

EVERYDAY CURRENT AFFAIRS – SEP 28, 2018

TAMIL NADU

- **World UAV Medical Express Challenge 2018, Queensland, Australia**
- ✓ South Indian actor Ajith's team, Dhaksha - has won the second place in the Challenge



- ✓ Actor Ajith - was appointed as the UAV System Adviser and Test Pilot by Madras Institute of Technology (MIT), Chennai
- ✓ Dhaksha was one among the 13 teams to qualify from all over the world to participate in the final round
- ✓ Besides Acting, the Actor is known for his passion in Bike and Car racing as he is a trained Pilot, trained fighter Jet pilot with an equal interest in the technology of Drones

- ✓ MIT's drone, 'DHAKSHA' has reportedly created a record for flying non-stop for 6 hours and 7 minutes
- ✓ The Dhaksha (UAV) Team, Centre for Aerospace Research, Anna University was conferred the Dr A P J Abdul Kalam Award for the year 2018 - for developing three Unmanned Aerial Vehicle systems to be used by various government departments.
- **Chennai – to host PGX e-sport Tournament in Phoenix Market city over the next 3 days**
- ✓ It is a first of its kind Gaming tournament in the state with a prize money of Rs 10 lakh, the highest ever in the e-game segment in the entire country
- **Seven district hospitals and six primary health centres in Tamil Nadu – have won the ‘National quality assurance award’ from the ‘Centre for excellence’ in Health services of the State**
- ✓ The awards will be given by the Hon’ble CM later, as announced by the Min of Health, C Vijayabaskar
- **Investments in the State**
- ✓ State Health systems reforms project – to be implemented from 2019 with a funding of Rs 2685 crore from World Bank
- ✓ Japan-based, Konoike Transport Company, which offers a centralised sterilisation facility - is looking at options for setting up a similar plant at the Institute of Child Health in Egmore with an investment of over Rs 1000 crore
- **1st Eco-Tourism Board meeting held in Chennai on 26th Sep, 2018 – under the chairmanship of P Raghunath, Chief Wildlife Warden and Principal Chief Conservator of Forests**
- ✓ The prime task of the board is to identify and select the eco-tourism sites and prepare a management plan for each
- ✓ The board was registered under the Tamil Nadu Society Registration Act, 1975
- **Periyar University – to offer the courses in Virtual Reality (VR) and Augmented Reality (AR) – for the first time in the entire country**
- ✓ The courses are designed based on the MoU between Periyar University with a technical collaborator, Scopik Edu Services, Chennai
- ✓ The courses will commence from this academic year
- **Puducherry – to have a 175-bed ‘Super-Speciality Hospital’ of the Employees State Insurance Corporation (ESIC) – in the 5.5 acre land provided by the Government**
- ✓ Employees drawing a salary of upto Rs 21,000 per month were entitled to health insurance cover and other benefits under the ESI Act

STATES

- **Kerala - 8th Asian Yoga Sports Championship, Thiruvananthapuram (Sep 27-30)**



- ✓ Around 500 participants from 14 countries to display their Yoga skill in the event
 - ✓ 'Yogaratna Awards' will be given away to foreign delegates who were instrumental in popularising yoga in their respective countries
 - ✓ Kerala hosts the Pan-Asian event for the 2nd time in the country, after 'Hyderabad' which hosted the 2nd edition
 - ✓ The Indian contingent included 111 yoga exponents
- **Telangana – Hyderabad's Metro Rail becomes India's 2nd largest Metro rail network after Delhi**
 - ✓ The Rs 20000 crore project of Hyderabad Metro Rail is also the World's largest metro project under the public-private-partnership (PPP)
 - ✓ Currently, 46km of the project is operational in the overall plan of 72km elevated metro line, which is built by L&T Metro Rail, Hyderabad
- **Uttar Pradesh - "Lal Bahadur Shastri Smriti Bhavan Sangrahalay", a Memorial for the former PM Lal Bahadur Shastri was unveiled at Ram Nagar by Uttar Pradesh Governor Ram Naik and Chief Minister Yogi Adityanath**



