

Important Current Affairs - September 4th Week 2018

24th September - 30th September

INTERNATIONAL AFFAIRS:

South Korea is the 1st country to cut oil imports from Iran after US sanctions

- As per the reports of Iranian oil ministry, South Korea has had no oil imports from Iran for about three consecutive months after the reimposition of U.S. sanctions on Tehran.
- The US began re-imposing sanctions against Iran after withdrawing from the nuclear deal in May.
- It has also asked nations to cut their Iran oil imports to zero before it reimposes oil sanctions.

129 countries sign up to Trump's pledge at U.N. to fight global drug problem

- Countries signing the non-binding the U.S. statement pledged to develop national action plans to reduce demand for illicit drugs through education, expand treatment efforts, strengthen international cooperation on justice, law enforcement and health, and cut off the supply by stopping production.

- Among countries that did not sign the U.S. drugs pledge was New Zealand.
- Addiction to opioids - mainly prescription painkillers, heroin and fentanyl is a growing U.S. problem, especially in rural areas.

First Women foreign minister conference held in Canada

- Women Foreign ministers from almost 20 countries have gathered in Montreal, Canada and discussed topics including security and gender-based violence.
- The meeting was co-chaired by Canada's top diplomat, Chrystia Freeland, and the foreign affairs representative of the EU, Federica Mogherini.

U.N. declared 2019-2028 as the Nelson Mandela Decade of Peace

- This incident took place at the Nelson Mandela peace summit honouring the South African leader at the UN.
- He also unveiled a statue of Nelson Mandela at the UN marking the 100th anniversary of Mandela's birth.

NATIONAL AFFAIRS:

Home Minister chaired a meeting of central Zonal Council held in Lucknow, Uttar Pradesh

- Chief minister Yogi Adityanath was vice chairman of the council and the host.
- The meeting comprised of the states of Uttar Pradesh, Madhya Pradesh, Chhattisgarh and Uttarakhand.
- It addressed the common concerns of the participating states and settled cross-border concerns.

India to introduce helpline number for tobacco users

- India has introduced a quitline number, 1800-11-2356, on tobacco products.
- The Union Health Ministry already been creating awareness among people by making mandate display of pictorial health warning on both sides of packets containing cigarettes, bidis, and chewing tobacco.
- The quitline number is to be printed on all tobacco products that will be manufactured after September 1, 2018.

Hyderabad Metro becomes India's 2nd largest metro rail network

- After Andhra Pradesh and Telangana Governor ESL Narasimhan flagged off the 16-km stretch of Hyderabad Metro between Ameerpet and L B Nagar, Hyderabad Metro became the second biggest rail network in India with a total of 46 km service, next only to Delhi.
- It is also the world's largest metro project under the public-private-partnership (PPP) model with a total estimated cost of over Rs 20,000 crore courtesy time and cost overruns before and after the formation of Telangana state.

Cabinet approved the policy of DoT to provide broadband access to all citizens by 2022

- The Union Cabinet approved the new telecom policy of providing broadband access to every citizen. It aimed at providing a speed at 50 Mbps speed by the year 2022.
- The National Digital Communications Policy 2018 has planned to invest \$100 billion in the country's digital communications sector.
- It also plans to create at least 40 lakh new jobs in the sector in the next four years.

- The policy has called for a review of levies and fees which includes licence fee, universal service obligation fund levy and spectrum usage charges, on the sector.
- This is expected to help the debt-laden telecom sector. It is expected that the government would take up to a year to decide on this issue.

Centre appointed search committee for Lokpal and Lokayuktas

- The Centre suggested an eight-member search committee for Lokpal and Lokayuktas.
- The step came after the Supreme Court's order to appoint Lokpal at the earliest.
- The search committee was appointed by the selection committee.
- The Search committee will be headed by former Supreme Court judge, Justice Ranjana Prakash Desai.
- The Selection committee constituted Prime Minister Narendra Modi, Chief Justice of India Dipak Misra, Lok Sabha Speaker Sumitra Mahajan, Leader of the largest Opposition party, i.e, Congress Mallikarjun Kharge, Jurist Mukul Rohatgi.

Search committee members:

Head:

Justice Ranjana Prakash Desai - Former Supreme Court judge

Members:

- Arundhati Bhattacharya - Former SBI Chief
- A. Surya Prakash - Chairperson of Prasar Bharati
- A.S. Kiran Kumar - Former ISRO Head
- Sakha Ram Singh Yadav - Former judge of the Allahabad HC
- Shabbirhusein S Khandwawala - Former Gujarat Police Head
- Lalit K Panwar - Retired IAS Officer of Rajasthan cadre
- Ranjit Kumar - Retired IAS Officer of Rajasthan cadre.

