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Vetrii's

English

# TNPSC GATEWAY

MONTHLY MAGAZINE FOR TNPSC EXAMS

FEBRUARY - 2019



- ✓ ISRO launches Human Space Flight Centre in Bengaluru
- ✓ India's 40<sup>th</sup> Communication Satellite, GSAT-31
- ✓ Anti-tank missile "Helina" test-fired
- ✓ Train 18 named Vande Bharat Express
- ✓ Pradhan Mantri Kisan Samman Nidhi
- ✓ Waste to Wonder Park in Delhi



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The Best Academy for IAS & TNPSC Exams

# TNPSC

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FEBRUARY - 2019



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**My Dear Aspirants,**

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.

We at **VETRII IAS** Study Circle are committed to provide the right guidance, quality coaching and help every aspirant to achieve his or her life's cherished goal of becoming a civil servant.

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**Wishing You All The Very Best !!**

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



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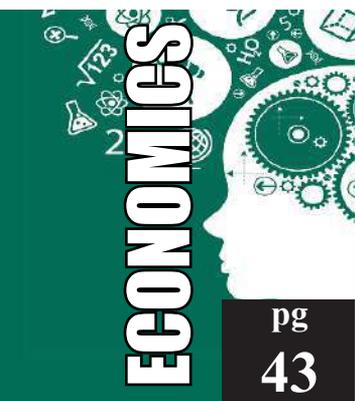
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# 1. History



## 1.1 IMPORTANT DAYS

**Jan 24**

### Uttar Pradesh celebrates it's 69th foundation day

- Uttar Pradesh celebrated it's **69th foundation day** in Lucknow as **"UP DIVAS"**.

#### Aim

- Uttar Pradesh earlier known as United Province, got its name as **Uttar Pradesh on January 24, 1950.**

**Jan 25**

### National Voters Day 2019 observed in India

- Theme 2019 - **'No Voter to be Left Behind'**

#### Aim

- The **9th National Voters' day** was observed across **India on January 25, 2019** with an aim to increase enrolment of voters, especially of the newly eligible ones.

**Jan 26**

### International Customs day

- This year international Customs day is celebrated with a slogan **"SMART borders for seamless Trade, Travel and Transport."**

#### AIM :

- To commemorate the first Conference of **World Customs Organizations.**

**Jan 27**

### International holocaust remembrance day

- **International Holocaust Remembrance Day** was observed all over the world commemorating the tragedy of the Holocaust that occurred during the **Second World War.**

#### Key Points :

- **Observed** by the **United Nations General Assembly resolution 60/7** on 1st November 2005 in the 42nd Plenary session.

## Russia marks 75 years since World War II siege of Leningrad

- Russia marked the **75th Anniversary** of the end of World War II siege of Leningrad in which more than 800,000 people lost their lives.

### Data Protection Day

Jan 28

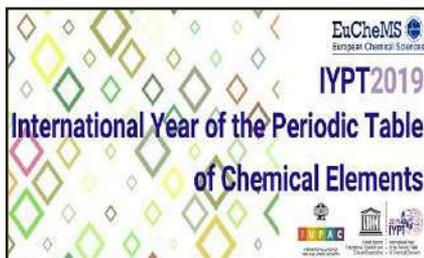
- It is also known as **Data Privacy Day** in some parts of the world was observed to raise awareness and promote privacy and data protection.



### International Year of the Periodic Table of Chemical Elements 2019

Jan 29

- UNESCO launched 2019 as The **International Year of the Periodic Table of Chemical Elements** in **Paris**.



### Keypoints :

- The launch of International Year of the Periodic Table of Chemical Elements 2019 also recognized **150th anniversary of the establishment of the Periodic Table of Chemical Elements** by the Russian scientist, **Dmitri Mendeleev, one of the father of Modern Chemistry**.

### World Leprosy Eradication Day

Jan 30

- Theme 2019 - **'ending discrimination, stigma, and prejudice'**.

### AIM :

- It stresses the need of eradicating the disease.
- It also brings to light the discrimination and stigma that people suffer from society every day.
- **Leprosy**, also known as **Hansen's disease** is a highly contagious infection caused by the **bacterium Mycobacterium leprae**.

### National Martyr's Day or Sarvodaya Day 2019- 30th January

- **National Martyr's Day or Sarvodaya Day** was observed to mark the death anniversary of our greatest Hero and father of the nation, Mahatma Gandhi who was assassinated by **Nathuram Godse on 30th January 1948**.

Martyrs Day	Purpose
30th January	Death anniversary Mahatma Gandhi
23rd March	Death Anniversary of Bhagat Singh, Sukhdev Thapar, Shivaram Rajguru
21st October	Observed by Police Department nationwide
17th November	Observed in Odisha on the death Anniversary of Lala Lajpat Rai
19th November	Birthday of Rani Lakshmibai, observed as martyrs Day in Jhansi

**Key Points :**

- Prime Minister, Naredra Modi paid tribute to Mahatma Gandhi in his first “Mann Ki Baat” address of 2019 on 30th January.
- In India, Martyr’s day is celebrated on five days every year to pay homage to the freedom fighters of India.

**World Wetlands Day**

**Feb 02**

**AIM :**

- To raise global awareness on the **value of wetlands for humanity and the planet.**
- Theme 2019 - ” **Wetlands and Climate Change**”

**World Cancer Day**

**Feb 04**

- To create awareness about cancer and encourage its prevention, and treatment.



**Keypoints :**

- World Cancer Day launched a new three year campaign with the theme “**I Am and I Will.**”

**Sushma Swaraj and Nitin Gadkari inaugurated 30th National Road Safety Week in New Delhi**

**Feb 06**

- External Affairs Minister **Smt Sushma Swaraj** and Union Minister for Road Transport & Highways, Shipping and Water Resources, River



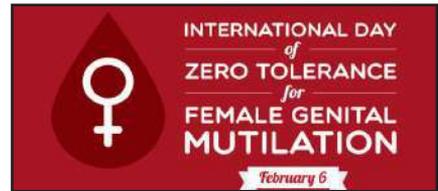
Development and Ganga Rejuvenation **Shri Nitin Gadkari** inaugurated the **30th National Road Safety Week, 2019** at Gandhi Smriti and Darshan, Rajghat, New Delhi.

### AIM

- The aim of the event is to generate awareness and sensitizing people about safe road usage.
- Theme 2019- is “**Sadak Suraksha-Jeevan Raksha**”.

## International Day of Zero Tolerance for Female Genital Mutilation

- **International Day of Zero Tolerance for Female Genital Mutilation (FGM)**, which is also called as **Female Genital Cutting (FGC)** that is, removal of all or part of a female's genitalia for non-medical reasons.



### AIM

- The UN officially commemorated the International Day of Zero Tolerance for Female Genital Mutilation to remark to fight against FGM on **February 6, 2003**.
- The theme for the year 2019 is #EndGFM.**

## National Cleft Day



- India's first toll free national cleft helpline named **Smile Train India cleft Helpline** launched by Smile Train India on National Cleft Day.

### Key Points :

- The **number 18001038301** is accessible to people throughout India and they **can receive 100% free, quality and safe cleft treatment**.
- It will **create awareness about cleft surgery support by Smile Train and their partner hospitals across India**.

## World Pulses Day



- United Nations global event to celebrate pulses worldwide and continue the important



gains made with the **2016 International Year of Pulses**.

### AIM :

- In December 2013, the **United Nations (UN) General Assembly** voted unanimously to declare **2016** as the **International Year of Pulses (IYP)**, to celebrate, raise awareness and promote the consumption of pulses at events around the globe.

### National Deworming Day

- **It was observed** with a motive to showcase the importance of worm free lives and maintaining sanitation.

### Focus areas of the deworming day :

- It is a single fixed-day approach to treating **intestinal worm infections** in all children aged **1- 19 years**.
- It will mobilize health personnel, state governments and other stakeholders to prioritize investment in control of **Soil Transmitted Helminth (STH)** infections one of the most common infections.
- Adequate supply of **Albendazole tablets** at healthcare and Anganwadi centres.
- Spreading awareness on **safe drinking water and sanitation**.



### International Day of Women and Girls in Science

- Theme 2019- **“Investment in Women and Girls in Science for Inclusive Green Growth.**



### AIM :

- In order to achieve full and equal participation and access to women and girls in science, and to further achieve gender equality and empowerment of women and girls.

### World day of the Sick

- It was initiated by **Pope John Paul II** in **1992** with an aim to encourage people to pray for those who suffer from illness and for their caregivers.
- It was observed for the first time on **11th February 1993**.

**AIM :** As per the **UNESCO** data (2014-16), only about 30% of all female students select STEM-related fields in higher education

- Globally, the enrolment of female students is particularly low in ICT (3%), Natural Science, Mathematics and Statistics (5%) and in Engineering, manufacturing and construction (8%).

**Feb 12**

### National Productivity Council celebrates its Foundation Day on 12th Feb

- **National Productivity Council (NPC)** has commemorated its 61st Foundation Day as **Productivity Day**. NPC is celebrating National Productivity Week from **12th Feb to 18th Feb, 2019**.

#### Key Points :

- The theme of this year's Productivity Day is **"Circular Economy for Productivity and Sustainability"**.
- This is to signify a distinctive opportunity for circular business representative models for **'Make-Use-Return'** for further economic prospects and revitalization of materials.

### International Darwin Day

- The legacy of the British scientist **"Charles Darwin"** was celebrated across the globe by various scientists, activists, and fans.

**Feb 13**

### World Radio Day

- **Theme 2019** - Theme of **"Dialogue, Tolerance and Peace"**

#### AIM :

- United Nations Education, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO) to commemorate radio as a powerful and influential medium that has been in existence for over 80 years.

**Feb 20**

### World Day of Social Justice

- **World Day of Social Justice will be observed on Feb.20** every year to create awareness about social justice based on gender, age, race, ethnicity, religion, culture or disability.



**Objective :**

- This day promotes peaceful and prosperous coexistence among different nations. It also creates awareness throughout the world about values of gender equality or the rights of indigenous peoples and migrants.

**Theme of 2019:**

- **'If you want Peace and Development, Work for Social Justice'** to focus on the goal of achieving full employment for the bottom 40 per cent of people and support for social integration.

**Background :**

- On 26th November 2007, The United Nations General Assembly has approved to observe 20<sup>th</sup> February every year and started to activate from 2009, as the World Day of Social Justice.

**Feb 21****International Mother Language Day**

- Theme for the year 2019- **"Indigenous languages matter for development, peace building and reconciliation"**.

**Background :**

- The idea of celebrating International Mother Language day came from Bangladesh and WestBengal, which celebrates this day as **Bhasha Dibas or Shahid Dibas** as a commemoration of Bangladeshis war to recognize the Bangla language.

**Feb 22****World Thinking Day**

- The theme of World Thinking Day 2019 is **'Leadership'**. The aim is to learn the different ways to be a leader and develop the power to

bring the change a person wants to see in the world.



Every year, Girl Scouts and Girl Guides celebrate the World Thinking Day on **22nd February**.

1. The day is celebrated to be thankful about the help and care provided by brothers and sisters around the world.
2. The day is significant as it was the birthday of Scouting and Guiding founder **Lord Robert Baden-Powell** and of **Lady Olave Baden-Powell**, his wife and World Chief Guide.

## 1.2 DEFENCE

### INDIA AFRICA FIELD TRAINING EXERCISE (IAFTX) 2019 TO BE HELD IN PUNE

- The final planning conference to work out the modalities for **India Africa Field Training Exercise (IAFTX)** which is to be held from 18th to 27th **March 2019** commenced in Pune, Maharashtra.

#### Key Points :

- India Africa Field Training Exercise (IAFTE) 2019 will boost strategic Cooperation, political and military ties between the countries.
- Representatives from **Egypt, Ghana, Nigeria, Senegal, Sudan, South Africa, Tanzania, Namibia, Mozambique, Uganda, Niger, and Zambia** are attending the conference.
- Field Training Exercise will be carried out at Aundh Military station and College of Military Engineering in Pune.

### NAVY CHIEF ADMIRAL SUNIL LANBA COMMISSIONED NEW NAVAL AIR BASE 'INS KOHASSA' AT DIGLIPUR, ANDAMAN

- Navy Chief Admiral Sunil Lanba commissioned new Naval Air Base '**INS KOHASSA**' at **Diglipur, Andaman and Nicobar Islands**.

#### Key Points :

- The air base is situated at the northernmost part of Andaman and Nicobar Islands. It will be used for both defence and civil aircraft.
- The air base will function as an independent unit and will be used to handle operations of helicopters and small aircrafts like the Dornier.

#### INS Kohassa:

- **INS Kohassa** being the third air base in Andaman and Nicobar Islands will be used for surveillance of Chinese ships and submarines entering the Indian Ocean through Malacca Strait.
- The probable reason behind **INS Kohassa** is a Chinese submarine docked on Colombo port in **Sri Lanka in 2014** which drew an alarm and India government raised the issue to **Sri Lankan** authorities.

## EXERCISE RAHAT CONCLUDED IN JAIPUR



- **Joint Humanitarian Assistance and Disaster Relief Exercise ‘Exercise Rahat’** concluded in Jaipur, Rajasthan. It was demonstrated in **Jaipur, Kota and Alwar in Rajasthan.**

### Key Points :

- Indian Army was represented by Jaipur based **Sapta Shakti Command.** Representatives from Armed Forces, **National Disaster Management Response Mechanism (NDMRM), SDMA Rajasthan and DLMA**s participated in the exercise.
- The exercise was conducted in three places, **in Jaipur it was in the form of a table top exercise and at Kota and Alwar it demonstrated on-ground capability and coordination among various stakeholders.**

## 1ST LAWASIA HUMAN RIGHTS CONFERENCE 2019 WAS HELD IN NEW DELHI



- **LAWASIA**, in association with the **Bar Association of India** hosted its 1st LAWASIA Human Rights Conference in **New Delhi** with a motive to explore a broad range of human rights issues of relevance in the Asia Pacific region.

### About the Conference :

- This conference was inaugurated by Vice President **Shri. M. Venkaiah Naidu** with the theme **“State Power, Business and Human Rights: Contemporary Challenges”.**
- It provides opportunity for lawyers and associated professional members to exchange insights and expertise on topics of significance.

## ‘BOEING 747-200’- AIR INDIA’S FIRST EVER FLIGHT SIMULATOR WAS EXHIBITED IN MUMBAI

- **Air India’s First ever Flight Simulator known as ‘Boeing 747-200’** was exhibited in **Nehru Science Centre, Mumbai.**
- The Simulator was acquired by Air India in 1980, which is designed and manufactured by the CAE(Canadian Aviation Electronics), **Canada.**

## 'AMAN 19' COMMENCED IN KARACHI

- The 5-day multinational maritime exercise '**AMAN-19**' in which **46 nations** participated from all over the world was formally commenced at Pakistan Navy Dockyard, with a colorful flag hoisting ceremony.

### Key Points :

- Pakistan's Naval Chief, **Admiral Zafar Mahmood Abbasi** welcomed the participations of Exercise **AMAN-19**, the 6th episode of the **AMAN initiative**, with motto "Together for Peace".
- Principal aim to conduct this exercise is to facilitate a forum of understanding of each other's maritime concepts and operation cultures and to produce ways and means to confront common threat at sea.
- The exercise will have 2 phases- **Harbour phase and sea phase.**

## INDIAN ARMY CARRIED OUT THE ANNUAL EXERCISE NAMED 'EXERCISE TOPCHI'

- Indian army demonstrated its artillery firepower, aviation and surveillance capacity at the annual '**Exercise Topchi**' at Deolali Camp near Nashik.

1. The latest ultra-light Howitzer M-777, self-propelled gun K-9 Vajra and indigenous Swathi weapon-locating radar was demonstrated.
2. The aviation assets showcased were the indigenous advanced light helicopter, **light combat helicopter, Cheetah & Chetak helicopters.**

### Related points :

- Chief of the Army Staff – General Bipin Rawat

## IAF CARRIED OUT 'VAYU SHAKTI' EXERCISE AT POKHRAN

- **Indian Air Force conducted mega exercise 'Vayu Shakti' in Pokhran, Rajasthan.** The exercise was conducted two days after 40 CRPF personnel were killed in a suicide attack in **Kashmir's Pulwama.**



### Key Points :

- The exercise was carried out day and night where the IAF showcased fire power capability of indigenously developed platforms and efficacy of missiles.
- For the first time, the **Advanced Light Helicopter (ALP) and the Akash surface-to-air missile were deployed** in military exercise. MiG-29 fighter jet also participated in the exercise.

## 1.3 SUMMIT & CONFERENCE

### INDIA SIGNS AGREEMENT WITH OECD FOR PARTICIPATION IN PISA 2021

- The **Union Human Resources Development Ministry** signed an agreement with Organisation for **Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD)** for India's Participation in Programme for **International Student Assessment-PISA 2021**.

#### Objective :

- The student assessment by **PISA** will ensure learning outcome through education. It would lead to an improvement in the learning levels of the children and enhance the quality of education in the country.
- It would also indicate the health of the education system of the nation and would motivate other schools and states in the subsequent cycles.

### INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE ON GURU PADMASAMBHAVA IN NEW DELHI

- An International Conference on 8th century Himalayan sage Guru Padmasambhava was held in **New Delhi**.
- The conference was organised as part of events to commemorate 50-years of formalization of diplomatic ties between India and Bhutan.

#### Guru Padmasambhava

- **Guru Padmasambhava** was born in India and travelled all across Himalayan region in the 8th century to spread Buddhism and Buddhist teachings.
- Guru Padmasambhava is highly revered in Bhutan. There is an image or painting of the Guru Padmasambhava in every Bhutanese home or temple.
- Guru Padmasambhava was also known as Guru Rinpoche is widely venerated as a "**second Buddha**" by adherents of **Tibetan Buddhism in Tibet, Nepal, Bhutan, the Himalayan states** of India, and elsewhere.
- **Guru Padmasambhava** is also considered to be the founder of Nyingama tradition, oldest of the four major schools of Tibetan Buddhism.

### CAPACITY AUGMENTATION TO SUCCESSFULLY DELIVER THE G20 PRESIDENCY

- **India** is going to host the **G20 annual summit is 2022** when it celebrates its **75th year of independence** and in order to exploit it to the full extent, capacity augmentation of available resources and efficient addressal of organizational challenges must be done on time to fill the infrastructure,

management and intellectual gap.

- Indian Prime Minister, Narendra Modi requested **Italy** to host the **2021 G20 summit instead of 2022 summit** which was accepted by Italy.

## WORLD ECONOMIC FORUM ANNUAL MEETING HELD IN DAVOS

- From 22nd January 2019, the flagship event of World Economic Forum, **The World Economic Forum Annual Meeting-2019** was held in **Davos-Klosters, Switzerland**. The theme of the event was **“Globalization 4.0: Shaping a Global Architecture in the Age of the Fourth Industrial Revolution”**. The event concluded on 25th January 2019.
- The International Monetary Fund (IMF) released its **World Economic Outlook Update** in Davos, Switzerland. The report stated that India's gross domestic product (GDP) is poised to grow by 7.5% in the 2019-20 fiscal and 7.7% in 2020-2021.

## INTERNATIONAL SPICE CONFERENCE 2019



- **International Spice Conference** is considered as platform for all business houses, the spice associations, the policy makers, the farmers and the users, to connect and interact.
  1. The **fourth edition** of this conference was held in the City of Pearls and the capital city of Telangana-**Hyderabad**.
  2. The theme for the conference 2019 is **‘Challenges of Change, Redefining the Value Chain’**.
  3. **Third edition** of this conference was held in **Jaipur** with the theme **‘Managing Disruptions through Transformation and Collaboration’**.

## 2019 ASIA LPG SUMMIT ORGANIZED BY WORLD LPG ASSOCIATION

- **Shri Dharmendra Pradhan**, Union Minister for petroleum and natural gas, inaugurated the **2019 Asia LPG summit** in **New Delhi**.



