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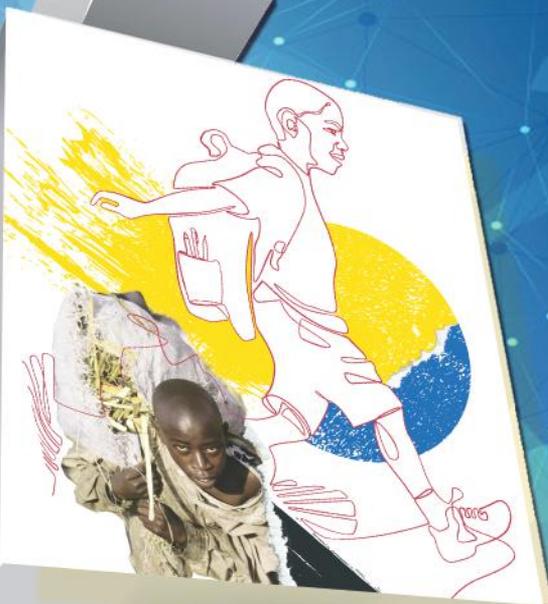
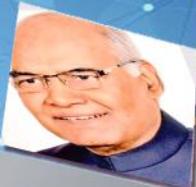
# TNPSC GATEWAY

MONTHLY MAGAZINE FOR TNPSC EXAMS

JUNE - 2019



- ✓ India Ranks 95<sup>th</sup> among 129 Countries in New Gender Equality Index
- ✓ PM Modi to Attend the G7 Summit In France as a Special Invitee
- ✓ Orchha Town of Madhya Pradesh Added to the Tentative List of UNESCO's World Heritage Sites
- ✓ Bal Sahitya Puraskar & Yuva Puraskar 2019 Announced By Sahitya Academy
- ✓ India will Overtake China as World's Most Populous Country : Un Report



# Vetrii IAS Study Circle

The Best Academy for IAS & TNPSC Exams

# TNPSC

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Greetings to all of you! "What we think we become" said Gautama Buddha. We all have dreams. To turn dreams into reality it takes a lot of determination, dedication, self discipline and hard work.

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*Wishing You All The Very Best*

**M. SHUNMUGAM**  
DIRECTOR  
Vetrii IAS Study Circle.



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# 1. History



## 1.1 IMPORTANT DAYS

**May 25**

### **International missing children's day**

- To raise awareness on the issue of child abduction, educate parents on safeguard measures to protect their children.

### **World Thyroid day**

#### **About Thyroid Disorders:**

- It is common worldwide and affect people of all ages. It is usually caused by iodine deficiency. The most common thyroid disorders are hypothyroidism, thyroiditis or Goitre.

**May 27**

### **Sweden to host world leaders conference to combat anti-semitism in october 2020**

- **Swedish Prime Minister Stefan Lofven** announced that **Sweden** will host an **International Conference against Anti-Semitism** in memory of the Holocaust in October 2020. It will held in **Malmö, Southern Sweden**, on October 27 and 28, 20 years after the liberation of the Auschwitz concentration camp.

#### **Key Points :**

- The decision to fight against anti-Semitism is taken after the relations with Israel have been in trouble since the Nordic state's recognition of a Palestinian state by Lofven's Government in 2014.
- After the attacks in Paris and Copenhagen in 2015, the Simon Wiesenthal Centre had called for a European conference against anti-Semitism.

**May 28**

### **Veer savarkar jayanthi**

- The birth anniversary of Veer Savarkar aka **Vinayak Damodar Savarkar** was observed on May 28 annually to commemorate the sacrifices made by him during the freedom struggle. He was born on May 28, 1883 in Bhagpur village near Nasik in

Maharashtra. He was a freedom fighter who called 1857 revolt as the first war of independence.

### About Veer Savarkar :

- In 1923, he founded the word **“Hindutva”**.
- Veer Savarkar founded the two-nation theory in his book Hindutva calling Hindus and Muslims two separate nations. In 1937, Hindu Mahasabha passed it as a resolution.
- He had founded Abhinav Bharat Society (in Pune) and Free India Society (in London).
- He has written **“Joseph Mazzini - Biography and Politics”**. He has published **“The Indian War of Independence”** about Indian rebellion of 1857. He also founded the two-nation theory in his book **“Hindutva”** calling Hindus and Muslims two separate nations.

### World Hunger Day

- The 9<sup>th</sup> annual **World Hunger Day** was observed with a theme of **“Sustaibility”**. World Hunger Day is an initiative by **The Hunger Project**. first started in 2011.
- The objective is to raise awareness about more than 821 million people living in chronic hunger worldwide. It seeks to celebrate sustainable solutions to hunger and poverty and to inspire everyone to be a part of the solution.



### International day of United Nations Peacekeepers

- Theme 2019 : **“Protecting Civilians, Protecting Peace”**.

### International Everest Day

- Nepal decided to observe the day as International Everest Day since 2008 when the legendary climber Hillary passed away. Everest Day on May 29 every year in memory of the first summit of Mt. Everest by Sir Edmund Hillary and Tenzing Norgay Sherpa on the day in 1953.

### World Digestive health day

- **World Digestive Health Day** was celebrated every year on **May 29** every year. This year the theme of the World Digestive Health Day 2019 was **“Early Diagnosis and Treatment of Gastrointestinal (G) Cancer”**.
- The day was celebrated by **World Gastroenterology Organisation (WGO)** in collaboration with **WGO Foundation** gastrointestinal diseases and disorders.

**May 30**

### Goa celebrates its statehood day

- Goa celebrates its statehood day on 30<sup>th</sup> May. It was on this day in **1987 Goa became the 25<sup>th</sup>** state of the Indian Union. It was a Union Territory along with Daman and Diu from December 1961 onwards when Goa was liberated from the colonial rule.
- Once Goa was liberated there was a controversy regarding merging Goa with the neighbouring state of Maharashtra or Mysore. However, an opinion poll of 1967 suggested that Goa, Daman and Diu be Union Territory.

#### Key words :

- Pramod Sawant is the 13<sup>th</sup> and current Chief Minister of Goa.
- Panaji is the state capital of Goa.
- Mridula Sinha is present Governor of Goa.

**May 31**

### World No-Tobacco Day

- To raise awareness on the harmful and deadly effects of tobacco use and second-hand smoke exposure, and to discourage the use of tobacco in any form.
- Theme 2019 - **“tobacco and lung health.”**

**Jun 01**

### Global day of Parents

- First ever Global day of Parents was declared by UN general assembly in **2012** with resolution A/RES/66/292. Theme for this year - **Honor your parents.**

### World Milk Day

- The theme for World Milk Day 2019 is “Drink Milk: Today & Everyday”.
- The theme intended to educate people about the importance of milk in our life and society.

**Jun 03**

### World Bicycle Day observed

- To promote the use of bicycle daily in this current era of modern automobiles. The main aim of this day is to recognize bicycle as clean, affordable and environment friendly mode of transport.

**Jun 04****International day of Innocent Children Victims of Aggression observed on June 4**

- It was observed on **June 4**. It aims to spread awareness about the pain and sufferings faced by the children who are the victims of physical, mental and emotional abuse.

**Jun 05****Celebrated as World Environment Day**

- To raise awareness about environmental issues pertaining to our planet and the action to be taken to tackle them.
- This day was observed for the first time in **1974** by the United Nations. China is the country for World Environment Day 2019.

**international day for the fight against iuu fishing**

- June 5 is celebrated as the **International Day for the Fight Against Illegal, Unreported and Unregulated (IUU) Fishing to promote awareness in combating IUU**. The day was first celebrated in **2018**. The day June 5 is chosen to mark the day Agreement on Port State Measures came into existence.

**Jun 06****Maharana Pratap Jayanti**

- The birth anniversary of Maharana Pratap Singh, a Rajput King of Mewar is celebrated as Maharana Pratap Jayanti on June 6<sup>th</sup>. He is renowned as a true patriot who commenced the first war of independence. This year is 479<sup>th</sup> birth anniversary of great warrior.

**Jun 07****1<sup>st</sup> World Food Safety Day**

- The first-ever **World Food Safety Day** was celebrated in **June 7, 2019**. It was adopted by the **United Nations General Assembly** in December 2018. The theme of the year is "**Food Safety, everyone's business**". On this occasion, an event was launched in New York with a panel discussion.

- **Theme - 'Food Safety, everyone's business'.**

**Objective :**

- By observing World Food Safety Day, WHO pursues its efforts of mainstreaming food safety in public agenda and reducing burden of foodborne diseases globally.

**Jun 12****World Day Against Child Labour**

- To focus on the extent of child labour worldwide and the efforts required to eliminate it.
- 1. The **theme** for the year is “**Children shouldn’t work in fields, but on dreams!**”.

**Jun 13****International Albinism awareness day**

- To preserve the rights of persons with albinism and take efforts to ensure equal access for them to employment, education, justice and good health. The theme for the year is “**Still Standing Strong**”.

**Jun 14****World Blood Donor Day**

- To raise awareness on blood donation. The theme of this year’s campaign is “Blood donation and universal access to **safe blood transfusion,**” as a component of achieving universal health coverage. It encourages people all over the world to become blood donors and donate blood regularly. The Slogan for World Blood Day 2019 is “**Safe blood for all**”

**Jun 15****World Elder Abuse Awareness day**

- Theme 2019 - “**Lifting Up Voices**”.
- The purpose of this day is to provide awareness of the cultural, social, economic, and demographic processes affecting elder abuse and neglect.

**Jun 16****International Day of Family Remittances (IDFR)**

- To recognize the contribution of migrant workers to their families and communities back home, and to the sustainable development of their native countries.
- IFAD, The Custodian of IDFR, is supporting the Family Remittances Campaign 2030.

**About International Fund for Agricultural Development (IFAD):**

- **Formation** – 1977
- **Headquarter** – Rome, Italy

**Jun 18****Sustainable Gastronomy Day**

- To promote agricultural development, food security, nutrition, sustainable food production and the conservation of biodiversity.

**Jun 18****International Picnic Day**

➤ The word “picnic” originated from the French language. It relates to informal outdoor meal. Picnic became a popular time pass in France after the Revolution.

**AIM :**

➤ To encourage people to go outdoors and enjoy each other’s company.

**Autistic Pride Day**

- To recognize the importance of pride for autistics and understands it not as a disease but as a difference.
- Autism is a neurological developmental disability that affect the development of normal brain, hampers communication, social interaction, cognition and behaviour.

**Jun 19****International Day for the Elimination of Sexual Violence in Conflict**

➤ Aims to create awareness on the necessity to curb conflict related to sexual violence, to honour the victims and survivors of sexual violence throughout the world.

**About United Nations :**

- **Headquarters:** New York, United States
- **Founded:** 24 October 1945
- **United Nations Secretary general:** António Guterres

**World sickle cell day**

- To promote public awareness about sickle cell disease and support people by educating them.
- Organized by United Nation General Assembly in 2008 to raise awareness about the sickle cell disease and the pain that people go throughout life.
- The day was celebrated for the first time on 19 June 2009.

Jun 20

### World Refugee Day

- To raise awareness of the situation of refugees throughout the world. It seeks to draw attention to the plight of refugees across the world and celebrate their courage and resilience and renew global commitment to solve refugee problems. The Theme for the 2019 World Refugee Day is **#Step With Refugees — Take A Step on World Refugee Day**.

Jun 21

### International Day of Yoga

- United Nation has declared theme as **“Yoga for Climate Action”** and Ministry of Ayush , India has declared theme for Yoga Day as **” Yoga for Heart“**.

### World Music Day

- It is also known as Fête de la Musique’ meaning “festival of music”. It aims to honor both amateur and professional musicians. The theme of world music day 2019 is **“Music at the intersections”**.

### Summer Solstice day

- It is also known as the ‘June Solstice’. Summer Solstice is the longest day of the year which is considered as the start of the summer season.

### International Widows Day

Jun 23

#### AIM

- To develop resources and policy to empower widows and allow them to have access to education, work, healthcare and lives free of violence and abuse.



### United Nations Public Service Day

- Theme 2019- **‘Achieving the Sustainable Development Goals through effective Delivery of Services, Innovative Transformation, and Accountable Institutions’**.

### International Olympic Day

- This day marks the birth of modern Olympic games on **June 23, 1894**, at **Sorbonne** in **Paris**.
- First Olympic Day was celebrated on **23 June 1948** by 9 **National Olympic Committees (NOC)**.



## 1.2 DEFENCE

### INDIA'S FIRST ALL WOMAN CREW FLIES MI-17 V5 MEDIUM LIFT HELICOPTER

- Three women officers of Indian Air Force were part of India's first all women crew to fly a **medium lift helicopter Mi-17 V5**. Flight Lieutenant **Parul Bhardwaj** (Captain), **Flying Officer Nidhi** (co-pilot) and Flight Lieutenant Hina Jaiswal (Flight Engineer) were three women IAF officers flew the chopper, which took off from a forward air base in South Western air command.



#### Key Highlights :

- All three women officers flew a **Mi-17 V5** helicopter for Battle Inoculation Training Mission. Under this mission helicopter had take off and land from restricted areas at a forward air base in South Western air command.

### FLIGHT LIEUTENANT MOHANA SINGH BECAME THE FIRST IAF WOMAN PILOT TO FLY HAWK JETS

- **Flight Lieutenat Mohana Singh** became the first IAF woman pilot to become complete operational by day on Hawk advanced jet aircraft. She landed the gruelling 4 aircraft combat sortie at the **Kalaikunda Air Force Station in West Bengal**.



#### Key Points :

- At the training period, she was trained to fly air-to-air combat and air-to-ground missions.
- She has the experience of more than 500 hours of incident-free flying, of which 380 hours are on the Hawk Mk 132 jet.
- In June 2016, she along with two other women pilots Bhawana Kanth and Avani Chaturvadi had joined the fighter stream.

## INDIA & PORTUGAL TO SETUP NATIONAL MARITIME HERITAGE MUSEUM IN LOTHAL

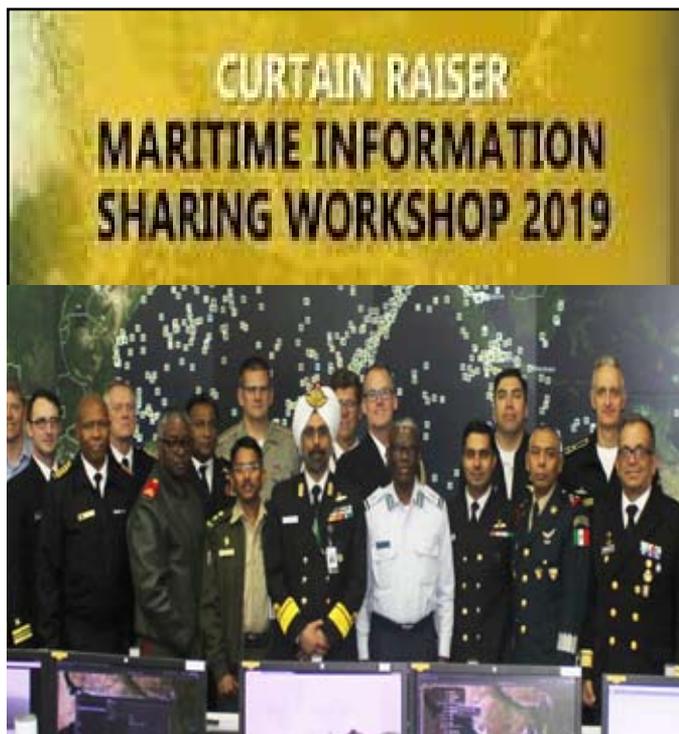
- Government of **India** announced that it will join hands with **Portugal** to set up maritime museum near ancient Harappans civilization at **Lothal in Gujarat**. It will be the similar model of the museum which is at Lisbon, Portugal administered by Portuguese Navy.

### Key points :

- In March 2019, The foundation stone of the museum was laid down by Prime Minister **Narendra Modi**.
- It will be built in **public-private partnership (PPP)** model. It will display India's rich heritage of inland waterways, trade through the water route, ancient ship building and navigational technologies developed by India.
- It is going to be implemented by **Union Ministry of Shipping** through its **Sagarmala programme** with the support of Archaeological Survey of India (ASI), Gujarat State Government, Indian Navy and number of stakeholders.

## MARITIME INFORMATION SHARING WORKSHOP 2019 HELD IN GURUGRAM

- The two day event of **Maritime Information Sharing Workshop 2019 (MISW 2019)** hosted by the Indian **Navy** under the aegis of the **Information Fusion Centre-India Ocean Region (IFC-IOR)** held in **Gurugram, Haryana** on June 12, 2019.



### Key points :

- The workshop was inaugurated by Vice Admiral **MS Pawar**, Deputy Chief of the Naval Staff.
- **Participation:** It saw the participation of more than 41 delegates from 29 countries of Indian Ocean Region (IOR) and beyond.
- **Objectives :** It was aimed at making aware of all participants about **IFC-IOR**. It was also aimed at promoting and sharing the security and safety challenges faced by IOR.

## 1.3 EMINENT PERSONS

### RIHANNA NAMED AS WORLD'S RICHEST FEMALE MUSICIAN WITH \$600 MILLION WEALTH

- Singer **Rihanna** of age 31 is named as the world's richest female according to the **Forbes magazine** with an estimated fortune of **\$600 million**. She over took **Madonna** and **Beyonce** who topped the list previously. She is from **Barbados**.



## 1.4 SUMMIT & CONFERENCE

### 72<sup>ND</sup> WORLD HEALTH ASSEMBLY

- The 72<sup>nd</sup> session of the World Health Organisation (WHO)'s World Assembly held in Geneva, Switzerland from May 20 to 28, 2019. The theme of this year is "Universal Health Coverage: Leaving no one behind". The World Health Assembly was attended by delegations from all 194 World Health Organisation (WHO) Member states. The main focus of the session is on specific health agenda prepared by the Executive Board.

