

EVERYDAY CURRENT AFFAIRS – NOV 27, 2018

STATES

- **Jammu & Kashmir – celebrates the annual week-long ‘Jhiri Mela’ festival**



- ✓ It was inaugurated by the Governor of J&K, Satya Pal Malik in Jammu
 - ✓ The festival is celebrated as a commemoration to a martyred farmer named, ‘Baba Jitto’
 - ✓ ‘Baba Jitto’ was a farmer who died about 500 years ago in protest against the oppressive demands of a land lord
- **West Bengal – celebrates the annual three-day long ‘Jangalmahal’ festival**



- ✓ The festival aims to revive and popularise the culture and heritage of Jangal Mahal

➤ **Odisha – celebrates the 10-day long historic ‘Bali Yatra’ festival**



- ✓ It was inaugurated in Cuttack, Odisha on the occasion of Kartik Purnima on November 23, 2018
- ✓ The festival is the largest trade fair in Odisha showcasing various ethnic items
- ✓ It is held on the banks of Mahanadi river in Cuttack
- ✓ The festival marks the day when the ancient mariners would set sail to distant lands of Bali, for trade and cultural expansion

NATIONAL

➤ **India – signs \$200 million loan with Asian Development Bank (ADB) – to improve State highways in Bihar**

- ✓ The agreement would facilitate the widening and upgrading of 230 kms of state highways
- ✓ ADB has lent \$1.43 billion, since 2008, for the upgradation of 1,453 km of state highways and also for building the India’s longest river bridge over Ganga near Patna
- ✓ ADB – promotes social and economic development in the Asia and Pacific region
- ✓ It was established in December 1966 with its headquarters in Manila, Philippines

➤ **India and China – signs agreement for the avoidance of double taxation and for the prevention of fiscal evasion**

- ✓ The pact was signed under Section 90 of Income-tax Act, 1961, for the exchange of information on the related standards

➤ **The Research Designs and Standards Organisation – had announced the successful completion of the trial run of ‘Train 18’**



- ✓ The indigenously developed, engineless train ran upto a speed of 115 km per hour on tracks in Moradabad division of Northern Railway
- ✓ The train will now be sent to Kota division in West Central Railways for validating its performance at its designed speed of 160 kmph
- ✓ It was launched by Ashwani Lohani, Railway Board Chairman at the Chennai’s Integral Coach Factory (ICF) on October 29, 2018
- ✓ It was developed at a cost of Rs 100 crore within a period of just 18 months
- ✓ It is expected to replace the Shatabdi Express, which was introduced in 1988

- **Vice President, Venkaiah Naidu – lays the foundation stone for the construction of Dera Baba Nanak - Kartarpur Sahib Road Corridor - on the Indian side at Mann village in Gurdaspur district of Punjab**

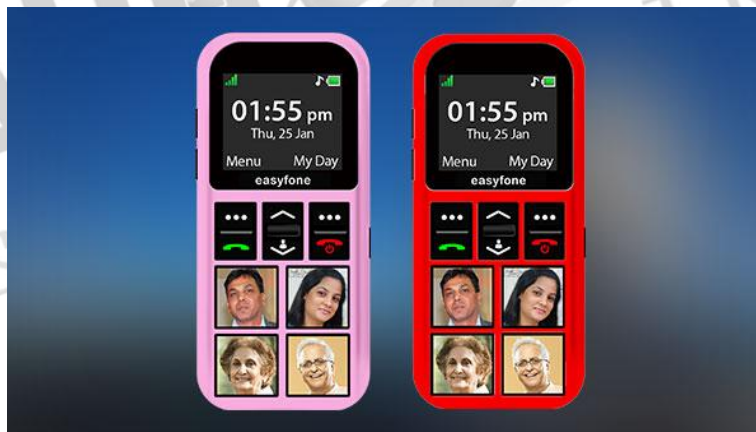


- ✓ Indian Sikh pilgrims can now visit the holy site of Gurudwara Darbar Sahib at Kartarpur in Pakistan through this corridor
- ✓ The decision to build the corridor was announced by the Indian and Pakistan Governments on November 15, 2018
- ✓ India had first proposed the Kartarpur Sahib corridor in 1999 during the historic bus ride to Lahore by the then PM, A B Vajpayee
- ✓ The corridor will be developed by National Highways Authority of India and funded by the Central Government
- ✓ The Gurudwara Darbar Sahib, Kartarpur is the final resting place of Guru Nanak until his death in 1539
- ✓ It is located on the bank of river Ravi in Pakistan and is about 4 km from the Indo-Pak border in Pakistan
- **Government – has transferred over Rs 1,600 crore to 48.5 lakh mothers – under Pradhan Mantri Matru Vandana Yojana (PMMVY)**