### About the summit :

- This two-day event will focus on **‘LPG – Energy for Life.’**
- India is the **second largest consumer** of liquified natural gas (LPG) in the world under the flagship **‘Ujjwala’ scheme**, and in take of LPG in households is providing access to cleaner cooking fuel .

## SECOND EDITION OF THE INDIA HERITAGE WALK IN PARTNERSHIP WITH SAHAPEDIA

- **Sahapedia** in partnership with **UNESCO** organised the **second edition of India Heritage Walk Festival (IHWF) 2019**. It is also supported by the **National Mineral Development Corporation**.
- The first edition of the festival, went on to receive the **PATA Gold Awards 2018** in Heritage and Culture.
- This festival offers opportunity to discover the hidden gems linked to the history.



### Heritage Walks of 2019 edition :

1. In the list of heritage walks ,Delhi has a new attraction.
2. The heritage walk plans to introduce Sanjhi- a paper-cutting art by stencil of Vrindavan and the lanes of **Bandra in Mumbai**.

## WORLD GOVERNMENT SUMMIT'S SEVENTH SESSION HELD IN DUBAI

- The seventh session of the **World Government Summit** began on Sunday, **10th February 2019**, in Dubai, United Arab Emirates (UAE). More than 4,000 people from 140 countries participated in the event.
- The summit opened with the speech of **Mohammed Abdullah Ak Gergawi**, minister of **Cabinet Affairs and the Future**, along with **Klaus Schwab**, founder and executive chairman of **World Economic Forum (WEF)**.



### About World Government Summit :

- The World Government Summit organization's main objective is to shape the future generation of governments. By bringing the public and private sectors together to collaborate with world-renowned experts, it seeks to help create a positive impact for citizens worldwide. It is held annually in **Dubai** in the month of February.

## 5TH INDIA-BANGLADESH JOINT CONSULTATIVE COMMITTEE

- The **5th India-Bangladesh Joint Consultative Committee Meeting**, co-chaired by External Affairs Minister **Sushma Swaraj** and Foreign Affairs Minister of Bangladesh **Dr Abdul Momen** was held in **New Delhi**.
- It was the first high-level visit from a Bangladesh since the victory of Prime Minister **Sheikh Hasina's** victory in the parliamentary elections in **December 2018** and Dr. Abdul Momen's first time in India as Foreign Minister.



## WORLD SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT SUMMIT 2019

- World Sustainable Development Summit (WSDS) 2019, the flagship event of 'The Energy and Resources Institute' (TERI), was inaugurated by Vice President Shri M. Venkaiah Naidu at Vigyan Bhawan, New Delhi.
  1. The theme of WSDS 2019 was **'Attaining the 2030 Agenda: delivering on our promise'**.
  2. **Frank Bainimarama**, Prime Minister of Fiji, was honoured with the Sustainable Development Leadership Award 2019 for his outstanding contributions towards sustainable development in Fiji.
  3. **TERI** will set up **Resource Efficiency Cell** to enable inter-ministerial and inter-departmental synergy in promoting material resource efficiency in India.

### About TERI :

- Director-General - Dr. Ajay Mathur
- Headquarters - New Delhi

## INTERNATIONAL VISION ZERO CONFERENCE



- A 3 day **'International Vision Zero Conference'** was inaugurated in **Mumbai, Maharashtra** to **promote occupational safety and health**.
  1. The Conference was organized by **Directorate General Factory Advice and Labour Institutes (DGFASLI)**, **Ministry of Labour and Employment**, **German Social Accident Insurance (DGUV)**, **Germany** along with **Indian Institute of Technology, Bombay** and **International Social Security Association - Manufacturing, Construction and Mining**. It was inaugurated by **Shri Heeralal Samariya**, Secretary, **Ministry of Labour and Employment**.
  2. 'Vision Zero' is based on four principles:
    - Life is non-negotiable.
    - Humans are fallible.
    - Limits of tolerance defined by physical resistance of humans.
    - People are entitled to safe transport and safe workplaces.

## 8TH WORLD CSR CONGRESS 2019 IN MUMBAI

- **World Corporate Social Responsibility Congress (World CSR Congress 2019)** is one of the admired meetings which promote Entrepreneurship, Social Responsibility, Sustainability and Social Development.
- 8th World CSR Congress held between Feb 17 and Feb 18 ,2019 in Mumbai, Maharashtra.It was attended by participants from 33 countries to encourage the efforts of individuals and organizations.
- Theme of the year 2019 is **‘Sustainable Development Goals(SDGs)’** to focus on corporate strategies,innovation, and strategic alliances.



### Dr.Soumitro Chakraborty won ‘CEO of the year’ award:

- CEO of Innovative Financial Advisors Pvt Ltd, (Fiinnovation), Social Entrepreneur **Dr.Soumitro Chakraborty** was awarded **‘CEO of the year’** at the 8th World CSR Congress.
- He has been recognized for implementing various programmes in partnership with various corporations and NGOs in the field of health, environment, education and livelihood.

## REGIONAL MARITIME SAFETY CONFERENCE 2019 HELD IN MUMBAI

- The 2-day long **Regional Maritime Safety Conference 2019** was held in **Mumbai** to discuss maritime safety in the **India-ASEAN sub-region**, safeguarding our shores and promoting maritime trade.
  1. It was organized by India for the first time, by the **National Maritime Foundation (NMF)**, in coordination with **Ministry of Shipping** and **Ministry of External Affairs**.
  2. It addressed a range of issues that affect regional maritime safety, including transport safety, maritime law, ship building, transportation of hazardous goods, marine oil spill, pollution and environmental safety.



## 1.4 EMINENT PERSONS

### MUKESH AMBANI RANKED 1ST IN HURUN INDIA PHILANTHROPY LIST 2018

- Reliance Industries chairman **Mukesh Ambani** and also richest person in Asia, topped the Hurun India Philanthropy list with donation amount of **437 crores**.
- Mukesh Ambani is followed by the chairman of the **Piramal Group, Ajay Piramal** who donated **200 crores**.
- Top 10 list of Hurun India Philanthropy list:

Rank 2018	Name		Primary Cause	Company	City
1.	Mukesh Ambani	437	Education	Reliance Industries	Mumbai
2.	Ajay Premji & Family	200	Education	Pirmal Group	Mumbai
3.	Azim Premji & Family	113	Education	Wipro	Bengaluru
4.	Adi Godrej & Family	96	Livelihood enhancement	Godrej	Mumbai
5.	Yusuf Ali MA	70	Disaster relief	Lulu	Abu Dhabi
6.	Shiv Nadar	56	Education	HCL	New Delhi
7.	Savji Dholakia	40	Livelihood enhancement	Hari Krishna Exports	Surat
8.	Shapoor Pallonji Mistry	36	Education	Shapoorji Pallonji	Monaco
9.	Cyrus Pallonji Mistry	36	Education	Shapoorji Pallonji	Mumbai
10.	Gautam Adani	30	Education	Adami Enterprises	Ahmedabad

### KAREENA KAPOOR KHAN NAMED BRAND AMBASSADOR OF SWASTH IMMUNISED INDIA

- Bollywood actress, Kareena Kapoor Khan is named as the brand ambassador of **Swasth Immunised India**, a year-long campaign initiated by **Network18** and **Serum Institute of India** which promotes immunisation of babies under

two years of age.

- The campaign was launched at Mumbai and **Adar Poonawalla**, President, **Vaccine Manufacturers Association of India** and CEO, **Serum Institute of India (SII)**, **Natasha Poonawalla**, Executive Director, **SII**, and **Dr Nitin Shah**, section head of pediatrics department at **PD Hinduja National Hospital**, were present at the event.



## 1.5 PLACES IN NEWS

### DUBAI AIRPORT RETAINS TOP POSITION AS WORLD'S BUSIEST AIRPORT

- Dubai International (DXB) airport became the world's busiest airport for international passengers for the **fifth consecutive year in 2018**.

#### Key Points :

- **Dubai International (DXB)** shows an increase of 1% in passenger traffic when compared to previous year. It is the slowest growth for Dubai Airport in the past decade.
- DXB overtook the crown from **London's Heathrow airport in 2014**. At present Heathrow Airport is the second busiest airport.
- India renamed the biggest source of traffic for the airport, accounting for more than 12.2 million travellers with most of them from Mumbai, Delhi and Cochin.

### HIMALAYAN CLOUD OBSERVATORY SET UP IN TEHRI

- A **Himalayan Cloud Observatory** is set up in **Tehri district** with a motive to forecast and monitor cloudburst incidents in the Himalayan region and help minimising the damage.
- The Observatory is established in the **SRT campus Badshithaul**, in **Tehri** and is in testing period.
- This is the second observatory in the country to monitor cloud activities by the **Indian Science and Technology Department** and **Indian Institute of Technology (IIT) Kanpur** that can function in high-altitudes.



## 1.6 SPORTS & GAMES

### OPERATION OLYMPICS COMMENCES IN KERALA

- An expert programme '**Operation Olympics**' managed by **Kerala's** Sports Department and State Sports Council was commenced to train 123 athletes in 11 disciplines for **2020 Tokyo Olympics**.

#### Key Points :

- The programme has the objective to provide international standard training to the athletes with the help of eminent trainers from both India and abroad.
- Under the Programme, Expert training will be provided in athletics, boxing, cycling, swimming, shooting, wrestling, badminton, fencing, rowing and archery.

### SAINA NEHWAL WINS TITLE AFTER SPAIN'S CAROLINA MARIN RETIRES



- Indian ace Badminton player, **Saina Nehwal** won the Indonesia Masters women's singles title after **Carolina Marin** of **Spain** pulled out in the final when she injured her right foot.
- **Saina clinched her first-ever Indonesia masters title** after Marin's pullout from the game. She also became the **first** Indian women's player to win the Indonesia Masters title.
- With the win, Nehwal earned **\$26,250** of rewards as the champion of the title.
- Saina lost to Carolina in the semi-final of **Malaysia Masters** Tournament.

### INS DRONACHARYA WINS KOCHI AREA BOAT PULLING REGATTA 2019

- **INS Dronacharya** team won the Regatta trophy in the **Area Pulling Regatta Kochi 2019** of the **(SNC Southern Naval Command)** held in **Kochi**. is one of the most prestigious and traditional naval sporting activities conducted by the Southern Naval Command.

### ICC SUSPENDS AMBATI RAYUDU FROM BOWLING IN INTERNATIONAL CRICKET

- The International Cricket Council announced that Indian bowler **Ambati Rayudu** has been suspended from bowling in international cricket.
- The ICC stated that the player elected not to submit to a test of his bowling action within the stipulated period of **14 days** of being reported for a suspect action and therefore he was suspended with immediate effect in accordance with **clause 4.2 of the ICC regulations**.

## KARTIK SHARMA WINS NEW SOUTH WALES MEN'S AMATEUR GOLF CHAMPIONSHIP

- India Golfer, **Kartik Sharma** won the New South Wales Men's Amateur Golf Championship held in **Australia** by defeating Australia's **Nathan Barberie** in the scheduled **36-hole final**.



### Key Points :

- **Kartik Sharma** is playing for India as a part of National Squad since the age of 10.
- Kartik Sharma who is selected to represent Indian Golf Union for the three events in **Australia** had also won the Indian Golf Union western India amateur golf championship 2018.

## SATHIYAN SURPASSED SHARATH TO BECOME HIGHEST-RANKED INDIAN AT 28, MANIKA BATRA BREAKS INTO TOP-50



- Indian paddler **G Sathiyan** achieved a new career **rank of 28** in the world rankings.
  1. He surpassed **Sharath** after he gained three spots in his recent game.
  2. **Manika Batra** became the first female from India to be enlisted in **top 50 list**, she made herself in **rank 47**.

## MITHALI BECOMES FIRST FEMALE TO PLAY 200 ODIS

- 36 years old India's Women Cricket team captain, **Mithali Raj** became the **first female player** to play **200 ODIs** during the 3rd and Final ODI against New Zealand.

### Key Points :

- Mithali Raj has played in 200 out of 263 ODI matches that India have played till now.
- Mithali Raj has also scored highest runs in ODIs which is 6622 at an average of 51.33 including 7 centuries
- She also holds the longest international career among all female players and She has the fourth longest career only behind **India's Sachin Tendulkar, Sri Lanka's Sanath Jayasuriya and Pakistan's Miandad**.

## SMRITI MANDHANA TOPS WOMEN'S ODI BATTING RECORD

- **India's Smriti Mandhana** attained top in the ICC ODI rankings for batswomen, she bagged the first position after the match against **New Zealand**, whereas **Ellyse Perry** followed her in the **second position** and Indian ODI skipper **Mithali Raj** in **fifth position**.

## VANI KAPOOR BECOMES FIRST INDIAN TO BAG AUSTRALIAN LPGA CARD

- Golfer **Vani Kapoor** has become **the first Indian** to bag **Australian Ladies PGA Tour (LPGA)** after securing **12th Rank** tied with three others in the first ever qualifying tournament at the Ballarat Golf Club in Australia.



### Key Points :

- Total 81 player participated in the Qualifying tournament out of which top-20 earned the card for LPGA.
- Vani Kapoor finished **two-over 218** after shooting rounds of **71, 78 and 69**.
- Diksha Dagar, Astha Madan and Ridhima Dilawari also participated in the qualifying tournament but they could not grab the Card of LPGA.

## SANA MIR BECOMES FIRST ASIAN WOMAN TO PLAY HUNDRED T20IS



- Former captain of the Pakistan women team **Sana Mir** became the first Asian woman to play **hundred T20Is**.
  1. She achieved this milestone, When she played against **West Indies** in her final T20I that was held in **Karachi**
  2. Sana Mir is the **sixth woman** in the world to complete **100 T20Is**, whereas **Daendra Dottin** of **West Indies** lead the list with **110 T20Is**.

## MIRABAI CHANU WINS GOLD AT EGAT CUP IN THAILAND

- The 24 year old World champion Manipuri weightlifter **Saikhom Mirabai Chanu** notched up gold at EGAT Cup in Chiang Mai city, Thailand.



### Key Points

- i. Mirabai Chanu has won **48 kg category Gold** with effort of 192 kg in the silver level Olympic qualifying event for 2020 Tokyo Olympics.
- ii. She lifted 82 kg in snatch and 110 kg in lean and jerk to finish on top of the event.

## JAMIE CHADWICK BECAME THE 1ST FEMALE DRIVER TO WIN THE MRF CHALLENGE TITLE

- **Jamie Chadwick**, female driver from England won the **MRF challenge title**. She made history by becoming the **first female driver** to win the title after scoring a **triple win** in the final round in **Chennai, Tamil Nadu**.

### MRF challenge :

- It is an open-wheel motorsport formula based in India organized by **Madras Motor Sports Club**. It was inaugurated in **2013**.

## 'CLOUDED LEOPARD' TO BE MASCOT FOR NATIONAL GAMES 2022



- The Sports and Youth Ministry in the meeting of Executive Committee of the National Games 2022 has chosen the **'Smiling Clouded Leopard'** to be the Mascot for the **National Games 2022**.

### Key points :

- Meghalaya will host the 2022 National Games, which is coinciding with its 50 years of statehood.
- Clouded Leopard is among the wild cats that live throughout the forests of **Garo, Khasi and Jaintia Hills**.
- The meeting has decided that an open completion would be held to design a smiling clouded leopard that will be used as the mascot for the national Games.

## DE GOEDE, VAN DOREN WIN 2018 FIH PLAYER OF THE YEAR AWARDS

- **Eva de Goede** from **Netherlands** and **Arthur van Doren** of **Belgium** were titled the **International Hockey Federation's Players of the Year for 2018** on 14th February 2019.
- Eva de Goede 29, was named the Female Player of the Year and Arthur van Doren, 24, won the Male Player of the Year award for the second year in a row.



### About Van Doren :

- He was one of four Belgian winners in the FIH Hockey Stars Awards for 2018.
- Last year, van Doren won both the Player and **Rising Star of the Year Awards**.

## FIRST WOMAN TO CLIMB KERALA'S AGASTHYARKOODAM PEAK

- **Bureaucrat Dhanya Sanal K. became the first woman to climb Agasthyarkoodam peak in Kerala.** There was an unofficial ban for women to trek the peak which was set aside by Kerala High Court.

### Key Points :

- Agasthyarkoodam peak is a **1868 metre high mountain peak within Neyyar Wildlife Sanctuary in Kerala.** It lies on Kerala and Tamil Nadu boarder.
- It is a pilgrimage centre as of Hindu Puranas for the devotees of Agasthya. Agasthya is considered as the father of Tamil language and Malayalam language is said to be born from him.

## OVERVIEW OF THE LAUREUS SPORTS AWARDS 2019

- The **Laureus World Sports Awards 2019** were announced at the **Laureus Awards Ceremony** in **Monaco** on **18<sup>th</sup> February, 2019.**



Category	Winner	Sport	Country
Sportsman of the Year	Novak Djokovic	Tennis	Serbia
Sportswoman of the Year	Simone Biles	Gymnastics	USA
Team of the Year	France's Football Team	Football	France
Comeback of the Year	Tiger Woods	Golf	USA
Breakthrough of the Year	Naomi Osaka	Tennis	Japan
Action Sports person of the Year	Chloe Kim	Snowboarding	USA
Lifetime Achievement Award	Arsene Wenger	Football (Manager)	France
Spirit of Sport Award	Lindsey Vonn	Skiing	USA
Exceptional Achievement Award	Eliud Kipchoge	Running	Kenya
Sporting Moment of the Year	Xia Boyu	Mountain Climbing	China
Sport for Good Award	Jharkhand based NGO – Yuwa	Football	India

## MARY KOM DESIGNATED AS WOMEN'S TRAINING AMBASSADOR OF PUMA



- German sports and lifestyle brand **PUMA** has appointed the 6 time world champion woman **M C Mary Kom** as its new brand ambassador of the company.

### Key Points :

- Mary Kom is now **PUMA India's new ambassador** for their **women's training category** and will be representing the brand in marketing campaigns.
- Mary Kom will steer brand's advertising campaign #DoYou that aims to motivate women across the nation to be strong and accomplish their goals.
- The association was facilitated by **IOS sports and Entertainment Pvt. Ltd.** which primarily entitles Mary Kom.

## 1.7 BOOKS & AUTHORS

### P CHIDAMBARAM'S BOOK "UNDAUNTED: SAVING THE IDEA OF INDIA" LAUNCHED BY HAMID ANSARI

- Former Vice President **Hamid Ansari** on 8th February 2019, launched the new book of former Finance Minister **P Chidambaram** named "**Undaunted: Saving the Idea of India**" at **Nehru Memorial Museum, New Delhi**.
- The book is a collection of essays on the country's atmosphere of fear and how the constitutional values are being threatened.

### KHOONI VAISAKHI

- The banned Punjabi poem '**Khooni Vaisakhi**' on the **Jallianwala Bagh Massacre** which was written by Punjabi writer **Nanak Singh** in **1919**, will be published next month by **Harper Collins in English**.

#### About Jallianwala Bagh Massacre :

- It took place on 13 April, 1919 when troops of the British Indian Army under the command of Colonel Reginald Dyer fired rifles into a crowd of Punjabis, who had gathered in Jallianwala Bagh, Amritsar, Punjab.

### SIMPLICITY & WISDOM

- '**Simplicity & Wisdom**' written by **Dinesh Shahra** was launched at **Parmarth Ashram** in **Kumbh Mela**. Launched by the **Governor of West Bengal- Keshari Nath Tripathi** and **Swami Chidanand Saraswati, Head of Parmarth Ashram**, this book is dedicated to **Late Vedanti Swami Pragananandji**.
- The book aims at guiding towards saintly wisdom and leading a content and happy life.