- ✓ Lal Bahadur Shastri died in Tashkent on January 11, 1966 while he was in office
- ✓ Ramnagar in Varanasi – was the native village of former Prime Minister Lal Bahadur Shastri
- ✓ Mughalsarai in Varanasi - was the birthplace of Shastri on Oct 2, 1904
- ✓ Shastri, nicknamed 'Man of Peace', was India's 2nd Prime Minister
- ✓ He was famous for his slogan 'Jai Jawan Jai Kisan' during the 1965 Indo-Pak War, which was officially ended with the Tashkent Agreement signed on Jan 10, 1966

NATIONAL

- **Asian Development Bank – to provide \$150 million loan – for establishing the country’s 1st Multi-Skills park in Bhopal, Madhya Pradesh**
 - ✓ The park will have international training facilities to improve the state’s technical and vocational training system
 - ✓ It will also help in modernising 10 industrial training institutes across the state
 - ✓ ADB will also offer \$2 million technical assistance grant from ‘Japan Fund for Poverty Reduction’, financed by Government of Japan
 - ✓ As per ADB, more than 55% of the state’s workforce is currently in agriculture, while 22% is in industry and 23% in services

- **Election commission – announced that ‘Model Code of Conduct’ will be applicable to the Caretaker Government – in case of premature dissolution of state assembly**
 - ✓ The EC cited the SR Bommai case verdict of the Supreme Court for the announcement
 - ✓ It means that the caretaker Government can only carry out day-to-day activities and should not take any policy decisions, announce new schemes or projects, use official machinery for non-official works etc.,
 - ✓ The Model Code of Conduct is a set of guidelines released by the Election Commission of India to conduct free and fair elections in the country
 - ✓ It becomes immediately applicable once the poll schedule is announced
 - ✓ The announcement by EC will have a direct bearing in Telangana, where the CM has dissolved the State Assembly and is presently functioning as ‘caretaker government’

- **G4 Nation Foreign Ministers – meet at Indian Mission to UN on the margins of the 73rd session of the UN General Assembly**



- ✓ The meeting between the ministers of G4 Nations (India, Brazil, Germany and Japan) – reviewed the progress of UN Security council reforms
- ✓ G4 – Formed in 2005 with the motto of securing Permanent membership on the United Nations Security Council (UNSC)

- ✓ The UNSC has 15 members – 5 permanent members with veto powers and 10 non-permanent members.
 - ✓ The 5 permanent members are the U.K., the U.S., China, France and Russia
 - ✓ The G4 nations are regularly elected to two-year terms as non-permanent members
 - ✓ India has been a non-permanent member of the UNSC for seven terms (14 years) so far
 - ✓ Even though UK and France supports G4 for Permanent membership, there is a 12-country group led by Italy called as 'Uniting for Consensus (UfC)' or 'Coffee club' that opposes increasing the number of Permanent members in UNSC
- **Radha Mohan Singh, Minister of Agriculture and Farmers welfare – launches an 'Online platform' for 'Agmark Quality Certification' of Agricultural products**



- ✓ It is a certification mark ensuring the conformity to the standards as approved by the Government agency, Directorate of Marketing and Inspection
 - ✓ It is legally enforced by Agricultural Produce (Grading and Marking) Act of 1937 (and amended in 1986)
 - ✓ The term 'Agmark' was framed by joining the words 'Ag' meaning agriculture and 'mark' meaning certification mark
 - ✓ It covers 205 different commodities
 - ✓ The launch of 'Online' certification will make the process faster, easy, cost-effective, simple and transparent
- **2nd anniversary of Surgical strikes – PM inaugurates the 3-day event 'Parakram Parv' at the Combined Commanders' Conference in Jodhpur to mark the Surgical strikes of Indian Army on Sep 29, 2016**
- ✓ PM also paid homage to the martyrs at the Konark war memorial
 - ✓ Parakram Parv will be celebrated from September 27-30, 2018 to showcase the courage, valour and sacrifice of Indian Armed Forces

- ✓ Defence Minister Nirmala Sitharaman will commemorate the inauguration of the Parakram Parv



