



## **FVF** **RYDAY CURRENT AFFAIRS-september**

### **TAMIL NADU**

- **The National Medical Commission - has permitted Sri Venkateshwaraa Medical College Hospital and Research Institute in Tiruvallur under the Sri Venkateshwaraa University to begin admissions this year.**
- ✓ The new institution is a State University incorporated under Tamil Nadu Private Universities Act, 2019
- ✓ The new private medical university has been sanctioned an intake of 150 seats this year
- ✓ This is the second private medical university in the state after Dhanalakshmi Srinivasan Medical College and Hospital at Perambalur
- ✓ This year's MBBS/BDS admission process in the State would begin on September 22

### **NATIONAL**

- **The Union Ministry of Road, Transport and Highway - has released draft standards to make it mandatory for auto manufacturers to install rear seat belt alarm systems.**
- ✓ According to the draft, the deadline for public comments on the proposed rules is October 5.
- ✓ As per the proposed rules, the audio seatbelt reminder will alert the driver and occupants even if any passenger, including on the rear seat, removes the safety-belt buckle.
- ✓ According to the proposed amendment in Automotive Industry Standard (AIS) related to additional safety features for vehicles, there would be a three-level warning system for not wearing seatbelt by any of the occupants.
  - ✓ In the 'first level warning', a visual warning will be activated about occupants not wearing seatbelt as soon as the ignition switch is engaged by the driver, while an audible warning can also be added as an option.

- ✓ The 'second level warning' will be a visual and audible as soon as the driver starts the vehicle, in case any of the occupants is not wearing the seatbelt.
  - ✓ The third level of warning will come as soon as any of the occupants unbuckles the seat-belt.
  - ✓ These seat belt reminders or alarms and reverse parking alert system will be mandatory in M and N category vehicles
  - ✓ 'M' category vehicles are the ones with at least four wheels used for carrying passengers, while 'N' category vehicles also have four wheels, but are used to carry goods and may also carry passengers.
  - ✓ Besides, there will be a speed alert system to check over-speeding and manual override for the central locking system
  - ✓ In India, one person dies every four minutes in road accidents, according to the World Bank
  - ✓ At present, it is mandatory for all vehicle manufacturers to provide seat belt reminders for front-seat passengers
  - ✓ Earlier this month, the Union Road and Transport minister Nitin Gadkari directed e-commerce companies to stop selling devices designed to disable car seat belt alarms.
  - ✓ Rear seat passengers not wearing a seat belt are mandated pay a fine of Rs.1,000 under Rule 138 (3) of the Central Motor Vehicle Rules (CMVR)
  - ✓ According to a recent road ministry report, the number of people killed and injured due to not wearing a seat belt during 2020 stood at 15,146 and 39,102, respectively.
- **The Film Federation of India - has unanimously chosen Gujarati film 'Chhello Show' as the country's entry to next year's Oscars under the Best International Feature Film category**



- ✓ Titled "Last Film Show" in English, the movie, directed by Pan Nalin, will release in theatres countrywide on October 14.
- ✓ The film will also be released in Germany, Spain, Japan, Israel and Portugal, apart from India.
- ✓ The story is inspired by Nalin's own memories of falling in love with movies as a child in rural Gujarat.
- ✓ Nalin's film was picked from 13 titles in various languages from across India
- ✓ Chhello Show had its world premiere at the 20<sup>th</sup> Tribeca Film Festival in June.
- ✓ It was nominated for the Tiantan Awards at the 11th Beijing International Film Festival which was held in September 2021.
- ✓ In October 2021, Chhello Show won the Golden Spike at the 66th Valladolid International Film Festival.
- ✓ Director Nalin is known for critically acclaimed films such as Samsara (2001), Valley of Flowers (2006) and his 2015 film, Angry Indian Goddesses, which premiered at the Toronto International Film Festival
- ✓ At this year's Oscars, 93 countries submitted their entries for the Best International Feature category.
- ✓ This will be reduced to 15 with the final five nominated films invited to the ceremony in Los Angeles in March.
- ✓ Last year, Tamil film Koozhangal (Pebbles), by first-time director Vinothraj PS, was India's official entry
- ✓ However, Japanese feature, Drive My Car, by director Ryusuke Hamaguchi, won the award last year.
- ✓ The 95th Academy Awards will be held on March 12 at the Dolby Theatre in Hollywood, Los Angeles
- ✓ So far, no Indian film has ever won an Oscar.
- ✓ The last Indian movie that made it to the final five in the best international feature category was Ashutosh Gowariker's Amir Khan-starrer Lagaan in 2001.
- ✓ The other two Indian movies to have made it to the top five are Mother India (1958) and Salaam Bombay (1989).

