

## EVERYDAY CURRENT AFFAIRS – SEPTEMBER 6, 2020


### TAMIL NADU

- On September 5, Tamil Nadu - reported 5,870 fresh cases and 61 deaths, taking the total infected to 4,57,697 and casualties to 7,748.
- ✓ At the end of the day, 5,859 people were discharged taking the total number of people cured from the viral infection to 3,98,366.
- ✓ Still, there were 51,583 people under treatment as 'active' cases.

#### KEEPING A TAB

Figures as on Sept 5

ZONES	FRESH CASES	DEATHS	ACTIVE CASES	CASE TALLY	TOTAL DEATHS	TOTAL DISCHARGED
Chennai Region	1,654	25	17,041	2,12,828	3,990	1,91,797
North	1,269	8	9,437	66,020	841	55,742
Central	758	7	5,471	35,416	532	29,413
West	1,403	11	12,236	46,247	722	33,289
South	783	10	7,287	94,966	1,662	86,017
Other	3	0	111	2,220	1	2,108



- ✓ For the third consecutive day, Chennai recorded less than 1,000 cases
- ✓ The capital city, Chennai reported 965 cases and 19 deaths
- ✓ The three adjoining districts Chengalpeta (293), Kancheepuram (152) and Tiruvallur (244) together reported 689 cases and six deaths.
- ✓ Further, 545 fresh cases were registered in Coimbatore and 250 cases in Salem.
- ✓ The state has tested 79,840 samples in the last 24 hours, taking the total number of persons tested to 50,42,197
- ✓ As on date, the state has 160 authorised testing labs, which includes 64 in the government sector.

## STATES

- **The Assam government - has recently approved the addition of 30.53 sq. km ( 3,053 hectares) to the 884 sq. km Kaziranga National Park.**



- ✓ The additional areas covering two districts — Nagaon and Sonitpur — would make the larger Kaziranga National Park and Tiger Reserve (KNPTR) expand to 1085.53 sq km
- ✓ The three added areas would help provide connectivity to Orang and Nameri National Parks across river Brahmaputra from KNPTR
- ✓ The seventh and eight additions totalling 4.83 sq km are in Nagaon district while the ninth, covering 25.70 sq km, is in Sonitpur district.
- ✓ They will also provide connectivity to the hills of Karbi Anglong to the south of the park, where the rhino, tiger, deer, and other animals take refuge during the floods
- ✓ Designated a UNESCO World Heritage Site in 1985, the KNPTR has an estimated 2,413 rhinos and 121 tigers as per 2018 Rhino census
- ✓ The Kaziranga National Park hosts two-thirds of world's great one-horned rhinoceroses.
- ✓ It was declared a national park in 1974 and later was declared a tiger reserve in 2007.
- ✓ The IUCN status of one-horned rhinos is “Vulnerable”, which was updated from “threatened” in April 2020.
- ✓ India has launched Rhino Vision project in 2005 to achieve a population of at least 3000 rhinos in seven protected areas.

## NATIONAL

- **Andhra Pradesh - topped the list of states in the ease of doing business rankings 2019 followed by Uttar Pradesh and Telangana**
- ✓ The State Business Reform Action Plan (BRAP) Rankings were released by the Department of Industrial Promotion and Internal Trade, Government of India through a video conference by Minister for Finance Nirmala Seetharaman.

S. No.	State/UT	Rank 2019
1	Andhra Pradesh	1
2	Uttar Pradesh	2
3	Telangana	3
4	Madhya Pradesh	4
5	Jharkhand	5
6	Chhattisgarh	6
7	Himachal Pradesh	7
8	Rajasthan	8
9	West Bengal	9
10	Gujarat	10
11	Uttarakhand	11
12	Delhi	12
13	Maharashtra	13
14	Tamil Nadu	14
15	Lakshadweep	15
16	Haryana	16
17	Karnataka	17
18	Daman and Diu	18
19	Punjab	19

S. No.	State/UT	Rank 2019
18	Daman and Diu	18
19	Punjab	19
20	Assam	20
21	Jammu and Kashmir	21
22	Andaman & Nicobar	22
23	Dadra & N. Haveli	23
24	Goa	24
25	Mizoram	25
26	Bihar	26
27	Puducherry	27
28	Kerala	28
29	Arunachal Pradesh	29
30	Chandigarh	29
31	Manipur	29
32	Meghalaya	29
33	Nagaland	29
34	Odisha	29
35	Sikkim	29
36	Tripura	29

