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Must Important Current Affairs for IBPS Clerk Mains 2019

General Bipin Rawat named as country's 1st Chief of Defence Staff

- **Indian Army General Bipin Rawat** named as the country's **first Chief of Defence Staff (CDS)**. The Chief of Defence Staff will be a **4-star General**, the principal military advisor to the defence minister, and will head the new **Department of Military Affairs**.
- The Defence Ministry had also amended the **army, air force and navy rules** by bringing in a new clause that allows the CDS to serve upto a **maximum age of 65 years**.

Atal Bhujal Yojana launched by Government of India

- PM Narendra Modi launched **Atal Bhujal Yojana (ATAL JAL)** which aims to **improve groundwater management**. The scheme has been designed with the principal **objective** of strengthening the institutional framework for **participatory groundwater management**.
- It aims to bring behavioral changes at the community level for sustainable groundwater resource management in **7 States: Gujarat, Haryana, Karnataka, Madhya Pradesh, Maharashtra, Rajasthan and Uttar Pradesh**. Govt. has outlaid **Rs. 6000 crore for the scheme**. Out of the total outlay of Rs. 6000 crore to be implemented over a period of 5 years (**2020-21 to 2024-25**), **50%** shall be in the form of **World Bank loan**, and to be repaid by the Central Government.

Nadal and Barty named 2019 ITF World Champions

- **Ashleigh Barty** and **Rafael Nadal** were named **International Tennis Federation's (ITF) World Champions** in singles for 2019.

CATEGORY	WINNERS
Men Singles	Rafael Nadal (Spain)
Women Singles	Ashleigh Barty (Australia)
Women Doubles	Timea Babos (Hungary) and Kristina Mladenovic (France)
Men Doubles	Juan Sebastian Cabal and Robert Farah (Colombia)
Men's Wheelchair	Gustavo Fernandez (Argentina)
Women's Wheelchair	Diede de Groot (Netherland)
Quad	Dylan Alcott (Australia)

Tamil Nadu tops 'Good Governance Index'

- The Central Government has released the **"Good Governance Index"** on the occasion of **Good Governance Day (25th December)** to assess the state of governance in **Indian States and Union Territories**. The Index was **launched** by the **Department of Administrative Reforms and Public Grievances**, and the Centre for Good Governance.
- The GGI takes into consideration ten sectors. These ten Governance Sectors are measured on total **50 indicators**. The 10 sectors are: **Agriculture and Allied Sectors; Commerce & Industries; Human Resource Development; Public Health; Public Infrastructure & Utilities; Economic Governance; Social Welfare & Development; Judicial & Public Security; Environment; Citizen-Centric Governance**.
- Among the **"Big States"**, **Tamil Nadu topped** the Good Governance Index. The poor performers are Odisha, Bihar, Goa, and Uttar Pradesh with Jharkhand finishing last in the group.
- Among the **"North-East and Hill States"**, **Himachal Pradesh topped** the index. The worst performers in this group are Jammu and Kashmir, Manipur, Meghalaya, Nagaland, with Arunachal Pradesh finishing last in the group.
- Among the **"Union Territories"**, **Puducherry topped** the index followed by Chandigarh and Delhi. Lakshwadeep is the worst performing UT.

RBI caps lending on P2P platforms at Rs 50 lakh

- RBI capped the **permissible exposure limit** of a lender on a **Peer-to-Peer lending (P2P)** platform for all borrowers. The aggregate exposure has been set at **Rs 50 lakh** at any given point of time. The step has been taken to protect the consumer's interest.
- The central bank also stated that the **"Escrow accounts"** to be operated by bank promoted trustee for transfer of funds need not be mandatorily maintained with the bank which has promoted the trustee.

Kamareddy wins UNICEF-2019 Award for Swachh Bharat implementation

- **Kamareddy** district of **Telangana** has secured the **United Nations International Children's and Education Fund (UNICEF)-2019 Award** for effective implementation of Swachh Bharat Mission in **water sanitation and hygiene sectors**.
- **Kamareddy** district was on top in the country among other districts in construction of individual **sanitary lavatories, swachh darpan wall paintings, swachh survekshan, swachh sundar shouchalay** and many other activities.

Sahitya Akademi award 2019 released

- **Sahitya Akademi** announced its annual **Sahitya Akademi Awards** in 23 languages. Seven books of poetry, four of the novel, six of short stories, three of essays and one each of non-fiction, autobiography and biography have won the Sahitya Akademi Awards 2019.
- This time, the awards for the Nepali language will be announced later.

RBI to buy and sell govt bonds worth Rs 10,000 crore

- RBI will simultaneously purchase and sell government securities worth **Rs 10,000 crore** under a special **Open Market Operation (OMO)**.
- The purchase will be for government securities worth Rs 10,000 crore for the instrument '6.45 per cent GS 2029'.

Lt Gen Manoj Mukund New Army Chief

- Lt Gen **Manoj Mukund Naravane** is the new Chief of Army Staff of India. He is currently serving as Vice Chief of the Army. Lt Gen Naravane succeeds **Gen Bipin Rawat**, who retires in December.

India slips to 112th place on WEF's Global Gender Gap Report

- **India** has slipped four places to rank **112th globally** as per the **Global Gender Gap Report 2020**. The report was released by World Economic Forum (WEF) headquartered at Geneva.
- **Iceland** has topped the report and remains the world's most gender-neutral country while Yemen was ranked the worst (153rd) in the report. As per report, the most improved countries were Albania, Ethiopia, Mali, Mexico and Spain.

RBI waives NEFT, RTGS transfer charges for savings account holders

- **RBI** has waived **NEFT, RTGS** transfer charges for savings account holders. The new rule effective from January 1st, 2020.

GST Council fixes 28% uniform tax rate for lottery

- The **Goods and Services Tax or GST Council** has fixed a uniform tax rate of **28%** on both state-run and private lottery. It also decided to rationalise the GST rate on **woven and non-woven bags** to **18%**.