## 1.8 AWARDS & HONOURS

### BHARAT RATNA AWARD 2019

- President Ram Nath Kovind announced the recipients of **Bharat Ratna**, the country's highest civilian award, they are former president **Pranab Mukherjee**, social activist **Nanaji Deshmukh** (posthumously) and musician **Dr Bhupen Hazarika** (posthumously) in **New Delhi**.



### TETRA PAK WINS ICC 'SOCIAL IMPACT AWARD' FOR ENVIRONMENT SUSTAINABILITY

- Indian Chamber of Commerce (ICC) awarded social impact award to **Tetra Pak** India, the world's leading packaging and processing solutions provider under the category '**Sustainable Environment category**'.

#### Key Points :

- The award recognizes **Tetra Pak's** leading efforts in setting up a sustainable ecosystem.
- Tetra Pak in partnership with RUP conducted Go Green with **Tetra Pak, Greenlife and Sahakari Bhandar 'Alag Karo'** in 2010 to create awareness to the consumers about their role in waste management

### ICAR REPUBLIC DAY TABLEAU 'KISAN GANDHI' WINS FIRST PRIZE

- The **Indian Council of Agricultural Research (ICAR)** was awarded the first prize for its Tableau, '**Kisan Gandhi**' in the **Republic Day Parade - 2019**.
- The Union Minister of Defence, Nirmala Sitharaman, handed over the award to the ICAR team in New Delhi.

- The **ICAR** tableau displayed the importance of dairy farming, use of indigenous breeds and livestock based organic agriculture for rural prosperity.
- The tableau portrayed Mahatma Gandhi's vision to improve agriculture and livestock for the prosperity of rural communities.

### INDIA BAGS AWARD OF EXCELLENCE FOR 'BEST IN SHOW' AT NEW YORK TIMES TRAVEL SHOW

- **India** received the Award of Excellence for '**Best in Show**' in New York Times Travel Show 2019. It is the largest travel show in North America which was held



in New York,USA from 25th of January,2019.

1. The Ministry of Tourism led by Tourism Ministry Secretary Yogendra Tripathi participated as the **'Presenting Partner'** in the **New York Times Travel Show (NYTTS 2019)**.
2. This programme is conducted with a motive to enhance India's visibility and share In US tourism market.

### PIYUSH GOYAL TO RECEIVE CARNOT PRIZE FOR POWER REFORMS, RURAL ELECTRIFICATION



➤ Union Finance Minister Piyush Goyal received the **Carnot prize** for his work towards sustainable energy solutions from **University of Pennsylvania in New Delhi**.

1. This award rewards the works done by Piyush Goyal to reform the electricity sector and extended access to **electricity to 18,000 villages**.
2. Last year This award was skipped before being entitled to the former power minister, because of the Amritsar tragedy in which over 60 people died after being mowed down by a train.

### GORKHA BRIGADE WINS BEST MARCHING CONTINGENT AWARD



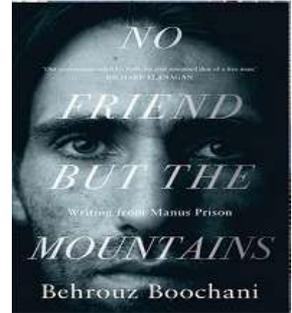
- **Gorkha Brigade** received the best marching contingent trophy of the Republic Day parade whereas, **The CRPF** won the best marching contingent prize for the **para-military forces**.
- In the category of tableaux, **Tripura's tableau** depicted **Gandhian way of fuelling rural economy** and won the **first prize** whereas **Jammu and Kashmir's tableau** depicted the **state's composite culture and ethnic diversity** won the **second place** and **Punjab's tableau** which represented the theme of **Jallianwala Bagh massacre of 1919**, which evoked memories of Independence struggle received the **third prize**.

### P.S.KRISHNAN RECEIVED K.VEERAMANI AWARD FOR SOCIAL JUSTICE IN 2018

- P.S. Krishnan, former Secretary of Government of India, was entitled with K.Veeramani Award for Social Justice 2018 in **New Delhi**.
- i. **Mr.V.P.Singh**, former Prime Minister of India, was the **first recipient** of the K veeramani award.
- ii. **Social Exclusion and Justice in India, Empowering Dalits for Empowering India: A Road-map** are some of books written by **P S Krishnan**.

## MANUS ISLAND REFUGEE BEHROUZ BOOCHANI WON AUSTRALIAN LITERARY PRIZE

- Manus Island's refugee **Behrouz Boochani**'s debut book **"No Friends But the Mountains"** won both the 25,000 dollars **non-fiction prize** at the Victorian premier's literary awards and the 100,000 dollars **Victorian prize for literature**, in **Australia**.
- The writer was an asylum seeker who was on Manus Island in Papua New Guinea for almost six years and was denied to **Australia**.



## PRESIDENT OF INDIA PRESENTS SANGEET NATAK AKADEMI AWARDS 2017

- Sangeet Natak Akademi Awards for 2017 was presented by **President Ram Nath Kovind to 42** artists in a ceremony held in **New Delhi**.

### Winners of Sangeet Natak Akademi Awards – 2017:

#### MUSIC:

Category	Winner
Hindustani Vocal Music	Lalith J. Rao
Hindustani Vocal Music	Umakant & Ramakant Gundecha (Gundecha Brothers - Joint Award)
Hindustani Instrumental Music -Tabla	Yogesh Samsi
Hindustani Instrumental-Shehnai / Flute	Rajendra Prasanna
Carnatic Vocal Music	M.S. Sheela
Carnatic Instrumental Music - Veena	Suma Sudhindra
Carnatic Instrumental Music - Mridangam	Tiruvarur Vaidyanathan
Carnatic Instrumental Music - Flute	Shashank Subramanyam
Other Major Traditions Of Music - Sugam Sangeet	Madhurani
Other Major Traditions Of Music - Sugam Sangeet	Haimanti Sukla
Other Major Traditions Of Music - Gurbani	Gurnam Singh

## SBI UK CHIEF HONOURED 'FREEDOM OF THE CITY OF LONDON'

- The State Bank of India's Uk chief Shri **Sanjiv Chadha** has been honoured with the '**Freedom of the City Of London**' by city of London Corporation.
- Sanjiv Chadha was nominated for the honour by Lord Mayor of London Peter Estlin and Sheriff Vincent Keaveny.

### Key points :

- Sanjiv Chadha took up the position in 2014 and he will be succeeded by **Sharad Chandak**.
- The genesis of the 'Freedom of the City of London' is traced to the medieval time of around 123.

## SIDDHARTHA LAL WON THE EY EN- TREPRENEUR OF THE YEAR 2018

- **Siddhartha Lal**, MD & CEO of **Eicher Motors** has won the **EY Entrepreneur of the year 2018** after transforming Eicher Motors and helping the company resurrect the **Royal Enfield** motorcycle brand in India and making it a global brand icon.
  1. He will now represent India at the **EY World Entrepreneur of the Year Award (WEOY)** in **Monte Carlo** from **6th to 8th June 2019**.
  2. **Azim Premji**, chairman of **Wipro** won the **Lifetime Achievement Award** for putting the **Indian Information Technology** industry in the global market and his notable contribution to society as a philanthropist.

## CANADIAN ACADEMY CONFERRED DEEPA MEHTA WITH LIFETIME ACHIEVEMENT AWARD



- Acclaimed Indo-Canadian filmmaker, **Deepa Mehta** will be conferred with **Lifetime Achievement Award** by the Academy of Canadian Cinema and Television.

### Key Points :

- This award will be presented in privilege of Deepa's enormous impact and impression she has had on the essence of Canada's entertainment industry.
- Deepa Mehta is best known for her trilogy- "**Fire**", "**Earth**" and "**Water**".

## BRADLEY COOPER WINS PETA'S 'OSCAT' AWARD FOR A STAR IS BORN

- **People for the Ethical Treatment of Animals (PETA)** awarded actor-director Bradley Cooper '**Oscat**' award for casting his own dog, rather than one supplied by animal exhibitors, in his movie **A Star is Born**.
- **A Star is Born** has received **8 Oscar** nominations including best actor for **Bradley Cooper** and best actress for **Lady Gaga**.

## BHARAT RATNA AND PADMA AWARDS CANNOT BE USED AS TITLES

- Replying to a written question in Lok Sabha, Minister of State for Home **Shri Hansrah Gangaram Ahir** said that National Awards, such as **Bharat Ratna, Padma Vibhushan, Padma Bhushan** and Padma Shri do no amount to titles within the meaning of **Article 18(1)** of the **Constitution** and hence, cannot be used as prefixes or suffixes to the name of the recipient.
  1. In case of any misuse, the defaulter shall forfeit the award conferred on him/her as per the **Regulation 10** related to creation of awards, which says that the president may cancel or annul the awards, after which the name of the awardee would be erased from the records and he would have to surrender it.
  2. India's highest civilian award, Bharat Ratna, has been awarded to **38** personalities since **1995**. **307** people have been awarded Padma Vibhushan **1,225** Padma Bhushan and **3,005** Padma Shri.

## INTERNATIONAL HUMAN RIGHTS PRIZE

- Sudanese refugee, **Abdul Aziz Muhamad**, who spent **5 years** in Australian detention centre on **Manus Island** in **Papua New Guinea**, was given the **Martin Ennals Award 2019** in **Geneva, Switzerland**, for exposing **“the very cruel asylum seeker policy of the Australian Government”**.
  1. It was the first time that the prize focused on the plight of refugees and awarded to someone who has suffered violations due to the policies of a Western nation.



### Related Points :

- Abdul Aziz Muhamad's podcast **“The Messenger”**, created from more than 4,000 WhatsApp messages Muhamad sent from the detention centre, had won best radio/audio feature at **Australia's Walkley Awards in 2017**.

### About Martin Ennals Award

- The **Martin Ennals Award Laureate** is selected annually by a jury of 10 of the world's leading human rights organisations, for demonstrating a deep commitment to human rights, often working under threat of imprisonment, torture, or worse. It is sometimes referred to as the **“Nobel Prize for human rights”**.

## UDAY DESHPANDE AND SMRITI MANDHANA

- Mallakhamb coach, **Uday Deshpande** and batswoman, **Smriti Mandhana**, were awarded the **Maharashtra State Government's Shiv Chhatrapati Award** by the State's Governor **C.Vidyasagar Rao** at an event held at the

**Gateway of India, Mumbai.**

- **Uday Deshpande** was awarded with the **Shiv Chhatrapati life-time achievement award** for dedicating his life to the traditional sport, **Mallakhamb.**



**SUNIL CHHETRI AWARDED THE INDIA'S FIRST-EVER "FOOTBALL RATNA"**



- The 34-year-old, **Sunil Chhetri**, was awarded **India's** first-ever **"Football Ratna"** by **Football Delhi** president **Shaji Prabhakaran**, former player and administrator at the **All India Football Federation(AIFF)** and **FIFA (Fédération Internationale de Football Association)**. **Football Delhi** is the state association governing the sport in **Delhi**.

**MANPREET SINGH HONOURED WITH AHF'S PLAYER OF THE YEAR AWARD**

- **The Asian Hockey Federation** has honoured **Indian skipper Manpreet Singh** with the 2018 Player of the Year award. Women team's striker **Lalremsiami** has bagged the **Rising Player of The Year prize**.
- **Manpreet** led the Indian team to an unbeaten streak at the Asian Champions Trophy in Muscat where the team was declared joint winners with Pakistan while **Lalremsiami** put up an impressive performance as a striker at the 2018 World Cup.

**RABINDRANATH TAGORE AWARD FOR CULTURAL HARMONY AWARDED BY THE PRESIDENT**



- President **Ram Nath Kovind** presented the **Rabindranath Tagore Award for Cultural Harmony** for the year **2014, 2015** and **2016** at the **Pravasi Bhartiya Kendra, New Delhi**.
- The awardees were:
  1. Shri **Rajkumar Singhajit Singh** for the year **2014**.
  2. **Chhayanaut** (a cultural organization of Bangladesh) for the year **2015**.
  3. Shri **Ram Sutar Vanji** for the year for **2016**.
- The **Tagore Award for Cultural Harmony** was instituted by the **Government of India** for promoting values of Cultural Harmony from 2012 and it is awarded annually and carries an amount of **Rs 1 crore**.
- **Pandit Ravi Shankar** was the **first** to receive the award in **2012** followed by **Maestro Zubin Mehta** in **2013**, who was the **second**.

## 7TH NATIONAL PHOTOGRAPHY AWARDS IN NEW DELHI

➤ **Rajyavardhan Singh Rathore, Information and Broadcasting Minister** presented the 7th National Photography Awards in New Delhi. 13 people were awarded in total, in different categories.

➤ The Professional category was themed as **Women led Development**, while the Amateur category was themed as **Fairs and Festivals of India**.

➤ List of Awards:

➤ Ashok Dielwali- Lifetime achievement award- cash prize of Rs. 3,00,000.

➤ S L Shanth Kumar -professional category- cash prize of Rs. 1,00,000.

➤ Arun Sreedhar, Kailash Mittal, Mihir Singh, Ms Ranita Roy and P V Sunder Rao -special mention awards in professional category- cash prize of Rs. 50,000

➤ Gurdeep Dhiman -Amateur category- cash prize of Rs. 75,000.

➤ Avijit Datta, Mahesh Balasaheb Lonkar, Manish Jaisi, S. Neelima and P. Ravi Kumar- special mention awards in the amateur category- cash prize of Rs. 30,000.



### Key points :

➤ National Photography Awards were started in **2010**.

➤ The Minister paid a visit to the Photo Exhibition set up at **National Media Centre** and also released a special brochure.

## DIVYA KARNAD BECAME FIRST INDIAN WOMAN TO RECEIVE FUTURE OF NATURE AWARD

➤ 33-year-old **Ashoka University** teacher and **Wipro Sustainable Fellow**, **Divya Karnad** became the **First Indian Woman** to be honoured with the **“Global Future of Nature Award”** for her work on **marine conservation**.

1. She is the **second Indian** to receive this award after **Dr.Charudutt Mishra**.

2. The award is given to **3 people annually**, and this year it was given to **Oliver Nsengimana** and **Fernanda Abra** along with **Divya Karnad**.

### About Global Future of Nature Award :

➤ It is a prestigious international award that celebrates achievements in protecting wild animals and plant species.

## 1.9 CULTURAL PANORAMA

### 2ND JHARKHAND INTERNATIONAL FILM FESTIVAL (JIFF) HELD IN RANCHI, JHARKHAND



- **2nd Jharkhand International Film Festival (JIFF)** was organized by an NGO, **Navbharat Nirman Sangh** at **Ranchi** in Jharkhand.

1. **JIFF** was organized with an aim to present best Indian and International Films as well as Jharkhand Regional Films.

### KALA GHODA FESTIVAL 2019 TO CELEBRATE GLORIOUS TWO DECADES OF ART AND CULTURE



#### Key Points:

- The festival hosted the exhibition at the Jehangir Art Gallery to celebrate the **150th birth anniversary of Mahatma Gandhi** and some rich history of Mumbai.
- Festival also screened **Khalil Mohammad's** documentary on Iranian cafes, performances by **Pt. Hariprasad Chaurasia, Shaan, Prakriti and Sukriti Kakar** performance, panel discussion on 26/11 attacks and its survivors, a session on working of drones, heritage walks, dances and shopping at Rampart Row

### ‘SOPAN 2019’ – FESTIVAL FOR YOUNG ARTISTS

- The **6-day long** music and dance festival to encourage young artists to take up traditional art took place in **New Delhi**.
- It was Organised by **Sahitya Kala Parishad** and the **New Delhi government**, in partnership with **New Delhi Municipal Council (NDMC)**.

### 3 DAY INTERNATIONAL ANNUAL DESERT FESTIVAL BEGINS IN JAISALMER

**40th International Annual Desert Festival kicked off in Jaisalmer, Rajasthan.** It will exhibit rich cultural heritage of the state and attract thousands of tourists from all over the world to the Golden City.

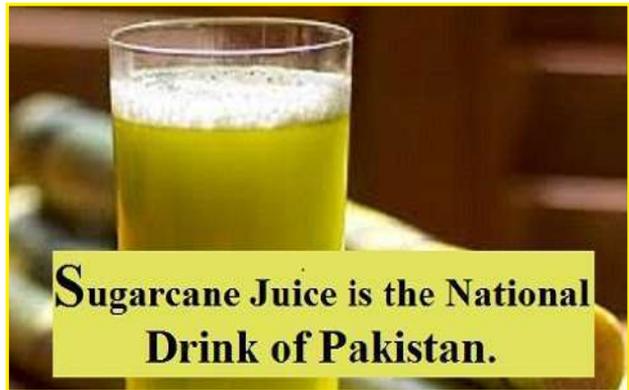


**Key Points :**

- The festival is **held amidst the beautiful dunes of the Thar Desert in the Sand dunes**. It commences with a procession from the Jaisalmer Fort to the Shahid Poonam Singh Stadium.
- The Border Security Force presented a camel tattoo show. The festival is **organised by the Rajasthan tourism and district administration of Rajasthan**.

**1.10 INDIA & ITS NEIGHBOURS****SUGARCANE JUICE NATIONAL DRINK OF PAKISTAN**

- The Pakistan government declared **sugarcane juice** as the “**national drink**” of the country.
- They came at this decision after asking People’s opinion in twitter to choose one among orange ,carrot and sugarcane

**INDIA WITHDRAWN ‘MOST FAVOURED NATION’ STATUS FROM PAKISTAN**

- **India has withdrawn ‘Most Favoured Nation’ or MFN to Pakistan** just a day after the terror attack in **Pulwama, Jammu & Kashmir** in which 40 **Central Reserve Police Force (CRPF)** personal lost their lives.

**Key points :**

- MFN is a status or level of treatment accorded by one state to another in international trade to ensure non-discriminatory trade between all partner countries of the WTO.
- MFN status makes sure that any country with this status avoids any disadvantageous situation in comparison to the other partners in trade.
- It was in **1996 India granted MFN status to Pakistan**. Decades of conflict, mistrust and war has resulted in the MFN status.

**INDIA BOOSTS CUSTOMS DUTY TO 200% ON GOODS IMPORTED FROM PAKISTAN**

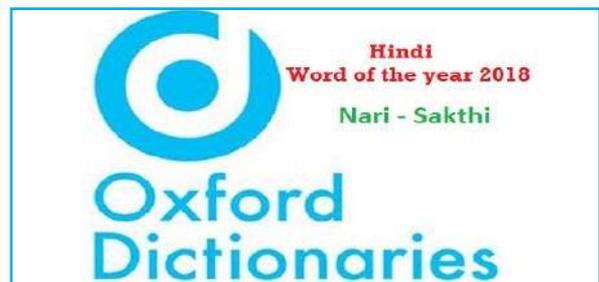
- India with immediate effect has boosted the **Customs Duty** on all the goods imported from **Pakistan to 200%** followed by the day after India repealed **Most Favoured Nation (MFN)** status from Pakistan.

**Key points :**

- This punitive move followed by the **Pulwana Terrorist attack** on 14th February, 2019 that led to the death of 42 CRPF (Central Reserve Police Force).
- This step is likely to strike Pakistan's exports to India which were **\$381 million** in the April-Nov period and for overall FY18, it was **\$489 million**.
- This 200% tariff rate is higher than average bound rate of **113.5% for agriculture products** and **34.6% for non-agriculture products**.

**1.11 LATEST TERMINOLOGY****'NARI-SHAKTI' IS THE OXFORD DICTIONARIES HINDI WORD OF THE YEAR FOR 2018**

- The **Oxford Dictionaries** announced that the word '**Nari Shakti**' which is derived from Sanskrit has been chosen as the Hindi Word of the year for 2018.



1. The Announcement was made during a session at **Jaipur Literature Festival** which is being held at Diggi Palace in Jaipur, Rajasthan.

