

The background of the cover is a blurred photograph of a person's hands typing on a laptop keyboard. A large, red, arrow-shaped graphic points from the right side towards the center, containing the title text.

Weekly Current Affairs

13 to 19 Sep 2020

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NATIONAL NEWS

1. PM Narendra Modi addresses Conclave on “School Education in 21st Century”

- A two-day conclave on ‘School Education in the 21st Century’ commenced virtually. The conclave has been organised by the Ministry of Education as part of Shikshak Parv 2020.
- Shikshak Parv is being celebrated from 8th-25th September, 2020 to felicitate the teachers and to take New Education Policy 2020 forward.
- The conclave was addressed by the Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi under the National Education Policy- 2020 (NEP-2020).

2. India will be self-reliant in the production of fertilizers by 2023

- Union Minister for Chemicals and Fertilizers said, by 2023 India will be self-reliant in the production of fertilizers as under “Atma Nirbhar Bharat” programme new fertilizer manufacturing units are being setup with an investment of Rs 40,000 crore in the country to reduce dependency on import.
- He asked farmers to use Urea judiciously as excessive use of Urea may spoil the soil health. He advised farmers to use fertilizers according to their soil health cards.

3. Films Division to stream films on Rajbhasha on ‘Hindi Diwas -2020’

- Streaming of well-researched documentaries leading to the historic occasion of adoption of Hindi as an official language of the Union of India on 14th September, 1949, mock enactment of the meeting of the Constituent Assembly by children and travelogues showing growth and popularity of Hindi in different States will mark the celebration of ‘Hindi Diwas’ by Films Division on 14th September, 2020.
- The pioneering efforts of Beohar Rajendra Simha, a well known Hindi scholar-writer who rallied and lobbied in favour of Hindi along with other stalwarts like Hazari Prasad Dwivedi, Maithili Sharan Gupta and Kaka Kalelkar came to fruition on Simha’s 50th birth day on 14th September, 1949 when the Constituent Assembly adopted Hindi as one of the official languages of the Union of India which was ratified by the Constitution of India that came into effect on the 26th of January 1950.
- Under the Article 343 of the Indian Constitution, Hindi written in Devanagari script was adopted as the official language.
- Today, Hindi is one of the widely spoken languages in the world and the first language of more than 520 million people.

4. Reliance Industries becomes world's 40th most valuable firm

- Mukesh Ambani's Reliance Industries Limited (RIL) has become the world's 40th most valuable firm. The company achieved the feat after it became the first Indian company to cross USD 210 billion in market capitalisation intra-day.
- This is the first time that an Indian company has crossed the USD 200 billion market capitalisation milestone.
- The Reliance Industries Limited is at present the world's 40th most valuable firm, ranked ahead of companies including Oracle, PepsiCo, SAP, Exxon Mobil, Novartis and Pfizer. RIL is, in fact, ranked among Asia's top 10 most valuable companies.

5. Punjab Govt rolls out Smart Ration Card Scheme

- Punjab launched the Smart Ration Card Scheme to cover 1.41 crore beneficiaries across the state, Punjab Chief Minister Capt. Amarinder Singh announced a separate state-funded scheme to provide subsidised ration to nine lakh beneficiaries not covered under the National Food Security Act (NFSA).
- With this, the total number of beneficiaries in the state would go up to 1.50 crore, the Chief Minister announced, while rolling out the smart card scheme under which 37.5 lakh cards would be distributed to the eligible beneficiaries this month.

6. KG Basin holds massive reserves of methane fuel: ARI

- The Krishna-Godavari (KG) basin holds a massive reserve of methane hydrate and a rich source of cleaner natural gas, claims a study by the Pune-based Agharkar Research Institute (ARI) of the science & technology ministry.
- Even the lowest estimate of methane present in the Methane hydrates in KG Basin is twice that of all fossil fuel reserves available worldwide.