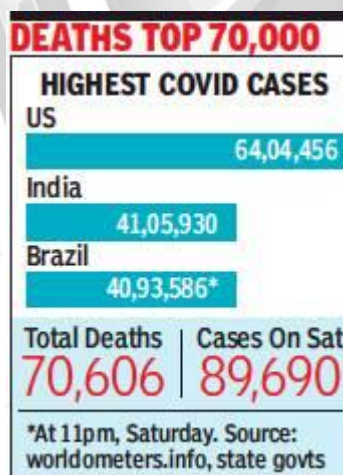
- ✓ Union Minister of Commerce Piyush Goyal was also present.
- ✓ The report ranks the states based on 180 parameters covering 12 business regulatory areas such as access to information, single window system, labour, environment among others
- ✓ These rankings represent the ease of doing business in the State with increased transparency, efficiency and effectiveness of the government regulatory functions vis-a-vis the business enterprises.
- ✓ **Tamil Nadu moved up one spot to get to the 14th position in the ease-of-doing-business ranking 2019, from the 15th place in 2018**
- ✓ Delhi bagged the top spot among Union Territories, while Assam was among the top performers among north-eastern states.
- ✓ Uttar Pradesh has made a strong comeback rising to the second position in 2019 from 12th place in 2018.
- ✓ Gujarat was among the top 10 states at the 10<sup>th</sup> spot while West Bengal was ahead at the ninth spot.
- ✓ Madhya Pradesh was placed at number four, followed by Jharkhand and Chhattisgarh at fifth and sixth places.

#### UP, DELHI MOVE UP

- Andhra tops states' ease of doing business rankings 2019, repeating its previous year's performance
- UP moves up from No.12 to No.2. Delhi up from No.23 to No.12, also is the top UT
- Bengal (9) ahead of Gujarat (10), which falls 5 ranks from 2018. Maha unchanged at 13



- ✓ The industrially important state of Maharashtra was ranked 13th in the list for 2019, retaining the same spot for the second successive year.
  - ✓ Himachal Pradesh moved up to the seventh place in 2019 from 16 in 2018.
  - ✓ In the overall ranking, Delhi moved to the 12th spot in 2019 from the 23rd place in 2018.
  - ✓ The rankings for 2019 were to be released in March this year but had to be postponed due to the Covid-19 pandemic.
  - ✓ The government had launched the ease of doing ranking for states to trigger a competition among states to reform their business and approval processes to attract investment.
  - ✓ Ease of Doing Business is a joint initiative by the Department for Promotion of Industries and Internal Trade and the World Bank to improve the overall business environment in the States.
- **On September 5, India - overtook Brazil as the country with the second highest recorded cases of Covid-19 after the US.**
- ✓ India has been recording nearly twice the number of daily cases than Brazil and the US over the past few days.
  - ✓ India's case count crossed the 41 lakh mark late on the day, going past Brazil's tally of 40,93,586 cases at 11pm, as per worldometers.info.



- ✓ Over the past 24 hours, 89,690 infections were recorded in the country, taking the total caseload to 41,05,930 a day after crossing the 40-lakh mark, as per data collated from state governments.
- ✓ This was the fourth peak in daily cases in the past four days.
- ✓ The spike in infections was again led by Maharashtra, which reported as many as 20,489 new cases on the day, its highest single-day count so far.
- ✓ Further, Andhra Pradesh reported 10,825 new cases and Karnataka logged 9,746 cases.
- ✓ Uttar Pradesh also reported its biggest jump in daily cases with 6,692 infections.
- ✓ The nationwide death toll from the virus on the day was 1,055, taking the total to 70,606.

- ✓ This was the fifth straight day of 1,000-plus deaths.
  - ✓ On an average, there have been over 1,000 deaths per day in the country over the past 10 days.
  - ✓ On September 5, the Union Health Ministry issued an updated advisory for COVID-19 testing simplifying the process and giving more flexibility to State authorities to facilitate greater ease of testing
  - ✓ In the advisory, a totally new section, "Testing on Demand", has been added, which removes the requirement of prescription by a registered medical practitioner although the State governments have the freedom to decide on the simplified modalities
  - ✓ As per the revised advisory, a single RT-PCR/TrueNat/CBNAAT/ Rapid Antigen Test (RAT) test was to be considered confirmatory, without any repeat testing.
- **On September 3, Union Environment Minister Prakash Javadekar - said that the Centre is working on rejuvenation of 13 rivers across the country and their detailed project reports (DPR) are already being prepared**
- ✓ He said this during a virtual interaction with Sadhguru, Founder, Isha Foundation, on the occasion of the anniversary of "Cauvery Calling" movement
  - ✓ The movement was launched by Sadhguru last year with an aim to revitalise the Cauvery river.



