

EVERYDAY CURRENT AFFAIRS – OCT 19, 2018

STATES

- ◆ **Uttar Pradesh – becomes the first state in the country to provide compensation for the families of people killed in Animal attacks**
 - ★ The state had declared the man-animal conflict as "**State-Declared Disaster**" and announced a compensation of Rs 5 lakh within 24 hours of the incident

NATIONAL

- ◆ **CSIR – develops ‘OneerTM’, a new “Drinking Water Disinfection System”**



- ★ The **Council of Scientific and Industrial Research - Indian Institute of Toxicology Research (CSIR-IITR)** of Lucknow has developed the new technology and transferred it to the company, '**Bluebird Water Purifiers**'
- ★ The technology undertakes continuous treatment of water and eliminates all disease causing pathogens

- ★ It provides access to safe and clean drinking water at a cost of just 2 paise per litre
- ★ It is of 450 LPH capacity which can be scaled up to 5000 to 1 lakh litre per day and is also maintenance and membrane free
- ★ It can also be solar powered and in line with the Government's 'Make in India' initiative

◆ **Train 18 – India's first Self-propelled, Engine-less train to be introduced by Indian Railways**



- ★ It is all set to replace another revolutionary '**Shatabdi Express**' trains in future, which were launched in 1988
- ★ The first train will run between **Delhi and Bhopal** replacing the existing Shatabdi running between the cities
- ★ Relying on self-propulsion units, instead of locomotives, Train 18 will be able to attain speeds of **160 kmph**
- ★ The first prototype of Train 18 has cost around Rs 5-6 crore per coach, which is expected to reduce further and it is only 50% of the cost of similar imported coach
- ★ It is a 16 coach all air-conditioned AC chair car with aircraft-like comforts for the passengers
- ★ The major advantages of train 18 are –
 - Less costlier
 - Less Maintenance due to its 3-phase propulsion system and new generation bogies
 - Greener way of travelling as it does not have locomotives
 - Less weight as it has neither locomotives nor power cars
 - Less energy required due to less weight
 - Less travel time (atleast 15% reduction in time with a standard speed of 130 kmph as in Shatabdi due to its higher acceleration)

◆ **India's highest tricolor flag – unfurled at the iconic Haj House in Mumbai by Mukhtar Abbas Naqvi, Minister for Minority Affairs**



- ★ The flag is 20x30 feet in dimensions and stands 350 feet above the ground
- ★ It is atop a 20-metre high mast on top of the majestic building
- ★ This makes it the highest tricolour installed on the terrace of any building of such height in the country
- ★ It has been manufactured by Flag Company

FESTIVALS

◆ **Nepal – celebrates the festival of ‘Fulpati’**



- ★ In Nepalese, “Phool” means flower and “Pati” means leaves and plants
- ★ It is observed on the seventh day of Dashain festival, which is the biggest festival of Nepal
- ★ The tradition in Nepal is to bring 9 types of ‘Fulpati’ into the home on the seventh day of Navaratri

CONFERENCES & SUMMITS

◆ **12th Asia-Europe Meeting Summit – begins in Brussels, Belgium on Oct 18, 2018**



- ★ Vice President M. Venkaiah Naidu leads the Indian delegation for the two-day summit
- ★ Theme 2018 - '**Global Partners for Global Challenges**'
- ★ Participation - **30 European and 21 Asian countries**, besides top representatives of the European Union and Secretary General of the Association of Southeast Asian Nations (ASEAN)
- ★ Topics for discussion - Connectivity, trade and investment, sustainable development, climate change, terrorism, migration, maritime security and cyberspace
- ★ This will be the first multi-lateral summit the Vice President will be attending after taking office in August 2017
- ★ The Vice President will also address the Indian community at the Jain Culture Centre in Wilrijk, Antwerp and pay respects and offer floral tribute at a sculpture of Mahatma Gandhi located in the Governorate at Antwerp.