7. Govt enhances scholarship for students of J&K under Pragati and Saksham Scholarship Schemes to Rs 50,000

- The central government has increased the scholarship amount under 'Pragati and Saksham Scholarship Schemes' for students of Jammu and Kashmir from Rs 5,000 to Rs 50,000 per annum. "Pragati and Saksham Scholarship Schemes" being implemented and offered by All India Council for Technical Education (AICTE) to provide financial assistance for advancement of girls pursuing technical education besides supporting specially abled students for technical education respectively.
- Under Pragati scheme, all girls of J&K belonging to families having annual income of Rs. 8 lakh who shall be admitted in the AICTE approved institutions for the session 2020-21 will be eligible for scholarship.

- Under Saksham scheme, all specially abled students with 40 percent disability pursuing technical education at Degree or diploma level belonging to families with annual income less than Rs. 8.00 lakh would be eligible for the scholarship.

8. Rajasthan govt and SIDBI sign pact to develop MSME ecosystem

- Rajasthan's Department of Industries and SIDBI will work together to provide financial, technical, marketing and export support to MSMEs in the state.
- The Small Industries Development Bank of India (Sidbi) has signed a memorandum of understanding (MoU) with the Rajasthan government to develop the MSME ecosystem in the state.
- The MSME Act was amended to promote industries and exempt such businesses from all kinds of permissions and inspections for three years.

9. Arrest, search without warrant under UP's new special security force rules

- A special force will be set up in Uttar Pradesh that can search and arrest without a warrant, said the government on Sunday. Called the Special Security Force, the government plans to launch it within the next three months.
- The force will be deployed for the security of strategic and vital installations, high court, district court, state government administrative premises, religious spots, Metro Rail, airports, banks, industrial undertakings and any other establishment notified by the state government.
- The state legislative assembly passed the Uttar Pradesh Special Security Force Bill-2020 in the monsoon session, paving the way for constitution of the specialised force.

10. India's Economy To Shrink By 9 Pc This Year: ADB

- The Asian Development Bank announced on September 15, 2020, that India's economy is expected to contract by 9% in 2020-worse than the 4% contraction which the bank had forecasted three months ago.
- In the first quarter of the Current Fiscal Year, India's Gross Domestic Product (GDP) had contracted by a record 23.9% as the COVID-19 lockdown stalled business and consumer spending.
- However, ADB expects India to bounce back with an 8% growth in 2021 as the country begins to emerge from the economic devastation which has been caused by the ongoing COVID-19 pandemic.

11. RajyaSabha Passes Aircraft (Amendment) Bill, 2020

- The Parliament passed Aircraft (Amendment) Bill, 2020 on September 15, 2020 after it was approved by the Rajya Sabha. The Lok Sabha had passed the bill earlier on March 17th.
- The bill seeks to amend the Aircraft Act, 1934 and convert three existing regulatory bodies under the Civil Aviation Ministry including the Directorate General of Civil Aviation (DGCA) into statutory bodies.
- The three regulatory bodies include the Directorate General of Civil Aviation, Aircraft Accidents Investigation Bureau and the Bureau of Civil Aviation Security. The bill has proposed each of the bodies to be headed by a Director General who will be appointed by the centre.

12. Govt bans export of all varieties of onions with immediate effect

- The Union Government banned the export of all varieties of onions with immediate effect. The move is aimed at increasing availability and checking the price of the commodity in the domestic market.
- Directorate General of Foreign Trade said in a notification that the export of all varieties of onions is prohibited with immediate effect.
- The DGFT, under the Commerce Ministry, deals with exports and imports-related issues.
- Last year on 29 September, the government had banned exports of onions and imposed countrywide stock limits to bring down prices of onions that had soared ahead of state elections in Maharashtra and Haryana.
- The crackdown followed retail onion prices touching ₹80 a kg in Delhi because of supply disruptions after floods in some states.