- ✓ The 13 important rivers to be rejuvenated includes Beas, Chenab, Jhelum, Ravi, Sutlej, Luni, Yamuna, Narmada, Godavari, Cauvery, Krishna, Brahmaputra and Mahanadi
- ✓ Apart from these, a special programme is being implemented to rejuvenate River Ganga under National Mission for Clean Ganga
- ✓ The minister referred to the technical study assigned to Indian Council of Forestry Research and Education (ICFRE), Dehradun, by the Environment ministry to assess the river landscape
- ✓ Javadekar was in conversation with Sadhguru, who has been the initiator of movements like 'Cauvery Calling' and 'Rally for Rivers' to spread the message of river revitalisation across the world.

- ✓ 'Cauvery Calling' promotes tree-based agriculture on private farmlands in the Cauvery basin
  - ✓ It aims to support 50 lakh farmers in planting 242 crore high-value trees on their farms for economic gain.
  - ✓ It was a campaign that was launched by Sadhguru Jaggi Vasudev in 2019.
- ✓ 'Rally for Rivers' is also a movement launched by Isha foundation.
  - ✓ It was launched in collaboration with 25 scientists and law makers including Tamil Nadu Agricultural University.
- **The government of India - recently announced that there will be no Question Hour and no introduction of private member bill during the upcoming monsoon session in view of the Covid-19 pandemic**
  - ✓ The Zero hour will also be restricted up to a maximum of 30 minutes
  - ✓ The Monsoon Session will be held from 14 September to 1 October.
  - ✓ There will be no breaks during the session, and both Houses will function on Saturdays and Sundays as well
  - ✓ In view of the COVID-19 pandemic, the session will be held in two shifts — 9 am to 1 pm and 3 pm to 7 pm.
  - ✓ Except for the first day, the Rajya Sabha will sit in the morning shift and the Lok Sabha will sit in the evening
  - ✓ Usually, the first hour of every parliamentary sitting was slotted for Question Hour
    - ✓ This was shifted to 11 AM to 12 noon in Rajya Sabha in 2014.
    - ✓ The Question Hour is held on all days of the session, except when the President addresses MPs from both houses and on the day when finance minister presents the Budget.
    - ✓ In the last five years, around 60% of question hour was wasted due to disruptions, as per a report.
    - ✓ As per the history of parliament records, question hour was abolished in 1962, 1975, 1976, 1991, 2004 and 2009 parliamentary sessions.
  - ✓ In parliamentary parlance, Zero Hour is the time gap between the end of Question Hour and the beginning of regular business.
    - ✓ In simple terms, it is a time slot allotted by the Parliament when MPs are allowed to raise issues of public importance urgently, without any prior notice
    - ✓ Zero Hour was introduced in the year 1962 by the ninth Speaker of the Lok Sabha, Rabi Ray with an idea to create a more informal way and opportunities for the members to raise matters of urgent public importance

## **SUPREME COURT VERDICT**

- **On September 3, the Supreme Court - refused to order an interim stay on an Andhra Pradesh High Court verdict against making English medium compulsory in schools**

- ✓ On November 20, 2019, the Andhra Pradesh government issued orders to make English medium compulsory for students of government schools from Class 1 to 6 from the ongoing academic year.
- ✓ A bench comprising Justices DY Chandrachud, KM Joseph and Indu Malhotra noted that Section 29(2)(f) of the Right to Education Act says the medium should be in mother tongue "so far as it is applicable" unless not possible
- ✓ The Andhra Pradesh High Court had on April 15 struck down the YS Jagan Mohan Reddy-government's decision making English medium mandatory and termed the order "unconstitutional and violative of several Acts, including the Right to Education Act".
- ✓ As per the recently launched New Education Policy, 2020, the students should be taught in their mother tongue or regional language or local language till Class V
- ✓ Also, the policy introduces three language formula as per the recommendation made by the Kothari Commission in 1968.