Union Government sets up Ayush Information Cell in Romania

- To encourage practice of ayurveda, India has set up an 'Ayush Information Cell' at its embassy premises in Romania to create awareness about the traditional Indian system of medicine.

- The cell was digitally inaugurated by Vice President Venkaiah Naidu during his visit to Romania earlier this month.

Govt announces states' financial inclusion index, easy online MSME loans

- Finance Minister Arun Jaitley launched a common online platform for micro, small and medium enterprises (MSME) credit which will enable businesses to get loans up to Rs 10 million approved through a completely automated process within just 59 minutes.
- Arun Jaitley launched the Financial Inclusion Index (FII) in New Delhi.
- The index will be released by the Department of Financial Services (DFS) under the Ministry of Finance by the end of this year and it would rate states on their performance on last-mile banking services availability.
- The index will include the following three measurement dimensions:
 - (i) Access to financial services
 - (ii) Usage of financial services
 - (iii) Quality.

BANKING & FINANCE NEWS:

Corporation Bank & NeSL ink pact for sharing security information under IBBI rule

- Corporation bank inked a pact on information utility (IU) agreement with National e-Governance Services Ltd (NeSL).

Corporation Bank:

- Headquarters: Mangalore.
- MD & CEO: Shri Jai Kumar Garg.
- Tagline: A Premier Public Sector Bank, Prosperity for all.
- Full form of NCLT: National Company Law Tribunal.

BSNL signed deal with SoftBank, NTT to roll out 5G in India

- BSNL Chairman Anupam Shrivastava announced that BSNL with Japan's SoftBank and NTT Communications may launch 5G internet service and Internet of Things (IoT) technology by 2020 in India.
- BSNL has signed agreement with Nokia and Cisco as well for developing 5G ecosystem.

IRBI eased cash reserve rules to allow banks to get increased liquidity from SLR

- The Reserve Bank of India allowed banks to dip further into statutory cash reserves to ease a liquidity squeeze afflicting the nation's money markets.
- The move by the central bank follows concerns over tight liquidity conditions and banks unwillingness to lend to NBFCs.

About Reserve Bank of India (RBI)

- Urjit Patel- 24th Governor of RBI
- Headquarters- Mumbai
- Established-1st April 1935, in Kolkata

ADB approved USD 500 mn for Tamil Nadu water supply, sewerage, drainage infrastructure project

- **Asian Development Bank (ADB)** approved financing of up to \$500 million for a **multitranche financing facility (MFF)** infrastructure project in at least 10 cities of Tamil Nadu.
- The main objective is to develop climate-resilient water supply, sewerage, and drainage infrastructure.
- The first tranche of the program amounts to \$169 million will target the cities of Chennai, Coimbatore, Rajapalayam, Tiruchirappalli, Tirunelveli, and Vellore.

AWARDS:

Village Rockstars is India's Official Entry To Oscars 2019

- Rima Das' National Award-winning feature Village Rockstars chosen to represent India in the Best Foreign Language category at the 91st Academy Awards next year, the Film Federation of India (FFI) announced.
- The announcement was made by SV Rajendra Singh Babu, Chairman, Selection Committee for Oscar Award, FFI.

AP, Odisha and MP Bag Award Under Amrut

- Andhra Pradesh topped the charts among States in terms of "Ease of Living Index" rankings launched by the Ministry of Housing and Urban Affairs (MoHUA).
- It was followed by Odisha and Madhya Pradesh.

Manatec won the Innovation award

- Manatec, the Pondicherry-based garage equipment manufacturer, won the **Innovation Award** at Automechanika, a leading trade fair, held in Germany.
- The company was chosen for the award for its innovation of JUMBO 3D – World's 1st 3D Wheel Aligner for Multi-Axle Trucks, Buses & Trailers.

- The award was received by Manatec Chairman Mr.R. Mananathan.

Shri Narendra Modi was awarded Champions of the Earth award

- Prime Minister Narendra Modi has been awarded the United Nation's highest environmental honour 'Champions of the Earth' for his leadership of the band pledge to eliminate single-use plastic by 2022.
- Six of the world's most outstanding environmental change makers were awarded the honour.
- The award recognises the combination of bold, innovative and tireless efforts to tackle some of the most urgent environmental issues of the times.
- Cochin International Airport was honoured with the award for Entrepreneurial Vision, for its leadership in the use of sustainable energy. Six Laureates Champions of the Earth:
1.Narendra Modi, Prime Minister of India - Policy leadership
2.Cochin International Airport, World's first solar power airport - Entrepreneurial vision
3.Emmanuel Macron, President of France - Policy Leadership
4.Impossible Foods and Beyond Meat (together) - Science and Innovation
5.Joan Carling, Environment and indigenous rights defender - Lifetime achievement

6.Zhejiang, Zhejiang's Green Rural Revival Programme - Inspiration and action.

