

EVERYDAY CURRENT AFFAIRS – NOV 4, 2018

TAMIL NADU

◆ **Offshore Patrol Vessel ICGS Varaha launched at Tamil Nadu**



- ★ **ICGS Varaha**, the fourth in the series of 98 M offshore patrol vessels (OPVs) of Indian Coast Guard, was launched at **L&T Kattupalli, Chennai, Tamil Nadu**.
- ★ The **98 M OPV** has been designed and built indigenously by **Larsen & Toubro** as part of the ICG shipbuilding contract for construction of seven OPVs awarded to L&T.
- ★ This ship will be fitted with advanced technology navigation and communication equipment, sensor and machinery.

STATE

◆ **Delhi Government, Indian Railways sign MoU for Mukhyamantri Tirth Yatra Yojana**



- ★ It stated the MoU was inked by officials of the Delhi government and the railways in the presence of **Deputy Chief Minister Manish Sisodia** at the Delhi Secretariat in New Delhi.
 - ★ A tourism department official said as per the agreement, Railways will provide separate coaches to pilgrims who are selected under the Yojana.
 - ★ According to the government, the scheme will enable 1,100 senior citizens from each of the 70 assembly constituencies of Delhi every year to undertake free pilgrimage.
 - ★ Under the scheme, the AAP government will bear expenses of 77,000 pilgrims every year.
- ◆ **Odisha Aerospace & Defence Manufacturing Policy, 2018 was approved by the state cabinet and rolled out by Odisha government.**

MAKE IN
DISHA *Conclave*
BHUBANESWAR, 11-15 NOVEMBER, 2018

- ★ This was done ahead of the second edition of ‘**Make In Odisha Conclave**’ to be held here from **November 11 to November 15**.
- ★ The process of industrialisation will be accelerated through promotion of aerospace and defence manufacturing,
- ★ Generation of employment opportunities and promotion of value addition will be achieved.
- ★ These steps will help in setting up **first state-of-the-art Aerospace and Defence Park** in the state.
- ★ The enterprises will come up in the industrially backward districts of **Kandhamal, Gajapati, Mayurbhanj** along with the **KBK (Kalahandi-Bolangir-Koraput)** districts will be extended additional incentives.

◆ **Arunachal Pradesh Police launched the Arunachal Pradesh Tourist Police and the Arunachal Suraksha App to help the citizens during emergencies.**



- ★ Arunachal Pradesh Chief Minister Pema Khandu launched the Arunachal Pradesh Tourist Police and the Arunachal Suraksha App at a function held at Dorjee Khandu Convention Centre in Itanagar, Arunachal Pradesh.
- ★ The launch was part of the **46th Raising Day celebration of Arunachal Pradesh Police**, which started on 2nd November and will conclude on 8th November 2018.
- ★ Through Arunachal Suraksha App, users can find the nearest police station and contact details and make direct call to police by pressing a button.

NATIONAL

- ◆ **Two-day Gyan Kumbh was Inaugurated by President Ram Nath Kovind at Patanjali Yogpeeth in Haridwar, On November 3, 2018.**



- ★ **Objective:** To inculcate good manners and character building in the students.
- ★ He also addressed the first convocation of the **AIIMS at Rishikesh**. Chief Minister of Uttarakhand Trivendra Singh Rawat, Higher Education Minister Dhan Singh Rawat and Swami Ramdev were also present on the occasion.

COMMITTEES

- ◆ **National Green Tribunal ordered a Four-Member Committee to conduct an inspection and submit report about the waste dumping issue at the Polavaram dam in Andhra Pradesh.**



- ★ The decision of the committee was taken by a bench headed by **NGT Chairperson Justice Adarsh Kumar Goel**.
- ★ The committee would comprise of representatives of the **Central Pollution Control Board**, additional principal chief conservator of forests, the **State Pollution Control Board** and the **district magistrate**.

