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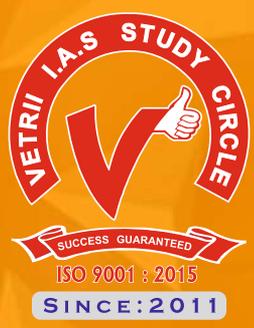
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JULY - 2019



- ✓ Chandrayaan - 2
- ✓ "One nation One ration card" Scheme
- ✓ World Heritage site tag to pink city JAIPUR
- ✓ India on a par with NATO ALLIES
- ✓ India's GDP Forecast for 2019-20 & 2020-21 by IMF, Economic Survey and World bank
- ✓ Hima Das's Gold Spree & Wimbledon - 2019



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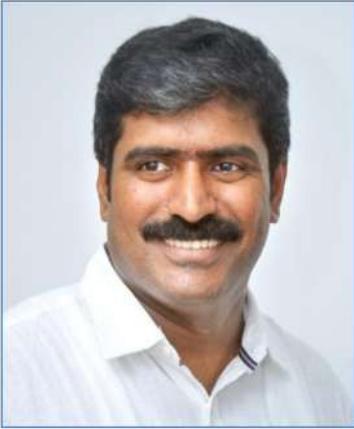
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My Dear Aspirants,

Greetings to all of you! “What we think we become” Gautama Buddha. We all have dreams. To make dreams come into reality it takes a lot of determination, dedication, self discipline and continuous effort.

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DIRECTOR

(M.Shunmugam)

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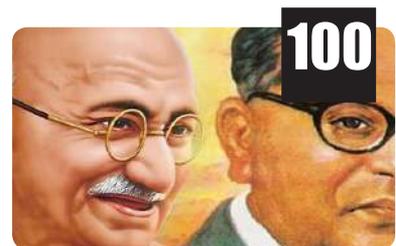
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1.1 Important Days

JUNE 21 - WORLD HYDROGRAPHY DAY

- To publicise the work of hydrographers and the importance of hydrography. It aims to increase the awareness about the protection of safe navigation and marine life protection.
- The theme for WHD 2019 is **“Hydrographic information driving marine knowledge”**.



JUNE 24 - AT GWALIOR AIR BASE, IAF COMMEMORATES 20 YEARS OF KARGIL WAR

- Indian Air Force (IAF) commemorated 20 years of Kargil war at Gwalior Air Base which turned into a war theater with reforming some of the air operations in 1999.
- Air Chief Marshal **BS Dhanoa** was the chief guest of the event.
- IAF used Mirage 2000 fighter aircraft to re-enact Tiger Hill attack and displayed aircraft used during 'Operation Vijay' in Madhya Pradesh's Gwalior during the event.
- Five Mirage 2000, two MiG 21s and one Sukhoi 30 MKI were showcased at the base. One of the Mirage 2000s showcased the Spice bomb carrier which was used in the Balakot airstrike in February 2019.

JUNE 25 - DAY OF THE SEAFARER

- The day recognizes the unique and vital role of seafarers in the global community. The theme for Day of the Seafarer 2019 is, **“Get on board with gender equality”**.



JUNE 26 - BIMSTEC DAY- 2019 CELEBRATED IN DHAKA, BANGLADESH

- The BIMSTEC (Bay of Bengal Initiative for Multi-Sectoral Technical and Economic Cooperation) member countries include Bangladesh, India, Myanmar, Sri Lanka, Thailand, Nepal, and Bhutan celebrated the BIMSTEC Day- 2019 in Dhaka, Bangladesh.



About BIMSTEC:

- ▶ **Founded:** 1997 | **Secretariat:** Dhaka, Bangladesh

JUNE 25 - WORLD VITILIGO DAY

- It is aimed to build global awareness about Vitiligo and to fight misconceptions regarding chronic skin disorder.
- The theme for this year is "The Quality of Life of a Vitiligo Patient".
- Vitiligo is a skin disease where pale white patches start forming on the skin due to lack of melanin, a skin pigment.

JUNE 26 - INTERNATIONAL DAY AGAINST DRUG ABUSE AND ILLICIT TRAFFICKING

- To enhance the efforts to achieve an international society free of drug abuse and create awareness on the problems caused by illicit drugs to the society.

JUNE 26 - INTERNATIONAL DAY IN SUPPORT OF VICTIMS OF TORTURE

- To remind people that human torture is not only unacceptable – it is also a crime.
- In 1997, by resolution 52/149, the UN General Assembly declared 26 June as the International Day in Support of Victims of Torture.



JUNE 27 - INTERNATIONAL MSME DAY

- It aims to recognize the importance of Micro, Small and Medium-sized Enterprises in achieving sustainable development goals, promoting innovation, creativity and sustainable work for all.
- **International Trade Center, the United Nations** launched its flagship report: "The SME Competitiveness Outlook 2019: Big money for small businesses".

JUNE 27 - MINISTRY OF NEW AND RENEWABLE ENERGY SUCCESSFULLY OBSERVED 'SWACHHTA PAKHWADA'

- **Ministry of New and Renewable Energy (MNRE)** and institutions under it successfully observed **Swachhta Pakhwada** (cleanliness fortnight) from **June 1-15, 2019**. The campaign was inaugurated by Shri Aanand Kumar, Secretary of MNRE by delivering a lecture on the importance of Swachhata in life.

Key points :

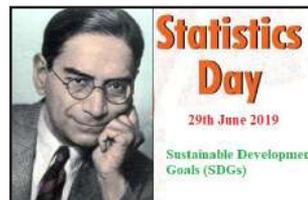
- ▶ The Minister participated in tree plantation drive in CGO Complex, New Delhi.
- ▶ MNRE undertook various initiatives like Shramdan (cleanliness drive), "Swachhata Pledge", organization of Seminar on Biogas/Biomass- Waste to Energy and other initiatives with an objective of disseminating the message of Swachh Bharat widely.

About MNRE :

- ▶ Headquarters: New Delhi
- ▶ Founded: 1992
- ▶ Minister In-Charge: Raj Kumar Singh

JUNE 29 - STATISTICS DAY

- The Government has been celebrating the Statistics Day, to popularize the use of Statistics in everyday life and sensitize the public how Statistics helps in shaping and framing policies. It is celebrated on the birth anniversary of **Prof. Prasanta Chandra Mahalanob**, who was born on June 29, 1893, in recognition of his invaluable contribution in establishing the National Statistical System.



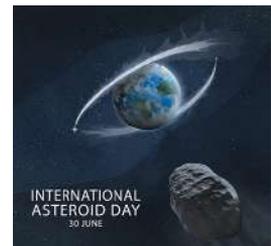
JUNE 29 - INTERNATIONAL DAY OF THE TROPICS

- To create awareness on specific challenges faced by tropical areas and to highlight the important role that the countries in the tropics play in achieving Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs).
- Nobel Laureate Aung San Suu Kyi launched the first State of the Tropics Report on June 29, 2014.



JUNE 30 - INTERNATIONAL ASTEROID DAY

- It is aimed to create awareness about the asteroid impact hazard. It also informs people about the crisis communication actions to be taken in case of a possible near-Earth object threat.



JUNE 30 - INTERNATIONAL DAY OF PARLIAMENTARISM

- It was proclaimed by the United Nations General Assembly (UNGA) in its resolution in May 2018.
- This day also provides an opportunity to parliaments to take stock, identify challenges, and find ways to address them effectively.
- It is also the date, in 1889, on which the Inter-Parliamentary Union, the global organization of parliaments was established.



JULY 1 - 2ND ANNIVERSARY OF GST CELEBRATED

- The Government of India celebrated the 2nd anniversary of GST (Goods and Services Tax). The Finance Ministry, Government of India introduced the new return system on a trial basis on this day, which will come into force from 1st of October, 2019.

Key points :

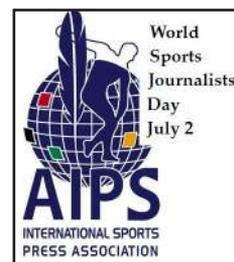
- ▶ First GST Day was celebrated on 1 July 2018.
- ▶ **New GST return system:** Sahaj and Sugam returns for small taxpayers are proposed by the Finance ministry.
- ▶ **Single Cash Ledger:** Rationalisation of Cash Ledger in such a manner that earlier 20 heads are merged into 5 major heads. There is only one Cash Ledger for Tax, interest, penalty, fee & others.
- ▶ **Single Refund Disbursing:** The Central or State Government which sanctions refund disburses all four major heads of refunds namely CGST, SGST, IGST, and Cess.
- ▶ **Threshold limit for goods:** Threshold Limit of Rs 40 Lacs is offered for suppliers of goods as per the choice of States.
- ▶ **Composition Scheme for Services:** Composition Scheme for small service providers up to annual turnover of Rs 50 lacs with a tax rate of 6 %.
- ▶ **E-invoicing system:** Electronic invoicing system in a phase-wise manner for B2B (Business to Business) transactions is proposed to be introduced.
- ▶ **GSTAT:** GST Appellate Tribunals are being established at various State Headquarters and area benches also.

JULY 1 - NATIONAL DOCTORS DAY

- It aims to raise awareness about the importance of doctors and the crucial role they play in our day to day lives.
- Theme 2019 - "Zero tolerance to violence against doctors and clinical establishment".

**JULY 2 - WORLD SPORTS JOURNALISTS DAY**

- To mark the services of sports journalists for the promotion of sports.
- It was established by the **International Sports and Press Association** (AIPS- Association Internationale de la Press Sportive) in 1994 to mark the 70th anniversary of its foundation which was founded on July 2, 1924 during the Summer Olympics in Paris.



2 JULY - WORLD UFO DAY

- World UFO (Unidentified Flying Objects) day was observed all over the world. It is celebrated to increase awareness among people about the existence of UFO.
- The first World UFO Day was celebrated in 2001.

JULY 6 - INTERNATIONAL DAY OF COOPERATIVES

- It's aim is to create awareness on cooperatives and promote international solidarity, economic efficiency, equality, and world peace.
- The theme for 2019 is "Coops 4 decent work".



JULY 6 - WORLD ZONOSSES DAY

- To create awareness on zoonotic diseases and to teach people to take right action on diseases. The word zoonoses is derived from the Greek words zoon (animal) and nosos (ailment).

JULY 11 - WORLD POPULATION DAY

- It creates awareness of the growing population issues. Population issue may be family planning, gender equality, child marriage, human rights, right to health, baby's health, etc.

JULY 12 - INTERNATIONAL MALALA DAY

- It is observed by the United Nations (UN) to highlight the work for the education of Pakistani children by the Pakistani child activist Malala Yousafzai.



JULY 14 - INTERNATIONAL SHARK AWARENESS DAY

- To spread awareness about the dangers of sharks.
- Theme for the year 2019 is "The sharks in crisis: a call to action for the Mediterranean."

JULY 15 - WORLD YOUTH SKILLS DAY

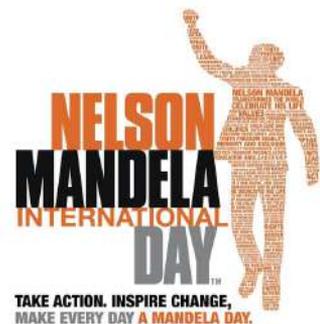
- It is celebrated to create awareness on the importance of investing in youth skills development.
- The theme for the year is "Learning to learn for life and work".

JULY 17 - INTERNATIONAL JUSTICE DAY

- The **Review Conference of the Rome Statute** which was held in **Kampala (Uganda)** and the Assembly of the State Parties decided to celebrate 17 July as the International Criminal Justice Day. This day is the anniversary of the adoption of the Rome Statute in 1998. With the help of this treaty International Criminal Court (ICC) was established. In 1998 since that day, **139 countries have signed the Courts treaty and nearly 80 States, representative of every region of the world, have ratified it.**

JULY 18 - NELSON MANDELA INTERNATIONAL DAY

- It marks the 101th birth anniversary of **Nelson Mandela**, who was born on July 18, 1918.
- It is celebrated since **2009** after United Nations (UN) passed a Resolution declaring July 18 as “**Nelson Mandela International Day**” in recognition of the former South African President’s contribution to “**the culture of peace and freedom.**”



JULY 23 - NATIONAL BROADCASTING DAY

- The Indian Broadcasting service became **All India radio** on 8th June 1936.

Radio broadcasting :

- ▶ Radio broadcasting began in the year 1923 under radio club of Bombay initiative.

All India radio

- ▶ All India radio is officially known as **Akasha Vani** since 1956.
- ▶ It is a division of **Prasar Bharati** and was established in the year 1930.
- ▶ **Headquarters-** New Delhi
- ▶ **Motto-** Bahujanahitaya Bahujanasukhaya.

JULY 24 - INCOME TAX DEPARTMENT CELEBRATED AAYKAR DIWAS 2019

- The Central Board of Direct Taxes (CBDT) and all field offices celebrated the 159th **Aaykar Diwas**. The main function was held at **New Delhi** which was presided over by Finance Minister **Nirmala Sitharaman**. **Minister of State for Finance Anurag Singh Thakur** and other senior officials of the ministry also participated in the event.

1.2 Defence, National Security and Terrorism

STRUM ATAKA

- India has signed a deal with Russia for acquiring **Strum Ataka anti-tank missile** for its fleet of Mi-35 attack choppers of Indian Air Force (IAF).
- This Rs.200 crore deal for Strum Ataka anti-tank missile would give an added capability to Mi-35 attack choppers of IAF to take out enemy tanks and other armoured elements.

THE INDIAN ARMY RELEASES SPECIAL TRIBUTE VIDEO TO COMMEMORATE 20 YEARS OF 'OPERATION VIJAY'

- To commemorate the 20th anniversary of **Kargil Vijay Diwas(26th July 2019)**, the Indian army has released a special **Kargil Tribute Song'** to honor, salute and pay homage to the Kargil martyrs and the war veterans who sacrificed and fought for the country.
- The video was released by the Chief of the Army Staff General **Bipin Rawat** at Manekshaw Centre, New Delhi.



INS SAGARDHWANI STARTS ON MISSION SAGAR MAITRI

- The Marine Acoustic Research Ship (MARS), **INS Sagardhwan** started its two month long second mission **Sagar Maitri** from Southern Naval Command in **Kochi, Kerala**. It was flagged off by Southern Naval commander Vice Admiral A.K. Chawla and Defence Research and Development Organisation (DRDO) chairman G. Satheesh Reddy. It will be visiting Thailand, Malaysia, Singapore, and Indonesia and would be initiating collaborative research programmes with selected institutes in these countries.

INS Sagardhwani

- It is an indigenously built **Marine Acoustic Research Ship (MARS)** which was commissioned in 1994. **Owned by Naval Physical & Oceanographic Laboratory** and operated by the Indian Navy, the ship has carried out intensive oceanographic observational programmes and research over the years. It will celebrate its silver jubilee on **July 30, 2019**.

OPERATION SUDARSHAN

- The operation, code named 'Sudarshan' was launched by the **Border Security Force (BSF)** to fortify **Anti-Infiltration Grid** along the Pakistan border in Punjab and Jammu. The massive exercise commenced on July 1, 2019.

Key points :

- **Name:** The exercise is named 'Sudarshan' drawing from the legendary and mythological cutting wheel or the 'sudarshan chakra' on Lord Krishna's finger.
- **Coverage:** It will cover over 1,000-kms length of the India-Pakistan International Border. Jammu shares about 485-kms of the International border with Pakistan, about 553-kms of the front is in Punjab and on India's western flank with Rajasthan and Gujarat.
- **Exercise:** The commanders of the force will prepare their watch towers and sentry posts better, replenish arms and ammunition dumps, strengthen artillery positions, check and plug border fence breaches, detect underground and cross-border tunnels and make all operational and logistical arrangements to strengthen the vigil along the sensitive and infiltration-prone border.
- **Scrutiny:** The Union Home Ministry will go through the final report of the operation. After the scrutiny, sanctions will be made to procure gadgets, equipment and infrastructure that is required to plug gaps and strengthen border management.

About BSF :

- ▶ **Headquarters:** New Delhi
- ▶ **Founded:** December 1, 1965
- ▶ **Motto:** Duty Unto Death
- ▶ **Director General:** Vivek Johri

GARUDA VI

What is it?

- It is a bilateral air exercise between **Indian Air Force and French air Force**. The latest edition is being held in France.
- It is aimed at enhancing interoperability level of French and Indian crews in air defence and ground attack missions.



OPERATION MILAP

- The **Delhi Police** Crime Branch has rescued 333 children, who had reported missing since January 2019 from various parts of the country. The crime branch took '**Operation Milap**' under which the children are rescued and reunited with their respective families.

Key points :

- ▶ **Recovery:** Delhi police have also recovered 57 people, including 14 minors, who were kidnapped, abducted, or went missing from various areas in the national capital.
- ▶ **Rescue Spot:** The children are mostly rescued from bus stands, railway stations and other crowded places in the city.
- ▶ **Operation Milap:** It was launched in December 2014 with the aim to rescue children. Anti-Human Trafficking Unit (AHTU) has formed under the 'Milap' develops information, rescues the trafficked or kidnapped children and arrests the kidnappers.
- ▶ **Advice:** Under this ambitious initiative, counselling & requisite medical attention has also been given to the rescued children wherever required.

BHABHA KAVACH TO BE INDIA'S 1ST LIGHTEST, INDIGENOUS BULLET

PROOF JACKET

- The bullet proof jacket is developed by the Ordnance Factories Board (**OFB**) and metal alloys manufacturer Mishra Dhatu Nigam (**MIDHANI**) which is headquartered at Hyderabad.
- Each Bharat Kavach has four hard armour plates, to protect the wearer from the front, back and either side.

Key points :

- ▶ The bullet proof jacket blocks bullets from an **AK-47** assault rifle and from 5.46mm **INSAS** rifle.
- ▶ It weighs **9.2kg**, which is 300 gm less than the weight of bullet proof jacket prescribed by the Union Ministry of Home Affairs (**MHA**).
- ▶ It has a **warranty** for a period of **5years**.
- ▶ **OFB** announced that the trial of the Bhabha Kavach met the US National Institute of Justice (NIJ) Level III standards, which guarantees **protection** against **7.62mm** NATO- standard bullets.
- ▶ Punit Goenka Named as new chairman of BARC India
- ▶ Zee entertainment's Punit Goenka was named as the new chairman of BARC India in January.

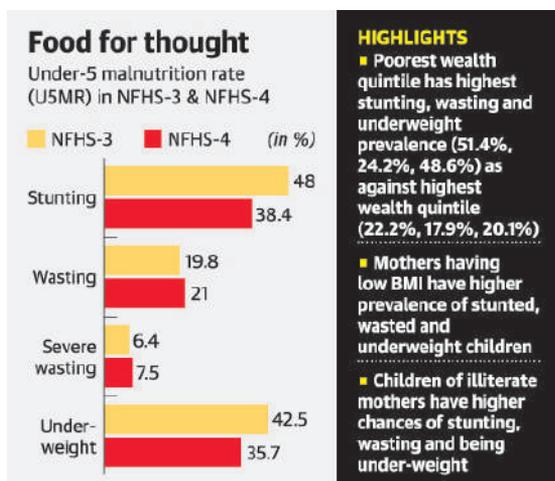
BARC

- ▶ **Headquarters-** Mumbai
- ▶ **Director-** Ajit Kumar Mohanty
- ▶ **Founded-** 3 Jan. 1954

1.3 World Organisations - Pacts and Summits

31.4% OF INDIAN CHILDREN WILL BE STUNTED BY 2022: UN REPORT

- The report on **Food & Nutrition Security (FNS)** Analysis of India developed by UN (United Nations) World Food Programme in partnership with Ministry of Statistics and Programme Implementation (MoSPI) stated that **31.4% of Indian children** under five years will still be stunted by **2022**.
 1. India must double its rate of progress to reach the target of 25% by 2022 set by the National Nutrition Mission.
 2. The stunting in children under 5 years of age is the highest in Bihar (48%), Uttar Pradesh (46%), Jharkhand (45%), and Meghalaya (44%).



SOURCE: NATIONAL FAMILY HEALTH SURVEY 2005-06; 2015-16 | MOSPI, WFP

#IBELONG CAMPAIGN

- The UNHCR **#IBelong Campaign** was launched in November 2014. Together with States, civil society and other UN Agencies, **it aims to end statelessness by 2024 by resolving existing statelessness**, preventing new cases from emerging and better identifying and protecting stateless populations.

Concerns:

- At least 10 million people worldwide are currently stateless and a baby is born stateless every 10 minutes. Not allowed a nationality, they are often denied the rights and services that countries normally offer their citizens.

- **S e c o n d** anniversary of implementation of historic tax reform of Goods & Services Tax as 1st July is celebrated as the "GST DAY".
- At the event a book on "GST for MSME" will also be released.

WHO LAUNCHES ITS FIRST GUIDELINES ON SELF-CARE INTERVENTIONS FOR HEALTH

- The World Health Organization has introduced its first guideline on self-care interventions for health named **“WHO Consolidated Guideline on Self-Care Interventions for Health”**. Its first volume has focused on **sexual and reproductive health and rights**.

WHO has used the following definition of Health care:

- “Self-care is the ability of individuals, families and communities to promote health, prevent disease, maintain health, and cope with illness and disability with or without the support of a health-care provider”

Key Highlights of the guideline on global front:

- By 2030, there will be shortage of 18 million health workers.
- Currently, 130 million people are deprived of humanitarian assistance.
- About 400 million people lacked access to the most essential health services.
- At least 100 million people faces poverty due to high costs of health care, as expenses are made out from their own pockets.

About Key interventions:

- Self-sampling for human papillomavirus (HPV) and sexually transmitted infections, self-injectable contraceptives, home-based ovulation predictor kits, human immunodeficiency virus (HIV) self-testing and self-management of medical abortion.
- These guidelines hunt the scientific evidence for health benefits of certain interventions that can be done outside the conventional sector by not replacing high-quality health services.

Additional info :

- ▶ The theme of 2019 World Health Assembly (72nd session) was “Universal Health Coverage” focusing strongly on primary health care. It was held in Geneva, Switzerland from 20-28 May 2019.
- ▶ WHO announced the launch of “Self Care Month” during World Health Assembly (WSA) from **June 24 to 24 July**.
- ▶ The International Self Care Day (ISD) is observed annually on July 24.

About WHO:

- ▶ **Establishment:** 7 April 1948
- ▶ **Headquarters:** Geneva, Switzerland
- ▶ **Head:** Tedros Adhanom

UNESCO WORLD HERITAGE SITE

- India gets its 38th UNESCO WORLD HERITAGE SITE as Pink City Jaipur.

- With Successful inscription of Jaipur City, India has 38 world heritagesites, that include 30 Cultural properties, 7 Natural properties and 1 mixed site.



- A UNESCO World Heritage Site is a place that is listed by the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO) as of special cultural or physical significance.
- The list is maintained by the international World Heritage Programme administered by the UNESCO World Heritage Committee, composed of 21 UNESCO member states which are elected by the General Assembly.



- Haryana agriculture and farmers' welfare minister Om Prakash Dhankar launched 'krishi kiosk' at Panchkula which will give farmers information about government schemes and also help them file claims under the 'Pradhan Mantri Fasal Bima Yojana'.
- The minister also released book titled 'Agri Scope'.

U.S. FIRM INKS DEAL WITH STARTUP

- Lockheed Martin has inked an MoU with Terero Mobility, a Cannibalised startup, The MoU will pave way for the startup to gain entry to Lockheed Martin's supply chain.
- The MoU was to explore prospects of further development of Cargo Ground Buildup System (CGBS), a solution designed under a university research and development project sponsored by Lockheed Martin at IIT Madras. CGBS is a cargo handling vehicle that supports cargo and supplies unloading from military transport aircraft at remote bases and disaster response missions.