Pankaj Kapoor gets 'Icons of Indian Cinema' Award at Jagran Film Festival

- Actor-director Pankaj Kapur is honoured with 'Icons of Indian Cinema' Award at the closing ceremony of the ninth edition of Jagran Film Festival in Mumbai.
- He is a three-time National Award winner.
- Pankaj Kapoor's most acclaimed films were Raakh (1989), Ek Doctor Ki Maut (1991) Vishal Bhardwaj's adaptation of Macbeth, Maqbool (2003), all three films for which he received National Film Awards.

SPORTS NEWS:

Pavithra Naveen claimed Pan Tech-Abu Dhabi 83rd State senior championships

- Pavithra Naveen claimed the Pan Tech-Abu Dhabi 83rd State senior championships at the EISA Badminton Academy, at Ettumanoor, Kerala.
- The unseeded Pavithra defeated Kozhikode's fifth-seeded N.Asathy 16-21, 21-16, 21-16 in the women's final.

- In men's final Kozhikode unseeded Mohammed Munawar won the title by defeating Ernakulam top-seeded M. Shyam Prasad.
- He defeated Prasad by securing 21-16, 21-16. It is Munawar's fourth State men's trophy.

Sinisuka Ginting and Carolina Marin Won China Open

- Indonesia's Anthony Sinisuka Ginting beat Japan's Kento Momota to take the Men's singles China Open title in Changzhou.
- Spain's Carolina Marin beat China's Chen Yufei to take the women's singles title.
- Ginting last beat Momota at the Asian Games in Jakarta last month.

South Africa relaunched T20 league

- Cricket South Africa started a recruitment process for a re-launched Twenty20 league. This T20 match will be from November 9 until December 16.
- Cricket players from foreign and local have been invited to apply to play in the SA T20 League.
- This will be staged a year after an aborted Global T20 League, which cost the South African governing body an estimated \$14 million, including compensation paid to 144 contracted players.

- In this re-launched new league, 6 teams will be playing. Venues are yet to be decided.

PV Sindhu only sportsperson in Forbes India's Maiden List of 22 'Tycoons of Tomorrow'

Badminton player and Olympic PV Sindhu is the only sportsperson featuring in the Forbes India's maiden 'tycoons of tomorrow' list of 22 young achievers in the fields of business, acting and sports. The other prominent names in the list are:

- Karan Adani, chief executive of Adani Ports & Special Economic Zone
- Anant Goenka, group executive director of Indian Express
- Ashni Biyani, managing director of Future Consumer
- Birla scion Ananya Birla, founder of Svatantra Microfinance, co-founder, CuroCarte and co-founder of Mpower
- Radha Kapoor Khanna, the daughter of Yes Bank CEO Rana Kapoor
- Ritesh Agarwal of Oyo Rooms

Sreeshankar sets national record in men's long jump

- M.Sreeshankar, the 19-year-old, defeated Ankit Sharma's National and meet record in the men's long jump in the National Open athletics championships.
- He recorded a jump to break the meet record of 7.87m a by covering a distance of 8.11m.
- His previous best was 7.99m at the Federation Cup in March.

QUIZ CORNER:

1) PM Narendra Modi laid the foundation stone for a ₹_____ crore project to revive Talcher fertiliser plant in Odisha.

- A.10,000
- B.15,000
- C.13,000
- D.17,000

Answer: C

2) Which bank signed pact with NeSL for sharing security information under IBBI rule?



- A. Corporation Bank**
- B. State Bank of India**
- C. Dena Bank**
- D. Yes Bank**

Answer: A

3) Which of the following film will represent India in the Best Foreign Language category at the Oscar Awards 2019?

- A. Village Rockstars**
- B. Batti Gul Meter Chalu**
- C. Manmarziyan**
- D. Sanju**

Answer: A

4) Which film has been chosen as Bangladesh's official entry for the Oscars 2019?

- A. Shohagi Goyna**
- B. Doob**
- C. Bizli**
- D. Detective**

Answer: B

5) Who won open China Open award recently?

- A.Sinisuka Ginting**
- B.Kento Momota**
- C.Anthony Sinisuka**
- D.A S Ginting**

Answer: A

6) How many millions did BRICS Bank approves Loan For Infra Projects ?

- A.250 millions**
- B.360 millions**
- C.685 millions**
- D.525 millions**

Answer: D

7) When was the Mars Orbiter Mission (MOM) launched?

- A.November 2013**
- B.November 2014**
- C.November 2015**
- D.November 2016**

Answer: A

8) Which country ranked 158th among 195 countries for investment in health care and education: The Lancet ?