India and US sign defence tech transfer pact during 2+2 dialogue

- **India and the US** have signed an agreement to facilitate the transfer of **defence technology**. **During a 2+2**

dialogue held at Washington DC, the top foreign affairs and **defence leaders** on growing strategic relations between the world's largest and most powerful democracies.

- India has bought weapons worth more than **\$15 billion from the United States** over the past decade as it seeks to replace its **Russian-origin military and is in talks for helicopters**, armed drones and a bigger Indian plan for local production of combat planes together worth billions of dollars.

HDFC Bank crosses \$100 billion market capitalisation

- **HDFC Bank** has become the 3rd Indian firm to cross **\$100 billion** mark in market capitalisation.
- HDFC Bank has joined the league of Reliance Industries Ltd, which has a market cap of **\$140.74 billion**, and Tata Consultancy Services (TCS) that has a market cap of \$114.60 billion.

India among top 10 countries with higher climate performance

- **India** has been ranked **9th** in 2019's **Climate Change Performance Index (CCPI)** at the **COP25** climate summit in the Spanish capital **Madrid**. The index is jointly presented by **Germanwatch, NewClimate Institute** and **Climate Action Network**.
- The authors of the report noted that the **first three places** of the ranking remain **unoccupied**.

India ranks 129th in Human Development Index 2019

- **The Human Development Index** measures average achievement of the countries in **3 basic dimensions** of human development i.e. **life expectancy, education and per capita income**. The index is released by the **United Nations Development Programme (UNDP)**.
- **India** has been ranked **129th** among 189 countries in the Human Development Index 2019. **Norway, Switzerland, Ireland** occupied the **top three positions** in the index.

ISRO launches earth observation satellite "RISAT-2BR1"

- **ISRO** launch its earth observation satellite **"RISAT-2BR1"** on **PSLV-C48** from the First Launch Pad (FLP) of Satish Dhawan Space Centre, **Sriharikota**.
- **RISAT-2BR1** is a **Radar imaging earth observation satellite** weighing about 628 kg and will be placed into an orbit of 576 km at an inclination of 37 degrees. **PSLV-C48** is the 50th mission of PSLV and will also **carry 9 customer satellites** of Israel, Italy, Japan and USA as co-passengers.

Greta Thunberg named Time Person of the Year for 2019

Sweden's **Greta Thunberg** has been named as **Time magazine's Person of the Year for 2019**. Greta Thunberg is the Swedish schoolgirl who inspired a global movement to fight climate change and became popular with the "#FridaysForFuture".

S. No.	Name	Profession	Category
1	Greta Thunberg	Climate activist	Person of the Year
2	Bob Iger	Chairman and CEO of The Walt Disney Company	Businessperson of the Year
3	The Public Servants	Federal workers of the US	Guardians of the Year
4	United States women's national soccer team	Women's Soccer	Athlete of the Year
5	Melissa Jefferson (Lizzo)	Singer	Entertainer of the Year

Forbes releases the list 'The World's 100 Most Powerful Women'

Finance Minister **Nirmala Sitharaman** has been ranked 34th by Forbes in 'The World's 100 Most Powerful Women'. HCL Corporation CEO and Executive Director **Roshni Nadar Malhotra** and Biocon Founder **Kiran Mazumdar Shaw** are two other Indians who also featured in the above list.

This list topped by **German Chancellor Angela Merkel**, followed by **President of the European Central Bank Christine Lagarde** in the 2nd spot

Nobel Prize Winners 2019

- The **Nobel Prize 2019** were announced recently in 6 different fields viz. Physiology or Medicine, Physics, Chemistry, Literature, Peace, and Economic Sciences. The Nobel Prize distribution was first done on 1901. The winners will receive a full cash prize, valued this year at 9-million kronor (\$918,000), a gold medal and a diploma.

S. No.	Field	Winners	Description	Associated With
1	Physiology or Medicine	William G. Kaelin (USA)	for their discoveries of how cells sense and adapt to oxygen availability	Harvard Medical School
		Sir Peter J. Ratcliffe (United Kingdom)		University of Oxford
		Gregg L. Semenza (USA)		Johns Hopkins University
2	Physics	James Peebles (Canada)	for theoretical discoveries in physical cosmology	Princeton University
		Michel Mayor (Switzerland)	for the discovery of an exoplanet orbiting a solar-type star	University of Geneva
		Didier Queloz (Switzerland)		University of Geneva
3	Chemistry	John B. Goodenough (Germany)	for the development of lithium-ion batteries	University of Texas
		M. Stanley Whittingham (United Kingdom)		Binghamton University
		Akira Yoshino (Japan)		Asahi Kasei Corporation
4	Literature (2018)	Olga Tokarczuk (Poland)	for a narrative imagination that with encyclopedic passion represents the crossing of boundaries as a form of life	
	Literature (2019)	Peter Handke (Austria)	for an influential work that with linguistic ingenuity has explored the periphery and the specificity of human experience	

S. No.	Field	Winners	Description	Associated With
5	Peace	Abiy Ahmed Ali (Ethiopia)	for his efforts to achieve peace and international cooperation	Prime Minister of Ethiopia
6	Economics	Abhijit Banerjee (India)	for their experimental approach to alleviating global poverty	Massachusetts Institute of Technology
		Esther Duflo (France)		Massachusetts Institute of Technology
		Michael Kremer (USA)		Harvard University

RBI keeps the repo rate unchanged at 5.15% in 5th Bi-Monthly Monetary Policy

- In its **5th Bi-monthly Monetary Policy Committee** meeting, the Reserve Bank of India has decided to keep the policy repo rate unchanged to **5.15%**.
- The MPC has also decided to maintain the accommodative stance of monetary policy to revive growth, while ensuring that inflation remains within the target.
- The main decisions taken in the 5th Bi-Monthly Monetary Policy Committee meeting are:
- The repo rate under the **liquidity adjustment facility (LAF)** left unchanged to **5.15%**.
- The reverse repo rate under the LAF stands same i.e. **4.90%**.
- The marginal standing facility (MSF) rate and the Bank Rate also remains same i.e. **5.40%**.
- RBI has also reduced the real **GDP growth** for 2019-20 from **6.1% to 5%**.

