

EVERYDAY CURRENT AFFAIRS – NOV 19, 2018

TAMIL NADU

- **A first-of-its-kind 'Cyber War Room' - is being set up at Bannari Amman Institute of Technology in Erode district**
- ✓ The aim of the 'War room' is to guide students to combat increasing cyber crime
- ✓ It is being set up by Lucideus Technologies, an IT Risk Assessment and Digital Security Services provider
- ✓ It is planned to be launched by the next academic year
- ✓ India is currently ranked third in the number of cyber attacks globally

STATES

- **Punjab – becomes 3rd state in the country to ban hookah bars**



- ✓ Earlier, Maharashtra (Oct 2018) and Gujarat (2017) have banned hookah lounges in their states
- ✓ The ban comes into effect after the President's assent to the Cigarettes and Other Tobacco Products (Prohibition of Advertisement and Regulation of Trade and Commerce, Production, Supply and Distribution) (Punjab Amendment) Bill, 2018

➤ **Maharashtra cabinet – passes Maratha Reservation bill**



- ✓ The decision was based on the recommendations of the Maharashtra State Backward Class Commission, set up in 2016
 - ✓ The reservation will be granted to the community under a new category called 'Socially and Educationally Backward Class' (SEBC)
 - ✓ The percentage of quota will be finalized later by the Committee
 - ✓ The politically dominant Maratha community constitutes over 30% of the state's population
- **Kerala – launches new Online Open Learning Training Programme titled 'KOOL'**
- ✓ It was developed by the Kerala Infrastructure and Technology for Education (KITE)
 - ✓ It will enable training to teachers, students and the general public under MOOC (Massive Open Online Course) model
 - ✓ This will help Kerala to become India's first complete digital state in Education
 - ✓ KOOL has been developed as an expansion of 'Samagra', the resource portal of the education department
 - ✓ Teachers upon completion of the complete course would be awarded certificates

INTERNATIONAL

- **Africa's first ever High Speed Train – unveiled in Morocco on November 18**



- ✓ It was inaugurated by French President Emmanuel Macron and Morocco's King Mohammed VI
 - ✓ It was called 'LGV' and connects Casablanca and Tangier in 2 hours 10 minutes running at a speed of 320 kmph
 - ✓ The \$2 billion project was launched in September 2011 by the king and Nicolas Sarkozy, then president of France
 - ✓ France financed 51% of the project, Morocco 28% and the remaining 21% was provided by Saudi Arabia, Kuwait and the United Arab Emirates
 - ✓ Morocco bought 12 such trains from French manufacturer, Alstom
 - ✓ The king named the first line 'Al Boraq' after a mythical winged creature that transported the prophets to the heavens
- **University of British Columbia in Canada – becomes the first University in the world to legalise Cannabis smoking in campus**



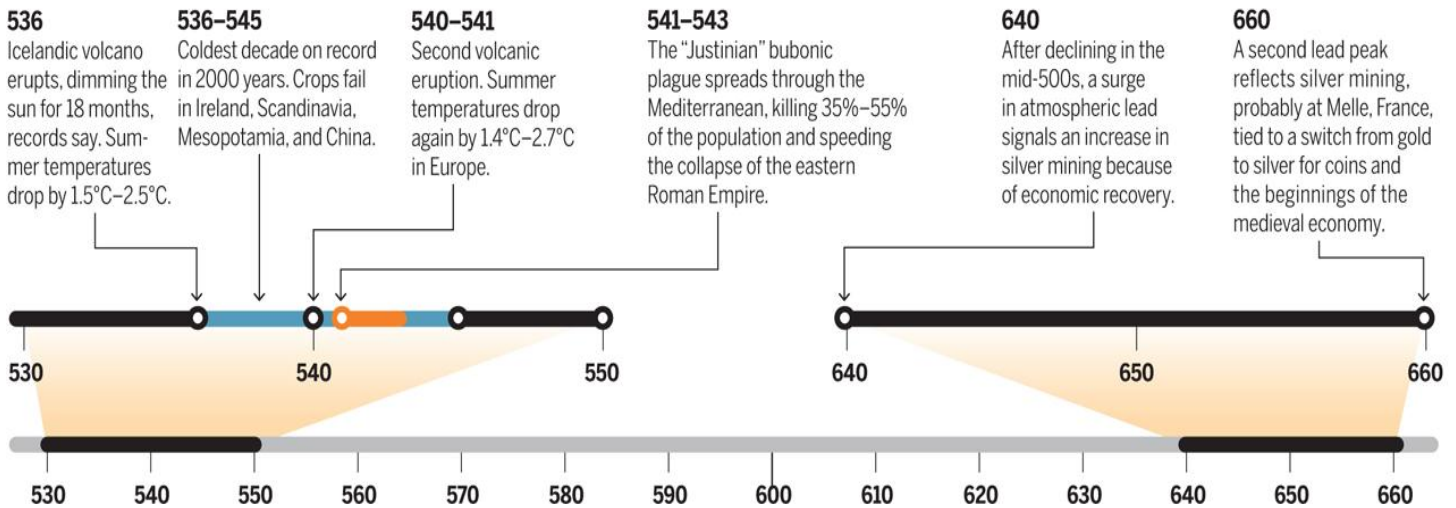
- ✓ The university will be setting up designated spots called 'smoking gazebos'
- ✓ Apart from these spots, smoking of cannabis is prohibited anywhere in the campus
- ✓ Both the cultivation and the sale of cannabis is also prohibited in the campus