## INDIA AND OTHER COUNTRIES

- **On September 2, the United Nations Security Council's 1267 sanctions sub-committee – had rejected Pakistan's requests to list four Indians as designated terrorists**
- ✓ The USA, UK, France (all Permanent members), Germany and Belgium (both non-permanent members) blocked Pakistan's requests due to lack of evidence.
- ✓ This was informed by India's Permanent Representative to the United Nations, TS Tirumurti.
- ✓ The 1267 sanctions sub-committee is one of the most important and active UN subsidiary bodies dealing with efforts to combat terrorism, particularly in relation to Al Qaeda, Taliban and the Islamic State group.
- ✓ In September 2019, Pakistan had moved UNSC to include the names of four Indians working in private companies in Afghanistan
- ✓ According to Pakistan, the four Indian nations have allegedly formed an Afghanistan-based "Indian terror syndicate"
  - ✓ Further, Pakistan alleged that they were funding banned terror groups like Tehreek-e-Taliban Pakistan (TTP) and Jamaat-Ul-Ahrar (JuA) to carry out attacks in Pakistan.
  - ✓ It had also accused them of specific attacks, including the Peshawar army school attack in which 150 people, mostly students, were killed.
  - ✓ The four Indians were all evacuated from Afghanistan as a precaution for their safety
- ✓ In July 2020, Pakistan moved the 1267 Resolution Sanctions Committee to designate the four Indians as global terrorists.
- ✓ The four Indians connected with the issue are Venumadhav Dongara, Ajoy Mistry, Angara Appaji and Gobinda Pattnaik Duggivalasa

- **Germany, current EU president and Europe's biggest economy - has launched its Indo-Pacific strategy with India on September 2**
- ✓ The strategy released by German Foreign Ministry has several indirect references to Chinese behavior and China's aggressive foreign policy
- ✓ It had also suggested opening dialogue with institutions where India plays a key role -- Bay of Bengal Initiative for Multi-Sectoral Technical and Economic Cooperation (BIMSTEC) and Indian Ocean Rim (IOR) Association -- in the areas of business and maritime safety, as well as disaster risk management.
- ✓ The strategy also contains veiled but firm criticism of Chinese actions in the South China Sea and its fallout on global trade
- ✓ Germany has also exhibited its willingness to cooperate with India and Japan in United Nations Security Reforms.

## **CONFERENCES & SUMMITS**

- **India - to host the 19th summit of the Council of Heads of Government of the Shanghai Cooperation Organisation (SCO) on November 30**
- ✓ The focus of the meeting will be on the trade and economic agenda of the influential SCO member countries
- ✓ The SCO is an eight-nation regional grouping that represents around 42% of the world's population and 20% of the global GDP.
- ✓ India's chairmanship of the SCO council of heads of government during 2020 culminates in the summit in India
- ✓ Beijing-based SCO is an eight-nation regional grouping comprising of China, Russia, Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Tajikistan, Uzbekistan, India and Pakistan
- ✓ India was an observer at the SCO since 2005 and became its full member in 2017 along with Pakistan
- ✓ India is hosting this summit for the first time after its admission into the grouping
- ✓ The country has been strongly pushing for connectivity projects like the International North-South Transport Corridor with member nations to gain access to resource-rich central Asian countries.
  
- **On September 3, Saudi Arabia - chaired the G20 Foreign Ministers' Extraordinary Meeting which was held in the virtual mode.**
- ✓ The External Affairs Minister S Jaishankar represented India in the video conference
- ✓ The meeting focused on cross-border movement and strengthening international cooperation across borders in the backdrop of the Covid-19 pandemic crisis
- ✓ It was conducted as part of the Sherpa Track for the G20 Leaders Summit 2020, which is to be hosted by Saudi Arabia at the end of 2020
- ✓ During the meeting, India proposed the setting up of voluntary 'G20 Principles on Coordinated Cross-Border Movement of People'.