13. Lok Sabha passes bill to cut salaries of MPs by 30%

- The Lok Sabha passed a bill to cut salaries of all MPs by 30 per cent for a year, to meet the exigencies arising out COVID-19 pandemic. The Salary, Allowances and Pension of Members of Parliament (Amendment) Bill, 2020 was unanimously passed by the members of the Lower House.
- The bill was introduced in the Lower House on September 14. Earlier this year, the government had brought the Salaries and Allowances of Ministers (Amendment) Ordinance, 2020, which provided a 30 per cent cut in sumptuary allowance payable to each minister for a period of one year commencing from April 1, 2020.

14. India becomes member of UN's ECOSOC body; China fails to secure seat

- India has been elected as a member of the United Nation's Commission on Status of Women, a body of the Economic and Social Council (ECOSOC).
- India will be a member of United Nation's Commission on Status of Women for four years, 2021 to 2025.

- India, Afghanistan and China had contested the elections to the Commission on Status of Women. Even as India and Afghanistan won the ballot among the 54 members, China could not cross the half-way mark.
- The Economic and Social Council is at the heart of the United Nations system to advance the three dimensions of sustainable development – economic, social and environmental.
- It is the central platform for fostering debate and innovative thinking, forging consensus on ways forward, and coordinating efforts to achieve internationally agreed goals.
- It is also responsible for the follow-up to major UN conferences and summits.

15. PMGKY Insurance Scheme Extended for another Six Months

- Six months extension have been made to the Pradhan Mantri Garib Kalyan Package Insurance Scheme. The Scheme was announced for Health Workers Fighting COVID-19 on 30th March 2020 under the flagship scheme Pradhan Mantri Garib Kalyan Yojana, 2016.
- The scheme provides health insurance to the staff working in Government Hospitals and Health Care Centres. The scheme covers ward boys, safai karamcharis, ASHA workers, nurses, technicians, paramedics, doctors and specialists and other health workers. Any health professional who meet with some accident while treating Covid-19 patients then he/she would be given a compensatory amount of Rs 50 lakh under the scheme. Approximately 22 lakh health workers would be provided insurance cover.
- PMGKY scheme was launched by the Narendra Modi led Government in December 2016. The scheme was launched on the lines of the Income declaration scheme, 2016. PMGKY is a part of the Taxation Laws (Second Amendment) Act, 2016. It provides an opportunity to declare unaccounted wealth and black money. It also avoids prosecution after paying a fine of 50% on the undisclosed income.

16. Government plans to introduce law to ban crypto currency trading

- The Central Government has been planning to introduce a new law that will ban the trade in crypto currencies, placing it out of step with other economies of Asia who have chosen to regulate the fledgling market.
- The bill has been expected to be discussed by the federal cabinet before it is sent to the Parliament for approval. Under the law, the federal government will be encouraging the blockchain, the technology underlying crypto currencies, but is not keen on crypto currency trading.
- In 2018, the Indian Central Bank had banned the crypto transactions after a series of frauds. These frauds took place in the months following PM Modi's decision to ban 80% of the nation's currency. Crypto currency Exchanges had responded with a lawsuit in Supreme Court in September and had won respite in March 2020.

17. Cabinet Approves establishment of new AIIMS at Bihar's Darbhanga ahead of Assembly Polls

The Union Cabinet chaired by the Prime Minister, Shri Narendra Modi has approved establishment of a new All India Institute of Medical Sciences (AIIMS) at Darbhanga, Bihar.

- This will be established under the Pradhan Mantri Swasthya Suraksha Yojana (PMSSY). The approved AIIMS would be established at a total cost of Rs. 1264 crore and is likely to be completed within a period of 4 years from the date of the approval of Government of India.
- The new All India Institute of Medical Sciences (AIIMS) at Darbhanga, Bihar will have 15-20 Super Specialty Departments.
- The proposed institution shall have a hospital with capacity of 750 beds which will include Emergency / Trauma beds, ICU beds, AYUSH beds, Private beds and Specialty & Super Specialty beds.