## **SUPREME COURT VERDICT**

- **Tamil Nadu - emerged as the only state government which opposed reservation for the poor from the general category under the Economically Weaker Sections (EWS) quota**
- ✓ A constitution bench of Chief Justice U U Lalit and Justices Dinesh Maheshwari, S Ravindra Bhat, Bela M Trivedi and J B Pardiwala is hearing the cases on the constitutional validity of the 10% EWS quota.
- ✓ According to the Tamil Nadu government, the 103rd constitutional amendment providing for 10% quota for EWS is violative of basic structure of the Constitution
- ✓ The state contended that economic criteria cannot be the basis for classification for granting reservation and it would breach Article 14 if done

- ✓ Earlier, DMK party told the court that quota is meant to alleviate social backwardness of people who were socially oppressed and bringing upper castes within its ambit on the ground of economic status would be a mockery of reservation.
- ✓ On September 20, the Centre told the Supreme Court that the poor people from these classes cannot be treated equally with those belonging to the unreserved category
- ✓ According to the Centre, granting reservation to only the poor from the general category and keeping those from SCs/STs/OBCs/ SEBCs out of the Economically Weaker Sections (EWS) quota is not discriminatory
- ✓ It had submitted to the Court that granting 10% EWS quota would also not amount to violation of the apex court's previous judgment on fixing a ceiling of 50%.
- ✓ The Centre maintained that 18.2% of the population from the general classes are below the poverty line and they also deserved preferential treatment.

## INTERNATIONAL

- **The United Nations Environmental Programme (UNEP) – has launched the world's first-ever global digital platform 'Green Fins Hub' to boost sustainable marine tourism**
- ✓ It has been launched along with UK-based charity Reef-World Foundation
- ✓ The platform will help diving and snorkelling operators worldwide to make simple, cost-efficient changes to their daily practices by utilising standard solutions
- ✓ Green Fins Hub provides digital membership for diving, snorkelling and liveaboard operations globally.
- ✓ Green Fins Hub is expected to scale up reach to a potential 30,000 operators worldwide from about 700 operators across 14 countries as on date
- ✓ The Green Fins Solutions Library will give access to over 100 proven environmental solutions to common daily operational challenges.

## INDIA AND OTHER COUNTRIES

- **On September 19, India and Egypt - have signed a MoU to enhance cooperation in the field of defence**



- ✓ Defence Minister Rajnath Singh held bilateral talks with his Egyptian counterpart General Mohamed Zaki in Cairo
- ✓ The two leaders have also decided to enhance joint military exercises, training, co-production and maintenance of defence equipment.
- ✓ They have also agreed to identify proposals for expanding cooperation between their defence industries in a time-bound manner.
- ✓ The defence minister also witnessed the Helwan 300 fighter jet which was a Joint Development project between India and Egypt.
- ✓ Singh also invited his Egyptian counterpart to the India-Africa Defence Dialogue and Indian Ocean Region defence ministers' conclave to be held as part of the 12th DefExpo in Gandhinagar between from October 18 to 22.
- ✓ Earlier, Singh called on President of Egypt Abdel Fattah El-Sisi and the two leaders discussed bilateral military-to-military cooperation issues.

## **CONFERENCES & SUMMITS**

- **India - will host a total of 215 G-20 meetings over 55 locations next year**
- ✓ The country is set to assume the G-20 presidency from December 1, 2022 to November next year
- ✓ Out of the total meetings, four will be focused on promoting the tourism sector.
- ✓ Three of the four tourism-related meetings of the Tourism Working Group under G20 Sherpa Amitabh Kant will be held at Gujarat's Rann of Kutch, West Bengal's Siliguri and Srinagar in Jammu and Kashmir.
- ✓ The fourth, a ministerial level tourism meeting of G20 leaders, will be hosted in Goa.
- ✓ The meetings are expected to be scheduled between January and July 2023.