- ✓ This new set up will be based on following three pillars -
  - ✓ Standardisation of testing procedures and universal acceptability of test results
  - ✓ Standardisation of 'Quarantine procedures'
  - ✓ Standardisation of 'movement and transit' protocols
- ✓ Earlier, the G-20 countries agreed to provide \$5 trillion during their virtual meet held in March 2020.
  - ✓ Later an additional \$21 billion was pledged to fight the pandemic.
  - ✓ Further, the G-20 leaders have also agreed to contribute to World Health Organization led COVID-19 solidarity response fund.
- ✓ In July 2020, the Digital Economy Ministers meet was held under the theme 'Realizing opportunities of the 21<sup>st</sup> century for all'
- ✓ Again, in the 3<sup>rd</sup> G-20 Finance Ministers and Central Bank Governors (FMCBG) meeting held in July 2020, the G20 Action Plan to deal with the pandemic was introduced.
  - ✓ The Indian side, represented by Union minister for Finance and Corporate Affairs Nirmala Sitharaman, attended the meeting
- ✓ The Group of Twenty (G20) is the premier forum for international economic cooperation which brings together the leaders of both developed and developing countries from every continent.
  - ✓ It represents about two-thirds of the world's population, 85% of global gross domestic product, 80% of global investment and over 75% of global trade
  - ✓ The members of the G20 group are Argentina, Australia, Brazil, Canada, China, France, Germany, India, Indonesia, Italy, Japan, Mexico, Russia, Saudi Arabia, South Africa, Republic of Korea, Turkey, the United Kingdom, the United States and the European Union (EU).
  - ✓ It does not have any permanent secretariat or headquarters
  - ✓ Currently, Saudi Arabia holds the presidency of G-20, making it the first Arab nation to take over the G20 Presidency.

- **On September 4, the Union Minister of State for Culture and Tourism Shri Prahlad Singh Patel - attended the 5<sup>th</sup> BRICS Culture Ministers Meet.**



- ✓ It was held through video conference under the chairmanship of the Russian Federation
  - ✓ The delegates from Culture Ministries of the Federative Republic of Brazil, the Russian Federation, the Republic of India, the People's Republic of China and the Republic of South Africa participated in the meeting.
  - ✓ During the meeting, India proposed to host a digital online exhibition on a shared theme under the auspices of BRICS Alliance of Museums by the end of 2021
  - ✓ Further, India is planning to start a BRICS Corner under the auspices of BRICS Alliance of Libraries during the India's BRICS Presidency in 2021
    - ✓ The Corner will disseminate information related to the history and culture of BRICS countries.
    - ✓ The corner will display the books, periodicals and other e-resources gifted by the BRICS countries - Brazil, Russia, China and South Africa.
  - ✓ The National Gallery of Modern Arts, New Delhi will also host the BRICS Joint Exhibition titled 'Bonding Regions & Imagining Cultural Synergies' under the auspices of the BRICS Alliance of Art Museums and Galleries in 2021
    - ✓ The exhibition will display around 100 works of art from the five prestigious institutions under the BRICS Alliance.
  - ✓ Earlier, BRICS countries introduced Visa waiver programme in 2010 to improve their tourism and cultural exchange interactions
- **On September 2, India - attended a key a meeting of the regional grouping BIMSTEC through a video conference**
- ✓ The meeting discussed measures to further expand cooperation among its member nations to effectively deal with key challenges including impact of the coronavirus pandemic
  - ✓ The Indian delegation at the virtual meeting of the grouping was headed by Secretary (East) in Ministry of External Affairs Vijay Thakur Singh
  - ✓ The meeting was held under the chairmanship of Sri Lanka

- ✓ The Senior Officials' Meeting (SOM) of BIMSTEC also discussed about holding of the next summit of the grouping
- ✓ The BIMSTEC (Bay of Bengal Initiative for Multi-Sectoral Technical and Economic Cooperation) comprises India, Bangladesh, Myanmar, Sri Lanka, Thailand, Bhutan and Nepal.
  - ✓ The grouping accounts for 22% of the global population, and has a combined gross domestic product of \$2.8 trillion.
  - ✓ It was established through Bangkok Declaration in 1997 with four initial members Bangladesh, Sri Lanka, India and Thailand.
  - ✓ The first meet of the National Security Chiefs of BIMSTEC was held in 2017.
- ✓ India has been pushing for making BIMSTEC a vibrant forum, as various regional initiatives under SAARC (South Asian Association for Regional) were not progressing forward, primarily due to non-cooperation from Pakistan.