RBI releases “Guidelines for ‘on tap’ Licensing of SFB in the Private Sector”

- RBI released **guidelines for ‘on tap’ Licensing of Small Finance Banks in the Private Sector**.
- Now payments banks willing to convert themselves into **small finance banks (SFBs)** can apply for such a licence only **after 5 years of operations**.
- Existing payments banks (PBs), which are controlled by residents and have completed five years of operations, are also eligible for conversion into small finance banks after complying with all legal and regulatory requirements of various authorities and if they conform to these guidelines.
- The licensing window will be open on-tap. The minimum capital for setting up an SFB has been mandated at **₹200 crores**, adding for primary (urban) co-operative banks (UCBs), which wish to become SFBs, the initial requirement of net worth will be **₹100 crores**, which will have to be increased to ₹200 crores within five years from the date of commencement of business.
- SFBs** will be given scheduled bank status immediately upon commencement of operations.

NEFT transactions to be made 24x7 from 16th December

- RBI announced round-the-clock transactions will be allowed **24x7 facility** under the **National Electronic Funds Transfer (NEFT)** system on all days including weekends and holidays from 16th December 2019.
- These transactions after the usual banking hours are set to be automated initiated using **‘Straight Through Processing (STP)’** modes by the banks.
- The existing discipline for crediting the beneficiary’s account or returning the transaction within 2 hours of settlement to the originating bank will also continue.
- Member banks are also advised to initiate necessary action and ensure availability of all necessary infrastructural requirements at their end for providing seamless **NEFT 24x7** facility to their customers.

India becomes 1st country to make entire Haj process digital

- India** has become the **1st country** to make the entire process for pilgrims going on **Haj completely digital**.
- An online application, e-visa, Haj mobile app, **‘e-MASIHA’** health facility, **“e-luggage pre-tagging”** providing all information in India itself regarding accommodation and transportation in Mecca and Madina will be provided to 2 lakh Indian Muslims going for Haj in 2020.
- Minority Affairs Minister Mukhtar Abbas Naqvi signed the bilateral annual **Haj 2020 agreement between India and Saudi Arabia with Haj and Umrah Minister of Saudi Arabia**.

Nationwide vaccination drive launched under Mission Indradhanush 2.0

- The centre is launching a nationwide vaccination drive to prevent eight diseases under Intensified **Mission Indradhanush 2.0 across the country**.
- The government’s flagship scheme is aimed at immunizing children under the age of 2 years and pregnant women against 8 vaccine-preventable diseases.
- The IMI covers vaccines for **diphtheria, whooping cough, tetanus, poliomyelitis, tuberculosis, measles, meningitis and Hepatitis B**. Vaccines for **Japanese encephalitis and Hemophilus influenza** are also being provided in selected areas.

- The IMI 2.0 aims to achieve targets of full immunization coverage in 272 districts spread over 27 States. The IMI 2.0 will be carried out between December 2019 and March 2020.

Vice Prez M Venkaiah Naidu launches Bharatiya POSHAN Anthem

- Vice President **M Venkaiah Naidu** launched the 'Bharatiya Poshan Anthem' in New Delhi.
- The aims towards taking the message of making India malnutrition free to all corners of the country.
- The anthem was conceptualised by Union Ministry of Women and Child Development (MoWCD) and has been penned by noted lyricist Prasoon Joshi and sung by Shankar Mahadevan.

Union Budget 2019-20: In a Nutshell

India's first full-time woman Finance Minister **Nirmala Sitharaman** presented the **maiden budget**.

- **Expenditure:** The government proposes to spend **Rs 27,86,349 crore** in 2019.
- **Receipts:** The receipts (other than net borrowings) are expected to increase by **14.2% to Rs 20,82,589 crore**.
- **GDP growth:** The government has assumed a nominal **GDP growth rate of 12%** (i.e., real growth plus inflation) in 2019-20.
- **Deficits:** Revenue deficit is targeted at **2.3% of GDP**. Fiscal deficit is targeted at 3.3% of GDP.
- **Ministry allocations:** Among the top 13 ministries with the highest allocations, the highest percentage increase is observed in the Ministry of Agriculture and Farmers' Welfare (82.9%), followed by Ministry of Petroleum and Natural Gas (32.1%) and Ministry of Railways (23.4%).
- **Surcharge on income tax:** Currently, a surcharge of 15% is levied on the income of individuals earning over one crore rupees, and 10% on income of individuals earning between Rs 50 lakh and one crore rupees. In the Union Budget 2019-20, the surcharge on income tax for individuals earning between two crore rupees and five crore rupees has been increased to 25% and for persons earning over five crore rupees has been increased to 37%.
- **Corporation tax:** Currently, companies with annual turnover of less than **Rs 250 crore pay corporate income tax at the rate of 25%**. This threshold has been increased to **Rs 400 crore**.
- **Tax on cash withdrawals:** A TDS of **2%** will be levied by financial companies and post offices on individuals for cash withdrawals exceeding one crore rupees in a year from a bank account.
- **Tax exemption for affordable housing:** An additional tax deduction of up to Rs 1,50,000 will be provided on interest paid on loans for self-occupied house owners. The conditions for availing this deduction are: (i) the loan must be sanctioned in FY 2019-20, (ii) the stamp duty on the house should not exceed Rs 45 lakh rupees, and (iii) the individual should not own another residential house property as of the date of the home loan.