#### Key Highlights :

- WHO appointed four new goodwill ambassadors for promoting global health.
  - Ellen Johnson Sirleaf - He was former President of Liberia.
  - Cynthia Germanotta - She is president of Liberia.
  - Alisson Becker - He is goalkeeper of the Brazilia and Liverpool football team.
  - Natalia Loewe Becker - She is medical doctor and health advocate from Brazil.

### G20 FINANCE MINISTERS MEETING AND CENTRAL BANK GOVERNORS MEET HELD IN FUKUOKA, JAPAN

- As a part of setting the stage for **2019 G20 Summit**, to be held in **Osaka**, Japan, from 28-29 June 2019, a G20 Finance Ministers and Central Bank Governors Meet was held in **Fukuoka**, Japan on 8-9 June.
- It was one of the 8 ministerial meetings taking place in Japan before 2019 G20 summit. This is for the first time that Japan is hosting the G20 Summit & Ministerial Meetings at its eight different locations.
  - The Indian side was led by Union Minister for Finance & Corporate Affairs **Nirmala Sitharaman** comprising of **Subhash C.Garg**, Finance Secretary and Economic Affairs Secretary **Dr.Viral Acharya**, Deputy Governor of **RBI** and other officers

## ST PETERSBURG INTERNATIONAL ECONOMIC FORUM 2019

Russia's annual Saint Petersburg International Economic Forum (SPIEF) is being held from 6-8 June 2019.

It is an annual international forum that discusses key economic issues faced by **Russia**, emerging markets and world at large stage. The Saint Petersburg is Russia's former imperial capital.



### Key Highlights of SPIEF :

- **Background** : The first SPIEF was held in **1997**. Now over past two decades, it has become one of leading global platforms for communication between representatives and discussion of crucial global economic issues. Since 2006 it has been held under auspicious and participation for Russian **President Vladimir Putin**.
- The SPIEF 2018 edition brought together around 17,000 participants from more than 140 countries. At the event Russia tries to boost its appeal to international business and investors.

## INDIA RANKED 95<sup>TH</sup> IN 129 COUNTRIES IN NEW GENDER EQUALITY INDEX

- **India** was ranked **95th** among 129 countries in new **SDF (Sustainable Development Goals) Gender Equality Index** with **56.2** scores. The gender gap index of the World Economic Forum had ranked India with 108.

### Top 10 Countries:

Rank	Country	Score
1.	Denmark	89.3
2.	Finland	88.8
3.	Sweden	88.0
4.	Norway	87.7
5.	Netherlands	86.8
6.	Slovenia	86.5
7.	Germany	86.2
8.	Canada	85.8
9.	Ireland	85.4
10.	Australia	85.2

## 14<sup>TH</sup> OIC SUMMIT HELD IN MECCA, SAUDI ARABIA

- **14th Islamic Summit** organized by **Organization of Islamic Cooperation (OIC)** summit was held in **Mecca, Saudi Arabia**. It was hosted by Saudi King **Salman bin Abdul Aziz al Saud**.
- The summit, titled as "**Mecca Summit: Together for the Future**", aimed at developing a unified stance on events in the Islamic world.

## MUMBAI RANKED MOST CONGESTED CITY IN THE WORLD, DELHI RANKED 4<sup>TH</sup> IN TRAFFIC INDEX 2018

- The recent study “**Traffic Index 2018**”, analysis of current status of traffic mobility was conducted.

WORLD TRAFFIC INDEX 2018				
WORLD RANK	CITY	COUNTRY	CONGESTION	LEVEL
1	Mumbai	India	65%	↓1%
2	Bogala	Colombia	63%	↑1%
3	Lima	Peru	58%	↑8%
4	New Delhi	India	58%	↓4%
5	Moscow	Russia	56%	↓1%
6	Islambul	Turkey	53%	↓6%
7	Jakarta	Indonesia	53%	↓8%
8	Bangkok	Thailand	53%	↓2%
9.	Mexico City	Mexico	52%	-0%
10.	Recife	Brazil	49%	↑29%

### Key Findings :

- According to the findings, **Mumbai** is the most traffic congested city among **403 cities in 56 countries** with a congestion level of **65 percent**, while **New Delhi** ranked **fourth** with a congestion of **58 per cent**.
- The other top cities in the list of congested cities are: Bogota (63 per cent). Lima in Peru (58 per cent). Moscow in Russia (56 Per cent). Brussels (37 Per cent), London (37 Per cent) and Paris (36 per cent).
- Top five most congested North American are in the list are: Mexico City (52 percent), Los Angels (41 per cent), Vancouver (38 per cent) and San Fransico (34 per cent).

### PM MODI TO ATTEND THE G7 SUMMIT IN FRANCE AS A SPECIAL INVITEE

- French President, **Emmanuel Macron** has invited Prime Minister **Mr.Narendra Modi** to attend the **45<sup>th</sup>** session of the G7 Summit in **Biarritz in France** as a special invitee. The summit of the G7 group of countries scheduled to take place from **August 24 to August 26**.

### Key points :

- Prime Minister Narendra Modi has accepted an invitation for the summit.
- The Seven (G7) countries are **Canada, France, Germany, Italy, Japan, the United Kingdom, and the United States**.
- France’s Minister of state for foreign affairs Jean-Baptiste Lemoyne is recently visiting India for the first time.
- The G7 Summit 2018 (**44<sup>th</sup> Summit**) was held in **Quebec, Canada**.

## INDIA RANKED 113 OUT OF 176 COUNTRIES IN END OF CHILDHOOD INDEX

- According to the 3<sup>rd</sup> **End of Childhood Index**, a part of Changing Lives in Our Lifetime - Global Childhood Report 2019, **India** was ranked 113 in 176 countries on the wellbeing of children with 769 score out of 1000.
- The Index was released on May 28, 2019 by “**Save the Children**”, a United Kingdom (UK) based non-profit organisation which works for child rights.

Top 10 Countries:		Bottom 10 Countries:	
Rank	Country	Rank	Country
1	Singapore	167	Burkina Faso
2	Sweden	168	DR Congo
3	Finland	169	Guinea
4	Norway	170	Nigeria
5	Slovenia	171	Somalia
6	Germany	172	South Sudan
7	Ireland	173	Mali
8	Italy	174	Chad
9	South Korea	175	Niger
10	Belgium	176	Central African Republic

### Key facts about India :

- As per the Index, India had improved on child mortality from 39 deaths per 1000 live births in 2017. It was 88 deaths per 1,000 live births in year 2000. It was reduced by 55%.
- More than 38% Indian children aged 0-59 months were stunted, it is the second-worst performance compared to its neighbours after **Pakistan** (40.8%). **China** (6%) had the lowest rate in the region, followed by **Nepal** (13.8%), **Sri Lanka** (17.3%), **Bangladesh** (17.4%) and **Bhutan** (19.1%).
- In **India**, every fifth child was out of school at primary and secondary levels and more than 11% in the 5-17 age groups were child labourers.

### About Save the Children:

- **Founded** : April 15, 1919
- **Headquarters** : London, UK



## 16<sup>TH</sup> ASIA MEDIA SUMMIT HELD IN SIEM REAP PROVINCE, CAMBODIA

- The **16th** Edition of **Asia Media Summit (AMS)** 2019 was held in **Siem Reap province, Cambodia** from June 12 to June 14, 2019. It was inaugurated by the Prime Minister of Cambodia, Samdech Hun Sen. AMS was held under the topic **“Media Digitalization Focusing on Developing Markets”** and it gave a call to fight against fake news and cyber-crimes.

### Key points :

- It was organized by Cambodian Ministry of Information in collaboration with the Asia - Pacific Institute for Broadcasting Development (AIBD).

## WORLDWIDE DISPLACEMENT TOPS 70.8 MILLION AT THE END OF 2018: UNHCR REPORT

- According to the recently released **UNHCR’s (United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees) annual Global Trends report**, almost **70.8 million** people are forcibly displaced in 2018, the most since just after World War II and double the number of 20 years ago.

### Key points :

- The report states that the number of people fleeing persecution, conflict, violence or human rights violations rose by 2.3 million in 2018.
- About 4 million **Venezuelans** and more than 1.5 million **Ethiopians** were the largest displaced population in 2018.
- The 70.8 million people in the report consist of three groups which include refugees (25.9 million), asylum seekers (3.5 million) and Internally displaced persons (IDPs)( 41.3 million).
- The countries with most IDPs are Syria and Colombia.
- Every year June 20 is observed as World Refugee Day to raise awareness of the situation of refugees throughout the world.

### About UNHCR :

- It is an inter-governmental body within the United Nations system.
- It was created in 1950, during the aftermaths of World War II.
- It is responsible for strengthening the promotion and protection of human rights around the globe and for addressing situations of human rights violations and make recommendations on them.
- It is headquartered in **Geneva, Switzerland**.

## 1.5 PLACES IN NEWS

### ORCHHA TOWN OF MADHYA PRADESH ADDED TO THE TENTATIVE LIST OF UNESCO'S WORLD HERITAGE SITES

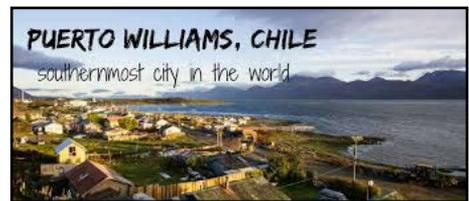


- The architectural heritage of **Orchha town in Madhya Pradesh** has been added to the Tentative List of **UNESCO's World Heritage Sites**. The architectural heritage of Orchha town depicts a unique style of the Bundela dynasty.

#### Key Points :

- The Archaeological Survey of India (ASI) had sent a proposal to UNESCO to include the architectural heritage of Orchha town in its list of World Heritage Sites on April 15, 2019.

### PUERTO WILLIAMS - WORLD'S SOUTHERNMOST CITY



- **Puerto Williams** in Chile has become the southernmost city in the world after getting its status upgraded to city category. Previously, southernmost city was **Ushuaia in Argentina**.

## 1.6 SPORTS & GAMES

### PANKAJ ADVANI CLINCHED THE 35TH MEN'S ASIAN SNOOKER CHAMPIONSHIP IN DOHA

- **India's ace cueist Pankaj Advani**, clinched the 35<sup>th</sup> men's Asian snooker championship in Doha, Qatar. He defeated Thai's Thanawat Tirapongpaiboon.
  1. He became the only one to win the Asian and World championships in all formats.
  2. He will take part in IBSF World Cup in Doha.



#### About Asian Confederation of Billiards Sports (ACBS) :

- **President** – Mr. Mohamed Salem Al-Nuaimi
- **Headquarter** – Doha, Qatar.

### ISSF World Cup 3 overview

S.No	Name of the Shooter	Event Name	Medal won
1.	Saurabh Chaudhary (World Record)	10 meter air pistol	Gold
2.	Apurvi Chandela	10 metre air rifle	Gold
3.	Rahi Sarnobat	25 metre pistol	Gold
4.	Divyansh Singh Panwar & Anjum Moudgil	10 metre air rifle (Mixed Team)	Gold
5.	Saurabh Chaudhary &d Manu Bhaker	10 metre air pistol (Mixed Team)	Gold
6.	Apurvi Chandela & Deepak Kumar (sport shooter)	10 metre air rifle (Mixed Team)	Silver

### LEWIS HAMILTON WON FRENCH GRAND PRIX

- Five time Formula one (F1) world champion, **Lewis Hamilton of Mercedes** won the **French Grand Prix** held in Circuit Paul Ricard, Le Castellet, France with 187 points. Hailing from **England**, the United Kingdom, this was his **eighth straight win** in the year 2019 and the overall winning streak raised to 10. It was the sixth win of the season and 79<sup>th</sup> of his career.



#### Key points :

- He won the race over Valtteri Bottas of Mercedes (Finland) who secured 151 points.

#### About French Grand Prix:

- It is one of the oldest motor races in the world as well as the first “Grand Prix”.
- **First held:** 1906.
- **Most win- Drivers:** Michael Schumacher (Germany)
- **Most win- Constructors:** Ferrari

## INDIA REMAINS AT 101 : FIFA RANKING

As per latest list released by **FIFA (Federation Internationale de Football Association) World Rankings**, **Indian** football team remains at **101<sup>st</sup>** position and **Belgium** continued to **top** in the list.



### Key points :

- The top countries in the list are Belgium(1), France (2), Brazil (3), England(4) Portugal (5) Croatia (6) Spain(7) Uruguay (8), Switzerland (9) and Denmark(10).
- **Asian countries rank:** India is at 18th position among Asian countries, followed by Iran (20th), Japan (28), Korea (37), Australia (43) and Qatar (55).

### About FIFA Ranking

- It was first introduced in December 1992.
- It is a ranking system by FIFA in which teams of member nations of FIFA are ranked based on their game results with the most successful teams being ranked highest.

## NOVAK DJOKOVIC, NAOMI OSAKA REMAIN AS WORLD NO. 1 IN THE TENNIS RANKINGS

- According to recently released **“Women’s Tennis Association (WTA)”** and **“Association of Tennis Professionals (ATP)”** rankings, **Naomi Osaka (Japan)** and **Novak Djokovic (Serbia)** continued as world number ones.



### Key points :

- Naomi Osaka is just 252 points ahead of world number two Ashleigh Barty of Australia in the top 20 WTA rankings.
- Novak Djokovic tops the chart in men’s ATP rankings ahead of Rafael Nadal of Spain (French Open winner 2019) and former World number one Roger Federer of Switzerland.

### Women’s Tennis Association (WTA) :

- It is the principal organizing body of women’s professional tennis and is restricted to women.
- The body governs WTA Tour which is worldwide professional tennis tour for women.
- It was founded in 1973.

### Association of Tennis Professionals (ATP) :

- It is the principal governing body of men’s professional tennis.
- It was founded in September 1972.

## LEWIS HAMILTON WON 2019 CANADIAN GRAND PRIX

➤ **Lewis Hamilton of Mercedes, won 2019 Canadian Grand Prix** officially named as the **Formula 1 Pirelli Grand Prix du Canada 2019**. It was held in **Circuit Gilles Villeneuve in Montreal, Quebec, Canada**.

1. It was record seventh victory in Canada for Hamilton and the 78<sup>th</sup> of his career.

2. **Sebastian Vettel and Charles Leclerc of Ferrari** won the second and third position in the **2019 Canadian Grand Prix**.

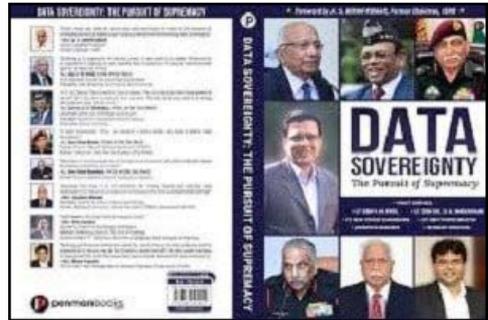
### About Canadian Grand Prix :

- First held in **1961**.
- It has been part of the Formula One World Championship since **1967**.

## 1.7 BOOKS & AUTHORS

### VINIT GOENKA PENS NEW BOOK TITLED “FUNCTION OF DATA SOVEREIGNTY – THE PURSUIT OF SUPREMACY”

➤ The book, “**Function of Data Sovereignty – The Pursuit of Supremacy**” authored by Vinit Goenka, Author, Secretary, Centre for Knowledge Sovereignty (CKS) and Member Governing Council- CRIS (Centre for Railway Information Systems), Ministry of Railways, Government of India

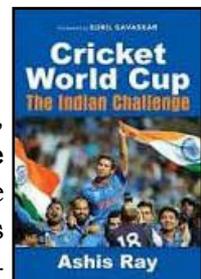


### Key points :

- The book is on the aspect of data generation and consumption which rules the world.
- It encourages policymakers on data localization and creates awareness among the people of the country on the potential of data and implications of data being exposed to outsiders.

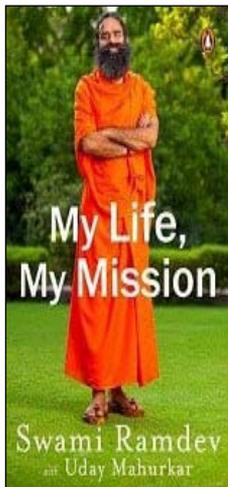
### A BOOK ON WORLD CUP BY ASHIS RAY LAUNCHED BY TOM HARRISON

➤ The chief executive of the England and Wales Cricket Board, **Tom Harrison** launched the book- **Cricket World Cup: The Indian Challenge**, a book on world cup from Indian perspective by veteran broadcaster and **writer Ashis ray**. The book covers all the matches played by India since inaugural world cup 44 years ago and all final and semi final matches of all team.



## YOGA GURU BABA RAMDEV TO RELEASE AN AUTOBIOGRAPHY TITLED 'MY LIFE, MY MISSION'

- Yoga guru **Baba Ramdev** will pen an Autobiography titled '**My Life, My Mission**'. He will unveil the trials, tribulations, and triumphs of his life and provide insights into his childhood in his autobiography. It is being published by **Penguin Random House** and expected to release in August 2019.



### About Patanjali Ayurved :

- **Founded:** January 2006
- **Founders:** Baba Ramdev, Acharya Balkrishna

## NABANEETA DEV SEN'S 1978 BOOK ON NAXAL MOVEMENT IN BENGAL PUBLISHED IN ENGLISH

- Nabaneeta Dev Sen's book on Naxal movement in West Bengal which was first published in **Bengal in 1978**, is published in English. It is translated from Bengal to English by Paulami Sengupta, Tial Basu and the author. It is published by Niyogi Book's imprint Thornbird.

