

## EVERYDAY CURRENT AFFAIRS – SEP 7, 2019

### TAMIL NADU

- **Madras high court Chief Justice V K Tahilramani – submitted her resignation to President Ram Nath Kovind, marking a copy to CJI Ranjan Gogoi**



- ✓ The move follows the Supreme Court collegium's recent decision to reject her reservations against transfer to the Meghalaya high court "in the interest of better administration of justice"
- ✓ Earlier, the CJI-led collegium, which comprises Justices S A Bobde, N V Ramana and Arun Mishra, proposed the transfer of Justice A K Mittal, CJ of the Meghalaya HC as the new CJ of Madras HC, on August 28
- ✓ It would have been the first such instance in which the Judge from a chartered High Court been transferred to a relatively small High Court
- ✓ Justice Tahilramani was appointed judge of the Bombay HC on June 26, 2001 at the age of 43.
- ✓ She became chief justice of the Madras HC on August 12, 2018.

- ✓ Justices Tahiramani and Gita Mittal were the only women CJs in the 25 HCs in the country
  - ✓ Justice Mittal, whose parent HC is Delhi, has been heading Jammu and Kashmir HC since August 11, 2018, and is scheduled to retire on December 8, 2020.
  - ✓ The Madras high court is one of the three oldest HCs in the entire country, established on June 26, 1862.
  - ✓ It has a sanctioned strength of 75 judges
  - ✓ Meghalaya HC was carved out of Gauhati HC and has a sanctioned strength of four judges
  - ✓ Justice Tahiramani, the senior-most High Court judge in the country, was due to retire on October 2, 2020
- **Tamil Nadu chief minister Edappadi K Palaniswami - visited Tesla's electric vehicle manufacturing unit in Fremont, San Francisco in the US**



- ✓ The chief minister was accompanied by the State Ministers M C Sampath, R B Udayakumar, K T Rajenthra Bhalaji and chief secretary K Shanmugam.
- ✓ The team visited various automobile units in the U.S. that make e-vehicles and batteries, including Bloom Energy's premises in San Francisco, which has been a frontrunner in solid oxide fuel cells
- ✓ Bloom Energy is headed by K.R. Sridhar, a native of Tamil Nadu.

## NATIONAL

- **Prime Minister Narendra Modi – to hand over the connection number 'Eight crore' under the government's flagship scheme Pradhan Mantri Ujjwala Yojana, commonly referred to as Ujjwala — at a function in Aurangabad, Maharashtra on September 7**



- ✓ The scheme was launched on May 1, 2016 at Ballia in UP with a target of reaching five crore households by March 2019.
  - ✓ The target was later raised to eight crore households by March, 2020, which was now achieved seven months ahead of schedule
  - ✓ The transformational social sector scheme has helped the government connect with the rural masses, particularly women of SC/ST households, who have received 42% of the connections under the scheme.
  - ✓ The project aims to replace the smoky 'earthen' ovens in households with LPG connection and stove free of cost
- **President Ram Nath Kovind – to embark on a visit to Iceland, Switzerland and Slovenia from September 9**
- ✓ President Kovind will first arrive in Iceland on September 9 and will hold talks with Iceland President Gudni Johannesson and Iceland Prime Minister Katrín Jakobsdóttir.
  - ✓ During the visit, the President is expected to brief the top leadership in those countries on India's "national concerns", especially the terror incidents this year, including the Pulwama attack.
- **The Centre - has identified 130 wetlands for priority restoration in the next five years**
- ✓ It had asked states to submit their respective integrated management plan by October 15.
  - ✓ The highest number of such identified wetlands are in Uttar Pradesh (16) followed by Madhya Pradesh (13), Jammu & Kashmir (12), Gujarat (8), Karnataka (7) and West Bengal (6).
  - ✓ These wetlands will be restored under a comprehensive scheme of the National Plan for Conservation of Aquatic Ecosystems (NPCA) for conservation and restoration of wetlands and lakes.
  - ✓ A new concept, named as 'Wetland Health Card', would be introduced to monitor the entire ecosystem based on multiple parameters



- ✓ To conserve wetlands and other water bodies, the ministry would also form 'Wetland Mitras' (group of self-motivated individuals) across the country
  - ✓ Isro had come out earlier with a 'National wetlands atlas' on the basis of satellite images in 2011, mapping over two lakh wetlands covering around 4.63% of the total geographic area of India.
  - ✓ The wetlands are actually land areas covered by water, either temporarily, seasonally or permanently.
  - ✓ Marsh, fen and peatland come under this category.
  - ✓ The wetlands play a key role in hydrological cycle and flood control, water supply and providing food, fibre and raw materials.
  - ✓ Besides, such land areas support lakhs of migratory birds from colder regions of the world in summers, apart from mangroves that protect coastlines and filter pollutants
  - ✓ They also act as ecosystems that prevent land degradation and desertification, apart from serving as source of water
- **The government – is planning to honour playback singer Lata Mangeshkar with the “Daughter of the Nation” title when she turns 90 on September 28**



- ✓ The legendary singer will be conferred the title as a tribute to her contribution to Indian film music over seven decades.