- **Tax exemptions for electric vehicles:** A tax deduction of up to **Rs 1,50,000** will be provided on interest paid on loans to purchase an electric vehicle. This deduction will be applicable for loans sanctioned between FY 2019-20 and FY 2022-23.
- **Road and infrastructure cess:** The Road and Infrastructure Cess on petrol and high-speed diesel has been increased by one rupee per litre. Excise duty has also been increased by one rupee per litre for these products.
- **Customs duty:** The customs duty on gold and precious metals will be increased from **10% to 12.5%**.
- **Banking and Finance:** The government plans to partially guarantee (for first 10% of loss) Public Sector Banks for funds provided in a pooled manner to NBFCs.
- **Government borrowings:** Currently, the gross borrowing programme of the government is funded entirely through domestic borrowings. The government plans to raise a part of its borrowings abroad in foreign currency.
- **Infrastructure:** The central government will invest **Rs 100 lakh crore in infrastructure** over the next five years. Phase II of the Bharatmala project will be launched under which state highways will be developed. Public private partnerships will be leveraged for railways to attract an investment of Rs 50 lakh crore during the period 2018-30. A blue print will be made for developing gas-grids, water-grids, i-ways (communication networks) and regional airports on the lines of the One Nation-One Grid for power. Structural reforms in the power sector (including tariff) will be announced.
- **Industry:** The minimum public shareholding in listed companies will be increased from **25% to 35%**. A new electronic fund raising platform will be created for listing social enterprises and voluntary organisations. The present policy of 51% stake of government in non-financial PSUs will be modified to include stake of government controlled institutions.
- **Investments:** 100% Foreign Direct Investment (FDI) will be permitted for insurance intermediaries. Local sourcing norms will be eased for FDI in the single brand retail sector. Further, relaxing of the FDI norms in aviation, media and insurance sectors will be examined. Statutory limit for Foreign Portfolio Investment will be increased from the current 24% to sectorial limits. Foreign shareholding limits in PSUs will be increased to the maximum permissible sectorial limit.
- **Agriculture and allied activities:** **Pradhan Mantri Matsya Sampada Yojana** has been proposed to address infrastructure gaps in the fisheries sector. 10,000 new Farmer Producer Organisations will be setup over the next five years. The central government will work towards adoption of zero-budget farming.

Economic Survey 2018-19: Important Highlights

Key Highlights of Economic Survey 2018-19

Guided by the dictum of "**blue-sky thinking**", the Economic Survey underscored the ambitious agenda of applying principles of behavioural economics to achieve 8 percent of sustained GDP growth to make India a **\$5-trillion economy by 2024-25**.

The government has estimated gross domestic product growth of **7% for the fiscal year 2019-2020**. The theme of the Economic Survey 2019 is about enabling a "**shifting of gears**".

Here are the key highlights from the Economic Survey:

- Survey sees Financial Year **2020 GDP growth at 7%**, higher growth on stables macros.
- India needs to grow at **8% per year to be \$5 trillion economy by Financial Year 2025**.
- The survey suggests diplomatic type privileges, naming roads for top taxpayers.
- Investment the "key driver" of simultaneous growth in demand, jobs, exports, and productivity.
- Green shoots in investment activity seems to taking hold.
- Rural wage growth started increasing since **mid-2018**.
- Political stability should push the animal spirits of the economy.
- Poor enforcement of contracts and dispute resolution is a big hurdle. A faster legal process should be the top priority.
- Savings and growth are positively co-related. Savings must increase more than investment.
- Survey argues that nudging behaviour change is the simplest way to solve many social issues.
- Top policymakers must ensure actions are predictable. Policymaking needs: 1. Clear Vision 2. Strategic blueprint 3. Tactical tools for constant recalibration.
- The success of **MGNREGS shows govt.** schemes can make a difference on the ground with skillful use of technology.
- A minimum wage policy for the bottom rung of wage earners to drive up demand and strengthening the middle class.
- Indian MSMEs need to be freed from shackles that convert them into dwarfs. MSMEs need to be seen as a source of innovation, growth and job creation. Policies should be reoriented for MSMEs growth, create greater profits for their owners and contribute to job creation and productivity in the economy.
- India needs to increase per capita energy consumption to raise real per capita **GDP by US\$ 5000 and improve its HDI ranking**.
- The Survey is inspired by Gandhiji's Talisman: "...Recall the face of the poorest man [woman], and ask yourself, if the step you contemplate is going to be of any use to him [her].
- India will enjoy the "demographic dividend" phase in the next two decades but some states will start transitioning to an aging society by the 2030s.

- **Rural Development:** Under the Pradhan Mantri Gram Sadak Yojana, 1.25 lakh km of road will be upgraded at an estimated cost of Rs 80,250 crore in the next five years. 100 new clusters will be setup under the Scheme of Fund for Upgradation and Regeneration of Traditional Industries (SFURTI). All rural households will be provided with piped water supply by 2024 under the Jal Jeevan Mission. Swachh Bharat Mission will be expanded to undertake solid waste management in every village.
- **Social Justice: An overdraft of Rs 5,000** will be provided to women self-help group (SHG) members who hold Jan-Dhan accounts. Further, a loan up to one lakh rupees will be provided under the MUDRA scheme to one woman in every SHG.
- **Social Security:** A new pension benefit scheme, namely Pradhan Mantri Karam Yogi Maandhan Scheme, has been announced for traders and small shopkeepers with annual turnover of less than Rs 1.5 crore.
- **Education:** The new National Education Policy will be introduced. The National Research Foundation will be setup to promote funding and coordinate research in the country. A Study in India programme will be launched to encourage foreign students in higher education.

