

EVERYDAY CURRENT AFFAIRS – NOV 2, 2018

TAMIL NADU

- **Tamil Nadu Government – releases the list of 32 ‘Model schools’ selected in all the 32 districts**
 - ✓ The schools will be equipped with the latest teaching technologies at a cost of Rs 50 lakhs per school
 - ✓ The concept of ‘Model schools’ in each district was proposed earlier on June 1 by the Hon’ble CM, Edappadi K Palaniswami
 - ✓ The initiative was earlier launched in Presidency Girls Higher secondary school, Egmore in Chennai
- **Annamalai University (Chidambaram) – signs MoU with Singapore’s National University – for collaboration in the areas of Education and Research**
 - ✓ The agreement is valid for a period of 3 years and it can be renewed later

NATIONAL

- **Supreme Court – gets 4 new judges – to raise its working strength to 28**
 - ✓ The sanctioned strength of SC is 31 judges
 - ✓ Chief Justice Ranjan Gogoi administered oath of office to the four judges
 - ✓ **The new judges are –**
 - ✓ Justice Hemant Gupta,
 - ✓ Justice R Subhash Reddy,
 - ✓ Justice M R Shah
 - ✓ Justice Ajay Rastogi



- ✓ Justice Gupta served as the Chief Justice of the Madhya Pradesh High Court
- ✓ Justice Rastogi served as the Chief Justice of the Tripura High Court
- ✓ Justice Shah served as the Chief Justice of the Patna High Court
- ✓ Justice Reddy served as the Chief Justice of the Gujarat High Court
- ✓ Two judges, namely, Justice Kurian Joseph and Justice Madan B Lokur are set to retire in November and December 2018 respectively
- **National Research Centre for Banana (NRCB), Trichy – exports 20 tonnes of ‘Cavendish’ banana to the European Union from the Kochi port**
 - ✓ The trial shipment was done in association with Tamil Nadu banana Growers Federation
 - ✓ India is the 20th biggest exporter of bananas globally
 - ✓ European union receives banana from Latin American countries and India sees a great potential with its diverse varieties in EU market
- **NEET UG 2019 – timings of the exams was changed to 2 pm to avoid morning rush hours**
 - ✓ This was announced by the National Testing Agency, which conducts the test
 - ✓ The exam is scheduled for May 5, 2019
- **Indian Railways – launched ‘UTS’ mobile app for buying unreserved tickets ‘online’ in the trains – nationwide from November 1, 2018**



- ✓ A passenger is allowed to book four tickets at a time
- ✓ The registered user can also buy platform tickets and monthly passes through the App
- ✓ The pilot project of ‘UTS’ Mobile app was commenced in December, 2014 on Delhi-Palwal section of Northern Railway
- ✓ Later, it was expanded to Chennai, Delhi, Kolkata and Secunderabad between 2015 and 2017
- ✓ The 'UTSONMOBILE' app is available on Android, iOS and Windows phones
- ✓ At present, the App generates a revenue of Rs 45 lakh per day

- **Ministry of Home affairs – approves a ‘Safe city’ project for Lucknow under Nirbhaya fund scheme**
 - ✓ The project would be implemented at a cost of Rs 194.44 crore with Centre to state share in 60:40 ratio
 - ✓ The other cities that are selected for the ‘Safe city’ project are Mumbai, Delhi, Kolkata, Chennai, Bengaluru, Hyderabad and Ahmedabad, apart from Lucknow
- **Ministry of Road transport & Highways – makes ‘VLT’ system (Vehicle Location Tracking) and Emergency Panic buttons as ‘Mandatory’ for all Public service vehicles registered on or after 1st January 2019**
 - ✓ The move aims to ensure safety for women passengers
 - ✓ The details of each VLT device will be uploaded on the VAHAN database by the VLT device manufacturer

CABINET APPROVALS

- **MoU between India and South Korea – for strengthening cooperation in Tourism sector**
- **MoU between India and Morocco – on Mutual legal assistance in criminal matters**
- **MoU between India and Russia – in transport education in the field of Railways**
- **Renaming of Jharsuguda Airport in Odisha as “Veer Surendra Sai Airport, Jharsuguda” after Veer Surendra Sai who is well-known freedom fighter of Odisha**