US SENATE CLEARS PROPOSAL TO BRING INDIA ON A PAR WITH ITS NATO ALLIES



- The US Senate has passed a legislative provision that brings India on par with Washington's North Atlantic Treaty Organization (NATO) allies and countries such as Israel and South Korea for increasing defence cooperation.
- The National Defense Authorization Act or NDAA for fiscal 2020, that contained the proposal was passed by the US Senate recently.
- The legislative provision provides for increased US-India defence cooperation in the Indian Ocean in areas of humanitarian assistance, counter terrorism, counter-piracy, and maritime security.

THE CITY OF FUZHOU (CHINA) WILL HOST THE 44TH SESSION OF THE WORLD HERITAGE COMMITTEE IN 2020

- In the event of 43rd session of the World Heritage Committee meeting 2019 in Baku, Azerbaijan(June 30 to July 10,2019), the UNESCO(United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization) announced that the Chinese city of Fuzhou will host the 44th session of the World Heritage Committee in 2020.

Key points:

1. Tian Xuejun, Chinese Vice Minister of Education was elected as chairman of the 44th session of the committee. The chairman of the 43rd session was Abulfas Garayev.
2. During the meeting, the committee inscribed a total of 29 new sites on the World Heritage List (one in Africa, 2 in the Arab States, 10 in the Asia Pacific region, 15 in Europe and North America and one in Latin America).
3. The pink city or **Walled City of Jaipur** of Rajasthan also featured in the prestigious list, which now features 1,121 sites in 167 countries.

About UNESCO:

- ▶ Headquarters: Paris, France
- ▶ Director General: Audrey Azoulay

About China:

- ▶ Capital: Beijing
- ▶ Currency: Renminbi
- ▶ President: Xi Jinping

MULTILATERAL CONVENTION TO IMPLEMENT TAX TREATY RELATED MEASURES

- The government has ratified the international agreement to curb **base erosion and profits shifting (BEPS)- Multilateral Convention to Implement Tax Treaty Related Measures**, a bid to stop companies from moving their profits out of the country and depriving the government of tax revenue.

What is BEPS?

- ▶ Base erosion and profit shifting refers to the **phenomenon where companies shift their profits to other tax jurisdictions, which usually have lower rates, thereby eroding the tax base in India.**
- ▶ The Convention is **an outcome of the OECD / G20 BEPS Project** to tackle base erosion and profit shifting through tax planning strategies that exploit gaps and mismatches in tax rules to artificially shift profits to low or no-tax locations where there is little or no economic activity, resulting in little or no overall corporate tax being paid.

INDIA RANKS 86TH IN MOST POWERFUL PASSPORT INDEX 2019, JAPAN AND SINGAPORE HOLDING THE TOP SPOT

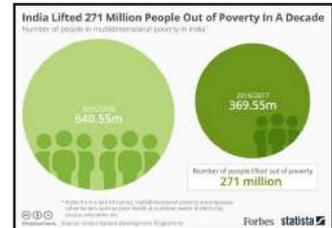
- As per the recently released **Henley Passport Index 2019**, which ranks 199 countries in the world based on their **Visa-Free Scores** showed that **Indian** passport ranked at **86th** position with a mobility score of 58. **Japan and Singapore** secured the joint **top** spot as the most powerful passports in the world with a score of 189.

Key points :

- ▶ **South Korea** now holds **second** place on the index along with Finland and Germany and it is followed by Denmark, Italy, and Luxembourg (3rd).
- ▶ The index includes 199 passports and 227 travel destinations including micro-states and territories.
- ▶ India seated 86th position with Mauritania and Sao Tome and Principe.
- ▶ **58 countries** around the world will allow **visa-free entry to Indian passport** holders.
- ▶ France has dropped to the 4th place with Spain and Sweden. The UK and the US now share the sixth place – the lowest position either country has held since 2010 with 183 scores.
- ▶ **Afghanistan** at the 109th place is last on the list with a score of just 25.
- ▶ In 2018 index, India ranked 79th position.

INDIA SUCCESSFULLY LIFTED 271 MILLION OUT OF POVERTY IN TEN YEARS: UN MULTIDIMENSIONAL POVERTY INDEX 2019

- According to the “Global Multidimensional Poverty Index (MPI) 2019” by the UN Development Programme (UNDP), the Oxford Poverty and Human Development Initiative (OPHI) between 2006 and 2016, India registered a fastest reduction of poverty rate from 55.1% to 27.9% and lifted **271 million** (from 640 million to around 369 million) out of poverty.



Key points :

- ▶ **Key indicators:** India recorded the fastest reduction in the multi dimensional poverty index values during the period with strong improvements in areas such as assets, cooking fuel, sanitation and nutrition.
- ▶ **No.1: Jharkhand** is among the poorest regions in the world improving the fastest (poverty reduction from 74.9% to 46.5% in the ten years) followed by Rattanak Kiri in Cambodia.
- ▶ **Report:** 364 million people (156 million (34.5%) are children) in India still living in multidimensional poverty in the world.
- ▶ **Progress in achieving SDG 1:** The report identifies 10 countries (Bangladesh, Cambodia, Democratic Republic of Congo, Ethiopia, Haiti, India, Nigeria, Pakistan, Peru, and Vietnam) have shown statistically significant progress towards achieving Sustainable Development Goal 1 (SDG 1), ending poverty “in all its forms, everywhere”.
- ▶ Across the 101 countries, 23.1% of the people are multidimensionally poor & out of that 50% are children, and children under age 10 with over 85% of poor living in South Asia and Sub-Saharan Africa.



SAARC FILM FESTIVAL 2019 HELD AT THE NATIONAL FILM CORPORATION CINEMA HALL, COLOMBO, SRI LANKA

- The 9th Edition of South Asian Association for Regional Cooperation (SAARC) Film Festival for the year 2019 was held at the National Film Corporation Cinema Hall, Colombo, Sri Lanka from July 2-7, 2019. It was conducted by the SAARC Cultural Centre.
- It screened 34 films which consisted of 15 feature films, 13 short films and 6 master films from the SAARC Member states of Afghanistan, Bangladesh, Bhutan, India, Maldives, Nepal, Pakistan and Sri Lanka.

Key Points:

1. Indian entries bagged 6 awards.
2. **Nagarkirtan**, a Bengali film, was awarded the **Best Feature Film**.
3. Best Director Award was conferred to Kaushik Ganguly for Nagarkirtan.
4. Riddhi Sen won the best actor award and Prabuddha Bannerjee bagged Best Original Score for Nagarkirtan.
5. Best Short Film Award was conferred to Na Bole Wo Haram directed by Nitish Patan.
6. Special Jury Award for Direction and Story was conferred to 'Walking with the Wind', by Praveen Morchhale.

About SAARC:

- ▶ Founded: 8 December 1985
- ▶ Headquarters: Kathmandu, Nepal



- An 82-member Special Rhino Protection Force who are trained to combat poachers and understand animal behaviour was recently deployed in Kaziranga National Park (KNP). The process of setting up special force was initiated in 2015.
- This national park is located in Golaghat and Nagaon districts of Assam. It is home to World's largest population of One Horned Rhinoceros i.e. about 68%
- The International Security Alliance's first Joint Exercise ISALEX19 started in Abu Dhabi.
- The exercise is hosted by the UAE Ministry of Interior (MoI). 50 representatives from law enforcement agencies of the International Security Alliance (ISA) countries are participated in this exercise.

8TH EDITION OF HAND-IN-HAND MILITARY EXERCISE 2019

- The 8th edition of Hand-in-Hand (HiH) Military exercise 2019 between India, China will be held on December 2019 at Umroi near Shillong in Meghalaya.

Key points :

- ▶ The exercise will focus on transnational counter-terror operations, the establishment of a joint command post, joint combat, and HADR (humanitarian assistance and disaster relief) missions.
- ▶ The 7th edition was held at Chengdu, China in December 2018.
- ▶ **HiH:** The exercise was started in 2007 in Kunming. The drills got hindered in the 6th edition 2016 in Pune because of a 73-day standoff in Doklam in Sikkim sector of the border. between Indian and Chinese forces. In 2018, the situation eased and the troops of the two sides interacted once again in China.

About China:

- ▶ **Capital:** Beijing
- ▶ **Currency:** Renminbi
- ▶ **President:** Xi Jinping

About Meghalaya:

- ▶ **Capital:** Shillong
- ▶ **Governor:** Tathagata Roy
- ▶ **Chief Minister:** Conrad Sangma

LUCKNOW TO HOST ASIA'S BIGGEST ARM SHOW 'DEFEXPO' IN FEBRUARY 2020

- The defence ministry will hold its 11th biennial arms exhibition 'DefExpo 2020' in Lucknow , next year from February 5-8 in line with Modi government's big push to develop Uttar Pradesh as one of the two major defence manufacturing hubs.
- It will focus on India's emerging manufacturing corridors with special focus on digital transformation of the industry
- The theme of DefExpo will be "India: the emerging defence manufacturing hub".

DefExpo :

- Defexpo is a land,naval systems and Homeland security exhibition which used to be held only in New Delhi until the Modi government decided to take it around the country.
- Prime Minister Narendra Modi laid Foundation stone for Rs 20000 crore Bundelkhand defence Industrial Corridor in Jhansi district of Uttar Pradesh in the month of February 2019
- Despite India being the world's biggest arms importer, the Defexpo exhibition will also act as a promoter of 'MAKE IN INDIA' to bring down arms imports.
- The 10th edition took place in Chennai, Tamilnadu.



- America's space agency, National Aeronautics and Space Administration (NASA) has planned to send a flying multi rover vehicle, 'Dragonfly' to Saturn's moon Titan to search for signs of life.
- It will be launched in 2026 and set to land on Saturn's largest moon in 2034.
- July 4th is observed as Independence day of America, On 1776 4th July the America was released from the British monarch.
- This year marks the 243rd celebration of Independence Day
- The Indian Rupee will now be accepted for transaction at all airports in Dubai, according to a media report, a good news for Indian tourists who form the highest number of international overnight visitors of UAE.
- Indian rupee is the 16th currency to be accepted for transaction at Dubai Duty-Free.

INDIAN NAVY COMMISSIONS FIFTH DORNIER AIRCRAFT SQUADRON IN CHENNAI

- Chief of Naval Staff **Admiral Karambir Singh** commissioned the **fifth Dornier squadron** of the **Indian Navy- Indian Naval Air Squadron 313 (INAS 313)** at the **Naval Air Enclave** in **Meenambakkam, Chennai, Tamil Nadu**.
- It will operate the indigenous Hindustan Aeronautics Limited (HAL) built Maritime Surveillance version multi-role Dornier 228 Short Range Maritime reconnaissance aircraft from Chennai Airport.

Key Points :

- ▶ It is commanded by **Commander Vivek Koman**.
- ▶ It is fitted with state-of-the-art sensors and equipment which include Advanced Surveillance Radar, Electronic Sensors and networking features.
- ▶ It will help India to track the growing Chinese presence in the Indian Ocean Region (IOR).

About Indian Navy:

- ▶ **Navy Day:** 4th December
- ▶ **Motto:** Sham No Varunah (May the Lord of the water be auspicious unto us).

1.4. Eminent Persons

FRENCH TYCOON BERNARD ARNAULT OVERTAKES BILL GATES TO BECOME 2ND RICHEST PERSON IN THE WORLD: BLOOMBERG

- According to the **Bloomberg Billionaires Index 2019**, French businessman & CEO of LVMH (a merger of renowned brands Louis Vuitton and Moët Hennessy), **Bernard Arnault (70)** has overtaken Bill Gates as the world's 2nd richest person.



Key points:

1. **Gates**, the co-founder of Microsoft, is now the **world's third-richest** person with \$107 billion as compared to second-richest person Arnault's \$108 billion wealth.
2. **Jeff Bezos**, Amazon Inc's founder remains the **richest** person in the world with a net worth of \$124 billion.
3. According to Bloomberg, Arnault's increased 39 billion dollars to his fortune in 2019, the highest individual gain on the 500-member index.
4. In 2018, his LVMH, the world's largest maker of luxury goods, collected more than 53 billion dollars in revenue.



- Prime Minister Narendra Modi's Ujjwala scheme for providing free cooking gas connection to poor came in for praise from the International Energy Agency (IEA).
- The Agency said it is a major achievement in improving the environment and health of women.

1.5. Sports and Games

ITALY TO HOST 2026 WINTER OLYMPICS

- In the final round of voting at the 134th session of the International Olympic Committee (IOC) in Lausanne, Switzerland, **Italy's Milan and Cortina d'Ampezzo** won the right to host the **2026 Winter Olympics**, defeating Sweden's capital **Stockholm**. Milan and Cortina d'Ampezzo received 47 votes from the IOC members and Stockholm secured 34 votes.

Key points :

- ▶ Italy will host the third Winter Games, after Turin hosted it in 2006 and Ski Resort Cortina hosted it in 1956.
- ▶ The organizational budget for the 2026 Winter Olympics is estimated at \$1.7 billion. It is scheduled to take place from 6 to 22 February 2026.

GIRISH KOUSHIK OF KARNATAKA BECAME INDIA'S 63RD GRANDMASTER

- 22 year old Girish A. Koushik of Mysore, Karnataka became India's 63rd Grandmaster (GM) at the 37th Balaton International Chess Festival in Hungary.



1. He completed his second GM norm at the 8th Lluçmajor Open in Mallorca, Spain in May 2019 and third norm in Budapest. The first GM norm was achieved in 2011 at the World Juniors.
2. He became the third Grandmaster from Karnataka, after Thejkumar M S and Stany G A.

SACHIN TENDULKAR BECAME THE 6TH INDIAN TO BE INDUCTED INTO ICC HALL OF FAME

- Indian cricketer **Sachin Tendulkar** was inducted into **International Cricket Council's (ICC) Hall of Fame** along with South African pace legend **Allan Donald** and Australian woman cricketer **Cathryn Fitzpatrick**. With this, Tendulkar became the 6th Indian cricketer to be inducted into ICC's Hall of Fame after Bishen Singh Bedi, Kapil Dev, Sunil Gavaskar, Anil Kumble and Rahul Dravid.



ODISHA TO HOST THE 21ST COMMONWEALTH TABLE TENNIS CHAMPIONSHIP 2019

- The Department of Sports and Youth Service of the Odisha government signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) with Table Tennis Federation of India (TTFI) and Odisha State Table Tennis Association (OSTTA) to host the **21st Commonwealth Championship** for the year 2019. It will be held from July 17-22, 2019 at the **Jawaharlal Indoor Stadium in Cuttack, Odisha.**

Game	Winner's Name	Category	Medal
Senior Weighting	Meerabhai Chanu	-	Gold
Weighting	Devindra Kaur	184 kg	Gold
Weighting	B. Anu Radha	221 kg	Gold
Table Tennis	Sathyam - Archana	Mixed Doubles	Gold
Table Tennis	Ahisa Mukherjee	Women - Single's	Gold
Table Tennis	Hamreet	Men - Single's	Gold
Table Tennis	Puja - Kiruthrika	Women - Double's	Gold
Table Tennis	Antony Amal Raj Monaav Thabar	Men - Double's	Gold
Shooters			
Junior World Championship	Elavenil Valarivan	10m	Gold
Junior World Championship	Vijay veer Sidhu	25m Pital	Gold
Junior World Championship	Anish	25m Rapid fire pital	Gold
Junior World Championship	Sarabjat	10m Air Pital	Gold



OVERVIEW OF SPORTS JOURNALISTS FEDERATION OF INDIA 2019 AWARDS

- The annual general meeting of Sports Journalists Federation of India (SJFI) 2019 was held in Ahmedabad, Gujarat.
- It honors the sports-persons for their contribution to sport and for record-breaking reign in the National and international scene.

Here's a look at the full list of awards and winners:

Awards	Winners
SJFI Medal (SJFI's Highest Honour)	Prakash Padukone (Badminton)
Sportsperson of the Year 2019	Pankaj Advani (Billiards and Snooker) and Bajrang Punia (Wrestling).
Emerging Talent of the Year 2019	Saurabh Choudhary (shooting)
Team of the Year 2019	Vidarbha cricket team

ARCHER DEEPIKA KUMARI WON SILVER IN TOKYO OLYMPIC TEST EVENT

- Indian archer **Deepika Kumari** won silver at the Ready Steady Tokyo test event for the 2020 Olympic Games held in Tokyo, Japan. She lost to Korean **An San** in straight sets 6-0. She was ranked 4th in the qualification round.



About 2020 Tokyo Olympics:

Schedule: 24 July- 9 August 2020 | Host: Tokyo, Japan

SAMEER GULATI BAGS RS. 3 LAKHS FOR 'WORLD'S BEST CODER' AT TECHGIG CODE GLADIATORS 2019

- In the 6th Edition of TechGig Code Gladiators 2019, an annual coding competition, Ex-champion, **Sameer Gulati** won the title as 'world's best coder' and took home prize money of Rs 3,00,000, a trophy and a certificate. The event was held at Reliance Corporate Park, Navi Mumbai.

Key points :

- ▶ **Technology themes:** The event also hosted a total of 10 exciting technology themes include Artificial Intelligence, Blockchain, Chatbots, Robotic Process Automation, Fintech, Software Testing, Location Services, Amazon Alexa Skills, Internet of Things, and New Commerce.
- ▶ **Registration:** This edition saw over 2.6 lakh registrations (Of this, 21 per cent (55,633 out of 2,62,906) were female coders) for the 87-day long coding competition.
- ▶ **Vaishnavi** crowned as the Best Female Coder.

VIRAT KOHLI, JASPRIT BUMRAH MAINTAINS TOP SPOTS IN ICC ODI RANKING 2019

- As per the ODI (One Day International) rankings 2019 released by the ICC (International Cricket Council), right-handed top-order batsman, **Virat Kohli** and pacer **Jasprit Bumrah** have retained their top numbered position following the conclusion of the World Cup.

Key points:

- Batsman list: Kohli tops the list with 886 points followed by Rohit Sharma, who is just five points behind Kohli. Babar Azam (Pakistan) got a 3rd position with 827 points. Faf du Plessis (820) of South Africa and Ross Taylor of New Zealand (817) are on the 4th and 5th position respectively.



- Elon Musk** grabbed a lot of attention with his July 16 announcement that his company Neuralink plans to implant electrodes into the brains of people with paralysis by next year. Their first goal is to create assistive technology to help people who can't move or are unable to communicate
- Radha Krishnan** has been appointed as a head of Tamil Nadu Government's cable TV Operator organizations.
 - He currently work as Animal Husbandry Minister.

PRITHU GUPTA OF DELHI IS INDIA'S 64TH GRANDMASTER



- Prithu Gupta** of Delhi, aged 15 years, became India's 64th Grandmaster (GM). He achieved the rating stipulation of 2500 points by beating Germany's Lev Yankelevich in the fifth round of the Portuguese League 2019.

Key points :

- He is a Class X student of Modern School (Vasant Vihar), Delhi.
- His achievement came 31 years after Viswanathan Anand had become India's first Grandmaster.
- D Gukesh is the youngest GM of India at 12 years, 7 months and 17 days.

OVERVIEW OF 2019 WIMBLEDON CHAMPIONSHIPS WINNERS:

Title	Winner	Runner up
Men's Singles	Novak Djokovic(Serbia)	Roger Federer (Switzerland)
Women's Singles	Simona Halep(Romania)	Serena Williams (United States of America)
Men's Doubles	Juan Sebastián Cabal (Colombia) Robert Farah (Colombia)	Nicolas Mahut (France) Édouard Roger-Vasselin (France)
Women's Doubles	Hsieh Su-wei (Chinese Taipei) Barbora Strýcová (Czech Republic)	Gabriela Dabrowski (Canada) Xu Yifan (China)
Mixed Doubles	Ivan Dodig (Croatia) Latisha Chan (Chinese Taipei)	Robert Lindstedt (Sweden) Jeļena Ostapenko (Latvia)

SREESHANKAR WINS GOLD AT TATYANA KOLPAKOVA INTERNATIONAL ATHLETICS MEET 2019

- Kerala long jumper, **M.Sreeshankar (20)** has won the long jump gold with 7.97m at the **XXII Tatyana Kolpakova international athletics meet 2019 in Bishkek, Kyrgyzstan** from 13th July to 14th July 2019.

Key points:

1. He has the national record with 8.20m which is his best jump in the fourth in 2018.He also won the Federation Cup with 7.99 metres.
2. Here's the look at the other winners and their medals

Winner	Medal won	About Kyrgyzstan:
Sahil Silwal	Men's javelin throw (Gold)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▶ Capital: Bishkek ▶ Currency: Kyrgyzstani som ▶ President: Sooronbay Jeenbekov
Archana Suseentran	Women's 100 m race (Gold)	
Lili Das	Women's 400 m race (Gold)	
Harsh Kumar	Men's 400 m race (Gold)	
Jisna Mathew	Women's 400 m (Silver)	

INDIA TO HOST ISSF WORLD CUP FROM MARCH 15 TO 26, 2020 IN NEW DELHI

- **International Shooting Sport Federation** (ISSF) approved India's application to host the ISSF World Cup stages. **ISSF World Cup** in rifle/pistol/shotgun events to be held at the **Dr. Karni Singh Range, Tughlakabad, New Delhi** from **March 15 to 26, 2020**.

Key Points:

1. The dates for the event were approved by the ISSF Executive Committee.
2. It will be preceded by the Shotgun World Cup in Nicosia, Cyprus, from March 4 to 13, 2020.
3. The World Cup in rifle, pistol and shotgun, a test event for the Olympics, will be held in Tokyo, Japan from April 15 to 27, 2020, followed by the World Cup in rifle and pistol in Munich, Germany, from June 2 to 9, 2020
4. The combined World Cup for all three events will be held in Baku, Azerbaijan, from June 22 to July 3, 2020.

About ISSF:

- ▶ Headquarters: Munich, Germany
- ▶ Founded: 1907
- ▶ President: Vladimir Lisin

TORAN YADAV, A PARA-ATHLETE WINS 3 MEDALS AT 4TH WORLD WEALTH YOGA CHAMPIONSHIP 2019

- **Toran Yadav (19)**, a specially-abled boy from Khatti village in **Chhattisgarh** clinched 3 medals for India at 4th **World Yoga Festival and Championship** 2019, held at **Bulgaria, Sofia**.



Key points :

- ▶ He strikes two silver medals in the rhythmic pair and artistic pair and a bronze medal in athletic yoga.
- ▶ He started yoga from the age of 9 and was selected to represent India.

About Bulgaria :

- ▶ **Capital** : Sofia
- ▶ **Currency** : Bulgarian Lev
- ▶ **Prime Minister** : Boyko Borisov
- ▶ **President** : Rumen Radev



SUNIL CHHETRI AND ASHALATA DEVI CONFERRED WITH TOP HONOURS AT AIFF AWARDS

- Sunil Chhetri, Indian men's football team captain, was named the **Men's Footballer** of the year 2019 at the **All India Football Federation's (AIFF) Awards**. He won the award for the third consecutive year. He is also the second-highest active international scorer (70 goals for India) after Portugal's Cristiano Ronaldo. In women's category, it was conferred to footballer **Ashalata Devi**.