1. The book describes the conflicts between integrity and expediency and the important character of the novel is Anupam Roy, a newspaper columnist, commentator and an academician.
2. Nabaneeta Dev Sen is an award-winning Indian poet, novelist and academic. She is the recipient of Padma Shri Award (200), **Sahitya Akademi Award (1999)** and **Kamal Kumari National Award (2004)**.

## 1.8 AWARDS & HONOURS

### INDIAN WRITER ANNIE ZAIDI WINS USD 100,000 GLOBAL BOOK PRIZE 'NINE DOTS'

- Indian writer **Annie Zaidi** was announced as the 2019 winner of the **USD 100,000 Nine Dots Prize**, a prestigious book prize created to award innovative thinking that addresses contemporary issues around the world.
- Mumbai-based **Annie Zaidi**, a freelance writer whose work includes reportage, essays, short stories, poetry, and plays, won for her entry '**Bread, Cement, Cactus**'- combining memoir and reportage to explore concepts of home and belonging rooted in her experience of contemporary life in India.



## FIRST INDIAN TO BE AWARDED WITH 7<sup>TH</sup> JOAN MIRO PRIZE 2019

- Mumbai based contemporary artist **Nalini Malani** became the first Indian to be awarded with **7th Joan Miro Prize 2019**. It was announced by the Barcelona-based Fundacio Joan Miro. It is one of the most prestigious contemporary art awards in the world.

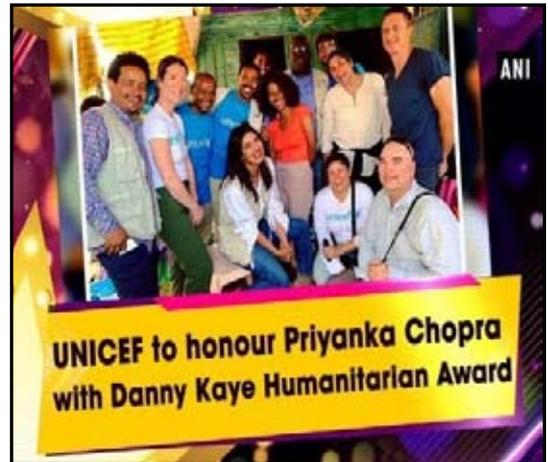


### Key Points :

- It is awarded for those artists who show the same spirit of exploration, innovation, commitment and freedom which characterizes the life and work of Spanish painter and sculptor, Joan Miro.
- Nalini Malani was awarded for her work that rises a voice to “the silenced and the dispossessed all over the world, most particularly women”.

## PRIYANKA CHOPRA AWARDED DANNY KAYE HUMANITARIAN AWARD BY UNICEF

- Indian actress Priyanka Chopra was selected for “**Danny Kaye Humanitarian Award**” by **United Nations International Children’s Fund’s (UNICEF)** American chapter.
- She will be presented with this award at UNICEF American chapter’s **Snowflake Ball** which is to be held in **December 2019** in **New York**.



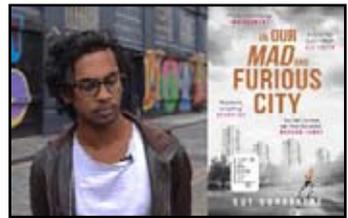
### About Priyanka Chopra :

- She is the National and Global UNICEF Goodwill Ambassador for Child Rights in 2010 and 2016, respectively.
- She was part of United Nation’s global “**Girl Up**” Campaign.
- In India, she is also associated with several NGOs (Non-governmental organizations) to raise awareness about ways to improve the education, health and safety of girl child in India.

### Danny Kaye Humanitarian Award :

- It is named after actor-philanthropist **Danny Kaye**. He was American actor, singer, comedian, musician, dancer, and philanthropist. He was the first Goodwill Ambassador of UNICEF appointed in **1954**.

## DYLAN THOMAS PRIZE FOR 'MAD AND FURIOUS CITY'



- British-Sri Lankan writer, **Guy Gunaratne** was honoured with **2019's Swansea University International Dylan Thomas Prize** for his debut novel '**Mad and Furious City**' in Wales, UK. He received the cash prize of £30,000.

### Key Points :

- The 35 year old human rights documentary maker-turned-debut novelist won the award beating 5 other shortlisted authors.
- His debut novel is a fictional account of 48 hours in North London housing estate after murder of a British soldier. It was also short listed for The Gordon Burn Prize, The Goldsmiths Prize and the Writers Guild Awards and also long listed for The Man Booker Prize 2018.

## NIRMALA SITHARAMAN AND S JAISHANKAR TO BE HONOURED WITH 'DISTINGUISHED ALUMNI AWARD'



- Jawaharlal Nehru University (JNU)** will honour Finance Minister **Nirmala Sitharaman** and External Affairs Minister **Dr S Jaishankar** with '**Distinguished Alumni Award**'.
- This was decided by the Executive Council of JNU. They will be awarded on the third convocation ceremony of the university, which will be held in August 2019. They will be the first recipient of this award.

### Key points :

- Union External Affairs Minister Dr S Jaishankar is an alumnus of JNU's School of International Studies. He completed his Master of Philosophy (M.Phil) as well as Doctoral Research from JNU. He is specialized in the field of nuclear diplomacy from JNU.
- Finance Minister Nirmala Sitharaman is an alumnus of the University's School of Social Sciences. She earned her Master of Arts (M.A) degree and she completed her M.Phil from School of International Studies.

### About JNU :

- Founded: 22 April 1969
- Vice-Chancellor: Prof. M Jagadesh Kumar

## EX-PRESIDENT PRATIBHA PATIL AWARDED MEXICO'S HIGHEST CIVILIAN AWARD

- Former president of India, **Pratibha Patil** was honoured with highest civilian award of Mexico termed "**Orden Mexicana del Aguila Azteca**" (**Order of the Aztec Eagle**).
- Ambassador of Mexico to India, **Melba Pria** presented this award.
- She becomes the **second Indian** after the late President **S.Radhakrishnan** was granted with this honour.



### Orden Mexicana del Aguila Aztec:

- It is given by **Mexico Government** to noteworthy people after they have served in Mexico, important personalities who have made major contribution in various fields, service to their country or its people.

### About Pratibha Patil

- She had created history by becoming **first woman President**.
- She was **12th President** of India and was in office from **2007 to 2012**.

## A 16 YEAR OLD CLIMATE ACTIVIST GRETA THUNBERG WINS AMNESTY HUMAN RIGHTS AWARD

Swedish teenage activist Greta Thunberg (16), has won the Amnesty International's "**Ambassador of conscience**" for fighting against the peril of global warming.



### About Ambassador of conscience award

- It was instituted in **2003**.
- It celebrates individuals and groups who have furthered the cause of human rights by showing exceptional courage standing up to injustice and who have used their talents to inspire others.

### About Greta Thunberg

- She is a Swedish teenage climate activist.
- She is known for having initiated the school strike for climate movement that formed in November **2018**.
- She began protesting outside the Swedish parliament about the need for immediate action to combat climate change in August 2018 last year.

## VETERAN ACTRESS SHEELA CONFERRED WITH J C DANIEL AWARD



- Veteran actress **Sheela** was conferred with **Kerala's highest J C Daniel award** for her contribution to **Malayalam cinema** at the Kerala state film award function at **Nisagandhi auditorium** in **Thiruvananthapuram**. The award consists of 5 lakh cash prize, a citation and a plaque.
- In the previous years, **Director Adoor Gopalakrishnan** and **lyricist Sreekumaran Thambi** was honoured with this award.
- The award committee was chaired by **noted filmmaker K S Seethumadhavan**.
- Sheela made her debut as a actress with **MG Ramachandran (MGR)** - **starrer** Tamil movie **'Pasam'**.
- She won the state award for the movie **'Kallichellamma'** in **1969**.

## JAY-Z IS THE WORLD'S 1<sup>ST</sup> BILLIONAIRE RAPPER AS PER FORBES MAGAZINE

- As per Forbes Magazine, **Jay-Z**, whose real name is Sean Carter, was named as World's 1st Billionaire Rapper. The 49 year older rapper, husband of the singer Beyonce, has the wealth of **\$1bn** (\$800m).



### Key Points :

- Forbes has estimated the wealth by adding various assets and then "subtracting healthy amount to account for a superstar lifestyle".
- He was born on December 4, 1969 in Brooklyn, New York, US.
- He made his debut in 1996 through the album "Reasonable Doubt".

## EQUATOR PRIZE 2019 WON BY DECCAN DEVELOPMENT SOCIETY

- The Women Sangams (groups) of Deccan Development Society (DDS) were honoured with Equator Prize 2019 by **United Nations Development Programme (UNDP)** for their contribution to ecology and innovations in rainfed millet cultivation.

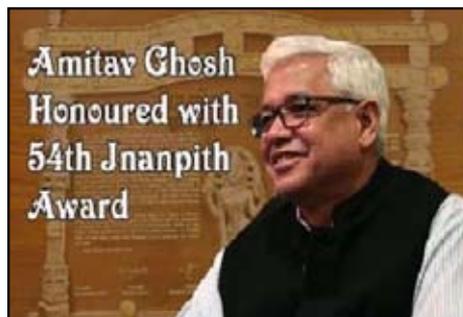


### Key Highlights :

- The Equator Prize 2019 was awarded to six women farmer belongings to **Deccan Development Society (DDS) sanghams**. They became only Indian group to have won 2019 award.

## RENOWNED ENGLISH WRITER AMITAV GHOSH HONOURED WITH 54<sup>TH</sup> JNANPITH AWARD, 2018

Noted English Fiction writer **Amitav Ghosh (63)** received the country's highest literary honour **54<sup>th</sup> Jnanpith Award** in New Delhi. The decision taken by the Jnanpith Selection Board chaired by Jnanpith laureate **Pratibha Ray**. Former West Bengal Governor, **Gopalakrishana Gandhi**, who was the chief guest of the event presented the award.



### Jnanpith Award :

- It was instituted in 1961.
- Jnanpith Awards is Indian literary award presented annually by the **Bhartiya Jnanpith** to Author for their outstanding contribution towards literature.
- The award given to the writer with a cash prize of Rs.1.5 Lakh, bronze replica of '**Saraswathi**'.

### About Amitav Ghosh :

- Amitav Ghosh is one of the most prominent contemporary Writer who is famous connecting past with present in relevant ways in his novels.
- **Ghosh** is known for his novels such as Shadow Lines, the Glass Palace, The Hunger Tide, River of smoke, Flood of Fire.
- Amitav Ghosh is also recipient of the **Padma Shri (2007)** and Sahitya Akadmi Awards.

## UNSDG 10 MOST INFLUENTIAL PEOPLE IN HEALTHCARE AWARD

- **Acharya Balkrishna**, the Managing Director of Patanjali Ayurved and an aide of Baba Ramdev (Yoga Guru) was felicitated with "**United Nations Sustainable Development Goals (UNSDG) 10 most influential People in Healthcare Award**" in Geneva, Switzerland. He received the award on behalf of Patanjali Group of Institutions.



**Key Points :**

- He was a representative from India at UNSDG.
- The award was conferred to him for the contributions made by Patanjali in curing lifestyle diseases with Yoga, Ayurveda and traditional Indian methods. He dedicated the award to all those who contributed to mainstream yoga and Ayurveda at the Global Level.

**'LIFETIME RECOGNITION AWARD'**

- **Lifetime Recognition Award by the Confederation of Horticulture Association of India** was given to **Professor N. Kumar, Vice-Chancellor of Tamil Nadu Agricultural University.**
- The award has been conferred for his outstanding contribution in the field of horticulture and academic leadership focused on human resource development in agriculture at the International Conference on Innovative horticulture at Pantnagar, Uttarakhand
- He began his career as an Assistant Professor in **Horticulture during 1979** at TNAU and by consistent and meritorious performance.
- He managed to occupy the position of Dean of Horticultural College and Research Institute, **TNAU in 2009-2013** before becoming the **13<sup>th</sup> Vice-Chancellor of the renowned Tamil Nadu Agricultural University, Coimbatore.**
- He has secured spearheaded **20 externally funded projects** including 5 International Projects.

**SUMAN RAO CROWNED AS MISS INDIA 2019**

- A 20-year-old model, **Suman Rao**, a resident of Rajsamand, Rajasthan was crowned Miss India 2019. The ceremony was held at Sardar Vallabhbhai Patel Indoor Stadium, Mumbai, Maharashtra. She was crowned by Miss India 2018 **Anukreethy Vas from Tamil Nadu.**

**Key points :**

- Born on November 23, 1999. Suman has the title of Miss India Rajasthan 2019 and will represent India in the coveted Miss World 2019 which is going to be held in Pattaya, Bangkok in December 2019. She is pursuing a Chartered Accountancy course from New Delhi along with B.Com.
- **Shivani Jadhav** from Chhattisgarh won **Femina Miss Grand India 2019** title and **Shreya Shanker** from Bihar won **Miss India United Continents 2019** title.

## BAL SAHITYA PURASKAR & YUVA PURASKAR 2019 ANNOUNCED BY SAHITYA AKADEMI



- **Sahitya Akademi**, which is announced annually, has selected a list of **22** writers for the **Sahitya Akademi Bal Sahitya Puraskar 2019** and **23** writers for **Yuva Puraskar 2019**. The approval for the selection of awardees was given by the Executive Board of the Akademi under the Chairmanship of its President, **Dr.Chandrashekhara Kambar** in Agartala, Tripura. The Award in the form of a casket will contain an engraved copper-plaque and a cheque of Rs.50,000.

### Key points :

- The awardees were selected based on the recommendations made by the Jury of 3 members each in the concerned language, in accordance with the rules and procedures. Awards were declared on the basis of unanimous/majority vote of the Jury.
- For the Bal Sahitya Puraskar, which will be given on Children's Day, the Awards were related to books first published during the five years immediately preceding the year of Award (between January 1, 2013 and December 31, 2017).
- Yuva Puraskar awards were related to books published by an author who is 35 years of age and below as on 1st January 2019.
- Bal Sahitya Puraskar and Yuva Puraskar in Maithili were to be declared on a later date.

### Winners of Sahitya Akademi Bal Sahitya Puraskar 2019:

- 6 Children's Poetry Books by authors including Vijay Sharma (Dogri), Naji Munauwar (Kashmiri), and Sanjay Chaubey (Sanskrit), 5 Story Books by authors including Govind Sharma (Hindi), Mohammad Khalil (Urdu), and Swamin Nasrin (Assamese), 5 authors for their total contribution in children's literature, 1 Folk Tale author Lakhminath Brahma (Bodo language), 3 Novels by Chandrakanth Karadalli (Kannada), Salim Sardar Mulla (Marathi), and Pawan Harchandpuri (Punjabi), 1 History book by Devika Cariapa (English) and 1 Play by R K Sanahanbi Chanu (Manipuri) won the award.

### Winners of Yuva Puraskar 2019:

- 11 Poetry Books including works by Anuj Lugun (Hindi), Sagar Nazir (Kashmiri), Anuja Akathoottu (Malayalam) and others, 6 Short Stories by Tanuj Solanki (English), Ajay Soni (Gujarati), Keerti Parihar (Rajasthani) and others, 5 Novels by Moumita (Bengali), and Salman Abdus Samad (Urdu) among others and 1 in Literary criticism won the award.

### About Sahitya Akademi :

- **Headquarters:** New Delhi
- **Founded:** March 12, 1954

## SOCIAL ACTIVIST MAKARAND TILLOO CONFERRED WITH 'SAVE WATER HERO AWARD'

- Social activist **Makarand Tiloo** was conferred with '**Save Water Hero Award**'. He received this award for his efforts to raise awareness about water conservation in the city. The award ceremony was held in Pune, Maharashtra.



### Key points :

- Makarand Tiloo, a Laughter Yoga trainer and motivational speaker by profession, started a campaign to save water by replacing leaking taps with new ones.
- He was honoured by the HridayMitra Foundation in the presence of writer and philanthropist Ramchandra Dekhane, Kothrud Member of the Legislative Assembly (MLA) Medha Kulkarni and foundation president Shrikant Mundada.
- Tiloo is the founder of a Non-Governmental Organisation (NGO) named Jalrakshak Prabodhini.

### About HridayMitra Foundation:

- The HridayMitra Foundation is an organisation which aims to spread awareness about diseases as well as the surgeries required to remedy them. It also runs a free helpline, offering people financial guidance and other such services.

## AN 8-YEAR OLD INDIAN GIRL HONOURED IN UAE'S WASTE RECYCLING CAMPAIGN

- **Nia Tony**, an eight year old Indian girl was honoured during the 22nd edition of the **Emirates Recycling Awards in Dubai, United Arab Emirates** (UAE) for her role in keeping the environment clean by collecting paper wastes.



### Key points :

- The campaign was organized by the Emirates Environmental Group (EEG), a non-governmental professional working group based in UAE.
- The eco-warrior, Tony was honoured with Eco Champions of Recycling award for her role in saving the environment.
- The campaign had different waste categories such as paper, plastic, glass, cans, mobiles and toners. She won the paper section in the individual category for collecting a total of **14,914 kg** of paper waste.

## 44<sup>TH</sup> MATRI SHREE MEDIA AWARDS CONFERRED UPON 29 JOURNALISTS

- **Twenty-nine** journalists from print and electronic media were honoured with **44<sup>th</sup> Matri Shree Media Awards** for the year 2019 for their contribution towards journalism. The award ceremony was held in **New Delhi**.

### Key points :

- Namita (PTI (Press Trust of India ) Bhasha), Durga Pasad Mishra (PTI photo journalist), Agraj Pratap Singh (UNI), Jitender Kumar (Univarta), Poonam Gaur (Navbharat Times), Ravi Bhushan Dwivedi (Sandhya Times) and Kunal Kashyap (Punjab Kesari), Sandeep Ashwario Chief Cartoonist (Times of India) were among those honoured with the awards.

### About Matri Shree Media Awards :

- It is a series of awards for outstanding performance in different areas of journalism and related fields awarded in India.
- This award was established during the days of The Emergency (India) in 1975.