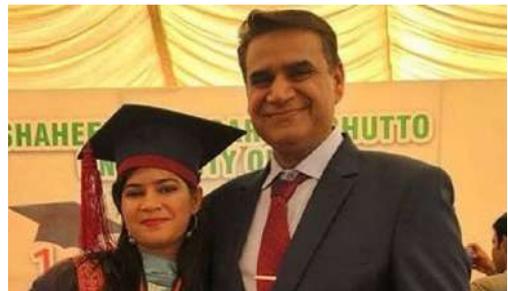
2. '**Nari Shakti**' is made of two words '**Nari**' and '**Shakti**', 'Nari' means **Women** and 'Shakti' means **Power**.

**1.12 APPOINTMENTS****PAKISTAN APPOINTS ITS FIRST EVER FEMALE HINDU CIVIL JUDGE**

- **Suman Kumari** became the **first Hindu woman** to be appointed as a civil judge in Pakistan after passing an examination for induction of judicial officers. .

1. The first judge from the Hindu community was Justice **Rana Bhagwandas, who served in Pakistan from 2005-2007**.

2. In the 2018, **krishna Kumari Kohli**, was also a non-Muslim female to win a place in **Pakistan Senate**.



## BRIJ BHUSHAN SHARAN ELECTED AS WFI PRESIDENT FOR THIRD TIME

- Member of Parliament **Brij Bhushan Sharan Singh** has been elected **third time unopposed as the President of Wrestling of India (WFI)**. Election of the Office Bearers and Executive Committee Members of WFI for the next years term (2019-2023) were held in New Delhi at the Constitution Club of India.
- Along with Brij Bhushan, I.D. Nanavati has been elected as the Senior Vice President, V,N,Prasood as the Secretary General and Satyapal Singh Deshwal as the Treasurer.

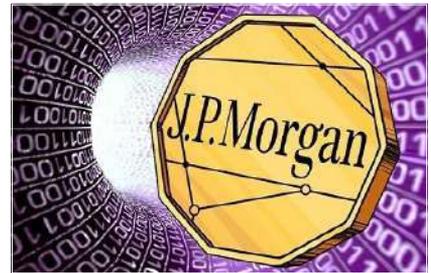
## PUNIT GOENKA RE-ELECTED AS NEW BARC INDIA CHAIRMAN



- **Punit Goenka**, managing director and CEO, **Zee Entertainment Enterprises Ltd** has been re-elected the new chairman of TV viewership measurement company, **BARC India**.
  1. He was the founder of BARC India.
  2. He succeeded **Nakul Chopra** who completed his year-long tenure as chairman

## J P MORGAN BECAME FIRST US BANK WITH CRYPTOCURRENCY

- **JP Morgan** rolled out as the first **US bank with cryptocurrency**. The change in opinion of JP Morgan is the first step in the program of making it more competitive.



- The currency is designed to be decentralized so that no one has control over transactions being sent over the network.

## TAPSEE PANNU BECOMES BRAND AMBASSADOR OF PEPSICO'S KURKURE

- Bollywood actress **Tapsee Pannu** is signed as the brand ambassador the snack brand '**Kurkure**' owned by **PepsiCo**.



- A television campaign was also launched by **Kurkure** to introduce the new brand positioning '**Khayal toh chatpata hai**' celebrating the progressive thinking the young Indian homemakers in traditional Indian families and the breaking conventional barriers.

## RUCHIRA KAMBOJ TO BE INDIA'S AMBASSADOR TO BHUTAN

- **Ruchira Kamboj**, currently serving as the **High Commissioner of India to South Africa**, was appointed as the **Ambassador of India to Bhutan**.
- Kamboj is a 1987 cadre Indian Foreign Service (IFS) Officer who has previously served as the **Ambassador/PR to Permanent Delegation of India to UNESCO, Paris**.



### About Bhutan :

- Capital – Thimphu
- Currency – Ngultrum
- Prime Minister – Lotay Tshering

### About South Africa:

- Capital – Cape Town
- Currency – South African Rand
- President – Cyril Ramaphosa

### About UNESCO:

- Headquarters – Paris
- Director-General – Audrey Azoulay

## SUSHIL CHANDRA AS NEW ELECTION COMMISSIONER

- President Ram Nath Kovind has appointed **Sushil Chandra**, the chairman of the **Central Board of Direct Taxes (CBDT)**, to be designated as the new Election Commissioner.



### Key points :

- Mr. Sushil Chandra is an IIT graduate and is a 1980 batch officer of the Indian Revenue Service (IRS) official of Income Tax Cadre, was recently retired from CBDT.
- Mr. Chandra was appointed **CBDT Chairman** on November 1, 2016 and further he got 2 extensions.

## PRESIDENT TRUMP NOMINATES DAVID MALPASS FOR THE PRESIDENCY OF WORLD BANK

The US President Trump has nominated David Malpass for the post of the president of the World Bank .



### DAVID MALPASS

- David Malpass had held senior roles in the US Treasury during the Reagan and George HW Bush administrations. He has also served as chief economist at Bear Stearns bank. **Later he founded research group Encima Global and held a number of directorships at finance firms.**
- **After the assent of Trump to the US Presidency. Mr Malpass took up a senior role at the US treasury and was the undersecretary for international affairs.**

## HINA JAISWAL BECAME THE FIRST INDIAN WOMAN FLIGHT ENGINEER



- Flight Lieutenant **Hina Jaiswal** from **Chandigarh**, became the **First Indian Woman Flight Engineer** of the **Indian Air Force (IAF)**.
  1. She was commissioned in the IAF's engineering branch in **2015** and completed the **6-month** Flight Engineer course from the **112 Helicopter Unit** attached to the Air Force Station in **Yelahanka, Bengaluru**.
  2. The Flight Engineer branch was opened to women officers in 2018.

## PC MODY TAKES OVER AS NEW CBDT CHAIRMAN



- **Pramod Chandra Mody**, a 1982-batch IRS Officer was appointed as the new **chairman of the Central Board of Direct Taxes (CBDT)** which is the **policy making body of the Income Tax Department**.
- He has been appointed in place of **Sushil Chandra**, who was on Thursday named as Election Commissioner ahead of the Lok Sabha polls due this summer.

## INDIA'S MUSHTAQUE AHMAD ELECTED AS VICE-PRESIDENT OF AHF

- India's **Mohd Mushtaque Ahmad** was elected **Vice-President** of the **Asian Hockey Federation (AHF)** and **Asima Ali** was elected as its **Executive Committee member**, for a 4-year term in **Gifu, Japan**.
- **Mushtaque Ahmad** is currently serving as the **President** of **Hockey India**, while **Asima Ali** is the **Vice-President** of the **national federation**.



## 2. Political Science

### 2.1 POLITICAL PARTIES AND POLITICAL SYSTEMS IN INDIA

#### ARTICLE 35-A: SUPREME COURT TO TAKE 'IN-CHAMBER' DECISION ON PLEA CHALLENGING THE LEGISLATION

- The Supreme Court ruled that it would take an **'in-chamber'** decision on listing of a petition challenging the constitutional validity of Article 35-A.
- The ruling was made by a Supreme Court bench comprising **Chief Justice Ranjan Gogoi and Justices L Nageswara Rao and Sanjiv Khanna.**
- The **Article 35-A** was added to the **Indian Constitution (Appendix II)** through a Presidential Order - **The Constitution (Application to Jammu and Kashmir) Order, 1954.** It provides special rights and privileges to permanent residents of Jammu and Kashmir.

#### CHANGES IN THE INDIAN STAMP ACT, 1899 APPROVED BY PRESIDENT RAM NATH KOVIND

- **President Ram Nath Kovind** gave his assent to the amendments to the **Indian Stamp Act, 1899**, which were introduced in the Parliament as part of the **Finance Act 2019.** These amendments have been introduced to regularise the system of levying stamp duty and to help in curbing tax evasion.

#### Key points :

- For the stamp duty rates, the duties levied by **Maharashtra** will be taken as a benchmark as the state accounts for **70%** of the total collection.
- They propose creation of a **legal and institutional mechanism** which will enable states to collect stamp duty on securities market instruments at one place by one agency (through the Stock Exchanges or Clearing Corporations authorised by the stock exchange or by the Depositories).

## 2.2 GOVT. - WELFARE ORIENTED GOVT SCHEMES, THEIR UTILITY

### DEENDAYAL DISABLED REHABILITATION SCHEME (DDRS)

- A regional conference on 'Deendayal Disabled Rehabilitation Scheme (DDRS)' was organised in **Kolkata, West Bengal**. DDRS is a scheme implemented by **Department of Empowerment of Persons with Disabilities Ministry of Social Justice & Empowerment**.
- **Programme Implementing Agencies (PIAs)**, mostly NGOs and state government representatives from **13 Eastern and North-Eastern** states of India- West Bengal, Jharkhand, Odisha, Chhattisgarh, Bihar, Assam, Arunachal Pradesh, Manipur, Meghalaya, Mizoram, Nagaland, Sikkim & Tripura marked their presence at the conference.

#### About DDRS :

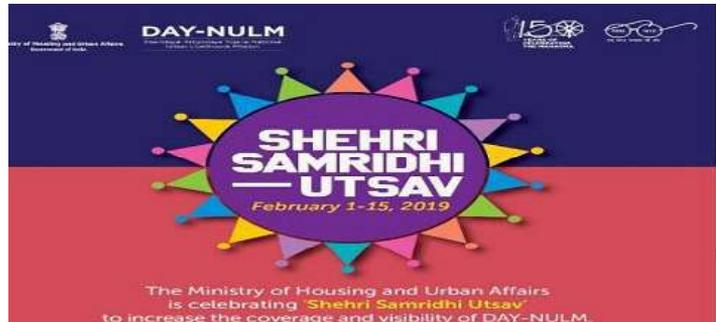
- It was established in **1999** by the **Government of India**. It is a **central** government scheme.

### ODISHA LAUNCHED KALIA SCHOLARSHIP SCHEME TO BOOST EDUCATION FOR FARMERS CHILDREN



- Odisha Chief Minister **Naveen Patnaik** launched scholarship scheme named '**KALIA Chhatravritti Yojana**', for the children of farmers under **Krushak Assistance for Livelihood and Income Augmentation (KALIA)** scheme in **Keonjhar** district.

### MINISTRY OF HOUSING AND URBAN POVERTY ALLEVIATION LAUNCHED SHEHRI SAMRIDHI UTSAV



- Shehri Samridhi Utsav, an initiative of Ministry of Housing & Urban Affairs (MoHUA), is launched with aim to extend the reach of **Deendayal Antyodaya Mission - National Urban Livelihoods Mission (DAY-NULM)**.

#### About Shehri Samridhi Utsav

- i. It is the National Exhibition and a sale of Self Help Group products and National Street Food Festival organized in **New Delhi**.

## 'DARWAZA BAND – PART 2' CAMPAIGN WAS LAUNCHED BY SWACHH BHARAT MISSION GRAMEEN

- ▶ The “**Darwaza Band- Part 2**” campaign was launched by **Swachh Bharat Mission Grameen** focuses on sustaining the open defecation free status of villages across the country.
- ▶ The campaign launched by the **Ministry of Drinking Water and Sanitation** in Mumbai in the presence of actor **Amitabh Bachchan**.



### About Swachh Bharat Mission :

- ▶ The mission was launched in **2nd October 2014**.
- ▶ It has two sub mission
  - Swachh Bharat Mission (Rural) under ministry of drinking water and sanitation.
  - Swachh Bharat Mission (Urban) under ministry of Urban Development
- ▶ The basic objective is to provide sanitation facilities to every family, including toilets, solid and liquid waste disposal systems, village cleanliness and safe and adequate drinking water supply by **2nd October 2019**.

## PRADHAN MANTRI JAN AROGYA YOJANA APP LAUNCHED

- ▶ World's largest cashless health insurance scheme “ **the Pradhan Mantri Jan Arogya Yojana (PM-JAY)**”, popularly known as the **Ayushman Bharat** launched **PM-JAY app** on Google play store to access scheme details in **New Delhi**. It was launched by **Indu Bhushan**, CEO of PM-JAY.

### AIM :

- ▶ This scheme aims at making interventions in primary, secondary and tertiary care systems, covering both preventive and promotive health, to address healthcare holistically.

## UNIVERSAL OLD AGE PENSION SCHEME HAS BEEN ANNOUNCED BY BIHAR GOVERNMENT

- ▶ Bihar Chief Minister, Nitish Kumar announced an Universal Old Age Pension scheme, named **Mukhya Mantri Vriddha Pension Yojana (MMVPY)**, irrespective for all caste, community, religion, except for those who are retired from government organizations.

### Key points :

- ▶ The scheme facilitates the amount of Rs. 400 monthly pension for all in the state above the age of 60 who are not getting pension from the government.

## PM-KISAN SCHEME AND ANNADATHA SUKHIBHAVA SCHEME

- Andhra Pradesh has made a significant move by merging **Pradhan Mantri Kisan Samman Nidhi Portal** with its own **Annadatha Sukhibhava scheme**. This move will further allow a fixed amount of Rs. 10,000 per annum to all farmers in the state, irrespective of the size of their land.

### Key points :

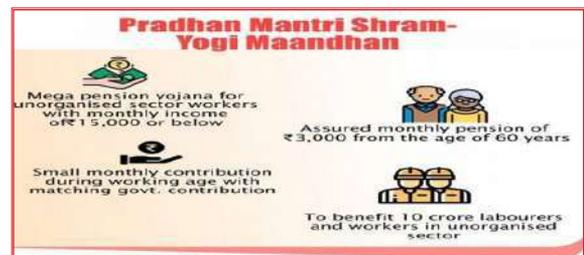
- The benefits will be facilitated in 2 portions of Rs. 5000 before the Kharif and Rabi crop cycle.
- Around 70 lakhs farmers will get advantage from this merger.
- PM-Kisan scheme will not only cover the marginalized farmers, but also the tenant farmers who will be facilitated with '**Cultivation Certificates**' and 'Loan Eligibility Certificates' to avail the benefits of scheme.

## PRESIDENT GAVE HIS ASSENT TO 2 STATE BILLS OF TAMIL NADU AND HIMACHAL PRADESH

- **President Ram Nath Kovind** approved two state bills of **Tamil Nadu and Himachal Pradesh**.

1. The Tamil Nadu **Vanniyakula Kshatriya Public Charitable Trusts and Endowments (Protection and Maintenance) Bill 2018**.
2. The Himachal Pradesh **Early Childhood Care and Education Centers (Registration and Regulation) Bill 2017**.

## FINANCE MINISTER LAUNCHED 'PRADHAN MANTRI SHRAM YOGI MANDHAN' SCHEME



- Finance minister has implemented the **Pradhan Mantri Shram Yogi Mandhan Yojana** which is primarily a pension scheme for the labourers, associated in the unorganized sector. It was announced in **Budget 2019**.

## MADYA PRADESH LAUNCHED EMPLOYMENT SCHEME "YUVA SWABHIMAN YOJANA" FOR URBAN YOUTH

- **Madhya Pradesh Chief Minister Kamal Nath** launched '**Yuva Swabhiman Yojana**' for youths of the weak section in urban areas of **Madhya Pradesh**.

### About the scheme:

- The scheme was launched in **Chhindwara, Madhya Pradesh**.
- It aims to provide employment to the youth belonging to the weaker section of the society mainly in urban areas of the state.
- Under this scheme, **100 days of employment** will be provided.

## KALIA CHHATRA BRUTI

- **'KALIA Chhatra Bruti'** scholarship for the children of farmers benefited under the KALIA scheme was launched by the **Odisha Chief Minister Naveen Patnaik** in **Bhubaneshwar, Odisha**.

### Key points :

- It aims at providing financial assistance for technical and professional education to farmers' children by creating provision for the State government to bear all expenses involved in various levels of education, such as course fee, hostel fee, mess fee and so on.
- The scholarship shall be sent directly to the bank accounts of students who require it via. DBT (Direct Benefit Transfer).

## UP CM YOGI ADITYANATH LAUNCHES SCHEME FOR ADOLESCENT GIRLS

- Uttar Pradesh Chief Minister, **Yogi Adityanath** launched a scheme for adolescent girls aged between **11 to 14 years**, who have left their education and will take steps to provide them proper nutrition and special care.
  1. **UP Government** decided to observe **8<sup>th</sup> of every month** as **Adolescent Girls Day**, at **Anganwadi Centres** across the state, and **Nutrition Campaigns** will be organized for these girls on that day.
  2. The CM said that education for girls till graduation is the Government's responsibility and State Government is very sensitive in this matter.

# 3. Geography



## 3.1 POLICY ON ENVIRONMENT AND ECOLOGY

### WORLD'S LARGEST BEE SPOTTED THE FIRST TIME SINCE 1981

- **Wallace's giant bee**– the largest bee known on the Earth which was considered to be extinct since 1981 was re-spotted in an **Indonesian** forest.
- Scientists spotted a female bee of the species **Megachilepluto** and its size is **four** times the size of the typical European honeybee and has a wingspan of **2.5 inches**.

## 3.2 NATURAL DISASTERS - SAFEGUARD MEASURES

### GLOBAL WARMING'S IMPACT ON EL NINO IN 2019

- El Nino is a climatic chain characterized by high air pressure in the **Western Pacific** and low air pressure in the eastern.
  1. **El Nino** occurs once in every 15 years and results in heavy drought, flood, dust and snow storm resulting in million of dollar loss to the public in Tropical Pacific region
  2. El Nino is forecasted to give a rise in vector-borne diseases, including those spread by mosquitoes, in **Central and South America. And Drought** caused by El Nino can be widespread, affecting **southern Africa, India, Southeast Asia, Australia, and the Pacific Islands**.



# 4. Economics

## 4.1 CURRENT SOCIO - ECONOMIC PROBLEMS

### APRIL-DECEMBER FISCAL DEFICIT TOUCHES 112% OF BUDGET TARGET

- India's fiscal deficit has touched **112% of the FY19 Budget target of Rs. 6.24 lakh** crore during the period of 9 months from April to December 2018.

#### Key Points :

- The data was presented by the **Controller General of Accountant (CGA)** which manifested that fiscal deficit of previous fiscal was 13.6%.
- Fiscal deficit was at 7 lakh crores during this financial year. This is 112.4% of the Budget estimates for FY19, while for exact figures, it was 113.6% for 2017-2018.
- Fiscal Deficit is the gap between income and expenditure of the government.

### INDIA BECOMES WORLD'S SECOND LARGEST CONSUMER AND IMPORTER OF LPG

- As per Oil Minister, **Dharmendra Pradhan**, **India** has become the **second** largest importer of **liquefied petroleum gas (LPG)** after **China** due to rising demands of cleaner alternatives to the traditional cooking fuels like firewood and cow dung.



**Key Points :**

- ▶ India surpassed Japan as the imports of **LPG grew 12.5%** over the last 5 years to 12 million metric tons.
- ▶ The demand of LPG is expected to rise 34% from 2014 to 2025.
- ▶ In India, LPG is mainly imported from **Qatar, Saudi Arabia, United Arab Emirates, Kuwait and Iran.**

**TCS RANKED AS GLOBAL TOP EMPLOYER FOR THIRD YEAR IN A ROW**

- ▶ **Tata Consultancy Services (TCS)** has been ranked by the **Top Employers Institute** as global **Top Employer** for the **third** year in a row. TCS the **only** firm among the **top 10 IT services brands** which has received this certification.

**Key points :**

- ▶ TCS has the most employee-friendly workplace policies, good work culture and has done large investments for the skill development of its **4.17 lakh** employees globally.
- ▶ It has also been tagged as the **number one top employer** in **four** regions- **North America, Europe, Asia Pacific and the Middle East** and as a top employer in 29 other nations.