Other Awards:

AIFF Emerging Men's Footballer of the Year	Sahal Abdul Samad (Kerala)
AIFF Emerging Women's Footballer of the Year	Dangmei Grace (Manipur)
Best grassroots development programme	Jammu and Kashmir Football Association
AIFF Award for the Best Assistant Referee	Joseph Tony (Karnataka)
AIFF Award for the Best Referee	R Venkatesh (Tamil Nadu)

About AIFF :

- ▶ **Headquarters:** Dwarka, Delhi
- ▶ **President:** Praful Patel

VINESH PHOGAT & DIVYA KAKRAN WON GOLD

- At the **Grand Prix of Spain Women's Wrestling** for the year 2019 held in **Madrid (Spain)**, India finished **second** with 130 points in team championship behind Russia which stood at 165 points.



Key points :

- India's top wrestler **Vinesh Phogat**, Gold medalist at Jakarta Asian Games, won her 1st gold medal after shifting to 53kg category by defeating Dutch rival Jessica Blaszka in the final.
- Asian Games bronze medallist **Divya Kakran** won gold in the 68 kg category against Poland's Agnieszka Wieszczyk-Kordus in the final.
- World Championship bronze medallist **Pooja Dhanda** in 57kg category settled with silver after losing the title clash to Russia's Veronika Chumikova.
- Silver medals were also won by Seema (50kg), Manju Kumari (59kg) and Kiran (76kg) who lost their gold medals to Poland's Iwona Matkowska, Russia's Liubov Ovcharova and Ksennia Burakova, respectively.

HIMA DAS

	Game	Place	Category	Medal
1.	Ground Prix Athletics Competition (July)	Poland	200 m	Gold
2.	Kutro International Athletics Competition (July 7)	Poland	200 m	Gold
3.	International Athletics Competition (July 13)	Czech Republic	400 m	Gold
4.	Dabour International Athletics Competition (July 17)	-	200 m	Gold
5.	International Athletics Competition (July 20)	Czech Republic	200 m	Gold

**HIMA DAS AND MUHAMMAD ANAS WON GOLD MEDAL****Winners List of Indian athletes at Poznan Athletics Grand Prix 2019:-**

S.No	Category	Medal	Name
1.	Women's 200 m race	Gold	Hima Das
		Silver	VK Vismaya
2.	Men's 200 m race	Gold	Muhammed Anas
3.	Men's 400 m hurdles	Gold	M P Jabir
		Bronze	Jithin Paul
4.	Shot Put	Bronze	Tajinderpal Singh Toor

OVERVIEW OF FIFA WOMEN'S WORLD CUP 2019

- From 7th June to 7th July, FIFA Women's World Cup 2019 or 8th edition of the FIFA Women's World Cup was held in France in 9 cities. United States(US), the defending champion won the FIFA Women's World Cup 2019 by defeating Netherlands. The tournament involved the participation of 24 teams in total.

Highlights:

- ▶ **United States(US)** won the tournament for the record fourth time and became the second nation, after Germany, to have successfully retained the title.
- ▶ United States already won the tournament in the year 2015, which was held in Canada.



Awards:

- ▶ Megan Rapinoe of United States won the Best Player of the tournament award.
- ▶ Giulia Gwinn of Germany won the Best young player of the tournament award.
- ▶ Sari van Veenendaal of Netherland won the Best goalkeeper of the tournament award.
- ▶ Alex Morgan of United States, Megan Rapinoe of United States and Ellen White of England won the Top Scorer of the tournament award by scoring 6 goals.
- ▶ France won the Fair Play award in the tournament.

About Federation Internationale de Football Association (FIFA):

- ▶ **President:** Gianni Infantino
- ▶ **Headquarters:** Zurich, Switzerland

NIGERIA SET TO HOST 2020 FIFA WOMEN U-20 WORLD CUP

- Federation of International Football Federation has awarded FIFA under 20 Women World Cup 2020 (10th edition) hosting right to Nigeria after 10 years.

Key points :

- India and South Korea submitted their bids for the 2020 U20 Women's World Cup but India named the 2020 U17 Women's World Cup host.
- The last FIFA event held in Nigeria was the 2009 FIFA U-17 World Cup, which was won by Switzerland.

About FIFA U-20 Women's World Cup:

- It is an international association football tournament, organized by FIFA (Federation Internationale de Football Association), for national teams of women under the age of 20.
- The tournament is held in even-numbered years. It was first conducted in 2002 in Canada.



INDIA'S TRACK AND FIELD LEGEND PT USHA NOMINATED FOR IAAF'S 'VETERAN PIN'

- The International Association of Athletics Federation's (IAAF) Chief Executive Officer (CEO) Jon Ridgeon informed that India's track and field legend PT Usha, aged 55, has been nominated for the IAAF's 'Veteran Pin' for her outstanding service to the sport.

Key points :

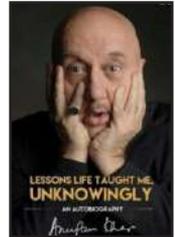
- She is called as the "queen of track and field".
- She has been invited to participate in the award ceremony which will be held during the opening ceremony of the 52nd IAAF Congress at the Qatar National Convention Centre in Doha on the eve of September 24, 2019.
- She had won five gold medals in 100m, 200m, 400m, 400m hurdles and the 4x400m relay and a bronze medal in the 1985 Asian Athletic Championships which were held in Jakarta, Indonesia.
- In the 1984 Los Angeles Olympics, she became the first Indian to reach the finals of the 400m hurdles, but lost the bronze by one-hundredth of a second.

About IAAF:

- **Formation:** July 17, 1912
- **Headquarters:** Monaco

1.6 Books & Authors

ACTOR ANUPAM KHER PENS AN AUTO-BIOGRAPHY "LESSONS LIFE TAUGHT ME, UNKNOWNLY"



- Veteran Actor **Anupam Kher**, aged 64, has penned an Auto-Biography titled "**Lessons Life Taught Me, Unknownly**". It will be launched on August 5, 2019. It will look into the life and times of the actor.

Key points :

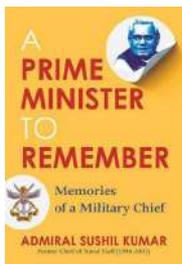
- ▶ The book will be published by **Penguin Random House**.
- ▶ Kher is the winner of two National awards, eight Filmfare awards and a BAFTA nomination. He is a recipient of the Padma Shree Award in 2004 and Padma Bhushan Award in 2016.
- ▶ He has acted in more than 530 films in several languages, both in India and the West, 100 plays and numerous TV shows.

VICE PRESIDENT SHRI M. VENKAIAH NAIDU RELEASED BOOK TITLED VIVEKADEEPINI

- The Vice President of India, **Shri M. Venkaiah Naidu** released book titled **Vivekadeepini**, a summary of Prashnottara Ratnamalika written by **Adi Shankaracharya**, one of India's greatest spiritual and literary geniuses.
 1. It is a concise book of aphorisms (a memorable expression of a general truth or principle).
 2. The book has been translated into ten languages- English, Hindi, Bengali, Kannada, Telugu, Tamil, Malayalam, Marathi Gujarati and Odia.

A PRIME MINISTER TO REMEMBER

- Former Navy Chief Admiral Sushil Kumar authored a book named as “A Prime Minister to Remember- Memories of a Military Chief” released. The book is published by **Konark Publishers Pvt Ltd**, New Delhi.

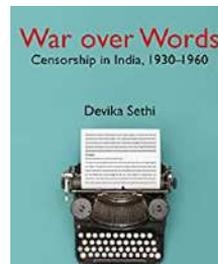


Key points :

- ▶ The book talks about his distinguished career in the Indian Navy during the Kargil War and Chairman of the Chiefs of Staff Committee when Operation Parakram was launched after the terror attack on the Indian Parliament.
- ▶ It also talks about the Admiral, who served with Prime Minister Atal Bihari Vajpayee from 1998 to 2001.

“WAR OVER WORDS: CENSORSHIP IN INDIA, 1930-1960” AUTHORED BY DEVIKA SETHI RELEASED

- The book titled “War over Words: Censorship in India, 1930-1960” authored by **Devika Sethi** who teaches modern Indian history at Indian Institute of Technology (IIT)-Mandi, was released. It explains the state censorship in India in the transition period from colonial to national rule, when historical actors behaved in unpredictable ways.



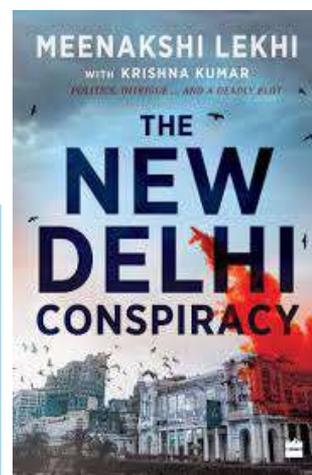
1. It is published by **Cambridge University Press**.
2. It is divided into 4 parts.

BJP MP MEENAKSHI LEKHI PENS HER FIRST NOVEL ‘THE NEW DELHI CONSPIRACY’

- Meenakshi Lekhi**, a women politician (MP of Bharatiya Janata Party and spokesperson) has written her debut novel titled ‘The New Delhi Conspiracy’.

Key points :

- ▶ Ms. Lekhi is a Supreme Court lawyer by profession.
- ▶ The book is published by **Harper Collins** and has been co-written by Krishna Kumar who works with her.
- ▶ The novel talks about undercurrents of Delhi’s political landscape and attempts to lay bare what is influencing the course of the nation’s political trajectory.



DR. KRISHNA SAKSENA BOOK 'WHISPERS OF TIME' LAUNCHED BY SMRITI IRANI IN NEW DELHI



- Minister of Textiles and Minister of Women and Child Development, **Smriti Zubin Irani** launched new book '**Whispers of Time**' written by **Dr. Krishna Saksena** (91) at India International Centre in New Delhi.

Key points:

- ▶ The book was published by Prabhat Prakashan.
- ▶ It is the ninth book of Saksena, and it talks about her experiences and observations in her long life of ninety years.

KARGIL: UNTOLD STORIES FROM THE WAR

- On the 20th anniversary of the Kargil War a new book titled, "**Kargil: Untold stories from the War**" authored by **Rachna Bisht Rawat** released in New Delhi

Key points:

1. The book has been published by Penguin Random House.
2. The year 2019 marks the 20th anniversary of the **Kargil War** lasted for nearly three months, initiated in the **May** of 1999 in an effort to displace Pakistani soldiers from the peaks they had occupied on the **Indian side of the Line of Control (LoC)**. India got the victory in the war, but lost over 500 soldiers.

"THE COMMONWEALTH AT 70: FROM WESTMINSTER TO THE WORLD" BOOK

- In '**The Commonwealth at 70: From Westminster to the World**' book published by the popular London publishers **St James House** and the **History of Parliament Trust**. **Aditya Birla World Academy**, India's leading International school situated in Mumbai, Maharashtra, became the only Indian school to be featured in it.

Key points :

- ▶ An event '**Commonwealth at 70**' which commemorated 70 years of the Commonwealth (Estb April 26, 1949) was held on June 25, 2019 at Westminster Abbey, United Kingdom. It was attended by Mrs. Neerja Birla, Chairperson of The Aditya Birla World Academy.

1.7 Awards & Honours

JOURNALIST OF THE YEAR 2019

- **Rachna Khaira** of The Tribune News Service won RedInk Award for 'Journalist of the Year 2019'. The award was bestowed for her expose on the functioning of the Unique Identification Authority of India (UIDAI) and its Aadhaar data cache held in 2018.



Key points :

- ▶ The article was published in The Tribune edition dated January 4, 2018 and the leads provided in the article became a part of Public Interest Litigation (PIL),
- ▶ At present, Khaira works for The Huffington Post.
- ▶ The RedInk Awards for Excellence in Journalism, founded by The Mumbai Press Club in 2010, awarded the **Lifetime Achievement Award for 2019** jointly to two retired senior journalists **Dinu Ranadive** (aged 94) who retired from the Maharashtra Times, and photojournalist **Sebastian D'Souza**, who had served as photo editor of Mumbai Mirror.
- ▶ The RedInk '**Star Mumbai Reporter**' award for 2019 was given to Mid-Day reporter **Ranjeet Jadhav**.

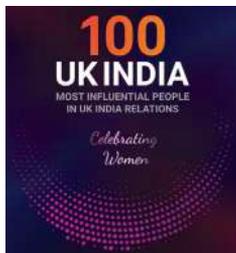
GANDHIAN YOUNG TECHNOLOGICAL INNOVATION (GYTI) AWARDS

- **SRISTI (Society for Research and Initiatives for Sustainable Technologies and Institutions)** celebrates the creativity and innovation of young technological students by recognising their outstanding projects with **Gandhian Young Technological Innovation (GYTI) Awards**.
- These Awards celebrate the spirit of **student innovation in all the fields of engineering, science, technology and design through extremely affordable/frugal solution or the ones pushing the technological edge**.

- Reliance Jio launched a new digital literacy program in India called 'Digital Udaan'.
- It's objective is to educate first-time internet users about digital literacy and help them in understanding the internet.

100 MOST INFLUENTIAL IN UK-INDIA RELATIONS: CELEBRATING WOMEN' LIST

- To mark 'India Day' in the Houses of Parliament in London, United Kingdom (UK), **Sajid Javid**, Home Secretary of UK, released the '100 most Influential in UK-India Relations: Celebrating Women' list. Finance & Corporate Affairs Minister of India, **Nirmala Sitharaman**, was one among the 100 most influential women driving the UK-India relationship forward.



Key points :

- It credited her for playing a "pivotal" role in the bilateral relationship between the countries as the former Defence Minister of India and now as the finance minister.

RANJIT SINGH STATUE AT LAHORE

- A statue of **Ranjit Singh**, who ruled Punjab for almost four decades (1801-39), was recently inaugurated in **Lahore**.

Key facts :

- Ranjit Singh was born on November 13, 1780 in **Gujranwala**, now in Pakistan. At that time, Punjab was ruled by powerful chieftains who had divided the territory into Misl. Ranjit Singh overthrew the warring **Misls** and established a **unified Sikh empire after he conquered Lahore in 1799**.
- He was given the title **Lion of Punjab (Sher-e-Punjab)** because he stemmed the tide of Afghan invaders in Lahore, which remained his capital until his death.

SANGEET NATAK AKADEMI AWARDS - 2018 ANNOUNCED

- Sangeet Natak Akademi has been selected **Sonal Mansingh**, **Zakhir Hussain**, **K Kalyanasundaram Pillai** and **Jatin Goswami** for Akademi Ratna category for the year 2018.



- 44 artists from the field of Traditional/Folk/Tribal Music/Dance/Theatre, Music, Dance, Theatre, Puppetry and Overall contribution have been selected.
- Three joint awards are also included in these 44 awards. These awards will be conferred by President of India **Ram Nath Kovind** at a special ceremony.

"TATA" BECOMES INDIA'S MOST VALUABLE BRAND FOR 2019

- According to the London-based consultancy Brand Finance annual report , "Brand Finance India 100 2019", "Tata" has become India's most valuable brand for the second straight year in 2019 with the brand value of \$19.6 billion followed by LIC(Life Insurance Corporation) (2nd)with \$7.3 billion and Infosys (3rd)\$6.5 billion.

Key points:

1. The brand value of Tata increased to 37% with \$19.6 billion, the highest in the top 25 compared to \$14.23 billion in 2018.
2. TATA group's brand present across autos, IT services, steel, and chemicals.

About TATA group:

- Founder: Jamsetji Tata
- Headquarters: Mumbai, Maharashtra,
- Chairman : Natarajan Chandrasekaran

MALAYALAM FILM 'VEYILMARANGAL' WON AN AWARD AT SHANGHAI INTERNATIONAL FILM FESTIVAL

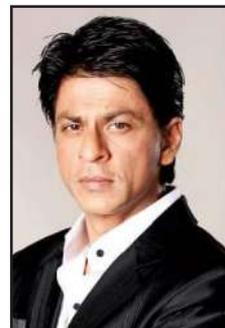
- In the 22nd Shanghai International Film Festival, Director **Bijukumar Damodaran** has received the Outstanding Artistic Achievement Award for the film, **Veyil Marangal (Trees Under the Sun)**.

Key points :

- ▶ This is for the first Indian film to win a major award at the festival. The film was one among the 3,964 entries submitted from 112 countries in the prestigious Golden Goblet Award competition.
- ▶ Indian Actor Prakash Bare is playing the lead character in this film.
- ▶ The jury chairperson at the Fest was the Turkish director Nuri Bilge Ceylan.
- ▶ It is Dr. Biju's second time at the fest, after featuring his film 'Aakasathinte Niram' (Colour of Sky) in 2012 at Shanghai.

SHAH RUKH KHAN TO BE CONFERRED WITH AN HONORARY DOCTORATE BY MELBOURNE'S LA TROBE UNIVERSITY

- In recognition of the contributions and efforts towards underprivileged children, women's empowerment through Meer Foundation and for the achievements in the Indian entertainment industry, **Shah Rukh Khan**, the Bollywood actor, will be felicitated with an **Honorary Degree, Doctor of Letters** (honoris causa) from Melbourne-based La Trobe University at the 10th edition of **Indian Film Festival of Melbourne** (IFFM) at Bundoora, Australia.



- It will be held on August 9, 2019 where Mr. Khan will be the chief guest.
- It will be Khan's first Australian University Award.

SEVEN SUMMITS

- Uttar Pradesh cadre IPS officer and DIG (Deputy Inspector General of Police) in Indo-Tibetan Border Police (ITBP), **Aparna Kumar** has scaled **Mount Denali** (the highest peak in Northern America stands at 20,310 feet) in Alaska, USA (United States of America).



Key points:

- She is the first civil servant and IPS (Indian Police Service) officer to achieve the feat of completing '7 Summits' challenge.
- This was her seventh Summit in her mission of 'Seven Summits' Challenge and scaled the summit in her 3rd attempt.

MARK TULLY PRESENTED LIFETIME ACHIEVEMENT AWARD AT UK-INDIA AWARDS 2019

- Veteran British journalist Sir Mark Tully was awarded with the Lifetime Achievement Award in recognition of his contributions to the UK-India relationship. The annual UK-India Awards honours special talents and organisations who use their worldwide influence to strengthen UK-India ties. The **2019 UK-India Awards** marked the conclusion of the annual UK-India Week in **London**. This was the 3rd edition of the UK-India Award organised by **India Inc.**, a media house based in London.

About United Kingdom:

- Capital - London
- Currency - Pound sterling
- Prime Minister - Theresa May

AUTHOR SUNIL MISHRA'S BOOK 'WHO STOLE MY JOB ENTERS SECOND PRINT RUN'

- India's leading publishing house **Srishti publishers and distributors** announced the second print of 'Who Stole My Job' by nationally acclaimed author **Sunil Mishra**.
- The book was **first** released in **April 2019** and has received a very positive response from readers across the globe.



About the book :

- "Who Stole My Job" is a work of business fiction that relates to new technological disruptions in the age of Artificial Intelligence and their impact on daily and work lives.



- The National Weaving Services Forum has been launched by the youth of Kallapadu Southern Grama Niladhari Division under the 'SiramaShakthi People's Project'.

MR. SOUTH ASIA" AWARD AT 12TH SOUTH ASIAN BODYBUILDING AND PHYSIQUE SPORTS CHAMPIONSHIP 2019

- India's proud bodybuilder **Ravinder Kumar Malik** has bagged the "Mr. South Asia" award. He achieved this feat at the **12th South Asia Bodybuilding and Physic Sports Championships 2019** held in **Kathmandu, Nepal**.

The list of countries and their medals :

Country	Gold	Silver	Bronze
Afghanistan	6	4	5
Nepal	3	7	6
India	4	5	1
The Maldives	3	0	2
Pakistan	1	2	2
Bhutan	0	0	1

Key points :

- He won the award in the **80kg category** and was adjudged the best bodybuilder among the 9 senior male winners.
- Afghanistan** emerged as champions with 535 points, while Nepal came 2nd with 445 points. India remained 3rd with 380 points.
- A total of 91 bodybuilders participated in the championship organized by the South Asian Bodybuilding and Physical Sports Federation under the aegis of the Nepal Bodybuilding and Fitness Association.

MOHUN BAGAN RATNA AWARD 2019

- **Keshav Dutt**, two-time Olympic gold medallist in hockey and **Prasun Banerjee**, former Indian football captain, will be awarded the 'Mohun Bagan Ratna' for the year 2019 on Mohun Bagan Day on July 29, 2019.

Other Awardees

Best Football Player for the season 2018-19	Arijit Bagui
India's hat-trick hero of 2019 ICC World Cup	Mohammed Shami
Lifetime Achievement Award	Ashok Chatterjee (Footballer)

Key points :

- ▶ Keshav Dutt, aged 94, is one of the oldest surviving hockey Olympians of India. He represented India in the 1948 London Games, where India won the first gold post Independence. He won his second Olympic gold in Helsinki, Finland 1952.
- ▶ Prasun Banerjee, aged 64, was a midfielder from Bengal. He played in 3 Asian Games in 1974, 1978 and 1982. He was part of an Asian All Star XI team. He is the younger brother of iconic footballer P.K. Banerjee.
- ▶ Life membership was given to the distinguished personalities like Chuni Goswami, Dr. Vece Paes, Sourav Ganguly, Prasenjit Chatterjee and Deb Shankar Halder.

- ▶ First recipient of Mohun Bagan Ratna was **Sailen Manna**, former Indian international football team captain in 2001.

▶ About Mohun Bagan Day:

- ▶ July 29 is celebrated as the 'Mohun Bagan Day' because on this day in 1911 the Mariners became the first club to defeat a British club, East Yorkshire Regiment, and lift the IFA (Indian Football Association) Shield.

CARNATIC VOCALIST S. SOWMYA

SELECTED FOR SANGITA

KALANIDHI AWARD 2019

- The Music Academy's Executive Committee unanimously selected Carnatic vocalist **S. Sowmya** for **Sangita Kalanidhi Award 2019**. She will preside over the 93rd annual conference of The Music Academy which is scheduled to be held from December 15, 2019 to January 1, 2020.



Key points :

- ▶ **Seetha Narayanan**, a veteran vocalist and **M S Sheela**, who has been a torch-bearer of Carnatic music in Karnataka, were selected for the **Sangita Kala Acharya award**.

1.8 Cultural Panorama

JAGANNATH RATH YATRA

- Popularly known as the 'Festival of Chariots', Rath Yatra festival in honour of Puri's Lord Jagannath is grand celebration.
- The festival is dedicated to **Lord Jagannath, his sister Goddess Subhadra and elder brother Balabhadra.**
- All the three deities of the temple – Jagannath, Subhadra and Balabhadra – **travel in three different chariots during this festival.** The chariots are called **Nandighosha, Taladhwaja, and Devadalana** respectively.



KERALA CHAMPIONS BOAT LEAGUE

- The Champions Boat League (CBL) has been conceived by tourism officials in Kerala on the model of the Indian Premier League (IPL) to transform the state's legendary and historically-significant 'vallamkali' (snake boat races) into a world-class sporting event.
- The **snake boat, or 'chundam vallam'** is essentially a long canoe that can seat up to 100 rowers and can have a length between 100 and 138 feet in length. While the front portion of the boat tapers with a pointy end, the rear end can rise up to a height of 20 feet - the entire wooden structure resembling a snake with its raised hood, hence the name.



Background:

- ✦ Snake boat races owe their origins as far back as the 13th century when princely kingdoms, located in present-day Alappuzha along the backwaters, would have raging battles in the water. These battles used to be fought on the snake boats especially constructed for the purpose. In fact, the construction mechanisms of such boats are even said to be recorded in the Vedas.