## 1.9 CULTURAL PANORAMA

### 3<sup>RD</sup> EDITION OF NAMASTE THAILAND FESTIVAL 2019 CONCLUDES IN NEW DELHI

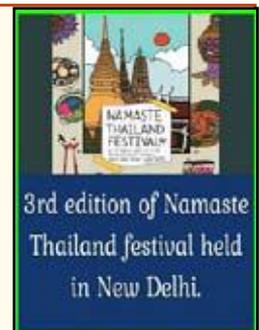
A two day event of **Namaste Thailand Film Festival 2019** concludes its third edition at Select Citywalk in **New Delhi**. It was organized by **Royal Thai Embassy** with an aim to strengthen bilateral ties and increase cultural exchange between India and Thailand. The festival was inaugurated by the Ambassador of Thailand to India, H.E Chutintorn Gongsakdi.

### About Thailand :

- **Capital** : Bangkok
- **Currency**: Thai baht
- **Prime minister** : Prayut Chan-o-cha

### Key points :

- The 1st edition of Thai film festival was inaugurated in 2017 to celebrate the 70 years of Indo-Thai diplomatic relations.
- The festival featured stage performances by Thai artists including Thai folk-jazz band **Asia-7**.
- It featured a series of Thai craft activities including mulberry paper mini umbrella making, fan painting, body paint, and button badge making along with the traditional Thai cuisines.



## 1.10 LATEST HISTORICAL EVENTS

### ASI DECLARED CHAUKHANDI STUPA AS MONUMENT OF NATIONAL IMPORTANCE

Archaeological Survey of India (ASI) has declared Chaukhandi Stupa as protected area “**Monument of national importance**”. The ancient Buddhist site is situated at **Sarnath, Uttar Pradesh**.



#### Key points :

- **Construction** : It is said to be that Chaukhandi stupa was a terraced temple constructed between 4th to 6th century of the Gupta period.
- **Stupa's Significance** : It was built to mark site where Lord Buddha and his first disciples met when travelling from Bodh Gaya to Sarnath.
- **Shape of Stupa** : It was given by the Govardhan, the son of Raja Todarmal.
- **Excavations site** : During excavations Some Buddha and other statues were founded at Chaukhandi Stupa.

#### Background

- Section 4 of **Ancient Monuments and Archaeological Sites and Remains Act, 1958** empowers the Government to declare ancient monuments or archaeological sites which are of historical, archaeological or artistic interest and which have been in existence for not less than 100 years as of national importance.

## 1.11 INDIA & ITS NEIGHBOURS

### INDIA EXTENDS FINANCIAL AID TO NEPAL FOR REBUILDING EARTHQUAKE - HIT HOUSES

- India extended a financial aid of **1.6 billion Nepalese Rupees (NPR)** to Nepal government for rebuilding earthquake-hit houses in two district that were most hit.
- This sustained and generous humanitarian support extended by India for post-earthquake reconstruction was appreciated by Nepal.



### Key Highlights :

- **Background :** In February **2019**, a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) was signed between India and Nepal for grant with USD 100 Million to be provided by India, for supporting reconstruction of 50,000 private houses in two districts of Himalayan nation namely Nuwakot and Gorkha that were most damaged in earthquake that hit **Nepali in 2015**.
- The devastating earthquake which struck Nepal in April 2015, claimed more than 9,000 lives and damaged over 800,000 houses. The epicenter of earthquake was central Nepal's Gorkha district.

### INDIA WILL OVERTAKE CHINA AS WORLD'S MOST POPULOUS COUNTRY: UN REPORT



- According to the **26<sup>th</sup>** edition of the UN (United Nations) population estimates and projection report, **“World Population Prospects 2019”** published by the UN's Department of Economic and Social Affairs states that India is going to surpass China as the world's most populous country by 2027.

#### About UN :

- **Headquarters:** New York, United States
- **Founded:** 24 October 1945
- **United States Secretary general:** António Guterres

### Key points :

- As per the report, India likely to add nearly 273 million people between 2019 and 2050.
- According to the World Population Review 2019, India currently ranks second in the index (out of 230 countries), with over 17 per cent of the world population.
- Previous UN projections had estimated that India will surpass China as the world's most populous country as early as 2022.
- The report also stated that among the Southeast Asian countries, Bangladesh, Nepal and Myanmar have witnessed a large net outflow of migrants between 2010 and 2020.
- Nigeria with 733 million, the United States with 434 million, and Pakistan with 403 million are the three countries expected to get place after India and China.

## 1.12 APPOINTMENTS

### INDIA'S ANITA BHATIA PICKED UP FOR DEPUTY EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR OF UN WOMEN



- ▶ Anita Bhatia, has been appointed by UN Secretary-General António Guterres as the deputy Executive Director of the **UN Entity for Gender Equality** and the Empowerment of Women (UN Women).
- ▶ She have a famed career at the **World Bank**, serving in various senior leadership and management positions.
- ▶ Bhatia holds a BA in history from Calcutta University, an Master of Arts in Political Science from Yale University and Juris Doctor in law from Georgetown University.

### ZUZANA CAPUTOVA SWORN IN AS FIRST FEMALE PRESIDENT OF SLOVAKIA



- ▶ Lawyer and Anti-corruption campaigner, **Zuzana Caputova (45) sworn in as country's Slovakia's first female president.** She defeated Smer-SD candidate Maros Sefcovic.



#### Key points :

- ▶ She is the **fifth** president of Slovakia .
- ▶ She was elected in March 2019 with 58% of votes over Mr Sefcovic (42%).
- ▶ She was honoured with the **Goldman Environmental Award in 2016** for her strong leadership regarding the Pezinok landfill affair, Caputova.

### QU DONGYU, THE FIRST CHINESE NATIONAL TO HEAD FAO



- ▶ China's agricultural deputy minister, **Qu Dongyu (55) elected as the new director general of the United Nation's Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO)** at Rome, Italy.

#### Key points :

- ▶ He won 108 votes, followed by Catherine Geslain-Laneelle of France (the first woman to run for the post, a former head of the European Food Safety Authority) with 71 votes and Georgia's Davit Kirvalidze (a former agriculture minister) with 12 votes in the first round of voting.

## RBI DEPUTY GOVERNOR VIRAL ACHARYA RESIGNS 6 MONTHS BEFORE HIS TERM ENDS

- Reserve Bank of India's (RBI) Deputy Governor **Viral Acharya** has quit his role six months before the end of his term. He was appointed as the RBI deputy governor by the government on January 23, 2017, for a three-year term.

### About RBI:

- **Governor:**  
Shaktikanta Das
- **Headquarters:**  
Mumbai

### Key points :

- Acharya, who was in charge of monetary policy, will return to New York University as an economics professor in August instead of February 2020.
- He had raised concern over the importance of RBI's independence in October 2018.
- The RBI is now left with three deputy governors N S Vishwanathan, B P Kanungo and M K Jain.
- Viral Acharya has co-authored research papers with former RBI Governor Raghuram Rajan.



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## 2. Political Science

### 2.1 POLITICAL PARTIES AND POLITICAL SYSTEMS IN INDIA

#### UNION CABINET MINISTERS PORTFOLIO 2019: COMPLETE LIST

- **Modi** took oath as the PM for a second consecutive term. **57 other members** of the Council of Ministers, including Rajnath Singh, Amit Shah, Nitin Gadkari, and Sadananda Gowda, also took the oath. A total of 24 Cabinet Ministers took oath at the forecourt of the Rashtrapati Bhavan, followed by nine Ministers of State (Independent Charge) and 24 Ministers of State.



S. No.	Cabinet Ministers	Portfolio	Constituency
1.	Narendra Modi	Prime Minister and also in-charge of: Ministry of Personnel, Public Grievances and Pensions; Department of Atomic Energy; Department of Space; and All important policy issues; and All other portfolios not allocated to any Ministers.	Varansai, Uttar Pradesh
2.	Raj Nath Singh	Minister of Defence	Lucknow, U.P
3.	Amit Shah	Minister of Home Affairs	Gandhi Nagar, Gujarat
4.	Nitin Jairam Gadkari	Minister of Road Transport and Highways and Minister of Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises	Nagpur, Maharashtra

5.	D.V.Sadananda Gowda	Minister of Chemicals and Fertilizers	Bangalore North, Karnataka
6.	Nirmala Sitharaman	Minister of Finance and Minister of Corporate Affairs	Rajya Sabha (Karnataka)
7.	Ramvilas Paswan	Minister of Consumer Affairs, Food and Public Distribution	Not contested in election
8.	Narendra Singh Tomar	Minister of Agriculture and Farmers Welfare Minister of Rural Development and Minister of Panchayat Raj	Morena, M.P
9.	Ravi Shankar Prasad	Minister of Law and Justice Minister of Communications and Minister of Electronics and Information Technology	Patna SAhib, Bihar
10.	Harsimrat Kaur Badal	Minister of Food Processing Industries	Bathinda, Punjab
11.	Shri Thaawar Chand Gehlot	Minister of Social Justice and Empowerment	Rajya Sabha (M.P)
12.	Subramanyam Jaishankar	Minister of External Affairs	Not contested in election
13.	Ramesh Pokhriya 'Nishank'	Minister of Human Resource Development	Hardwar, Uttarkhand
14.	Arjun Munda	Minister of Tribal Affairs	Khunti, Jharkhand
15.	Smriti Zubin Irani	Minister of Women and Child Development and Minister of Textiles	Amethi, U.P
16.	Dr.Harsh Vardhan	Minister of Health and Family Welfare Minister of Science and Technology and Minister of Earth Sciences	Chandni Chowk, New Delhi
17.	Prakash Javadekar	Minister of Environment, Forest and Climate Change and Minister of Information and Broadcasting	Rajya Sabha (M.P)
18.	Piyush Goyal	Minister of Railways and Minister of Commerce and Industry	Rajya Sabha (Maharashtra)
19.	Dharmendra Pradhan	Minister of Petroleum and Natural Gas and Minister of Steel	Rajya Sabha (M.P)

20.	Mukhtar Abbas Naqvi	Minister of Minority Affairs	Rajya Sabha (M.P)
21.	Pralhad Joshi	Minister of Parliamentary Affairs Minister of Coal and Minister of Mines	Dharwad, Karnatka
22.	Dr.Mahendra Nath Pandey	Minister of Skill Development and Entrepreneurship	Chandauli, U.P
23.	Arvind Ganpat Sawant	Minister of Heavy Industries and Public Enterprise	Mumbai South, Maharashtra
24	Giriraj Singh	Minister of Animal Husbandry, Dairying and Fisheries	Begusarai, Bihar
25.	Gajendra Sing Shekhawat	Minister of Jai Shakti	Jodhpur, Rajasthan

# TEAM MODI - 2019

## CABINET MINISTERS



 Rajnath Singh	 Amit Shah	 Nitin Gadkari
 DV Sadananda Gowda	 Nirmala Sitharaman	 Ram Vilas Paswan
 Narendra Singh Tomar	 Thawar Chand Gehlot	 S Jaishankar
 Ramesh Pokhriyal	 Arjun Munda	 Harsimrat Kaur Badal
 Ravi Shankar Prasad	 Smriti Irani	 Harsh Vardhan
 Prakash Javadekar	 Piyush Goyal	 Dharmendra Pradhan
 Mukhtar Abbas Naqvi	 Pralhad Joshi	 Dr. Mahendra Nath Pandey
 Arvind Ganpat Sawant	 Giriraj Singh	 Gajendra Singh Shekhawat

### YOUNGEST MP IN THE COUNTRY AND MADE HER DEBUT IN PARLIAMENT



- **Tribal woman from Odisha, Chandrani Murmu** aged 25 of Biju Janata Dal (BJD) party became the youngest MP in the country. She defeated the two-time BJP MP Ananta Nayak by a margin of 66,203 votes and claimed the **Keonjhar constituency, Odisha**.
- She replaced **Dushyant Chautala** who was elected at the **age of 26** from the **Hisar Lok Sabha seat** in 2014.

## 2.2 GOVT - WELFARE ORIENTED SCHEMES, THEIR UTILITY

### ARMY COMMISSIONED AIR QUALITY MONITOR AT FORT WILLIAM AS A PART OF 'GO GREEN' INITIATIVE

- Army commissioned “**Continuous Ambient Air Quality Monitoring System (CAAQMSY)**”, an air quality monitor, at **Fort William Military Station, Kolkata**, as a part of ‘Go Green’ initiative. It monitors air pollution on real time basis.

#### Key Points :

- It was commissioned by **Lt Gen M M Naravane, General Officer, Commanding-in-Chief, Eastern Command**.
- CAAQMS displays wind speed, direction, ambient temperature, relative humidity, solar radiation, barometric pressure and rain gauge.
- It can be used by the West Bengal Pollution Control Board or any other local international weather monitoring bodies.

### I & B MINISTRY INSTITUTES ANTARASHTRIYA YOGA DIWAS MEDIA SAMMAN

The **Ministry of Information and Broadcasting (I&B)** has instituted a new award called **Antarashtriya Yoga Diwas Media Samman (AYDMS)** from year 2019 to recognise contribution made by media in spreading awareness about Yoga and for promotion and commemoration of **International Yoga Day, held every year on 21 June**.



#### Key Highlights :

- **About** : Union Ministry of I & B instituted 1st **Antarashtriya Yoga Diwas Media Samman (AYDMS)** from 2019 onwards to acknowledge positive role and responsibility of media in disseminating outreach of Yoga in India and abroad.
- **Eligible** : AYDMS will be conferred to Media Houses engaged in Print and Electronic Media (including Television & Radio).

### PM NARENDRA MODI RECONSTITUTED NITI AAYOG

- Prime Minister of India, **Narendra Modi** approved the **reconstitution of government’s policy think tank, National Institution for Transforming India (NITI) Aayog**. It is scheduled to meet on June 15 for the first time after Modi government won a second term, chaired by the prime minister.

**Key points :**

- **Rajiv Kumar** was retained as **the Vice Chairman of NITI Aayog** whereas economist Bibek Debroy, a full-time member, was dropped from the team.
- V K Saraswat, Ramesh Chand and Dr V K Paul will continue as the members of NITI Aayog.
- Home Affairs Minister Amit Shah was appointed as one of the ex-officio members of the NITI Aayog, along with Defence Minister Rajnath Singh, Finance Minister Nirmala Sitharaman and Agriculture and Rural Development Minister Narendra Singh Tomar.
- Road Transport Minister Nitin Gadkari, Social Justice and Empowerment Minister Thawar Chand Gehlot, Railways Minister Piyush Goyal, and MoS (Independent Charge) for Statistics and Programme Implementation Rao Inderjit Singh were named as special invitees.
- The name of Amitabh Kant, who was the NITI Aayog CEO during the first term of Modi government, was dropped out from the list.
- The council comprises of all chief ministers, lieutenant governors of union territories, several union ministers and senior government officials.
- The fifth meeting of NITI Aayog's Governing Council, scheduled to be held on June 15, 2019, will discuss various issues concerning water management, agriculture and security.

**About NITI Aayog :**

- NITI Aayog is the **premier policy think tank** of the central government and it provides both **directional and policy inputs** to the government. The policy think tank was **set up in 2015**, replacing the **planning commission**.

**BULLETIN: PRADHAN MANTRI KISAN PENSION YOJANA**

- The Union Cabinet chaired by Prime Minister Narendra Modi has approved **Pradhan Mantri Kisan Pension Yojana**, a new **Central Sector Scheme (CSS)**, to provide pension cover to farmers.
- This decision was taken at the first Cabinet meeting after formation of new Government (second term) of Modi Government.

**Key Features of Scheme :**

- **It is voluntary and contributory** pension scheme for all Small and Marginal Farmers (SMF) across the country.
- **Eligibility:** Entry age of 18 to 40 years with provision of minimum fixed pension of Rs.3,000 on attaining the age of 60 years.
- **Contribution:** Beneficiary farmer of this scheme is required to contribute Rs.100 per month at median entry age of 29 years. Central Government will also contribute to Pension Fund an equal amount as contributed by eligible farmer.

# 3. Geography



## 3.1 GEOGRAPHICAL LANDMARKS

### KOLHAPURI CHAPPAL GETS GI (GEOGRAPHICAL INDICATIONS) TAG

- World famous handcrafted footwear, **Kolhapuri chappal** gets a Geographic Indication (GI) tag from The Controller General of Patents, Designs and Trade Mark. The tag was given to the states of **Maharashtra and Karnataka**, covering four districts each.



Kolhapuri Chappal

#### Key points :

- The four districts in Maharashtra are Kolhapur, Solapur, Sangli, and Satara and four districts in Karnataka are Dharwad, Belgaum, Bagalkot, and Bijapur.
- Benefits:** Tagging will help artisans in Kolhapur make & market their products domestically and internationally. It will also help these artisans to tackle attempts to copy or imitate the footwear brand illegally.
- Kolhapuri Chappal:** Brand Kolhapuri came at the beginning of the 20th century when the footwear began to be traded in Kolhapur. Chhatrapati Shahu Maharaj encouraged production of Kolhapuri Chappal and opened 29 tanning centers during his rule.

#### About Geographical Indication :

- It is used on products that have a specific geographical origin and possess qualities or a reputation that are due to that origin.

## 3.2 POLICY ON ENVIRONMENT AND ECOLOGY

### BINNY, INDIA'S ONLY ORANGUTAN DIES IN ODISHA ZOO

- A 41-year-old orangutan at Odisha's Nandankanan Zoological Park died following a prolonged illness. "Binny", the country's lone orangutan passed

away due to old-age related ailments followed by respiratory tract infection.

- The great ape was under treatment for the last one year by experts from the College of Veterinary Science and Animal Husbandry OUAT who were under constant advice of the Orangutan experts from UK and Singapore.