- ✓ Background
- ✓ The Indian Army, on the intervening night of September 28 and 29, 2016, had conducted a 4-hour surgical strike in Pakistan-occupied Kashmir (PoK) to avenge the killing of 19 soldiers in a deadly terror attack on an Army camp in the Uri town of Jammu and Kashmir
- ✓ A surgical strike is a high-precise military attack which causes damage only to the intended legitimate military target with no other damage to the surroundings
- **Election Commission – to deploy VVPATs at all Polling stations in 2019 General Elections**
- ✓ Voter-verifiable paper audit trails (VVPTs) for the upcoming elections are produced at Bharat Electronics Limited, Bangalore and Electronics Corporation of India Limited, Hyderabad
- **Ministry of Information and Broadcasting – constitutes the society of ‘Film and Television Institute of India’ (FTII) at Pune**
- ✓ Anupam Kher, Actor - President of FTII Society and Chairman of FTII Governing Council
- ✓ Other Members
- ✓ ‘PERSONS OF EMINENCE’ Category - Yesudas, Anup Jalota, Kangana Ranaut, Arvind Swami, Brijendra Pal Singh, Divya Dutta, Satish Kaushik, and Archana Rakesh Singh
- ✓ ‘ALUMNI OF FTII’ Category - Rajkumar Hirani, Vidhu Vinod Chopra, Danny Denzongpa, and Mahesh Aney
- ✓ ‘EXPERTS REPRESENTING THE ACTIVITIES OF THE CENTRAL GOVERNMENT’ Category - N Sarvana, Ravish Kumar, and Chaitanya Prasad

- **Centre of Excellence for Data Analytics (CEDA) – inaugurated by Ravi Shankar Prasad, Minister of Electronics & Information Technology in New Delhi**



- ✓ The Centre is jointly set up by National Informatics Centre (NIC) and the National Informatics Centre Services Incorporated (NICSI) at the Facility of NICSI
- ✓ The Centre, to be headed by Rama Hariharan, will work with different Government departments to analyse their data to improve their project performances
- **Tribes India & TRIFED under the Ministry of Tribal Affairs – launched its Diwali “Punch Tantra Collection” and announced ‘Mary Kom’ as Brand Ambassador of Tribes India**



- ✓ Jual Oram, Union Minister for Tribal Affairs introduced the World Boxing Champion and released the videos featuring her promoting Tribal products of Tribes India

- **India & United Nations – signs a 5-Year ‘Sustainable Development Framework’ (UNSDF) for ‘2018-2022’ on Sep 28th, 2018 at New Delhi**
- ✓ The signing was done by Amitabh Kant, CEO, NITI Aayog and Yuri Afanasiev, United Nations Resident Coordinator in India



- ✓ The framework outlines the work of UN agencies in India to support various development outcomes
- ✓ The NITI Aayog is the national counterpart for the UN in India for the operationalization of the UNSDF
- ✓ Nineteen UN agencies have signed on the UNSDF 2018-2022

INDIA AND OTHER COUNTRIES

- **India & United States – jointly formed an alliance ‘USAID-India End TB Alliance’ in New York – to fight Tuberculosis**
- ✓ The new alliance will consist of experts in public and private sectors, academicians, scientists, innovators and members of the related communities
- ✓ The Indian Government resolved to achieve a TB-free India by 2025
- ✓ India accounts for 27% of the world’s TB cases, with 421,000 deaths per year, amounting to one death in every minute

COMMITTEES

- **Government – constitutes a High-level advisory group – to review India’s Global Trade strategy**
- ✓ The group will be chaired by **Surjit S Bhalla**, who is the Director of Oxus Research and Investments

- **Government – constitutes ‘Lokpal search committee’ under Justice Ranjana Prakash Desai**
- ✓ Justice Ranjana Desai was the former Supreme court Judge and the new committee will recommend names for the chairperson and members of the anti-corruption ombudsman Lokpal



- ✓ Earlier on May 15, 2018 the Government announced that senior advocate 'Mukul Rohatgi' has been appointed as an eminent jurist in the selection committee for appointment of Lokpal
- ✓ Lokpal Act - Background
- ✓ The Lokpal and Lokayuktas Act were passed in 2013 to constitute a statutory body to inquire into allegations of corruption against public servants
- ✓ Under the Act, the appointments to Lokpal is made by a high-level selection committee of the Prime Minister, Lok Sabha Speaker, Leader of Opposition Party (LoP), Chief Justice of India and an eminent jurist chosen by them