1.9 India and its Neighbours

MANGDECHHU HYDROPOWER PROJECT

- The Mangdechhu hydroelectric project is a 720MW run-of-river power plant built on the **Mangdechhu River in Trongsa Dzongkhag District of central Bhutan.**
- Mangdechhu is one of the ten hydroelectric projects planned under the Royal Government of Bhutan's initiative to generate 10,000MW hydropower by 2020 with **support from the Indian Government.**



1 IN 4 CHILDREN IN PAKISTAN WOULD BE UNEDUCATED BY 2030: UNESCO

- According to the report by United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organisation (UNESCO) every one in four children in Pakistan will not be able to finish their primary education by 2030.
- Apart from that 50% of youth still not completing upper secondary education in Pakistan at the current rates.
- UN's 2030 agenda for sustainable development (SDG) emphasises leaving no-one behind yet only four percent of the poorest 20 percent complete upper secondary school in the poorest countries compared to 36 percent of the richest.



1.10 Appointments – Who is who?

AMITABH KANT, NITI AAYOG CEO GETS A 2-YEAR EXTENSION

- The Appointments Committee of the Cabinet, Government of India has extended the tenure of **Amitabh Kant**, CEO (Chief Executive Officer) of Government's think tank NITI Aayog (National Institution for Transforming India), by two years up to **June 30, 2021**.



Key points :

- ▶ Kant, a 1980 batch IAS officer of the Kerala cadre was appointed as CEO on February 17, 2016.
- ▶ He was Secretary in the Department for Promotion of Industry and Internal Trade (DPIIT) before serving as CEO of NITI Aayog.
- ▶ He has played a key role in 'Make in India', 'Startup India', 'Incredible India' initiatives.

About NITI Aayog :

- ▶ **Formed:** 1 January 2015
- ▶ **Headquarters:** New Delhi

N.S. VISHWANATHAN IS REAPPOINTED AS RBI DEPUTY GOVERNOR FOR ONE YEAR

- **N S Vishwanathan** was re-appointed as the deputy governor of the Reserve Bank of India (RBI) for one more year with effect from July 4, 2019.
- His term is extended by one year by Appointments Committee of Cabinet
- He is in charge of regulation of banks, non-banking finance companies and cooperative banks.
- Besides N S Vishwanathan, B P Kanungo and M K Jain were the two other deputy governors of RBI.
- He is also a member of Bimal Jalan committee which look into the appropriate economic capital framework for RBI.



Reserve Bank of India (RBI):

- ▶ Set up on 1st April, 1935 | Governor – Shaktikanta Das

ANUSUIYA UIKEY, HARICHANDAN APPOINTED AS GOVERNORS OF CHHATTISGARH AND ANDHRA PRADESH

- On July 16, 2019 The 14th President of India, Ram Nath Kovind has appointed Senior BJP(Bhartiya Janta Party) leaders **Anusuiya Uikey** and **Biswa Bhusan Harichandan** as governors of **Chhattisgarh** and **Andhra Pradesh** respectively.



Key points:

1. The two appointments will take effect from the dates they assume charge of their respective offices.

About Andhra Pradesh:

- ▶ Capital : Amaravati
- ▶ Chief Minister: Y. S. Jaganmohan Reddy
- ▶ National Parks: Sri Venkateswara National Park, Rajiv Gandhi National Park, Papikonda National Park.

About Chhattisgarh:

- ▶ Capital : Raipur
- ▶ Chief Minister : Bhupesh Baghel
- ▶ National Parks: Indravati (Kutru) National Park, Kanger Valley National Park ,Guru Ghasi Das (Sanjay) National Park.

- Maharashtra achieved the first rank in NITI Aayog launched "Agricultural Marketing and Farmer Friendly Reforms Index (AMFFRI).
- This index ranks states based on the degree of reforms they have undertaken in agricultural marketing.



FIRST FEMALE PRESIDENT OF EUROPEAN COMMISSION

- Germany's Ursula von der Leyen has been elected as the First female President of the European Commission by the European Parliament.
- Von der Leyen has resigned from the post of Germany's Defence Minister to take over the new role at the European Union's executive body.



ECONOMIST DAVID LIPTON APPOINTED AS IMF INTERIM LEADER

- International Monetary Funds (IMF) appointed American economist David Lipton as its interim leader. He replaces Christine Lagarde who was nominated to head the European Central Bank.

Key points :

- Prior to this, Lipton was Special Assistant to the President and served as Senior Director for International Economic Affairs at the National Economic Council and National Security Council at the White House.

About IMF:

- Formation:** 27 December 1945
- Headquarters:** Washington D.C, U.S.
- Parent organization:** United Nations



SIX STATES INCLUDING UTTAR PRADESH, WEST BENGAL GET NEW GOVERNORS

- In a major reshuffle, six states now get new governors. The appointments will take effect from the dates they assume charge of their respective offices.

Here's the look at new governors and their predecessors

S.No	State Name	New Governors	Predecessors
1.	Madhya Pradesh	Lal Ji Tandon	Anandi Ben Patel
2.	Uttar Pradesh	Anandi Ben Patel	Ram Naik
3.	Bihar	Phagu Chauhan	Lal Ji Tandon
4.	West Bengal	Jagdeep Dhankhar	Keshari Nath Tripathi.
5.	Tripura	Ramesh Bais	Kaptan Singh Solanki
6.	Nagaland	RN Ravi	Padmanabha Acharya

Key Highlights :

- ▶ This is the first time that UP(Uttar Pradesh) get a woman Governor as Anandi Ben Patel since its inception in 1950. Sarojini Naidu was the first Governor in 1947 but the state was then known as the United Provinces.



LALJI TANDON
MADHYA PRADESH



ANANDIBEN PATEL
UTTAR PRADESH



PHAGU CHAUHAN
BIHAR



JAGDEEP DHANKHAR
WEST BENGAL



RAMESH BAIS
TRIPURA



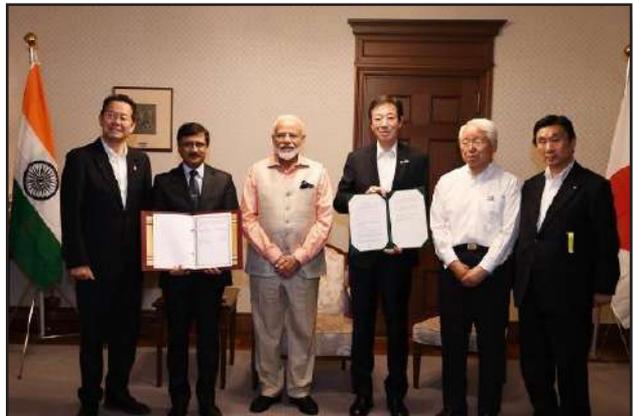
RN RAVI
NAGALAND



2.1 India's Foreign Policy

SISTER-CITY AGREEMENT BETWEEN KOBE AND AHMEDABAD

- In a bid to cultivate, promote and enhance opportunities on business, academic and cultural fronts between Kobe in Japan and Ahmedabad in Gujarat, India, a **sister-city agreement** has been inked between the two cities.
- This agreement will formalize the relationship between the two cities, both of which are unique in their own ways. While Kobe is the Creative Design City of Asia, **Ahmedabad is India's first World Heritage City.**



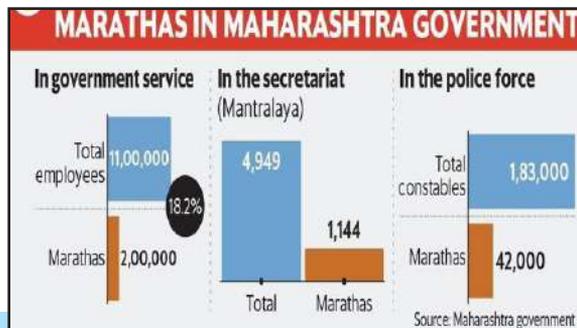
Facts:

- ▶ Kobe is located in the **Hyogo Prefecture** in Japan.
- ▶ PM Narendra Modi and Japanese PM Shinzo Abe have also inked a **sister-state agreement for Gujarat and Hyogo Prefecture.**

2.2 Latest Court Verdicts

MARATHA RESERVATION ISSUE

- The Bombay High Court has upheld the constitutional validity of **reservation for the Maratha community in education and government jobs in Maharashtra**, but directed that it be slashed from the present 16 per cent to 12 per cent and 13 per cent respectively.



Background:

- ▶ The Marathas who are almost **one-third of Maharashtra's population are not a homogeneous community**. Historically, they evolved from the farming caste of **Kunbis who took to military service in medieval times** and started assuming a separate identity for themselves. Even then they claimed hierarchy of 96 clans.



- India's first Design Development Center 'Fashionova' was launched in the Textile city Surat recently to promote the city in the field of the fashion design sector.
- The main objective of this studio is to provide a strong platform to all those who have a flair of the apparel business.

2.3 Govt – Welfare oriented Govt schemes, their utility

GAMA PORTAL

- The Government has launched an online portal called “Grievance Against Misleading Advertisements” (GAMA) where complaints relating to misleading advertisements can be lodged.
- Any advertisement or promotion through Television, Radio, or any other electronic media, Newspapers, Banners, Posters, Handbills, wall-writing etc. to misrepresent the nature, characteristics, qualities or geographic origin of goods, services or commercial activities so as to mislead the consumer could be broadly defined as a misleading advertisement.
- This portal works under the Department of Consumer Affairs(Ministry of Consumer Affairs, Food and Public Distribution) .Under an MoU, the Department has assigned the task of processing the complaints received through the GAMA portal to the Advertising Standards Council of India (ASCI) as per its code. Complaints received through this portal are evaluated by ASCI and are processed through its Consumer Complaints Council.

EQUIP PROJECT

EQUIP



- The Higher Education Department of the Union Ministry of Human Resource Development has finalized and released a 5-year Vision Plan titled as **Education Quality Upgradation and Inclusion Programme (EQUIP)**.
- EQUIP was crafted by ten committees led by experts within the government.
- EQUIP is meant to bridge the gap between policy and implementation. The project is made to bring transformation in the higher education system in the **upcoming 5 years**.



EXTENSION OF KISAN CREDIT CARD TO FISHERIES

- The Government of India has extended the facility of **Kisan Credit Card (KCC)** to **fisheries** and **animal husbandry farmers** to help them meet their working capital needs.

Kisan Credit Card Scheme:

- ▶ The Kisan Credit Card (KCC) scheme was announced in the Budget speech of 1998-99 to fulfil the financial requirements of the farmers at various stages of farming through institutional credit.
- ▶ The model scheme was prepared by the **National Bank for Agriculture and Rural Development (NABARD)** on the recommendation of **V Gupta committee**.
- ▶ The KCC scheme is being **implemented by the all Co-operative banks, Regional Rural Banks and Public Sector Banks throughout the country**.

PM SHRAM YOGI MAANDHAN SCHEME

- **Shri Santosh Kumar Gangwar**, Union Minister of State for Labour and Employment stated that under the mega pension scheme "**Pradhan Mantri Shram Yogi Maan-Dhan**", 30,85,205 Persons have been enrolled till July 10, 2019. This scheme assures a minimum monthly pension of 3000 rupees to the beneficiaries after attaining the age of 60 years.

Key points:

- **About the scheme:** In February 2019, Government of India (GoI) launched a voluntary and contributory pension scheme, the Pradhan Mantri Shram Yogi Maandhan (PM-SYM) for the benefit of unorganized workers, as per the eligibility.

PARAMARSH

- **Ramesh Pokhriyal 'Nishank'**, Union Minister for Human Resource Development (HRD) launched a Scheme called "**Paramarsh**" of University Grants Commission (UGC) in New Delhi.



Key points :

About Paramarsh

- ▶ **Aim:** This scheme aims at mentoring National Accreditation and Assessment Council (NAAC) accreditation aspirant institutions to develop quality assurance in Higher Education.

JAL SHAKTI ABHIYAN

- Union Jal Shakti Minister, **Shri Gajendra Singh Shekhawat**, launched the **Jal Shakti Abhiyan (JSA)**- a campaign for water conservation and water security in New Delhi. It will focus on 256 water stressed districts and 1,592 water stressed blocks.



Key Points:

- ▶ Launched in two phases, the first phase is between July 1, 2019 and September 15, 2019 for all participating States and the second phase will be from October 1 to November 30, 2019 for States with retreating monsoon.
- ▶ The 5 key intervention areas under the campaign include water conservation and rainwater harvesting, renovation of traditional and other water bodies, reuse, bore well recharge structures, watershed development and intensive afforestation.
- ▶ A large-scale communications campaign was also planned by the department alongside the JSA.

About Ministry of Jal Shakti:

- ▶ Founded: 31 May 2019
- ▶ Headquarters: New Delhi

VAN DHAN YOJANA

- Training Workshop for implementing teams of **Van Dhan Yojana** Organized.

About Van Dhan Vikas Kendras initiative:

- ▶ The initiative aims to promote **MFPs (Minor forest produce)-centric livelihood development of tribal gatherers and artisans.**
- ▶ It mainstreams the tribal community by **promoting primary level value addition to MFP at grassroots level.**
- ▶ **Significance:** Through this initiative, the share of tribals in the value chain of Non-Timber Forest Produce is expected to rise from the present 20% to around 60%.
- ▶ The scheme will be **implemented through Ministry of Tribal Affairs as Nodal Ministry at the Central Level and TRIFED as Nodal Agency at the National Level.**

'ONE NATION ONE RATION CARD' SCHEME WILL BE AVAILABLE ACROSS THE COUNTRY FROM JULY 1, 2020

- The central government's ambitious project of 'One Nation One Card', under which beneficiaries can buy subsidized food grains from any ration shop in the country will begin on 1 July 2020.



Key points :

- ▶ **Deadline:** The Centre has given states and Union Territories time till June 30, 2020, to use point of sale (PoS) machines in the ration shops and roll out the scheme.
- ▶ **Present status:** 77% of the ration shops across the country have PoS machines
- ▶ Andhra Pradesh, Gujarat, Haryana, Jharkhand, Karnataka, Kerala, Maharashtra, Rajasthan, Telangana, and Tripura are the states already providing portability of Public Distribution System (PDS) entitlements.
- ▶ **NFSA:** Since November 2016, the government is implementing the National Food Security Act (NFSA), under which food grains are supplied every month are supplied every month at highly subsidized rates of Rs 1-3 per kg to over 80 crore people.
- ▶ **Fortified Grains:** Distribution of fortified rice under the PDS on a pilot basis in one district each in 15 states from October-November.

NEW VERSION OF CODE ON WAGES BILL

- The Union Cabinet has cleared the **new version of Code on Wages Bill**, which seeks to define the norms for fixing minimum wages that will be applicable to **workers of organised and unorganised sectors, except government employees and MGNREGA workers.**
- The Code on Wages will **amalgamate the Payment of Wages Act, 1936, the Minimum Wages Act, 1948, the Payment of Bonus Act, 1965, and the Equal Remuneration Act, 1976.**

Background:

- ▶ The code on wages is **one of the four codes that would subsume 44 labour laws** with certain certain amendments to improve the ease of doing business and attract investment for spurring growth.
- ▶ The four codes will deal with wages, social security, industrial safety and welfare, and industrial relations.

SWADHAR GREH 9

- The Ministry of **Women and Child Development** (WCD), Government of India implementing the **Swadhar Greh Scheme** for the rehabilitation of women in difficult circumstances so that they could lead their life with dignity.

Key points :

- ▶ **Support:** It envisages providing shelter, food, clothing, and health as well as economic and social security for the women who are deserted and without any social and economic support, victims of domestic violence, family tension, and natural disaster.
- ▶ **Helpline:** The ministry is also implementing Universalisation of Women Helpline Scheme to provide 24 hours emergency and non-emergency response to women affected by violence.
- ▶ **OSC:** As a part of Nirbhaya Framework, One Stop Centres(OSC) has been established for violence affected women across the country with the help of States/UTs (Union territories).
- ▶ **Facilities:** OSC formed under One Stop Centre Scheme provides legal and psycho-social counselling & other facilities include temporary shelter, police facilitation and medical support to the women affected by violence.

About WCD :

- ▶ **Founded:** 30 January 2006
- ▶ **Headquarters:** New Delhi
- ▶ **Union Minister:** Smriti Irani



- According to an official TRAI release, Reliance Jio has become the second largest telecommunications company in the country. Airtel is down to third place.
- Airtel, which added 30 crore users in 19 years, topped the list after Vodafone Idea's merger. Jio has gained 32.3 crore users within three years of its use.
- The Bimal Jalan panel set up to review to Reserve Bank of India (RBI), Which has decided to recommend transfer of surplus reserves to the government in a staggered manner over three-five years based on a predetermined formula.

OPERATION KHUMAAR LAUNCHED IN J&K TO MAKE 312 PANCHAYATS FREE FROM TOBACCO

- In a major step aimed towards making 'drugs-free panchayats', district administration **Rajouri in Jammu and Kashmir (J&k)** launched an anti Drug Campaign called "Operation Khumaar" in all 312 Panchayats of the district.

Key points :

- ▶ **Resolution:** Several Panchayats have already adopted a resolution on the occasion of International Day against Drug abuse and illicit trafficking(26th June 2019).
- ▶ **Ban:** Tobacco products cannot be sold to a person below the age of 18 years and in a place within 100 yards radius from the outer boundary of the Schools.
- ▶ **COTPA act:** The district Administration also decided to implement section 4 and section 5 of COTPA 2003, As per section 4 there is the prohibition of smoking in all public places and as per section 5, there is prohibition in the direct or indirect advertisement of Tobacco products.
- ▶ **Counseling centers:** The district directed Block Medical Officers to set up counseling centers at all Community Health Centres (CHCs) to help tobacco consumers to quit this habit.

About J&K:

- ▶ **Capitals:** Jammu (Winter), Srinagar (Summer)
- ▶ **Governor:** Satya Pal Malik

KAUSHAL YUVA SAMWAAD

- To commemorate **World Youth Skills Day (July 15)** and celebrate the **4th Anniversary of the Skill India Mission**, the Union Ministry of Skill Development and Entrepreneurship (MoSDE) launched 'Kaushal Yuva Samwaad' (A Youth Dialogue) in New Delhi.



1. It aimed at creating an open dialogue with youth across all skill training centres to hear their views, ideas, opportunities, and recommendations help the Ministry of Skill Development scaling up existing programs and improve the overall efficiency of the on-going projects.

4,200 AYUSH WELLNESS CENTRES TO BE SET UP IN INDIA IN FY 2019-20



- Union AYUSH (Ayurveda, Yoga & Naturopathy, Unani, Siddha and Homeopathy) Minister Shripad Yesso Naik informed that there are plans to set up 4,200 Ayush wellness centres in the country in FY 2019-20 across several states.

Key Points:

- ▶ Within the first 4 months of the Modi 2.0 government, 2,500 new centres are planned to be opened.
- ▶ The government has also provided financial assistance to set up integrated Ayush hospitals in 85 districts across various states.
- ▶ For the FY 2018-19, the government had provided Rs 53,000 crore for Ministry of Health and Rs 1,686 crore for Ministry of Ayush.

JAGRUKTA ABHIYAAN

- Union Minister for Health and Family Welfare, Dr. Harsh Vardhan launched a 3-day public awareness campaign named “Jagrukta Abhiyaan” in New Delhi to sensitize and mobilize the people on measures about prevention and control of Vector-Borne Diseases (VBDs) like Malaria, Dengue, and Chikungunya.

Key points:

1. **Aim:** The campaign aimed at making the community a partner for checking vector(mosquito) breeding across Delhi.
2. **Participants:** It is the people’s movement in Delhi by the involvement of people’s representatives, officers from Government of India & Delhi, New Delhi Municipal Corporations(NDMC), Delhi Municipal Council, Railways and Cantonment Board and other stakeholders.
3. **Strategy:** Totally 286 ward-wise teams (in all 272 municipal wards and 14 locations of NDMC) have been constituted having 20-25 as their members including officers of the municipal corporations along with officers from central government and government of Delhi.
4. **Awareness:** As a part of the exercise, teams visit residential areas, schools, hospitals and markets in Delhi and sensitize people on prevention and control of such diseases.
5. **1st meet:** This is the first time that the centre, state and local bodies converge in their efforts to mobilize the community for a public health activity.

BHARATMALA PARIYOJANA

- The Union Minister for Road Transport and Highways **Shri Nitin J Gadkari** in a written reply in Rajya Sabha mentioned that the **Phase-I of Bharatmala Pariyojana** received the approval with the financial outlay of **Rs 5,35,000 crore** to develop 24,800 km Highways along with 10,000 km residual National Highways Development Project (NHDP) stretches over a period of 5 years.



Key points :

- ▶ Outlay of Rs 25,000 crore is approved for the development of Border & International Connectivity roads for a length of 2000 km.
- ▶ Along Indo-Nepal Border, the balance work of Piprakothe-Motihari-Raxaul on NH-28A of about 69 km length with civil cost of approximately Rs 334 crore was awarded in December, 2018. Commenced in February, 2019 it is expected to complete in 12 months.

About Bharatmala Pariyojana :

- ▶ It is a centrally-sponsored and funded road and highways project of the Union Government. It was launched on July 31, 2015.

- NASA plans to send women for the first time to moon in the year of 2024. This Mission is named as Artemis .

Extra

- In 1969 NASA sent humans to moon for the first time.

News

- In finals of Commonwealth women's single table tennis Indian Player Ayhika Mukherjee won the Championship

- Ayhika mukherjee have made a record by winning gold as a first women player from India.



3. GEOGRAPHY



3.1 Policy on Environment and Ecology

82-MEMBER RHINO PROTECTION FORCE DEPLOYED IN ASSAM

- 82 member “Special Rhino Protection Force” (SRPF) was deployed in **Kaziranga National Park (KNP), Assam** with an objective to protect the one-horned rhinoceros.

Key Points :

- ▶ SRPF consists of 74 men & 8 women who are trained to combat poachers and understand animal behaviour. They are posted under 8 ranges of KNP.
- ▶ The process of setting up special force was initiated in 2015 and in July 2018, recruited members were given appointment letter.
- ▶ KNP, home for one horned rhino, was declared as the UNESCO (United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization) World Heritage Site in 1985.

\$250MN ADB LOAN TO REBUILD KERALA

- Close on the heels of the \$250 million Development Policy Loan from the World Bank for the Rebuild Kerala Initiative (RKI), decks are being cleared for securing a \$250 million loan from the Asian Development Bank (ADB).
- ADB Country Director Kenchi Yokoyama, who attended the Development Partners Conclave held on Monday at Kovalam to drum up support for the Rs.36,506.88 crore for implementing the Rebuild Kerala Development Programme (RKDP), had committed Rs. 1,300 crore for urban rebuilding efforts of the State and to continue with the existing partnerships for development projects.
- The Water Resources Department is also putting pressure to get the ADB loan to augment the piped drinking water supply.

12 BEACHES IN INDIA SELECTED FOR BLUE FLAG CERTIFICATION

- The Union Ministry of Environment, Forests and Climate Change (MoEFCC) has selected **12 beaches in India** for 'Blue Flag' certification.