## FOR THE FIRST TIME, INDIA OPENS WATER CLINIC FOR ELEPHANTS IN MATHURA

- India has opened its first specialized **hydrotherapy treatment centre** for elephants suffering from arthritis, joint pain and foot ailments. It is situated in **Mathura, Uttar Pradesh**.
- It is a collaboration of Uttar Pradesh Forest Department and the NGO (Non-Governmental Organization), Wildlife SOS.

### Key points :

- **The jumbo hydrotherapy centre:** It is near the Wildlife SOS' Elephant Conservation and Care Centre (ECCC), which has over 20 rescued elephants.
- **State-of-the-art modern facilities:** It includes wireless digital X-ray, laser treatment, dental X-ray, thermal imaging and ultrasonography to treat injured, sick and geriatric elephants.



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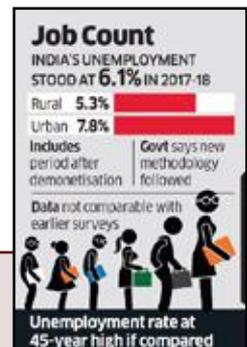


# 4. Economics

## 4.1 CURRENT SOCIO - ECONOMIC PROBLEMS

### UNEMPLOYMENT RATE IN INDIA AT 6.1% IN 2017-18

- According to a survey conducted by **National Sample Survey Office (NSSO)** between July 2017 and June 2018 covering **4.3 lakh people** revealed that the unemployment rate was about **6.1%** in **2017-18**, highest in 45 year since 1972-73.



#### Key Points :

- Unemployment was **higher in urban** areas as compared to rural.
- Unemployment rate in **rural** areas was about **5.3%** while in **urban** areas it was about **7.8%**.
- **6.2% males and 5.7% females** are jobless in India.
- The unemployment rate is highest among **urban females at 10.8%** followed by **urban males at 7.1%** **rural males at 5.8%** and **rural females at 3.8%**

### INDIA CONSTITUTES 12% OF GLOBAL INTERNET USERS

- According to the report on internet trends released by the venture capitalist Mary Meeker stated that **India** ranks **second** by witnessing **12%** world internet users (close to 455 million). **China leads** the chart with **21%** of global internet users while **U.S** (United States) placed **third** with **8%**.

#### Key points :

- Now the total Internet users (**3.88 billion**) is more than half the world's population.
- The growth in Internet users in India was mainly driven by low price data plans introduced by Reliance Jio Infocomm Ltd and cheaper smartphones.

## INDIANS RANKED 2<sup>ND</sup> AMONG BLEISURE TRAVELERS GLOBALLY

- Indians were ranked 2nd among Bleisure Travelers across **31 countries** as per the study of Booking.com. In 2018, **72%** Indian travelers extended their business trips. Bleisure is a new trend which means business and leisure trips.

### Key Points :

- Thai travelers were ranked 1<sup>st</sup> **with 80%**.
- Booking.com's study revealed that Indian travelers were more than the global average (51%).
- The study was conducted in **October-November 2018 among 53/492** respondents. It included 1,852 Indians across 31 countries who had travelled at least once in past 12 months.
- Two-thirds of Indian travelers, around **65%**, travelled on domestic business trips. It was the highest, globally ahead of Indonesians (**62%**) and Chinese (**62%**).

## 3<sup>RD</sup> ADVANCE ESTIMATES OF PRODUCTION OF MAJOR CROPS FOR 2018-19 RELEASED BY THE GOVERNMENT

- **The Department of Agriculture, Cooperation and Farmers Welfare** under the Ministry of Agriculture & Farmers Welfare released the 3<sup>rd</sup> **Advance Estimates of Production of major crops for 2018-19**. The data was based on the feedback received from States and validated with information available from other sources.
- As per 3<sup>rd</sup> Advance Estimates, the estimated production of major crops during 2018-19 is as follows:
  1. **Food grains** production stood at **283.37 million tonnes**, which was higher by 17.62 million tonnes than the previous five years (2013-14 to 2017-18) average production of food grain.

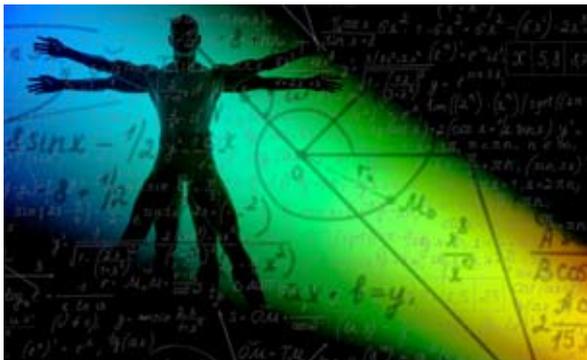
## 4.2 NEW ECONOMIC POLICY & GOVT. SECTOR

### SECOND BI-MONTHLY MONETARY POLICY OF RBI 2019-20

- **The Reserve Bank of India** (RBI) announced its second **Bi-Monthly Monetary Policy Rates** for **2019-20** in Mumbai on June 6, 2019.

Repo Rate	5.75 %
Reserve Repo Rate	5.50
Marginal Standing Facility (MSF) Rate	6.0%
Bank Rate	6.0%

- **The three-day** policy review meeting by the six members Dr Chetan Ghate, Dr Pami Dua, Dr Ravindra H.Dholakia, Dr Michael Debabrata Patra, Dr Viral V Acharya.



## 5. Science

### 5.1 SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY

#### SRI LANKA LAUNCHED ITS FIRST SATELLITE 'RAVANA-1' INTO ORBIT

- **Sri Lanka** successfully launched its first satellite '**Ravana-1**' into orbit from the **International Space Station (ISS)** along with two other BIRDS - 3 satellites from Japan and Nepal. It was deployed to the 400-km of orbit at an inclination of 51.6 degrees using the JAXA (Japanese Aerospace and Exploration Agency) owned Kibo experiment module.

**Key points :** The satellite was designed and developed by 2 Sri Lankan engineers – **Tharindu Dayaratne** and **Dulani Chamika** who are studying space engineering at Japan's Kyushu Institute of Technology.

- Ravana 1 measures 11.3 cm x 10 cm x 10 cm and weighs around 1.05 kg. It was officially handed over to the Japan Aerospace Exploration Agency on February 18, 2019 and was sent to the ISS on April 17, 2019 through the assistance of Cygnus-1 spacecraft from the US.
- The satellite is expected to fulfil five missions. It will have a minimum lifespan of one-and-a-half years but is expected to be active up to 5 years.

#### About Sri Lanka :

- **Capital:** Sri Jayawardenepura Kotte, Colombo
- **Currency:** Sri Lankan rupee
- **Prime Minister:** Ranil Wickremesinghe

#### ISRO'S NEW COMMERCIAL ARM 'NEWSPACE INDIA LIMITED INAUGURATED IN BENGALURU

- **Indian Space Research Organisation (ISRO)** has inaugurated its new commercial arm '**NewSpace India Limited (NSIL)**' in **Bengaluru, Karnataka**. The objective of new commercial arm is to scale up industry participation in Indian space programmes, NSIL was inaugurated by Dr.K.Kasturirangan, ISRO's advisor, in the presence of ISRO's chairman Dr.K.Sivan.

## NASA UNVEILED SCHEDULE FOR 2024 MOON MISSION 'ARTEMIS'

- **NASA** unveiled schedule for 2024 Moon mission 'Artemis', The Mission is named 'Artemis' after the Greek mythological goddess of the Moon and twin sister to Apollo.

### Key Points :

- This Mission has committed to take a female astronaut to the surface of the moon for the first time.
- There will be 3 Schedules for the launch. Artemis 1 is planned for 2020. Artemis 2 will orbit Earth's satellite with a crew around 2022 and Artemis 3 will land the astronauts including the first woman in 2024.
- The three will be launched into space by the Boeing-led Space Launch System (SLS), the biggest rocket of all time, which is currently under development.
- Along with these missions, there will be 5 launches carrying the building blocks of the lunar mini-station "Gateway". These will be carried out between 2022 and 2024 by private space companies.
- NASA has chosen Maxar, a private firm to build the first module of the station.

## NASA TO SHUT DOWN SPITZER SPACE TELESCOPE AFTER 16 YEARS IN 2020

- The National Aeronautics and Space Administration's (NASA) **Spitzer Space Telescope** will be shut down on **January 30, 2020** after 16 years of exploring the cosmos in infrared light. This was announced by the Jet Propulsion Laboratory (JPL).



### Key points :

- It was launched in January 1983 as Infrared Astronomical Satellite to conduct the first infrared survey of the sky. It was jointly developed by the United States, the Netherlands, and the United Kingdom.
- Spitzer was originally built to last for a minimum of 2.5 year and by 2020 it will operate for more than 11 years beyond its prime mission.
- Spitzer is a small, transformational observatory. It captures infrared light, which is emitted by 'warm' objects that are not quite hot enough to radiate visible light. In 2017, the telescope revealed the presence of seven rocky planets around the Transiting Planets and Planetesimals Small Telescope (TRAPPIST) -1 star.
- NASA's James Webb Space Telescope will be launched in 2021 after the expiry of Spitzer's Mission.

## INDIAN NAVY SUCCESSFULLY CONDUCTED 'LIVE MATING' OF SUBMARINE RESCUE SYSTEM DSRV

- The **Deep Submergence Rescue Vehicle (DSRV)** based at Visakhapatnam, successfully conducted the live mating exercise. It involved the transfer of personnel from the bottomed submarine, INS Sindhudhvaj. It was inducted into the Navy by the former Chief of the Naval Staff, Admiral Sunil Lanba in December.

### Key Points :

- The live mating exercise is a historic achievement towards DSRV integration into the Indian Navy. It paved way for the Indian Navy to emerge as a Submarine Rescue Provider in the Indian Ocean Region (IOR).
- The DSRV is equipped with sophisticated radar and a remotely operated vehicle (ROV).
- It is operated by a crew of three and can rescue 14 personnel from a disabled submarine at one time.

### About Indian Navy:

- **Chief of the Naval Staff** : Admiral Karambir Singh
- **Navy Day** : 4th December.
- **Motto** : Sham No Varunah (May the Lord of the water be auspicious unto us)

## THE WORLD'S LARGEST NUCLEAR-POWERED ICEBREAKER 'URAL'

- On May 25, 2019, **Russia** launched the world's largest nuclear-powered icebreaker '**Ural**' at the **Baltic Shipyard in St Petersburg** in order to improve its ability to tap the Arctic's commercial potential. Russia is preparing for shipping via the Northern Sea Route (NSR).



### Key Points :

- The Ural will be given to Russia's state-owned nuclear energy corporation Rosatom in 2022 after the other 2 ice-breakers Arktika (Arctic) and Sibir (Siberia) enter into service. The Arktika was floated in 2016.
- By 2035, Russia's ARctic fleet will have minimum 13 heavy-duty icebreakers, among them 9 will be powered by nuclear reactors.

# 6. National Dairy of Events



## INDIA'S FIRST TREE AMBULANCE INITIATED IN CHENNAI BY GREEN MAN OF INDIA

- On the occasion of International Day for Biological Diversity, a first of its kind, tree ambulance was inaugurated in Chennai, Tamil Nadu by Vice President of India, Venkaiah Naidu. The Initiative was proposed by Green man of India, **Dr K AbdulGhani** and it is sponsored by the **SASA Group**. The ambulance can be availed through the number **9941006786** and volunteers can register on [www.treeambulance.org](http://www.treeambulance.org).
- Services provided by Tree Ambulance are first-aid treatment, are uprooted tree planting, seed bank, seed ball distribution, plant distribution, aiding tree plantation, shifting trees, survey of trees and removal of dead trees.



## INDIA BANNED BANGLADESH TERROR OUTFIT JAMAAT-UL-MUJAHIDEEN

- Recently, Home Ministry in a notification declared **Jamaat-ul-Mujahideen Bangladesh**, also known as **Jammat-ul-Mujahideen India** or **Jammat-ul-Mujahideen Hindustan** as a banned terrorist organisation. The Home Ministry has given the reason for banning the outfit due to its committed acts of terrorism, promoted acts of terrorism and recruitment of youths for terrorist activities in India.

### Highlights :

- The outfit was banned under the first schedule to the Unlawful Activities (Prevention) Act, 1967.

## TELANGANA TO SET UP COUNTRY'S FIRST 'BLOCKCHAIN DISTRICT' IN HYDERABAD

- **Telangana** has released a draft blockchain policy to set up **country's first 'Blockchain District'** in **Hyderabad**. It is aimed to create an ecosystem for major blockchain companies, start-ups for promoting research, innovation and industry collaboration. Telangana Government had signed an agreement with **Tech Mahindra** to set up the Blockchain district in 2018.



### Key points :

- The draft was released by Information Technology, Electronics and Communications (IT E & C) Department.
- The focus will be given to the sectors such as banking, financial services and insurance, pharmaceuticals and healthcare, government institutions and departments, logistics and supply chains.

## CENTRE LAUNCHES SONG 'HAWA AANE DE' ON AIR POLLUTION

- As the World Environment Day is approaching, Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change launched a theme song **'Hawa Aane De'** on air pollution. The song was launched in the national capital.
- The aim is to spread awareness regarding protecting the environment. Secretary of Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change launched the song in the presence of actor Shekhar Suman and singer Shaan. **World Environment Day** is celebrated on **June 05**.



## 10<sup>TH</sup> NATIONAL SCIENCE FILM FESTIVAL OF INDIA

- **10th National Science Film Festival of India (NSFFI)** will be in **Agartala, Tripura** in **January-February 2020**.
- This is for the **second time** the event will be held in a **North-Eastern city**. it will be jointly hosted by **Vigyan Prasar of the Central Government, State Government and Tripura Central University**.

### Key Points :

- The Chief Minister of the State Biplab Kumar Deb had requested the Union Science and Technology Minister to hold the NSFF in Tripura.
- Minimum 10 countries will participate in the upcoming event and it will include the films produced by UNICEF, UNESCO and filmmakers from different countries.

## DELHI METRO IS THE INDIA'S FIRST PROJECT TO RECEIVE POWER FROM WASTE-TO-ENERGY

- **Delhi Metro** became India's the first ever project to receive power from a waste-to-energy plant. The Delhi Metro Rail Corporation (DMRC) started receiving 2 MW power from a 12 MW capacity waste-to-energy plant set up in Ghazipur, Uttar Pradesh.



### Key Points :

- Since June, DMRC received the power from the facility, utilized at the Vinod Nagar Receiving Sub-station (RSS) to meet the operational requirements of Pink Line of Delhi Metro.
- It will use approximately 17.5 million units per annum from the plant.
- The waste-to-energy plant was set up by East Delhi Waste Processing Company Limited (EDWPCL). It is based on a Public Private Partnership (PPP) between the Delhi government and East Delhi Municipal Corporation (EDMC).



## G20 MINISTERIAL MEETING ON TRADE AND DIGITAL ECONOMY

G20 Ministerial meeting on Trade and Digital Economy is being held from 8 June -9 June 2019 in Japanese city of Tsukuba, Ibaraki Prefecture, Japan.

### Key Highlights :

- **Background** : Japan has assumed its 1st ever rotating presidency in G20 thus a series of various ministerial meeting are being held in Japanese cities in 2019. Japan's presidency will be culminating during **G20 summit in Osaka** on 28-29 June 2019.
- **Chairman** : Two day meet was chaired by **Masatoshi Ishida**, Japanese Minister of Internal Affairs and Communications and **Hiroshige Seko**, Minister of Economy, Trade and Industry.
- **Objective**: To discuss how economies of G20 countries can promote trade and investment and maximize benefits from development of digital economy and technologies so as to ensure sustainable growth of global economy.

## AMASEBAILU BECOMES KARNATAKA'S FIRST SOLAR-POWERED GRAM PANCHAYAT

- **Amasebailu in Kundapura Taluk of Udupi** district has been named as the Karnataka's first **Solar-powered Gram Panchayat**.
- The allocation of fund between the Centre and State Government in the ratio of **30:20**, and the rest given by the Panchayat and charitable organizations.

### Key points :

- About 1858 houses connected with the solar power at a total cost of **2.13 crore**.
- The lamps have the guarantee up to **five years** while the faulty one replaced by guarantee period.

## CENTRAL INDIA GOT ITS FIRST SIKH MUSEUM IN RAIPUR. CHHATTISGARH

- Central India got its **First Sikh Museum** in **Raipur**, Chhattisgarh. The museum **Shri Guru Teg Bahadur Sigh Museum** is located at Gurudware Gurusingh Sabha in Guru Nanak Nagar. It was inaugurated by the **Chief Minister of Chhattisgarh Bhupesh Bagel** on the '**Shahidi Divas**' of the fifth Sikh Guru, Arjun Dev.



### Key points :

- The museum has a library and visitors are illuminated about the ten Sikh gurus and other personalities related to the religion.
- They can read books on gurus and on **Sikh religion**. They can enlighten themselves about the community's history by watching movies in the home theatre of the museum in its 5,000 square feet premises.

## FIFTH MEETING OF THE GOVERNING COUNCIL OF NITI AAYOG HELD IN NEW DELHI

- The fifth meeting of the **Governing Council of The National Institution for Transforming India (NITI) Aayog** was held under the chairmanship of the **Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi** at Rashtrapati Bhawan Cultural Centre, **New Delhi**.
- This was the first governing council meeting under the new Modi government. The guiding principle of Union Government is "**Sabka Saath, Sabka Vikas and Sabka Vishwaas**".
- Focus should be given to fisheries, animal husbandry, horticulture, fruits and vegetables in order to fulfill the commitment to **double incomes of farmers by 2022**.

## G20 MEETING OF FINANCE MINISTERS AND CENTRAL BANK GOVERNORS 2019

- Smt. Nirmal Sitharaman, Union Minister of Finance & Corporate Affairs participated in **G20 Meeting of Finance Minister and Central Bank Governors** and associated events during 8-9 June 2019 held at southwestern city of **Fukuoka, Japan**.