**4.2 NEW ECONOMIC POLICY & GOVT. SECTOR****GLOBAL CORRUPTION INDEX RELEASED, INDIA RANKS 78**

- ▶ **T r a n s p a r e n c y** International released the Global Corruption Index 2018.



1. According to report, **India** ranked **78** out of **180** countries with a score of **41**.
2. While **China** ranked **87** and **Pakistan** ranked **117**.
3. **While Denmark is the least corrupt country and syria ,south sudan , somalia is the most corrupt country.**

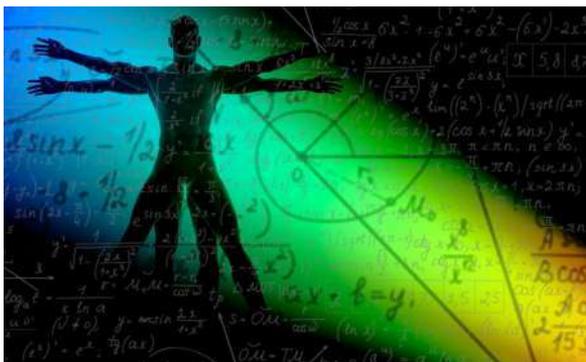
**About Transparency International :**

- Transparency International headquarters: Berlin ,Germany
- Director: Patricia Moreira

**INDIA 6TH GDPR READINESS INDEX : CISCO**

- The report released by **CISCO** on **2019 Data Privacy Benchmark Study** ranked India in 6th position in **General Data Protection Regulation (GDPR)** readiness index.





# 5. Science

## 5.1 SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY

### ISRO LAUNCHES HUMAN SPACE FLIGHT CENTRE IN BENGALURU



- **Indian Space Research Organization (ISRO)** launched the **Human Space Flight Centre (HSFC)** which will act as the hub of ISRO's future manned missions at the headquarters of **ISRO in Bengaluru, Karnataka.**

#### Key Points:

- India's first manned mission was announced on **15th August 2018** and it is set to happen by **2022** which is going to be the 75th year of Independence.
- Former ISRO chairman K. Kasturirangan unveiled the full scale model of Gaganyaan's crew module in the presence of ISRO's chairman K.Sivan.
- **S.Unnikrishnan Nair and R.Hutton** was declared as the **founder Director of HSFC** and **Project Director of Gaganyaan** respectively by **ISRO chairman Dr. K. Sivan.**

### INDIA'S 40TH COMMUNICATION SATELLITE, GSAT-31 HAS BEEN SUCCESSFULLY LAUNCHED FROM FRENCH GUIANA

- **Indian Space Research Organization (ISRO)** successfully launched its 40th communication satellite **"GSAT-31"** from **French Guiana** by **Arianespace** launch vehicle.

#### Key Points :

- **GSAT-31** will enlarge the Ku-band transponder capacity in geostationary orbit and will bestow the linkage to operational services on some of the in-orbit satellites.
- **GSAT-31** will be beneficial for Television related up-links, connectivity, services, cellular backhaul connectivity, etc.

## ANTI-TANK MISSILE "HELINA" SUCCESSFULLY TEST-FIRED IN BALASORE



- India test-fired Helina, a helicopter-launched version of the Nag anti-tank guided missile, with a hit range of 7-8 km, from the Odisha Coast on Friday.

1. Helina was launched from an Army chopper and the weapon system was tested for its full range at 12:55 PM near the **Integrated Test Range** in **Chandipur** in the **Balasore** District of **Odisha**.
2. Developed by the **Defence Research and Development Organisation (DRDO)**, Helina is said to be one of the most advanced anti-tank weapons in the world. It is guided by an **Infra-red Imaging Seeker (IIR)** operating in the lock-on-before-launch mode.

### Related point:

- On July 13, 2015, 3 round trials of Helina were conducted at **Jaisalmer, Rajasthan**. It was also test-fired from **Rudra** helicopter at **Pokhran Test Range** on August 19, 2018.

## BEDIN 1- NEW DWARF SPHEROIDAL GALAXY DISCOVERED BY HUBBLE SPACE TELESCOPE

- Astronomers from Italy, the UK, Germany and the United States discovered newly discovered galaxy consists of **red giant particles**.

1. This ancient galaxy is one of the oldest galaxy and was named after **Luigi Bedin**, a researcher at Italy's National Institute for Astrophysics
2. **Bedin 1** is located **28.38 million light years from Earth**.

## WORLD'S FIRST MAMMAL TO GO EXTINCT DUE TO CLIMATE CHANGE



- A **small brown rat of bramble cay melomys** species lived on a tiny island off **northern Australia** and becomes the world's first mammal to have become extinct due to **"human-induced climate change"**. It was found only on a small sand island near the coast of Papua New Guinea.
- The **rat was not seen since 2009** and scientist thought that the mammal might become extinct in 2014.

### Reason behind its Extinction :

- Extreme high water levels and damaging storm surges, including its sources of food.

## SUPERBUG GENE' – FIRST DETECTED IN ARCTIC

- **Superbug'**, An antibiotic-resistant gene Was discovered in **Arctic**, which is one of the pristine place on Earth
  1. **Superbug** was discovered in soil samples from the **Kongsfjorden region**, a remote place in the **High Arctic**.
  2. Till date, a total of **131 genes** associated with resistance to antibiotics were discovered by the scientists, of which one of the genes first found in **New Delhi in 2008**.

## ISRO LAUNCHES KALAMSAT, MICROSAT-R SATELLITES ON PSLV-C44 ROCKET

- The **Indian Space Research Organisation (ISRO)** launched a students' satellite Kalamsat and an imaging satellite Microsat-R from the Satish Dhawan Space Centre in **Sriharikota**, Andhra Pradesh marking its first launch of the ISRO in 2019.
- The national space agency's rocket, **PSLV C44** carried the satellites into the orbit. After about 14 minutes into the flight, the rocket ejected **700-kg Microsat R satellite** at an altitude of about **277 km**.
- The Kalamsat is a 10 cm cube **nanosatellite** weighing about 1.2 kg and has a life span of about two months

## WORLD'S LARGEST DIGITAL SKY SURVEY ISSUES BIGGEST-EVER ASTRONOMICAL DATA RELEASE

- The **Space Telescope Science Institute (STScI)** in US in partnership with the University of Hawai's Institute for Astronomy released the second edition of data from **Pan-STARRS**, the Panoramic Survey Telescope & Rapid Response System — the world's largest digital sky survey.
  1. This second released survey contained over **1.6 petabytes of data**, which makes it the largest volume of astronomical information ever released.
  2. The **Pan-STARRS** observatory consists of a 1.8 meter telescope equipped with a 1.4 billion pixel digital camera, which was the first survey to observe the entire sky visible from **Hawai**.

## 5.2 LATEST DISCOVERIES IN HEALTH SCIENCE

### A NEW SNAKE SPECIES DISCOVERED IN ARUNACHAL PRADESH

- A non-venomous snake species has been discovered by Herpetologists **Jayaditya Purkayastha** of Help Earth, Guwahati and Patrick David of Museum National d'Histoire Naturelle, Paris in Guwahati, **Arunachal Pradesh**.

#### Key points :

- The Snake has been named as "**Crying Keelback (Hebius lacrima)**" due to the presence of black spots below the snake's eye which is taken as an allusion for crying.
- The 48 mm long Snake is found in **"jhum" (shifting) cultivation areas** in the Basar area **West siang district** of Arunachal Pradesh in 2010-11.
- The Discovery of snake is published in a peer reviewed journal for animal taxonomy known as "**Zootaxa**".

# 6. National Dairy of Events



## LOGO FOR TRIPURA TEA UNVEILED



- ▶ Tripura's chief minister Biplab Kumar Deb launched the logo for tripura's tea in **Agartala** which would enhance its popularity all over the world
- 1. **NeeraMahal** is the Tripura's logo which is a iconic place in Tripura and it is one of the **largest water palace** in India.
- 2. Tripura is the **second largest tea producer** with 10 million kg tea produced annually.
- 3. The logo was designed by artist and designer **Apresh Paul**.

## WORLD'S LONGEST EXPRESSWAY TO COME UP IN UTTAR PRADESH

- ▶ The government of **Uttar Pradesh** has approved the construction of the Ganga Expressway. The government has said that it would be the longest expressway in the world.
- ▶ The expressway will provide for better connectivity of the **Prayagraj (Allahabad) to Western Pradesh**.

### Expressway

- ▶ Expressways are the highest class of roads in the road network in India. National Expressways are the highest class of roads in the road network in India. **National Expressways Authority of India** under the Ministry of Road Transport and Highways is responsible for the construction and maintenance of expressways.
- ▶ Expressways are controlled-access highway, the highest-grade type of highway with access ramps, lane dividers, for high-speed traffic.

## TELANGANA TO SET UP 'SAVE TIGER PROTECTION FORCE'

- ▶ The Telangana government decided to form a '**State Tiger Protection Force**' to save the Big cat population in the State.
- 1. The State and Central government will share the cost of the force with **112 members** headed by the assistant conservator of the forest on 40:60 basis.
- 2. They are organised to protect the tiger population in the areas of **Amarabad and Kawal tiger reserves**.

## TRAIN 18 NAMED VANDE BHARAT EXPRESS: PIYUSH GOYAL

- Union Minister of Railways, **Piyush Goyal** announced that **Train 18** which is **India's first indigenously developed engineless high speed train** has been named as **Vande Bharat Express**.



### Key Points :

- The Train will run between **Delhi and Varanasi** at the maximum speed of **160 kmph** and it will be flagged off by Prime Minister Narendra Modi soon.
- The Train has 16 coach and it is built in 18 months with a cost of Rs 97 Crore at Modern Coach Factory, Rae Bareli in Uttar Pradesh.

## TWO DAY BENGAL GLOBAL SUMMIT HELD IN KOLKATA



- The **fifth edition of West Bengal Global Business Summit** was inaugurated by state **Chief Minister Mamata Banerjee**. It was a **two day summit** held in **Rajarhat, Kolkata**.

### About the Summit:

- West Bengal bagged over **Rs. 40,000 crore worth of investment proposals** from Reliance, Group, ITC and others multinational companies on the first day of the business summit.
- The summit came to an end with West Bengal government signing **86 agreements** entailing business proposals worth **2.84 lakh crore**.

## CIVIL AVIATION MINISTRY LAUNCHED COUNTRY'S FIRST GI STORE IN GOA



- Civil Aviation minister **Suresh Pabhu** launched the country's first Geographical Indication (GI) store at **Dabolim International Airport in Goa**.

1. The GI stores will promote local products made by the artisans and handicrafts at the airport .
2. The store is set up by Airports Authority of India in partnership with The Cashew Export Promotional Council of India. The Plan of implementing **101 more** stores are in cards, which may extend to 201 stores in near future.

## SOUTH INDIA MSME SUMMIT 2019 HELD IN BENGALURU,INDIA

- Karnataka Small Scale Industries Association (KASSIA) organized the South India MSME Summit-2019 at **Bengaluru, India**.
- **Basavaraj S Javali(President, KASSIA)** chaired the event.
- The summit is held with a motive to find solution for their major problems like absence of good infrastructure, technology issues, marketing, procurement issues, regulatory issues, red tape, harassment and victimization.



## PARIKSHA PE CHARCHA 2.0

- Prime Minister **Shri Narendra Modi** discussed ways to handle the exam pressure in the second edition of **“Pariksha Pe Charcha 2.0”** at Talkatora Stadium in **New Delhi**.



- Prime Minister interacted with students, teachers and parents and shared his personal experiences with students and suggested means to handle exam stress.

## GOVERNMENT RENAMES DIPP AS DEPARTMENT FOR PROMOTION OF INDUSTRY AND INTERNAL TRADE

- **Department of Industrial Policy and Promotion (DIPP) renamed as Department of promotion of Industry and Internal Trade.** The newly named department is under **Ministry of Commerce and Industry**.



### Key Points :

- The department will look into matters related to promotion of internal trade, including retail trade of traders and their employees, facilitating ease of doing business and start-ups.
- Matters related to **internal trade were earlier under the domain of Ministry of consumer affairs** and now under the promotion of Industry and Internal Trade.
- The decision comes amidst a demand by traders body Confederation of All India Traders (CAIT) for forming a separate ministry for internal trade.

## NATIONAL PULSE POLIO IMMUNISATION CAMPAIGN TO BE HELD ON 10TH MARCH

- **Department of Public Health and Preventive Medicine** said that the **National Pulse Polio Immunisation Campaign** will be held in **Tamil Nadu on March 10**. Nearly 72 lakh children under the age of five will be covered in Tamil Nadu.
- K. Kolandaswamy, Director of Public Health and Preventive Medicine, over 40,000 booths will be set up across the State, including railway stations and bus terminals.

## NORTH EAST CIRCUIT UNDER SWADESH DARSHAN INAUGURATED

- Union Minister for Tourism, Shri. K.J.Alphons inaugurated a project under North East India Circuit of Swadesh Darshan Scheme of Ministry of Tourism.
- Infrastructure development activities like Tourist Information Centre, Meditation Centre, Organic Eco Tourism centre, **Log Huts, Zip Line, Flower Exhibition Centre, Walkways, Souvenir Shops, Cafeteria, Rain Shelters, Wayside Amenity, Last Mile Connectivity, Parking, Public Toilets etc.**, have been developed under this project.

## INDUS RIVER DOLPHIN DECLARED PUNJAB'S STATE AQUATIC ANIMAL



- Punjab Chief Minister Captain **Amarinder Singh** declared one of the rarest mammal, **Indus River Dolphin**, which is only found in Beas River, as **Punjab State Aquatic Animal**.

## PIYUSH GOYAL LAUNCHES THE IEA'S 'THE FUTURE OF RAIL' REPORT



- Minister of Railways and Coal, Shri Piyush Goyal launched the **International Energy Agency's (IEA) "The Future of Rail"** report which analyses the current and future importance of rail around the world in New Delhi.

## 325 CHILDREN RESCUED UNDER "OPERATION SMILE" IN HYDERABAD

- 325 children including 11 girls have been rescued in Hyderabad under **"Operation Smile"** which was launched on 1st January 2019.



**AIM of Operation Smile:**

- The One month long programme aims to rescue child labourers and children engaged in begging.

**Other Details :**

- Apart from rescuing children from Hyderabad and other parts of Telangana, around **100 children from Andhra Pradesh, Bihar, Jharkhand, Uttar Pradesh and Nepal** have been rescued under the mission.

**12TH REGIONAL STANDARDS CONCLAVE**

- 12th Regional Standards Conclave was held in **Bhubaneswar (Odisha)** that took place on 1st Feb on the occasion of **4th day of the trade fair**.
  1. This conclave will have an onlooker on industry, regulators and experts sharing their views on the importance of Standards for Global trade, with focus on Odisha.
  2. It was organized by **Confederation of Indian Industry (CII)** in collaboration with the **Department of Commerce, Government of India, MSME Department of the Odisha, National Accreditation Board of Certification Bodies (NABCB)**, Bureau of Indian Standards (BIS), Centre for Research in International Trade (CRIT) and Export Inspection Council (EIC).

**KERALA BECAME THE FIRST STATE SET UP A PRICE MONITORING AND RESEARCH UNIT (PMRU)**

- **Kerala** became the first state to set up price monitoring and research unit (PMRU) to track violation of prices of **essential drugs and medical devices**.

1. The new watchdog will offer technical help to the State Drug Controllers to monitor notified prices of medicines, detect violation of the provisions of the Drugs Price Control Order (DPCO).
2. This move is taken by the **National Pharmaceutical Pricing Authority (NPPA)**.

**About National Pharmaceutical Pricing Authority (NPPA):**

- Formed – 1997
- Headquarters-New Delhi, India
- Chairman- Bhupendra Singh

## GOVERNMENT NOTIFIES RULES TO ALLOW WOMEN TO WORK IN MINES

- Ministry of **Union Labour and Employment** on **4th Feb** has allowed **women to work in mines**, both in opencast and underground, during the day and night, as part of the efforts to build more opportunities for women.



### Key Points

- This decision has been taken in line with the recommendations of the section 12 of the Mines act, 1952.
- Women will be deployed in work between hours of 7 pm and 6 am.

## WORLD HERITAGE CENTRE TO BE SET UP AT MAYAPUR IN WEST BENGAL

- **International Society for Krishna Consciousness (ISKCON)** decided to set up a **World Heritage Centre** housing 'spiritual camps' in **45 countries**, one of which is to be set up in **Mayapur in West Bengal**.
- The estimated cost of this project is **3000 crores**.

## WORDS COUNT FESTIVAL 2019: PUNE ,MAHARASHTRA

- Second edition of World Count festival 2019 was held in Pune, Maharashtra.

### Important Facts:

- The Festival, was hosted by the **award -winning screenwriter, author and columnist Advita Kala**
- This festival is held with a motive to bring together speakers from several socio-political spheres and share their insights on various issues.

## PUNE HOSTED THE FIRST STATE LEVEL AWARENESS PROGRAMME

- **First State Level Awareness Programme on Agriculture Export Policy** to create awareness among farmers and stakeholders held in **Pune, Maharashtra**.

- i. The Export Policy was Created by the State Governments and the Policy will be implemented in the respective State Agriculture and horticulture departments.

### Important Facts to be known:

- Union cabinet approved the **Agriculture Export Policy 2018** with an Objective of Doubling Farmers income by 2022.

## AYUSH MINISTER INAUGURATED CONFERENCE OF STATE AYUSH MINISTERS IN NEW DELHI

- The Ministry of AYUSH organised **Second Conference of State AYUSH and Health Ministers conference** in New Delhi.
- It was inaugurated by the Minister of State for AYUSH (Independent Charge) and Health & Family Welfare **Shripad Yesso Naik**.



## PARMANU TECH 2019-NUCLEAR ENERGY CONFERENCE IN NEW DELHI



- Ministry of External Affairs and Department of Atomic Energy (DAE) organised **Parmanu Tech 2019** in **New Delhi** to discuss the issues related to Nuclear Energy and Radiation Technologies.

### Sectors discussed in the conference :

- The main motive of this conference is to showcase India's capabilities in Nuclear Energy with environmental responsibility.
- Food Preservation, Agricultural & Industrial Applications: From farms to factories – Serving the National Cause.
- Health care: Nuclear Medicine and Radiation therapy – **Care to cure**.

## 7TH EDITION OF KOLHAPUR INTERNATIONAL FILM FESTIVAL INAUGURATED IN KOLHAPUR, MAHARASHTRA

- The 7th edition of the film festival began on February 7th of 2019 in **Kolhapur, Maharashtra**. It is eight day festival, in which Veteran actress **Rohini Hattangadi** was chief guest at the inaugural function.

### Important points :

- **Veteran filmmaker Govind Nihalani** was honoured with the **Kalamaharshi Baburao Painter Award** for his contribution to the film industry.
- Focus country of the festival is the **Hungarian cinema**.

## ZERO FATALITY CORRIDOR IS LAUNCHED BY DELHI GOVERNMENT TO REDUCE ROAD ACCIDENTS

- Delhi Government launched '**Zero Fatality Corridor**' project under its annual road safety action plan to reduce the number of road accidents on the outer ring road stretch between **Burari and Bhalaswa Chowk**.

## NEW DELHI HOSTED 'INDIAN OCEAN RIM ASSOCIATION' MEET

- **Indian Ocean Rim Association meet** was organised in New Delhi with the collaboration of Ministry of Home Affairs with the Ministry of External Affairs and National Disaster Management Authority (NDMA) solely based on Disaster Risk Management.

### Key Points

- IORA has set Disaster Risk Management its priority to enhance resilience in IORA countries according to its '**2017-2021**' Action plan.
- This meet will manifest establishment of a DRM Core Group to take ahead the objective of the work plan.
- It will focus and strengthen cooperation in disaster response intervention and mobilization of relief material to affected countries.

