

EVERYDAY CURRENT AFFAIRS – SEP 8, 2019

TAMIL NADU

- **Water level in the Stanley Reservoir in Mettur - reached the full capacity of 120ft on September 7**



- ✓ This was for the 43rd time that the dam had reached its full capacity since its inception in 1934
- ✓ Last year too, the water level had touched 120ft.
- **Five schools from Chennai - have figured on the list of top 10 schools in different categories across the country, in the EducationWorld India school rankings 2019-20.**
- ✓ Emerging the best of the Chennai schools pool for the fourth year in a row, Kendriya Vidyalaya IIT Madras (KVIITM), secured the second rank in government day schools category
- ✓ The School KFI and Shishya School, both in Adyar, have been ranked 7 and 10 in the day co-education schools category

AMONG THE BEST



► **Kendriya Vidyalaya- IIT Madras | Rank 2 among govt day schools**

► **The School KFI, Adyar | Rank 7 among co-ed day schools**

► **Shishya School, Adyar | Rank 10 among co-ed day schools**

► **DAV Boys Senior Secondary School, Gopalapuram | Rank 5 among boys day school**

► **KC High, Navalur | Rank 5 among Int'l day schools**

► **Lalaji Memorial International School, Kovur | Rank 8 in int'l day-cum-boarding schools**

- ✓ DAV Boys Senior Secondary School in Gopalapuram was ranked 5th among boys' day schools.
- ✓ Sanklap was ranked 10th among special needs schools in the country.
- ✓ KC High school in Chennai has been ranked fifth best international day school, while Lalaji Memorial Omega International School has been ranked 8th in international day-cum-boarding schools.
- ✓ Chinmaya International Residential School in Coimbatore ranked 2nd among co-ed boarding schools
- ✓ As many as 141 schools from Tamil Nadu were audited and ranked
- ✓ The magazine EducationWorld, in association with C fore, Delhi, concluded its 13th annual school rankings survey
- ✓ The survey ranks the top 1,000 schools in various categories such as day co-education, boys, girls and day-cum boarding, boarding schools, international schools and government schools.
- ✓ The rank was awarded based on 14 parameters ranging from infrastructure, competence of faculty, academic reputation, safety and hygiene
- **State Health minister C Vijayabaskar - inaugurated a 'National trans-catheter valve registry of India' at the inauguration of 'India Valves 2019,' an international conference in Chennai**
- ✓ The registry will be an 'online' forum where every heart valve implantation done without open surgeries will be entered into a national database





- ✓ Trans-catheter aortic valve implantation is a procedure that allows heart valve to be implanted using a long narrow tube called a 'catheter'
 - ✓ This is a new procedure being employed by the Cardiologists for replacing and repairing heart valves without open-heart surgery
 - ✓ The state is the first in the country to offer this procedure free at Omandurar Multi Super Speciality Hospital
- **Anna University - to introduce 'digital' evaluation system at College of Engineering, Guindy, Madras Institute of Technology, Alagappa College of Technology and School of Architecture and Planning, from the November-December semester exams.**


SCANNING, CODES & MUCH MORE


Anna University will be introducing a digital evaluation system on its four campuses from the upcoming semester exams in Nov-Dec


HOW IS IT DONE


 After exams, front sheet with student details will be removed. Plain answer scripts with codes will be sent to scanning centres

 Answer scripts will be scanned at 600pages to 1,000pages per minute and assigned dummy numbers

 Scanned answer scripts sent to evaluation centres online

 For each question, screen will show answer key and marking scheme

 Faculty members can't complete evaluation without visiting all pages at least once. System will prevent allotting marks over maximum allowed

 System will total the marks and save it in main server. It will decode dummy numbers and assign marks to candidates

 Anna University developing in-house software for online evaluation



Revaluation | As soon as application is received, officials will send image of answer scripts to students; after receiving request, answer scripts will be again evaluated by a senior faculty member