◆ IMAI Forms AR/VR Committee To Promote Technologies in India



- ★ With an aim to promote **Augmented and Virtual Reality (AR/VR)** technology to drive economic growth, job creation, and skill development in the country, **The Internet and Mobile Association of India (IMAI)** has formed a new industry expert **committee**, under its Emerging Technology Council, focused on AR/VR.
- ★ The committee is chaired by **Namrita Mahindro**, Senior General Manager, Digital Transformation, Mahindra Group and Co-chaired by Satyajeeet Singh, Head Strategic Product Partnership, India & South Asia, Facebook.
- ★ **IMAI Headquarters: Mumbai**

INDIA AND NEIGHBOURS

◆ Indo-French Conclave held in Nagpur, Maharashtra; Indian & French firms sign 12 pacts worth 200 million euros, On 2nd November 2018



- ★ The Indo-French Conclave was organized by Indo French Chamber of Commerce & Industry (IFCCI) and the Embassy of France in India.
- ★ **French multinational Thales Group signed agreements with 7 Indian firms:** Godrej Precision Engineering, Bharat Forge, Amphenol Interconnect India, Larsen & Toubro, Solar Explosives, Mahindra Defence Systems and Coriolis.
- ★ These agreements will help to create 3,000 jobs in Maharashtra.
- ★ **Ambassador of France to India Alexandre Ziegler** also participated in the conclave.

CONFERENCES & SUMMITS

◆ **SCO countries hold preparatory meeting for joint exercise on urban earthquake search and rescue, On November 2, 2018**



- ★ The two-day long preparatory meeting of the “Shanghai Cooperation Organization Joint Exercise on Urban Earthquake Search & Rescue-2019” concluded in New Delhi.
- ★ It was the first phase of the main exercise scheduled for 21-24 February, 2019 in Delhi which will be organized by the National Disaster Response Force (NDRF) on behalf of Government of India.
- ★ The key note address was delivered by Shri R. K. Jain, Member, and National Disaster Management Authority (NDMA).
- ★ Furthermore, India has also hosted the South Asian Annual Disaster Management Exercise (SAADMEx), Asian Ministerial Conference for Disaster Risk Reduction (AMCDRR) and Bay of Bengal Initiatives for Multi-Sectoral, Technical and Economic Corporation (BIMSTEC).

◆ **India-UAE Partnership Summit (IUPS) 2018 was held in Dubai, United Arab Emirates (UAE).**



- ★ The summit aimed to promote investments from UAE to India and India to UAE.

- ★ It aimed to identify the investment areas, projects, funding needs and helped to raise investments to funds vital infrastructure projects.
- ★ The focus sectors for IUPS 2018 were: investments in Education and SME's, Skill Development and Placements.
- ★ Focus Indian States were:
 - Delhi, Assam, Punjab and West Bengal.
- ★ Focus UAE Emirate:
 - Sharjah IUPS was hosted by Business Leaders Forum (a unit of India Trade & Exhibition Centre m.e.) in association with Indian Embassy-Abu Dhabi & Consulate General of India-Dubai and UAE Ministry of Economy.

INTERNATIONAL

- ◆ **Indian Ocean Rim Association (IORA) 'Be The Legacy' internship programme was announced at the end of the 18th IORA meeting in Durban, South Africa.**



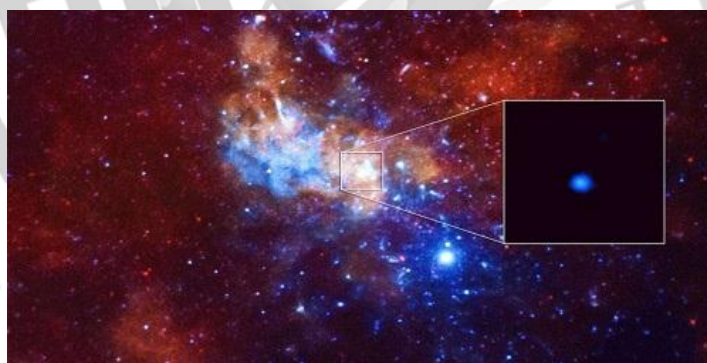
- ★ The internship programme will be launched on July 18, 2019, the 101st birth anniversary of Nelson Mandela.

- ★ The programme has been established by IORA members, including India, to honour former South African president Nelson Mandela.
- ★ The programme aims to empower people under the age of 30 from IORA member states with work experience in their interested fields of study.
- ★ IORA was established in March 1997 through the vision of Nelson Mandela.
- ★ **Currently, the IORA has 21 member states** — Australia, Bangladesh, Comoros, India, Indonesia, Iran, Kenya, Madagascar, Malaysia, Mauritius, Mozambique, Oman, Seychelles, Singapore, Somalia, South Africa, Sri Lanka, Tanzania, Thailand, United Arab Emirates and Yemen.