CONFERENCES & SUMMITS

- **Lok Manthan 2018 – a 4-day National literary and intellectual conference – inaugurated by M Venkaiah Naidu**, Vice President in Ranchi, Jharkhand
- ✓ The event witnessed discussions on present social and cultural issues facing the country

APPOINTMENTS

- **Rajni Kant Mishra, senior IPS officer- appointed as 'Director General' of Border Security Force (BSF)**



Rajni Kant Mishra
IPS Officer
Director General BSF

- ✓ He succeeds K K Sharma, who is retiring this month

- ✓ Misra is the current 'Director General' of Sashastra Seema Bal (SSB) and will stay in his new office till his retirement on Aug 31, 2019
 - ✓ BSF – Established on Dec 1, 1965
 - ✓ It has 186 battalions and is employed in the Indian borders of Pakistan and Bangladesh
 - ✓ It is one of the 5 Central Armed police force coming under Min of Home Affairs –
 - ✓ Central Reserve Police Force (CRPF) - 313,678 personnel
 - ✓ Border Security Force (BSF) - 257,363 personnel
 - ✓ Indo-Tibetan Border Police (ITBP) - 89,432 personnel
 - ✓ Central Industrial Security Force (CISF) - 144,418 personnel
 - ✓ Sashastra Seema Bal (SSB) - 76,337 personnel
- **S S Deswal - appointed as 'Director General' of the Sashastra Seema Bal**

AWARDS

- **National Tourism Awards 2016-2017**
- ✓ K J Alphons, Union Minister for Tourism (IC) – presented a total of 77 awards in 20 categories this year, on the occasion of World Tourism Day
 - ✓ The Tourism Minister also launched the 'Incredible India Mobile App' and the 'Incredible India Tourist Facilitators Certification' programme
 - ✓ The App has been developed by 'Tech Mahindra' and the online certification learning platform was developed by 'Wipro Limited'
 - ✓ The Minister also announced that India will be the host country for official World Tourism Day celebrations for the UNWTO, in 2019

List of Winners

S.no	Award	Winner
1.	Best State / Union Territory: Comprehensive Development of Tourism (Rest of India)	First Prize: Andhra Pradesh Second Prize: Kerala Third Prize: Rajasthan (Joint Winner) Third Prize: Goa (Joint Winner)
2.	Best State / Union Territory: Comprehensive Development of Tourism (Jammu & Kashmir and North East including Sikkim)	Sikkim
3.	Best Maintained	Archaeological Survey of

	Differently-abled Friendly Monument	India - Qutb Complex, Delhi
4.	Best Tourist Friendly Railway Station	Secunderabad
5.	Best Airport (Class X cities)	Sardar Vallabhai Patel-International Airport, Ahmedabad
6.	Best Airport (Rest of India)	Devi Ahilya Bai Holkar Airport, Indore
7.	Best Heritage City	Ahmedabad (Joint Winner) Mandu (Joint Winner)
8.	Best Civic Management of a Tourist Destination in India Category – A	Greater Hyderabad Municipal Corporation, Telangana
9.	Best Civic Management of a Tourist Destination in India Category – B	Municipal Council, Omkareshwar, and M.P. Tourism Board
10.	Best Civic Management of a Tourist Destination in India Category – C	Saputara Notified Area Authority
11.	Swachhta Award	Indore, Madhya Pradesh
12.	Best Heritage Walk	Indian National Trust for Art and Cultural Heritage (INTACH), Delhi Chapter (Joint Winner) Indore Heritage Walk (Joint Winner)
13.	Most Responsible Tourism Project / Initiative	Wayanad, Kerala
14.	Best State for Adventure Tourism	Madhya Pradesh (Joint Winner) Uttarakhand (Joint Winner)
15.	Most Innovative & Unique Tourism Product	Heaven On Ocean Tourism Pvt. Ltd. For Coral Safari in Andaman & Nicobar (Joint Winner) 21 Gun Salute Heritage and Cultural Trust For Vintage Car Rally (Joint Winner)
16.	Best Tourist Guide	Samik Kumar Ray