➤ **536 AD – was nominated as the ‘Worst year’ to be alive**



Darkest hours and then a dawn

A high-resolution ice core record combined with historical texts chronicles the impact of natural disasters on European society.



- ✓ It was the year in which much of the world was plunged into darkness, causing a miserable life for people
- ✓ A mystery fog covered Europe, Asia and West Asia — leaving these places in pure darkness for 18 months
- ✓ Snow had fallen in China, causing massive starvation
- ✓ Summer temperatures fell by 1.5-2.5 degrees Celsius followed by the chilliest decade in 2,300 years
- ✓ The world did not show signs of recovery until 640 AD
- ✓ The other years of misery were in 1349, the year the Black Death hit Europe and 1918, when the flu killed up to 100 million people

CONFERENCES & SUMMITS

- **Jashne Bachpan, 14th edition of International Children's Theatre Festival – held in New Delhi**



- ✓ The nine-day theatrical extravaganza for children was organized by National School of Drama
 - ✓ The festival seeks to introduce theatre to the children, as schools do not have theatre as a subject
 - ✓ It will have Plays of 21 production teams of various languages from India and 3 foreign groups (Sri Lanka, Switzerland and Indonesia)
- **8th National Conference of Women in Police – begins in Ranchi, Jharkhand**



- ✓ The two-day conference is being organized by Bureau of Police Research & Development in collaboration with Jharkhand Police

➤ **Konnichiwa Pune, a first-of-its-kind business festival – held in Pune**



- ✓ It was hosted by The Indo-Japan Business Council (IJBC)
- ✓ The festival aims to promote businesses and cultural exchange between India and Japan
- ✓ Currently, Japan is funding the Mumbai-Ahmedabad High Speed Bullet Train project, which will introduce the Shinkansen technology

ECONOMY

- **Sashakt India Asset Management**, an Asset Management company – formed by the Sunil Mehta Committee – to resolve large bad loans
- ✓ The company will follow a five-pronged strategy under Project Sashakt to tackle stress in the banking sector
- ✓ Around Rs 3 lakh crore in 200 bad loan accounts was stuck in the country's banks at present
- **Myntra – merges with Jabong**
- ✓ The integrated firm will continue to be led by Myntra CEO, Ananth Narayanan
- ✓ Narayanan would report to Flipkart CEO, Kalyan Krishnamurthy
- ✓ Flipkart had acquired Myntra in 2014 and Myntra had acquired Jabong in 2016

APPOINTMENTS

- **Sanjay Kumar Mishra – appointed as the Director of Enforcement Directorate (ED)**



- ✓ He will be in-charge for a period of 2 years
- ✓ The position of Director of ED is equivalent to the additional Secretary rank in the Union Government
- ✓ Currently he was the Principal special director in ED with additional charge of Director
- ✓ Prior to the appointment in ED, he was the chief commissioner of the Income Tax Department in Delhi
- ✓ He succeeds Karnal Singh

- ✓ ED – was established in 1951 as ‘Enforcement Unit’ in Department of Economic Affairs with its headquarters in New Delhi
 - ✓ It functions under aegis of Department of Revenue, Union Ministry of Finance
 - ✓ It enforces 2 key Acts, Foreign Exchange Management Act 1999 (FEMA) and Prevention of Money Laundering Act 2002 (PMLA) to check money laundering
- **Dr Raghu Ram – elected as the President of Association of Surgeons of India (ASI)**



- ✓ He is an eminent breast cancer surgeon and also the director of KIMS Ushalakshmi centre for breast diseases
- ✓ Raghu Ram was a recipient of Padma Shri award and B.C. Roy National Award
- ✓ ASI was regarded as “Voice of Surgery” in India
- ✓ It is the largest surgical Association of Asia Pacific Region
- ✓ American College of Surgeons is the largest surgical association of the world.

