ✓ Eastern Economic Forum was established by the order of the President of the Russian Federation in the year 2015.
- ✓ The forum has emerged as an international platform for discussing the strategy for developing political, economic and cultural ties between Russia and the Asia Pacific.

SCIENCE, TECHNOLOGY & ENVIRONMENT

◆ Chennai-based National Institute of Ocean Technology (NIOT) – to undertake ambitious 'Samudrayaan' project in 2021-22

- ✓ As part of the project, a submersible vehicle with three persons will be sent to a depth of about 6000 metres to carry out deep underwater studies
- ✓ It has to be noted that the submarines deployed currently go only about 200 metres deep into the sea.
- ✓ The indigenously developed vehicle is capable of crawling on the sea bed at a depth of six kilometre for 72 hours
- ✓ The success of Rs 200 crore, 'Samudrayaan' project will help India to join the league of developed nations in exploration of minerals from oceans
- ✓ The 'Samudrayaan' is a part of the Ministry of Earth Sciences' pilot project for deep ocean mining for rare minerals.
- ✓ It will be part of the ₹6000 crore 'Deep Ocean Mission' that has received in-principle approval but is awaiting a final clearance from the Union Finance Ministry, which is expected by October 2019
- ✓ India has been allocated a site of 75,000 sq km in the Central Indian Ocean Basin by the International Sea Bed Authority for exploration of polymetallic nodules from seabed.
- ✓ The estimated resource of polymetallic nodules is about 380 million tonnes, containing 4.7 million tonnes of nickel, 4.29 million tonnes of copper and 0.55 million tonnes of cobalt and 92.59 million tonnes of manganese.

DEFENCE

◆ IAF Chief BS Dhanoa – flies with Wing Commander Abhinandan Varthaman, the recipient of Vir Chakra on his last sortie before his retirement



- ✓ The IAF Chief is supposed to retire on September 30
- ✓ The Air Chief Marshal sat in the front seat and Wing Commander Abhinandan sat in the rear

- ✓ They both took off in MiG-21 fighter aircraft trainer from the Pathankot Airbase in Punjab and flew for 30 minutes
- ✓ Vir Chakra is the third-highest gallantry award after the Paramvir Chakra and the Mahavir Chakra.

SPORTS

◆ **Rishabh Pant – becomes the fastest Indian wicket-keeper to claim 50 dismissals in Test cricket, breaking the record held by M S Dhoni**



- ✓ Rishabh Pant claimed his 50th test dismissal in his 11th test during India vs West Indies on September 1, 2019.
- ✓ Former skipper MS Dhoni had taken 15 tests to get to 50 Test dismissals.
- ✓ Earlier, Rishabh Pant had equaled the world record for most catches in a test by a wicket-keeper in a Test against Australia at Adelaide in December 2018, when he had taken 11 catches, joining the likes of English wicket-keeper Jack Russell and South African AB de Villiers