## PERSONALITIES

- **The Directors of Jio Board and Ambani scions, Isha and Akash Ambani - have been included by Fortune Magazine in the '40 under 40' list of the most influential young leaders for the year under the technology section.**



- ✓ As per the US-based Forbes publication, the valuation of the Jio enterprises rose to \$65 billion, after Akash and Isha Ambani joined the Jio Board.
- ✓ Recently, they both have helped in launching Jio mart to pose a challenge to other online shopping markets including Amazon etc.,
- ✓ As the members of the Jio Board, they helped in sealing the company's recent megadeal with Facebook at \$5.7 billion for a 9.99% stake apart from other investments from tech titans such as Intel, Google, Qualcomm etc.,
- ✓ Isha and Akash Ambani are the twin children of Reliance's Chairman and Managing Director, Mukesh Ambani, who is also India and Asia's richest man.
- ✓ As Reliance is a family business, Akash Ambani joined the company in 2014 after receiving an economics degree from Brown University.



- ✓ Isha Ambani joined a year later, following the stints at Stanford, Yale, and McKinsey.
- **Indian renewable energy company, Adani Green - has been ranked as the world's number 1 solar energy company in terms of capacity.**
- ✓ The company is ranked as the world's top solar developer with around 2.3 GW of operational projects
- ✓ Further, Adani Green Energy Limited has another 2 GW projects under construction and 8 GW of awarded projects (with contracted PPAs) for a total capacity of 12.3 GW.
- ✓ In fact, the solar capacity of the company exceeds the total installed capacity of the United States as of 2019.
- ✓ The renewable energy company has targeted to achieve a total combined solar capacity of 25 GW by 2025.
- ✓ Their current solar capacity including their online solar and wind projects makes up a total of 14.62 GW, after starting operations in 2015.
- ✓ Adani Green won a major bid in June 2020 to develop solar photovoltaic power projects of 8 GW.
- ✓ Besides this, the company had announced a joint venture with 'Total Solar, Singapore' in March 2020 for about 2.1 GW of operating solar power projects.
- ✓ The company is also planning to manufacture 2 GW worth of solar cells and modules by 2022.
- ✓ Overall in 2019, the global solar photovoltaics (PV) market grew by 15%, adding 120 gigawatts of solar capacity.
- ✓ China was the biggest contributor for this growth with 30 GW solar capacity, followed by the United States, India and Japan.

## **DEFENCE**

- **On September 3, India - finalised a major deal with and Russia for the manufacturing of AK-47 203 rifles, during Defence Minister Rajnath Singh's visit to the country**
- ✓ The Indian Army has a requirement of 7,70,000 AK-47 203 rifles, of which 1,00,000 will be imported and the rest will be manufactured in India.
- ✓ The AK-47 203 is the latest and most advanced version of the AK-47 rifle
- ✓ It is set to replace the Indian Small Arms System (INSAS) 5.56x45 mm assault rifle.
- ✓ INSAS, which has been in use since 1996, has developed issues such as magazine cracking and jamming at higher altitudes in the Himalayas.
- ✓ The AK-47 203 rifles will be manufactured in India as part of the joint venture Indo-Russia Rifles Private Limited (IRRPL), established between the Ordnance Factory Board (OFB), the Kalashnikov Concern and Rosoboronexport.



- ✓ The OFB would own a majority stake of 50.5% while the Kalashnikov Group would have a share of 42%.
- ✓ Rosoboronexport, Russia's state-owned export agency, would own the remaining 7.5%.
- ✓ The Russian weapon will be produced at the Korwa Ordnance Factory in Uttar Pradesh, which was inaugurated by Prime Minister Narendra Modi last year.
- ✓ The cost of per rifle is expected to be around \$1,100, which includes the cost of technology transfer and of setting up the manufacturing unit.
- ✓ The Defence Minister is on a three-day visit at Russia's capital Moscow to attend SCO meet