18. U.K. hands over three recovered Indian antiquities

- Antique bronze idols of Rama, Sita and Lakshmana, which were reportedly stolen from Nagapattinam in the 1970s, are set to return home due to efforts taken by art enthusiasts, officers of Idol Wing CID, and the High Commission of India (HCI), London.
- It was conveyed to HCI that the idol of Rama was suspected to be in the possession of an individual collector in London.
- “Once the idol was verified by comparison with relevant records, the matter was taken up with the Art and Antique Unit of the London Metropolitan Police as well as the Idol Wing of Tamil Nadu police,” said Rahul Nangare, First Secretary, HCI, London.

19. Chhattisgarh to set up specialised police unit to counter Maoists in Bastar

- A specialised unit of Chhattisgarh Police's 'Bastar Special Force' may soon be introduced for Maoist-affected districts which will comprise of local youths from the interiors of insurgency-hit Bastar division.
- Chief minister Bhupesh Baghel directed the senior officers of the police department to raise 'Bastar Special Force' by recruiting local boys from sensitive areas.
- The Bastar division comprises seven districts - Bastar, Kanker, Kondagaon, Dantewada, Narayanpur, Sukma and Bijapur and each one of them has been facing Maoist problems since the 1980s.
- Earlier in 2016, the Central Reserve Police Force (CRPF) raised the Bastariya Battalion, to counter insurgency in which local tribals were recruited.

20. Delhi airport now has India's first exclusive terminal for private jets

- India's first exclusive private jet terminal was inaugurated by Union Civil Aviation at the Indira Gandhi International Airport in Delhi on September 17, 2020. The exclusive terminal will handle flight operations of private jets.
- The exclusive terminal has 57 parking bays and so can handle up to 150 private jet flights per day. Before the pandemic, the Delhi airport was handling the operations of around 40 "general aviation" flights per day and it is currently handling about 20 such flights. The flight operations of private jets are classified under the "general aviation" category.
- The new and exclusive private jet terminal will enable smooth movement of business jets and chartered aircraft. The inauguration of the terminal fulfills a long-pending demand of the Indian billionaires, who have been since long seeking friendlier skies with a network of airports just for private jets.



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INTERNATIONAL NEWS & FOREIGN AFFAIRS

1. US cancels over 1,000 visas for Chinese nationals citing security

- The United States has revoked visas for more than 1,000 Chinese nationals under a May 29 presidential proclamation to suspend entry from China of students and researchers deemed security risks.
- The visa action was being taken under a proclamation President Donald Trump made on May 29 as part of the US response to China's plans to impose national security legislation on Hong Kong.
- It says that China is involved in a wide-ranging and heavily resourced campaign to acquire sensitive United States technologies and intellectual property to boost and modernize its own military capabilities.

2. Bahrain becomes latest Arab nation to recognise Israel

- Bahrain has become the latest Arab nation to agree to normalise ties with Israel as part of a broader diplomatic push by President Donald Trump.
- Trump announced the agreement following a three-way phone call he had with Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu and Bahrain's King Hamad bin Isa Al Khalifa.
- The three leaders also issued a brief six-paragraph joint statement, attesting to the deal.
- Like the Abraham accord with the UAE, a peace deal between Israel and Bahrain would normalise diplomatic, commercial, security and other bilateral relations.

3. Yoshihide Suga picked by Japan's governing party to succeed Shinzo Abe

- Yoshihide Suga was elected as the new head of Japan's ruling party, virtually guaranteeing him parliamentary election as the country's next prime minister. Suga received 377 votes in the ruling Liberal Democratic Party election to pick a successor to Prime Minister Shinzo Abe, who announced last month that he would resign due to health problems.
- The other two contenders received a combined 157 votes.
- Suga is actually known for his iron-fist approach to getting jobs done as a policy coordinator and influencing bureaucrats by using the centralised power of the prime minister's office.