Making it foolproof

➤ Student details won't be available on answer sheet

➤ Sheets would be sent to any faculty anywhere in state

➤ No staff or faculty can change marks or access answer scripts after evaluation

➤ No physical handling of answer sheets to prevent malpractice

➤ Plans on to deliver question papers online to centres to avoid leak

- ✓ After a 'trial' phase in the upcoming exams, the system will be expanded to the entire state
- ✓ Under the new system, there will be no physical handling of answer scripts, thereby curbing the manipulation of answer scripts
- ✓ Following successive scams in examination and revaluation, vice-chancellor M K Surappa formed a committee which after visiting Visvesvaraya Technological University (VTU) in Belgaum evolved the new system
- **The Centre's policy think-tank, NITI Aayog - has given its approval for Chennai Metro Rail Limited (CMRL) to take loans from various international banks for its phase II project.**



- ✓ The Department of Economic Affairs (DEA) had also given its consent for the same.
- ✓ Chennai Metro's phase II, which aims to cover 118.9 km at an estimated cost of ₹69,180 crore, will require loans from various agencies.

- ✓ While the State government would contribute ₹13,723 crore initially, the rest, ₹55,457 crore, would be split between the State (20%), Centre (20%) and banks (60%).
 - ✓ CMRL has already taken a loan of ₹20,196 crore from the Japan International Co-operation Agency (JICA) for building 52 km of the project, the agreement for which has been signed earlier
 - ✓ For the remaining phases, CMRL needs more loans and has sought funding from the Asian Development Bank (ADB), Asian Infrastructure Investment Bank (AIIB), New Development Bank (NDB) and the World Bank.
- **The State Agriculture Department - intends to bring 25 lakh farmers under the Prime Minister's Crop Insurance Scheme — Pradhan Mantri Fasal Bima Yojana (PMFBY) — this year**
- ✓ This year, the government has set apart ₹635 crore, of which it has made an upfront payment of ₹7 crore

How Tamil Nadu fares on implementation of PM's crop insurance scheme

Year	Coverage (in lakh acres)	Farmers insured (in lakh)	Compensation paid (₹ crore)	Farmers who received compensation (in lakh)
2016-17	35.54	18.73	3,511	12.19
2017-18	31.71	15.18	1,814	8.53
2018-19	35.37	24.04	257.05	1.73
2019-20	45.5*	25*	Not applicable	Not applicable

* TARGETED

- ✓ The first year (2016-17) of the implementation of PMFBY was one of drought, whereas the subsequent year (2017-18) was a “normal year”
- ✓ Last year, the northeast monsoon (October-December) had deficit rainfall but the damage due to Cyclone Gaja was far greater than that of the monsoon
- ✓ Tamil Nadu stood first at the all-India level in the payment of compensation

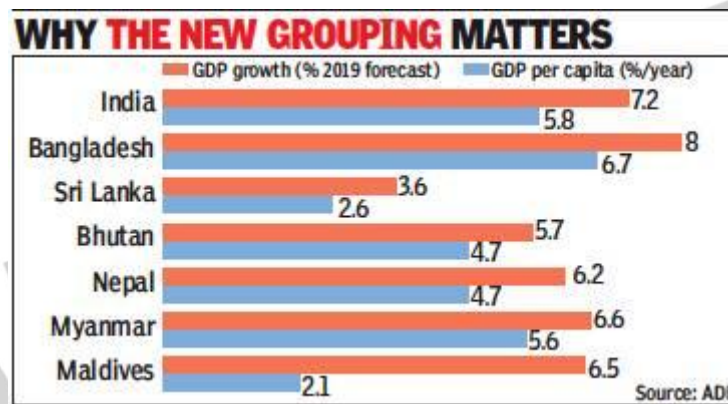
NATIONAL

- **The country's biggest detention centre to house foreign convicts and people declared “foreigners” by tribunals – to come up in Assam's Goalpara district by early next year**
- ✓ Approved by the Union home ministry in June last year, Assam's first detention centre is being constructed at 28,800 sqft land in Matia, about 124km west of Guwahati, at an estimated cost of ₹46.5 crore, fully borne by the Centre
 - ✓ The new facility will have the capacity to house 3,000 detainees
 - ✓ In 2014, the Centre had asked all states to set up at least one ‘detention centre/ holding centre/camps’ to detain “illegal immigrants and foreign nationals awaiting deportation/or repatriation after completion of sentence due to non-confirmation of nationality”