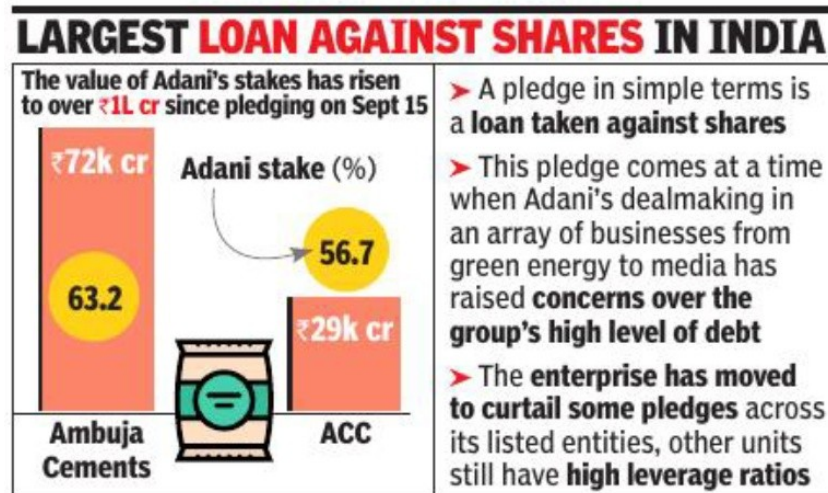
## **SCIENCE, TECHNOLOGY & ENVIRONMENT**

- **Telecom tycoon Sunil Bharti Mittal-backed OneWeb - will be launching 36 satellites from India's Satish Dhawan Space Centre-Sriharikota Range (SDSC-SHAR) spaceport in October**
- ✓ OneWeb, an India-UK joint venture satellite communications company, announced the arrival of 36 satellites at the Satish Dhawan Space Centre ahead of their launch
- ✓ OneWeb's total in-orbit constellation of low earth orbit (LEO) satellites currently stands at 428, or 66% of the fleet
- ✓ With this launch, OneWeb will have over 70% of its planned 'Gen 1 LEO constellation' of 648 satellites in orbit as it progresses to deliver high-speed and low-latency connectivity services around the world.

- ✓ In March, the UK-headquartered satellite communications company had suspended all launches from Russia's Baikonur cosmodrome in Kazakhstan in protest against the war on Ukraine.
  - ✓ Later, OneWeb has partnered with ISRO's commercial arm, NewSpace India Limited (NSIL) for the launch as part of an agreement signed in April.
  - ✓ The launch will be the company's 14th overall and satellites will be put into orbit by Isro's heaviest rocket GSLV-MkIII from Satish Dhawan Space Centre.
  - ✓ OneWeb will launch an additional payload this year and three more are targeted for early next year to complete the constellation.
  - ✓ In July this year, Bharti Enterprises and OneWeb had announced a distribution partnership with Hughes Communications India to connect towns, villages, and local and regional municipalities in the remote unreachable areas.
  - ✓ With a nearly 40% stake, the \$15 billion Bharti Group is the largest shareholder in OneWeb.
  - ✓ The GSLV Mk-III, the heaviest rocket designed by ISRO by far, is also scheduled to take India's first crewed mission into space in the near future
- **The Union government - has warned that Indians are being targeted by a new type of mobile banking malware 'SOVA Android Trojan'**
- ✓ The Sova virus can cause "large-scale attacks and financial frauds" besides having the capability to encrypt all data on an Android phone and hold it to ransom.
  - ✓ The malware is so powerful that it can capture keystrokes, steal cookies, intercept multi-factor authentication (MFA) tokens, take screenshots and record video from a webcam and can perform gestures like screen click, swipe etc. with the use android accessibility service.
  - ✓ The Indian Computer Emergency Response Team (CERT-In) has issued an advisory stating that the malware is targeting more than 200 mobile applications, including banking apps and crypto exchanges/wallets
  - ✓ CERT-In is the country's cyber security nodal agency under the Ministry of Electronics and Information Technology (MeitY)
  - ✓ According to CERT-In, the malware spreads through smishing - a process where fraudulent SMS are sent to individuals prompting them to share their details, including passwords.
  - ✓ The latest version of this malware hides itself within fake Android applications that show up with the logo of a few famous legitimate apps like Chrome, Amazon, NFT (non-fungible token linked to crypto currency) platform to deceive users into installing them.
  - ✓ The first version of SOVA Android Trojan malware appeared on sale in underground markets in September 2021
  - ✓ SOVA, meaning 'Owl' in Russian, was earlier focusing on countries like USA, Russia and Spain, but in July 2022 it added several other countries, including India, to its list of targets