CONFERENCES & SUMMITS

- **AVIAMAT 2018 – ‘Emerging Trends in Aviation Engineering and Logistics’ Seminar - held in New Delhi**



- ✓ It was organized by the Indian Air Force
- ✓ It had the participation of aviation experts from Defence Research and Development Organisation (DRDO), Hindustan Aeronautical Limited (HAL) and start ups from the private sector

- **2nd edition of Navy Commanders Conference 2018** – held in New Delhi



- ✓ Theme - *'Optimisation' and 'Emerging Technologies'*
- ✓ The Defence Minister addressed the Navy Commanders in the conference
- ✓ The conference is part of PM Narendra Modi's vision of 'Security and Growth for All in the Region' (SAGAR) initiative

DEFENCE

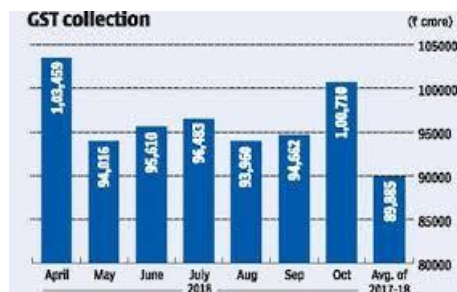
- **Dharma Guardian 2018** – the first ever Joint military exercise between India and Japan – starts at Counter Insurgency Warfare School, Vairengte, Mizoram on Nov 1, 2018



- ✓ The Japanese contingent is represented by 32nd Infantry Battalion, while the Indian side by 6/1 Gorkha Rifles

ECONOMY

- **GST collections** – crosses Rs 1 lakh crore for the 2nd time since launch - in October 2018



- ✓ The states which achieved "extra-ordinary growth" in total taxes collected – includes Kerala (44%), Jharkhand (20%), Rajasthan (14%), Uttarakhand (13%) and Maharashtra (11%)
- ✓ It had first crossed the landmark figure in April 2018 when the collections were Rs 1,03,459 crore
- ✓ GST was launched across the country on the midnight of July 1, 2017 by the former President, Pranab Mukherjee along with the Government of India

SPORTS

- **Vietnam – to host Formula 1 Race in April 2020**
 - ✓ The country thus becomes the 3rd South East Asian nation to host the top-notch race
- **Rahul Dravid – inducted into ICC Hall of Fame**



- ✓ He received a formal 'ICC Hall of Famer' Cap from Sunil Gavaskar
- ✓ Dravid is the fifth Indian cricketer to be formally inducted into the ICC Cricket Hall of Fame
- ✓ Other ICC Hall of Fame Cappers from India
 - ✓ Sunil Gavaskar (1971-1987) - inducted in 2009
 - ✓ Bishan Singh Bedi (1966-1979) - inducted in 2009
 - ✓ Kapil Dev (1978-1994) - inducted in 2010
 - ✓ Anil Kumble (1990-2008) - inducted in 2015
- ✓ Dravid played 164 Tests and 344 ODIs for India from 1996 to 2012, and scored a total of 24,177 international runs in the two formats including 48 hundreds and 146 fifties at an average of 45.41.
- ✓ Earlier this year, Dravid, along with Ricky Ponting and England women wicketkeeper Claire Taylor, were announced as the new inductees in the Hall of Fame

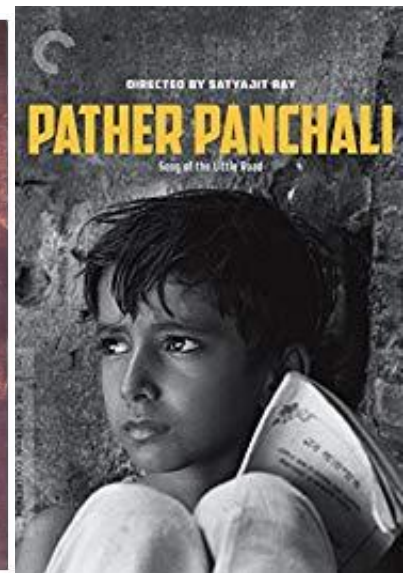
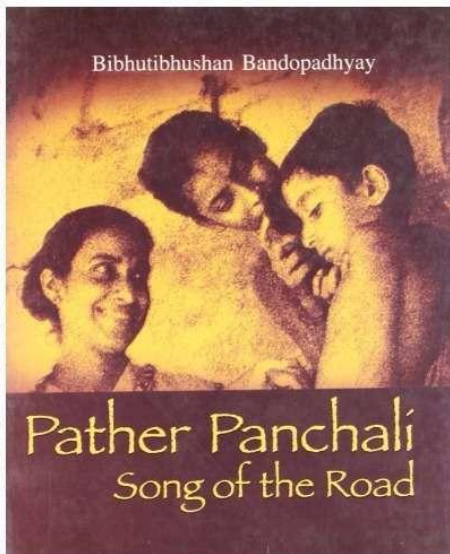
- Qatar – to host 23rd edition of ‘World Corporate Games’ during November 6-9, 2018