Key points:

1. **The 12 beaches** : It includes Bhogave (Maharashtra), Shivrajpur (Gujarat), Ghoghla (Diu), Miramar (Goa), Kappad (Kerala), Eden (Puducherry), Kasarkod and Padubidri (Karnataka), Mamallapuram (Tamil Nadu), Golden (Odisha), Rushikonda (Andhra Pradesh) and Radhanagar (Andaman & Nicobar Islands).

ii. About Blue Flag Program:

- ▶ **Launch:** It was launched in December 2017 for beach clean-up and development.
- ▶ **Prime objective:** Its purpose is to enhance standards of cleanliness, upkeep and basic amenities at beaches.
- ▶ **Installation:** Structures such container toilet blocks, change rooms, shower panels, mini greywater treatment plants in an enclosed structure, mini solid waste recycling plants and off-grid solar photovoltaic panels are installed under the program & they are a minimum 10 meters from the high tide line.
- ▶ **Nomination & Assistance:** Under the project, each state or union territory has been asked to nominate a beach which is being funded through the ongoing Integrated Coastal Management Programme(ICMP).



iii. About Blue Flag certification

- ▶ It is international recognition for beaches and marinas that meet certain criteria of cleanliness and environmental propriety. It is run by the **Foundation for Environmental Education (FEE)**, a Copenhagen based international, non-governmental, non-profit organization.
- ▶ **Ranking:** Spain has the highest number of Blue Flag beaches (566), followed by, Greece(515) and France(395). Japan and South Korea are the only countries in Asia to have Blue Flag beaches.
- ▶ **Criteria:** There are 33 criteria that must be met to qualify for Blue Flag certification. Few of them include water meeting certain standards such as waste disposal facilities, first aid equipment, disabled-friendly facilities and no access to pets in the main areas of the beach. Some criteria are voluntary and some compulsory.
- ▶ **Review:** Once approved, beaches are given qualification for a year and must apply annually to continue meriting the right to fly the flag at their locations.

3.2 Natural Disasters – Safeguard Measures

FIRST RESILIENT KERALA PROGRAM

- The Government of India, the Government of Kerala and the World Bank have signed a Loan Agreement of USD 250 million for the **First Resilient Kerala Program** to enhance the State's resilience against the impacts of natural disasters and climate change.



THE WORLD BANK

Key features of the programme :

- ▶ The Program will **focus on strengthening the State's institutional and financial capacity** to protect the assets and livelihoods of poor and vulnerable groups through an inclusive and participatory approach.
- ▶ The Program, which represents the **First 'State Partnership' of the World Bank in India**, is the First of two Development Policy Operations aiming to mainstream disaster and climate resilience into critical infrastructure and services.

**EXTRA
NEWS**

- Uttarakhand is one of the country's five best-performing states under the National Programme Beti Bachao Beti Padhao (BBBP) scheme .
- The main aim is to address declining child sex ratio and issues of women empowerment.
- The government of Uttarkhand has decide to levy a "eco tax" for tourists visiting the state.
- The tax would be decided by the urban local body of the concerned place.
- It will be used to dispose the waste generated in the fragile ecosystem by visiting tourists.
- Mussoorie and Nainital are the two hill towns that levy "entry tax" for visitors.
- Uttarakhand would soon have a High Altitude institute of mountain medicine, training and research center. This would be the Asia's first kind of Six Sigma health care.



4. ECONOMICS

4.1 New Economic Policy & Govt. Sector

UTKARSH 2022

- India's central bank, **Reserve Bank of India (RBI)** has finalized a three-year road map for medium-term objective named "**Utkarsh 2022**" for strengthening regulation, supervision of the central bank in a meeting in New Delhi.



Key points :

- ▶ The roadmap to be achieved in the next three years is in line with the global central bank's plan.
- ▶ The strategy is that the central bank's proactive role to avoid any other IL&FS (Infrastructure Leasing & Financial Services) debt default issue in the future.
- ▶ An internal committee of RBI was formed under former Deputy Governor Viral Acharya, to identify issues that needed to be addressed over the next three years.
- ▶ The board also approved the RBI's budget for the July 2019 – June 2020 period in a meeting.

About RBI :

- ▶ **Headquarters:** Mumbai
- ▶ **Founded:** 1 April 1935
- ▶ **Governor:** Shaktikanta Das

FINMIN EXPECTS NO FLIGHT OF FPIs ON HIGHER TAX

- The increase in tax on high net worth individuals, announced in the Union Budget, will not result in an outflow of Foreign Portfolio Investments (FPIs), Finance Minister Nirmala Sitharaman informed the Lok Sabha on July 18.
- The higher tax will only apply to individuals and FPI's registered as trusts, which are also treated as individuals. The FPI's that are registered as companies will not be affected. she said.

Foreign Portfolio Investments (FPIs)

- The term FPI was defined to align the nomenclature of categorizing investments of foreign investors in line with international practice. FPI stands for those investors who hold a short term view on the company, in contrast to Foreign Direct Investors (FDI). FPIs generally participate through the stock markets and get in and out of a particular stock at much faster frequencies. Short term view is associated often with lower stake in companies. Hence, globally FPIs are defined as those who hold less than 10% in a company. In India, the hitherto existing closest possible definition to an FPI was Foreign Institutional Investor



INDIA WILL BE THE FIRST RECIPIENT OF AIIB LOCAL CURRENCY FUNDING

- India will be the first recipient of local currency financing by the Asian Infrastructure and Investment Bank (AIIB). The objective of the local currency financing is to provide more options to borrowers.

Key points :

- ◆ India is the second largest shareholder of AIIB with a 7.5% stake. It has received about \$2-billion funding for various projects so far.
- ◆ China holds 20.06% and Russia holds 5.92%.

About AIIB:

- ◆ **Headquarters:** Beijing, China
- ◆ **President:** Jin Lique

4.2 Current Socio-Economic Problems

TATA STEEL KALINGANAGAR INCLUDED IN WEF'S GLOBAL LIGHTHOUSE NETWORK

- **Tata Steel Kalinganagar** becomes the first and the only Indian manufacturing plant has been included in prestigious **Lighthouse Network** of the **World Economic Forum**, a community of manufacturers that are frontrunners in applying 4th Industrial Revolution technologies to draw a competitive advantage from either innovating their production system or by innovating their entire value chains and offering new products and services.

About TATA steel :

- ▶ CEO: T. V. Narendran
- ▶ Headquarters: Mumbai
- ▶ Founder: Jamsetji Tata
- ▶ Founded: 25 August 1907

About WEF:

- ▶ **Headquarters:** Cologny, Switzerland
- ▶ **Founder:** Klaus Schwab
- ▶ **Founded:** January 1971
- ▶ **Motto:** Committed to improving the state of the world

MAHARASHTRA TOPS IN ATM FRAUDS: RBI

- According to the data of the Reserve Bank of India (RBI), accessed by the Times of India (TOI), **Maharashtra** registered the highest number of **Automated Teller Machine (ATM) frauds** in India for the FY 2018-19. It was followed by Delhi, Tamil Nadu and Karnataka. Amounts of less than Rs 1 lakh were not considered for the data.

The following are the details:

State/UT	Cases	Amount
Maharashtra	233	Rs 4.8 crore
Delhi	179	Rs 2.9 crore
Tamil Nadu	147	Rs 3.63 crore
Karnataka	65	Rs 1.3 crore
Haryana	58	Rs 1.1 crore

About Reserve Bank Of India:

- **Headquarters:** Mumbai
- **Founded:** 1 April 1935, Kolkata
- **Governor:** Shaktikanta Das

"STATE OF THE EDUCATION REPORT FOR INDIA: CHILDREN WITH DISABILITIES - 2019"

- The "State of the Education Report for India: Children with Disabilities - 2019" has been released by the UNESCO. The report highlights **accomplishments and challenges with regards to the right to education of children with disabilities (CWDs)**.

Key highlights of the report:

- ▶ There are 78,64,636 children with disability in India constituting 1.7% of the total child population.
- ▶ Three-fourths of the children with disabilities at the age of five years and one-fourth between 5-19 years do not go to any educational institution.
- ▶ There are **fewer girls with disabilities in schools than boys with disabilities** in schools.

NITI AAYOG LAUNCHED AGRICULTURAL MARKETING AND FARMER FRIENDLY REFORMS INDEX 2019

- NITI (National Institution for Transforming India) Aayog released its "**Agricultural Marketing and Farmer Friendly Reforms Index**" (AMFFRI) for the year 2019. It is an index launched by NITI Aayog in 2016 to rank states and union territories based on the implementation of seven provisions proposed under the model Agricultural Produce Market Committee (APMC) Act.

Top 10 States as per AMFFRI

Rank	State
1	Maharashtra
2	Gujarat
3	Rajasthan
4	Madhya Pradesh
5	Haryana
6	Himachal Pradesh
7	Andhra Pradesh
8	Karnataka
9	Telangana
10	Goa

Key points :

- ▶ **Ranking** : Maharashtra was ranked first for implementing most of the marketing reforms. Gujarat secured the second rank with a score of 71.5 out of 100, followed by Rajasthan and Madhya Pradesh.
- ▶ **Scores** : The Index had scores ranged from 0-100. Minimum value "0" implies no reforms and maximum value "100" implies complete reforms in the selected areas.

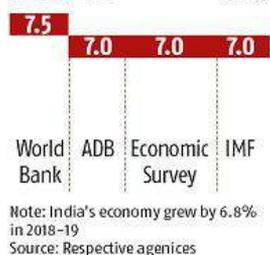
About NITI Aayog :

- ▶ **Headquarters**: New Delhi
- ▶ **Formation**: January 1, 2015
- ▶ **Vice-Chairman**: Rajiv Kumar
- ▶ **CEO**: Amitabh Kant

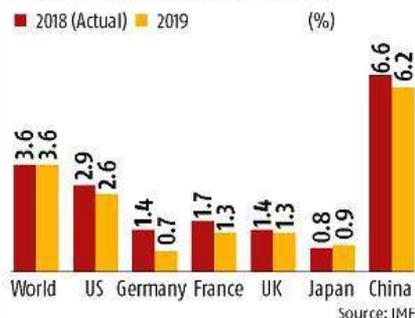
IMF LOWERS INDIA'S GROWTH FORECAST FOR 2019-20 TO 7% FROM 7.3%

- According to the **International Monetary Fund (IMF)**'s the latest update of **World Economic Outlook (WEO)** report 2019, India's GDP (gross domestic product) growth expected to grow by **7% in 2019 (FY-Fiscal Year 2020)** and **7.2% in 2020 (FY21)**.

PROJECTIONS FOR INDIA'S ECONOMIC GROWTH RATE FOR 2019-20 (%)



GLOBAL ECONOMIC GROWTH RATE PROJECTIONS BY IMF



Key points :

- ▶ **Scaling Down:** It cuts its forecast for FY20 to 7% from 7.3%, it had predicted in April 2019 & FY21 to 7.2% from the previous estimate of 7.5%. It scales down its outlook for both the years due to a broad-based slowdown in consumption and investment demand in India.
- ▶ **Similar forecasts:** The growth forecast is in line with those made by Reserve Bank of India (RBI), Economic Survey of the finance ministry, and the Asian Development Bank outlook.
- ▶ **Global growth:** IMF also cuts global growth projection by 10bps (Basis point) to 3.2% for 2019 and 3.5 percent in 2020 due to US (United States) tariff sanctions, Brexit related uncertainty. It also stated that multilateral and national policy actions are important to place global growth on a stronger footing.

About IMF:

- ▶ **Formation:** 27 December 1945
- ▶ **Headquarters:** Washington, D.C. U.S
- ▶ **Managing Director (MD):** David Lipton
- ▶ **Chief Economist:** Gita Gopinath

5. SCIENCE



5.1 Latest Inventions on Science & Technology

SPACEX LAUNCHED HEFTY ROCKET WITH 24 RESEARCH SATELLITES

- **Space Exploration Technologies Corp (SpaceX)** launched hefty rocket with 24 payload military and scientific research satellites with a deep space atomic clock, solar sail, clean and green rocket fuel, and even human ashes, including an astronaut.

Key points :

- ▶ The third flight of a Falcon Heavy rocket (first ordered by the military) was launched from NASA's (National Aeronautics and Space Administration) **Kennedy Space Center** in Cape Canaveral, Florida, the US.
- ▶ The Defense Department mission will provide data to certify the Falcon Heavy and reused boosters for future national security launches.

About SpaceX:

- ▶ **Headquarters:** Hawthorne, California, US
- ▶ **Founded:** 6 May 2002
- ▶ **CEO:** Elon Musk

'BUMBLE' BECAME THE FIRST ASTROBEE ROBOT TO FLY UNDER ITS OWN POWER IN SPACE

- **National Aeronautics and Space Administration's (NASA)** Astrobees Robot "Bumble" became the **first Astrobees robot** to fly under its own power in space. It will help researchers examine new technologies in zero gravity and assist astronauts to perform routine work in the International Space Station (ISS).



Key points :

- ▶ 'Bumble' and a second Astrobees named 'Honey' were launched to the space station in April 2019.
- ▶ 'Queen', a third robot, will be launched in July 2019.

INDIA SUCCESSFULLY TEST-FIRED INDIGENOUSLY DEVELOPED NUCLEAR-CAPABLE MISSILE PRITHVI-II

- India successfully test-fired indigenously developed nuclear-capable ballistic missile **Prithvi-II**, a surface-to-surface missile, from a test range off the **Odisha** coast. Prithvi is the first missile developed by the Defence Research Development Organisation (DRDO) under the Integrated Guided Missile Development Programme (IGMDP).



Key points :

- ▶ The trial was carried out from a mobile launcher from Launch Complex-III of the Integrated Test Range (ITR) at Chandipur, Odisha.
- ▶ The launch activity was carried out by the Strategic Forces Command (SFC) of the Army monitored by the scientists of the DRDO.
- ▶ The missile with a strike range of 350 km is capable of carrying 500/100 kg of warheads. It is powered by liquid propulsion twin engines and uses an advanced inertial guidance system with maneuvering trajectory to hit its target.

About DRDO :

- ▶ **Headquarters:** New Delhi
- ▶ **Founded:** 1958
- ▶ **Motto:** "Strength's Origin is in Science"
- ▶ **Chairman:** Dr. G. Satheesh Reddy

PUNCH MISSION

- ▶ NASA has selected an US based Indian researcher Dipankar Banerjee to lead its **PUNCH mission** which will **image the Sun**.

About PUNCH (Polarimeter to Unify the Corona and Heliosphere):

- ▶ It is focused on **understanding the transition of particles from the Sun's outer corona to the solar wind that fills interplanetary space**.
- ▶ It will consist of a **constellation of four microsatellites** that through continuous 3D deep-field imaging, will observe the corona and heliosphere as elements of a single, connected system.
- ▶ **The mission is expected to be launched in 2022.**



NASA TO SEND DRAGONFLY ROBOT TO SEARCH FOR LIFE ON SATURN'S

MOON TITAN:

- NASA has planned to return to Saturn's moon Titan with a **nuclear-powered drone, Dragonfly**.
- Dragonfly aims to **search for signs of microbial alien life on Saturn's moon Titan**, while navigating its earth-like gravity and aerodynamics in the process. The mission will succeed **NASA's Cassini probe**, which ended its 13-year mission orbiting Saturn in September 2017 by diving into Saturn's atmosphere.
- Dragonfly mission is a part of **NASA's New Frontiers program**, which includes a series of space exploration missions, which are being conducted with the purpose of researching several of the Solar System bodies, including the dwarf planet Pluto.
- **The New Frontiers programme** also includes Pluto probe New Horizons, Jupiter probe Juno and OSIRIS-Rex asteroid mission.
- The Dragonfly mission replaces a previously discontinued concept project called **Titan Saturn System Mission (TSSM)**, which required a balloon probe to circumnavigate Titan.

ASCENT GREEN FUEL

- It is a safer **rocket fuel**.
- Unlike the traditional fuel used in satellites, which is **hydrazine**, which is **extremely toxic to humans as well as the environment**, the new alternative called **ASCENT (Advanced Spacecraft Energetic Non-toxic Propellant)**, formerly called AF-M315E, is a **hydroxyl ammonium nitrate fuel/oxidiser blend**.
- **First developed by the US Air Force** and now launched as part of a NASA-led collaboration, ASCENT is described as a **fuel with significantly reduced toxicity levels compared to hydrazine, and potentially shorter launch processing times, resulting in lower costs**.



NASA'S CURIOSITY ROVER DETECTS HIGH AMOUNTS OF METHANE ON MARS



- The US (United States) space agency, NASA's (National Aeronautics and Space Administration) Curiosity rover has discovered high amount of **methane** gas on Mars that indicates life on the red planet.

Key points :

- ▶ The measurement found 21 parts per billion of methane in the air, three times what was found during 2013.
- ▶ The finding came from the rover's Sample Analysis at Mars (SAM) tunable laser spectrometer.
- ▶ Curiosity rover has detected methane many times since its arrival on Mars in 2012.

About NASA :

- ▶ **Headquarters:** Washington, D.C.
- ▶ **Founder:** Dwight D. Eisenhower
- ▶ **Founded:** 29 July 1958

INDIAN SCIENTISTS FROM TIFR DEVELOPED 'BLACK GOLD'



- Indian Scientists from **Tata Institute of Fundamental Research (TIFR)**, Mumbai have developed a new material called '**black gold**'. They rearranged size and gaps of gold nanoparticles to develop the new material, It can absorb light and carbon dioxide. It can be used for applications that range from harvesting solar energy to desalinating seawater.

Key points :

- ▶ It was published in "**Chemical Science**", a scientific journal published by the Royal Society of Chemistry.
- ▶ The study was funded by the Department of Science and Technology (DST) and the Department of Atomic Energy (DAE).

INDIA'S AMBITIOUS MOON MISSION, CHANDRAYAAN-2 CALLED OFF DUE TO TECHNICAL GLITCH

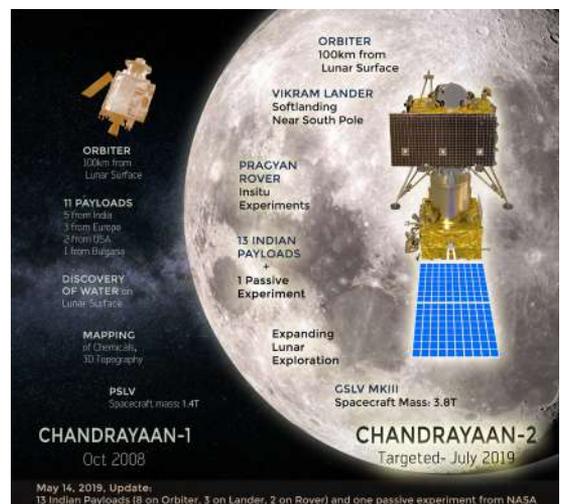
- India's ambitious moon mission, **Chandrayaan-2** has been called off due to a technical snag in just 56 minutes and 24 seconds before its scheduled launch. Indian Space Research Organisation (ISRO) confirmed that the launch had been cancelled after a technical snag was detected in one of the launch systems of the GSLV MkIII-M1 (Geosynchronous Satellite Launch Vehicle Mark III).

Key points:

- ISRO aims to touch down on the South Pole of the Moon where no country had gone before and it will announce a new date for the next launch.
- GSLV MkIII-M1 is a three-stage vehicle with two solid motor strap-ons (S200), a liquid propellant core stage (L110) and a cryogenic stage (C-25).
- Chandrayaan-2 has three modules including an orbiter, a lander (Vikram), and a rover (Pragyan).
- Earlier ISRO called off the GSLV D-5 mission due to a leak in the fuel system of the launch vehicle during the filling up of the liquid propellant in 2014.

About ISRO:

- ▶ Headquarters: Bengaluru
- ▶ Founder: Vikram Sarabhai
- ▶ Founded: 15 August 1969
- ▶ Chairperson: Kailasavadivoo Sivan



INDIA TO BE FREE OF TUBERCULOSIS BY 2025

- Prime Minister Narendra Modi, while addressing the Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP) Members of Parliament (MP) in New Delhi, asked the parliamentarians take up a social cause or an issue of human sensitivity as a mission.
- India has fixed a deadline of **2025** for eradicating **tuberculosis** (TB) against the global deadline of **2030**.
- **MoU:** Union Health Ministry signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) with the Ministries of **Defence, Railways and Ayurveda, Yoga & Naturopathy, Unani, Siddha and Homoeopathy** (AYUSH) to eliminate TB from India by 2025 in the presence of Minister of State for Health Ashwini K Choubey and Minister of AYUSH Shripad Nayak.

About TB:

- Tuberculosis (TB) is a potentially serious infectious disease that mainly affects **lungs**. The **bacteria** that cause tuberculosis are spread from one person to another through tiny droplets released into the air via coughs and sneezes.

ISRO TO LAUNCH INDIA'S 1ST SOLAR MISSION ADITYA-L1 IN THE FIRST HALF OF 2020

- The **Indian Space Research Organisation (ISRO)** has announced that it will launch its first solar mission **Aditya-L1** in the first half of **2020**. It will be the first dedicated scientific mission to study Sun's corona.

Key Points :

- ▶ **Aim:** It aims to put Aditya-L1 satellite(800-kg) into a halo orbit around Lagrangian point L1 of Sun and Earth system. The L1 point is situated at a distance of about 1.5 million km from earth.
- ▶ **Aditya L1:** It will be India's 1st solar probe to study the magnetic field of the **sun's corona**. The satellite will carry 7 payloads including the main payload **Visible Emission Line Coronagraph (VLEC)**. It will study the dynamic nature of the sun's outer most layers, corona, and chromosphere and collect data about Coronal Mass Ejections (CME).

About ISRO:

- ▶ **Director:** Kailasavadivoo Sivan
- ▶ **Headquarters:** Bengaluru
- ▶ **Founded:** 15 August 1969

CHANDRAYAAN-2 LAUNCHED SUCCESSFULLY

India's heaviest rocket Geosynchronous Satellite Launch Vehicle (GSLV) Mk-III, nicknamed 'Bahubali' carried the Chandrayaan-2 mission successfully from the Satish Dhawan Space Centre (SDSC) in Sriharikota, off the coast of Andhra Pradesh. It is a Rs 978-crore project. It will be the first operational flight of GSLV-Mk-3 which is a 640-tonne rocket.

	CHANDRAYAAN-1	CHANDRAYAAN-2
Mission	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> India's first lunar mission India's first deepspace mission 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Follow up mission to Chandrayaan-1 ISRO's first inter-planetary mission to land rover on any celestial body
Goals	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Involved orbiting around moon 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Involved orbiting, lander, and rover
Approx cost	• 380 cr	• 960 cr
Operational for	• 312 Days	• 365 Days (Approx)
Payloads (or study devices)	• 11 (built in india, USA, Germany, sweden & Bulgaria)	• 14 (13 indian and 1 Nasa)
Major Objectives	• To conduct Scientific experiments using instruments on the spacecraft	• To soft-land on the lunar surface

- ▶ **Mission:** The Chandrayaan 2 mission is set to explore the south polar region of the Moon, which is also known as Dark Side of the Moon due to the absence of sunlight in and around the craters of the Lunar Polar surface.

Key points :

- ▶ **Background:** Originally, it was planned to be lifted off on July 15, 2019. But the plan was aborted by the Indian Space Research organization (ISRO) due to a technical glitch.
- ▶ **Mission:** The Chandrayaan 2 mission is set to explore the south polar region of the Moon, which is also known as Dark Side of the Moon due to the absence of sunlight in and around the craters of the Lunar Polar surface. It will explore the uncharted lunar south pole, 11 years after Isro's successful first lunar mission, Chandrayaan-1, which made more than 3,400 orbits around the moon and was operational for 312 days till August 29, 2009.
- ▶ **Components:** It carried 3 components namely the Orbiter, The Lander 'Vikram', and the Rover 'Pragyaan'. The Lander has been named after the father of the Indian Space Programme, Dr Vikram A Sarabhai. The life span of Vikram is one lunar day

FROM SDSC, SRIHARIKOTA, AP

which is equivalent to 14 Earth days. It has the capability to communicate with The Indian Deep Space Network (IDSN) at Byalalu near Bangalore and can also communicate with the Rover and the Orbiter too.

✦ **Schedule:** Chandrayaan-2 will take 54 days to accomplish the task of landing on the Moon through meticulously planned orbital phases.

