

EVERYDAY CURRENT AFFAIRS – SEP 5, 2019

TAMIL NADU

- ◆ **Tamil Nadu government – signed Memorandums of Understanding (MoUs) with Sixteen US-based companies to invest ₹ 2,780 crore in the state**



- ✓ The companies signed the MoUs at an investors' meeting held in New York on September 3 in the presence of chief minister Edappadi K Palaniswami and other officials.
- ✓ More than 200 entrepreneurs and professionals took part in the meeting
- ✓ The companies include Aquil Systems, Scitus Pharma, Nurray Chemicals, Novitium Labs, Jogo Health, ST LNG, Saram 4, Emerson, Aspire Consulting, Revature-LLC and Zillion Technologies
- ✓ Haldia Petrochemicals signed an in-principle agreement for investing ₹50,000 crore to set up a Naphtha Cracker Unit in the state.
- ✓ These investments are expected to create jobs for over 20,000 people
- ✓ Tamil Nadu was showcased as a preferred destination for investments in the sectors of fintech, aerospace and electric vehicles manufacturing
- ✓ Representatives from companies like Ford and Caterpillar that have presence in Tamil Nadu were also present
- ✓ The CM is on a 10-day visit to the UK, US and Dubai to woo investors to the State

◆ **The Tamil Nadu government – is planning to implement 100% online ticketing system for cinema theatres**

- ✓ In this regard, the government intends to set up a committee comprising government officials and theatre owners to discuss and deliberate on the feasibility of the implementation
- ✓ The state government plans to implement it in phases – starting with multiplexes in cities and corporation limits, moving on to standalone airconditioned theatres and later bringing ordinary theatres in towns and rural areas

NATIONAL

◆ **Prime Minister Narendra Modi - will launch the The Pradhan Mantri Laghu Vyapari Maan-dhan Yojana, the Centre's pension scheme for traders, during a visit to Nagpur on September 7**



- ✓ A few of the first subscribers from across the country will be given pension cards by the PM at the ceremony
- ✓ All shopkeepers, self-employed persons and retail traders with GST turnover below Rs 1.5 crore and aged between 18-40 years can enrol for the scheme.
- ✓ The scheme, which is an extension of the PM Shram Yogi Maan-dhan Yojana, will make all beneficiaries eligible for a monthly pension of Rs 3000 after the age of 60 at a tiny monthly contribution.
- ✓ The government will make a matching contribution in the subscribers' account
- ✓ The proposal was approved by the cabinet on May 31, 2019 at the first meeting of the Modi government and later announced by the finance minister Nirmala Sitharaman in her maiden budget speech on July 5.
- ✓ Government has earmarked Rs 750 crore for the scheme in the Union Budget 2019-20.
- ✓ The Life Insurance Corporation of India has been chosen as pension fund manager
- ✓ It will be responsible for managing the pension fund, central record keeping agency and responsible for pension pay out

INTERNATIONAL

- ◆ **Hong Kong chief executive Carrie Lam - announced that the government will formally withdraw an extradition bill that triggered months of demonstrations**

WHAT EXTRADITION BILL WAS ABOUT
The proposal, introduced in April, would have allowed criminal suspects to be extradited to mainland China. The bill was suspended in June by Hong Kong leader Carrie Lam

WHY DID PEOPLE OPPOSE IT?
Opponents of the bill said it would undermine Hong Kong's legal freedoms and might be used to silence Beijing critics. Protests since June disrupted transport links, caused airport to shut down earlier this month

WILL THE PROTESTS COME TO AN END?
Unlikely. Withdrawal of extradition bill was one of the five demands by protesters. Lam has refused to accept the others, which are:

- 1 Retraction of the word 'riot' to describe rallies
- 2 Release of all arrested demonstrators
- 3 An independent inquiry into perceived brutality of police
- 4 Right for people in Hong Kong to democratically choose their own leaders

WHAT IS HONG KONG'S RELATIONSHIP WITH CHINA?
Hong Kong was a British colony until 1997 when it was handed back to China under a policy known as 'one country, two systems'. The policy made Hong Kong part of China but let it keep many liberties denied to citizens on the mainland, including free speech, unrestricted internet access and the right to free assembly

7.4M
HONG KONG'S POPULATION

Too little, too late
— JOSHUA WONG, LEADER OF 2014 PRO-DEMOCRACY PROTESTS

- ✓ However, the government declined to accept any other demands, including an independent inquiry into alleged police misconduct and the unconditional release of those detained
- ✓ The protests began in March but escalated later in June and have since evolved into a push for greater democracy for the city which returned to China in 1997.
- ✓ The Bill would have allowed extraditions to mainland China where courts are controlled by the Communist Party.