17.	Best Wildlife Guide	Radhika Prasad Omre
18.	Best Tourism Film	Department of Tourism, Government of Kerala for the film - 'Live Inspired'
19.	Most Innovative use of Information Technology (Social Media / Mobile App / Website)	Department of Tourism, Government of Rajasthan - For its website
20.	Best Film Promotion Friendly State / Union Territory	Rajasthan

- **Shanti Swarup Bhatnagar Prize for Science and Technology 2018 – announced by Council of Scientific and Industrial Research (CSIR)**
- ✓ **Dr Thomas Pucadyil** from the Indian Institute of Science Education and Research in Pune has been awarded the Shanti Swarup Bhatnagar Prize for Science and Technology in the discipline of Biological Science



- ✓ Other Awardees
- ✓ Biological Sciences category - Ganesh Nagaraju from IISC, Bengaluru
- ✓ Chemical science category - Rahul Banerjee and Swadhin Kumar Mandal of IISER, Kolkata
- ✓ Earth, Atmosphere, Ocean and Planetary Sciences category - Dr. Madineni Venkat Ratnam of the National Atmospheric Research Laboratory, Tirupati, and Parthasarathi Chakraborty of CSIR-National Institute of Oceanography, Goa
- ✓ Engineering Sciences - Amit Agarwal and Ashwin Anil Gumaste of IIT Bombay
- ✓ Mathematical Sciences category - Amit Kumar and Nitin Saxena, from IIT Delhi and IIT Kanpur respectively
- ✓ Medical Sciences category - Dr Ganesan Venkatasubramanian of NIMHANS, Bengaluru
- ✓ Physical Sciences category - Dr. Aditi Sen De the Harish Chandra Research Institute, Allahabad and Dr. Ambarish Ghosh from IISc, Bengaluru
- ✓ These Awards, constituted in 1958, are the country's highest science award, given for outstanding research in science and technology

SPORTS

- **58th National Open Athletics championships, Bhubaneswar**
- ✓ **M Sreeshankar** – creates National record of 8.20m in Long jump beating Ankit sharma's 8.19m



- **Germany – to host Euro 2024 Soccer tournament** – after beating Turkey, the only other bidder for the mega event
- ✓ Germany had last hosted the World cup in 2006
- **Madrid (Spain) – will host the new-format 'Davis Cup' in 2019 and 2020**
- ✓ The new format will engage 18 countries at one place for a week at the end of the tennis season
- ✓ It was proposed by the Kosmos group, headed by footballer Gerard Pique and was adopted by the International Tennis Federation (ITF) in August 2018

INTERNATIONAL DAY

- **World Tourism Day – September 27**



- ✓ It was celebrated since 1980 due to the efforts of United Nations World Tourism Organization (UNWTO)
- ✓ This day creates an awareness among masses regarding the potential of tourism for sustainable development of a country's economy
- ✓ The day of September 27 was chosen as the Statutes of the UNWTO were adopted, on this day, in the year 1970
- ✓ Theme 2018 – “*Tourism and the Digital Transformation*”
- ✓ The official celebrations this year will take place in Budapest, Hungary (Official Host)
- ✓ The United Nations World Tourism Organisation launched an online platform to achieve the 17 targeted Sustainable Development Goals (by 2030) through Tourism
- ✓ In India, the celebrations will begin in Goa and are organised by Goa Tourism Development Corporation
- ✓ In India, The celebrations coincide with the concluding day of the 11-day *Paryatan Parv* held between September 16 and 27

REPORT

➤ 2018 – Index of Economic Freedom – Released by Canada’s Fraser Institute



- ✓ The index measures 5 areas of economic freedom. They are: Size of Government, Legal System and Property Rights, Sound Money, Freedom to Trade Internationally and Regulation
- ✓ These ratings are for 2016, the most recent year for which comprehensive data are available
- ✓ India stands at 96th position among 162 countries in economic freedom.
- ✓ India was ranked 98th in the 2017 index
- ✓ Top 10
 1. Hong Kong
 2. Singapore