## UNION MINISTER SMRITI IRANI LAUNCHES INDIA SIZE PROJECT IN MUMBAI

- Union Minister of Textiles **Smriti Irani** launched the India Size project in **Mumbai** with a aim to get a **standard Indian Size** for the ready-to-wear clothing industry, on the lines of the standardized sizes available in countries such as the **USA** and the **UK**.



- During this ceremony, Minister also launched a **Study of Apparel Consumption in India**. The report of this study would be released by **July 2019**.

## 2ND PHASE OF RIVER INFORMATION SYSTEM BETWEEN FARAKKA-PATNA INAUGURATED BY NITIN GADKARI

- **Union Minister, Shri Nitin Gadkari** inaugurated the 2nd Phase of River Information System (RIS) between **Farakka and Patna** on National Waterway-1 (**River Ganga**) in **Prayagraj** on 8th February 2019.



## ASIA LPG 2019 SUMMIT HELD IN NEW DELHI

- Mr. Dharmendra Pradhan, Union Minister for petroleum and natural gas, inaugurated the **2019 Asia LPG summit in New Delhi.**
- The summit organized jointly by the major **Indian oil marketing companies (OMCs)** Indian Oil, Hindustan Petroleum and Bharat Petroleum together with the **World LPG Association (WLPGA)** at the Taj Palace Hotel in New Delhi.
- This is the second edition of the Asia LPG Summit, with the first one having been held in 2017.
- This two-day event will focus on **‘LPG – Energy for Life.’**



## 2ND ASEAN – INDIA YOUTH SUMMIT CONCLUDED IN GUWAHATI ON 7TH FEBRUARY

- **2nd ASEAN – India Youth Summit concluded in Guwahati** which was conducted to strengthen the mutual cooperation among ASEAN countries. It was inaugurated by **Assam Chief Minister Sarbananda Sonowal and Union Minister of State for Tourism K J Alphons.**



### Key Points

- i. The **theme** of the summit was **‘Connectivity : Pathway to Shared Prosperity’**. Participants were from largest institutions from different countries including political parties, think-tanks, media and cultural organizations.
- ii. The summit is a step to facilitate Socio-cultural exchanges between the countries to **further strengthen the values of tolerance, pluralism and diversity.**

## ‘PETROTECH-2019’ HELD IN NEW DELHI

- The **13th** edition of **PETROTECH-2019** was held at **India Expo Mart in Greater Noida, New Delhi** from 10th to 12th February 2019.
- It was organised by **Oil and Natural Gas Corporation Ltd. (ONGC)** in association with the **Ministry of Petroleum and Natural Gas.**
- The theme of PROTECH-2019 was **“Shaping the New Energy World through Innovation & Collaboration”**.

## BOORI BOOT YOLLO FESTIVAL CELEBRATED NYISHI TRIBE IN ARUNACHAL PRADESH

- **Nyishi tribe** celebrated '**Boori Boot Yollo festival**' with great enthusiasm to welcome spring and a successful harvest.
- **Nyishi** is the largest community in **Arunachal Pradesh**, found in Daporijo, Upper Subansiri Locale and Raga and Dollungmukh ranges of Lower Subansiri Region of **Arunachal Pradesh**.

## THE NEW MASCOT FOR THE 13TH UN CONVENTION ON THE CMS COP-13



- Union Environment Minister, **Dr. Harsh Vardhan**, announced the **Great Indian Bustard (GIB)** as the mascot for the **13th Conference of Parties (COP)** of the UN Convention on the **Conservation of Migratory Species (CMS)** to be held in **Gujarat** in **2020**. The Government also launched a website for the COP-13.

- CMS-COP 13** is a global platform for the conservation and sustainable use of migratory species and their habitats. It has over **120** participating countries. So far, **12 COPs** (Conference of Parties) have been convened.
- COP-13** will be held in **Gandhinagar, Gujarat** from **15 – 22 February, 2020**.

## SURGING SILK, MEGA EVENT HELD IN NEW DELHI

- **Surging Silk, Mega Event** by Ministry of Textiles and Central Silk Board was held in **New Delhi**.



### About the event :

- The event was organized with a motive to highlight the growth of silk industry in India.
- In this event, **Buniyaad Tasar Silk Reeling Machines** to women reelers from tribal areas, to eradicate the age old practice of thigh reeling by end of **March 2020**.
- This machines by **Central Silk Technological Research Institute** in association with an entrepreneur from **Champa in Chhattisgarh** will improve the quality and productivity of **Tassar silk yarn**.
- A mobile application **e-cocoon** was launched during this event to check the quality of silkworm seeds.

## 8TH ROUND OF NATIONAL DEWORMING DAY CAMPAIGN

- The Ministry of Health and Family Welfare (MoHFW) conducted its eighth round of National Deworming Day (NDD) with an objective to **reduce the prevalence of Soil Transmitted Helminths (STH)** or parasitic intestinal worms so that there will be no longer any public health problem.
- The Ministry of Health and Family Welfare (MoHFW) envisioned an open-defecation-free India which holds the capacity to reduce the overall worm burden in a community. National Deworming Day observed on February 10

## THIRD BRIDGE INAUGURATED BY UNION MINISTER NITIN GADKARI



- The Third bridge was inaugurated by **Union Minister Nitin Gadkari** in the presence of Chief Minister **Manohar Parrikar**. The bridge has been named as '**Atal Setu**' after former prime minister of India late Atal Bihari Bajpai.

## VOTER VERIFICATION AND INFORMATION PROGRAMME WAS LAUNCHED BY ELECTION COMMISSION

- **Election Commission of India (ECI)** launched a **Voter Verification and Information Programme (VVIP)** for citizens to **verify their details, change the details, new registration and corrections**. The programme focus on 2019 General Election.



## HINDI BECOMES THE THIRD HIGH COURT LANGUAGE IN ABU DHABI

- **Hindi** is included as the **third official language** in the **Abu Dhabi court system** with a motive to improve access to justice for foreign workers .
- Authorities have created bilingual language guides to explain complex **legal terms** in an effort to help people understand court process.
- The other two official languages are Arabic and English.



## LADAKH DECLARED JAMMU & KASHMIR'S THIRD ADMINISTRATIVE DIVISION

- The **Jammu & Kashmir Government** on Friday declared **Ladakh** as the third administrative division of the state. The Government has approved the creation of a separated administrative/revenue division of **Ladakh**.
  1. The division will comprise **Leh** and **Kargil** districts, with **Leh** as the division's headquarters.
  2. The creation of two posts of **Divisional Commissioner and Inspector General of Police (IGP)** has been sanctioned for the new division.

### About Ladakh:

- **Ladakh** is one of the most sparsely populated regions in **Jammu & Kashmir** and the highest plateau in the state, most of it being over **9.800 ft** above sea level. The region is geographically isolated and remains landlocked for nearly **6 months** in a year.

## UNANI MEDICINE FOR PUBLIC HEALTH INAUGURATED AT NEW DELHI

- **Dr. Najma Heptulla**, Governor of **Manipur**, inaugurating the **two-day National Conference on Unani Medicine** organized by the Central Council for Research in Unani Medicine (CCRUM) in **New Delhi**.



### About the conference :

- This conference was held as a part of **3rd Unani Day celebration**.
- Theme of the conference was '**Unani Medicine for Public Health**'.
- **Unani Day** on **11th February** every year, is celebrated to mark the birth anniversary of **Hakim Ajmal Khan**.

## CENTRE RELEASED PUBLICATION ON CLIMATIC ACTIONS IN NEW DELHI

- Union Minister of Environment, Forest and Climate Change, **Dr Harsh Vardhan** released a Publication on climate actions in India titled "**India - Spearheading Climate Solutions**" in **New Delhi**. It refers to the vital actions India has taken under multiple sectors to combat and adapt to climate change.



## THE 3RD INDO-GERMAN ENVIRONMENT FORUM ON 13TH FEB

- Bilateral meeting between India and Germany **3rd Indo-German Environment Forum held in New Delhi**. The outcomes of discussion made in Indo-German Working Group held in Delhi on 6th February 2019 taken up to higher alliance discussed in the forum.



### Key Points :

- Additional Secretary of Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change Anil Kumar Jain called for strengthening the **renewable alliances and climate between India and Germany as well as cooperation in field of environment**.

## REAL ESTATE CONFERENCE CREDAI YOUTHCON 2019



- Annual Youth Conclave of **Confederation of Real Estate Developers Associations of India (CREDAI)**, CREDAI YouthCon 2019 was held at the **Talkatora Stadium in New Delhi**. It was the **3rd edition** of the YouthCon.
- **Gautam Chatterjee, Maharashtra RERA Chief**, said that the main objective of **RERA (Real Estate Regulatory Authority)** is transparency with other objectives being projects to help builders overcome difficulties and improve trust between builders and buyers.

## POPULAR FRONT OF INDIA HAS BEEN PROHIBITED BY JHARKHAND

- Jharkhand government has prohibited the **Popular Front of India (PFI)** in the state to prevent its anti-national tasks and activities.

### Key points :

- Popular Front of India has banned in the state with the immediate effect **under Section 16 of the Criminal Law (amendment) Act, 1908**.
- This move to ban was after the review that its activities have elevated and is peril to the state and to nation as well. It also had the power to distort the peace, harmony and secular structure.

## INDIA'S FASTEST TRAIN, VANDE BHARAT EXPRESS, FLAGGED OFF BY PM NARENDRA MODI

- The semi-high-speed **Train 18** or **Vande Bharat Express** was flagged off by Prime Minister **Narendra Modi** on **15th February 2019**, from the **New Delhi** railway station.
- Vande Bharat Express will travel from **Delhi** to **Varanasi** in **9 hours and 45 minutes**, with stoppage points at **Kanpur** and **Allahbad** (now Prayagraj).



## EARLY ED ASIA 2019- ASIA'S LARGEST EARLY CHILDHOOD CONFERENCE



- **Early Ed Asia 2019**, the two-day event which is Asia's largest conference on **Early Childhood**, was held at the **City Palace** in **Jaipur, Rajasthan**.

1. It was the first time such a conference was held in India with over **6000** eminent **early childhood educators, policy-makers, researchers** and other stakeholders from India and foreign countries.
2. The motto of the event was '**Our Children. Our Future**'. It was presented by Princess Diya Kumari, the **Royal Family of Jaipur** in association with **Scoonews** and **Early Childhood Association (E.C.A.)**.

## 5TH INTERNATIONAL DAM SAFETY CONFERENCE 2019

- State Water Resources minister **Niranjan Pujari** and Union Water Resources & Ganga Rejuvenation Secretary **U.P. Singh** inaugurated the **5th International Dam Safety Conference 2019** in **Bhubaneswar, Odisha**.



1. Structural safety and efficiency of the **80%** large dams more than **25 years old** and **209** dams over **100 years old** and the measures to be taken were discussed at the conference.
2. The conference was a part of the **Dam Rehabilitation and Improvement Project (DRIP)** assisted by World Bank. **26 large dams** in Odisha are covered under DRIP for rehabilitation including construction of an additional spill way for the **Hirakud dam** at **Rs 600 crores**.

## INDIA'S FIRST DISTRICT COOLING SYSTEM TO BE BUILT IN AMRAVATI

- **United Arab Emirates (UAE)** based international cooling provider, **National Central Cooling Company PJSC (Tabreed)** entered into a **30-year** concession with **Andhra Pradesh Capital Region Development Authority (APCRDA)** to build India's first district cooling system in **Amaravati, Hyderabad**.
  1. The agreement is for a contracted cooling capacity of **20,000 Refrigeration Tons (RTs)** and will cater to the State's Assembly, High Court, Secretariat and other Government buildings currently being constructed, for which cooling services will start in early **2021**.
  2. The district cooling system will help save **40%** of the energy currently being used and reduce **CO2 emissions**, as it uses only **50%** of the primary energy consumption for cooling urban buildings, thus, improving the air quality and reducing general noise levels when compared to other traditional air conditioning systems.

### About Tabreed :

- UAE-based district cooling utility company that provides energy-efficient, cost-effective and environmentally friendlier year-round district cooling solutions in the Gulf Cooperation Council (GCC).
- The **Amravati plant is Tabreed's first plant** outside GCC market.

## 4TH AGRI LEADERSHIP SUMMIT 2019

- Union Minister of Agriculture and Farmer's Welfare, **Radha Mohan Singh**, inaugurated the **4th Agri Leadership Summit 2019** at the **India International Horticulture Market (IIHM)** in **Ganaur, Sonapat** district, **Haryana**. It was a 3-day summit which took place from **15th February 2019** to **17th February 2019**.



1. The main objective of the summit was to provide a platform to the **progressive farmers, Farmer Producer Organisation (FPO), Agri-input and Agri-produce processing industries** of the country to interact with **policy-makers, scientists and technologists** in order to increase the income and quality of life of the farmers and to attract investments in agriculture related industries of the State.
2. The theme of the summit was **“Entrepreneurship & Agri Business; Agri Allied – A Promising Sector and Agri Service- Direct Marketing”**.
3. **Punjab, Haryana and Delhi Chamber of Commerce and Industry (PHDCCI)** was the Institutional Partner at the summit.

## 2 NEW DISTRICTS CREATED IN TELANGANA

- Revenue Department of Telangana has issued a notification stating about the creation of 2 new districts in Telangana– **Mulugu** and **Naraynpet**.

### Key Points :

- With the creation of 2 districts, total number of districts in Telangana has augmented to 33.
- District Naraynpet and Mulugi has been carved out of the District **Mahabubnagar** and **Bhupalapally** districts respectively.

## 4TH EDITION OF INDIA'S BIGGEST GLOBAL CONFERENCE



- The **India Medical Device 2019 and India Pharma 2019**– 4th edition of International Conference took place in **Bengaluru, Karnataka**. It was organised by the **Department of Pharmaceuticals, Ministry of Chemicals & Fertilizers, Government of India** in collaboration with the **Federation of Indian Chambers of Commerce & Industry (FICCI)**.

1. It was inaugurated by **Shri D.V. Sadananda Gowda, Minister of Chemicals & Fertilizers, Statistics and Programme Implementation**.
2. The theme for **India Pharma 2019**– ‘Enabling Quality Affordable Healthcare’ and that of **India Medical Device 2019** – ‘Med-Tech India: Gearing up for Ayushman Bharat’.

## SMRITI IRANI LAID THE FOUNDATION STONE OF A HAST-SHILP COMPLEX IN NEW DELHI



- Union Textiles Minister, **Smriti Irani**, laid foundation stone of **Hastshilp Complex** in **New Delhi** which is to be built in a period of **18 months** by **NBCC** (formerly known as **National Buildings Construction Corporation Ltd**) at a cost of **Rs.113.56 crores**.
- It will be called “**Deen Dayal Antarashtriya Hastshilp Bhawan**” and awardee artisans will be allocated space for marketing their products, on rotation basis, with a preference to Divyang (disabled) artisans.
- It will have **23 shops** meant for artisans, **1 showroom** for artisans from **SAARC** countries, **1 kiosk**, **5 galleries** and **1 conventional hall** and will also have dormitory facilities for handicrafts artisans.



## INDIA'S FIRST FULLDOME 3D DIGITAL THEATRE INAUGURATED IN KOLKATA

- Union Culture Minister Mahesh Sharma inaugurated the India's first 'fulldome 3D Digital Theatre' at the Science City in Kolkata, West Bengal.
- This facility is the first of its kind in the country and having a 23 metre titled dome to offer a fully immersive experience to the visitors.
- It is fully funded by the Ministry of Culture at a cost of Rs.20 Crore.
- The Science City is operated by the National Council of Science Museums under the Ministry of Culture.

## THE ONE HEALTH INDIA CONFERENCE 2019 IN NEW DELHI



- Union Science & Technology Minister, **Dr. Harsh Vardhan**, inaugurated the 2-day long **One Health India Conference 2019** in **New Delhi**.
- The purpose of the conference was to launch **India's** new **One Health Initiative** – an inter sectoral approach in tackling the most urgent health threats in **India** as well as in low- and middle-income countries across **South and South East Asia** and **Sub-Saharan Africa**.

## WORLD'S LARGEST RELIGIOUS CONGREGATION OF WOMEN

- **Thiruvananthapuram** in **Kerala** shall host the **Ataukal Ponkala festival**-one of the largest religious gathering of women on a single day.
  1. The festival involves preparation of '**Pongala**'- a mixture of rice, jaggery and scraped coconut cooked in fresh earthen or metal pots, by lakhs of women, in order to worship the presiding deity of **Attukal Bhagavathy** temple.
  2. All the offices and institutions across the city observe a holiday on this day.

## SURESH PRABHU, LAUNCHED SWAYATT IN NEW DELHI

- **S W A Y A T T** - an initiative to encourage **Start-ups, Women and Youth Advantage Through eTransactions** on Government e-Market place (GeM).



### Key points :

- It aims at creating a conducive atmosphere for interaction between key stakeholders within our entrepreneurial ecosystem and Government e-Marketplace which is the national procurement portal.
- **A Startup Runway** which is an initiative under collaboration of **GeM** with **Start-up India**, established to provide help to start-ups, registered with Start-up India so that it can gain access to the public procurement market and sell innovative products and services to government buyers.
- **24 stalls** were set up by **women SHGs, start-ups and government organizations**. Contributions by successful entrepreneurs in these categories were also highlighted by the Commerce Minister.
- A movie on **GeM SWAYATT** was released by **C.R. Chaudhary, Minister of State for Commerce and Industry**.

## GLOBAL BUSINESS SUMMIT IN NEW DELHI

- **Prime Minister Narendra Modi** addressed the **Global Business Summit** in **New Delhi**.



### Key points :

- He announced that India would be made a **10 trillion-dollar** economy- the **third** largest in the world.
- He highlighted the role of his government's policies in establishing a **high growth rate** and **controlling inflation**.
- The government would provide conducive environment for start-ups and promote renewable sources of energy.

## NATIONAL CONFERENCE ON LOGISTICS POLICY HELD IN NEW DELHI

➤ The “National Conference on Logistics Policy: Context, Issues & The Way Forward” was held in New Delhi from 19th to 20th February, 2019.



1. Union Minister of Commerce & Industry and Civil Aviation, **Suresh Prabhu**, addressed the first stakeholder consultation on the draft logistics policy prepared by the **Department of Logistics of the Ministry of Commerce & Industry**.
2. He also launched the **SAFAR Mobile App**, on this occasion. About the app:
  - It will help to gauge the actual issues faced by transporters on the road.
  - It will track the incidence of a number of parameters faced by transporters and automatically record the location of the issue.
  - **Transporters, truck drivers**, and **general public** may use the app for reporting their logistics issues to the **Ministry of Commerce and Industry**.
  - The app is available in **8 languages**.

## GLOBAL BUSINESS SUMMIT HELD IN NEW DELHI

- **The Global Business Summit** can be the **Davos of the East**, said **Vineet Jain**, Managing Director of the Times group in the welcome address for **the economic Times Global Business Summit 2019 in New Delhi**. Prime Minister **Narendra Modi** addressed the **Global Business summit in New Delhi**.
- Top Indian policy makers including, Prime Minister **Narendra Modi**, Finance Minister **Arun Jaitley**, railways minister **Piyush Goyal**, commerce minister **Suresh Prabhu** and law minister **RAvi Shankar Prasad** graced the occasion.

## PM MODI UNVEILS PRADHAN MANTRI KISAN SAMMAN NIDHI SCHEME IN GORAKHPUR

- Prime Minister **Narendra Modi** launched the **Pradhan Mantri Kisan Samman Nidhi (PM-KISAN)** scheme in Gorakhpur. PM-KISAN scheme, announced in the interim Budget, released earlier this month will provide **Rs.6,000 per year to small and marginal farmer** families having combined land holding/Ownership of **upto 2 hectares**. The amount will be given in **3 installments of Rs.2,000 each**.
- The amount will be transferred directly to the bank account of the beneficiaries through Direct Benefit Transfer. After launching the scheme, the Prime Minister also handed over certificates to select beneficiaries of the scheme.