4. Bangladesh govt allows limited export of Hilsa fish to India

- Bangladesh Commerce Ministry has given special permission for traders to export Hilsa fish to India on a limited scale in view of the forthcoming Durga Puja. The Commerce Ministry has allowed nine exporters to send a total of approximately 1,500 tonnes of Hilsa to India.
- The export will be allowed till 10th of October.
- Bangladesh had imposed a ban on the export of Hilsa in 2012.
- However, as a special measure, last year also export of 500 tonnes of Hilsa to India was permitted by the government around the time of Durga Puja.
- Hilsa or 'Ilish' is considered a delicacy in Bangladesh and West Bengal.
- Bangladesh has a share of close to 75 per cent in the production of Hilsa fish in the world.

New Appointments and Person in News

1. NDA Candidate Harivansh Narayan Singh re-elected as Deputy Chairman of RajyaSabha

- NDA candidate Harivansh has been re-elected as the Deputy Chairman of RajyaSabha. The upper house cleared his name with a voice vote.
- BJP President J.P. Nadda had moved the proposal to elect Harivansh as the deputy chairman and his motion was adopted.

- The Deputy Chairman of Rajya Sabha is a constitutional post. Article 89 of the Constitution of India states that the Rajya Sabha can elect one of its MPs for the post of Deputy Chairman when the post is vacant.

2. Senior bureaucrat Rajesh Khullar appointed as the Executive Director of World Bank

- Senior bureaucrat Rajesh Khullar has been appointed as Executive Director, World Bank. Khullar, a 1988-batch IAS officer, is currently serving in his cadre state Haryana.
- He is the principal secretary to Haryana Chief Minister Manohar Lal Khattar.
- He will have a tenure of three years or till the date of his superannuation, i.e. August 31, 2023.

3. Sameer Kumar Khare IAS appointed as Executive Director at ADB

- Sameer Kumar Khare has been appointed Executive Director of the Asian Development Bank (ADB), Manila. Khare is a 1989-batch IAS officer of Assam-Meghalaya cadre and is currently the additional secretary in the Department of Economic Affairs.
- He has been appointed to the post for a tenure of three years with effect from the date of assumption of the charge of the post or until further orders, whichever is earlier.



BANKING

1. Citi Bank names Jane Fraser as the first woman CEO

- Citigroup has named Jane Fraser as its next chief executive officer. She will be the first female CEO of this major global bank. She will succeed Michael Corbat, who is retiring in February 2021.

- Citibank was founded in 1812 as the City Bank of New York, and later became First National City Bank of New York.

Books and Awards

1. Indian film ‘The Disciple’ by Chaitanya Tamhane wins Best Screenplay award at Venice Film Festival 2020

- The Marathi language feature film ‘The Disciple’, has bagged the prestigious FIPRESCI award for Best Screenplay at the 77th Venice Film Festival.
- The film has been written and directed by Mumbai-based filmmaker Chaitanya Tamhane
- The Disciple is the first Indian film to have been selected in a major competition category at a European festival in 20 years after Mira Nair’s Monsoon Wedding in 2001.

2. Aditya Puri conferred Lifetime Achievement Award by Euromoney Awards of Excellence 2020

- Managing Director of HDFC Bank, Aditya Puri has been conferred the Lifetime Achievement Award by Euromoney Awards of Excellence 2020.
- He has been awarded for his skills in building a world-class bank in India at a time where there were no similar institutions in existence.
- Euromoney’s Awards for Excellence are the awards that matter to the banks and bankers who matter. They were established in 1992 and were the first of their kind in the global banking industry.

3. ‘My Life in Design’: Gauri Khan announces her debut book

- Interior designer, Gauri Khan has authored her first book titled “My Life In Design”, which will be published by Penguin Random House India in 2021.
- It is a coffee-table book, in which Gauri has written about her journey as a designer.
- The book will feature unseen pictures of her interior design projects, family and residence. She will also talk about her design philosophy and style.
- The book will be very visually appealing with exclusive pictures and information that guide aspiring designers or those who are just generally interested in the art of design.

4. Indian teenager Udit Singhal named in UN’s list of 2020 Class of Young Leaders for Sustainable Development Goals

- Udit Singhal, an 18-year old Indian boy has been named by the United Nations in the list of 2020 Class of Young Leaders for Sustainable

Development Goals. It is a highest-profile recognition opportunity for the youngsters who are leading efforts on the world's most pressing issues.