- A.India**
- B.Pakistan**
- C.Saudi Arabia**
- D.Indonesia**

Answer: A

9) Who has topped Barclays Hurun India Rich List 2018?

- A. L.N.Mittal**
- B.S.P.Hinduja**
- C.Mukesh Ambani**
- D.Anil Agarwal**

Answer: C

10) ----- is a method of providing feedback to voters using a ballotless voting system.

- A.Electronic Voting Machines (EVM)**
- B.Voter verifiable paper audit trail (VVPAT)**
- C.Voluntary Voting System (VVS)**
- D.None of the above**

Answer: A

11) What is the name of the missile that Indian Air Force (IAF) test fire successfully from a Su-30 aircraft?

- A. Beyond Visual Range Air-to-Air Missile (BVRAAM)**
- B. Astra B. Long Range Air-to-Air Missile (BVRAAM) Astra**
- C. Short Range Air-to-Air Missile (BVRAAM) Astra**
- D. Continental Range Air-to-Air Missile (BVRAAM) Astra**

Answer: A

12) Who inaugurated Smart City Expo India-2018 ?

- A. Shri Suresh Kumar**
- B. Shri M. Venkaiah Naidu**
- C. Shri Suresh Prabhu**
- D. Shri Prakash Javadekar**

Answer: B

13) ----- Linking Must For PAN And Filing Income Tax Returns

- A. Voter ID**
- B. Driving license**
- C. Aadhaar Card**

D.Ration card

Answer: A

14) Who is newly appointed as the chief of Border Security Force (BSF)?

A.Prakash Desai

B.K.K.Sharma

C.S.S.Deswal

D.Rajni Kant Mishra

Answer: D

15) What is the position of India out of 162 countries, in this year's report on Economic Freedom in the World?

A.96

B.98

C.92

D.94

Answer: A

16) Globally, which University claimed first position in ‘Times World University rankings 2019’ for the third consecutive year?

- A.Stanford University**
- B.University of Cambridge**
- C.University of Oxford**
- D.Massachusetts Institute of Technology**

Answer: C

17) The Supreme Court on September 27 unanimously struck down Section _____ of the Indian Penal Code (IPC) that makes adultery a punishable offence for men.

- A.417**
- B.445**
- C.499**
- D.497**

Answer: D

18) Which of the following award is also known as ‘Alternative Nobel Prize’?

- A.Pulitzer Prize**
- B.Right Livelihood Award**

C.Abel Prize

D.Ramon Magsaysay Award

Answer: B

19) Which country becomes world's first to land rovers MINERVA-III1 on asteroid Ryugu?

A.Japan

B.Russia

C.China

D.India

Answer: A

20) India's first electric hypercar concept 'Shul' was unveiled by _____.

A.Nissan Motor India Private Limited

B.Honda Cars India Ltd.

C.Tata Motors Limited

D.Vazirani Automotive

Answer: D

21) GSTN was incorporated as a private limited company on

- A. April 9, 2014**
- B. February 12, 2012**
- C. March 28, 2013**
- D. July 1, 2016**

Answer: C

22) Seventh National Conference on Excellence in Workplace Safety and Occupational Health in ----- ?

- A. Chennai**
- B. Hyderabad**
- C. New Delhi**
- D. Secunderabad**

Answer: C

23) Which country topped Economic Freedom Index 2018?

- A. Australia**
- B. Switzerland**
- C. Singapore**
- D. Hong Kong**

Answer: D

24) Which is the host country for this year's World Tourism Day (WTD)?

A.Hungary

B.Qatar

C.Thailand

D.Mexico

Answer: A

25) Who is the president of Central Arecanut and Cocoa Marketing and Processing Cooperative Ltd. (Campco)?

A.S.R.Satishchandra

B.M.Suresh Bhandary

C.Varanashi Subraya Bhat

D.Sathish Chaudary

Answer: D

26) Which country signed with India To Enhance Cooperation In MSME Sector ?

A.Morocco

B.Pakistan

C.Indonesia

D.Afghanistan

Answer: A

27) What type of blood test is to be introduced by Abbott for early prediction of heart attack?

- A.Smart ECG**
- B.Troponin-I blood test**
- C.CK–MB tests**
- D.Serum myoglobin tests**

Answer: B

28) Xiaomi is a _____ based company.

- A.North Korea**
- B.South Korea**
- C.China**
- D.Japan**

Answer: C

29) Indian Government recently increased customs duty on import of _____ items.

- A.17**
- B.14**
- C.15**
- D.19**

Answer: D

30) Who is the present Minister of Agriculture and Farmers Welfare ?

- A. Shri Radha Mohan**
- B. Shri Suresh Prabhu**
- C. Shri Venkat Prabhu**
- D. Shri Narayana Swamy**

Answer: A

USEFUL LINKS:

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