- ✓ As per the scheme launched from January 1, 2017, Rs 5,000 would be given in 3 installments to pregnant women and lactating mothers for the first child through direct benefit transfer (DBT)
- ✓ These details were provided by the Centre for Digital Financial Inclusion (CDFI) through the PMMVY-CAS (Common Application Software) System

- **Top states in implementing Ayushman Bharat - Pradhan Mantri Jan Arogya Yojana (As of November 23, 2018)**
- ✓ **Gujarat tops the entire country** with 26% of the total number of sanctioned hospital admissions under the scheme
- ✓ **Rankings of the States**
 - ✓ 1 – Gujarat (76,000 hospital admissions)
 - ✓ 2 – Tamil Nadu (54, 273 admissions)
 - ✓ 3 – Chhattisgarh (53, 180 admissions)
 - ✓ 4 – Karnataka
 - ✓ 5 – Maharashtra
- ✓ It has to be recalled that Gujarat is already implementing a similar scheme, known as the Mukhyamantri Amrutam (MA) Yojana, since 2012
- ✓ Regarding the most beneficiaries, UP had verified 1.18 crore families as beneficiaries and in Bihar the number is 1.09 crore families
- ✓ The Ayushman Bharat scheme was launched on September 23, 2018 by the Prime Minister
- ✓ It provides a health coverage of Rs 5 lakh per family per year
- **Easyfone, the feature phone maker – launches ‘Easyfone Star’, India’s first mobile phone for Kids**



- ✓ It has various first-of-its-kind security features like restricting calls to only pre-configured numbers, GPS which allows parents to track their child and SOS key which allows children to get quick help in emergency
- **Government – increases the outlay for the first phase of ‘Faster Adoption and Manufacturing of (Hybrid) and Electric Vehicles’ (FAME India) scheme**
- ✓ The new budget is Rs 895 crore from the earlier Rs 795 crore
- ✓ The implementation of the first phase of the scheme was earlier extended upto March 2019

- **Ministry of Road Transport and Highways – notifies the inclusion of ‘Quadricycle’ as a ‘non transport’ vehicle under the Motor Vehicles Act 1988**



- ✓ A Quadricycle is a vehicle of the size of a 3-wheeler but with 4 tyres and fully covered like a car
- ✓ Earlier, these vehicles were allowed for transport usage under the Act
- **Government – sets Classwise School bag weight limit**
- ✓ Details of the Weight limit
- ✓ Classes I and II - they should not be more than 1.5 kg
- ✓ Classes III to V - would be between 2 kg and 3 kg
- ✓ Classes VI and VII - it should be 4 kg
- ✓ Classes VIII and IX – it should be 4.5 kg
- ✓ Class X schoolbags - must not exceed 5 kg
- **Government – to offer 50-year lease to privatise 6 airports - Ahmedabad, Jaipur, Lucknow, Guwahati, Thiruvananthapuram and Mangaluru**
- ✓ The process is scheduled to be completed by February 28, 2019
- ✓ Airports Authority of India already has a joint venture with GMR and GVK for Delhi and Mumbai airports respectively

INTERNATIONAL

- **World’s first underground luxury hotel – inaugurated in Shanghai, China**



- ✓ The hotel named ‘InterContinental Shanghai Wonderland’ houses 18 storeys with 16 of them below the ground level

PERSONALITIES

- **Bollywood Actress, Shilpa Shetty Kundra – led India to a new Guinness World Record at ‘Bajaj Allianz Life Plankathon’ event**



- ✓ The event involved 2,353 people holding the abdominal plank position for 60 seconds simultaneously
- ✓ The earlier record was held by China with 1,779 people holding the plank for one minute
- ✓ The event was organized by Bajaj Allianz Life Insurance Company as part of their successful ‘#36SecPlankChallenge’ campaign urging people to hold a plank for 36 seconds

SCIENCE, TECHNOLOGY & ENVIRONMENT

- **ISRO – to launch HySIS (Hyperspectral imaging satellite) - an earth observation satellite - along with 30 foreign commercial satellites on November 29, 2018**
- ✓ The satellites will be launched through Polar Satellite Launch Vehicle (PSLV-C43) from Satish Dhawan Space Centre in Sriharikota, Andhra Pradesh
- ✓ HySIS is the primary satellite of the PSLV-C43 mission
- ✓ PSLV-C43 is the Core Alone version of PSLV which is the lightest version of PSLV
- ✓ The primary goal of HySIS is to study the earth’s surface in visible, near infrared and shortwave infrared regions of the electromagnetic spectrum
- ✓ The foreign satellites to be launched along with HySIS include 1 Micro and 29 Nano satellites from 8 different countries
- ✓ Out of the 30 commercial satellites, 23 are from the United States, whose launch are contracted through Antrix Corporation Limited, the commercial arm of ISRO
- ✓ Being an earth observation satellite, it can be used by the military for surveillance purpose apart from wide applications in agriculture, forestry and coastal zone assessment