SCIENCE, TECHNOLOGY & ENVIRONMENT

◆ **Hyperion, the largest and the most massive structure in the early universe – discovered by the Scientists at the European Southern Observatory (ESO)**

- ★ Hyperion's mass is estimated to be a million billion times that of Sun or about 333,000 Earths
- ★ The discovery was made by astronomers led by '**Olga Cucciati**' of Bologna's '**National Astrophysics Institute**', Chile
- ★ Hyperion was found using data from VIMOS Ultra-Deep Survey
- ★ VIMOS is an instrument that measures objects at a distance of billions of light years away
- ★ It enables scientist to visualize how the early universe appeared

DEFENCE

- ◆ **Dharma Guardian – The first joint military exercise between India and Japan – to be held at the Army’s Counter-Insurgency Warfare School at Vairengte (Mizoram) from November 1 to 14, 2018**



- ★ In this exercise, Indian Army will be represented by 6/1 Gorkha Rifles, while Japanese Ground Self-Defence Force will field its 32 Infantry Regiment

ECONOMY

- ◆ **Tata Consultancy Services (TCS) – displaces Accenture as the Largest ‘IT’ firm servicing banks**

- ★ In the July-September period, TCS got \$2.07 billion in business from the BFSI sector (banking, financial services and insurance) as compared to Accenture’s \$2.01 billion in the June-August period
- ★ It has to be noted that Accenture is nearly double the size to TCS
- ★ **HCL Technologies** is the **3rd largest IT** service firm in the country

AWARDS

- ◆ **5 Eminent personalities chosen for the ‘Rachana Awards 2018’ by the Catholic Chamber of Commerce and Industry**

- ★ The selected awardees are
 - Aloysius Richard Lobo - Rachana NRI of the Year award
 - Lawrence Pinto - Rachana Agriculturist of the Year award
 - Ronald Castelino - Rachana Entrepreneur of the Year award
 - Faye D’Souza from Mirror now - Rachana Professional of the Year award
 - Sr Maria Jyothi AC - Rachana Woman of the Year award



- ★ The awards would be given by Rev Peter Paul Saldanha, Bishop of Mangaluru Diocese on November 17, 2018 in Mangaluru
- ★ The Rachana Awards were instituted in 2003

◆ **Wildlife Photographer of the Year 2018 Award – won by Marsel van Oosten, Dutch photographer**



- ★ He got the award for his photo titled “**The Golden Couple,**” which is the striking photo of a pair of endangered golden snub-nosed monkeys in central China’s Qin Ling Mountains
- ★ Second place in the competition was won by ‘**Skye Meaker**’ (16 years) who bagged the ‘**Young Wildlife Photographer of the Year 2018**’ award
- ★ The two winning images will be displayed in an exhibition, featuring 98 entries, at the ‘Wildlife Photographer of the Year’ exhibition
- ★ The exhibition will run from October 19th to July 1st 2019 at the Natural History Museum in London
- ★ The awards are instituted by London’s Natural History Museum in 1965

Other Awardees

- Birds category - Thomas Peschak , National Geographic photographer
- Plants and fungi category - Jen Guyton, National Geographic photographer
- First-ever Lifetime achievement award - Frans Lanting, Dutch nature photographer and Contributor to National Geographic magazine
- **Junior category (10 years and under) – Arshdeep Singh (India -Punjab- 10 years) wins the award for his picture titled ‘Pipe Owls’**



- ★ The award winning picture shows 2 spotted owlets sitting inside an old waste-pipe in Punjab's Kapurthala.

SPORTS

- ◆ **Canelo Alvarez, Professional Boxer (Mexico) - signed the largest contract in the history of sports worth \$365 million**



- ★ Under the deal, Alvarez agreed for a 5-year, 11-fight deal with streaming service DAZN
- ★ The fights will start from December 15, 2018
- ★ The previous richest contract was the 13-year, \$325-million deal signed by New York Yankees' Giancarlo Stanton in 2014