SCIENCE, TECHNOLOGY & ENVIRONMENTAL

AI bot 'ClaRAN' can spot radio galaxies

- ◆ **Researchers have taught an Artificial Intelligence (AI) bot named "ClaRAN" to identify galaxies in deep space.**



- ★ The AI bot named "ClaRAN" used to recognize faces on Facebook. It has been trained to scan images taken by radio telescopes.
- ★ It can spot radio galaxies – galaxies that emit powerful radio jets from supermassive black holes at their centres.
- ★ ClaRAN is the brainchild of big data specialist Dr Chen Wu and astronomer Dr Ivy Wong from The University of Western Australia node of the International Centre for Radio Astronomy Research (ICRAR).
- ★ ClaRAN was developed from an open source version of Microsoft and Facebook's object detection software.
- ★ ClaRAN is open source software and is publicly available on Microsoft-owned GitHub.

ECONOMICS

- ◆ **Securities & Exchange Board of India (SEBI) cut listing time for an IPO to 3 days from 6 at present.**



- ★ This will be done in a phased manner with the 1st phase starting from **January 1, 2019**.
- ★ For the implementation, **Unified Payments Interface** was launched as an alternative payment option for retail investors, buying shares in a public issue.
- ★ After 3 months i.e., from **April 1, 2019**, in the 2nd phase the physical submission mechanism of bid forms would be discontinued.
- ★ For the implementation of this procedure, it introduced the use of **UPI** as a payment mechanism with **Application Supported by Block Amount (ASBA)** for applications in public issues by retail investors through intermediaries.
- ★ The 2nd phase having **T+6 days** will continue for another **3 months** or floating of **5 main board public issues** whichever is later.

- ◆ **RBI allows banks to provide partial credit enhancement to NBFCs**



- ★ **The Reserve Bank of India**, permitted banks to grant **partial credit enhancement (PCE)** to bonds issued by **non-banking financial companies (NBFCs)** and **housing finance companies**, listed with the Reserve Bank of India (RBI) and the National Housing Bank respectively.
- ★ RBI has allowed this to enable NBFCs to obtain funds from the bond market on favourable terms and to improve the bonds' credit rating.
- ★ PCE is expected to assist NBFCs, and housing finance companies raise money from provident or pension funds investing in highly-rated instruments and insurance.
- ★ The occupancy of these bonds should not be less than **three** years and shall only be used to refinance existing debt, states the central bank.

RANKING

◆ **India Ranked 12 Globally in Web-Borne Threats: Kaspersky Lab**



- ★ Globally, **India** ranks **12th** when it comes to the dangers associated with surfing the web, according to a new report from Russia-based global cyber security firm **Kaspersky Lab**.
- ★ About a third of Internet users in the country were attacked by web-borne threats between the July-September periods of this year.
- ★ “Social engineering” was another form of attack that users in India frequently fell prey to. These attacks require user participation, with the user having to download the malicious file to their computer.

REPORTS

◆ **Kolkata leads Ease of Moving Index 2018 with the most affordable public transport: OMI**



- ★ **Ola Mobility Institute (OMI)**, the research and outreach arm of Ola, one of the world's largest ride-hailing platforms released **India's first Ease of Moving Index, 2018**.
- ★ As part of report findings, **Kolkata** ranks the **highest** in terms of affordability of public transportation with 80% of commuters finding Kolkata's public transport reasonable and affordable.
- ★ The report was released by **Nitin Gadkari**, Union Minister, Road Transport & Highways, Shipping and Water Resources, River Development & Ganga Rejuvenation, in the presence of **Bhavish Aggarwal**, **Co-founder and CEO of Ola**.

SPORTS

◆ **5th SAFF U-15 Championship 2018 was held at the ANFA Complex, Kathmandu, Nepal, From 25th October to 3rd November 2018**



- ★ **Bangladesh** beat Pakistan 3-2 on penalties in the final, and won its **2nd SAFF U-15 Championship title**. Earlier, Bangladesh had won the title in 2016.
- ★ Pakistan finished as the runner-up. **India** beat Nepal 1-0 and finish in the **third** position.

APPOINTMENTS

- ◆ **RBL Bank announced appointment of Vikas Muttoo as CEO of Swadhaar Finserve.**



- ★ Prior to this, Muttoo was the **chief business officer** of microlender **Bharat Financial**.
- ★ Swadhaar Finserve Private Limited, wholly-owned subsidiary of the RBL Bank.

AWARDS & RECOGNITION

- ◆ **Harvard University to honour Malala Yousafzai for promoting girls' education**



- ★ Harvard University (US) has selected Nobel Prize Winner Malala Yousafzai (20) for its 2018 Gleitsman Award in recognition of her work promoting girls' education.
- ★ She will be presented with this award at December 6, 2018 ceremony.
- ★ The Gleitsman Award provides US \$125,000 for activism that has improved quality of life around the world.