### Key Highlights :

- This meeting took place alongside with G20 Ministerial meet on **Trade and Digital Economy (on 8-9 June 2019) at Tsukuba city, Ibaraki Prefecture, Japan**.

### Features:

- It aimed towards forging consensus on range of issues to be endorsed by leaders who will be meeting in late **June in Osaka, Japan**.
- The meet also focused on current situation in global economy and current trade and technology between US and China.

### About G20

- **G20 (or Group of 20)** was formed on **26 September 1999** as meeting of Finance Ministers and Central Bank Governors of member states in aftermath of Southeast Asian (Tiger economies) financial crisis. Since its inception group has played a key role in responding to global financial crisis situations. In 2008, 1st G20 Leaders' Summit was held in Washington DC, United States.

## 15<sup>TH</sup> FINANCE COMMISSION HELD MEETING WITH REPRESENTATIVES OF ADCs OF MEGHALAYA

- **15<sup>th</sup> Finance Commission** headed by the **Chairman Shri N.K.Singh** held meeting with the representatives of **Autonomous Development Councils (ADCs)** of Meghalaya as part of its visit to the State.
- There are 3 ADCs in Meghalaya the Khasi Hills Autonomous District Council, the Garo Hills Autonomous District Council and the Jaintia Hills Autonomous District Council.

## BANCHA BECAME THE FIRST SOLAR KITCHEN ONLY VILLAGE IN INDIA



- **Bancha in Betul district of Madhya Pradesh** became the **first village in India** to have zero wooden stoves. There was no use for Liquefied Petroleum Gas (LPG) cylinders as all 75 houses relied on solar-powered stoves to meet their cooking needs. The solar-powered stoves were developed by **Indian Institute of Technology (IIT) Mumbai**. The project of installing plates, solar -powered batteries and stoves in all the houses was started in September 2017 and was completed by December 2018.

## INDIA'S FIRST DINOSAUR MUSEUM INAGURATED IN GUJARAT



- Gujarat Chief Minister **Vijay Rupani** inagurated the new Dinosaur Museum-cum-park at **Raiyoli**

**Village** in Balasinor town of Mahisagar district.

- This is the **first such park in the country** and also the **world's third park** which exhibits remains of various dinosaurs and fossil records.

### Key points :

- 3D projection, 360 degrees virtual reality presentations. interactive kiosks, gaming consoles are the facilities equipped with the museum.
- The ten galleries of the museum exhibit the history of dinosaurs, which existed 65 million years ago, from origin to extinction.
- **The Tourism Corporation of Gujarat Ltd** created the whole infrastructure of the museum.

## G20 MINISTERIAL MEETING ON ENERGY TRANSITIONS AND GLOBAL ENVIRONMENT

- **G20 (Group of 20) Ministerial Meeting on Energy Transitions and Global Environment for Sustainable Growth** for the year 2019 was held at **Karuizawa Prince Hotel** (Karuizawa Town, Nagano), **Japan** on June 15-16, 2019.
- The Indian delegation at the G20 Ministerial Meeting on Energy Transitions and Global Environment for Sustainable Growth was represented by **Shri RK Singh**, Minister of State for Power and New & Renewable Energy and Skill Development & Entrepreneurship.



## INDIA HOSTING INTERSESSIONAL MEETING OF KIMBERLEY PROCESS 2019

- India will be hosting Intersessional meeting of Kimberley Process (KP) from 17<sup>th</sup> to 21<sup>st</sup> June, 2019 in **Mumbai, Maharashtra**. Besides the meetings of different Working Groups and Committees of Kimberley Process Certification Scheme (KPCS), two special forums regarding Diamond Terminology and Artisanal Mining – Small Steps to Larger Outcomes will also held.

### Key points :

#### Kimberley Process Certification Scheme (KPCS):

- India is the **founding member** of KPCS and is the **chair of Kimberley Process Certification Scheme** for the year 2019 with the Russian Federation as Vice Chair.
- It outlines rules that govern trade in rough diamonds.
- Participants: At present, KPCS has 55 members representing 82 countries including European Union with 28 members.
- India had earlier chaired KPCS in the year 2008.

#### About Kimberley Process

- It is international certification scheme that regulates trade in rough diamonds with aim of preventing flow of conflict diamonds, while helping to protect legitimate trade in rough diamonds.
- It is joint initiative involving Government, international diamond industry and civil society to stem flow of Conflict Diamonds.
- The Plenary meeting of Kimberley Process is scheduled to be held from 11<sup>th</sup> to 15<sup>th</sup> November 2019 in New Delhi.

## INDIA TO HOST COP-14 OF UNCCD IN SEPTEMBER 2019

- To address the issues of land degradation and desertification, for the first time, India will host the **14<sup>th</sup>** session of the **Conference of Parties (COP-14)** of **United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification (UNCCD)** in September 2019. It will be held between September 2 and 13, 2019 at the **India Expo Center and Mart, New Delhi**.
- India will take over the COP presidency from China for the next two years till 2021 until the next COP. Last Conference was held from 6-16 September 2017 in Ordos in the People's Republic of China.
- Ahead of COP-14 Union Minister of Environment, Forest and Climate Change (MoEFCC) Prakash Javadekar launched a flagship project. It is a part of a larger international initiative 'Bonn Challenge'.

## SECOND EDITION OF WORLD FOOD INDIA TO BE HELD IN NEW DELHI FROM 1-4 NOVEMBER, 2019

- Union Minister for Food Processing Industries Smt Harsimrat Kaur Badal announced that **World Food India (WFI) 2019**, a biennial event, will be held at Vigyan Bhawan and Rajpath Lawns in **New Delhi** from **1-4 November, 2019**. It will be the biggest gathering of all global and domestic stakeholders in Food Processing Sector. This will be the second edition of WFI, first was held in 2017.



### Key points :

- The tagline of the event will be **“Forging Partnerships for Growth”**.
- Meetings were organized to discuss the investment opportunities available in India in the Food processing industry and to sensitize the gathering about the participation in WFI 2019.
- WFI 2019 will comprise of top level seminars, investment opportunities, exhibitions, high level Chief Executive Officers (CEOs) roundtables, country sessions, B2B (business to business) and B2G (Business-to-government) networking etc.

## 10<sup>TH</sup> EDITION OF REGIONAL GRIHA SUMMIT 2019 WAS HELD IN NAGPUR, MAHARASTRA



- The 10<sup>th</sup> edition of Regional Green Rating for Integrated Habitat Assessment (GRIHA) summit, 2019 was held in **Nagpur, Maharashtra**. Union Minister, Nitin Gadkari addressed this meeting.

### Key points :

- The theme of this year's 2019 summit was **“Transformation Strategies for Built Environment”**. This theme was adopted to focus on impact of incorporating sustainability initiatives into functioning public buildings.
- The summit was organized with help of the Public Works Department (PwD) of the state Government.

### About GRIHA :

- It is rating tool that helps people assesses the performance of their building against certain nationally acceptable benchmarks.
- It is given by GRIHA Council, a not-for-profit society jointly setup by The Energy and Resources Institute (TERI) and Union Ministry of New and Renewable Energy (MNRE) to promote green buildings in India.

## INDIAN INSTITUTIONS IN QS WORLD UNIVERSITY RANKING 2020

- In the **Quacquarelli Symonds (QS) World University Ranking 2020**, The **Indian Institute of Technology, Bombay** (IIT-Bombay) emerged as India's best institution. For the past three years, it has been securing the top position among Indian institutes. It was followed by **IIT Delhi** and **Indian Institute of Science (IISc) Bangalore**. These are the only three universities in India that made it to the top 200 universities in the world.

### List of World's top 10 universities as per QS World University Ranking 2020 :

Rank	Name of the University
1.	Massachusetts Institute of Technology (MIT)
2.	Stanford University
3.	Harvard University
4.	California Institute of Technology (Caltech)
5.	University of Oxford
6.	University of Cambridge
7.	ETH Zurich – Swiss Federal Institute of Technology
8.	Imperial College London
9.	University of Chicago
10.	University College London (UCL)

### Key points :

- The ranking comprised of world's top 1000 colleges which were divided on the basis of several factors including subjects, location, study level, academic reputation, employer reputation, and research impact.
- IIT Bombay secured 152<sup>th</sup> rank, IIT Delhi secured 182<sup>th</sup> rank and IISc Bangalore secured 184<sup>th</sup> rank.
- IIT-Madras (271), IIT-Kharagpur (281), IIT-Kanpur (291) and IIT-Roorkee (383) are among the top 400 institutes. IIT-Guwahati, was ranked 491 and the Delhi University was placed at 474<sup>th</sup> rank.
- O.P. Jindal Global University (JGU), established in 2009, became the youngest university to break into top 1,000 in the rankings.
- Other universities figured in the rankings are Jamia Millia Islamia, Jadavpur University, Aligarh Muslim University, Hyderabad University, Calcutta University and Mumbai University.

### About QS World University Ranking :

- **It is an annual publication of university rankings.**
- **Publishers:** Quacquarelli Symonds Ltd

## ICG CO-HOSTS 12<sup>TH</sup> ReCAAP ISC CAPACITY BUILDING WORKSHOP IN NEW DELHI

- **Indian Coast Guard (ICG)** co-hosted the **12<sup>th</sup> Capacity Building workshop** in cooperation with the **Regional Cooperation Agreement on Combating Piracy and Armed Robbery against Ships in Asia (ReCAAP) Information Sharing Centre (ISC)** in **New Delhi**. It began on June 19, 2019 and will conclude on June 20, 2019. It is organized to deepen knowledge on issues related to piracy and armed robbery.



### Key points :

- It was inaugurated by Additional Director General, Indian Coast Guard V SR Murthy along with Mr Masafumi Kuroki, Executive Director of ReCAAP.
- 31 International delegates from 19 countries participated in the workshop. Along with this, officials from national stakeholders like major ports, state maritime boards, state marine police, Directorate General of Shipping and Indian National Ship-Owners Association also participated in the event.

### About ReCAAP :

- The ReCAAP is the first regional Government-to-Government agreement to deal with piracy and armed robbery at sea in Asia. Currently, 20 countries are members of ReCAAP. India played an active role in the setting up and functioning of ReCAAP ISC along with Japan and Singapore. Union Government has designated ICG as the focal point within India for ReCAAP. India has also hosted this workshop in November 2011 at Goa and December 2017 at New Delhi.

### About Indian Coast Guard (ICG):

- **Motto:** We Protect
- **Headquarters:** New Delhi

## 20<sup>TH</sup> MEETING OF THE FSDC CHAIRED BY NIRMALA SITHARAMAN HELD IN NEW DELHI

- The **20<sup>th</sup> meeting on Financial Stability and Development Council (FSDC)** was held in New Delhi. This was chaired under the Union Minister of Finance and Corporate Affairs, **Nirmala Sitharaman**.



**Key points :**

- The meeting was also attended by Minister of State for Finance Anurag Thakur, RBI Governor Shaktikanta Das, and Finance Secretary Subhash Chandra Garg among others.
- Current global and domestic economic situation and financial stability issues including those concerning Banking and Non-Banking Financial Company (NBFC) were reviewed in the meeting.

**35<sup>TH</sup> GST COUNCIL MEETING HELD IN NEW DELHI**

- The 35<sup>th</sup> **Goods and Service Tax (GST) Council Meeting** was held in **New Delhi**. It was chaired by the **Union Finance & Corporate Affairs Minister Smt. Nirmala Sitharaman** and it was her first meeting after assuming the office.
- In order to ease the current process of GST registration and reduce the paperwork involved, GST Council introduced a new system for verification of taxpayers registering themselves under GST
- Tenure of National Anti-profiteering Authority (NAA) which was created through CGST Act, 2017 was due to end by 30 November 2019. GST Council extended its tenure by two years, in order to enable it to take up all the pending cases.

**ODISHA CM RELEASES FLOOD HAZARD ATLAS FOR EFFECTIVE MANAGEMENT OF FLOOD**

- The State Government of Odisha released a **Flood Hazard Atlas** for efficient management of flood in the state. It was released by the Odisha Chief Minister (CM) Naveen Patnaik.
- This is jointly prepared by the **National Remote Sensing Centre (NRSC)** of ISRO (Indian Space Research Organization) and **Odisha State Disaster Management Authority (OSDAMA)** analyzing data relating to flood from 2001 to 2018.

**Key points**

- The data shows crop around 8.96% (13.96 lakh hectares) of land is being affected by flood every year in Odisha.
- Eight out of 30 districts such as Bhadrak, Kendrapara, Jagatsinghapur, Balasore, Puri, Jajpur, Khordha, and Cuttack districts are more flood-affected districts. 77% of Bhadrak and 70% of the Kendrapara district have been categorized as flood hazard.

## INDIA RANKED 20<sup>TH</sup> AMONG THE TOP CAPITAL IMPORTING COUNTRIES BY KNIGHT FRANK

- Property consultants, **Knight Frank** in its **Capital 2019 Report**, assigned **India** with the **20<sup>th</sup> rank** among the top **capital importing countries**, globally. In terms of **outbound cross-border investments**, it was ranked **30<sup>th</sup>**.
  - Globally, **The United States (US)** was the **top capital importing country** with an investment of \$80.89 billion. It also topped the list of **capital exporting countries** with an investment of \$59.62 billion, followed by Canada with \$50.41 billion and Germany with \$24.50 billion.
  - Singapore was the biggest capital source country for Indian commercial real estate between the first quarter of 2018 and the first quarter of 2019 with investment of \$704.14
- 



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# 7. International Affairs



## RCEP INTER-SESSIONAL MEETING HELD IN BANGKOK, THAILAND

- **Regional Comprehensive Economic Partnership (RCEP)** inter-sessional meeting was held in **Bangkok**, Thailand. The officials from 16 countries which included the 10-member ASEAN, China, Japan, South Korea, Australia, New Zealand and India participated in this meeting.

### Key Points :

- China is the largest producer and exporter of aluminum products. Copper and Aluminum associates are of the opinion that if India reduces import duties to 0%, it will lead to Chinese goods being dumped into Indian markets. As a result, it will lead to the immediate closure of small-scale units.
- The RCEP countries are trying to conclude a treaty that would eliminate input tariffs on about 90% of traded goods.
- On the finished goods, the demand in the country is only 6.5 lakh tonnes, which is expected to grow to about 8 lakh tonnes in the next five years.

## 2<sup>ND</sup> SCO MASS MEDIA FORUM INAUGURATED AT BISHKEK IN KYRGYZSTAN

- Indian delegation participated in **2nd Shanghai Cooperation Organization (SCO) Mass Media Forum** at **Bishkek in Kyrgyzstan**. It is a 4 day forum inaugurated by the President of Kyrgyz Republic, S.Jeenbeko held from May 23-26 May, 2019.
- The Indian delegation was represented by the Ministry of Information and Broadcasting which included TVK Reddy, Addl. Director General and Ankur Lahoty, Asst. Director.

### Key Points :

- The main aim is to strengthen the exchange and cooperation in the field of mass media amongst SCO countries.
- Indian Delegation featured the vital role of Ministry of Information and Broadcasting in the development of the mass media landscape within the country.
- The SCO Member States adopted the **Resolution of Media Forum** which calls for establishing successful collaborations of Mass Media Organizations of the SCO member Countries.

## 72<sup>ND</sup> ANNUAL CANNES FILM FESTIVAL HELD IN CANNES, FRANCE FROM 14 TO 25 MAY 2019

- Filmmaker of Mexico, **Alejandro Gonzalez Inarritu** served as jury of Cannes Film Festival 2019.
- The Festival honoured the French filmmaker **Agnes Varda**, by featuring her on the official poster of the festival. She died in March 2019.
- South Korean film '**Parasite**' wins **Palme d'Or** which is directed by **Bong Joon-ho** at Cannes Film Festival. He became the **first Korean director** to win the award.
- Indian filmmaker, Achyutanand Dwivedi's "**Seed Mother**", won the **third prize in the International Section** of Nespresso Talents 2019.

## CHINA LAUNCHES SPACE ROCKET FROM YELLOW SEA FOR 1<sup>ST</sup> TIME



- China launched a space rocket named "**Long March 11**" from a mobile launch platform in Yellow Sea off Shandong province (China) for the first time.
- China became **3<sup>rd</sup> nation** following the **U.S. and Russia** to successfully demonstrate ability to launch satellites into orbit from a floating platform.

### Key Highlights :

- **Background :** In 2003, China became only 3<sup>rd</sup> nation to have capability of launching humans into space and in early 2019 became 1st nation to land a rover on far side of moon. ]
- The Long March rocket first flew in **2015**, and this was its 7<sup>th</sup> launch but was China's first attempt at an offshore launch of rocket into Earth orbit.

## INDIA-CHINA INDUSTRY COOPERATION FORUM HELD IN GUIZHOU, CHINA

- India and China **Industry Cooperation Forum** was held in **Guizhou, China**. The objective is to create a new chapter in India-China cooperation in the new era of digital transition.

### Key Highlights :

- The National Association of Software and Services Companies (NASSCOM) has also opened an Information Technology (IT) corridor for the purpose of better exchanges between two countries in IT sector.
- The idea is also to help Indian companies especially small and medium enterprises to connect with China businesses looking for partners in IT sector.
- This event was held on the sidelines of International Big Data Industry Expo 2019. The 4-day event is being attended by 448 enterprises from 59 different countries.

## INDIA HAS BEEN ELECTED TO EXECUTIVE BOARD OF FIRST UN-HABITAT ASSEMBLY



- The Ministry of Housing and Urban Affairs announced that **India** has been elected to the **Executive Board of the first UN-Habitat Assembly** at the Plenary Session of the Assembly held in **Nairobi, Kenya**.