## RAJNATH SINGH INAUGURATED WASTE TO WONDER PARK IN DELHI

- Union Home Minister **Rajnath Singh** inaugurated ‘**Waste to Wonder Park**’ which houses the replicas of seven wonders of the world at **Sarai Kale Khan, Delhi**.
- It was built by the **South Delhi Municipal Corporation (SDMC)** and is the first-of-its-kind tourist attraction in the world, with the replicas of the **Taj Mahal**, the **Great Pyramid of Giza**, **Eiffel Tower**, **Leaning Tower of Pisa**, **Christ the Redeemer** statue of Rio de Janeiro, **Rome’s Colosseum**, and the **Statue of Liberty**.



## HOME MINISTER RAJNATH SINGH CHAIRED THE 5TH IDA MEETING

- Union Home Minister, **Rajnath Singh**, chaired the **5th Island Development Agency (IDA)** meeting held to review the progress made towards the “**Holistic development of islands**” program.
- Bids for private sector participation in 3 tourism-based projects have been invited by the **Andaman and Nicobar Administration**, which include **Eco-Tourism** projects in **Smith Island** and **Long Island** and **Tent City** project in **Aves Island**.

# 7. International Affairs



## WORLD'S LONGEST 3D PRINTED CONCRETE BRIDGE OPENED IN CHINA



- World's longest 3D printed concrete bridge was opened in china.It is located on the **Wenzaobang River** in **Shanghai**.
  1. The Bridge is designed by **Professor Xy Weiguo** from Tsinghua University in China.
  2. The bridge is of **26.3 metre-long** and **3.6-metre-wide** and is made out of **44** hollowed-out 3D printed concrete blocks.
  3. The newly-opened bridge is made with a technology that supplies data and also vibrating wire **stress sensors**.

## DR POONAM KHETRAPAL SINGH REAPPOINTED AS REGIONAL DIRECTOR WHO SOUTH EAST ASIA



- **Dr Poonam Khetrpal Singh** has been appointed Regional Director for World Health Organization South-East Asia, for a **second five-year term**. Her second term of office will begin on **1 February 2019**.

### Important Facts :

- She is the **first woman** to become Regional Director of WHO South-East Asia Region
- Previous year, **Thailand** became the first in Asia-Pacific to eliminate mother-to-child transmission of HIV and syphilis.
- **India was declared yaws-free and Nepal trachoma-free.**

## ELECTION COMMISSION OF INDIA HOSTS INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE

➤ The Chief Election Commissioner of India, **Sunil Arora** and Election Commissioner Shri Ashok Lavasa inaugurated an International Conference on 'Making our Elections Inclusive and Accessible on the occasion of 9th National Voters Day held in **New Delhi**.



1. This conference held with a motive to enhance transparency in the upcoming election.
2. Theme of 2019 voters day is **"My Vote Matters"**

### INDIA REPLACES JAPAN TO BE WORLD'S SECOND LARGEST STEEL PRODUCER

- India has replaced Japan as the world's second-largest steel producing country, only behind **China**, which is the largest producer of crude steel accounting for more than 51 per cent of production, as per the latest report by World Steel Association.
- India's crude steel production in **2018 was at 106.5 MT**, which is up by **4.9 per cent from 101.5 MT in 2017**.
- The rise in India's crude steel production in 2018 means that India has replaced Japan as the world's second-largest steel producing country, as Japan produced **104.3 MT in 2018**, which is down by **0.3 per cent as compared to 2017**.

### THAILAND NAMES SIAMESE FIGHTING FISH ITS NATIONAL AQUATIC ANIMAL

- **Thailand** named the tiny, eye-catching, colourful fin plumaged **Siamese fighting fish** as its **aquatic animal** with an aim to boost the conservation and breeding of the same.



#### About Siamese Fighting Fish :

- Siamese fighting fish is the native of Mekong basin of Thailand and is mostly found in the **Chao Phraya river in Thailand**.
- The Siamese fighting fish was registered as **intangible cultural heritage in 2013**.

#### About Thailand

- Currency: Thai baht Trending
- Capital: Bangkok

## INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE ON 8TH CENTURY SAGE HELD TO MARK 50 YEARS OF INDIA-BHUTAN TIES

- The **50-years of formalization of diplomatic ties between India and Bhutan**, a two-day **international conference on 8th century Himalayan sage Guru Padmasambhava** was held in **New Delhi**.



### About conference :

- This conference was organised by the **Centre for Escalation of Peace (CEP)** and was titled **‘Life and Legacy of Guru Padmasambhava’**, was held on January 29-30.
- Scholars from both countries participated in the conference and discussed about the Guru who was born in India and moved towards Bhutan in the 8th century to spread Buddhism and Buddhist teachings all across the Himalayan region.
- Next on phase to conference, an art exhibition showcasing rare artefacts associated with Guru **Padmasambhava**, was also held.

## UAE, SAUDI CENTRAL BANKS LAUNCH COMMON DIGITAL CURRENCY CALLED ‘ABER’



- Central banks of UAE and Saudi Arabia launched common digital currency called **‘Aber’**.
- **UAE** central bank will establish an additional means for the central **financial transfer systems** of the two countries and enable bankers to directly deal with each other.

## FIFA RANKINGS: INDIA DROPPED OUT OF 100 AND BELGIUM REMAINS AT THE TOP

- With the end of **AFC Asian cup** in **UAE**, the world ranking list had some changes, in which India is dropped out of the top 100 ranks, but **Belgium’s** pole position remained same.

### Changes in the Rank List :

Countries	Ranks
India	103
Qatar	55
Japan	27
Korea Republic	38
UAE	67
Jordan	97
Iraq	80
Iran	22
Uzbekistan	89

## SINGAPORE, THE MOST LIVEABLE LOCATION FOR ASIAN EXPATRIATES

➤ **ECA international survey**, which surveyed almost **480 location** overall in a year declared **Singapore** to be the most liveable location for Asian Expatriates for the **14th year**.



1. Singapore is followed by **Australia's Brisbane, Sydney, Adelaide** in the **second position**.
2. **Hong Kong** slipped 12 place down and reached **41st rank** due to the damage caused by Typhoon Mangkhut in the year 2018.
3. Further, **Bangkok** was in **89th** place, whereas **George Town** and **Kuala Lumpur** made a hike to **97th** and **98th** respectively and Colombo in **Sri Lanka** in **194th rank**.

## FIRST JOINT INITIATIVE SIGNED BETWEEN INDIA AND NORWAY TO COMBAT MARINE POLLUTION

➤ **India** signed a letter of intent with **Norway** to fight marine pollution and establishes the **India-Norway Marine Pollution Initiative**.

1. **Ministry of Environment, Forests and Climate Change (MoEFCC)** signed the letter establishing the initiative with the **Norwegian Ministry of Foreign Affairs**.
2. Additional Secretary, MoEFCC, **Mr. Anil Kumar Jain** and Norway's Ambassador to India, **Mr. Nils Ragnar Kamsvag** signed the joint initiative.
3. A statement from the **Economic Advisory Council to the Prime Minister (EAC-PM)** revealed that this is the first joint initiative under this partnership and India-Norway Marine Pollution will fight the fastest growing environmental concern, which is marine pollution.

### Related News :

- In January 2019, during the Norwegian Prime Minister's visit to India, India and Norway had signed an MoU and established the India-Norway Ocean Dialogue, in order to work more closely on oceans.

### About Norway

- Prime Minister – Erna Solberg
- Capital – Oslo
- Currency – Norwegian Krone

## MACEDONIA OFFICIALLY CHANGED ITS NAME TO NORTH MACEDONIA



- Ending a long running dispute with **Greece**, the **Republic of Macedonia** has officially changed its name to **North Macedonia**.
  1. Greece had been blocking Macedonia’s entry into the **European Union (EU)** and **North Atlantic Treaty Organization (NATO)**, as it disapproved of the name of the country, as the **Greek province of Macedonia** adjoining it has been associated with **Alexander the Great**.
  2. On **6th Feb. 2019**, NATO member states signed an accession protocol allowing North Macedonia to join the alliance and become the **30th** member.

### About North Macedonia :

- Capital – Skopje
- Currency – Macedonian Denar
- President – Gjorge Ivanov

### About Greece :

- Capital – Athens
- Currency – Euro
- President – Prokopis Pavlopoulos

## 55TH MUNICH SECURITY CONFERENCE (MSC) HELD AT MUNICH, GERMANY

- **55th Munich Security Conference (MSC)**, an annual meeting that brings together leaders and security experts from across the world, was held from **15th to 17th February 2019**.
- **Deputy National Security Adviser Pankaj Saran attended the conference and participated in various events besides holding bilateral meetings with several countries.**
- **India** received widespread support on the issue of **Pakistan’s** role in cross-border terror attacks including **Pulwama** strike at the conference.

## CHINA’S XINHUA UNVEILS WORLD’S FIRST FEMALE AI NEWS ANCHOR



- Chinese news agency **Xinhua** unveiled the world’s **first female** AI news anchor **Xin Xiaomeng**. She has been developed in collaboration with **Sogou Inc**, a search engine company.
- She is expected to make a debut in **March**, during the upcoming meetings of China’s national legislature.
- Earlier, Xinhua also developed **Qiu Hao**, the world’s **first male** AI news anchor at the **World Internet Conference** in **Wuzhen** held in November 2018, who is capable of mimicking human facial expressions and mannerisms while reading out news-reports.

## INDIA, SRI LANKA INK MOU TO ESTABLISH BUSINESS CENTRE FOR ICT INCUBATORS IN JAFFNA

- A Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) was signed by **India** and **Sri Lanka** for the establishment of a business centre for **ICT incubators** in **Jaffna, Sri Lanka** through grant of **25 crore Sri Lankan rupees** from **India**.
- The MoU was signed in **Colombo, Sri Lanka** by **High Commissioner of India to Sri Lanka Mr. Taranjit Singh Sandhu**, and **Secretary, Ministry of Development Strategies and International Trade Mr. S. T. Kodikara** in presence of **Sri Lankan Prime Minister Ranil Wickramasinghe**.



# 9. Tamilnadu Affairs



## TN BAGS FSSAI AWARDS FOR SWASTH BHARAT YATRA

- Tamil Nadu was awarded the “**Best State Overall**” for its active participation in the national campaign “**Swasth Bharat Yatra**”, which was organized from **16th October 2018** by Food **Safety and Standards Authority of India (FSSAI)**. The **Swasth Bharat Yatra** was culminated on 29th January 2019 at **Connaught Place in New Delhi**.

### Key Points :

- The Swasth Bharat Yatra was **World’s biggest Cyclothon** and it saw the involvement of 10 lakh participants.
- The Cyclothon began from six different locations – **Leh, Panaji, Thiruvananthapuram**, Puducherry, Kolkata and Agartala in which more than 10,000 volunteer cyclists covered more than 20,000 km across 36 states and Union Territories.
- The Key element of the Cyclothon was “**Eat Right India**” and the goal of the campaign was to aware the sensitive people about eating food and being healthy.

### Madurai, Sivakasi adjudged best cities in the Swasht Bharat Yatra:

- **Madurai and Sivakasi** was awarded as the best cities in the Swasth Bharat Yatra which was concluded on 29th January 2019.
- Gujarat, Uttar Pradesh, Madhya Pradesh and Maharashtra have been recognized as the best states with a population above 3 crores.

## 2 RRBS ARE TO BE MERGED TO FORM TAMIL NADU GRAMA BANK

- Under the sponsorship of Indian Bank, two regional rural bank – **Pallavan Grama Bank** and **Pandyan Grama Bank** will be amalgamated to form a single RRB Tamil Nadu Grama Bank in Tamil Nadu. The consolidation will be effective from April 1, 2019.



## TAMIL NADU HAS PRESENTED BUDGET FOR NEXT FINANCIAL YEAR

- Tamil Nadu's Deputy Chief Minister, **O Panneerselvam** presented the state budget for the Fiscal Year 2019-20. Total revenue of the budget has been pegged at **Rs.1,97,721 crore**.

### Highlights of Budget :

- The Revenue Deficit of the budget would be **Rs. 14,315 crore** and Fiscal Deficit would be of Rs. 44,176 crore with no new taxes.
- Tamil Nadu will present policies regarding Farmer Organization and Electronic hardware manufacturing.
- **Rs. 1700 crore** will be allocated for 1 lakh concrete houses which are to be built in Cyclone **Gaja** affected areas to replace damaged houses and huts.

### CHENNAI TO HOST 'SCIENCE AT SABHA'

- The fourth edition of 'Science at the Sabha', organised by **The Institute of Mathematical Sciences, will be held in Chennai**. The programme is part of the Institute's outreach programme to the common man. 'Science at Sabha' will be held at **The Music Academy in Chennai**.
- The event-like feature talks on topics like "Traffic rules in neurons" by Sandhya Koushika, Tata Institute of Fundamental Research, Mumbai, "Untwisting the twisted matter" by Vijay Shenoy and "The whole is more than the sum of its parts" by Sitabhar Sinha, The Indian Institute of Mathematical Science, Chennai.

### TN BECOMES FIRST STATE IN MAINLAND TO GET 2 COAST GUARD DISTRICTS

- **Tamil Nadu Governor Banwarilal Purohit** inaugurated the **second** Coast Guard district headquarters at **Thoothukudi**, Tamil Nadu. Tamil Nadu is the first state in India to get a second Coast Guard district headquarters. The first district headquarters is **Chennai**.
- The second headquarters have been set up to deal with frequent issues faced by fishermen and provide anti-poaching operations, search and rescue missions and coastal security measures.

### Key points :

- It will function under **Commander Coast Guard Region (East)**.
- The area of operations will include about **680 km** of the coastline along districts of Pudukottai, Thanjavur, Ramanathapuram, Thoothukudi, Tirunelveli and Kanyakumari.
- The position of **first** district Commander of the district headquarters (Tuticorin) has been given to Coast Guard DIG **Arvind Sharma**.



Name of the Summit	Aim	Venue
2nd National Meet on Grass root Informatics	To showcase the various initiatives of NIC in creating and enhancing the security of Digital Infrastructure in the country.	at the India Habitat Centre, NewDelhi
3rd Global Procurement Summit	To ensure transparency in public procurement.	New Delhi.
World sustainable development summit	To develop the world by bringing together all political leaders, decision makers etc.	New Delhi's Vigyan Bhawan
International R&D Conclave'-	Emerging Opportunities and Challenges of R&D in Indian Power Sector,	New Delhi
The22ndedition of theWorld Congress on Information Technology (WCIT)	To promote digital innovation	Hyderabad
National Conference "Agriculture 2022- Doubling Farmers' Income"	To identify various critical issues relating to agriculture and farmers' welfare and finding appropriate solutions.	At National Agriculture Science Complex (NASC), Pusa, New Delhi.
Canada – India Business Forum	To promote Canada-India cooperation on a range of issues,	atTaj Mahal Palace Hotel, Mumbai
UP Investors Summit	Aimed to showcase investment opportunities and potential across various sectors in Uttar Pradesh	Lucknow
Global Digital Health Partnership Symposium	To ensure district-level electronic database of information on health system components	atSydney, Australia
India International Textiles Expoof India	To promote textile business	Sri Lankan capital ofColombo.

Name of the Summit	Aim	Venue
first International Solar Alliance (ISA) summit	To launch 121 projects like E-Mobility and Storage, and Rooftop Solar during the summit	Delhi, India
SAARC Business Leaders' Conclave	To promote investment, innovation and entrepreneurship in the region.	Kathmandu, Nepal
20th Conference Of Commonwealth Education Ministers	To promote education	Nadi ,Fiji
Mega event MILAN 2018	views and ideas on maritime good-order and enhancing regional cooperation for combating unlawful activities at sea	Andaman and Nicobar Islands
International Conference on Sustainable Biofuels	To accelerate global clean energy and innovation.	At the Stein Auditorium, India Habitat Centre, New Delhi.
2nd India-Korea Business Summit	Aims to create the framework for an open and action-oriented dialogue between top business leaders and Government officials from both countries.	New delhi, India
21st National Conference on e-Governance	To showcase investment opportunities in the State in the food processing, automobile, aerospace and defence, hardware, tourism, infrastructure, and other sectors.	Vishakha patnam, Telangana, Hyderabad,
Kabul Process Conference	To discuss security and political issues	Afghanistan

Name of the Summit	Aim	Venue
The Himalayan Hydro Expo 2018	To promote maximum benefits of hydropower producers, to explore the possibility on how building hydro projects	Kathmandu, Nepal
first Persons of Indian Origin (PIO) Parliamentary Conference	contribution of overseas persons of Indian origin (PIO) towards their country	
4th International Dharma-Dhamma Conference	Aim to share ideas, values and foster harmony at the global level and to celebrate the Silver Jubilee year of ASEAN-India Dialogue Partnership	Rajgir in Nalanda district, Bihar
The 4th Annual Women Leadership Summit	To discuss issues related to both men and women	At IIM-Bangalore.
Australia India Youth Dialogue (AIYD)	To promote exchange and partnership across organisations among talented young minds	Mumbai and Delhi
Fourth ASEAN-India Ministerial Meeting on Agriculture and Forestry (AIMMAF)	help to deepen and enhance the ASEAN-India cooperation in food, agriculture which includes animal husbandry, fisheries, and forestry	New Delhi,
The 5th Bilateral Technical Meeting on cooperation in the field of Traditional Systems of Medicine	To enhance cooperation to design and develop policies and strategies in the field of Traditional Medicine in Malaysia	New Delhi
International Workshop on Disaster Resilient Infrastructure(IWDRI)	Aims to take Disaster Resilient Infrastructure and global cooperation further	New Delhi
Third edition of the geopolitical conference, 'Raisina Dialogue'	Aim to challenge issues globally	New Delhi
65th Meeting of the Central Advisory Board of Education (CABE)	To promote and reach to the grass roots	New Delhi

Name of the Summit	Aim	Venue
The 15th edition of BioAsia	To discuss Prominent technology and bio-business convention in Asia for Life sciences, pharmaceuticals and healthcare.	Hyderabad
The International Solar Alliance Forum was held at	To promote solar energy among its member countries.	World Future Energy Summit, Abu Dhabi.
India-ASEAN business and investment conference	To enhance connectivity via land to strengthen trade ties	New Delhi
The 7th Asia Steel International Conference	Provides a platform to exchange knowledge on various aspects at the global steel industry.	Bhubaneswar
The 16th International Energy Forum (IEF) Ministerial meeting	To promote energy across the globe	New Delhi
International Dam Safety Conference	Aims to discuss several issues related to dam safety Challenges across the globe	Thiruvananthapuram
The third edition of international spice conference	Aims to Manage Disruptions through Transformation and Collaboration’.	Jaipur, Rajasthan
The 21st edition of India International Seafood Show	Focus on policies, market trends, technology and roadmaps to achieve	Goa
leadership conclave	To promote art of living	New Delhi

**2) LISTS OF FIRST WOMEN IN INDIA**

S.No	Field	Name of the Person	Year	Birth Place
1	First Indian Woman Doctor	Anandi Gopal Joshi	1886	Pune, British India
2	First Woman President of INC	Annie Besant	1917	London, UK
3	First Indian Woman President of INC	Sarojini Naidu	1925	Hyderabad, Andhra Pradesh (Now Telangana)