APPOINTMENTS

- **Sunil Arora – has been appointed as the new Chief Election Commissioner (CEC)**



- ✓ He succeeds O P Rawat, who retired on November 24, 2018
- ✓ He will be the country's 23rd CEC
- ✓ He will have a tenure of nearly two and half years starting from December 2, 2018
- ✓ He is 1980-batch IAS officer of the Rajasthan cadre
- ✓ A former bureaucrat, Arora was appointed as election commissioner on August 31, 2017, replacing Nasim Zaidi
- ✓ Earlier, he had served as the information and broadcasting secretary and the secretary in the Ministry of Skill Development and Entrepreneurship
- ✓ He also served as joint secretary in the Ministry of Civil Aviation during 1999-2002 and the CMD, Indian Airlines, for 5 years
- ✓ In Rajasthan, Arora was secretary to the chief minister, Vasundhara Raje, during 1993-1998 and then the principal secretary to CM during 2005-2008
- ✓ After his retirement in April 2016, he was appointed as an advisor to Prasar Bharti and then as director general and CEO of the Indian Institute of Corporate Affairs
- ✓ The Election commission of India is a permanent and independent constitutional body established directly by Constitution of India to ensure fair and fair elections in the country
- ✓ It has 3 members, including a Chief Election Commissioner (CEC) and two election commissioners (ECs), who are appointed by the President
- ✓ They hold office for a term of six years or until they attain age of 65 years, whichever is earlier

AWARDS

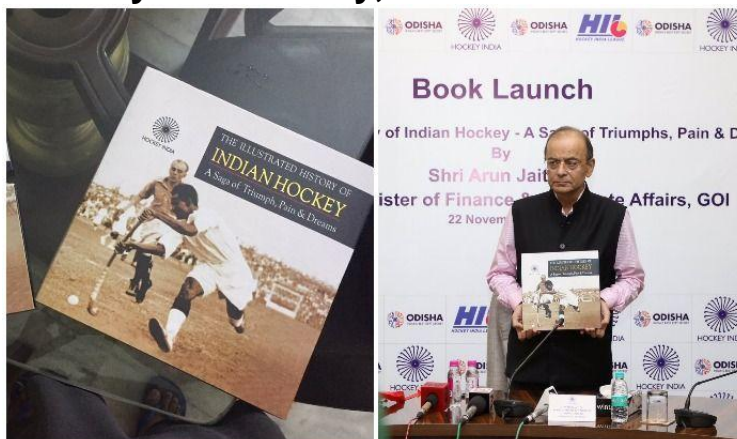
- **Bharat Electronics Limited (Bengaluru) – becomes the 1st PSU to win 'CII-Exim Bank Business Excellence Award' for being a Role-model organization – at the CII Quality summit in Bengaluru**



- ✓ Three other BEL units at Ghaziabad in Uttar Pradesh, Chennai in Tamil Nadu and Machilipatnam in Andhra Pradesh received Platinum recognition for business excellence

BOOKS & AUTHORS

- **'The Illustrated History of Indian Hockey: A Saga of Triumph, Pain and Dreams'** – Released by Arun Jaitley, Union Finance Minister



- ✓ The book documents the journey of Hockey in India from the days of India's participation in the 1928 Olympics
- ✓ It was launched in the run-up to the Hockey World Cup 2018 that begins in Bhubaneswar from November 28, 2018

SPORTS

- **Lewis Hamilton (Great Britain, Mercedes)** – wins Abu Dhabi Grand Prix, the season's 21st and last Formula one event



- ✓ This was the 11th win of this year for the champion driver, edging out Sebastian Vettel of Ferrari and Max Verstappen of Red Bull to second and third positions respectively
- ✓ Due course, he became the first driver to score more than 400 points in a season with a final tally of 408
- ✓ This was the 73rd career win for the five-time World champion, who is 18 wins away from Michael Schumacher's all-time record

- **Bangladesh Captain, Shakib Al Hasan became the fastest player - to complete the double of 200 wickets and 3000 runs in the Test cricket**



- ✓ He achieved the feat in his 54th Test beating the long-standing record of 55 matches by England all-rounder Ian Botham
 - ✓ In due course, he also became the first Bangladeshi bowler to claim 200 Test wickets
- **Pravin Tambe, 47 year old Indian Cricketer – becomes the first player to pick up a hat-trick in the history of cricket’s newest format, T-10 League**



- ✓ He picked 5 wickets in his two-over spell by giving just 15 runs for his team, Sindhis against Kerala Knights
 - ✓ The tournament began on 21st November 2018 in United Arab Emirates (UAE)
- **World T20 – renamed as T20 World cup**
 - The change was announced by the International Cricket Council (ICC) for both Men’s and Women’s cricket
 - The next edition of the events in 2020 in Australia will be known as the ‘ICC Women’s T20 World Cup 2020’ and the ‘ICC Men’s T20 World Cup 2020’

