

August - 12

NATIONAL

Supreme Court (Number of Judges) Amendment Bill 2019

- ❖ President has signed into law a Bill which seeks to increase the sanctioned strength of judges in the Supreme Court from 30 to 33 besides the Chief Justice of India.
- ❖ The move to increase the strength of judges by 3 or 10 per cent comes against the backdrop of rising cases in the top court which stand at nearly 60,000.
- ❖ The Supreme Court (Number of Judges) Amendment Bill was passed by Parliament earlier.



SUGGESTIONS IN 3 LETTERS

- Bring constitutional amendments on top priority to increase strength of SC judges, currently at 31, and raise retirement age of HC judges from 62 to 65 years
- Revive practice of tenure appointments of retired SC and HC judges for disposal of pending cases

CASE PENDENCY

43 lakh in HCs
58,669 in SC

Breastfeeding Report

- ❖ The Health and Family Welfare Minister Dr Harsh Vardhan released a report on Breastfeeding.
- ❖ Manipur has topped the rankings in Breastfeeding and Infant and Young Child Feeding Practices in the country.
- ❖ Uttar Pradesh, Rajasthan and Bihar are at the bottom positions in the report card.
- ❖ National capital Delhi is also among the worst-performing States.
- ❖ The Breastfeeding report card has been developed by devising a composite score based on three indicators namely:



- Early initiation of breastfeeding,
- Exclusive breastfeeding for six months and
- Complimentary feeding at 6-8 months of child's age.

INTERNATIONAL

Russia on Kashmir issue

- ❖ Russia became the first P-5 nation to formally state that abrogation of Article 370 is an internal matter for India.
- ❖ After the United States, United Nations, now Russia has asked India and Pakistan not to allow worsening of the situation in Kashmir.
- ❖ Russia said that the differences between the two sides will be resolved by the provisions of the Shimla Agreement of 1972 and the Lahore Declaration of 1999.
- ❖ The erstwhile Soviet Union came to India's aid whenever any resolution on Kashmir was introduced in the UNSC, besides the 1971 War.
- ❖ The 100th veto in the UNSC was cast by Moscow in 1962 and in support of India's position on Kashmir.
- ❖ Earlier, the Soviet Union bailed out India in 1957 in the UNSC on the same issue by vetoing a resolution.

ENVIRONMENT

Tiger Census 2018

- ❖ The tiger census did not register any presence of the striped big cat in Buxa Tiger Reserve (TR) in West Bengal, Palamu TR in Jharkhand and Dampa TR in Mizoram.
- ❖ The report, Status of Tigers Co-predators & Prey in India - 2018, was released by Prime Minister on 2019 July 29th of the International Tiger Day.
- ❖ In the Status report of 2014, the tiger population of Buxa, Palamu and Dampa stood at 2 (Buxa TR), 3 (Dampa TR) and 3 (Palamu TR).

STATES

Tribal Welfare measures in Madhya Pradesh

- ❖ The State government in Madhya Pradesh will provide debit cards with an 'overdraft limit' of Rs 10,000 to every tribal

- ❖ It also announced that the all loans taken by tribals from local money lenders will be waived.
- ❖ From now on, every tribal family in Madhya Pradesh will be given 50kg foodgrains in case of a birth and 100kg in case of death in the family.
- ❖ A museum in the memory of tribal kings Shankar Shah and Raghunath Shah will be built at Jabalpur.

Gogabeel Lake

- ❖ Gogabeel, an ox-bow lake in Bihar's Katihar district, has been declared as the state's first 'Community Reserve'.
- ❖ Gogabeel is formed from the flow of the rivers Mahananda and Kankhar in the north and the Ganga in the south and east.
- ❖ In 2004, Gogabeel, including the neighbouring Baghar Beel and Baldia Chaur, were given the status of an IBA (Important Bird Area of India) by the IBCN (Indian Bird Conservation Network).

PERSONALITIES, AWARDS, AND EVENTS

Book on Venkaih Naidu

- ❖ Home Minister Amit Shah released a book titled "Listening, Learning & Leading" chronicling the two years in office by Vice President M Venkaiah Naidu.



- ❖ The book was released in Chennai at a function organized by Information and Broadcasting Ministry.



SPORTS

Hasim Amla retirement

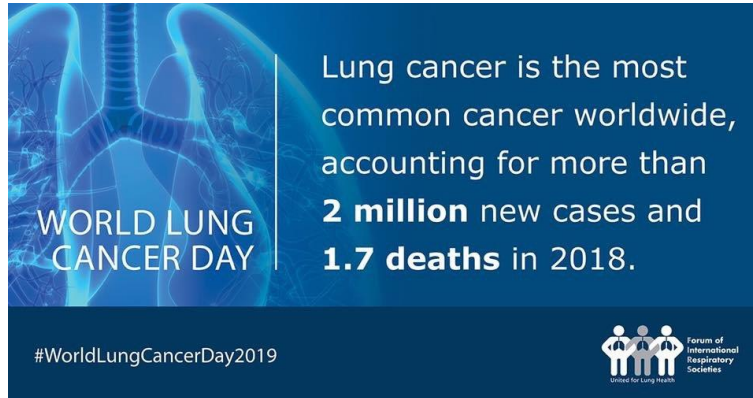
- ❖ The South African Cricket player Hashim Amla has retired from all international cricket.
- ❖ Hashim Amla is the only South African to score a triple century in a Test and First South African batsman to score 25 centuries in ODIs.
- ❖ In June 2014, Amla became South Africa's first permanent non-white Test captain.
- ❖ Three days before South African fast bowler Dale Steyn also announced his retirement from Test Cricket.

