



EVERYDAY CURRENT AFFAIRS – JUNE 20, 2023

TAMIL NADU

- On June 19, the Greater Chennai Traffic Police - inaugurated a 'live traffic monitor' system for the city roads



- ✓ The new system will provide instant updates on red and yellow zones of traffic, fatal accidents, and other critical events on the road for officials to troubleshoot and implement solutions
- ✓ The traffic police will pay an annual fee of Rs.1 crore to Mandark Technologies Pvt Ltd at IIT Madras Research Park to receive real-time traffic data from Google.
- ✓ The system does simultaneous live monitoring of all 300 junctions covering around 1000 roads in Chennai automatically by gathering data
- ✓ The benefits, besides reducing time on roads, will also lead to less carbon emission and vehicular pollution.
- ✓ The new system will allow the traffic personnel on the ground to report accidents, road closures, construction, and other incidents almost instantly.
- ✓ During the day, Greater Chennai Police commissioner Shankar Jiwaj also inaugurated Rs.7 crore worth equipment and systems for traffic safety in the city.
- ✓ Besides, the Greater Chennai Traffic Police (GCTP) are all set to introduce 30 speed radar guns to detect speeding violations at select locations in the city.
- ✓ As per existing norms, motorists cannot drive a vehicle above 40 kmph from 7 am and 10pm, and above 50 kmph from 10 pm to 7 am.

NATIONAL

- **India's largest airline by market share and fleet size, IndiGo - made history by placing the largest order of 500 Airbus A320 family single aisle aircraft at the Paris Air Show.**
- ✓ The “historic” purchase agreement was signed by an IndiGo team led by promoter and MD Rahul Bhatia with Airbus brass led by CEO Guillaume Faury on June 19 at the Paris Air Show.



- ✓ This is the world’s largest single order placed by any airline in terms of number of planes
 - ✓ The deal, valued at \$50 billion based on list prices, will see IndiGo taking delivery of these new aircraft between 2030 and 2035.
 - ✓ India’s largest budget airline has 480 planes pending from previous orders, which will be delivered by the end of this decade.
 - ✓ IndiGo order book comprises a mix of A320neo, A321neo and A321XLR aircraft.
 - ✓ Going by the number of planes, this surpasses Air India’s recent order for 470 aircraft, including 70 twin aisles, worth \$70 billion.
 - ✓ With its fleet of over 300 planes, Indigo airline currently operates over 1,800 daily flights, connecting 78 domestic airports and a few overseas destinations as well.
 - ✓ The carrier has the largest fleet among all Indian airlines and has a domestic market share (by passengers ferried) of over 60%.
- **Designated terrorist Hardeep Singh Nijjar - was shot dead by unknown assailants at a gurdwara in Surrey, Canada, on June 19.**
 - ✓ Nijjar is the head of pro-Khalistan outfits Khalistan Tiger Force and the Canadian arm of Sikhs For Justice (SFJ)
 - ✓ The 46-year-old Nijjar was also the president of Guru Nanak Sikh Gurdwara in Surrey, British Columbia.

- ✓ He had forcibly taken control of the shrine and turned it into a prominent centre of Khalistani activities.



- ✓ Nijjar is the second associate of SFJ chief Gurpatwant Singh Pannu and the third Khalistani terrorist to have died in the past 45 days.
- ✓ Nijjar was listed as “most wanted” by the NIA and the Punjab police
- ✓ Originally from Bhar Singh Pura village in Jalandhar, and a permanent resident of Canada for several years, Nijjar was an accused or chargesheeted accused in multiple terror cases.
- ✓ His notoriety grew after he raised an 80-foot-high Khalistani flag at the Indian consulate in Vancouver.
- ✓ In 2022, the NIA had declared Rs.10 lakh reward for information leading to Nijjar’s arrest.