AWARDS

- **Ustad Amjad Ali Khan, Sarod exponent - was presented “Sumitra Charat Ram Award for Lifetime Achievement”**



- ✓ The award recognizes his immense contribution to the enrichment and promotion of Indian Classical Music
- ✓ Ustad has already received fellowship of Sangeet Natak Akademi, UNESCO Award, UNICEF National Ambassadorship, Fukuoka cultural Grand price of Japan & ‘Commander of the Order of Arts and Letters’ of France
- ✓ He had received Padma Vibhushan in 2001
- ✓ The award is named after Sumitra Charat Ram, founder of Shriram Bharatiya Kala Kendra.

SPORTS

➤ Alexander Zverev – becomes the 2018 ATP champion



- ✓ The 21-year old German beat world number one Novak Djokovic 6-4 6-3 to win the ATP Finals
 - ✓ Zverev is the first German to win the title since Boris Becker in Frankfurt in 1995
 - ✓ He is also the youngest since Djokovic won at the same age in Shanghai in 2008
 - ✓ He also became only the fourth player to beat Roger Federer and Novak Djokovic back-to-back in the semi-final and final of the same tournament
 - ✓ Rafael Nadal has managed it three times, Andy Murray once and David Nalbandian is the other
 - ✓ He beat both of them in consecutive days without losing a set
- **Pankaj Advani – wins the Grand double and extends World title tally to 21**



- ✓ He won both the long and short formats of the IBSF World Billiards Championship titles for a record fourth time in Yangon, Myanmar
- ✓ He is the only player in the world to play both billiards and snooker at the world level
- ✓ Pankaj is the winner of three world titles this year so far.

- **India's Manav Thakkar - settled for a bronze medal in the Under-21 singles category - in the International Table Tennis Federation Challenge Belgosstrakh Belarus Open in Minsk, Belarus**



- ✓ Manav, who had an impressive run in the tournament, lost to Russia's Denis Ivonin in the semifinals to miss out the gold medal
- **India's Shubhankar Sharma - became the first Indian Golfer to emerge as the Sir Henry Cotton Rookie of the Year on the European Tour**
- ✓ He won the accolade despite finishing a disappointing final round of 80 at the DP World Tour Championships in Dubai
- **India's Mahesh Mangaonkar - wins the Brussels Open squash Championship**
- ✓ He beat second seed Belgian Jan van den Herrewegen in the finals

INTERNATIONAL DAY

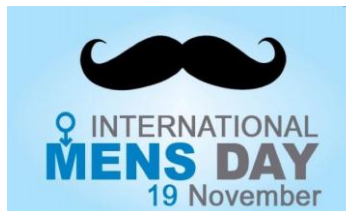
- **World Toilet Day – November 19**



- ✓ The observance of the day aims to tackle the global sanitation crisis
- ✓ On 19 November 2001, the World Toilet Organization (WTO) was founded by Jack Sim, a philanthropist from Singapore
- ✓ He subsequently declared 19 November as World Toilet Day
- ✓ The UN General Assembly declared World Toilet Day as an official UN day in 2013
- ✓ UN-Water is the official convener of World Toilet Day, choosing World Toilet Day website and theme

- ✓ Theme 2018 – ‘Nature-based Solutions’
- ✓ Slogan 2018 – When Nature calls, we need a toilet
- ✓ Since 2016, the same overall annual theme has been used for both World Toilet Day and World Water Day (March 22)
- ✓ United Nations' Sustainable Development Goal 6 (SDG 6) aims to ensure availability and management of sanitation and water for all by 2030