3. New Zealand
 4. Switzerland
 5. Ireland
 6. United States
 7. Georgia
 8. Mauritius
 9. United Kingdom
 10. Australia and Canada (tied)
- ✓ The rankings of some other major countries are Germany (20th), Japan (41st) Italy (54th), France (57th), Mexico (82nd), Russia (87th), India (96th), China (108th), and Brazil (144th)
 - ✓ The 10 lowest-rated countries are Sudan, Guinea-Bissau, Angola, Central African Republic, Republic of Congo, Syria, Algeria, Argentina, Libya, and lastly Venezuela
 - ✓ Life expectancy is 79.5 years in the top quartile nations compared to 64.4 years in the bottom quartile nations
- **Barclays Hurun India rich list 2018**
- ✓ Since its inception in 2012, Reliance Industries chairman Mukesh Ambani remains at the top of the list
 - ✓ The list has 214 new individuals whose net worth is Rs 1000 crore or more
 - ✓ Overall, the list has 831 individuals whose combined wealth is \$719 billion, roughly a quarter of India's GDP of \$2,848 billion
 - ✓ India remains at 3rd with 141 billionaires in terms of countries with highest number of billionaires, behind China and the US

Rank	Name	Wealth INR crore	Change	Company	Age	Residence
1-	Mukesh Ambani	371,000	44%	Reliance Industries	61	Maharashtra
2*	SP Hinduja & family	159,000	#	Hinduja	82	London
3-	LN Mittal & family	114,500	30%	ArcelorMittal	68	London
4↑	Azim Premji	96,100	21%	Wipro	73	Karnataka
5↓	Dilip Shanghvi	89,700	1%	Sun Pharmaceutical	62	Maharashtra
6↑	Uday Kotak	78,600	25%	Kotak Mahindra Bank	59	Maharashtra
7↓	Cyrus S Poonawalla	73,000	3%	Serum Institute of India	77	Maharashtra
8↓	Gautam Adani & family	71,200	1%	Adani Enterprises	56	Gujarat
9*	Cyrus Pallonji Mistry	69,400	41%	Shapoorji Pallonji	50	Maharashtra
9*	Shapoor Pallonji Mistry	69,400	41%	Shapoorji Pallonji	53	Monaco

Table 3: City/ State of Residence of Barclays Hurun India Rich List 2018

Rank	City	Rich List Entries (net change)	Richest Individual 2018
1-	Mumbai	233 (+51)	Mukesh Ambani
2-	New Delhi	163 (+46)	Shiv Nadar
3-	Bengaluru	70 (+19)	Azim Premji
4↑	Ahmedabad	48 (+22)	Gautam Adani
5↓	Hyderabad	46 (+10)	P Pitchi Reddy
6↑	Chennai	30 (+8)	Kalanithi Maran
7↓	Kolkata	28 (+5)	Benu Gopal Bangur
8↓	Pune	25 (+2)	Cyrus S Poonawalla
9-	Dubai	15 (+3)	Micky Jagtiani & family
10↑	London	12 (+2)	SP Hinduja & family
11↑	Coimbatore	9 (+3)	Kulanthaivel Vinayagam
11↓	Kanpur	9 (-2)	Yadupati Singhania & family
13↑	Gurugram	6 (+2)	Nirmal Kumar Minda
13↓	Ernakulam	6 (-1)	George Alexander Muthoot & family

Rank	State	Rich List Entries (net change)	Richest Individual 2018
1	Maharashtra	271 (+57)	Mukesh Ambani
2	Delhi	163 (+46)	Shiv Nadar
3	Karnataka	73 (+18)	Azim Premji
4	Gujarat	60 (+24)	Gautam Adani
5	Telangana	49 (+11)	P Pitchi Reddy
6	Tamil Nadu	45 (+15)	Kalanithi Maran
7	West Bengal	28 (+5)	Benu Gopal Bangur
8	Uttar Pradesh	15 (-1)	Ballabh Prasad Agarwal
9	Kerala	14 (+1)	Joy Alukkas
10	Haryana	11 (+5)	Nirmal Kumar Minda
11	Rajasthan	7 (+2)	Sanjay Agarwal
12	Andhra Pradesh	6 (+5)	Ramachandra N Galla & family
12	Madhya Pradesh	5 (+1)	Dilip Suryavanshi
12	Punjab	5 (+1)	SP Oswal