Budget Allocation at a Glance:

- Rs. 60,000 crores MGNREGA (Under PM Gram Sadak Yojana)
- Rs. 45,880 crores Road Works
- Rs. 12,644 crores Swachh Bharat Mission
- Rs. 75,000 crores PM Kisaan Samman Nidhi
- Rs. 65,587 crores Railways
- Rs. 7.23 crores Mudra Yojana
- Rs. 3.18 lakh crores Defence Budget
- Rs. 38,547 crores National Education Mission
- Rs. 33,651 crores National Health Mission
- Rs. 27,584 crores Integrated Child Development Services'
- Rs. 25,853 crores Pradhan Mantri Awas Yojana (rural + urban)
- Rs. 19,000 crores Pradhan Mantri Gram Sadak Yojana
- Rs. 14,000 crores Pradhan Mantri Fasal Bima Yojana
- Rs. 13,750 crores AMRUT and Smart Cities Mission
- Rs. 12,644 crores Swachh Bharat Mission (rural + urban)
- Rs. 12,561 crores Green Revolution
- Rs. 11,000 crores Mid-Day Meal Programme
- Rs. 10,001 crores National Rural Drinking Water Mission
- Rs. 9,774 crores National Livelihood Mission
- Rs. 9,682 crores Pradhan Mantri Krishi Sinchai Yojana
- Rs. 70,000 crores Public Sector Banks

- India moving forward from **Swachh Bharat to Swasth and Sundar Bharat.**
- Investment rate seems to have bottomed out.
- Govt stands by the fiscal consolidation path.
- Jan-March economic slowdown due to poll-related activity.
- NBFC stress reason for **Financial Year 2019 slowdown.**
- Decline in **NPA's should push up CAPEX cycle.**
- The general fiscal deficit is seen at **5.8% in Financial Year 2019 Vs. 6.4%** in Financial Year 2018.
- Investment rate seen higher in Financial Year 2020 on improved demand.
- Oil prices are seen declining in Financial Year 2020.
- Accommodative MPC policy to help cut real lending rates.
- From 'Beti Bachao Beti Padhao' to 'BADLAV' (Beti Aapki Dhan Lakshmi Aur Vijay Lakshmi).
- From 'Give it up' for the LPG subsidy to 'Think about the Subsidy'.
- From 'Tax evasion' to 'Tax compliance'.

Union Cabinet Ministers Portfolio 2019

Modi took oath as the PM for a second consecutive term. **57 other members** of the Council of Ministers also took the oath. A total of 24 Cabinet Ministers took oath followed by nine Ministers of State (Independent Charge) and 24 Ministers of State. Here's the full list of the Union Council of Ministers and their portfolios, under the Modi Government 2.0.

- **Narendra Modi** - Personnel, Public Grievances and Pensions; Department of Atomic Energy; Department of Space; all important policy issues; and all other portfolios not allocated to any minister.

Cabinet Ministers

- **Rajnath Singh**- Defence (**Lucknow, Uttar Pradesh**)
- **Amit Shah** - Home Affairs (**Gandhinagar, Gujarat**)
- **Nirmala Sitharaman** - Finance; Corporate Affairs (**Rajya Sabha, Karnataka**)
- **Subrahmanyam Jaishankar** - External Affairs (**Rajya Sabha, Gujarat**)
- **Nitin Gadkari** - Road Transport and Highways; Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises (**Nagpur, Maharashtra**)
- **DV Sadananda Gowda** - Chemical and Fertilizers (**North Bengaluru, Karnataka**)
- **Ram Vilas Paswan** - Consumer Affairs, Food and Public Distribution (**Rajya Sabha, Bihar**)
- **Narendra Singh Tomar** - Agriculture and Farmers Welfare; Rural Development; Panchayati Raj (**Murena, Madhya Pradesh**)
- **Ravi Shankar Prasad** - Law and Justice; Communications; Electronics and Information Technology (**Patna Sahib, Bihar**)
- **Harsimrat Kaur Badal** - Food Processing Industries (**Bhatinda, Punjab**)
- **Thawarchand Gehlot** - Social Justice and Empowerment (**Rajya Sabha, Madhya Pradesh**)
- **Ramesh Pokhriyal Nishank** - Human Resource Development (**Haridwar, Uttarakhand**)

- **Arjun Munda** - Tribal Affairs (**Khunti, Jharkhand**)
- **Smriti Irani** - Women and Child Development; Textiles (**Amethi, Uttar Pradesh**)
- **Dr. Harsh Vardhan** - Health and Family Welfare; Science and Technology; Earth Sciences (**Chandani Chowk, Delhi**)
- **Prakash Javdekar** - Environment, Forest and Climate Change; Information and **Broadcasting (Rajya Sabha, Maharashtra)**
- **Piyush Goyal** - Railways; Commerce and Industries (**Rajya Sabha, Maharashtra**)
- **Dharmendra Pradhan** - Petroleum and Natural Gas; Steel (**Rajya Sabha, Madhya Pradesh**)
- **Mukhtar Abbas Naqvi** - Minority Affairs (**Rajya Sabha, Jharkhand**)
- **Prahlad Joshi** - Parliamentary Affairs; Coal; Mines (**Dharwad, Karnataka**)
- **Mahendra Nath Pandey** - Skill Development and Entrepreneurship (**Chandauli, Uttar Pradesh**)
- **Arvind Sawant** - Heavy Industries and Public Enterprise (**South Mumbai, Maharashtra**)
- **Giriraj Singh** - Animal Husbandry, Dairying, and Fisheries (**Begusarai, Bihar**)
- **Gajendra Singh Shekhawat** - Jal Shakti (**Jodhpur, Rajasthan**)
- **Ministers of State (Independent Charge)-**
- **Santosh Kumar Gangwar** - Labour and Employment
- **Rao Inderjit Singh** - Statistics and Programme Implementation; Planning
- **Shripad Yesso Naik** - Ayurveda, Yoga and Naturopathy, Unani, Siddha and Homoeopathy (AYUSH); MoS Defence
- **Dr. Jitendra Singh** - Ministry of Development of North Eastern Region; MoS PMO; Personnel, Public Grievances, and Pensions; Department of Atomic Energy; Department of Space
- **Kiren Rijiju** - Youth Affairs and Sports; MoS Minority Affairs
- **Prahalad Singh Patel** - Culture; Tourism
- **Raj Kumar Singh** - Power; New and Renewable Energy; MoS Skill Development and Entrepreneurship
- **Hardeep Singh Puri** - Housing and Urban Affairs; Civil Aviation; MoS Commerce and Industry
- **Mansukh L Mandaviya** - Shipping; MoS Chemicals and Fertilizers