- He has been named to the 2020 Class of 17 Young Leaders for SDGs. Udit Singhal is the founder of Glass2Sand, a zero-waste ecosystem that has been addressing the growing problem of glass waste in Delhi.
- The 2020 Class of 17 Young Leaders included the representatives from Bangladesh, Australia, Bulgaria, Brazil, Columbia, China, Egypt, Ireland, India, Nigeria, Liberia, Senegal, Peru, Pakistan, Uganda, Turkey, and United States.


5. Chef Vikas Khanna honoured with Asia Game Changer award for feeding millions in India amid Covid crisis

- Michelin-star chef Vikas Khanna will be honoured with the prestigious 2020 Asia Game Changer Award for feeding millions across India amid the COVID-19 pandemic. He fed people through a massive food distribution drive that he coordinated from thousands of miles away in his Manhattan home.
- The Asia Game Changer Awards, launched by the Asia Society -- a US-based non-profit organisation -- in 2014, identify and honour true leaders who make a positive contribution to the future of Asia.
- Khanna is the only Indian among the six honourees named by the leading organisation. Preeminent cellist Yo-Yo Ma, tennis champion Naomi Osaka, Korean boy band BTS, producer of Oscar-winning film 'Parasite' Micky Lee and business leaders and philanthropists Joe and Clara Tsai are the honourees of the Asia Game Changer Awards.

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SCIENCE TECH & DEFENCE

1. NSDC and LinkedIn partner to provide digital skills training for youth

- National Skill Development Corporation (NSDC) and LinkedIn have announced a partnership to provide access to free learning resources for digital skills.
- A total of 10 learning paths consisting of 140 courses will be made available for free on e-Skill India digital platform until March 31, 2021.
- LinkedIn will provide periodic labour market insights based on its economic graph of more than 69 million members in India.
- This will include in-demand skills, emerging jobs, and global hiring rates to NSDC to better understand the skilling ecosystem.

2. Potential sign of alien life detected on inhospitable Venus

- Scientists said they have detected in the harshly acidic clouds of Venus a gas called phosphine that indicates microbes may inhabit Earth's inhospitable neighbour, a tantalizing sign of potential life beyond Earth.
- The researchers did not discover actual life forms, but noted that on Earth phosphine is produced by bacteria thriving in oxygen-starved environments. The international scientific team first spotted the phosphine using the James Clerk Maxwell Telescope in Hawaii and confirmed it using the Atacama Large Millimeter/ submillimeter Array (ALMA) radio telescope in Chile.

3. TikTok chooses Oracle as U.S. 'technology partner'

- TikTok has chosen Oracle to be its technology partner for its American operations.
- Microsoft was also in a bid to acquire TikTok in the United States but the Chinese owner of the video-sharing platform "TikTok" chose Oracle over Microsoft to be its technology partner for its American operations.
- The partnership was signed by the two entities as in an executive order signed last month, President of the United States, Donald Trump stated that TikTok would be blocked in the US if it did not sell its US operations to an American company by 20th of September 2020.

4. Paytm, Paytm First Games pulled out of Google Play Store on Android

- Google has removed Paytm app from the Play Store for allegedly violating its policies on gambling. The app is no longer available for download for Android users.
- Paytm confirmed the same through a tweet on September 18, 2020 that Paytm Android app is temporarily unavailable on Google's Play Store for new downloads or updates. "It will be back very soon," said PayTM in the tweet and added that all the money is completely safe, and users can continue to enjoy their Paytm app as normal.
- While PayTM has been taken down from Google Play Store, other apps like Paytm mall, Paytm Money, Paytm for Business and a few more are still

available for download. This decision, however, does not impact Apple App store, where Paytm continues to be available.