- ✓ This is the first time the World Corporate Games will be held in the Middle East
- ✓ The last edition was held in Houston, US in 2017
- ✓ The event is held once in every 2 years
- ✓ Nearly 8,000 international and local participants will take part
- ✓ The tournament features ‘mindsports’ and ‘esports’ for the very first time

RANKINGS

- BBC’s 100 best Foreign language films
 - ✓ Satyajit Ray’s ‘Pather Panchali’ (1955) is the only Indian movie to make it to the list at 15th place



- ✓ The ranking list is topped by Japanese film maker, Akira Kurosawa’s ‘Seven samurai’
- ✓ The list has 27 films in French, followed by 12 in Mandarin, and 11 each in Italian and Japanese

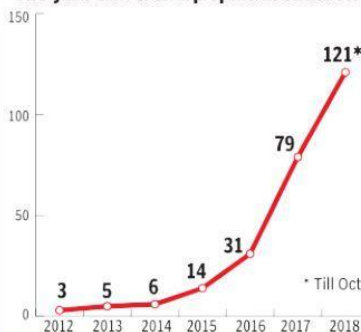
REPORT

- **Internet shutdown tracker Report – released by Delhi-based ‘Software Freedom Law centre’**
 - ✓ The ‘Freedom on the net 2018’ report released by the US-based ‘Freedom House’ also revealed that India scored ‘43’ and tops the Internet shutdowns in world
 - ✓ India is classified under ‘Partly free’ category in the global report

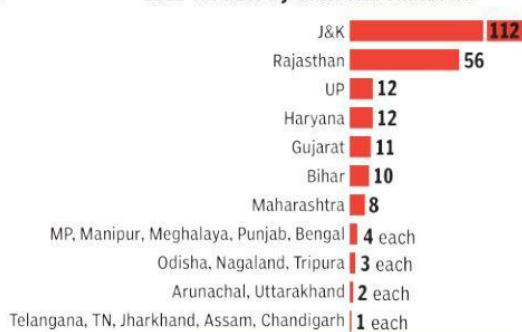
WHAT IS INTERNET SHUTDOWN?

Software Freedom Law Centre defines it as ‘disablement of access to Internet as a whole within one or more localities for any duration of time’

The year saw a sharp spike in shutdowns



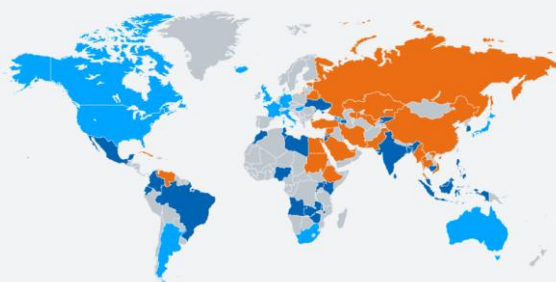
2018 Till Date By State Net Shutdown



KEY TAKEAWAYS

- Researchers said Centre issues 7,000-8,000 orders for phone tapping per month in India
- India saw 16,315 hours of Internet Shutdowns in 2012-17 (Icrier data, IndiaSpend)
- 12,615 hrs of mobile Internet shutdown cost Indian economy ₹16,590 crore & 3,700 hrs of fixed-line Internet shutdowns cost ₹4,746 crore
- Iceland, Estonia tied with just 6 shutdowns in the year and Canada at 15 also scored on highest internet freedom
- China, Iran and Syria scored 88, 85 and 83 with least internet freedom

Freedom on the Net Report 2018



- Free
- Partly Free
- Not free
- Not assessed