S.No	Field	Name of the Person	Year	Birth Place
4	First Indian Woman Airline Pilot	Sarla Thakral	1936	New Delhi
5	First Indian Woman to swim across English Channel	Arati Saha	1959	Kolkata, West Bengal
6	First Indian woman to get Arjuna Award	Stephie D'Souza	1963	Goa
7	First Indian Woman to become Miss World	Miss Reita Faria	1966	British Bombay (Now Mumbai)
8	First Indian Woman to win Gold in Asian Games	Kamaljeet Sandhu	1970	Punjab
9	First Indian Woman to get Bharat Ratna	Indira Gandhi	1971	Allahabad, Uttar Pradesh
10	First Indian Woman to get Jnanpith Award	Ashapoorna Devi	1976	Culcutta (Now Kolkata, West Bengal)
11	First Indian Woman to get Nobel Prize	Mother Terasa	1979	Skopje, Now Macedonia (FYROM)
12	First Indian Women to win Oscar Award	Bhanu Athaiya	1983	Kolhapur, British India (Now Maharashtra)
13	First Indian Woman to climb Mt Everest	Bachendri Pal	1984	Uttrakashi (Now Uttarakand)
14	First Woman to get Ashok Chakra	Nirja Bhanot	1987	Chandigarh, Punjab
15	First Woman Judge of Supreme Court	Meera Sahib Fatima Bibi	1989	Pathanamthitta, Kerala
16	First Indian Woman to become Miss Universe	Susmita Sen	1994	Hyderabad, Andhra Pradesh (Now Telangana)
17	First Indian Woman to Booker Prize	Arundhati Roy	1997	Shillong, Assam (Present Meghalaya)
18	First Indian Woman to go to space	Kalpna Chawla	1997	Karnal, Punjab (Now Haryana)
19	First Woman Musician to get Bharat Ratna	MS Subbalakshmi	1998	Madurai, Tamilnadu

S.No	Field	Name of the Person	Year	Birth Place
20	First Indian Woman to win Medal in Olympic	Karnam Malleswari	2000	Andhra Pradesh
21	First Indian Woman to win WTA Title	Sania Mirza	2004	Hyderabad, Andhra Pradesh (Now Telangana)
22	India's First Woman Governor (Uttar Pradesh)	Sarojini Naidu	1947 - 1949	Hyderabad, Andhra Pradesh (Now Telangana)
23	First Indian Woman Ambassador at UN	Vijalakshmi Pandit	1947 - 1949	Allahabad, Uttar Pradesh
24	First Woman Union Minister (Minister of Health)	Rajkumari Amrita Kaur	1947 - 1957	Lucknow, Uttar Pradesh
25	First Woman Chief Minister of State (Uttar Pradesh)	Sucheta Kripalani	1963 - 1967	Ambala, Punjab (Now in Haryana)
26	India's First Woman Prime Minister	Indira Gandhi	1966-1977	Allahabad, Uttar Pradesh
27	India's First Woman IPS Officer	Kiran Bedi	1975 (In Delhi)	Amritsar, Punjab.
28	First Indian Woman to climb Mt Everest twice	Santhosh Yadhav	1992, 1993	Haryana
29	India's First Woman President	Pratiba Patil	2007 - 2012	Maharashtra
30	First transgender woman to be a police officer in India (Dharmapuri)	K Prithika Yashini	2017 (Dharma puri)	Tamilnadu

# 11. Practice Questions



- 1) When is the World Radio Day celebrated?
  - A. 11th February
  - B. 12th February
  - C. 13th February
  - D. 14th February
- 2) Where was the LAWASIA Human Rights Conference held?
  - A. Mumbai
  - B. Kolkata
  - C. Patna
  - D. New Delhi
- 3) Who hosted the Multinational Cobra Gold Military Exercise?
  - A. Thailand
  - B. Vietnam
  - C. Myanmar
  - D. Afghanistan
- 4) 'Exercise Rahat' Concluded In -----?
  - A. Pune
  - B. Jaipur
  - C. Ahmedabad
  - D. Chennai
- 5) CREDAI's Event 'YouthCon-19' Held In -----?
  - A. New Delhi
  - B. Chennai
  - C. Hyderabad
  - D. Pune
- 6) Which of the following State passed 5% quota to Gujjars and four other nomadic communities?
  - A. Gujarat
  - B. Rajasthan
  - C. West Bengal
  - D. Telangana
- 7) Centre has approved to set up a national law university in \_\_\_\_\_.
  - A. Himachal Pradesh
  - B. Maharashtra
  - C. West Bengal
  - D. Uttarakhand
- 8) Which of the following does the Citizenship (Amendment) Bill, 2019 violate?
  - A. Assam Accord 1947
  - B. Assam Accord 1961
  - C. Assam Accord 1985
  - D. Assam Accord 1992
- 9) Where was the third Indo-German Environment Forum held?
  - A. New Delhi
  - B. Chennai
  - C. Hyderabad
  - D. Pune
- 10) Who won the EY Entrepreneur of the Year 2018?
  - A. Vikram Sinha
  - B. Siddhartha Lal
  - C. Suresh Rajan
  - D. Dinesh Karthick
- 11) India's first district cooling system to be built in \_\_\_\_\_.
  - A. Varanasi
  - B. Mumbai
  - C. Amaravati
  - D. Hyderabad

- 12) Macedonia officially changed its name to -----?  
 A.North Macedonia  
 B.Debar  
 C.Vinica  
 D.Negotino
- 13) Who is appointed as the Election Commissioner of India?  
 A.Om Prakash Rawat  
 B.Sushil Chandra  
 C.TN Seshan  
 D.T.S.Krishnamurthy
- 14) Which of the following is Indian Army's artillery firepower showcase?  
 A.Exercise Manoeuvre  
 B.Exercise COPE  
 C.Exercise Topchi  
 D.Exercise Rahat
- 15) Which of the following is the 13th edition of International Oil & Gas Conference and Exhibition?  
 A.NATOIL 2019  
 B.PETROTECH 2019  
 C.PARMANU 2019  
 D.None of the above
- 16) Which instrument is to be declared as Goa's heritage musical instrument?  
 A.Ghumot B.Pakhawaj  
 C.Harmonium D.Shehnai
- 17) Fifth India-Bangladesh Joint Consultative Committee Meeting held in -----?  
 A.New Delhi B.Chennai  
 C.Hyderabad D.Pune
- 18) e-AUSHADHI portal was recently launched for online licensing of -----.  
 A.Heavy Machines  
 B.Food Products  
 C.AYUSH medicine  
 D.Vehicles
- 19) How many Rafale fighters were landed for the 12th edition of Aero India 2019 air show?  
 A.4 B.7  
 C.5 D.3
- 20) Prime Minister Narendra Modi on February 15 flagged-off India's first semi-high speed "Train 18" which was rechristened as -----.  
 A.Khush Yaatra Express  
 B.Vande-Bharat Express  
 C.Swachh-Bharat Express  
 D.Jai Yaatra Express
- 21) A New Snake Species discovered in -----  
 A.Arunachal Pradesh  
 B.Tamil Nadu  
 C.Kerala  
 D.Andhra Pradesh
- 22) Who won Best Director From PETA for 'A Star Is Born'?  
 A.Bradley Cooper  
 B.Steven Spielberg  
 C.Matthew Vaughn  
 D.David Zucker
- 23) World Sustainable Development Summit 2019 Held At -----  
 A.New Delhi B.Hyderabad  
 C.Chennai D.Pune

- 24) Early Ed Asia 2019, Asias largest early childhood conference, held in ----  
A.Jaipur            B.Chennai  
C.Hyderabad    D.Pune
- 25) ----- held the 5th International Dam Safety Conference 2019?  
A.Bhubaneshwar  
B.Chennai  
C.Bangalore  
D.Trivandrum
- 26) How many Indian startups joined Estonia e-residency scheme in 4 yrs?  
A.307                B.205  
C.109                D.406
- 27) India's 1st Aqua Mega Food Park recently commissioned in \_\_\_\_\_.  
A. Bihar  
B. Assam  
C. Andhra Pradesh  
D. Gujarat
- 28) Indias First Agromet Forecast Centre Inaugurated In -----?  
A.Karnataka    B.TamilNadu  
C.Kerala        D.West Bengal
- 29) -----backs India combating terrorism in cooperation with the international community?  
A.Pakistan        B.Japan  
C.Indonesia      D.Saudi Arabia
- 30) Indian Air Force to display firepower in -----?  
A.Rajasthan    B.Chennai  
C.Hyderabad    D.Mumbai
- 31) Where will the 79th Indian History Congress (IHC) be held?  
A.Madhya Pradesh  
B.Uttar Pradesh  
C.Maharashtra  
D.Tamil Nadu
- 32) Which Country signed the Framework Agreement of the International Solar Alliance with India?  
A.Sweden        B.Germany  
C.Poland         D.Argentina
- 33) Rabindranath Tagore Award for Cultural Harmony awarded by the -----  
A.President  
B.Prime Minister  
C.Home Minister  
D.Finance Minister
- 34) \_\_\_\_\_ became the First woman to climb Kerala's Agasthyarkoodam peak.  
A.Dhanya Sanal  
B.K Sri Vidhya  
C.Sudha Chandra  
D.Junko Tabei
- 35) ----- awards conferred on Uday Deshpande and Smriti Mandhana?  
A.Shiv Chhatrapati awards  
B.UNESCO Peace Prize  
C.Pulitzer Prize  
D.Livelihood Award.
- 36) International Annual Desert Festival Held In -----  
A.Jaisalmer      B.Kolkata  
C.New Delhi     D.Chennai

- 37) Who clinched the Senior National Badminton Championship for the fourth time?  
A.Saina Nehwal  
B.PV Sindhu  
C.Jwala Gutta  
D.Ashwini Ponnappa
- 38) Which aerospace major is to set up new plant in Hyderabad?  
A.SpaceX  
B.Raytheon  
C.BAE Systems  
D.Safran
- 39) Scientist who popularised the term “global warming” died recently, is \_\_\_\_\_.  
A.Robert E. Dickinson  
B.Paul J. Crutzen  
C.Wallace Smith Broecker  
D.Harold E. Brooks
- 40) Saudi Arabia’s Crown Prince who arrived in India after visiting Pakistan, is \_\_\_\_\_.  
A.Mohammed bin Salman  
B.Ismail Omar Guelleh  
C.Abdelaziz Bouteflika  
D.Abdoukader Kamil Mohamed
- 41) Which city will host 2024 Olympic Games?  
A.Tokyo                      B.Paris  
C.Beijing                     D.Los Angeles
- 42) Which country recently submitted a formal bid to host 2032 Olympic Games?  
A.Brazil                      B.Germany  
C.Japan                        D.Indonesia
- 43) Yuwa, an NGO based in \_\_\_\_\_ won Laureus World Sports Awards.  
A.West Bengal  
B.Gujarat  
C.Bihar  
D.Jharkhand
- 44) Iran has unveiled the first Iranian made semi-heavy submarine called \_\_\_\_\_.  
A.Fateh B.Besat  
C.Ghadir                     D.Nahang
- 45) Indias First Fulldome 3D Digital Theatre Inaugurated In -----  
A.Kolkata                    B.TamilNadu  
C.Bihar                        D.Kerala
- 46) India’s first hi-tech forensic lab is established at \_\_\_\_\_.  
A.Rajgir                      B.Lucknow  
C.Dwarka                     D.Haldia
- 47) Prime Minister Narendra Modi flagged off the world’s first diesel to electric locomotive in \_\_\_\_\_.  
A.Kolkata  
B.Varanasi  
C.Ahmedabad  
D.Mumbai
- 48) Which Country topped the Global Corruption Index?  
A.India                        B.Denmark  
C.Germany                  D.Sudan
- 49) Which article from Indian Constitution will invoke President’s rule on the State?  
A.Article 216    B.Article 361  
C.Article 256    D.Article 356

- 50) Which of the following Ministry launched the Artisan Speak?  
A.Ministry of Culture  
B.Ministry of Textiles C.Ministry of Tourism  
D. Ministry of External Affairs
- 51) When is the World Leprosy Day celebrated?  
A.29th January  
B.30th January  
C.31th January  
D.1st February
- 52) Who is the High Commissioner of India to Sri Lanka?  
A.Ruchi Ghanashyam  
B.Taranjit Singh Sandhu  
C.Yashvardhan Kumar Sinha  
D.Ranjan Mathai
- 53) Under which scholarship were the 150 Sri Lankan students awarded?  
A.Indira Gandhi scholarships  
B. Mahatma Gandhi scholarships  
C. Jawaharlal Nehru scholarships  
D. Pradhan Manthri Internation scholarships
- 54) ---- Xinhua unveils worlds first female AI news anchor  
A.China B.Pakistan  
C.India D.Indonesia
- 55) Government announces free air travel for CAPF to -----  
A.Jammu and Kashmir  
B.Kerala  
C.TamilNadu  
D.Karnataka
- 56) NARI decided to drop focus on ---- and undergo change name  
A.AIDS B.Malaria  
C.Typhoid D.Dengue
- 57) Where was the International Vision Zero Conference to promote occupational Safety and Health held?  
A.Mumbai B.Chennai  
C.Trivandrum D.Kerala
- 58) Who has been appointed as the first Ombudsman of the BCCI by Supreme Court?  
A. DK Jain  
B. R.K. Agrawal  
C.Amitava Roy  
D.Jasti Chelameswar
- 59) What is the name of the Neptune's tiny moon?  
A.Proteus  
B.Larissa  
C.Arcs  
D.Hippocamp

- 60) PM Modi recently inaugurated Virtual Experiential Museum in \_\_\_\_\_.
- A.Surat  
B.Varanasi  
C.Aurangabad  
D.Vadodara
- 61) Where is the Sanjay Gandhi National park located?
- A.Uttarakhand  
B.Uttar Pradesh  
C.Assam  
D.Maharashtra
- 62) Kala Ghoda Festival 2019 Begins in -----?
- A.Mumbai B.Chennai  
C.Hyderabad D.New Delhi
- 63) World heritage centre to be set up at Mayapur in -----?
- A.Tamil Nadu  
B.West Bengal  
C.Kerala  
D.Bihar
- 64) Which year Mines act was passed by union government ?
- A.1952 B.1965  
C.1985 D.1963
- 65) Which minister inaugurated Conference of State AYUSH Ministers in New Delhi?
- A.AYUSH Minister  
B.Finance Minister  
C.Defence minister  
D.External Affairs Minister
- 66) When was the Pradhan Mantri Jan Arogya Yojana (PM-JAY) launched?
- A.2016 B.2017  
C.2018 D.2019
- 67) Which bank UK chief honoured Freedom of the City of London?
- A.Yes bank  
B.State Bank of India  
C.Canara Bank  
D.Repco Bank
- 68) Boeing 747-200 Air Indias first ever Flight Simulator was exhibited in Nehru Science Centre -----
- A.Mumbai B.Chennai  
C.Hyderabad D.Pune
- 69) Who was conferred the Légion d'Honneur (Legion of Honour) of France?
- A.Francois Laborde  
B.Alexandre Ziegler  
C.Soumitra Chatterjee  
D.Satyajit Ray
- 70) Adhaar made mandate for the \_\_\_\_\_ installment PM KISAN.
- A.1st B.2nd  
C.3rd D.4th
- 71) Seventh edition of Kolhapur International film festival inaugurated in -----?
- A.Chennai, Tamil Nadu  
B.Kolhapur, Maharashtra  
C.Tiruvandrum,Kerala  
D.Pune, Maharashtra

- 72) Which State government launched Zero Fatality Corridor program?  
A.Gujarat B.Delhi  
C.Tamil Nadu D.Kerala
- 73) Parmanu Tech 2019-Nuclear Energy Conference in -----?  
A.New Delhi B.Chennai  
C.Mumbai D.Hyderabad
- 74) 2019 Asia LPG Summit Held In -----  
A.Chennai B.New Delhi  
C.Hyderabad D.pune
- 75) ----- takes up Interim Budget 2019-20 for discussion?  
A.Lok Sabha  
B.Rajya Sabha  
C.Vidhan Sabha  
D.TamilNadu State Assembly
- 76) ---- declared as the International Day of Women and Girls in Science?  
A.11th February  
B.15th March  
C.16th June  
D.18th July
- 77) India Pavilion Inaugurated At ----- Berlin International Film Festival  
A.69th B.75th  
C.86th D.98th
- 78) ----- signed an accord to join as a new member of NATO military alliance  
A.Macedonia  
B.Australia  
C.Indonesia  
D.France
- 79) Which state okays to set up Tribal Commission Bill?  
A.Jharkhand  
B.Bhopal  
C.Tamil Nadu  
D.Kerala
- 80) Who Inaugurated 13th PETROTECH 2019 In Greater Noida?  
A.Shri Arun Jaitley  
B.Shri Suresh Prabhu  
C.Shri Dharmendra Pradhan  
D.Shri Dilip Misra
- 81) Where was the multinational maritime exercise AMAN-19 held?  
A.Gwadar B.Karachi  
C.Shenzhen D.Shanghai
- 82) When is the National Deworming day celebrated?  
A.9th February  
B.10th February  
C.11th February  
D.12th February
- 83) Which of the following has made Hindi as third language in courts?  
A.Indonesia B.Sri Lanka  
C.Abu Dhabi D.Afghanistan
- 84) World Pulses Day is celebrated on -----  
A.10th February  
B.15th March  
C.26th April  
D.17th May]

- 85) ----- tops Hurun India Philanthropy list 2018  
 A.Mukesh Ambani  
 B.Suresh Kumar  
 C.Ambitabh Bachaan  
 D.Anil Kapoor
- 86) Himalayan Cloud Observatory set up in -----  
 A.Tehri                    B.Aurangabad  
 C.Chittoor                D.Kadapa
- 87) Which region has been declared as Jammu & Kashmir's third administrative division?  
 A.Badgam                B.Pulwama  
 C.Anantnag              D.Ladakh
- 88) Who becomes the 1st woman to win MRF Challenge Championship Title?  
 A.Conor Daly  
 B.Jamie Chadwick  
 C.Toby Sowery  
 D.Felipe Drugovich
- 89) Who won To Be Feted With Lifetime Achievement Award?  
 A.Deepa Mehta  
 B.Suresh Kumar  
 C.Dinesh Kumar  
 D.Rajesh sharma
- 90) Jamie Chadwick becomes the first female driver to win MRF Challenge title in -----  
 A.Chennai                B.Hyderabad  
 C.New Delhi              D.Mumbai
- 91) Adhaar made mandate for the \_\_\_\_\_ installment PM KISAN.  
 A.1st                        B.2nd  
 C.3rd                        D.4<sup>th</sup>
- 92) The Intermediate-Range Nuclear Forces (INF) Treaty was signed between \_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_.  
 A. Soviet Union and United States  
 B. United States and United Kingdom  
 C. United Kingdom and China  
 D. China and India
- 93) Which State launched the MyCityMyBudget initiative?  
 A.Uttar Pradesh  
 B.Karnataka  
 C.Gujarat  
 D.Haryana
- 94) Who Becomes First Indian To Grab Australian LPGA Card?  
 A.Vani Kapoor  
 B.Suresh Kapoor  
 C.Anil Kapoor  
 D.Kamal Kapoor
- 95) Mirabai Chanu Notched Up Gold At EGAT Cup in -----?  
 A.Thailand                B.Australia  
 C.Denmark                D.South Africa
- 96) Bihar State government has approved the 10% quota bill for the Economically Weaker Sections (EWS). Choose the correct answer.  
 A.Yes  
 B.No  
 C.NIL  
 D.None of the above
- 97) Which State became the first to set up a Price Monitoring and Research Unit (PMRU)?  
 A.Gujarat                B.Uttar Pradesh  
 C.Kerala                    D.Karnataka

- 98) Who received the K.Veeramani Award for Social Justice 2018?  
 A. Michael Selvanayagam  
 B. P.S. Krishnan  
 C. Nitish Kumar  
 D. Dhaneswar Sahoo

- 100) Which State declared dolphin as State aquatic animal?  
 A. Himachal Pradesh  
 B. Kerala  
 C. Punjab  
 D. Andhra Pradesh

- 99) When is the International World Cancer Day celebrated?  
 A. February 1    B. February 2  
 C. February 3    D. February 4

### ANSWER Key

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

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