

## **September 30<sup>th</sup> and October 1<sup>st</sup> news**

### **National issues:**

#### **Innovative techniques to eliminate rail accidents**

Railway Ministry has decided to introduce innovative techniques to avert rail accidents. It includes revamping the existing signaling system by use of TPWS - Train Protection and Warning System and MTRC, Mobile Train Radio Communication.

The electrification of rail tracks will be completed by next 4-5 years. This will lead to savings in energy costs over 10,000 crores while reducing pollution and dependence on imported diesel.

#### **Nod for modernisation of Police forces**

The Union Cabinet has given its approval for implementation of umbrella scheme of "Modernisation of Police Forces (MPF)" for years 2017-18 to 2019-20.

The financial outlay for the scheme over the three year's period is Rs.25,060 crore, out of which the Central Government share will be Rs.18,636 crore and the States' share will be Rs.6,424 crore.

The central budget outlay of Rs.10,132 crore earmarked for internal security related expenditure for Jammu & Kashmir, the North Eastern States and left-wing extremism affected States.

It provides for setting up of State-of-Art forensic science laboratory in Amravati, Andhra Pradesh and up gradation of Sardar Patel Global Centre for Security, Counter-Terrorism and Anti-Insurgency in Jaipur and Gujarat Forensic Science University in Gandhi Nagar.

#### **Governors appointed for six states**

Indian President Ramnath Kovind has appointed governors for six states.

- Banwarilal Purohit- Tamil Nadu.
- Jagdish Mukhi - Assam
- Brig. (Dr) BD Mishra (Retd) as the Governor of Arunachal Pradesh.
- Satya Pal Malik as the Governor of Bihar.
- Ganga Prasad as the Governor of Meghalaya
- Devendra Kumar Joshi as the Governor of Andaman & Nicobar islands.

## **Economy issues:**

### **ADB to Increase Annual Lending to India to \$4 billion**

The Asian Development Bank will increase its annual lending to India to a maximum of \$4 billion between 2018 and 2022 to help fasten inclusive economic transformation towards upper middle-income status. The proposal was endorsed at new ADB Country Partnership Strategy for 2018- 2022. The new lending programme, which includes private sector operations, is much higher than the average \$2.65 billion a year in loans extended during 2012 and 2016.

## **Environmental issues**

### **Union Government notifies Wetland Rules**

The Ministry of Environment, Forests and Climate Change (MoEFCC) notified new Wetland Rules 2017 to prohibit range of activities in wetlands. Wetland is transitional land between terrestrial and aquatic ecosystems where the water table is usually at or near the surface or it may be land covered by shallow water.

There are 115 wetlands officially identified by Central Government and of those 26 are identified as wetlands of international importance under Ramsar Convention