## SPORTS

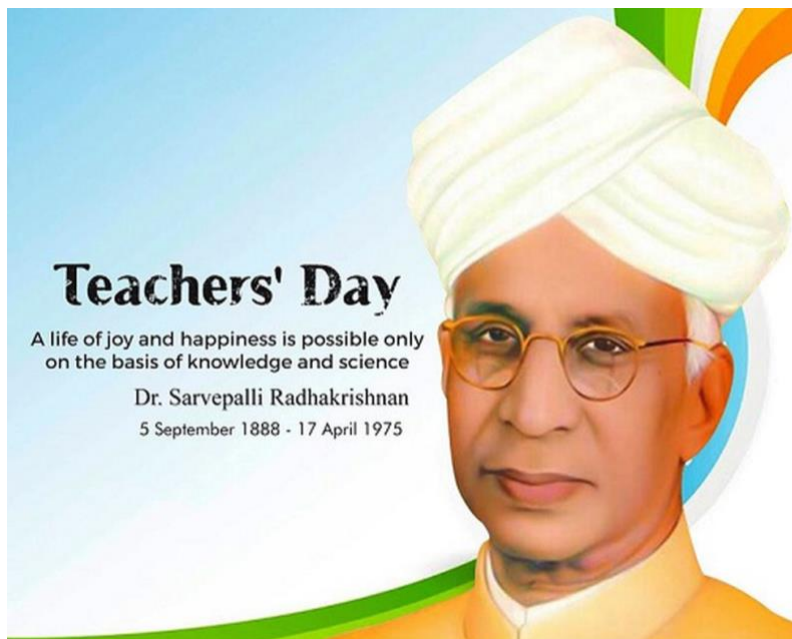
- **Indian chess ace Pentala Harikrishna - won the Polish team championship with his Polonia Wroclaw side last week.**
- ✓ The Indian No.2 Chess player won the event just days after bagging the maiden gold for India in the online chess Olympiad



- ✓ Earlier he scored 36.5 points from 28 games of classical, blitz and rapid combined, to finish second in his first over-the-board tournament at the Biel Chess Festival a month ago.

## NATIONAL DAY

- **Teacher's Day – September 5**
- ✓ Teacher's Day is celebrated every year on September 5, the day Dr. Sarvepalli Radhakrishnan was born in the year 1888.
- ✓ Dr. Sarvepalli Radhakrishnan served as the country's first Vice President (1952 to 1962) and second President (1962 to 1967)
- ✓ Teachers' Day was first celebrated in 1962, the year he became the second President of India
- ✓ The celebration of the Day is dedicated to value and acknowledge the contribution of all the teachers, gurus and mentors who guide their students to become better human beings and shape their lives