➤ **The government - is all set to implement the ‘Sickle Cell Anaemia Elimination Mission’**

- ✓ PM Narendra Modi is expected to launch the new mission on June 27 from Madhya Pradesh
- ✓ It has to be recalled that Madhya Pradesh is a state with the highest tribal population in terms of numbers as per census 2011.
- ✓ As announced in the budget, the Mission will focus on awareness creation, universal screening of seven crore people in the age group of 0-40 years in affected tribal areas and counselling through collaborative efforts of central ministries and state governments.
- ✓ Sickle Cell Disease (SCD), a genetic condition, is widespread among the tribal population in India.
- ✓ It is estimated that about one in 86 births among Scheduled Tribes have SCD
- ✓ The disease affects haemoglobin in red blood cells, which can result in morbidity and mortality.
- ✓ Therefore, early detection, management, and treatment of the disease is critical.
- ✓ The health ministry will undertake the screening of the disease through the National Health Mission, with targets set for states and the tribal affairs ministry.
- ✓ The Ministry will focus on awareness, counselling and assisting health workers in reaching tribal clusters for screening.

PERSONALITIES

- Prisha Lokesh Nikajoo, a five-year-old girl from Betul district in Madhya Pradesh - has become the youngest to reach the base camp of Mount Everest, the world's highest mountain peak.



- ✓ Prisha reached the base camp at an altitude of 5,364 metres (17,598 feet) along with her father Lokesh Nikajoo, a mountaineer.
- ✓ Prisha presently stays and studies in Thane, Mumbai.
- ✓ She started trekking when she was 2.5 years old and climbed many forts of Maharashtra

DEFENCE

- India - is taking part in the 'Khaan Quest' multi-nation peacekeeping exercise being hosted by Mongolia



- ✓ The participants in the exercise include military contingents and observers from over 20 countries including China.
- ✓ India has dispatched a contingent from the Army's Garhwal Rifles for the 14-day exercise
- ✓ The exercise was inaugurated by Mongolian President Ukhnaagiin Khurelsukh on June 19.
- ✓ The exercise is co-sponsored by Mongolian Armed Forces and United States Army Pacific Command
- ✓ It is aimed at enhancing interoperability of the participating nations, sharing experiences and training uniformed personnel for the UN peacekeeping operations

APPOINTMENTS

- **Ravi Sinha, a 1988-batch IPS officer - will be the next chief of the research & analysis wing (R&AW), the country's external intelligence agency.**
- ✓ The Appointment Committee of the Cabinet, led by Prime Minister Narendra Modi, approved Sinha's appointment for a tenure of two years on June 19
- ✓ Sinha, 59, an officer of the Chhattisgarh cadre, will replace Samant Goel whose four-year tenure ends on June 30.



- ✓ Sinha is currently serving as the special secretary at the cabinet secretariat and was the second-in-command at the agency.
- ✓ An alumnus of St. Stephens College, Delhi, Sinha belongs to Bhojpur in Bihar.
- ✓ He has been the head of operational division in R&AW for the last seven years, closely supervising key actions abroad.
- ✓ Incidentally, Sinha's batchmate, Tapan Deka, who was the head of operations in intelligence bureau (IB) for considerable number of years, is now heading the IB.

SPORTS

- **On June 19, Indian fencing's torchbearer CA Bhavani Devi - made history by bagging the country's first ever medal at the Asian Fencing Championships.**



- ✓ The Chennai Olympian won a bronze at the prestigious tournament in Wuxi, China.
- ✓ Bhavani stunned World No. 1 Misaki Emura of Japan in the women's sabre quarterfinals to guarantee India's maiden medal at the event.
- ✓ Bhavani beat Dospay Karina of Kazakhstan in the round of 32 before defeating World No. 40 and third seed Seri Ozaki of Japan in the pre-quarterfinals.
- ✓ Then, she defeated the reigning world champion Misaki in the quarterfinals before suffering a loss to Zaynab Deyibekova.

RANKINGS

- **Bengaluru - has clinched the 20th spot, moving up two places, in Startup Genome's the 'Global Startup Ecosystems Report (GSER) 2023'.**
- ✓ While Silicon Valley remained at the top place, New York City and London were tied at the second spot.
- ✓ With this, the top three ecosystems have all held on to their positions from 2020.
- ✓ Among the emerging ecosystems, Pune has moved into the 31-40 range in 2023, from 51-60 in 2022, while New Delhi and Mumbai were ranked 24th and 31st, respectively.
- ✓ Meanwhile, all major Chinese ecosystems dropped in the overall rankings.
- ✓ GSER is a comprehensive analysis of startup ecosystems around the world.
- ✓ The report, now in its 11th edition, offers a detailed look into the world's top startup ecosystems, while tracking emerging trends and challenges faced by entrepreneurs.

