TAMIL NADU

The Tamil Nadu government - is developing a new ‘app’ for the public to ‘live’ track government buses and plan trips accordingly.

- The new ‘Locate and Access My Bus’ (LAMB) app will be available on android and iOS platforms for free download.
- The app will show real-time location of buses along with the list of nearest bus stops to the user on Google Maps.
- Once the location of a bus stop is entered, the app provides the estimated time of arrival (ETA) of next 5 buses at the stop along with their route numbers.
- The app will provide ‘live’ data of 21,800 buses including 3,300 MTC buses in the Chennai city.
- The app is developed by Chalo India, a private app developer.
- Institute of Road Transport (IRT) is the government nodal agency for implementing the project.

PERSONALITIES

Pakistan’s foreign minister Shah Mahmood Qureshi - has announced the invitation of former Indian PM Manmohan Singh for the inauguration of the Kartarpur corridor on November 9, 2019.

- It will be opened for Indian Sikh pilgrims, ahead of the 550th birth anniversary of Guru Nanak Dev, the first Sikh guru.
- The Kartarpur Sahib Gurudwara is believed to have been established by Guru Nanak Dev in 1522.
✓ The Kartarpur corridor is being built by India and Pakistan to connect Darbar Sahib -- the final resting place of Guru Nanak Dev -- in Pakistan's Kartarpur with Dera Baba Nanak shrine in Gurdaspur district of Punjab
✓ The corridor will enable visa-free movement of pilgrims between the two religious shrines

SCIENCE, TECHNOLOGY & ENVIRONMENT

◆ Pandit Jasraj, the doyen of Indian classical vocal music – becomes the first Indian musician to have a planet named after him

✓ International astronomical union (IAU) has named 2006 VP32 (number-300128) as ‘Panditjasraj’ as a tribute to the veteran artist
✓ It is a minor planet that traverses the cosmos between Mars and Jupiter in our Solar system
✓ With this honour, the 89-year old Pandit Jasraj has become the first Indian artist to join the galaxy of immortal legends like Mozart, Ludwig van Beethoven, Johann Bach, Tenor Luciano Pavarotti and Ravindranath Tagore, all of whom have minor planets named after them.
✓ The minor planet number 300128 was chosen as it is the reverse birth date of Pandit Jasraj i.e. 28.01.30
✓ Pandit Jasraj was awarded Padma Vibhushan (2000), Padma Bhushan (1990), Padma Sri (1975), Lata Mangeshkar Award among others
✓ Minor planets are celestial objects in our solar system that orbit the Sun but they aren't planets or comets
✓ These include dwarf planets, asteroids, trojans, centaurs, Kuiper belt objects etc.,
✓ Panditjasraj was discovered by the Mt Lemmon Survey telescope in Arizona on November 11, 2006 by a NASA-funded project called the Catalina Sky Survey
✓ As on date, there are 5,41,131 numbered minor planets of a total of 7,97,078 observed bodies, with the rest being unnumbered minor planets.
✓ The Ceres, found in 1801, was the first minor planet.
Justice Rajendra Menon – set to be the next Chairperson of the Armed Forces Tribunal (AFT)

✓ His name was recommended by the Chief Justice of India (CJI) Ranjan Gogoi
✓ Justice Rajendra Menon is the former Chief Justice of Delhi High Court.
✓ The current Chairperson Justice Virender Singh is retiring on October 6.
✓ The Armed Forces Tribunal was established in 2009 under the Armed Forces Tribunal Act 2007 at New Delhi.
✓ The AFT has the power of adjudication or trial of disputes and complaints with respect to appointments, commission, enrolments and conditions of services
✓ It has a principal bench at New Delhi along with regional benches at Jaipur, Lucknow, Chandigarh, Kolkata, Chennai and Guwahati.
✓ Earlier, Justice Menon had also served as the Chief Justice of Patna High Court.

Vice President, M. Venkaiah Naidu – presented the 28th Saraswati Samman award to acclaimed Telugu poet Dr. K. Siva Reddy

✓ Dr Reddy was presented the award for his Telugu poetry collection ‘Pakkaki Ottigilite’.
✓ Dr. Reddy has been a recipient of the Central Sahitya Academy award, Gangadhar Mehar National Award and Kabir Samman Award.
✓ Pakkaki Ottigilite is a collection of the author’s poems which was published in 2016.
✓ The collection comprises 104 poems in blank versus.

Indian journalist, Kallie Puri - was conferred “India’s Most Powerful Women in Media” award.
● Puri was presented the global honour at the 2nd edition of the Confluence Excellence Awards at the British Parliament on September 27
● Kallie Puri is currently serving as the Vice-Chairperson of the India Today Group
● She joined India Today Group in 1996 as a marketing executive and reporter
● Puri is a graduate in Politics, Philosophy & Economics from the Oxford University in England.
● In March 2017, Puri was named as the 5th most powerful woman at the sixth edition of Impact Magazine’s Awards.
● In September 2019, she received the 'Outstanding Media & Entertainment Award' at the annual 21st Century Icon Awards in London.
● The Confluence Excellence Awards recognizes successful individuals for their innovative leadership through revolutionizing their field of work.

SPORTS

◆ Tamil Nadu fencer C.A. Bhavani Devi - won the women’s sabre individual silver in the Tournoi satellite competition (World level) at Ghent (Belgium) on September 29

- Bhavani lost to Anna Bashta of Azerbaijan in the final to win the Silver medal
- She is currently ranked No. 43 in the senior women’s sabre individual category.
- Bhavani had reached the quarterfinals of a satellite tournament in Bulgaria last week in her first international competition of the season

◆ India - lifted the SAFF under-18 football championship for the first time

- The Indian soccer team has defeated Bangladesh in the title clash at Kathmandu on September 29
✓ India's Ninthoinganba Meetei was adjudged the Most Valuable Player of the tournament.
✓ India was runner-up in 2015 and finished third in 2017
✓ It has to be recalled that Indian U-15 national team had earlier lifted the SAFF U-15 Championship beating Bangladesh in the final in August 2019.