Minister of States (MoS)-

- **Faggansingh Kulaste**- Steel
- **Ashwini Kumar Choubey** - Health and Family Welfare
- **Arjun Ram Meghwal** - Parliamentary Affairs; Heavy Industries and Public Enterprises
- **General (Retd) VK Singh** - Road Transport and Highways
- **Krishan Pal** - Social Justice and Empowerment
- **Danve Raosaheb Dadarao** - Consumer Affairs, Food, and Public Distribution
- **G Kishan Reddy** - Home Affairs
- **Parshottam Rupala** - Agriculture and Farmers Welfare
- **Ramdas Athawale** - Social Justice and Empowerment
- **Sadhvi Niranjana Jyoti** - Rural Development

- **Babul Supriyo** - Environment, Forest and Climate Change
- **Sanjeev Kumar Balyan** - Animal Husbandry, Dairying, and Fisheries
- **Dhotre Sanjay Shamrao** - Human Resource Development; Communications; Electronics and Information Technology
- **Anurag Singh Thakur** - Finance; Corporate Affairs
- **Angadi Suresh Channabasappa** - Railways
- **Nityanand Rai** - Home Affairs
- **Rattan Lal Kataria** - Jal Shakti; Social Justice and Empowerment
- **V Muraleedharan** - External Affairs; Parliamentary Affairs
- **Renuka Singh Saruta** - Tribal Affairs
- **Som Parkash** - Commerce and Industry
- **Rameswar Teli** - Food Processing Industries
- **Pratap Chandra Sarangi** - Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises; Animal Husbandry, Dairying and Fisheries
- **Kailash Choudhary** - Agriculture and Farmers Welfare
- **Debasree Chaudhuri** - Women and Child Development

ISRO Launches CARTOSAT-3

- ✚ India's Polar Satellite Launch Vehicle, **PSLV-C47 Launch Vehicle-XL (PSLV-XL) rocket** carrying advanced earth observation satellite **Cartosat-3** and **13 US nano satellites** lifted off from the second launch pad of the rocket port from Sriharikota.
- ✚ At about 9.28 a.m. the 44.4 meters tall, weighing 320-ton rocket blasted off from the second launch pad at the country's rocket port.
- ✚ According to ISRO, the 1,625 kg Cartosat-3 is an advanced agile satellite to obtain panchromatic and multispectral imagery with an operational life of five years.

Important Points:

- ✚ **PSLV-C47** is the 21st flight of PSLV in the 'XL' configuration (with 6 solid strap-on motors). This will be the 74th launch vehicle mission from Sriharikota.
- ✚ Cartosat-3 satellite is a third-generation agile advanced satellite having high-resolution imaging capability. The satellite will be placed in an orbit of 509 km at an inclination of 97.5 degrees.
- ✚ PSLV-C47 will also carry 13 commercial nanosatellites from the United States of America as part of commercial arrangement with New Space India Limited (NSIL), Department of Space.

Justice SA Bobde takes oath as 47th Chief Justice of India

- ✚ Justice **Sharad Arvind Bobde** took oath as the **47th Chief Justice of India**. Justice Bobde succeeds Justice Ranjan Gogoi, who retired on 17th November.
- ✚ Justice Bobde will have tenure of around 18 months till his retirement on April 23, 2021. He was part of the five-judge constitution bench which delivered the landmark Ayodhya verdict.

Uddhav Thackeray takes oath as Maharashtra CM

- ✚ Shiv Sena Chief and Maha Vikas Aghadi nominee **Uddhav Thackeray** took oath as the Chief Minister of Maharashtra. He is the 19th Chief Minister of Maharashtra.
- ✚ He is the first Thackeray family member to become Maharashtra's CM.

Home Ministry launches campaign to End Violence Against Women

- ✚ The **Home Ministry** in collaboration with the **UN Women** flagged off an awareness campaign To End Violence against Women from Sultanpur metro station in Delhi.
- ✚ The initiative is part of the **#OrangeTheWorld** global campaign.
- ✚ As part of the campaign, people would be made aware about India's single emergency helpline 112.

Parliament passes Jallianwala Bagh National Memorial (Amendment) Bill 2019

- ✚ Parliament has passed the **Jallianwala Bagh National Memorial (Amendment) Bill, 2019**. The Bill seeks to amend the Jallianwala Bagh National Memorial Act, 1951.

Union Cabinet recommends President's rule in Maharashtra Recently

- ✚ **President Ram Nath Kovind** has signed the proclamation imposing **President's rule** in **Maharashtra**. The present-day Maharashtra came into existence on 1st may, 1960 and this was the **3rd time the state has come under the central rule**.
- ✚ President's rule was imposed for the first time in India in the state of Punjab in 1951.
- ✚ The President's rule was imposed for the first time in Maharashtra in 1980 and the second time in 2014.

Sri Lanka becomes 1st South Asian country to call match fixing a crime

- ✚ **Sri Lanka** has become the **first South Asian nation** to bring **match-fixing cases** to the **category of crime** as its parliament passed a bill related to '**Prevention of Offences Related to Sports**'.
- ✚ This new legislation related to match-fixing and corruption will apply to all sports & if a person is found guilty of corruption in the game, he can be punished for up to 10 years and also be required to pay other fines.

Constitution Day of India 2019

- ✦ **Constitution Day or Samvidhan Divas** is celebrated **26 November** cross the country to mark the adopting of the Indian Constitution by the Constituent Assembly on this day in 1949.
- ✦ In 2019, it marks the **70th anniversary of the adoption of the Constitution**.
- ✦ It came into force on 26th January 1950, marking the beginning of a new era in the history of the Indian Republic.