CAREER HIGHLIGHTS	
<p>Tests</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Posted an unbeaten 311 off 529 balls vs England at The Oval in July 2012 – the only triple hundred by a South African batsman in Tests. ● His best series in terms of run-aggregate was in 2009-10 in India, scoring 490 in three innings (two Tests) at an average of 490.00, including three centuries. His three consecutive hundreds being 253 not out at Nagpur and 114 & 123 not out at Kolkata. ● He has amassed 1,000 runs or more three times in a calendar 	<p>year– 1249 (ave.78.06) in 11 Tests in 2010; 1161 (ave.52.77) in 15 Tests in 2008 and 1064 (ave.70.93) in 10 Tests in 2012.</p> <p>ODIs</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● His tally of 27 centuries is a South African record. ● Managed 1,000 runs or more in a calendar year twice – 1058 (ave. 75.57) in 15 matches in 2010 and 1062 (ave. 50.57) in 23 matches in 2015. ● Holds world record for the quickest to 2,000, 3,000, 4,000, 5,000, 6,000 and 7,000 runs. <p style="text-align: right;">–Rajesh Kumar</p>

IMPORTANT DAYS

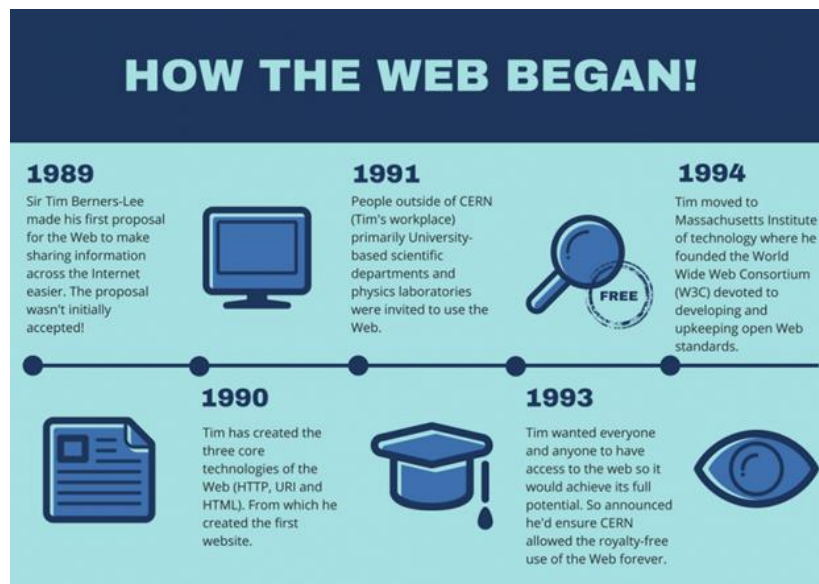
World Lung Cancer Day – August 1

- ❖ World Lung Cancer Day, the observance intended to raise awareness about the impact of lung cancer is held every year on August 1.
- ❖ It is responsible for nearly 1 in 5 cancer deaths according to the World Health Organization.
- ❖ The factors that play a role in cancer development include tobacco products, industrial products (uranium, radiation, asbestos) air pollution, and nutritional deficiencies.



World Wide Web Day – August 1

- ❖ August 1 was World Wide Web Day.
- ❖ Tim Berners-Lee invented the World Wide Web in 1989.
- ❖ The World Wide Web (WWW) was conceived in 1989 at the CERN lab, a European research organization, at Geneva of Switzerland, as a way for scientists to share knowledge.



- ❖ The world's first website (<http://info.cern.ch>) at CERN, went online on August 6, 1991.
- ❖ A NeXT Computer was used by Sir Tim Berners-Lee as the world's first web server and also to write the first web browser - WorldWideWeb - in 1990.
- ❖ On April 30, 1993, CERN announced that the World Wide Web would be free to anyone, with no fees due.

- ❖ The World Wide Web Consortium (W3C), the main international standards organisation for the World Wide Web, was founded by Tim Berners-Lee after he left CERN in October 1994.

International Cat Day – August 8

- ❖ International Cat Day is a celebration which takes place on 8 August, every year.
- ❖ It was created in 2002 by the International Fund for Animal Welfare.



National Deworming Day – August 8

- ❖ The National Deworming Day is an initiative of Ministry of Health and Family Welfare.
- ❖ It is aimed at deworming all preschool and school-age children (enrolled and non-enrolled) between the ages of 1-19 years through the platform of schools and Anganwadi Centres.



- ❖ Albendazole tablets are orally administered for the children during the programme.
- ❖ In India it is celebrated twice as in February 10 and August 8.

- ❖ India's first National Deworming Day took place on the 10th February 2015.

Nagasaki Day – August 9

- ❖ At the end of Second World War, the USA's war plane Bockscar dropped a plutonium implosion bomb (Fat Man) on Nagasaki in Japan on August 9 in 1945.
- ❖ Japan surrendered to the Allies on August 15, six days after the bombing of Nagasaki and the Soviet Union's declaration of war.

World Lion Day – August 10

- ❖ World Lion Day is observed annually on August 10.
- ❖ It is dedicated to the majestic creatures in an effort to help save them from extinction.
- ❖ In India, Lions, also known as Asiatic Lions, are restricted to the Gir National Park in the Indian state of Gujarat.
- ❖ The lion is one of five pantherine cats inhabiting India, along with the Bengal tiger, Indian leopard, snow leopard and clouded leopard.