➤ **International Men’s Day – November 19**



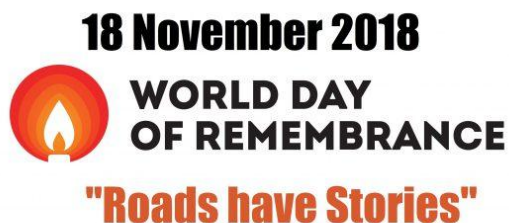
- ✓ The observance of the day was inaugurated in February, 1992 by Thomas Oaster
- ✓ The day focuses on Men’s and boy’s health and highlights male role models
- ✓ The observance of the day was re-initialised in 1999 in Trinidad and Tobago by Jerome Teelucksingh
- ✓ He chose the day to honour his father's birthday and also the 1989 qualification of Trinidad and Tobago for the Football World Cup
- ✓ International Men's Day is followed by Universal Children's Day on 20 November
- ✓ Theme 2018 - "Positive Male Role Models”

➤ **Qaumi Ekta Week – November 19 to 25**



- ✓ The observance of the week reinforces the spirit of communal harmony and national integration
- ✓ As part of the week-long programmes, 19 November will be observed as National Integration Day
- ✓ The National Foundation for Communal Harmony, an autonomous organisation with the Ministry of Home Affairs, organises ‘Communal Harmony Campaign’ coinciding with the Qaumi Ekta Week
- ✓ The Communal Harmony Flag Day is observed on 25th November, during the celebrations

➤ **World Day of Remembrance for Road Traffic Victims – November 18**



- ✓ The day is observed on the third Sunday of November
 - ✓ The observance of the day remembers the people who were killed or injured on the roads
 - ✓ This day was started by 'Road Peace organization' in 1993
 - ✓ In 2005, United Nations endorsed this day as a global observance
 - ✓ Theme 2018 - "Roads have stories"
- **1st Naturopathy Day – November 18**



- ✓ Ministry of AYUSH (Ayurveda, Yoga and Naturopathy, Unani, Siddha and Homoeopathy) – celebrated the day throughout the country
- ✓ AYUSH Minister, Shripad Yesso Naik inaugurated the first Naturopathy Day Programme in New Delhi

OBITUARY

➤ **Brigadier Kuldip Singh Chandpuri (Retd) – 78 years**



- ✓ He was hailed as the hero of the historic 1971 battle of Longewala during the Indo-Pak war of 1971

- ✓ Brig Chandpuri was a Major in the Indian Army and posted in the Western sector during the war of 1971
 - ✓ He was commanding a small group of around 100 soldiers and successfully defended the Longewala border post in Thar Desert region of Rajasthan against around 2000 Pakistani soldiers with more than 40 tanks
 - ✓ The war, which saw India defeat Pakistan, led to the liberation of Bangladesh.
 - ✓ He retired as a brigadier in the Indian Army
 - ✓ He served in the United Nations Emergency Force for about a year
 - ✓ He also served twice as an instructor at the Infantry School, Mhow
 - ✓ Chandpuri was awarded the Maha Vir Chakra, which is India's second-highest gallantry award, for his exceptional leadership during the Battle of Longewala
 - ✓ Brig Chandpuri inspired JP Dutta's 1997 Bollywood hit movie 'Border' and his character was famously portrayed by Sunny Deol in the movie
- **T S Kanaka (Chennai), Asia's first and World's Third woman Neurosurgeon (86 years)**



- ✓ She had worked as a professor of Neurosurgery in Madras Medical College and retired in 1990
- ✓ She also served as an army medical officer for 2 years during the 1962 Indo-China war
- ✓ She has the distinction of becoming the first neurosurgeon in India to perform chronic electrode implants in the brain
- ✓ Deep Brain Stimulation was one of the area of interests of Dr. T.S. Kanaka
- ✓ She set up Sri Santhanakrishna Padmavathi Health Care and Research Foundation in Chrompet (Chennai), which offers free treatment for the economically disadvantaged
- ✓ Neurosurgery in India was established only in three places initially — Chennai, Vellore and Bombay

➤ **Guru Banamali Maharana, eminent Percussionist in Odisha (77 years)**



- ✓ He was known for playing 'Mardala' in Odissi music and dance
- ✓ He was previously honoured with the prestigious Orissa Sangeet Natak Akademi Award in 1994, Kendriya Sangeet Natak Akademi Award in 2004 and the Kabi Samrat Upendra Bhanja Sanman in 2016
- ✓ He founded the Mardala Academy in Bhubaneswar, which organizes 'Tala Vadya Utsav'