RIL market cap hits 10 lakh crore, a first for an Indian company

- ✦ **Reliance Industries Limited (RIL)** is the first Indian company to cross **Rs.10 lakh in market capitalization (m-cap)**.
- ✦ Tata Consultancy Services (TCS), RIL's closest rival in market capital had a share price of Rs.2,110, 2% lower on BSE and m-cap of Rs.7,71,996.87 crore.

Logo, motto introduced for Lokpal

- ✦ Lokpal Chairman Justice (retired) **Pinaki Chandra Ghose** launched the new **logo and motto** for the apex anti-corruption ombudsman.
- ✦ A new motto, "**Ma Gridhah Kasyasvidhanam (Do not be greedy for anyone's wealth)**", was also adopted.

World Bank's Ease of Doing Business Ranking

- ❖ **World Bank** has released **Ease of Doing business Rankings** which includes **190** countries. As per the rankings, **India** has jumped 14 places and has been ranked at **63rd among 190** countries. **New Zealand** and **Somalia** retained their **1st** and **190th** spot respectively. The indicator measures the performance of countries across **10 different dimensions** in the 12-month period ending **May 1, 2019**.
- ❖ From 2020, the World Bank has expanded its ease of doing business survey to **2 more cities: Bengaluru and Kolkata** in addition to **Delhi** and **Mumbai** that are currently surveyed. The World Bank has decided to have four cities from every country with a population above **100 million**.
- Key findings of the Report:
 - ❖ **India** has become one of the **top 10** most improved countries for the third consecutive time.
 - ❖ The country's **score** improved from 67.3 (in 2018) to **71.0 (in 2019)**, as per The Doing Business 2020 study.
 - ❖ **India** saw the biggest jump in ranking in the "**resolving insolvency**" category from 108th to **52nd** on the back of the government implementing the Insolvency and Bankruptcy Code.
 - ❖ **India's** ranking improved substantially in "**dealing with construction permits**" (from 52nd to **27th**) and "**trading across borders**" (from 80th to **68th**).
 - ❖ **India's** ranking improved in "**registering property**" from 166th to **154th** despite a drop in score.

Crime in India Report 2017 Released

- ❖ **National Crime Records Bureau** has released the annual "**Crime in India Report 2017**". The report has been released after a delay of 2 years. Key findings of the report are:
 - ❖ According to the report, **3.59 lakh** cases of crime against **women** were reported in the country. **Uttar Pradesh** topped the list with 56,011 cases followed by Maharashtra with 31,979 cases and West Bengal 30,002 in cases of crime against women.
 - ❖ Majority of cases under crimes against women were registered under '**Cruelty by Husband or his Relatives**' (27.9%) followed by 'Assault on Women with Intent to Outrage her Modesty' (21.7%), 'Kidnapping & Abduction of Women' (20.5%) and 'Rape' (7.0%).
 - ❖ The NCRB report also cited 58,880 incidents of rioting in 2017. **Maximum incidents** of rioting were reported from **Bihar (11,698)**, followed by Uttar Pradesh (8,990) and Maharashtra (7,743).
 - ❖ The incidents registered under the Scheduled Caste Prevention of Atrocities Act saw an increase from 5,082 incidents reported in 2016 to 5,775 in 2017.
 - ❖ Incidents of crime related to Scheduled Tribes dipped from 844 in 2016 to 720 in 2017.
 - ❖ A total of 95,893 cases of kidnapping and abduction were registered during 2017.
 - ❖ The NCRB for the first time collected data on circulation of "**false/fake news and rumours**". Under the category, maximum incidents were reported from **Madhya Pradesh** (138) followed by Uttar Pradesh (32) and Kerala (18).
 - ❖ Among Union Territories, **Delhi** recorded the most **murder cases** in 2017 at 487.

BPRD releases "Data on Police Organizations (DoPO 2018)"

- ❖ Union Minister of State for **Home Affairs G. Kishan Reddy** has released the Bureau of Police Research and Development's flagship publication "Data on Police Organizations" (DoPO 2018) in New Delhi. The Data on Police Organisation in India is an important compilation of information on police infrastructure, manpower and other resources from all States, Union Territories, CAPFs and CPOs.
- ❖ **Major highlights of the DoPO 2018:**
 - ❖ There has been an increase of **19,686 Police personnel** in the sanctioned strength of the State Police and 16,051 in the strength of CAPFs
 - ❖ There has been 20.95% increase in the strength of Woman Police which brings the total percentage of women in the Indian Police to 8.73%.
 - ❖ The overall Police Population Ratio at the state level stood at 192.95 policemen per lakh population.
 - ❖ Police Stations have increased from **15579 to 16422**. This includes Cyber Police Stations whose number has risen from 84 to 120.
 - ❖ Electronic surveillance has improved with addition of 2,10,278 CCTV Cameras.

India ranked 102 in Global Hunger Index 2019

- ❖ The **2019 Global Hunger Index (GHI)** indicates that the level of hunger and under nutrition worldwide falls into the serious category. As per the index, India ranks **102nd out of 117** qualifying countries, with a score of **30.3**.
- ❖ There were only four countries in the alarming hunger category are **Madagascar, Chad, Yemen and the Central African Republic** in the extremely alarming hunger category.

India wins four UNESCO heritage awards

- ❖ The **UNESCO Asia-Pacific Awards for Cultural Heritage Conservation awards** were announced at a ceremony held in Penang, Malaysia. 4 heritage landmarks from India were chosen for the UNESCO Asia-Pacific Awards for Cultural Heritage Conservation 2019.
- ❖ Renewal of Tai Kwun Centre for Heritage and Arts in Hong Kong received the Award of Excellence, which is the highest award among all categories.

IMF cuts World and India growth rates

- ❖ The **World Bank-International Monetary Fund (IMF)** annual meetings kicked off on a somber note, with the IMF downgrading global growth in 2019 to 3%, the slowest since the global financial crisis.
- ❖ India's growth projections have also been downgraded to **6.1% and 7.0% in 2019 and 2020** respectively. The IMF projected the **U.S.** would grow at **2.4% and 2.1% in 2019 and 2020** respectively. For **China**, growth was projected to grow at **6.1% and 5.8% in 2019 and 2020**.

