

CURRENT AFFAIRS= 15-09-2020

PROMOTION OF KHO KHO AND KABADDI

Union Minister for Youth Affairs and Sports informed Rajya Sabha about steps taken for promotion of the sports of Kabaddi and Kho Kho.



About:

Amateur Kabaddi Federation of India and Kho Kho Federation of India have been given government recognition to promote the sports of Kabaddi and Kho Kho in the country.

They have been provided with the admissible financial assistance and other support under the various Schemes of the

Ministry and the Sports Authority of India.

- Further, both Kabaddi and Kho Kho are part of the Khelo India Youth Games.
- Kabaddi and Kho Kho are also included in the list of games/sports which qualify the meritorious sportspersons for recruitment to Group 'C' posts in Central Government offices.

LIFE ON VENUS?

An announcement by an international team of astronomers about the discovery of phosphine gas in the atmosphere of Venus triggered global



excitement about the possibility of the presence of lifeforms on the neighbouring planet.

About:

In a paper published in Nature Astronomy, a team of scientists have reported traces of phosphine in a concentration of

approximately 20 parts per billion, thousands to millions of times more than what could otherwise be expected.

- Apart from being produced in industrial processes, phosphine, a colourless but smelly gas, is known to be made only by some species of bacteria that survive in the absence of oxygen.

Significance?

- This is the most credible evidence yet for the possibility of life away from Earth. Scientists say it is more significant, for example, than the discovery of water on the Moon or Mars.
- The finding can further ignite interest in space missions to Venus. In fact, the Indian Space Research Organisation (ISRO) is also planning a mission to Venus, tentatively called **Shukrayaan**, in the near future. As of now, the plan is still on the drawing board.

Important Info :

But can Venus support life?

- There are several things that make life unsustainable on that planet. The temperature of Venus is too high, and its atmosphere is highly acidic, just two of the things that would make life impossible.
- But Scientists also suggest that this phosphine could be remnants from a time when Venus was a much more hospitable place.

YOSHIHIDE SUGA

In Japan, Yoshihide Suga was elected as the new head of Japan's ruling, Liberal Democratic Party (LDP). Suga received 377 votes in the Party election to pick a successor to Prime Minister Shinzo Abe, who announced last month that he would resign due to health problems.



About:

Once he formally takes over, Suga will serve out Abe's remaining term as party chief until September 2021.

- Suga is currently the chief Cabinet secretary of Abe's government and he will then be confirmed as Prime Minister by a special session of the country's parliament on Wednesday.

INTERNATIONAL DAY FOR THE PRESERVATION OF THE OZONE LAYER



International Day for the Preservation of the Ozone Layer will be observed on 16 September.

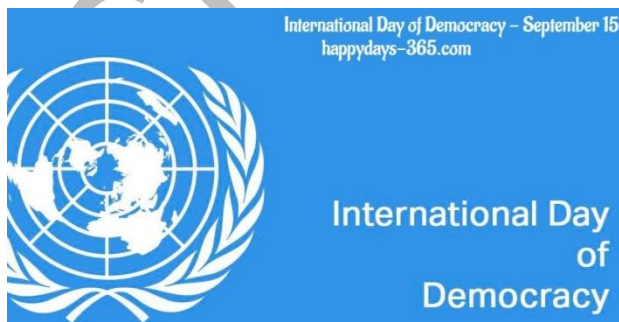


About:

The Vienna Convention for the Protection of the Ozone Layer, which was adopted and signed by 28 countries, on 22 March 1985. In September 1987, this led to the drafting of The Montreal Protocol on Substances that Deplete the Ozone Layer.

- **Montreal Protocol:** The principal aim of the Montreal Protocol is to protect the ozone layer by taking measures to control total global production and consumption of substances that deplete it, with the ultimate objective of their elimination on the basis of developments in scientific knowledge and technological information.
- In 1994, the United Nations General Assembly proclaimed 16 September the **International Day for the Preservation of the Ozone Layer**, commemorating the date of the signing, in 1987, of the Montreal Protocol on Substances that Deplete the Ozone Layer (resolution 49/114).
- **Universal ratification:** On 16th September 2009, the Vienna Convention and the Montreal Protocol became the first treaties in the history of the United Nations to achieve universal ratification.
- **Kigali Amendment:** The Parties to the Montreal Protocol on Substances that Deplete the Ozone Layer reached agreement at their 28th Meeting of the Parties on 15 October 2016 in Kigali, Rwanda to phase-down hydrofluorocarbons (HFCs).