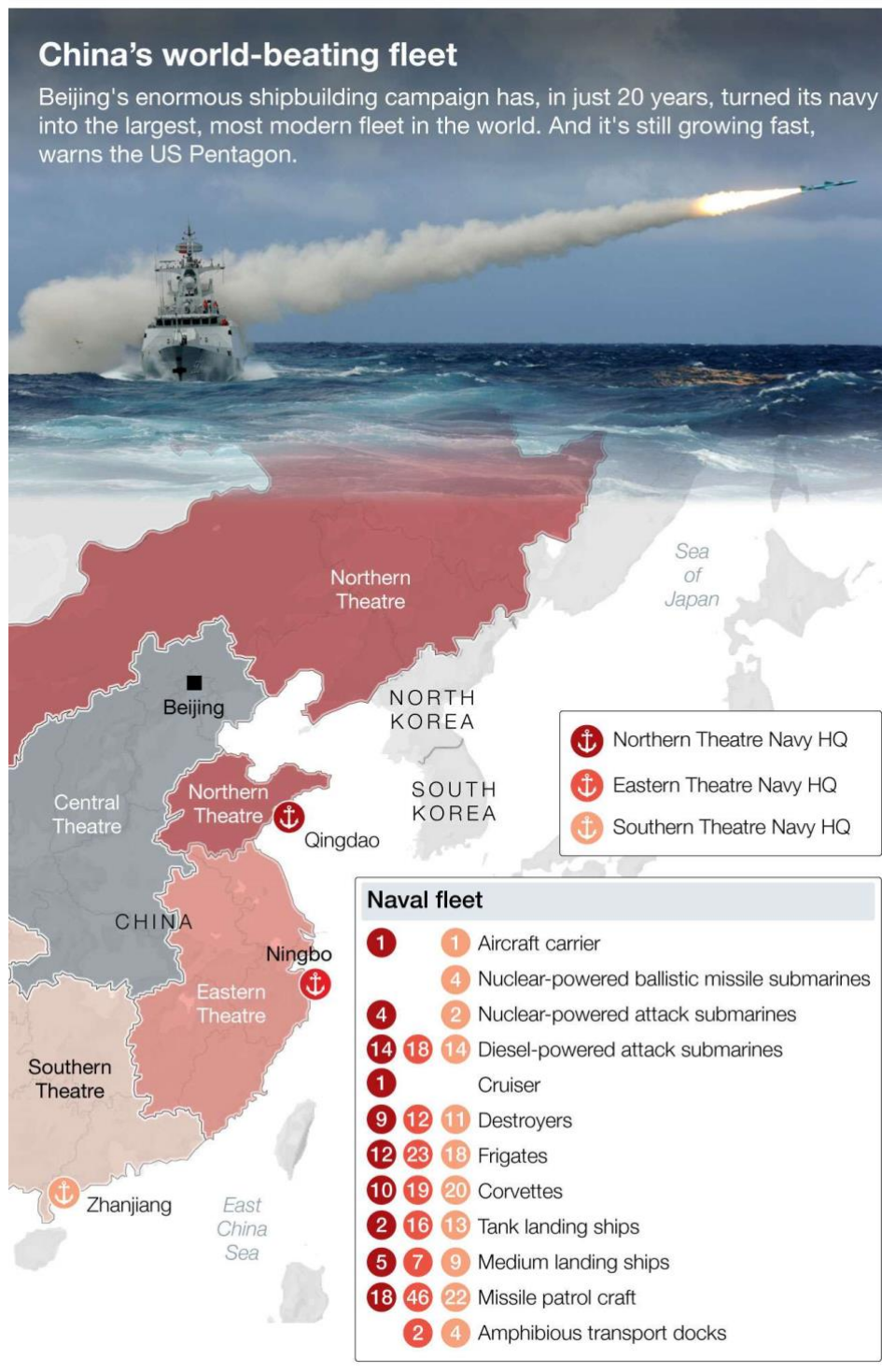


- ✓ Dr. Radhakrishnan taught in several distinguished educational institutions including Oxford University, University of Chicago, Calcutta University, Mysore University and Madras Presidency College.
- ✓ His book, 'The Philosophy of Rabindranath Tagore' attracted global attention to Indian philosophy.
- ✓ His philosophy was grounded in Advaita Vedanta
- ✓ He was one of the founders of Helpage India, a renowned NGO for elderly underprivileged in India.
- ✓ Dr. Radhakrishnan was awarded the Bharat Ratna, India's highest civilian award, in 1954.
- ✓ He was awarded several other distinguished awards as well such as a knighthood in 1931 and honorary membership of the British Royal Order of Merit in 1963.
- ✓ Dr. Sarvepalli Radhakrishnan was nominated for the Nobel Prize 27 times, 16 times for the Nobel Prize in literature and 11 times for the Nobel Peace Prize.

## **PENTAGON'S REPORT ON CHINA'S MILITARY POWER – A OVERVIEW**

- **The United States (US) Department of Defence's annual report to Congress on Chinese military power - states that the Chinese navy is now the largest in the world with a total of 350 ships and submarines, including 130 major surface combatants**
- ✓ In comparison, the US navy reports 293 vessels in active service.
- ✓ The report, however, noted that the US is ahead of China in terms of tonnage as it has larger warships, including 11 super 100,000-tonne aircraft carriers.
- ✓ As per Pentagon's report, China is looking to establish PLA facilities at the naval bases of at least 12 nations including Pakistan, Myanmar and Sri Lanka

- ✓ The other nations reported to be on China's radar include Thailand, Singapore, Indonesia, the UAE, Kenya, Seychelles, Tanzania, Angola and Tajikistan
- ✓ China has outstripped the US in numbers of warships, land-based missiles and air defence systems.



- ✓ According to the 173-page report, China has more than 1250 ground-launched ballistic missiles and cruise missiles with ranges between 500km and 5500km.
- ✓ The US had until recently been restrained from producing similar weapons under the terms of its 1987 Intermediate-range Nuclear Forces Treaty with Russia.

- ✓ President Donald Trump's administration withdrew from the agreement last year.
- ✓ It has since tested one ballistic and one cruise missile that falls within this category.
- ✓ China aims to build world class military superior than US by 2049 and also intends to double nuclear warheads within the next decade
- ✓ The report is a warning bell to India, considering the Chinese incursions in the Indian Ocean Region.
- ✓ As per the report, the Western theatre command of china is oriented towards India.
- ✓ China has already established its naval bases in Djibouti, Horn of Africa in 2017.
- ✓ It has also extended its influences in two ports of Pakistan, namely Gwadar and Karachi.