## ECONOMY/BUSINESS

- Billionaire Gautam Adani - has pledged his entire stakes in Ambuja Cements and in ACC with Deutsche Bank's Hong Kong branch



- ✓ This is perhaps the largest such move in the history of the Indian capital market.
- ✓ Adani owns 63.2% in Ambuja and 56.7% in ACC with the stakes worth about Rs 96,800 crore as on September 15, 2022
- ✓ Both the pledges, called 'encumbrances' in technical parlance, were aimed at raising funds.
- ✓ Adani had acquired Ambuja and ACC through a Mauritius-incorporated entity, Endeavour Trade and Investment, which in turn is owned by another Mauritius-incorporated company Xcent Trade and Investment.
- ✓ Adani had acquired Ambuja and ACC for Rs 51,825 crore, or \$6.5 billion, of which 69% (about Rs 35,885 crore, or \$4.5 billion) was financed through foreign borrowings involving 14 international banks.
- ✓ The deal marked his foray into India's cement sector and Adani plans to double the manufacturing capacity of the cement business to 140 million tonnes from 70 million tonnes by 2027.
- ✓ Adani will infuse an additional Rs 20,001 crore into Ambuja through Harmonia Trade and Investment — an affiliate of Endeavour — to accelerate expansion.

## OBITUARY

- **Valery Polyakov, the Soviet cosmonaut who set the record for the longest single stay in space - has died at age 80**
- ✓ Polyakov's record of 437 days in space began on January 8, 1994, when he and two others blasted off on a two-day flight to the Soviet space station Mir.

- ✓ While aboard Mir, Polyakov orbited the Earth more than 7,000 times, before returning March 22, 1995
- ✓ Polyakov previously had spent 288 days in space on a mission in 1988-89.



- ✓ Polyakov's longest record of 678 days in space has been surpassed in 1999 by cosmonaut Sergei Avdeyev, who stayed in space for 747 days

## SPORTS

- **The International Cricket Council's (ICC) chief executives' committee - has ratified major changes to the playing conditions which will come into effect from October 1**
- ✓ This indicates that the regulation will be in effect for the upcoming T20 World Cup, which will be held in Australia from October 16 to November 13.
- ✓ The Men's Cricket Committee led by former India captain Sourav Ganguly recommended changes to the Playing Conditions in MCC's updated 3rd Edition of the 2017 Code of the Laws of Cricket
- ✓ The conclusions were also shared with the Women's Cricket Committee, who endorsed the recommendations.
- ✓ As per the new rule, following a catching dismissal, new batters will be at the striker's end even if the batters cross while the catch is taken.
- ✓ The use of saliva to polish the ball has also been banned permanently by the ICC.
  - ✓ The ban on saliva use has been in place for over two years in international cricket as a Covid-related temporary measure
- ✓ One of the other new rules says if fielders make any unfair and deliberate movements while the bowler is running in to bowl, the batting side can be awarded five penalty runs.
- ✓ Another change allows the use of hybrid pitches at all men's and women's one-day and Twenty20 internationals.
  - ✓ Hybrid pitches, a blend of natural grass with artificial turf, have only been previously used in women's T20 internationals
- ✓ The practice of running out the non-striker when the batter leaves the crease during bowler's runup or before the ball is bowled, popularly called 'Mankading' earlier, will be legal now.



- ✓ The method of dismissal will now be considered as 'run out' rather than 'Unfair Play'.
- ✓ The dismissal takes its name from the legendary Vinoo Mankad's similar run out of Bill Brown during India's 1948 tour of Australia
- ✓ The in-match penalty introduced in T20Is in January 2022 will now also be adopted in ODI matches after the completion of World Cup Super League in 2023.