INDIA AND NEIGHBOURS

- ◆ **India and Pakistan - failed to finalize an agreement on the Kartarpur sahib corridor during their third round of talks at Attari**

POINTS OF CONSENSUS

➤ Indian pilgrims, without any restrictions based on their faith, allowed **visa-free travel to Kartarpur Sahib.** Persons of Indian origin, holding OCI card, too can use the corridor

➤ **Daily 5,000 pilgrims** will be allowed on the corridor. Pakistan is working to allow additional pilgrims on special occasions

➤ The corridor will be **operational throughout the year, seven days a week.** Pilgrims will have choice to visit as individuals or in



groups, and on foot
➤ **Pakistan agrees to construct a bridge over the Budhi Ravi channel,** and a temporary service road will be used till it is built

➤ The two countries reach an **agreement on emergency evacuation procedures,** especially in case of medical emergencies

➤ Pakistan to make sufficient **provision for preparation and distribution of 'langar' and 'prasad'** for the pilgrims

- ✓ The two countries agreed on visa-free travel by Indian pilgrims to the gurdwara, without any restrictions based on their faith
- ✓ The two nations also agreed that 5,000 pilgrims will be allowed on the corridor daily.
- ✓ However, Pakistan was demanding \$20 service fee per pilgrim, which was not agreeable by the Indian authorities
- ✓ The entry fee was proposed to compensate for the huge investments pumped in creating the infrastructure for Kartarpur corridor
- ✓ Pakistan has also refused to have Indian consular presence on the Kartarpur Sahib gurdwara premises, as it refused the permission for Indian consular officials to travel with the pilgrims.
- ✓ India and Pakistan have been building infrastructure on both sides of the border for the pilgrims, who will begin festivities in the first week of November to mark the 550th birth anniversary of Guru Nanak, who spent many years of his life at this sacred location.

CONFERENCES & SUMMITS

◆ **First Mobile Science Exhibition – flagged off at Leh Palace, in Leh**



- ✓ The Mobile Science Exhibition will be moving to various schools in the Leh district.
- ✓ It is specially designed in a bus so that it can reach the doorsteps of people.
- ✓ The bus will travel from school to school in rural areas to organize exhibitions and other events like Sky Observation Programme through the telescope
- ✓ Science film shows, Science Demonstration Lectures etc will also be organized.

PERSONALITIES

- ◆ **For the first time, a Hindu girl, Pushpa Kolhi - has become a police officer in Pakistan's Sindh province after passing the provincial competitive examinations**



- ✓ Pushpa Kolhi has been posted as the Assistant Sub Inspector (ASI) in Sindh
- ✓ In January, Suman Pawan Bodani, a Pakistani belonging to the Hindu community, was appointed a judge to the civil and judicial magistrate.
- ✓ The Majority of Pakistan's Hindu population is settled in Sindh province where they share culture, traditions and language with the Muslim population.
- ✓ Hindus form the biggest minority community in Pakistan, with about 75 lakh hindus living in the country

DEFENCE

- ◆ **Yudh Abhyas 2019, the joint military exercise between India and United States begins on September 5 at the Joint Base Lewis Macard near Washington**



- ✓ This is the 15th edition of the joint military exercise hosted alternately between the two countries
- ✓ The armies of India and USA will jointly plan, train and execute a series of well developed operations to meet any unforeseen contingency
- ✓ It concludes on September 18

SPORTS

- ◆ **Afghanistan's leg spinner Rashid Khan -has become youngest test cricket captain ever in the Test Cricket history**

**YOUNGEST CAPTAIN
IN TEST CRICKET: (MEN/WOMEN)**



PLAYER	TEAM	AGE	VS	GROUND	YEAR
RASHID KHAN	AFG	20y 350d	BAN	CHATTOGRAM	5 SEP 2019
TATENDA TAIBU	ZIM	20y 358d	SL	HARARE	6 MAY 2004
MAK PATAUDI	IND	21y 77d	WI	BRIDGETOWN	23 MAR 1962
RUTH SYMONS	NZW	21y 136d	ENGW	CHRISTCHURCH	16 FEB 1935
DEBBIE HOCKLEY	NZW	21y 242d	ENGW	LEEDS	8 JUL 1984

- ✓ The record was earlier held by Zimbabwe's Tatenda Taibu who was 20 years and 358 days old when he led his side against Sri Lanka in Harare in 2004
- ✓ Rashid is 20 years and 350 days old, leading Afghanistan against Bangladesh in the one-off Test at Chittagong, Bangladesh on September 4
- ✓ The Chittagong Test is the third five-day match for Afghanistan since they received Test status in 2017 and the first against Bangladesh.
- ✓ Rashid was appointed Afghanistan's captain across all three formats of the game in July after the team's dismal performance at the 50-over World Cup

RANKINGS

- ◆ **Vienna in Austria, Melbourne and Sydney in Australia - ranked as the top three cities in the World, according to the Economist Intelligence Unit's Global Liveability Index 2019**

- ✓ Vienna had taken the top spot from Melbourne last year, which was ranked at No. 1 for seven consecutive years