✦ **Credit:** It is world's first mission to Moon's South Pole. If successful, India will become the fourth nation to soft land on the Moon after the United States, Russia and China.

About ISRO:

- ✦ **Headquarters:** Bengaluru
- ✦ **Founder:** Vikram Sarabhai
- ✦ **Director:** K Sivan



- The Tamil Nadu CM Announced, the government will take steps to prevent pollution in Cauvery river, He also announces Nadanthai Vaazhi Cauvery a new scheme to protect river from
 - CM Said Water Resource protection team will be allotted in all the districts.
 - Tamil Nadu CM Edapadi Palanisamy has announced in Assembly that **November 1** will be celebrated as **Tamilnadu Day** .
 - This day is chosen to respect the formation day of Tamil Nadu in 1957.

6. NATIONAL DAIRY OF EVENT



MHA RELEASED THE RANKINGS OF POLICE STATIONS FOR 2018; RAJASTHAN TOPS THE LIST

- The **Ministry of Home Affairs** (MHA) released the rankings of police stations for the year **2018**. It covered 15,666 police stations.
- 20% weightage was assigned to the police station's infrastructure and citizen feedback on performance of the police personnel posted at the police station and they were evaluated on the basis of crimes against women, Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes & property related offences.
- The scores were calculated based on the number of FIRs (First Information Reports) chargesheeted within 60 days.

Key points :

- ▶ The **Kalu police station in Bikaner district of Rajasthan** was ranked the **best police station** in the country.
- ▶ **Campbell Bay police station in Nicobar district of Andaman & Nicobar Islands** was ranked **second**.
- ▶ **Farakka police station in Murshidabad, West Bengal** was ranked **third**.

About MHA :

- ▶ **Headquarters:** New Delhi
- ▶ **Founded:** 15 August 1947
- ▶ **Minister In-charge:** Amit Shah

ICMR RELEASED A REPORT ON NCDs TITLED "INDIA: HEALTH OF THE NATION'S STATES"

- **Indian Council of Medical Research** (ICMR) released a report on Non-Communicable Diseases (NCDs) titled "**India: Health of the Nation's States**". Total death in the country due to NCDs was **61.8% in 2016**, as compared to 37.9% in 1990. Some examples of common NCDs are diabetes, hypertension, tuberculosis and cancers (Oral, Breast and Cervical cancer).
 - ▶ Due to epidemiological transition fewer deaths were recorded for communicable, maternal, neonatal and nutritional diseases in the States of Kerala, Goa and Tamil Nadu.

UGC APPROVED A NEW INITIATIVE NAMED "STRIDE" TO BOOST RESEARCH CULTURE IN INDIA

- In order to boost research culture in India, the University Grants Commission (UGC) approved a new initiative - Scheme for Trans - disciplinary Research for India's Developing Economy (STRIDE).

Key points:

- ▶ **Importance:** It will strengthen research culture and innovation in colleges and universities by assisting students and faculty to contribute towards India's developing economy with the help of collaborative research.

YAMUNA WATER TAXI PROJECT

- It has been conceived as an **integrated development project combining several functions like terminal development and vessels operation.**
- The project **covers a total length of 16 km and comprises five locations on the banks of River Yamuna** in Delhi, including Fatepur Jat, Tronica City, Jagatpur, Sonia Vihar and Wazirabad.

7TH INDIA AND BRUNEI DARUSSALAM FOREIGN OFFICE CONSULTATIONS HELD IN NEW DELHI

- The **7th Foreign Office Consultations** between **India** and **Brunei Darussalam** was held in **New Delhi**. The Indian side was led by Vijay Thakur Singh, Secretary(East) and Brunei side was led by Hajah Siti Norishan Haji Abdul Ghafor, Permanent Secretary, Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Brunei Government.

Key points :

- ▶ They reviewed bilateral relations between the 2 countries, including political, trade and investment, defence, cultural & people to people contact and exchanged views on regional and multilateral issues.
- ▶ They agreed to explore cooperation in energy, health and pharmaceuticals, higher education and agricultural sectors.
- ▶ The next round of Consultations will be held in Brunei on mutually agreed dates.

About Brunei Darussalam :

- ▶ **Capital:** Bandar Seri Begawan
- ▶ **Currency:** Brunei dollar

23RD EDITION OF 4-DAY SINDHU DARSHAN FESTIVAL HELD AT SINDHU GHAT SHEY IN LEH

- A four-day event of 23rd Sindhu Darshan Festival 2019 celebrated at Sindhu Ghat Shey in Jammu and Kashmir's Leh from 24 to 27 June 2019.

Key points :

- ▶ **Organizers:** The festival was jointly organized by Sindhu Darshan Yatra Samiti (SDYS) and Ladakh Phanday Tsogspa.
- ▶ **Aim:** The day celebrated with the aim to promote national integration and celebrate unity in diversity and it was first started in 1997.
- ▶ It was marked by a holy dip in the Indus River and the colorful cultural programme performed by cultural troupes from different parts of the country.

UIDAI STARTED ITS FIRST AADHAAR SEVA KENDRA IN DELHI AND VIJAYAWADA

- The Unique Identification Authority of India (UIDAI) has operationalized its first "Aadhaar Seva Kendra" (ASKs) in Delhi and Vijayawada on pilot basis. UIDAI has a plan to set up 114 such centres by the end of 2019 covering 53 Indian cities. The estimated cost of the project is between **Rs 300-400 crore**. These centers are similar to the concept of Passport Seva Kendras.



- Chief Minister Edappadi K. Palaniswami announced that a portrait of S.S Ramasamy Padaiyachi would be unveiled in the Assembly, as a mark of respect.
- Till date there are 12 leaders portrait have been kept in the conference Assembly.

Features of ASK :

- ▶ It is owned by UIDAI.
- ▶ It will facilitate enrolment, updation and other activities through online appointment management system, which allow people to book a slot as per their convenience.

NATIONAL MISSION ON NATURAL LANGUAGE TRANSLATION

Going local	Language	Mother tongue of speakers (%)
	Hindi and associated languages	43.63
The Ministry of Electronics and IT's Natural Language Translation mission aims to enable access to teaching and researching material in English and one's native language	Bengali	8.03
	Marathi	6.86
	Telugu	6.7
	Tamil	5.7
	Gujarati	4.58
	Urdu	4.19
	Kannada	3.61

SOURCE: CENSUS 2011



The proposed cost of the Natural Language Translation mission is ₹450 crore

- The Ministry of Electronics and Information Technology (MeitY) will put forward the proposal of **National Mission on Natural Language Translation** with an outlay Rs 450 crore for next 3 years before the Union Cabinet. It is one of the key missions identified by the **Prime Minister's Science, Technology and Innovation Advisory Council (PM-STIAC)**.

Key points :

- ▶ The **IT (Information Technology) Ministry** is the lead agency for implementation of the mission along with the Ministry of HRD (Human Resource Development) and Department of Science and Technology.
- ▶ The proposal is part of the 100-day action plan formed by MeitY on the instructions of the **Prime Minister Narendra Modi**.

RBI'S CENTRAL BOARD OF DIRECTORS' 577TH MEETING HELD IN NEW DELHI

- The 577th meeting of the Central Board of Directors of Reserve Bank of India (RBI) was held at **New Delhi**. Union Minister of Finance and Corporate Affairs, **Nirmala Sitharaman**, addressed the Directors of Central Board.



Key points :

- ▶ Current economic situation, global and domestic challenges and various areas of operations of the RBI & the importance of coordination between the Central Government and RBI were reviewed in the meeting.
- ▶ RBI Governor **Shaktikanta Das**, Revenue Secretary **Ajay Bhushan Pandey**, Secretary (Investment and Public Asset Management) **Atanu Chakraborty** and Chief Economic Advisor **Dr. Krishnamurthy Subramanian** have also attended the meeting.
- ▶ The Board finalized the 3-year Medium-Term Strategy document which covers the Mission and Vision Statement of the Reserve Bank.

MEETING OF EXPERT WORKING GROUP OF PARIS PACT INITIATIVE OF UNODC HELD IN NEW DELHI

- 2 day Meeting of Expert Working Group on Paris Pact Initiative on Illicit Financial Flows deriving from the trafficking of Opiates originating in Afghanistan was organised in New Delhi from June 27-28, 2019. It was hosted by the Department of Revenue, Ministry of Finance with the support of United Nations Office on Drugs & Crimes (UNODC). It was inaugurated by the Additional Secretary, Revenue Mr. Anil Kumar Jha.

Key points :

- The Meeting was attended by the representatives of the Member Countries of Paris Pact, Regional Representatives of UNODC and Senior Officers of the Indian agencies like Directorate of Revenue Intelligence (DRI), Directorate of Enforcement (ED) and Narcotics Control Bureau (NCB).

Paris Pact Initiative:

- Paris Pact is a group of 58 countries and 23 International Organisations affected with drug trafficking of Afghan Opiates. Under the ambit of UNODC, Paris Pact Initiative has addressed the issue of drug problem related to opiates originating in Afghanistan, both at policy and implementation level.

About UNODC :

- ▶ **Headquarters:** Vienna, Austria
- ▶ **Founded:** 14 July 1997
- ▶ **Executive Director:** Mr. Yury Fedotov

5TH INDIA-EU HIGH LEVEL DIALOGUE ON MIGRATION AND MOBILITY HELD IN NEW DELHI

- The 5th India-EU High Level Dialogue on Migration and Mobility (HLDMM) was held in New Delhi between India and the European Union (EU). It was co-chaired by Mr. Sanjiv Arora, Secretary (Consular, Passport & Visa and Overseas Indian Affairs) and Ms. Paraskevi Michou, Director General [Migration and Home Affairs], European Commission. It was also attended by Heads of Mission and other representatives of the Diplomatic Missions of EU Member States who were invited as Observers for the first time.

INDIA'S LONGEST ELECTRIFIED RAILWAY TUNNEL COMMISSIONED



- South Central Railways (SCR) of Indian Railways commissioned the longest electrified tunnel in India. It is situated between **Cherlopalli** and **Rapur** stations in Nellore district, Andhra Pradesh which are a part of 113 km railway line between Obulavaripalli - Venkatachalam - Krishnapatnam Port. It is constructed in the shape of a **Horse Shoe**.

Key points :

- ▶ The length of the tunnel is 6.6 kilometres, height (rail level to roof) is 6.5 metres and Minimum height of contact wire is maintained at 5.2 metres.
- ▶ It was built in 43 months at the cost of **Rs 460 crore**.
- ▶ New Australian Tunnelling Method (NATM) was used in construction.

'FASHIONOVA', INDIA'S FIRST DESIGN DEVELOPMENT CENTRE LAUNCHED IN SURAT, GUJARAT

- 'Fashionova', India's first Design Development Center was launched in the Textile city **Surat, Gujarat** to promote the city in the field of the fashion design sector. Anupam Goyal was the founder of Fashionova Design Development.

Key points :

- ▶ Fashionava Design Development Centre has been started at Udhana area with all state-of-the-art machinery and other facilities.
- ▶ The main objective of this studio is to provide a strong platform to all those who have a flair of the apparel business.

EXTRA news

- Researchers from University of California have found that Electric cigarettes will create Stress on the brain stem cells.
- Researchers do not yet understand how the chemicals in ECs might affect neural stem cells, particularly their mitochondria – organelles that serve as the cell's powerhouses and are critical in regulating cell health.

INDIA – ASEAN TROIKA TRADE MINISTERS' MEETING HELD IN NEW DELHI

- India - Association of Southeast Asian Nations (ASEAN) Troika Trade Ministers' Meeting was held in New Delhi for informal consultation on the ongoing **Regional Comprehensive Economic Partnership** (RCEP). Union Minister of Commerce & Industry and Railways, Piyush Goyal, Acting Minister of Commerce

Key points :

- India emphasized on adherence to the RCEP guiding principles in order to balance high ambition on goods tariff reduction with addressing of sensitives in bilateral pairings between India and China through temporary and permanent deviations/ exclusions.

About RCEP :

- Headquarters:** London, UK
- Founded:** 20 November 2012
- Members:** 10 Asean group members - Brunei, Cambodia, Indonesia, Malaysia, Myanmar, Singapore, Thailand, the Philippines, Laos and Vietnam and 6 FTA (Free Trade Partners) partners - India, China, Japan, South Korea, Australia and New Zealand.

NAGALAND OCCUPIES THE TOP POSITION IN THE UNEMPLOYMENT RATE: NSSO SURVEY

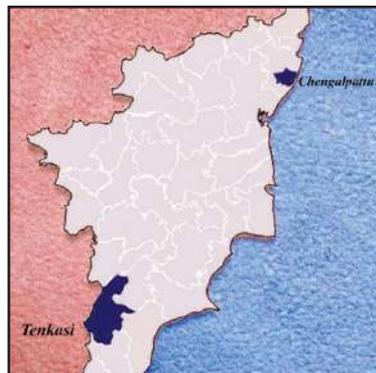
- According to the survey, "The Periodic Labour Force Survey (PLFS) for 2017-18" by National Sample Survey Organization (NSSO) has shown huge variations among the states in terms of the unemployment rate. The overall unemployment rate pegs at 6.1%.

Key points :

- Top and Bottom:** Nagaland has the highest unemployment rate among the states with 21.4% followed by Goa (13.9%) and Manipur (11.6%), while **Meghalaya** has the lowest rate at 1.5%. Chhattisgarh and Sikkim also have the lowest rates.
- Rural and Urban:** Urban areas witnessed higher unemployment (7.8%) than the rural areas (5.3%).
- Male Vs Female:** Females have the lowest unemployment rate (5.7%) in comparison to males (6.2%).
- Union territories:** Nagaland still gets top in the list of union territories while Dadra and Nagar Haveli with a low rate of 0.6%.
- Goa and Kerala** are high in female unemployment at 26.0% and 23.3% respectively, but their respective male unemployment rates are three times lower at 8.1% and 6.2%.

EDAPPADI ANNOUNCES TENKASI, CHENGALPATTU DISTRICTS

- Tamil Nadu Chief Minister Edappadi K. Palaniswami on July 18 announced the creation of two more districts with Tenkasi and Chengalpattu as their headquarters. With this, the number of districts in Tamil Nadu rises to 35.
- He said Tirunelveli would be bifurcated to create a new district with Tenkasi as the headquarters. Similarly, Kancheepuram would be bifurcated to create a new district. Chengalpattu would be the new headquarters. The Chief Minister said each new district would have an IAS officer as a special officer.
- In January, Mr. Palaniswami announced creation of Kallakurichi district, carved out of Villupuram.
- Villupuram Municipality was celebrating its centenary, the Chief Minister on July 18 new Tenkasi district is likely to comprise Alangulam, Tenkasi, Kodayanallur, Vasudevanallur and Sankarankoil Assembly constituencies under its administration.
- Vellore district, which had the maximum number of 13 Assembly constituencies should be split into three with Arakkonam and Tirupattur as separate districts.



- In Madhya Pradesh, continuous rain has damaged Asia's largest solar Power project in Rewa. The damage was caused after heavy rain triggered a mudslide. Now the rain has stopped, and experts are busy repairing this power plant.
- As per the estimates, this project has suffered a loss of more than Rs 20 crores by rain.
- Amma Natural Health box will be provided for Adolescents girls to avoid Anemia said Tamil Nadu Government.
- This free Health box will have a few herbal powders that will help to boost their health.



IFFI TO CELEBRATES ITS SPECIAL GOLDEN JUBILEE EDITION 2019 IN GOA

- Minister for Information and Broadcasting **Prakash Javadekar** stated that **IFFI (International Film Festival of India)** will mark its **Golden Jubilee Edition 2019 (50th edition)** in **Panaji**, Goa scheduled from 20th to 28th November 2019.



Key points:

- Organizers:** The event is being jointly organized by the Directorate of Film Festivals and the state-run Entertainment Society of Goa (ESG).
- Partner country:** Russia will be the international partner for IFFI 2019 edition.
- Remembrance:** IFFI is being organized in Goa since 2004 under the leadership of then chief minister & BJP leader (Bharatiya Janata Party) Manohar Parrikar. The 50th edition of IFFI will pay tribute to Parrikar for his contribution towards the event and making Goa the permanent venue for the festival. IFFI will also remember Mahatma Gandhi, whose 150th birth Anniversary is being commemorated across the country.
- Celebration:** students of the Film and Television Institute of India (FTII- Pune) and Satyajit Ray Film and Television Institute (Kolkata) would be part of the organizing team to get a first-hand experience of managing the show. Road shows in seven cities and business exhibition would also be organized.

About IFFI:

- It is India's most prestigious Film Festival and also the first International Film Festival aims at providing a common platform to the world of cinema to project the excellence of the art of filmmaking.

About Goa:

- ▶ Capital: Panaji
- ▶ Chief minister: Pramod Sawant
- ▶ Governor: Mridula Sinha
- ▶ National Park: Bhagwan Mahavir (Mollem) National Park
- ▶ Wildlife Sanctuaries: Bondla WLS, Chorao Island (Dr.Salim Ali) WLS, Cotigaon WLS, Madei WLS, Bhagwan Mahavir (Mollem) WLS, Netravali WLS

10TH EDITION OF JAGRAN FILM FESTIVAL INAUGURATED IN NEW DELHI

- 10th Edition of **Jagran Film Festival (JFF)** was inaugurated by Union Information and Broadcasting Minister **Prakash Javadekar** at **Siri Fort Auditorium** in New Delhi.

Key points :

- ▶ Ministry of Information and Broadcasting has plans to bring further additions to the National Museum of Indian Cinema, Mumbai.
- ▶ JFF is aimed towards creating a culture of cinema appreciation and create a platform that connects great content with audiences across the country.

About JFF:

- ▶ **First conducted:** 2010
- ▶ It is an initiative by the Jagran Prakashan Group.

OPERATION THIRST

- The **Railway Protection Force (RPF)** has launched an all India drive '**Operation Thirst**' (on 8-9 July 2019) in New Delhi to crackdown the selling of unauthorized Packaged Drinking Water (PDW) in the premises of railway stations.



Key points :

- ✦ The special operation covered almost all major stations over Indian Railway and a total fine amount of Rs. 6,80,855 has been realized by offenders.
- ✦ The drive will be followed by continuous action by concerned Zonal PCSCs (Principal Chief Security Commissioners) on this issue.

About RPF :

- ✦ **Founded:** 1872
- ✦ **Motto:** "Attaining Honor"
- ✦ **Headquarters:** New Delhi
- ✦ **Governing body:** Ministry of Railways

FIRST INTERNATIONAL FLIGHT WITH AIR INDIA'S SERVICE FROM INDORE-DUBAI

- Madhya Pradesh got its First International Flight with the launch of a flight service to Dubai from the Devi Ahilya Bai Holkar International Airport, Indore with a national carrier Air India (Flight AI903) with 150 passengers.

Key Points:

1. It was flagged off by Air India Chairman Ashwani Lohani along with local Parliamentarian Shankar Lalwani in the presence of former Lok Sabha Speaker Sumitra Mahajan.
2. Air India is operating a 162-seater A320 neo aircraft which will fly three times a week – Mondays, Wednesdays and Saturdays from Indore to Dubai.

INDIA'S FIRST SPACE TECH PARK TO COME UP IN THIRUVANANTHAPURAM, KERALA

- The Kerala government will set up India's first space tech park at Thiruvananthapuram's Knowledge City with the entire investment made by the Vikram Sarabhai Space Centre (VSSC) which is a major space research centre of the Indian Space Research Organisation (ISRO).
- It will make the city a manufacturing hub for space-related technology which will have a startup incubator, accelerators including Airbus Bizlab, skill training systems and production units.

FIRST EVER IICTF TO BE HELD IN NEW DELHI FROM OCTOBER 11-13, 2019

- The first ever India International Cooperatives Trade Fair (IICTF) will be held at Pragati Maidan, New Delhi from October 11-13, 2019. It is a unique initiative for taking farmers, artisans and other members of cooperatives directly to the international trade arena.



Key Points :

- ▶ The event is organized by National Cooperative Development Corporation (NCDC) with the support of Network for the Development of Agricultural Cooperatives in Asia and the Pacific (NEDAC), three Ministries, four State Governments and several apex level Indian cooperative organizations.
- ▶ The event is aimed to promote cooperatives to trade within India and abroad to enhance rural and farm prosperity.



THE 32ND EDITION OF ISTA CONGRESS TAKES PLACE IN HYDERABAD

- An eight-day event of the 32nd edition of **International Seed Testing Association (ISTA)** Congress has started in **Hyderabad, Telangana**. The Ministry of Agriculture and Farmers' Welfare and the Telangana government have jointly hosted the event which is being held for the first time in South Asia.

Key points :

- ▶ **Inauguration:** Kailash Choudhary, Union Minister of State for Agriculture and Farmers' Welfare inaugurated the event.
- ▶ **Aim:** Focusing on modern technologies to increase quality seed production and seed export-import policies.
- ▶ **Partakers:** Over 600 delegates including seed experts, policy makers and representatives of international companies from nearly 70 countries like the UK, South Africa, New Zealand, Canada to take part in the event to discuss developments in seed research and in technology related to seeds.
- ▶ **Exhibition and Workshops:** Stakeholders & seed testing laboratories and associated organizations showcase their products & services. Several pre and post-event workshops are also being held as a part of the event.

About Telangana :

- ▶ **Founded:** 2 June 2014
- ▶ **Chief minister:** K. Chandrashekar Rao

MONKEYS DECLARED AS 'VERMIN' IN SHIMLA, HIMACHAL PRADESH

The Ministry of Environment and Forest (MoEF) of Himachal Pradesh issued notification under **Section 62 of the Wild Life (Protection) Act 1972** to declare **monkeys** as 'vermin' in the areas of Shimla Municipal Corporation, mainly the urban town, for 1 year to relieve farmers from the serious problems caused by monkeys, destroying their crops.

Key points :

- It is for the third time the notification was issued by the state government.
- Initially, in March 2016, MoEF had declared the monkeys 'vermin', for 6 months and later it was extended for 1 year.

FIRST-EVER HIMALAYAN STATES CONCLAVE TO BE HOSTED BY UTTARAKHAND

- The first-ever **Himalayan States Conclave** will be hosted by **Uttarakhand** on July 28, 2019 with the main focus on sustainable development of the Indian Himalayan Region. It will be held at **Mussoorie**. The event will discuss the common issues pertaining to states located in the Himalayan Region like environmental protection, Himalayan culture and economic development.



Key Points:

1. Along with the administrators and specialists, the conclave will host the Chief Ministers of the Himalayan states – Uttarakhand, Jammu and Kashmir, Himachal Pradesh, Sikkim, Assam, Arunachal Pradesh, Meghalaya, Tripura, Mizoram and Nagaland.
2. Rajiv Kumar, Vice President of Niti (National Institution for Transforming India) Aayog, will also be a part of the conclave.
3. The key points adopted at the Himalayan conclave will be presented as a draft to the Niti Aayog. This will help to frame policies for the region's development.

About Uttarakhand:

- ▶ Capital: Dehradun
- ▶ Chief Minister: Trivendra Singh Rawat
- ▶ Governor: Baby Rani Maurya
- ▶ National Parks: Corbett National Park, Gangotri National Park, Govind National Park, Nanda Devi National Park, Rajaji National Park, Valley of Flowers National Park
- ▶ Wildlife Sanctuaries: Askot Musk Deer WLS, Nandhaur WLS, Binsar WLS, Govind Pashu Vihar WLS, Kedarnath WLS, Mussoorie WLS, Sonanadi WLS

INTERNATIONAL SUNFLOWER SEED AND OIL CONFERENCE (ISSOC) 2019

- India will be hosting the 3rd edition of International Sunflower Seed and Oil Conference



(ISSOC) 2019 in Maharashtra, Mumbai (on July 19-20) with the aim to encourage better communications among sunflower oil producers, industry groups, academic researchers and local governments.