- ✓ The main aim of the detention center was to separate declared foreigners from criminals in jails
- ✓ Recently, the Supreme Court fixed the detention period of foreigners at 3 years.
- ✓ After completion of this period, those in detention would be eligible for bail by furnishing a surety bond of ₹1lakh each from two Indian citizens along with their proposed residential address and biometric details

INDIA AND NEIGHBOURS

- **India - is backing the revival of a new regional economic bloc, the South Asia sub-regional Economic Cooperation (Sasec).**
- ✓ The new bloc of fast growing south Asian countries will be without Pakistan
- ✓ SASEC consists of Myanmar, Bangladesh, Nepal, Bhutan, Sri Lanka, Maldives and India



- ✓ The foundation of Sasec was laid way back in 2001 when Bangladesh, Bhutan, India and Nepal agreed for deeper cooperation to accelerate economic growth in the sub region.
- ✓ Maldives and Sri Lanka joined the group in 2014 and in 2017, Myanmar was included.
- ✓ The new block assumes importance due to the slow progress of the South Asian Association for Regional Cooperation (SAARC) and the political hostilities between India and Pakistan
- ✓ The finance ministers from the new sub regional economic block are expected to meet in New Delhi next spring to device the strategy for the way ahead.

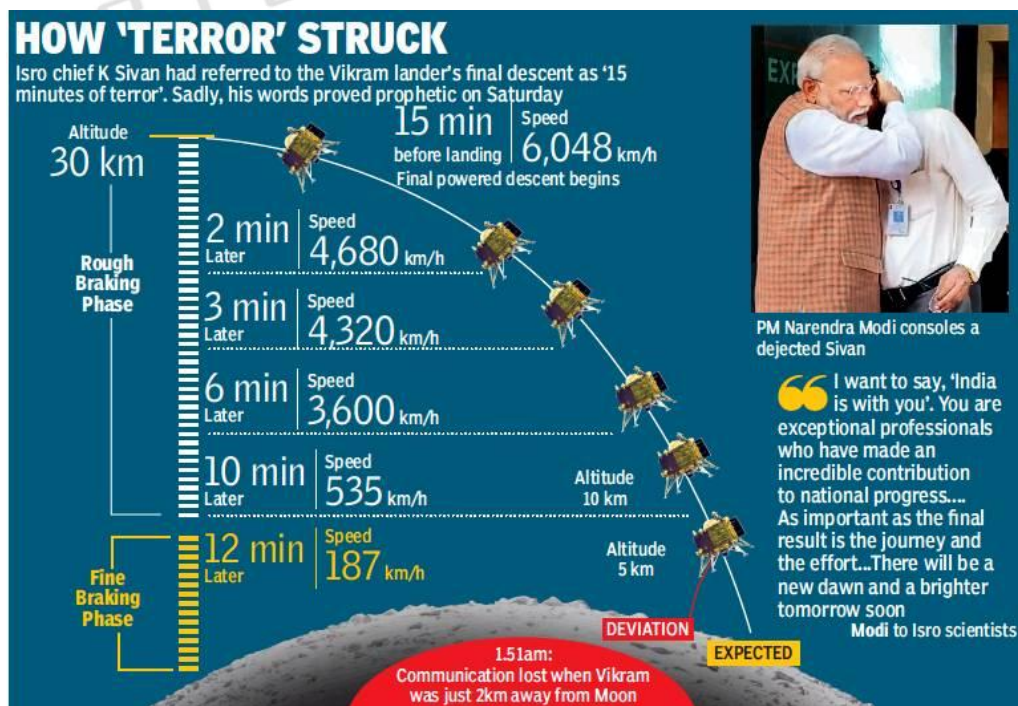
COMMITTEES

- **The Finance minister Nirmala Sitharaman – sets up a task force to prepare a national infrastructure pipeline for implementing the government’s plan of investing ₹100 lakh crore by 2024-25 in the social and economic infrastructure projects.**