- ✓ Osaka, Japan and Calgary, Canada make up the remaining top five on the annual Global Liveability Index of 140 cities around the world.
- ✓ Honolulu scored the highest among U.S. cities, ranking 22nd

Global Liveability Index 2019			
MOST LIVEABLE		LEAST LIVEABLE	
Rank	City	Rank	City
1	Vienna, Austria	131	Caracas, Venezuela
2	Melbourne, Australia	132	Algiers, Algeria
3	Sydney, Australia	133	Douala, Cameroon
4	Osaka, Japan	134	Harare, Zimbabwe
5	Calgary, Canada	135	Port Moresby, Papua New Guinea
6	Vancouver, Canada	136	Karachi, Pakistan
7	Tokyo, Japan	137	Tripoli, Libya
8	Toronto, Canada	138	Dhaka, Bangladesh
9	Copenhagen, Denmark	139	Lagos, Nigeria
10	Adelaide, Australia	140	Damascus, Syria
40	Singapore		

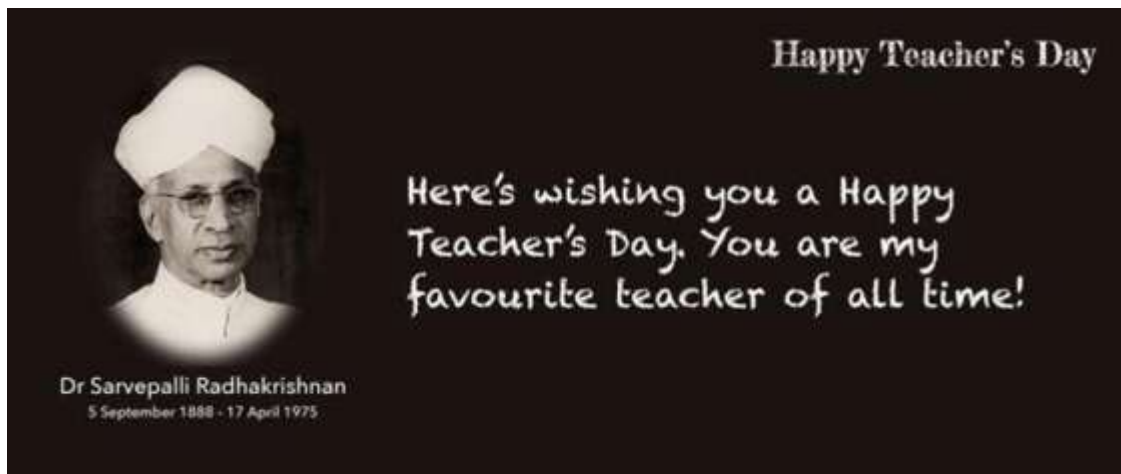
Source: THE ECONOMIST INTELLIGENCE UNIT

- ✓ In India, New Delhi has dropped by six places to rank 118th on the list, while Mumbai also fell two places since last year to rank 119th on the list
- ✓ Asian cities overall have scored slightly below the global average while three Asian cities — Port Moresby in Papua New Guinea (135th), Pakistan's Karachi (136th) and Bangladesh's Dhaka (138th) — are among the ten least liveable globally.
- ✓ London and New York ranked 48th and 58th, while Paris slid six places to 25th, from 19th last year
- ✓ Damascus in Syria, Lagos in Nigeria and Dhaka in Bangladesh were ranked in the bottommost places in the index
- ✓ The index assesses which locations around the world provide the best or the worst living conditions.
- ✓ The survey ranks countries across indicators including stability, healthcare, education, infrastructure, culture and environment.

NATIONAL DAY

◆ Teachers' Day 2019 – September 5

- ✓ The day marks the birth anniversary of Sarvepalli Radhakrishnan, India's first Vice President (1952-1962) and second President (1962-1967)
- ✓ It was first celebrated in 1962, the year he became the second President of India



- ✓ Teachers' Day is dedicated to all the teachers, gurus and mentors who guide their successors to become better human beings in life
- ✓ Dr. Sarvepalli Radhakrishnan was one of India's most distinguished scholars of the 20th century.
- ✓ His book, 'The Philosophy of Rabindranath Tagore' attracted global attention to Indian philosophy
- ✓ Dr. Radhakrishnan was one of the founders of Helpage India, a renowned NGO for elderly underprivileged in India
- ✓ He was conferred with the Bharat Ratna, India's highest civilian award, in 1954.
- ✓ Dr. Sarvepalli Radhakrishnan was nominated for the Nobel Prize 27 times, 16 times for the Nobel Prize in literature and 11 times for the Nobel Peace Prize.
- ✓ He was also awarded knighthood in 1931 and honorary membership of the British Royal Order of Merit in 1963
- ✓ President Ram Nath Kovind gave way National Awards to 46 teachers chosen from across the country to celebrate the Teachers Day