Key points :

- The event is jointly hosted by the **Solvent Extractors' Association of India (SEA)** & Organized by International Sunflower Oil Association (ISOA) will see the participation of around 300 delegates from across the world with interests in sunflower seed, oil, and meal.
- The 1st edition was held in 2015 at Shanghai, **China** and the 2nd edition was held in 2017 at Odessa, **Ukraine**.
- India is the largest importer of sunflower oil with imports of about 2.8 million tonnes and globally the import is about 9.6 million tonnes.

CENTRE FOR INLAND AND COASTAL MARITIME TECHNOLOGY (CICMT)

- As per a Memorandum of Agreement (MoA), signed between the Union Ministry of Shipping and Indian Institute of Technology (IIT), Kharagpur, the **Centre for Inland and Coastal Maritime Technology (CICMT)** will be set up at IIT Kharagpur.
- CICMT will be a **state-of-the-art centre** which will be set up under the flagship **Sagarmala Programme**.
- CICMT will focus on** ship design for coastal as well as inland waterways, shipbuilding technology & structural design, cryogenic cargo handling, transport systems & logistics, renewable energy harvesting from coastal and inland waters and artificial intelligence (AI) and automation for maritime operations.



NEW DELHI'S CONNAUGHT PLACE IS THE 9TH MOST EXPENSIVE OFFICE LOCATION IN THE WORLD

- According to the report titled, "Global Prime Office Occupancy Costs survey" (annual report) by CBRE, an American real estate consulting firm, New Delhi's Connaught Place (CP) was the 9th most expensive office location in the world with an annual rent of nearly **\$144 per sq ft.** 6 of the world's 10 most expensive office markets were from Asia.

Key points :

- ▶ **First Rank:** For the second year, Hong Kong's Central district retained the top spot as the world's most expensive market for prime office rents. The prime occupancy costs was valued at **\$322 per sq.ft. per annum.**
- ▶ **Other Ranks:** London's West End was ranked 2nd, followed by Hong Kong's Kowloon, New York's Midtown Manhattan and Beijing's Finance Street.
- ▶ **Indian cities:** Mumbai's Bandra Kurla Complex (BKC) and Nariman Point- Central Business District (CBD) were ranked at 27th and 40th positions respectively.

INDIA'S FIRST ELEPHANT REHABILITATION CENTRE WILL BE SET UP AT KERALA'S KOTTOOR

- India's first elephant rehabilitation centre will be set up by the Kerala State Government in its ecotourism village of **Kottoor.** **Rs.105 crore** has been allotted to this project which was launched by Chief Minister of Kerala, Pinarayi Vijayan.



Key points :

- ▶ At present, the center has only 15 elephants and it will be increased once work has been completed.
- ▶ The centre will have an elephant museum, mahout training centre, super-specialty hospital, a retirement home and crematorium for the animals, will house orphaned, injured and older elephants.



'SMART' POLICING

- Rahimatpur police station in Satara district in western Maharashtra has emerged as the State topper in a survey based on the 'SMART' policing concept announced by Prime Minister Narendra Modi.
- The Kalu police station in Rajasthan's Bikaner came first rank in the country for having recreational facilities for police personnel, and a helpdesk for women besides being equipped with wi-fi servers.

Background:

- ▶ Mr. Modi had first called for making the police force 'SMART' - **strict and sensitive, modern and mobile, alert and accountable, reliable and responsive, techno-savvy and trained** - while addressing the 49th annual conference of Directors-General and Inspectors-General of Police in Guwahati in 2014.

Parameters:

- ▶ The Quality Council of India (QCI), which executed the survey, assessed 87 shortlisted police stations across the country on a number of parameters like performance in controlling crime, infrastructure of the police building, mess and optimal use of technology, and citizen feedback.

GO TRIBAL CAMPAIGN BY TRIBES INDIA LAUNCHED IN NEW DELHI

- "Go Tribal Campaign" by Tribes India was launched by Minister of State for Tribal Affairs, **Smt. Renuka Singh** in the presence of Shri R.C. Meena, Chairman, Tribal Cooperative Marketing Development Federation of India (TRIFED), Shri Deepak Khandekar, Secretary, Ministry of Tribal Affairs and Shri Pravir Krishna, Managing Director, TRIFED in **New Delhi**.



Key points :

- ▶ TRIFED organized this event to institutionalize collaborations and partnerships with different organizations to promote tribal products.
- ▶ Tribes India in association with Amazon Global Marketing launched TRIBES India products globally through Amazon platform.



5TH INTERNATIONAL POLICE EXPO FOR THE YEAR 2019 HELD AT PRAGATI MAIDAN, NEW DELHI

- 5th Edition of **International Police Expo** for the year 2019 was held at **Pragati Maidan, New Delhi** on July 19-20, 2019 with the theme **“Challenges to Strengthen Peace and Security”**. It was organized by Nexgen Exhibitions.



Key points :

- ▶ The Expo focused on things related to police forces, their welfare and fitness and showcased the latest equipment required for safety and protection of society.
- ▶ It showcased advanced firearms, combat or armoured vehicles and a plethora of disruptive technologies in cyber security, drones, homeland security, and safety & rescue.
- ▶ More than 25 countries participated in the expo.

SILICON VALLEY OF INDIA, BENGALURU TOPS “MOST DIGITISED CITIES” LIST

- According to the 2nd edition of payments solution company **Razorpay Software Pvt Ltd’s** digital transactions quarterly report, **‘The Era of Rising Fintech’, Bengaluru** got the top position in the list of **“most digitised cities”** in the April-June 2019 quarter accounting for highest card payments.

Key points :

- ▶ **Cities list:** Bengaluru is followed by Hyderabad, Mumbai, Pune, and Delhi.
- ▶ **States list:** The top five digitised states are Karnataka, Maharashtra, New Delhi, Tamil Nadu, and Andhra Pradesh.
- ▶ **Development:** The report noticed **Tamil Nadu** is among one of the most developed states in India ranked 4th in contribution in digital transactions with its capital, Chennai’s share was highest at 57%.

About Razorpay:

- ▶ **Founded:** 2014
- ▶ **Headquarters:** Bengaluru
- ▶ **Founders:** Harshil Mathur, Shashank Kumar

INTERNATIONAL SHARK MEET TO BE HELD IN KOCHI, KERALA AT CMFRI

- Representatives from the Food and Agriculture Organisation (FAO) as well as researchers on shark trade, are to attend the 4-day organised International Shark Meet at the Central Marine Fisheries Research Institute (CFRMI).
- The meet is jointly organised by FAO and CFRMI.



Key points :

- The aim of this meeting is to bring the scientific community to describe various methods being used and adopted in research work on sharks and rays.

CFRMI

- The main vision of CFRMI is to enhance coastal fish production through mariculture.
- Headquarters-** Kochi
- Director-** Dr. A. Gopalakrishnan
- Founded-** 1947



DELHI GOVT CELEBRATES 15-DAY "HAPPINESS UTSAV" IN ALL ITS SCHOOLS

e-challan system, e-payment gateway for Delhi Traffic Police

- New e-challan system and the e-payment gateway for the use of Delhi Traffic Police launched by Amulya Patnaik, Delhi Police Commissioner in New Delhi. With this launch, traffic violators can now pay fine from anywhere online.

FAO

- It is a specialized agency of the United Nations (UN) that leads International efforts to defeat hunger.
- Headquarters -** Rome, Italy
- Founded -** 16 October 1945, Quebec city, Canada
- Head -** Jose Graziano Da Silva.



7. INTERNATIONAL AFFAIRS



SAUDI ARABIA INCREASED INDIA'S HAJ QUOTA BY 30,000

- Saudi Arabia increased India's Haj quota by 30,000 which was the third hike in 3 years. It was increased from 1,70,000 to 200,000. With this, more Indians will get a chance to visit annual Islamic pilgrimage to Mecca, a city in Hejazi region of Saudi Arabia. The issue was discussed by Prime Minister Narendra Modi with Crown Prince of Saudi Arabia Mohammed bin Salman in the ongoing G20 Summit in Osaka, Japan.

Key points :

- ▶ **Background:** In 2017, Saudi Arabia increased India's Haj quota by 35,000 and in 2018, it was hiked by 5,000 and the Haj subsidy provided by the government was withdrawn following the Supreme Court order of 2012. It also allowed women to go on Haj without 'Mehram' or male companion.

JAPAN OFFICIALLY RESUMES COMMERCIAL WHALING AFTER MORE THAN 30 YEARS

- Japan officially resumed commercial whaling for the first time in more than three decades after Tokyo's controversial decision to withdraw from the **International Whaling Commission (IWC)**.

Key points:

- ▶ With this, Japan joined Iceland and Norway as the only nations to allow commercial whaling despite the IWC moratorium
- ▶ The last commercial hunt of Japan was in the year 1986.

About Japan:

- ▶ Capital: Tokyo
- ▶ Currency: Japanese Yen
- ▶ Prime Minister: Shinzo Abe

- Young shooter Elavenil Valarivan won gold medal in the Junior World cup 2019. she had won gold at the same championships last
- she shot 251.6 in the final to win gold. She defeated her compatriot Mehuli Ghosh .



JAPAN GIFTS IMPHAL PEACE MUSEUM TO MANIPUR BUILT ON WWII MEMORIES

- Japan gifted **Imphal Peace Museum to Manipur** to mark the 75th anniversary of the Battle of Imphal, one of the fiercest battles of the Second World War, at Maibam Lokpa Ching popularly known as **Red Hill** (about 20 km southwest of Imphal).

Key points :

- ▶ It is funded by a private, non-profit grant-making organization based in Japan named **The Nippon Foundation** (TNF).
- ▶ The Museum is the symbol of reconciliation between Japan & Britain and Japan & India. It will act as a living memory of the fiercest war with a message that history changes and will make the world learn from the past.

About the Battle of Imphal 1944:

- ▶ Battle of Imphal took place in the region around the city of Imphal (Manipur's capital) from March to July 1944. Japanese armies with an attempt to destroy Allied forces at Imphal invaded India, but were driven back into Burma (Myanmar) with heavy losses.
- ▶ The Battle of Imphal together with simultaneous **Battle of Kohima** (also known as Stalingrad of the East) on the road by which encircled Allied forces at Imphal were relieved, was the main turning point of the Second World War's Burma Campaign. About 70,000 Japanese soldiers, alongside those of Indian National Army (INA) of Subhash Chandra Bose, died in battles with British-led Allied forces in areas around Imphal and Kohima. The last of these battles was fought at Red Hill in Imphal.



- ▶ Mango festival is an most important festival of Krishnagiri and is marked with the sellers and buyers meeting each other with different varieties of mangoes.
- ▶ It is held in the month of June and is celebrated for 23days. more then 6 laksh of visitors are attended the event

8TH MEETING OF INDIA - UZBEKISTAN JOINT WORKING GROUP ON COUNTER-TERRORISM HELD IN NEW DELHI

- 8th meeting of India-Uzbekistan Joint Working Group on Counter-Terrorism was held in New Delhi. It was co-chaired by Mr. Mahaveer Singhvi, Joint Secretary (Counter Terrorism), Ministry of External Affairs and Ambassador Farhod Azriev of Uzbekistan.

Key Points:

1. The Joint Working Group assessed the threats posed by terrorist groups in their respective regions including cross border terrorism and worldwide.
2. They exchanged views on current counter-terrorism challenges prevailing in the countries.

About Uzbekistan:

- ▶ Capital: Tashkent
- ▶ Currency: Uzbekistani som



HOSUR TO GET INTERNATIONAL FLOWER AUCTION CENTRE

An international flower auction centre will be set up at Hosur in Krishnagiri district at a cost of Rs. 20.20 Crore, Chief Minister Edappadi. Palaniswami told in the Assembly.

ISA'S FIRST JOINT SECURITY EXERCISE NAMED 'ISALEX19' HELD IN ABU DHABI

- The first edition of the joint security exercise of International Security Alliance (ISA), ISALEX19 held in Abu Dhabi, UAE (United Arab Emirates).



Key points :

- ▶ **Aim:** The exercise was aimed at testing readiness of the different teams and to evaluate the tools, strategies, and procedures developed jointly between member countries.
- ▶ **ISA:** It was launched in Abu Dhabi in 2017 and comprises nine countries, the UAE, France, the Italian Republic, Bahrain, Morocco, Spain, Senegal, Singapore, and the Slovak Republic.
- ▶ **Operation:** Preventing and combating transnational organized extremist crimes through joint security cooperation projects.

PALAU BECAME THE 76TH COUNTRY TO SIGN THE INTERNATIONAL SOLAR ALLIANCE (ISA)

- The Republic of **Palau**, an island country located in the western Pacific Ocean has signed International Solar Alliance Framework agreement to become a **76th country** that joined the **International Solar Alliance (ISA)**. It was signed by Palau President Tommy Remengesau during a special ceremony at Permanent Mission of India to the United Nations (UN). ISA Framework Agreement has been ratified by a total of 54 of the 76 countries till now.



Key points:

- ▶ Palau is a host country for 2020 edition of the 'Our Oceans conference'. This will focus on issues such as climate change, sustainable fisheries, and marine pollution.

About International Solar Alliance (ISA):

1. It was jointly launched by Prime Minister Narendra Modi and France's President Francois Hollande in November 2015 on sidelines of COP-21 (conference of the parties) of UNFCCC (United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change) in Paris.
2. It was officially established on 6 December 2017 headquartered at the National Institute of Solar Energy (NISE) in Gurugram, Haryana.

3. It is a major global initiative for contributing to the implementation of the Paris Climate Agreement through rapid and massive deployment of solar energy and reduce dependence on fossil fuels.

- **Objective:** To undertake innovative efforts for reducing the cost of finance and deployment of solar generation, Mobilise more than the US \$1000 billion of investments by 2030 and to accelerate development and deployment of over 1,000GW of solar generation capacity in member countries.

About Palau:

- ▶ Capital: Ngerulmud
- ▶ Currency: United States Dollar

INDIA THE LOWEST COST PRODUCER OF SOLAR POWER



According to a report, “**Renewable Power Generation Costs in 2018**” by the International Renewable Energy Agency (IRENA), India leads in producing solar power at lowest cost globally and is far ahead of other nations in low average production costs.

Key points :

- ▶ Even India beats China (cheapest manufacturer of everything,) it left behind the countries of the UK, Canada, and France among others.
- ▶ **India’s report:** India has the lowest total installed cost for new utility-scale solar PV projects that were commissioned in 2018 at \$793/Kw(kilowatt), which is 27% lower than in 2017.
- ▶ **High cost:** Canada (\$2,427/kW) Russian (\$2,302/kW) Japan (\$2,101/kW) South Africa (\$1,617/kW) and Australia (\$1,554/kW) saw the highest cost of setting up solar projects.
- ▶ **Low cost:** China, Italy , France (\$1,074/kW) and Germany (\$1,113/kW) saw the lowest installation cost.

BENJAMIN NETANYAHU MAKES HISTORY AS BECOMES LONGEST-SERVING ISRAELI PM

- **Benjamin Netanyahu (69)**, who has spent 4,876 days (more than 13 years) in office has become Israel’s longest-serving prime minister, surpassing the record of **David Ben-Gurion**, country’s founding father, and first leader.



Key points :

- ▶ In 1996, he won his first election, becoming Israel’s youngest-ever Prime Minister at the age of 46.
- ▶ He secured his 5th term earlier in 2019 but has called fresh elections after failing to form a government. He currently entangled in a series of corruptions affairs and calls for him to resign, but he has denied all accusations, dismissing them as politically motivated.

WORLD'S LARGEST BURN AND PLASTIC SURGERY INSTITUTE INAUGURATED IN DHAKA, BANGLADESH

- The world's largest burn and plastic surgery institute named **Sheikh Hasina National Burn and Plastic Surgery Institute** started its functioning in **Dhaka, Bangladesh**. The Outpatient Department (OPD) of the institute was inaugurated by the Health and Family Welfare Minister of Bangladesh **Zahid Maleque**.

Key points :

- ▶ It is a 500-bed hospital with 50 Intensive Care Units (ICUs) and 12 operation theatres. It will provide advanced treatment to burn patients in Bangladesh.
- ▶ It was built at a cost of over 500 crore Taka.



FRANCE BECAME THE FIRST COUNTRY TO PASS GAFA TAX ON DIGITAL GIANTS

- France became the first country to pass GAFA (Google, Apple, Facebook, Amazon) Tax on digital giants in defiance of a probe ordered by the United States (US) President Donald Trump.

Key points :

- ▶ It will levy a 3% tax on total annual revenues of the largest tech firms providing services to French consumers. The 3% of digital sales in France regard to advertising, websites and the resale of private data.
- ▶ It will help to plug taxation gaps.
- ▶ The tax was passed by the National Assembly, the lower house of Parliament. Earlier passed by the chamber of the National Assembly the **GAFA** was enacted by a simple display of hands in the Senate Upper House.
- ▶ The U.S has not welcomed this move and concerned that the digital service tax expected to pass the French Senate is unfairly targeting American companies.

About France :

- ▶ **Capital:** Paris
- ▶ **Currency:** Euro
- ▶ **President:** Emmanuel Macron

THE 2ND EDITION OF INDIA-RUSSIA STRATEGIC ECONOMIC DIALOGUE 2019 HELD IN NEW DELHI



- The 2nd India-Russia Strategic Economic Dialogue (IRSED) 2019 was held in New Delhi. It aims at bilateral cooperation between two countries in various fields. It was chaired by Rajiv Kumar, Vice-Chairman of India's think tank, National Institution for Transforming India (NITI) Aayog, and Russia's Deputy Minister of Economic Development, Timur Maksimov.

Key points :

- **Areas of cooperation:** It includes
 - ▶ Development of transport infrastructure and technologies
 - ▶ Development of agriculture and agro-Processing sector.
 - ▶ Small and Medium business support
 - ▶ Digital Transformation and Frontier Technologies
 - ▶ Cooperation in Trade, Banking, Finance, and Industry
 - ▶ Tourism & Connectivity.
- **Participation:** The 2nd dialogue saw participation of government officials, business leaders and experts & it included parallel roundtables which discussed areas of cooperation and concrete roadmaps for future negotiations across outlined six-core areas.
- **First meeting:** The 1st IRSED was held in St. Petersburg between November 25-26, 2018.
- **IRSED:** It was formed after the MoU (memorandum of understanding) was signed between the two countries during the 19th edition of Annual India-Russia Bilateral Summit, which was held on October 5, 2018, in New Delhi.

About Russia :

- ▶ **Currency:** Russian Ruble
- ▶ **President:** Vladimir Putin
- ▶ **Prime Minister:** Dmitry Anatolyevich Medvedev

8. TAMIL NADU AFFAIRS



TAMIL NADU DECLARED 'TAMIL YEOMAN' OR 'TAMIL MARAVAN' AS ITS STATE BUTTERFLY



- 'Tamil Yeoman', a kind of butterfly found in Western Ghats declared as Tamilnadu state butterfly. It is also called as 'Tamil Maravan'. Tamil Nadu has become the fifth state in the country to announce its state butterfly.

Tamil Yeoman' :

- ▶ Its scientific name was **Cirrochroa thais**. 'Tamil Yeoman' is one of 30 butterfly species which found in the Western Ghats.
- ▶ These butterflies are known to migrate from one place to another. These butterflies are yellow and dark brown in color.

Info about other state's butterfly:-

- ▶ Maharashtra was the first state that declared Blue Mormon as its state butterfly. After that Uttarakhand (Common peacock), Karnataka (Southern bird wings) and Kerala (Malabar banded peacock) had declared its state butterflies.

Other icons of Tamilnadu:-

- ▶ Animal - Nilgiri Tahr,
- ▶ Bird - Emerald Dove
- ▶ Tree - palm tree
- ▶ Flower - Gloriosa
- ▶ Fruit - Jack fruit.

- The Kerala Startup Mission (KSUM) is hosting the



Women Startup Summit 2019 on August 1, in association with the Indian Women Network floated by Confederation of Indian Industry (CII), at the Integrated Startup Complex, Kochi.

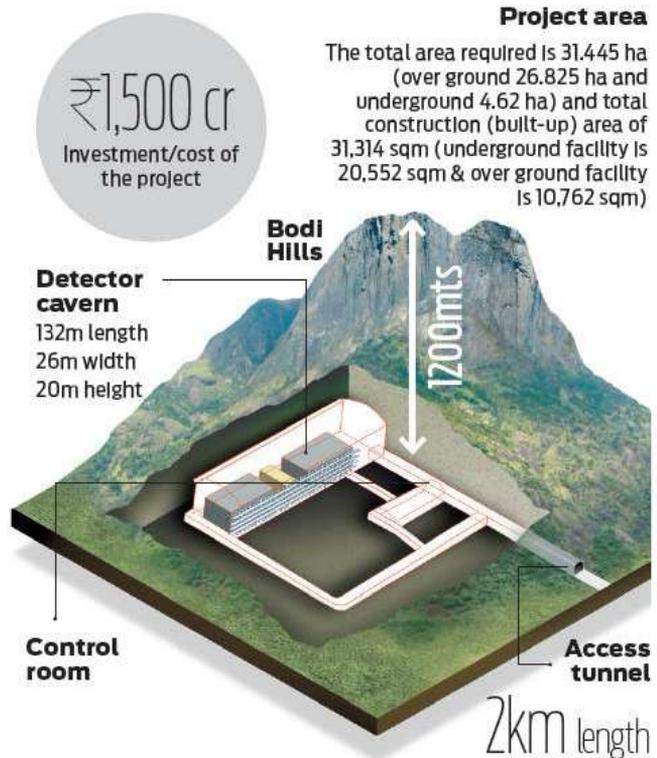
- The 'Women Startup Summit 2019' aims at encouraging aspiring women professionals to take up their entrepreneurial journey and developing an inclusive entrepreneurship ecosystem in the State.

INDIA-BASED NEUTRINO OBSERVATORY (INO) AT POTTIPURAM

- Union Minister of State (MoS) (Independent Charge) Development of North-Eastern Region (DoNER), MoS Prime Minister's Office (PMO), Personnel, Public Grievances & Pensions, Atomic Energy and Space, Dr Jitendra Singh informed that the India-based Neutrino Observatory (INO) will be set up at Pottipuram in Theni District, Tamil Nadu. The aim of the project is to set up a 51000 ton Iron Calorimeter (ICAL) detector to observe naturally occurring atmospheric neutrinos in a cavern at the end of an approximately 2 km long tunnel in a mountain. It would be the first neutrino detector in India.

Key Points:

- This will decrease the noise from cosmic rays that is ever present over-ground and will outnumber the rare neutrino interactions even in a detector as large as ICAL.
- It will measure cosmic rays and neither release any radiation nor radioactive substance.



About Tamil Nadu:

- Capital: Chennai
- Chief Minister: Edappadi K. Palaniswami
- Governor: Banwarilal Purohit
- National Parks: Guindy National Park, Gulf of Mannar Marine National Park, Indira Gandhi (Annamalai) National Park, Mudumalai National Park, Mukurthi National Park
- Wildlife Sanctuaries: Cauvery North WLS, Chitragudi Bird WLS, Indira Gandhi (Annamalai) WLS, Kanyakumari WLS, Pulicat Lake WLS, Sakkarakottai WLS etc

TAMIL NADU TO BE THE FIRST STATE TO MANUFACTURE ELECTRIC CARS: MINISTER

- M C Sampath, minister for industries stated that South Korean multinational automotive manufacturer **Hyundai** plans to launch its electric car for India and the global market from Chennai facility will help make Tamil Nadu the first state in India to manufacture electric cars.