- ✓ The panel would be headed by the Secretary in Department of economic affairs (DEA) and will have the CEO of NITI Aayog or his nominee as one of the members
- ✓ The other four members would be selected from the administrative ministry and the DEA
- ✓ The task force would be responsible of identifying technically feasible, financially and economically viable infrastructure projects that can be started in 2019-20 by October 31, 2019
- ✓ This would include greenfield and brownfield projects costing above ₹100 crore each.
- ✓ The panel would also prepare a list of projects that can be included for each of the remaining five years from 2021-2025 by December-end
- ✓ To achieve the target of reaching India's GDP to \$5 trillion by 2024-25, the country needs to spend about \$1.4 trillion (₹100 lakh crore) from the fiscal 2019-20 to 2024-25 on infrastructure

SCIENCE, TECHNOLOGY & ENVIRONMENT

- **Chandrayaan-2's Vikram lander – may have had too much braking thrust (horizontal velocity) while touching down, which spun it out of control, according to Isro scientists**
- ✓ Officially, Isro maintained that data was still being analysed
- ✓ Descending for 12 minutes, the lander was to have set itself down on the moon's surface at 1.55 a.m. on September 7
- ✓ However, three minutes before lunar touchdown, it lost contact with the earth and went blank at 2.1 km above the moon's surface



- ✓ Vikram had achieved perfect 'roughbraking' for 10 minutes, reducing its velocity from 1,680 metres per second to 146 metres per second, while descending from its orbit 30km from Moon
 - ✓ Soon after the 'fine-braking' that signalled Vikram's last 5km descent to Moon, mission control lost contact with the lander
 - ✓ Vikram's legs were to be horizontal during the rough-braking and had to be rotated by 90 degrees to bring them vertical to the landing surface before fine-braking.
 - ✓ At this point, the thrust might have been more than optimal, impacting the lander's orientation, like a car losing direction due to sudden braking at high speed
 - ✓ The life of the orbiter was now expected to be around 7.5 years instead of the earlier one year as its fuel had been used economically.
 - ✓ The orbiter carries eight of the 13 Indian payloads — three others were on the lander and two on the rover Pragyan sitting within it.
 - ✓ It also carries a camera with a resolution of 0.3 m, the best ever used in a lunar mission so far.
- **Isro – to tie up with Japan Aerospace Exploration Agency (Jaxa) for its next moon mission, Lunar Polar Exploration (LPE)**
- ✓ The project is likely to be implemented in 2024, after India's proposed human spaceflight mission in 2022
 - ✓ The LPE, as per the initial discussions, is looking at sending a rover to Moon and its timeline will coincide with Nasa's return to Moon in the next few years through the Artemis programme.
 - ✓ While Nasa is also looking at sending humans back to Moon again, the Isro-Jaxa mission will be only a robotic mission
 - ✓ The LPE joint-satellite mission is likely to be bigger and better, and may include bringing back samples from the Moon's polar region

SPORTS

- **India's Payas Jain – settles with a silver medal in the 25th Asian Junior and Cadet Table Tennis Championships in Ulaanbaatar, Mongolia**



- ✓ The Delhi-based player lost to top seed and world No. 1 Yuanyu Chen of China
 - ✓ With the win, Payas earned a berth in the Asian squad for the World Cadet Challenge at Wladyslawowo (Poland) in October.
 - ✓ India's campaign at the championships ended with two silver medals — one by the junior boys team and another by Payas.
- **India Red – defeated India Green to lift the Duleep Trophy at the M Chinnaswamy stadium in Bengaluru**



- ✓ Abhimanyu Easwaran, who played a stupendous knock of 153, was the leading run-scorer for India Red
 - ✓ Easwaran was adjudged the Player of the Match.
- **Hearing impaired rifle shooter Dhanush Srikanth – betters the world record score again in the 10m air rifle event in the national trials at the Dr Karni Singh Shooting Range in New Delhi**