### Key Points :

- The theme for UN-Habitat Assembly is **“Innovation for Better Quality of Life in Cities and Communities”**.
- The event was inaugurated by Kenya’s President Uhuru Kenyatta.
- This is the first session of UN-Habitat Assembly held at Nairobi, Kenya, its headquarters. It began on May 27 and will conclude on May 31, 2019.

### About UN-Habitat Assembly:

- UN-Habitat Assembly, also known as the United Human Settlements Programme, is the UN agency for human settlements and sustainable urban settlements established in the year 1978. It is an outcome of the First UN Conference on Human Settlements and Sustainable Urban Development (Habitat) held in Vancouver, Canada, in 1976.

## 3<sup>RD</sup> INDO-FRENCH CYBER DIALOGUE 2019 WAS HELD IN PARIS

- The **third Indo-French cyber dialogue 2019** was held in **Paris, France**. The meeting was co-chaired by Henri Verdier, French Ambassador for Digital Affairs, and Upender Singh Rawat, Joint Secretary in charge of e-Governance, Information Technology and Cyber Diplomacy at the Ministry of External Affairs.

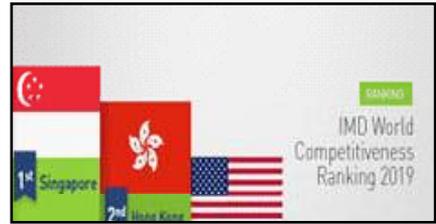
### Key points :

#### Cooperation in cyber security sector

- To combat terror in cyber space, the two sides have decided to develop effective mechanism and coordinate their efforts in cyber space.
- Consultations held on fight against cybercrime and the use of the Internet for terrorist purposes.
- The two sides affirmed their commitment to an open, reliable, secure, stable and peaceful cyberspace.
- Fourth Indo-French cyber dialogue will be held in India.

## INDIA RANKED 43<sup>RD</sup> IN COMPETITIVENESS, SINGAPORE TOPPED THE CHART

- India has improved its rank by one place to rank 43<sup>rd</sup> among the most competitive economy in the world and **Singapore topped** the chart by topping US from first position, now US ranked 3<sup>rd</sup> in the rankings. The improvement of India's rank was result of its robust economic growth, large labour force and its huge market size.



### Top 5 Countries

Rank	Country
1 <sup>st</sup>	Singapore
2 <sup>nd</sup>	Hong Kong SAR
3 <sup>rd</sup>	US
4 <sup>th</sup>	Switzerland
5 <sup>th</sup>	UAE

### About World Competitiveness Rankings :

- The World Competitiveness Rankings was published by IMD Business School every year.
- The rankings first time published in 1989. It incorporated 235 indicators and ranked 63 countries every year.

### G20 MINISTERIAL MEETING HELD IN JAPAN

- The **G20 Ministerial meeting on Trade and Digital Economy** was held on **June 8 and 9, 2019** in **Tsukuba city, Ibaraki Prefecture, Japan**. It is one of the eight Ministerial Meetings.
- Trade and Economy Ministers of the Group of 20 major economies discussed the ways to reorder trade rules and finances in an era of technological change and protectionism.
  - The Indian delegation for G20 Ministerial Meeting was led by the Union Minister of Commerce and industry & Railways, **Piyush Goyal**. He participated in the discussions related to increasing trade and cooperation to harness the potential of digital economy.

### INTERNATIONAL CIVIL AVIATION ORGANISATION (ICAO)

- Senior Bureaucrat Shefali Juneja was appointed as representative of India on council of International Civil Aviation Organisation (ICAO), Montreal, Canada.

- ICAO, an UN specialized agency, established in 1944 to implement convention on international Civil Aviation (Chicago Convention).

## 6<sup>TH</sup> ROUND OF INDIA - CHINA BILATERAL DIALOGUE IN NEW DELHI

- On June 3, 2019, 6th **India-China Bilateral Dialogue on Disarmament and Non-proliferation** was held in **New Delhi**. The Indian delegation was led by **Shri Indra Mani Pandey**, Additional Secretary (Disarmament & International Security Affairs) and the Chinese delegation was led by **Ambassador Fu Cong**, Director General, Department of Arms Control of Ministry of Foreign Affairs.



### Key Points :

- Both the countries exchanged their views on a various issues of mutual interest related to disarmament, non-proliferation and arms control.
- Ambassador Fu Cong invited the Indian delegation to Beijing for the next round of consultations which was accepted by India.
- External Affairs Minister S Jaishankar will visit Beijing in September before the informal summit which will be held between the Prime Minister Narendra Modi and Chinese President Xi Jinping.
- The first informal summit between Indian Prime Minister and Chinese President was held in April, 2018 at Wuhan, China.

## 'NATIONAL STRATEGY FOR WELLBEING 2031' ADOPTED BY THE CABINET OF UAE

- The Cabinet of **United Arab Emirated (UAE)** adopted a 12-year strategy '**National Strategy for Wellbeing 2031**' during its meeting at the Presidential Palace in Abu Dhabi. It will be chaired by **Sheikh Mohammed bin Rashid Al Maktoum**, Vice President, Prime Minister and Ruler of Dubai.



### Key points :

- The newly adopted strategy has 2 objectives:
  - To make UAE a world leader in quality of life by launching 90 new projects that will improve the physical, psychological and digital health of future generations.
  - To promote an integrated concept of well being by supporting **UAE Vision 2021 and UAE Centennial 2071**.

## INDIA TO BE GUEST COUNTRY AT GUADALAJARA INTERNATIONAL BOOK FAIR

- India has been designated as Guest of Honour at **33<sup>rd</sup> Guadalajara International Book Fair** (also called Feria Intenational del Libro de Guadalajara), in **Mexico**. The book fair, will be organised from 30 November 2019 to 8 December 2019.



### Key Highlights of Event :

- **Pavilion :** The book fair will display a dedicated India pavilion that will display more than 35 Indian authors and artists, along with 15 publishing houses.
- India will showcase wide array of its rich and composite literary and cultural heritage by undertaking literary and academic activities at the event. The activities will comprise of conferences, publisher's round table, and discussions and presentations on science and other genres.
- Ancient and rare manuscripts such as that of '**Ramayana**' and '**Mahabharata**' will be put on exhibition at the event, along with paintings, handicrafts and photo books.

## COUNTRY'S FIRST IRON ORE MINE DISCOVERED IN BANGLADESH

- Country's first iron ore mine was discovered at Isabpur village in Dinajpur of **Bangladesh**. The discovery was done by the **Geological Survey of Bangladesh (GSB)**.

### Key points :

- At a depth of 1,330 feet, a 400-foot thick iron layer was discovered and it is extended over an area of 6-10 square kilometers.
- **Percentage of iron:** It is 60 in the mine, which is higher in quality in comparison to other iron ore mines in the world.
- **Other countries:** Canada, China, Brazil Sweden and Australia which comprises less than 50 percent of iron.
- **Other sources:** The discovery site also found to have contained other minerals such as copper, nickel and chromium and limestone at a depth of 1,150 feet.
- The GSB's first drilling was done in 2013 and they started second time in April 2019.
- **Benefits:** With this discovery in Bangladesh, economic and employment opportunities will enhanced in the country.

## GANDHI PEACE RALLY HELD IN SAUDI ARABIA

- To mark the **150<sup>th</sup> birth anniversary of Mahatma Gandhi**, India Embassy organized the **'Gandhi Cycle Rally for Peace'**, in Saudi Arabia. The rally was organized in association with the **Diplomatic Quarter Authority and Saudi Cycling Federation**.



### Key points :

- The rally was flagged off by the Ambassador of India to the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia, **Dr. Ausaf Sayeed**.
- The Saudi nationals, diplomats, India Diaspora attended the rally.
- This was the first time this kind of rally held in Diplomatic Quarters in Riyadh, Saudi Arabia.

## 2<sup>ND</sup> GLOBAL DISABILITY SUMMIT HELD AT BUENOS AIRES, ARGENTINA

- The **2<sup>nd</sup> Global Disability Summit** was held at **Buenos Aires, Argentina** from June 8, 2019. The objectives of the summit were to deliberate on issues across the world concerning empowerment and inclusion of Persons with Disabilities (PwDs) and to work out a mechanism for enabling them to live an independent and dignified life.

### Key points :

- Indian delegation was headed by the Union Minister for Social Justice and Empowerment **Shri Thaawar chand Gehlot** and it comprised of Secretary, Department of Empowerment of Persons with Disabilities (DEPwD), Smt Shankutala Gamin, Joint Secretary, DEPwD, Dr. Prabodh Seth and Shri Neeraj Semwal, Private Secretary to Union Minister.

## EL SALVADOR LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY DECLARES "FORESTS AS LIVING ENTITIES"

- The Legislative Assembly of **El Salvador** has recognized forests as living entities on the **World Environment Day** (5<sup>th</sup> June, 2019). Its citizens will now be required to preserve forests and respect them as more than just property.

### Key points :

- Since 1960s, El Salvador has lost about **85%** of its native forests and the planes as a whole have lost about 80 percent of its native forests.
- A coalition in El Salvador named **"Yes for the Rights of Nature" (Si por los Derechos de la Naturaleza)**, has environmentalists and social leaders called for recognizing forests as living entities.

## INDIA RANKED 141 IN GLOBAL PEACE INDEX, ICELAND REMAINS PEACEFUL

- Institute for Economics and Peace released the report, '**Global peace index 2019**' stated that **India** ranked **141 among 163** countries on the Global Peace Index. **Iceland** topped the in the list.



### Key findings :

- The ranking of India in 2018 was the **136<sup>th</sup>**.
- **Most peaceful: Iceland** remains the most peaceful country in the world, a position it has held **since 2008**. Other countries at top of the Global Peace index (GPI) are New Zealand, Austria, Portugal, and Denmark.
- **Least peaceful: Afghanistan** is the least peaceful country in the world now replacing Syria, which is the second least peaceful. South Sudan, Yemen, and Iraq comprise the remaining five least peaceful countries.
- **South Asian countries status:** Bhutan (15<sup>th</sup>), Sri Lanka (72), Nepal (76), Bangladesh (101 and Pakistan.

### About Global Peace Index :

- **Established :** 2007
- The GPI was founded by **Steve Killelea**, an Australian technology entrepreneur and philanthropist.

## CANADA TO CURB SINGLE USE PLASTICS FROM 2021

- The **Canadian Prime Minister Justin Trudeau** announced to ban **single use plastics** from **2021**. The products which are expected to be banned are cotton swabs, cutlery, plates, straws, bags and drink stirrers. The goal of the government is **“Zero plastic waste (from) coast to coast”**. This is done to reduce ocean waste.



### Key points :

- The estimated figures show that one million birds and over 100,000 marine mammals die or get injured when they get caught in plastic or ingest it.
- The decision was made following the establishment of an Ocean Plastics Charter at the G7 conference 2018.

## 2<sup>ND</sup> MEETING OF INDIA-ITALY JOINT WORKING GROUP ON COUNTER TERRORISM WAS HELD IN NEW DELHI

- The **2<sup>nd</sup> Meeting of India-Italy Joint Working Group (JWG) 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 Mr Diego Brasioli, Principal Director for Security, Disarmament and non-Proliferation, Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Italy.



### Key points :

- They discussed the threats posed by terrorist entities globally and in their respective regions including cross border terrorism and exchanged views on current counter-terrorism challenges including countering radicalization, terror financing and misuse of internet for terrorist purposes.
- The threats arising from transactional crimes and money laundering were also discussed.

## BiFAN 2019 TO BE HELD IN BUCHEON, SOUTH KOREA

- **2019 Bucheon International Fantastic Film Festival (BiFAN)** will be held in **Bucheon City, South Korea** from June 27 to July 7, 2019. This is the 23<sup>rd</sup> edition of the film festival. This film festival is known as a **Mecca of the film culture**.

### Key points :

- 288 movies from 29 countries will be screened and the film festival will be inaugurated through Edgar Nito's movie, **"The Gasoline Thieves"**.
- 4 Indian movies Gully Boy directed by Zoya Akhtar, Andhadhun directed by Sriram Raghavan, Manikarnika: The Queen of Jhansi directed by Radha Krishna Jagarlamudi (Krish) & Kangana Ranaut and a Tamil movie, Super Deluxe directed by Thiagarajan Kumararaja, will be screened at the festival.
- Korean director Lee Eon - Hee, Japanese director Kaneko Shusuke and Korean actress Uhm Junghwa are the jury members of the festival.

### About BiFAN :

- **Founded:** 1997
- Prior to 2015, it was known as the Puchon International Fantastic Film Festival (PiFan)

## SRILANKAN AIRLINES: WORLD'S MOST PUNCTUAL AIRLINE

**SriLankan Airlines**, the National Carrier of island nation has been named the '**World's Most Punctual Airline**' for second consecutive time.



### Key Highlights :

- SriLankan Airlines, the flag carrier of Sri Lanka, has been named 'World's Most Punctual Airline' for second consecutive time in less than 12 months with over **90% of its flights** in May being "**on time**". In September 2018 it achieved a punctuality rating of 91.37%

## KAZAKH-INDIAN INVESTMENT FORUM HELD IN AHMEDABAD

- **Kazakh-India Investment Forum** was held in **Ahmedabad, Gujarat** on June 7, 2019 to attract investments. It was organized by the Embassy of Kazakhstan in India with the support of the Honorary Consulate of Kazakhstan in the state of Gujarat - Dilip Chandan, the National Company-Kazakh Invest and Jain International Trade Organization.

### Key points :

- The event witnessed the participation of the leaders of more than 30 Indian companies.
- Preliminary agreements were given during the B2B (business-to-business), also known as e-biz, meetings.

## SAUDI JOINS FATF

- Saudi Arabia has become the first Arab Country to be granted full membership of the Financial Action Task Force (FATF).
- Saudi Arabia joined FATF as an observer in 2015.

### FATF :

- Created in 1989 as an intergovernmental Body on the initiative of G7 countries.
- FATF Secretariat is housed at OECD headquarters in Paris.



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# 8. Tamilnadu Affairs



## TAMIL NADU GETS \$287 MILLION LOAN FROM WORLD BANK FOR THE STATE'S HEALTH SYSTEM REFORM PROGRAMME

- The Government of India, Tamil Nadu and the World Bank signed a **\$287** million loan agreement for the state's **Health System Reform Programme** in New Delhi.
- It is aimed to improve the quality of health care, reduce the burden of non-communicable diseases (NCDs) and fill equity gaps in reproductive and child health services.

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**Nation Member:**

Countries	Leader Position	Head of government	Head of state
Bangladesh	Prime minister	Sheikh Hasina, Prime Minister of Bangladesh	Abdul Hamid , President of Bangladesh
Bhutan	Prime minister	Tshering Tobgay, Prime Minister of Bhutan	Jigme Khesar Namgyel Wangchuck , King of Bhutan
India	Prime minister	Narendra Modi, Prime Minister of India	Ram Nath Kovind , President of India
Myanmar	President	Htin Kyaw , President of Myanmar	
Nepal	Prime minister	KP Oli, Prime Minister of Nepal	Bidhya Devi Bhandari , President of Nepal
Sri Lanka	President	Ranil Wickremesinghe, Prime Minister of Sri Lanka	Maithripala Sirisena , President of Sri Lanka
Thailand	Prime minister	Prayut Chan-o-cha, Prime Minister of Thailand	King Vajiralongkorn (Rama X), King of Thailand

**BIMSTEC Summits:**

No.	Date	Host country	Host city
1st	July 31, 2004	Thailand	Bangkok
2nd	November 13, 2008	India	New Delhi
3rd	March 4, 2014	Myanmar	Nay Pyi Daw
4th	February 2, 2017	Nepal	Kathmandu

**ASEAN SUMMITS**

The **ASEAN Summit** is a semiannual meeting held by the members of the Association of Southeast Asian Nations in relation to economic, political, security and socio-cultural development of Southeast Asian countries. In addition, it serves as a prominent regional (Asia) and international (worldwide) conference, with world leaders attending its related summits and meetings to

discuss about various problems and global issues, strengthening cooperation, and making decisions.

