

**04 FEBRUARY 2019**

**BAN ON IMPORT OF PIGS AND PIGLETS:**

- The Mizoram government has banned import of pigs and piglets to prevent outbreak of a disease that has cost the lives of thousand of swines in the state.
- The prairie reproduction and respiratory syndrome (PRRS) has cost the lives of over 10,000 swines in Mizoram since 2013
- It is believed that it happened due to import of pigs and piglets from Myanmar where the disease was known to be prevalent.
- PRRS disease is also called as swine fever
- The disease is generally transmitted from pigs and affects both pigs and humankind



**INDIA- THE FASTEST HIGHWAY DEVELOPER IN WORLD:**

- India is the fastest highway developer in the whole world with 27 km of highways being built everyday.
- The government is rolling out several projects like Eastern peripheral Expressway to decongest Delhi and Bogibeel bridge in Assam.
- Construction of rural roads has tripled under PMGSY (Pradhan Mantri Gram Sadak Yojana) and 15.8 Lakh out of total 17.84 Lakh habitations have been connected with pucca roads under PMGSY.



**GLOBAL WARMING'S IMPACT ON EL NINO IN 2019:**

- According to the recent reports, El Nino is forecasted to give a rise in vector-borne disease, including those spread by mosquitoes, in Central and South America.
- Also, drought caused by El Nino can be wide spread affecting southern America, India, Southeast Asia, Australia, and the Pacific Islands.
- El Nino is a climatic phenomenon characterized by high air pressure in the western Pacific and low air pressure in the eastern Pacific.
- El Nino occurs once in every 15 years and results in heavy drought, flood, dust and snow storm resulting in million of dollar loss to public in Tropical Pacific region.



**BRAILLE VOTER SLIPS FOR VISUALLY IMPAIRED AND BLIND**

- The Election Commission of India will be issuing Braille Voter Slips for the Visually Impaired and blind voters in the Lok Sabha elections due this year.
- The Braille voter slips were already issued during the recently held assembly polls.



**Note**



- The Initiative is part of the strategic framework for accessible elections. The Election Commission of India also plans to provide Braille Election Photo Identity cards.
- The Electronic Voting Machines already have the Braille feature.
- The ballot paper pasted on the machine with name and symbol of candidates in Braille enabled.

## MANIPUR FILMMAKER TO RETURN PADMA SHRI IN PROTEST AGAINST CITIZENSHIP AMENDMENT BILL, 2016.

- Renowned Filmmaker from Manipur Aribam Syam Sharma has decided to return his 2006 Padma Shri Award in Protest against the Citizenship (Amendment) Bill, 2016.

The citizenship amendment bill 2016 aims to amend the citizenship act of 1955. The controversial features of the bill are;

- » The bill allows the Hindus, Sikhs, Budhists, Jains, Parsis and Christians from Bangladesh, Afghanistan and Pakistan to apply for Indian Citizenship.
- » The bill relaxes the 11 year cutoff to six years. Out of 14, for immigrants of the six religions from the three countries.
- The bill is criticized for being communal as its grants citizenship on the basis of religion. It is also argued that the bill is against the basic structure of the constitution as the Supreme Court has upheld secularism as a basic structure of the constitution. It is said that the bill also violated article 14 which promotes equality.



## INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE ON 8TH CENTURY SAGE



- Two-day international conference on 8th century Himalyan sage Guru Padmasambhava was held at New Delhi to mark the 50-years of formalization of diplomatic ties between India and Bhuton.
- This conference was organised by the center for Escalation of peace (LEP) and was titled Life and Legacy of Guru Padmasambhava.
- Scholars from both countries participated in the conference and discussed about the Guru who was born in India and moved towards Bhutan in the 8th century to spread Buddhism and Buddhist teaching all across the Himalyan region.

## WORLD CANCER DAY - FEBRUARY 4

- The world cancer day (WCD) is observed every year 4th February across the world to raise awareness of cancer and to encourage its prevention, detection, and treatment.
- This year marks the Launch of the 3- year (2019-2021) "I am and I will" Campaign.
- The WCD was instituted by Union for International Cancer Control (UICC) in 2008 by formally writing goals of the world Cancer Declaration.



### Note



- The primary goal of observing the day is to reduce illness and death caused by it by 2020.
- The origin of day can be traced to 2000 at first world summit Against Cancer, which was held in Paris France.



**Note**