SPORTS

1. Japan's Naomi Osaka wins US Open title

- In US Open Tennis, Japan's Naomi Osaka defeated Victoria Azarenka of Belarus in the Women's Singles final to clinch her third Grand Slam title. The fourth seed, Osaka, overcame her unseeded opponent 1-6, 6-3, 6-3 in one hour 53 minute inside Arthur Ashe Stadium at Flushing Meadows in New York.
- It brought 22-year old Osaka's haul of tennis major trophies to three after her victories at the 2018 US Open and 2019 Australian Open.
- With this, the Japanese has become the first Asian player to win three Grand Slam singles titles and also moved up to number 3 in the world rankings.

OBITUARIES

1. Arya Samaj leader, Social activist Swami Agnivesh passes away

- Arya Samaj leader and social activist Swami Agnivesh passed away at the Institute of Liver and Biliary Sciences, ILBS in New Delhi. Agnivesh was elected to Haryana Legislative Assembly in 1977 and served as a Cabinet Minister for Education in the state in 1979.
- He founded the Bonded Labour Liberation Front in 1981 and worked against bonded labour.
- He also led numerous movements against alcoholism.
- Swami Agnivesh also served as president of the Sarvadeshik Arya Pratinidhi Sabha, World Council of Arya Samaj.

2. Former Union Minister Raghuvansh Prasad Singh passes away

- Former Union Minister Raghuvansh Prasad Singh passed away. He was undergoing treatment at AIIMS, Delhi about a week ago after developing post-Covid complications.
- Raghuvansh Prasad Singh recently resigned from the RJD party.
- Singh had served as the Union Minister for Rural Development in Prime Minister Manmohan Singh's cabinet.
- He was widely regarded as the brain behind the conceptualization and implementation of NREGA (National rural employment guarantee act).

IMPORTANT DAYS

1. World First Aid Day 2020: 12 September

- The World First Aid Day is observed on the second Saturday of September every year to create awareness about the importance of first aid in preventing injuries and saving lives.
- The World First Aid Day 2020 is being observed on 12 September.
- The day was started by the International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies (IFRC) in 2000 to educate people in the world of the benefits of first aid, need of first aid and the right way to do first aid.

2. Hindi Diwas observed across the country on 14th September

- Hindi Diwas is being celebrated across the country today, September 14, 2020. The constituent assembly had adopted Hindi written in Devanagari as the official language of the country in 1949.
- Presently, Hindi is among the world most spoken languages. It is the first language of more than 520 million people across the world.

3. International Day of Democracy is observed globally on 15th September every year

- The International Day of Democracy was proclaimed by the UN General Assembly through a resolution in 2007 to strengthen national programmes devoted to the promotion and consolidation of democracy.
- The day was observed for the first time in 2008.
- The day of Democracy provides an opportunity to review the state of democracy in the world.

4. 111th Birth Anniversary of Tamil Nadu's 1st Chief Minister C. N. Annadurai observed on 15th September

- The 111th Birth Anniversary of the first Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu C. N. Annadurai, popularly known as Arignar Anna was observed on 15 September.
- He was also a Member of Rajya Sabha from 1963 to 1967. Well known for his powerful oratorical skills, Anna was a prolific writer too.
- Subsidy mechanism for rice and two language policy are some of his prominent administrative innovations.
- The Tamil University in Thanjavoor has announced a 50 per cent discount sale of its prestigious publications in connection with Anna Birth Anniversary today.
- The main purpose of the University was higher level research into Tamil language, literature and culture - all close to the heart of Arignar Anna.

5. World Bamboo Day: 18 September

- World Bamboo Day is observed every year on 18 September to raise awareness of the benefits of bamboo and to promote its use in everyday products. People and businesses from around the world use this day to raise awareness of the benefits of bamboo and to promote its use in everyday products
- WBD was officially declared by the World Bamboo Organization on September 18 at the 8th World Bamboo Congress held in Bangkok in 2009. World Bamboo Day was founded by Kamesh Salam as former president of the World Bamboo Organisation in 2009. The theme for the 11th edition of WBD 2020 is 'BAMBOO NOW.'



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