INTERNATIONAL DAY OF DEMOCRACY



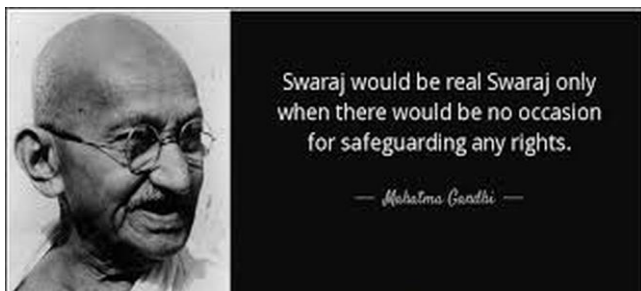
International Day of Democracy is being observed on 15 September

About:

In 2007 the United Nations General Assembly resolved to observe 15 September as the International Day of Democracy with the purpose of promoting and upholding the principles of democracy.

- The Universal Declaration of Human Rights and the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights enshrines a host of political rights and civil liberties underpinning meaningful democracies.
- The link between democracy and human rights is captured in article 21(3) of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights

HIND SWARAJ



Government of India reiterated Mahatma Gandhi's view on sustainable development. In 1909 in his book 'Hind Swaraj', Gandhiji cautioned Indians against unrestricted industrialism and materialism.

About:

Hind Swaraj or Indian Home Rule is a book written by Mahatma Gandhi in 1909. He wrote this book in his native language, Gujarati. In it he expresses his views on Swaraj, modern civilization, mechanisation etc. The book was banned in 1910 by the British government in India as a seditious text.

K.N. DIKSHIT COMMITTEE

Union Minister of Culture informed Lok Sabha about an expert committee which has been set up for conducting holistic study of origin and evolution of Indian culture.

About:



An expert committee has been set up for conducting holistic study of origin and evolution of Indian culture to since 12000 years before present and its interface with other cultures of the world.

The committee is chaired by K.N. Dikshit (Chairman of Indian Archaeological Society, New Delhi and former Joint Director General, Archaeological Survey of India).

DEPUTY CHAIRMAN OF THE RAJYA SABHA



NDA candidate and JD(U) MP Harivansh Narayan Singh was re-elected as Rajya Sabha deputy chairman by a voice vote. This is the second time that he has been elected as the deputy chairman of the House.



About:

The Presiding Officers of Rajya Sabha have the responsibility to conduct the proceedings of the House. The Vice-President of India is ex-officio Chairman of Rajya Sabha.

- Rajya Sabha also chooses from amongst its members, a Deputy Chairman. There is also a Panel of Vice-Chairmen in Rajya Sabha, the members of which are nominated by the Chairman, Rajya Sabha. In the absence of the Chairman and Deputy Chairman, a member from the Panel of Vice-Chairmen presides over the proceedings of the House. The Deputy Chairman of the Rajya Sabha presides over the proceedings of the Rajya Sabha in the absence of the Chairman of the Rajya Sabha. The Deputy Chairman is elected internally by the Rajya Sabha. The Deputy Chairman have the same power as the Chairman when presiding over the Council and all references to the Chairman in these rules shall in these circumstances be deemed to be, references to any such person so presiding.

UN's COMMISSION ON STATUS OF WOMEN

India has been elected as the member of the Commission on Status of Women (CSW), a body of the Economic and Social Council (ECOSOC).



About:

India will be a member of the prestigious body for four years from 2021 to 2025.

The CSW is the principal global intergovernmental body exclusively dedicated to the promotion of gender equality and the empowerment of women.



- A functional commission of the ECOSOC, it was established by ECOSOC resolution 11(II) of 21 June 1946.
- It promotes women's rights, highlights the reality of women's lives throughout the world and helps in shaping global standards on gender equality and the empowerment of women.
- 45 member states of the United Nations serve as members of the Commission at any one time.

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