## SCIENCE, TECHNOLOGY & ENVIRONMENT

- **Chandrayaan-2's Vikram lander - lost contact with ISRO at a distance of barely 2.1km from the Moon's surface after a 48-day journey in the early hours of September 7, 2019**
- ✓ However, the Orbiter will remain in the orbit of the moon for one year to send pictures and other information to the ISRO
  - ✓ Till date, only three countries — Russia, the US and China—have successfully softlanded on the Moon



- ✓ India was attempting to soft-land a probe on Moon for the first time
- ✓ Chandrayaan-2, comprising an orbiter, Vikram and a rover Pragyan, was launched on July 22 from Sriharikota
- ✓ It had successfully entered the Moon's orbit on August 20
- ✓ Chandrayaan-2 was expected to attempt a soft landing in a high plain between two craters, Manzinus C and Simpelius N, at a latitude of about 70° south.
- ✓ Scientists Muthaya Vanitha, the project director, and Ritu Karidhal, the mission director were the brains behind the Rs 978 crore, Chandrayaan-2 mission.
- ✓ The country has already carried out an orbiter mission, Chandrayaan-1, around Moon in 2008.
- ✓ Chandrayaan-1 carried a Moon Impact Probe (MIP), and the site at which it crashlanded was named Jawahar Point.

## APPOINTMENTS

- **Veteran politician and former Union minister Arif Mohammad Khan - was sworn in as the 22nd governor of Kerala on September 6**



- ✓ Kerala high court Chief Justice Hrishikesh Roy administered the oath of office to Khan
- ✓ The 68-year-old Khan hails from Uttar Pradesh
- ✓ He replaces P Sathasivam, a former Chief Justice of India, who completed his five-year term and returned to his hometown in Tamil Nadu

## OBITUARY

- **Robert Mugabe, the world's oldest head of state before his ouster in 2017 - has died in Singapore at the age of 95.**

**A tumultuous journey**

Robert Mugabe, the former guerrilla hero who ruled Zimbabwe for 37 years, has died aged 95. First heralded as a liberator who rid the former British colony of Rhodesia of white minority rule, Mugabe used repression to govern until the military forced him out in November 2017.

SOURCE: AFP



**1,000%. Protests crushed**

**2008:** Re-elected Mugabe forms unity govt. to rein in increasingly popular opposition MDC

**2013:** Mugabe is re-elected

**2014:** Mugabe makes wife Grace head of influential ZANU-PF Women's League and sacks Vice-President Joice Mujuru

**2016:** Protest in Harare. War veterans withdraw support to Mugabe

**The fall of Mugabe**

**Nov. 6:** Vice-President Emmerson Mnangagwa is sacked, putting Grace Mugabe in line to succeed as President

**Nov. 15:** Mugabe placed under arrest

**Nov. 18:** Mass anti-Mugabe protests

**Nov. 21:** Mugabe resigns

**Nov. 24:** Mnangagwa is sworn in as President

**1980:** Rhodesia gains independence from Britain after armed struggle by rival militant factions ZANU and ZAPU. ZANU leader Robert Mugabe becomes PM

**1982-87:** Mugabe crushes revolt by ZAPU supporters. Around 20,000 killed

**1987:** ZANU and ZAPU merge as ZANU-PF. Mugabe consolidates power as head of state, government and the armed forces

**2000:** Hundreds of white-owned farms seized. Collapse of farm sector begins

**2002:** Mugabe re-elected in fraud-tainted vote. EU imposes sanctions

**2006:** Economic crisis. Inflation hits

**2017**

- ✓ Robert Mugabe, an ex-guerrilla chief, took power after independence from Britain-backed white minority rule in 1980
- ✓ Robert Mugabe served as the Prime Minister of Zimbabwe from 1980- 1987 and as the President from 1987 to 2017.
- ✓ He belonged to the Zimbabwe African National Union-Patriotic Front (ZANU–PF).
- ✓ He is the first Prime Minister and later President of independent Zimbabwe
- ✓ Current President Emmerson Mnangagwa, one of his long-serving loyalist but fired in November 2017, returned to become his successor



## SPORTS

- **Lasith Malinga, Sri Lankan fast bowler - becomes the first T20 bowler to claim 100 wickets**



- ✓ Malinga claimed four wickets in four balls for the second time in his career to secure the win for Sri Lanka over New Zealand in the third Twenty20 international in Kandy
- ✓ It was only the third time a bowler had taken four wickets in as many balls in internationals, after Malinga himself against South Africa at the 2007 World Cup, and Afghanistan's Rashid Khan earlier this year.
- ✓ He now has five hat-tricks in international cricket to his name, with five in one-day internationals and two in T20Is
- ✓ Earlier, Malinga surpassed Pakistan spinner Shahid Afridi's tally of 97 scalps to become the leading T20 international wicket-taker on September 1