Key points :

- **Motive:** The Tamil Nadu (TN) State Government aims to attract the multinational companies that are moving out of China after the US(United States)-China trade dispute.
- **Investment:** Tamil Nadu ranks 3rd in capital investment in the industrial sector with Rs 4.02 lakh crore, after Gujarat (Rs 8.14 lakh crore) and Maharashtra (Rs 5.02 lakh crore).
- **Industrial output (o/p)** : The state which has 37,220 factories (the most in India followed by Maharashtra (27,010 units) and Gujarat (25,966 units)) also ranks 3rd in total industrial output(o/p), with Rs 7.66 lakh crore, after Gujarat (Rs 12.22 lakh crore) and Maharashtra (Rs 10.74 lakh crore).
- **Workforce:** TN has a high number of persons engaged in the factory at 24.08 lakh persons which are 25% higher than the next state Maharashtra.
- **Eco-friendly initiative:** The TN Industries Development Corporation

(TIDCO) is selecting a consultant for preparing a report on developing a greenfield airport near Chennai.



- **Defence:** The state also aims to attract Rs 10,000 crore in the defence sector for five years.

About Tamil Nadu :

- ▶ **Capital:** Chennai
- ▶ **Chief minister:** Edappadi K. Palaniswami
- ▶ **Governor:** Banwarilal Purohit
- ▶ **National Parks:** Guindy National Park, Gulf of Mannar Marine National Park, Indira Gandhi (Annamalai) National Park, Mudumalai National Park, Mukurthi National Park

9. GENERAL KNOWLEDGE



LIST OF FATHER OF VARIOUS FIELDS (INDIA)

Sl.No	Name	Title
1	Mahatma Gandhi	Father of the Nation
2	Raja Ram Mohan Roy	Father of Modern India
3	Potti Sreeramulu	Father of Linguistic Democracy
4	B.R Ambedkar (Bhimrao Ramji Ambedkar)	Father of Constitution
5	M.G.Ranade (Mahadev Govind Ranade)	Father of Modern Economics
6	Manmohan Singh	Father of Modern Economic Reforms
7	Homi J.Bhabha	Father of Nuclear/ Atomic Program
8	Vikram Sarabhai	Father of Space Program
9	A. P. J. Abdul Kalam (Avul Pakir Jainulabdeen Abdul Kalam)	Father of Missile Program
10	Anant Pai	Father of Comic Books
11	James Rennell	Father of Geography
12	Dadasaheb Phalke(Dhundiraj Govind Phalke)	Father of Cinema
13	N. G. Ranga(Gogineni Ranga Nayukulu)	Father of Peasant Movement
14	Birbal Sahni	Father of Paleobotany
15	Hiralal Chaudhari	Father of Blue Revolution
16	M. S. Swaminathan (Mankombu Sambasivan Swaminathan)	Father of Green Revolution
17	Verghese Kurien	Father of White Revolution

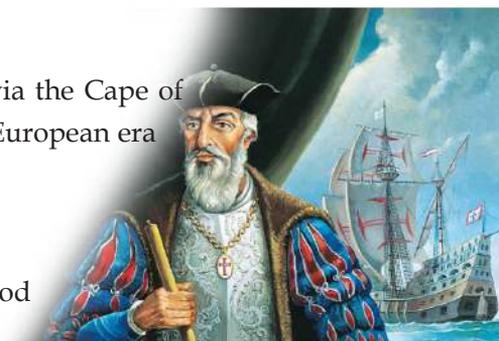
18	Shalihotra	Father of Veterinary Science
19	J. R. D. Tata (Jehangir Ratanji Dadabhoy Tata)	Father of Civil Aviation
20	Subroto Mukerjee	Father of Air Force
21	Sir Mokshagundam Vishweshwaraiah	Father of Civil Engineering
22	Sushruta	Father of Surgery

MODERN INDIA

Vasco da Gama when landed at Calicut, sailing via the Cape of Good Hope in 1498, marked the beginning of the European era in Indian history.

Modern history can be broken down into periods:

1. Early Modern Period
2. Late Modern Period
3. Contemporary History



Modern India Periods	Century	Events
Early Modern Period	Early 16 th century	European Renaissance, the Age of Discovery, and the Protestant Reformation.
Late Modern Period	Mid-18 th century	French Revolution, the American Revolution, the Industrial Revolution, the Great Divergence, and the Russian Revolution.
Contemporary History	Early 19 th Century (Approximately 1945)	Cold War, Petroleum politics, proxy wars, post-war economic boom, globalization

- The doctrine of subsidiary alliance was introduced by Lord Wellesley, British Governor-General of India from 1798 to 1805.
- The first municipal corporation was set up in India in 1687 at Madras preceding the Bombay and Delhi municipal corporations.
- The Treaty of Bassein (Now called Vasai) was a pact signed on December 31, 1802 between the British East India Company and Baji Rao II, the Maratha peshwa of Pune (Poona) in India after the Battle of Poona.

- Revolution in Turkey is a major set back to Khilafat Movement
- Swami Vivekananda founded the Ramakrishna Mission in 1896 to carry on humanitarian relief and social work.
- Lord Ripon who is Viceroy was associated with the 'Ilbert Bill Controversy'

Features:

Sl.No	Features of Modern India
1	Diversity
2	Depth of Culture
3	Land of Minorities
4	Broadly Speaking
5	Poverty, Spirituality and Modernity mix and Coexist

According to historians, the modern period in Indian History begin with the death of Aurangzeb in 1707 AD.

Topics	Period
The British India Company	1600 AD - 1858 AD
The Independence Struggle	1857 AD - 1858 AD
The British Raj	1858 AD - 1947 Ad
The Indian National Congress	1885 AD - 1905 AD
The Indian National Movement	1905 AD - 1914 AD
The Gandhian Era	1917 AD - 1948 AD
The Government of India Act	1935 AD
The Quit India Movement	1942 AD - 1945 AD
The Indian Independence	15 th August 1947

10. PRACTICE QUESTIONS

- Which batsman became the first Indian to cross 1000-run mark in 2019?
(A) Virat Kohli (B) Rohit Sharma (C) KL Rahul (D) Rishabh Pant
- India recently signed a deal to buy 'Strum Ataka' anti-tank missile from which country?
(A) Russia (B) USA (C) Japan (D) Israel
- What is India's position in Henley Passport Index 2019?
(A) 76th (B) 82nd (C) 78th (D) 86th
- Who has been recently re-appointed as RBI's Deputy Director?
(A) NS Viswanathan (B) RP Verma
(C) SP Chaudhary (D) KK Shankar
- Union Jal Shakti Ministry recently launched which initiative for water conservation and water security in 1592 stressed blocks in 256 districts?
(A) Jal Shakti Abhiyan (B) Jal Shakti Morcha
(C) Jal Shakti Yojana (D) Jal Shakti Samman
- Which country banned single-use plastic shopping bags with effect from 1 July 2019?
(A) China (B) Japan (C) Australia (D) New Zealand
- Which state government has decided to prepare the National Citizen Register on the basis of Assam Government?
(A) Karnataka (B) Tamil Nadu (C) Nagaland (D) Manipur
- Which organisation launched the STRIDE scheme to boost research culture in institutions?
(A) Ministry of Human Resource Development
(B) University Grants Commission
(C) Central Board of Secondary Education
(D) Ministry of Skill Development
- The Economic Survey 2019 has projected how much growth in GDP in 2019-20?
(A) 8 percent (B) 7 percent (C) 9 percent (D) 11 percent

10. The world- renowned Jagannath Rath Yatra has begun in which Indian state?
(A) Uttar Pradesh (B) Odisha (C) Jharkhand (D) Chhattisgarh
11. Who has been recently re-appointed as RBI's Deputy Director?
(A) NS Viswanathan (B) RP Verma
(C) SP Chaudhary (D) KK Shankar
12. Which cricketer is likely to replace injured Vijay Shankar in Indian World Cup Squad?
(A) Navdeep Saini (B) Ishant Sharma
(C) Mayank Agarwal (D) Ambati Rayudu
13. What is the name of bollywood actress who recently decided to quit bollywood due to religious reasons?
(A) Nagma (B) Katrina Kaif (C) Zaira Wasim (D) Alia Bhatt
14. Which nation's cricket team ended India's unbeaten streak in World Cup 2019 by beating them by 31 runs?
(A) New Zealand (B) England (C) South Africa (D) Afghanistan
15. Which state has launched a campaign to eradicate Encephalitis disease?
(A) Jharkhand (B) Bihar (C) Uttar Pradesh (D) Madhya Pradesh
16. Which nation has resumed commercial hunt of whales?
(A) China (B) South Korea (C) North Korea (D) Japan
17. Which among the following players made his world cup debut during India vs England World Cup 2019 match?
(A) Rishabh Pant (B) Mohammed Shami
(C) Vijay Shankar (D) Mayank Agarwal
18. How many pilgrims were flagged off from Pahalgam camp on first day of Amarnath Yatra?
(A) 1297 (B) 1183 (C) 996 (D) 887
19. What is the theme of National Doctor's Day 2019?
(A) Don't attack doctors, Doctors are genius
(B) Stop violence against doctors
(C) Say no to violence against doctors
(D) Zero tolerance to violence against doctors

20. On what date National CA Day is celebrated every year?
(A) 1 July (B) 2 July (C) 3 July (D) 4 July
21. Which batsman became the first Indian to cross 1000-run mark in 2019?
(A) Virat Kohli (B) Rohit Sharma (C) KL Rahul (D) Rishabh Pant
22. India recently signed a deal to buy 'Strum Ataka' anti-tank missile from which country?
(A) Russia (B) USA (C) Japan (D) Israel
23. Who became the highest run scorer of ICC World Cup 2019 after the India vs Bangladesh World Cup cricket match?
(A) Rohit Sharma (B) David Warner (C) Virat Kohli (D) Shakib Al Hasan
24. Which Country has left membership of International Whaling Commission and resumed hunting whales?
(A) China (B) USA (C) Japan (D) South Korea
25. Union Jal Shakti Ministry recently launched which initiative for water conservation and water security in 1592 stressed blocks in 256 districts?
(A) Jal Shakti Abhiyan (B) Jal Shakti Morcha
(C) Jal Shakti Yojana (D) Jal Shakti Samman
26. Which Indian government department is taking trails of Tri-NETRA technology?
(A) Ministry of HRD (B) Indian Railways
(C) Commerce Industry (D) FICCI
27. Which state government has decided to prepare the National Citizen Register on the basis of Assam Government?
(A) Karnataka (B) Tamil Nadu (C) Nagaland (D) Manipur
28. Which state government approved amendment in the Factory Act of 1948 to allow women for working in the night shift?
(A) Madhya Pradesh (B) Goa
(C) Punjab (D) Tamil Nadu
29. The Economic Survey 2019 has projected how much growth in GDP in 2019-20?
(A) 8 percent (B) 7 percent (C) 9 percent (D) 11 percent
30. Which two nations have the most powerful passport in 2019?
(A) Japan and Singapore (B) Finland and Germany
(C) Denmark and South Korea (D) Japan and Finland

31. What is India's position in Henley Passport Index 2019?
(A) 76th (B) 82nd (C) 78th (D) 86th
32. Which team will be the fourth World Cup 2019 semi-finalist?
(A) Pakistan (B) England (C) New Zealand (D) Sri Lanka
33. Which state's assembly has passed a bill proposing a hike in retirement age of Vice-chancellors of State own Universities?
(A) West Bengal (B) Madhya Pradesh (C) Himachal Pradesh (D) Punjab
34. Which nation has proposed to ban the return of extremists for 2 years?
(A) New Zealand (B) United Kingdom (C) Australia (D) Germany
35. Which nation has agreed to provide 2,500 metric tons of rice to Bangladesh for the Rohingya refugees?
(A) India (B) France (C) Japan (D) China
36. The world- renowned Jagannath Rath Yatra has begun in which Indian state?
(A) Uttar Pradesh (B) Odisha (C) Jharkhand (D) Chhattisgarh
37. The IMF board has approved USD 6 billion loan package for which nation?
(A) Bangladesh (B) India (C) Nepal (D) Pakistan
38. The longest Electrified Railway Tunnel has been commissioned in which state?
(A) Kerala (B) Karnataka (C) Andhra Pradesh (D) Telangana
39. Which country hosted the Poznan Athletics Grand Prix 2019?
(A) Italy (B) Poland (C) France (D) India
40. Who won the women's 200m gold in the Poznan Athletics Grand Prix 2019 in Poland?
(A) Poovamma Raju Machettira (B) Tintu Lukka
(C) Hima Das (D) P. U. Chitra
41. Where is Rajiv Gandhi International Airport located?
(A) Maharashtra (B) Telangana (C) Uttar Pradesh (D) Andhra Pradesh
42. Which Ministry introduced the Digi Yatra Policy?
(A) Ministry of Information and Broadcasting
(B) Ministry of Electronics and Information Technology
(C) Ministry of Home Affairs
(D) Ministry of Civil Aviation

43. When was the Intermediate-Range Nuclear Forces (INF) Treaty?
(A) 1975 (B) 1982 (C) 1987 (D) 1990
44. Which Country first withdrew from the Intermediate-Range Nuclear Forces treaty (INF)?
(A) US (B) Russia (C) Both (D) No one withdrew
45. Who is awarded with Global Excellence Award 2019?
(A) Azim Premji (B) Ajay Banga (C) Ratan Tata (D) Lakshmi Mittal
46. Which bank launched web tool for NPA recovery process named 'Vasool So-Ft'?
(A) Karnataka Bank (B) Yes bank
(C) Canara Bank (D) Corporation Bank
47. Which state ranked first in NITI Aayogs AM FFR Index?
(A) Maharashtra (B) TamilNadu (C) Kerala (D) West Bengal
48. When Karnataka Bank was founded?
(A) 1958 (B) 1924 (C) 1965 (D) 1948
49. Which Political Leader recently shared a blog on water conservation titled 'A Daughter, A Tree and A Teacher'?
(A) Shashi Tharoor (B) Narendra Modi
(C) Gajendra Singh Shekhawat (D) Arun Jaitley
50. Which Indian batsman became the first in the world to score 5 centuries in a World Cup tournament?
(A) Virat Kohli (B) KL Rahul (C) Rohit Sharma (D) MS Dhoni
51. Which Indigenous Aircraft Carrier (IA(C)) will be delivered to the Indian Navy in 2021 for advanced trials?
(A) Rafael (B) Vikrant (C) Tejas (D) MG-21
52. Which indigenous missile has recently been upgraded from 290 kilometers range to 500 kilometers range?
(A) Prithvi-2 (B) Agni-II (C) Naag (D) BrahMos
53. Which city of India has recently been included in the list of World Heritage Sites by UNESCO?
(A) Lucknow (B) Ranchi (C) Jaipur (D) Ludhiana
54. Which of the following country's government has recently banned wearing naqaab in government offices?
(A) France (B) Tunisia (C) Belgium (D) South Africa

55. Which among the following cricketers announced his retirement from ODIs after World Cup 2019 knockout?
(A) Shakib Al Hasan (B) Shoaib Malik
(C) Sarfaraz Ahmed (D) Chris Gayle
56. Which cricketer retained his top position in the latest ICC Batsmen rankings?
(A) Rohit Sharma (B) David Warner (C) Virat Kohli (D) Shakib Al Hasan
57. Which Union Territory has decided to introduce a bi-cycle sharing scheme?
(A) Puducherry (B) Chandigarh
(C) Andaman and Nicobar Islands (D) Daman and Diu
58. The first world cup semi-final match will be played at which cricket ground?
(A) Headingley (B) Old Trafford (C) Edgbaston (D) Trent Bridge
59. Which Bank recently announced to pull out of global equities sales and trading to scale back investment banking?
(A) Deutsche Bank (B) Barclays Bank
(C) HSBC India (D) DBS Bank
60. Prime Minister Modi recently unveiled the statue of former Prime Minister Lal Bahadur Shastri at which city?
(A) New Delhi (B) Ranchi (C) Varanasi (D) Karnal
61. India and which country recently resolved to exchange crucial information on drug trafficking and precursors?
(A) Russia (B) Myanmar (C) Nepal (D) Maldives
62. Which helicopters arrived at the Mundra port in Gujarat for the Indian Air Force?
(A) Vikrant (B) Chinook (C) Rafael (D) Tejas
63. Reliance Jio tied-up with which social media platform for 'Digital Udaan' initiative?
(A) Facebook (B) Instagram (C) Twitter (D) WhatsApp
64. Which state government has announced for monthly Rs.10K allowance for Padma award winners facing financial problem?
(A) Jharkhand (B) Odisha (C) Telangana (D) Rajasthan
65. Who has been recently appointed as head of the National Cricket Academy?
(A) MS Dhoni (B) Sachin Tendulkar (C) Rahul Dravid (D) Harbhajan Singh

66. According to the United Nations, which country has enriched uranium more than limit set in an international treaty of 2015?
(A) Iran (B) Iraq (C) Jordan (D) Pakistan
67. Recently, how many countries have established a group of scientists to study the impact of climate change on Arctic ice?
(A) 32 (B) 25 (C) 20 (D) 17
68. Which country has recently launched Soyuz Carrier Rocket with 33 Satellites?
(A) China (B) Russia (C) France (D) Sri Lanka
69. Which public sector bank recently announced to do away with charges on NEFT and RTGS transactions through internet and mobile banking from July 1?
(A) PNB (B) SBI (C) OBC (D) Bank of India
70. Which nation has become the first to qualify into the World Cup 2019 finals?
(A) England (B) Australia (C) India (D) New Zealand
71. Which country was recently declared measles free by World Health Organization?
(A) Sri Lanka (B) Nepal (C) Bangladesh (D) Pakistan
72. Which Indian sprinter won gold in 100m race during 30th Summer University Games held in Italy?
(A) Hima Das (B) Dutee Chand (C) Renuka Awasthi (D) Mani Ratna
73. Ten Congress MLAs joined BJP in which among the following states?
(A) Maharashtra (B) Karnataka (C) Goa (D) Madhya Pradesh
74. The RBI recently finalised a 'Three Year Roadmap' to improve supervision and regulation. What is the name of roadmap?
(A) Utkarsh 2022 (B) Utsaah 2022 (C) Vishwas 2022 (D) Vikalp 2022
75. Who has been recently appointed as head of the National Cricket Academy?
(A) MS Dhoni (B) Sachin Tendulkar (C) Rahul Dravid (D) Harbhajan Singh
76. According to the United Nations, which country has enriched uranium more than limit set in an international treaty of 2015?
(A) Iran (B) Iraq (C) Jordan (D) Pakistan
77. Which city of India has recently been included in the list of World Heritage Sites by UNESCO?
(A) Lucknow (B) Ranchi (C) Jaipur (D) Ludhiana

78. India's Child mortality reduced to what percent as per the Multidimensional Poverty Index 2019?
(A) 4 percent (B) 3.5 percent (C) 2.2 percent (D) 2.0 percent
79. Which Article of Indian Constitution mentions about the Consolidated Fund of India (CFI) of the Central government?
(A) Article 250 (B) Article 266 (C) Article 237 (D) Article 292
80. Who is the current Comptroller and Auditor General (CAG) of India?
(A) Rajiv Mehrishi (B) Tushar Mehta
(C) Viral Acharya (D) Ajay Narayan Jha
81. Who audits the Consolidated Fund of India?
(A) RBI committee (B) Finance Minister-led panel
(C) Comptroller and Auditor General (D) Solicitor General of India
82. Who launched AIFF Golden Baby Leagues handbook?
(A) Prakash Javedakar (B) Kiren Rijju
(C) Suresh Prabhu (D) Vikram Gupta
83. India to be free of _____ by 2025
(A) Flu (B) Tuberculosis (C) Malaria (D) Typhoid
84. Who won gold in men's 400m event at a Tabor Athletics Meet in Czech Republic?
(A) Neeraj Chopra (B) Pardeep Narwal
(C) Jinson Johnson (D) Muhammad Anas
85. Which Country hosted the Tabor Athletics Meet 2019?
(A) Czech Republic (B) Hungary
(C) Poland (D) Austria
86. Who won gold in the 200m event at a Tabor Athletics Meet in Czech Republic?
(A) P. U. Chitra (B) Hima Das (C) Dutee Chand (D) Pinki Pramanik
87. _____ to be free of Tuberculosis by 2025
(A) Russia (B) India (C) Saudi Arabia (D) Indonesia
88. How many cricketer's have been inducted in the International Cricket Council's Hall of Fame?
(A) 75 (B) 89 (C) 97 (D) 112

89. How many Indian Cricketers are there in the International Cricket Council's Hall of Fame list?
(A) Mohammad Azharuddin (B) Virender Sehwag
(C) Rahul Dravid (D) Dilip Vengsarkar
90. Who was inducted into the International Cricket Council's Hall of Fame?
(A) Sachin Tendulkar (B) Yuvaraj Singh
(C) Sourav Ganguly (D) Virender Sehwag
91. Which state Traffic Police Launch New E-Payment System to Overcome Corruption
(A) Tamil Nadu (B) Delhi (C) Kerala (D) Bihar
92. Who reviewed first-ever Draft Plan for Power Distribution Sector
(A) Suresh Sharma (B) R K Singh (C) Vikram Sharma (D) Dinesh Gupta
93. When was the Chhattisgarh State formed?
(A) 1995 (B) 2000 (C) 2002 (D) 2005
94. Who is appointed as the Governor of Chhattisgarh 2019?
(A) Anusuiya Uikey (B) Anandiben Patel
(C) Biswa Bhushan Harichandran (D) Ram Naik
95. How many components are launched by Indian Cyber Crime Coordination Centre (I4C) for the year 2018-2020
(A) 6 (B) 7 (C) 8 (D) 9
96. Rajya Sabha cleared the _____.
(A) Special Economic Zones (Amendment) Bill, 2016
(B) Special Economic Zones (Amendment) Bill, 2017
(C) Special Economic Zones (Amendment) Bill, 2018
(D) Special Economic Zones (Amendment) Bill, 2019
97. Which ministry successfully observed 'Swachhta Pakhwada'
(A) Ministry of Finance
(B) Ministry of Ministry of New and Renewable Energy
(C) Ministry of External Affairs
(D) Ministry of Internal Affairs

98. Which day is observed on 29th June?
 (A) Statistics Day (B) World Environment Day
 (C) World Organ Day (D) World Heart Day
99. Go Tribal campaign by Tribes India launched in _____
 (A) New Delhi (B) Chennai (C) Hyderabad (D) Mumbai
100. Maharaja Ranjit Singh honoured on his _____ death anniversary
 (A) 180th (B) 154th (C) 172th (D) 195th

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
B	A	D	A	A	D	C	B	B	B
11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20
A	C	C	B	C	D	A	B	D	A
21	22	23	24	25	26	27	28	29	30
B	A	A	C	A	B	C	B	B	A
31	32	33	34	35	36	37	38	39	40
D	C	A	C	D	B	D	C	B	C
41	42	43	44	45	46	47	48	49	50
B	D	C	A	B	A	A	B	B	C
51	52	53	54	55	56	57	58	59	60
B	D	C	B	D	C	A	B	A	C
61	62	63	64	65	66	67	68	69	70
B	B	A	B	C	A	D	B	B	D
71	72	73	74	75	76	77	78	79	80
A	B	C	A	C	A	C	C	B	AC
81	82	83	84	85	86	87	88	89	90
C	B	B	D	A	B	A	B	C	A
91	92	93	94	95	96	97	98	99	100
B	A	B	A	B	D	B	A	A	A

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