### Asean Summits & their meetings :

ASEAN SUMMIT			
	Country	Host City	Date
1st	Indonesia	Bali	23–24 February 1976
2nd	Malaysia	Kuala Lumpur	4–5 August 1977
3rd	Philippines	Manila	14–15 December 1987
4th	Singapore	Singapore	27-29 January 1992
5th	Thailand	Bangkok	14-15 December 1995
6th	Vietnam	Hanoi	15-16 December 1998
7th	Brunei	Bandar Seri Begawan	5-6 November 2001
8th	Cambodia	Phnom Penh	4-5 November 2002
9th	Indonesia	Bali	7-8 October 2003
10th	Laos	Vientiane	29-30 November 2004
11th	Malaysia	Kuala Lumpur	12-14 December 2005
12th	Philippines <sup>2</sup>	Mandaue	11-14 January 2007
13th	Singapore	Singapore	18-22 November 2007
14th	Thailand	Cha-am & Hua Hin	27 February–1 March 2009
		Pattaya	10–11 April 2009
15th		Cha-am & Hua Hin	23–25 October 2009
16th	Vietnam	Hanoi	8–9 April 2010
17th			28–31 October 2010
18th	Indonesia	Jakarta	7–8 May 2011
19th		Bali	14–19 November 2011
20th	Cambodia	Phnom Penh	3–4 April 2012
21st			17–20 November 2012
22nd	Brunei	Bandar Seri Begawan	24–25 April 2013
23rd			9–10 October 2013

<b>ASEAN SUMMIT</b>			
24th	Myanmar	Nay Pyi Taw	10–11 May 2014
25th			10–12 November 2014
26th	Malaysia	Kuala Lumpur & Langkawi	26-27 April 2015
27th		Kuala Lumpur	18–22 November 2015
28th	Laos	Vientiane	6–8 September 2016
29th			
30th	Philippines	Pasay	28–29 April 2017
31st			10–14 November 2017
32nd	Singapore	Singapore	25–28 April 2018
33rd			11–15 November 2018
34th	Thailand	TBA	April/May 2019
35th			October/November 2019



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# 10. Practice Questions



- 1) Who founded the Abhinav Bharat Society in Pune?  
A. Tarak Nath Das  
B. Surendranath Banerjee  
C. Vinayak Damodar Savarkar  
D. Ullaskar Dutta
- 2) Who called the Quit India Movement struggle (in 1942) as “Quit India but keep your army” movement?  
A. Vinayak Damodar Savarkar  
B. Bhagat Singh  
C. Mangal Pandey  
D. Chandra Shekhar Azad
- 3) When was the Veer Savarkar observed?  
A. 25 May      B. 28 May  
C. 30 May      D. 20 May
- 4) When was World Refugee Day observed?  
a) June 21st    b) June 22nd  
c) June 20th    d) June 23rd
- 5) Which state released a draft blockchain policy to set up country’s first ‘Blockchain District’?  
A. Bihar  
B. Himachal Pradesh  
C. Telangana  
D. West Bengal
- 6) Which industry icon is set to retire as Executive Chairman of his company in July?  
a) Azim Premji  
b) Ratan Tata  
c) Lakshmi Mittal  
d) Shiv Nadar
- 7) Name of RBI Deputy Governor who resigned six months before his term ends?  
a) Pankaj Sinha  
b) Abhijit Prasad  
c) Suresh Prajapati  
d) Viral Acharya

- 8) First-time MPs Nusrat Jahan, Mimi Chakraborty took oath as Lok Sabha members on June 25. The actresses belong to which party?  
a) BJP                      b) TMC  
c) Cong                     d) DMK
- 9) The Council of Europe has restored which nation's voting rights?  
a) France  
b) Germany  
c) United Kingdom  
d) Russia
- 10) Padma Vibhushan E. Sreedharan recently resigned as the Principal Advisor to which corporation?  
a) DMRC                  b) LMRC  
c) KMRC                  d) MMRC
- 11) When is the International Olympic Day observed every year?  
a) 22nd June    b) 23rd June  
c) 24th June    d) 25th June
- 12) PM Narendra Modi will attend the G-20 Summit 2019 from June 27-29 in which country?  
a) France                b) Russia  
c) Japan                 d) China
- 13) Which country has agreed to revoke its citizenship given to Mehul Choksi?  
a) Antigua                b) Australia  
c) Peru                    d) Brazil
- 14) US President Donald Trump recently signed a strong banning order against which country?  
a) Syria                  b) Iraq  
c) Pakistan               d) Iran
- 15) How much penalty has been proposed for not providing way to emergency vehicles under the Motor Vehicle (Amendment) Bill approved by cabinet?  
a) 8000                    b) 9000  
c) 10000                  d) 11000
- 16) Who is the author of the book "Data Sovereignty - The Pursuit of Supremacy"?  
A.Suresh Yadav  
B.Jagadesh Raj  
C.Rajesh Sharma  
D.Vinit Goenka
- 17) Who won French Grand Prix ?  
A.Lewis Hamilton  
B.Sebastien Loeb  
C.Steve Kinser  
D.Georges Faroux

- 18) Which Indian cricketer has been fined 25 percent of match fee for breaching ICC Code of Conduct?  
a) Virat Kohli  
b) Jasprit Bumrah  
c) Hardik Pandya  
d) Rohit Sharma
- 19) Which party's leader announced that the party would be fighting all future elections on its own after the massive failure of its alliance in Lok Sabha Elections 2019?  
a) SP                      b) TMC  
c) BSP                     d) Congress
- 20) Which among the following nations has become the first gulf country to launch a UN-developed anti-money laundering platform?  
a) Saudi Arabia  
b) UAE  
c) Qatar  
d) Bahrain
- 21) Name of Indian player who recently won Asian Snooker Championship?  
a) Aditya Mehta  
b) Geet Sethi  
c) Ysin Sanchit  
d) Pankaj Advani
- 22) Which among the following institutions conducted a study, according to which drought crisis is present in more than 40% area in India due to delays in monsoon?  
a) IIT Delhi  
b) IIT Gandhinagar  
c) IIT Jabalpur  
d) IIT Patna
- 23) Which state government recently announced that if needed, for higher education, students would be given a loan upto Rs 10 lakhs?  
a) Bihar                      b) Punjab  
c) Delhi                        d) Tamil Nadu
- 24) Which Indian bowler has recently become the second Indian bowler who has made hat-tricks in World Cup history?  
a) Mohammed Shami  
b) Bhuvneshvar Kumar  
c) Kuldeep Yadav  
d) Jasprit Bumrah
- 25) Which among the following teams is the first major team to be out of the cricket world cup race?  
a) Pakistan                b) West Indies  
c) England                 d) South Africa

- 26) Four Rajya Sabha MPs of which party joined the BJP on June 20?
- a) TDP                      b) Congress  
c) DMK                      d) Shiv Sena
- 27) Who has been named as the new speaker of Lok Sabha?
- a) Virendra Kumar  
b) Om Birla  
c) Jitendra Singh  
d) Nitin Gadkari
- 28) Who has been named as the Congress leader in Lok Sabha?
- a) Manish Tewari  
b) Shashi Tharoor  
c) K Suresh  
d) Adhir Ranjan Chowdhury
- 29) Which cricketer has been ruled out of the ICC World Cup tournament?
- a) Rishab Pant  
b) Bhuvneshwar Kumar  
c) Rohit Sharma  
d) Shikhar Dhawan
- 30) Who won Femina Miss India 2019 Pageant?
- a) Shivani Jadhav  
b) Shreya Shanker  
c) Suman Rao  
d) Anukreethy Vas
- 31) What is the name of cryptocurrency wallet announced by Facebook and its partners recently?
- a) Aries  
b) Taurus  
c) Libra  
d) Moon
- 32) PM Narendra Modi performed Yoga on International Yoga Day 2019 at which city?
- a) Jabalpur  
b) Ranchi  
c) Gandhinagar  
d) Chandigarh
- 33) Which country has been suspended by the African Union as there are no civilian rule established in the country?
- A.Syria                      B.Cuba  
C.Sudan                      D.Iran
- 34) Which nation has become the first to ratify the US - Mexico - Canada agreement?
- a) Mexico  
b) US  
c) Canada  
d) None of the above

- 35) Which state received the Geographical Indication (GI) tag for Namma Kolhapuri chappals?  
a) Karnataka    b) Punjab  
c) Rajasthan    d) Haryana
- 36) Which retail giant has to pay over 282 mn for violating anti-corruption regulations in 4 countries?  
a) Amazon        b) Target  
c) Best Buy       d) Walmart
- 37) When was World Music Day 2019 observed?  
a) June 22nd    b) June 21st  
c) June 20th    d) June 19th
- 38) India vs Afghanistan match will take place in which stadium on June 22?  
a) The Oval        b) Trent Bridge  
c) Old Trafford    d) Rose Bowl
- 39) The External Affairs Ministry has issued an advisory to Indians visiting which nation?  
a) Egypt            b) Turkmenistan  
c) Ethiopia        d) Turkey
- 40) When was the Summer Solstice 2019 observed?  
a) 19th June    b) 20th June  
c) 21st June    d) 22nd June
- 41) When is the World Refugee Day observed every year?  
a) 17 June        b) 18 June  
c) 19 June        d) 20 June
- 42) The Bharat Financial Inclusion will be merged with which bank on July 4, 2019?  
a) IndusInd Bank  
b) RBL Bank  
c) IDBI Bank  
d) Kotak Mahindra Bank
- 43) Which State recently made it mandatory for trekkers to carry a GPS device along with them?  
a) Uttarakhand  
b) Himachal Pradesh  
c) Sikkim  
d) West Bengal
- 44) The DD India channel will now be broadcasted in which two countries and in return, their state channels will be shown on DD Free Dish in India?  
a) Nepal & Bhutan  
b) Bhutan & Malaysia  
c) Malaysia & Bangladesh  
d) Bangladesh & South Korea

- 45) Which country recently issued tsunami advisory after a 6.8-magnitude earthquake hit the northwest of country?  
a) Indonesia    b) Japan  
c) Bangladesh    d) Australia
- 46) Which country will be the most populous by 2027, as per the United Nations report?  
a) China  
b) Nigeria  
c) United States  
d) India
- 47) Which State topped the 2nd edition of the US Green Building Council's (USGBC) list?  
a) Kerala  
b) Karnataka  
c) Maharashtra  
d) Telangana
- 48) Which country will host the Conference of Parties of the United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification (UNCCD) in September 2019?  
a) France            b) India  
c) Russia            d) China
- 49) India and Portugal has partnered to set up a national maritime heritage museum at \_\_\_\_\_.  
A.Vasco da Gama, Goa  
B.Lothal, Gujarat  
C.Kolkata, West Bengal  
D.Hisar, Haryana
- 50) Under which programme does the setting up of a national maritime heritage museum takes place?  
A.Craft Museum programme  
B.Know India programme  
C.National Heritage and Culture programme  
D.Sagarmala programme
- 51) What is the name of former Miss India Universe who was molested and abused in Kolakata recently?  
a) Debjyoti Vardhan  
b) Anjana Bhattacharya  
c) Kalpana Dasgupta  
d) Ushoshi Sengupta
- 52) Where was the G-20 on trade and the digital economy summit held?  
A.Geneva, Switzerland  
B.Rome, Italy  
C.Beijing, China  
D.Tsukuba, Japan

- 53) Andaman and Nicobar Command join hands with whom for International Day of Yoga?  
a) Sadhguru  
b) Baba Ramdev  
c) Mata Amritanandamayi  
d) Kripalmurti
- 54) Name of India's first fully electric motorbike that was unveiled recently?  
a) Renault BS 44  
b) Suzuki SX 220  
c) Hydra PTN 13  
d) Revolt RV 400
- 55) Who has been appointed as the BJP's working president?  
a) J P Nadda  
b) Sushma Swaraj  
c) Sunny Deol  
d) Rajyavardhan Rathore
- 56) Who to lead the event of #YogaDay2019 at Ranchi?  
A.Shri Suresh Prabhu  
B.Shri Narendra Modi  
C.Shri Arun Jaitley  
D.Shri Amit Shah
- 57) Who leads Indian delegation to G20 Ministerial meeting in Japan?  
A.Shri Suresh Prabhu  
B.Shri Nitin Gadkari  
C.Shri Vikram Kumar  
D.Shri Piyush Goyal
- 58) When was the World Day to Combat Desertification and Drought observed?  
a) June 18th    b) June 17th  
c) June 16th    d) June 15th
- 59) Mohamed Morsi, the first democratically-elected President of this nation collapsed and died during a court session on June 17.  
a) Ethiopia    b) Egypt  
c) Libya    d) Sudan
- 60) The breakfast menu was changed after 231 years for inmates in the jails of this nation.  
a) Nepal    b) Malaysia  
c) Bangladesh    d) Pakistan

- 61) Which actress questioned Sania Mirza's parenting, by slamming her for taking her son to a sheesha bar?  
a) Veena Malik  
b) Mahira Khan  
c) Sabahat Qamar  
d) Maya Ali
- 62) Over 100 children have died in which state due to Encephalitis?  
a) Jharkhand  
b) Chhattisgarh  
c) Bihar  
d) Telangana
- 63) According to UN report- World Population Prospects 2019- India will overtake China by around which year?  
a) 2027                      b) 2022  
c) 2020                      d) 2050
- 64) What is India's economy target by 2024?  
a) \$5 trillion      b) \$7 trillion  
c) \$10 trillion    d) \$12 trillion
- 65) When Minister for Environment, Forests and Climate Change formed?  
a) 1985                      b) 1968  
c) 1996                      d) 1983
- 66) How many member countries are there in Financial Action Task Force (FATF)?  
a) 38      b) 42    c) 48    d) 51
- 67) Who is crowned as Femina Miss India 2019 ?  
a) Suman Rao  
b) Aditi Araya  
c) Neha Dupia  
d) Manushi Chhillar
- 68) Who is conferred with 'Save Water Hero Award' ?  
a) Dinesh Kumar  
b) Ramesh gupta  
c) Vivek Chopra  
d) Makarand Tilloo
- 69) Which airlines is named as the world's most punctual air service for second consecutive time?  
A. Indian Airlines  
B. SriLankan Airlines  
C. Qatar Airways  
D. Hainan Airlines
- 70) Who is the new president of Slovakia?  
a) Alexander Dubcek  
b) Vladimír Mečiar  
c) Ľudovít Štúr  
d) Zuzana Caputova

- 71) The Indian Medical Association declared All India Protest Day on June 14 after doctors of this state went on strike demanding adequate security.
- Uttar Pradesh
  - West Bengal
  - Madhya Pradesh
  - Rajasthan
- 72) India's 2019 cricket world cup match against this nation was abandoned due to rain.
- South Africa
  - England
  - New Zealand
  - Pakistan
- 73) Which Indian cricketer became the 4th batsman in the world to hit 2000 ODI runs against Australia during India vs Australia world cup match on June 9?
- Virat Kohli
  - Rohit Sharma
  - Shikhar Dhawan
  - MS Dhoni
- 74) Which cricketer announced his retirement from international cricket on June 10?
- MS Dhoni
  - Rohit Sharma
  - Yuvraj Singh
  - Shikhar Dhawan
- 75) What is the name of IAF aircraft which was crashed in Arunachal Pradesh and all 13 people on board declared dead?
- AFC-44
  - IN-56
  - AN-32
  - JK-45
- 76) Which cricketer has been flown in as a cover for injured Shikhar Dhawan?
- Ajynkya Rahane
  - Rishabh Pant
  - Prithvi Shaw
  - Shreyas Iyer
- 77) Who has been appointed as the new leader of Rajya Sabha?
- Thawarchand Gehlot
  - Amit Shah
  - Smriti Irani
  - Rajnath Singh
- 78) When is the International Albinism Awareness Day 2019 observed?
- |             |            |
|-------------|------------|
| A. April 10 | B. May 15  |
| C. June 13  | D. July 20 |

- 79) Which world leader became the first to visit Sri Lanka after the Easter serial bombings that left over 250 dead?  
a) Justin Trudeau  
b) Vladimir Putin  
c) Narendra Modi  
d) Sheikh Hasina
- 80) Who has been appointed as the deputy leader of BJP in the Lok Sabha?  
a) Amit Shah  
b) Piyush Goyal  
c) Thawarchand Gehlot  
d) Rajnath Singh
- 81) Where would be main event of International Yoga Day will be organised in country by Government of India?  
a) Ranchi            b) Alwar  
c) Almora            d) Patna
- 82) Indian girl honoured in \_\_\_\_ for Green efforts  
A.Indonesia    B.South Africa  
C.UAE            D.Pakistan
- 83) Which village becomes first 100% Solar Powered Village in Karnataka ?  
A.Adarangi    B.Byalalu  
C.Amasebailu    D.Dandupalya
- 84) Which country ranked 113 in the End of Childhood Index?  
A.India    B.Pakistan    C.Indonesia  
D.Saudi Arabia
- 85) Who launched 'E-Governance Initiatives For ST Welfare Schemes'?  
A.Shri Dinesh Kumar  
B.Shri Prakash raj  
C.Shri Arjun Munda  
D.Shri Vikram Pandit
- 86) Who is the first President of Kazakhstan after the collapse of Soviet Union?  
A.Nursultan Nazarbayev  
B.Sooronbay Jeenbekov  
C.Kassym-Jomart Tokayev  
D.Almazbek Atambayev
- 87) When did the Soviet Union dissolve?  
A.December 1991  
B.December 1998  
C.December 2000  
D.December 2002
- 88) Mela Kheer Bhawani festival is celebrated in \_\_\_\_\_.  
A.Tripura  
B.Odisha  
C.Andhra Pradesh  
D.Jammu & Kashmir

- 89) When was the Kashmiri Pandits forcefully evicted from J&K Valley?  
A.1940s            B.1960s  
C.1970s            D.1990s
- 90) Which Volcano in Sumatra Island recently erupted?  
A.Mount Kerinci  
B.Mount Dempo  
C.Mount Sinabung  
D.Mount Sibualbuali
- 91) When was the Mount Sinabung last erupted?  
A.2010            B.2014  
C.2016            D.2018
- 92) Ring of Fire is an arc of volcanoes and fault lines encircling the \_\_\_\_\_.  
A.Atlantic basin  
B.North Atlantic basin  
C.East Pacific basin  
D.Pacific basin
- 93) Which Country topped the IMD World Competitiveness Ranking 2019?  
A.US            B.Singapore  
C.Russia            D.Switzerland
- 94) India ranked \_\_\_\_\_ in the IMD World Competitiveness Ranking 2019.  
A.10    B.21    C.33    D.43
- 95) Which of the following has been declared as a monument of national importance by ASI?  
A.Gateway of India  
B.Lotus Temple  
C.Amber Palace  
D.Chaukhandi Stupa
- 96) Where is Chaukhandi Stupa located?  
A.New Delhi, Uttar Pradesh  
B.Sarnath, Uttar Pradesh  
C.Konark, Odisha  
D.Mumbai, Maharashtra
- 97) Prime Minister Narendra Modi accepted Macron's invite to attend outreach session of \_\_\_\_\_  
A.G7 summit    B.G8 summit  
C.G12 summit    D.G 15 summit
- 98) When was Archaeological Survey of India (ASI) established?  
A.1861            B.1881  
C.1919            D.1927

- 99) Who won Canadian Grand Prix 2019?  
 A. Sebastian Vettel  
 B. Alain Prost  
 C. Lewis Hamilton  
 D. Jackie Stewart

- 100) India's First Dinosaur Museum Park inaugurated in \_\_\_\_\_ ?  
 A. Andhra Pradesh  
 B. Gujarat  
 C. West Bengal  
 D. Tamil Nadu

**ANSWER Key**

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



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