NITI Aayog launches India Innovation Index 2019

- ❖ **NITI Aayog** with Institute for Competitiveness as the knowledge partner released the India Innovation Index (III) 2019. **Karnataka** is the most innovative major state in India.
- ❖ **Tamil Nadu, Maharashtra, Telangana, Haryana, Kerala, Uttar Pradesh, West Bengal, Gujarat, and Andhra Pradesh** form the remaining top ten major states respectively.
- ❖ **Sikkim and Delhi** take the top spots among the northeastern & hill states, and union territories/city-states/small states respectively.
- ❖ **Delhi, Karnataka, Maharashtra, Tamil Nadu, Telangana, and Uttar Pradesh** are the most efficient states in translating inputs into output.

WEF's Global Competitiveness Index

- ❖ **World Economic Forum** has released the **Global Competitiveness Index** report. In total, there are **103 indicators distributed** across the **12 pillars** on which the performance of the countries was evaluated.
- ❖ As per the WEF's released report, **India** has moved down 10 places to **rank 68th** on an annual global competitiveness index which was **topped by Singapore**.

Sl. No.	Pillars	Rank
1.	Institutions	59
2.	Infrastructure	70
3.	ICT Adoption	120
4.	Macroeconomic Stability	43
5.	Health	110
6.	Skills	107
7.	Product Market	101
8.	Labour Market	103
9.	Financial System	40
10.	Market Size	03
11.	Business Dynamism	69
12.	Innovation Capability	35

Some Important Cabinet Approvals

- ❖ The Central government has increased the **Dearness Allowance (DA)** of **Central government employees and pensioners** by 5%, which means the dearness allowance has been **increased** from 12% to **17%**. The hike would be effective from **July 2019**. The **cost to the exchequer** will be **Rs 16,000 crore**.
- ❖ The cabinet also approved inclusion of **5,300 families** under the **development package of Jammu & Kashmir**, who initially opted to move outside the state, but later returned and settled in the Jammu & Kashmir. This will enable such development package families to become eligible to get **one-time financial assistance of Rs 5.5 lakh** under the existing scheme.
- ❖ Cabinet has also **relaxed** the **mandatory requirement** of Aadhaar-seeded data as a pre-condition for release of funds to the beneficiaries under the **Pradhan Mantri Kisan Samman Nidhi scheme**. The relaxation will be **till 30th November 2019**.

President Kovind appoints Chief Justices to 7 high courts

- ❖ President **Ramnath Kovind** appoints Chief Justices to seven high courts.

Name	High court
Lingappa Narayana Swamy	Himachal Pradesh High Court
Ravi Shanker Jha	Punjab and Haryana High Court
Indrajit Mohanty	Rajasthan High Court
J.K. Maheshwari	Andhra Pradesh High Court
S. Manikumar	Kerala High Court
Arup K. Goswami	Sikkim High Court
Ajai Lamba	Gauhati High Court

HBR's list of 10 best performing CEOs has 3 Indian-origin CEOs

- ❖ The **Best-Performing CEOs in the World, 2019'** list compiled by the **Harvard Business Review (HBR)** features **100 CEOs**.
- ❖ The list has been **topped** by American technology company **NVIDIA's CEO Jensen Huang**. Among the **top 10 chief executives** on the list, **3 spots** have been occupied by the **Indian-origin CEOs**.
- ❖ **Adobe CEO Shantanu Narayen** was ranked **6th**, followed by **MasterCard CEO Ajay Banga** was ranked **7th** and **Microsoft chief Satya Nadella** on the **9th** spot. The list also features India-born CEO of DBS Bank Piyush Gupta on the 89th spot. Apple CEO Tim Cook was ranked 62nd in the list. The 2019 list has 4 female CEOs in the top 50 of the rankings.

New Governors Appointed in 5 Indian States

- A total of **five governors** have been appointed by President Ram Nath Kovind, including the transfer and appointment of **Kalraj Mishra**.
- **Kalraj Mishra**, the **Governor of Himachal Pradesh**, was transferred and appointed as the **Governor of Rajasthan**. He will replace **Kalyan Singh**.
- Taking over Mishra's role as Himachal governor is former Union minister **Bandaru Dattatreya**.
- Tamil Nadu BJP president **Dr Tamilisai Soundararajan** has been appointed as the Governor of Telangana, replacing **ESL Narasimhan**.
- **Bhagat Singh Koshyari** has been appointed as the new Governor of Maharashtra. Koshyari will replace **Vidyasagar Rao**.
- **Arif Mohammed Khan** has been appointed as the Kerala governor in place of **P Sathasivam**.

US Open 2019: Complete List

- The **2019 US Open** was the **139th edition** of tennis' US Open.

S. No.	Category	Winner	Runner Up
1.	Men's Singles	Rafael Nadal (Spain)	Daniil Medvedev (Russia)
2.	Women's Singles	Bianca Andreescu (Canada)	Serena Williams (USA)
3.	Men's Doubles	J.S. Cabal (Colombia) and R. Farah (Colombia)	M. Granollers (Spain) and H. Zeballos (Argentina)
4.	Women's Doubles	E. Mertens (Belgium) and A. Sabalenka (Belarus)	V. Azarenka (Belarus) and A. Barty (Australia)
5.	Mixed Doubles	B. Mattek-Sands (USA) and J. Murray (U.K)	H. Chan (Taipei) and M. Venus (New Zealand)

20th Edition of IIFA Awards 2019 in Mumbai

- The 20th Edition of NEXA International Indian Film Academy Awards (IIFA Awards) for 2019 was held at Sardar Vallabhbhai Patel Indoor Stadium in Mumbai.

Sl. No.	Category	Winners
1.	Best Film	Raazi
2.	Best Actor in a leading role (Female)	Alia Bhatt (Raazi)
3.	Best Actor in a leading role (Male)	Ranveer Singh (Padmaavat)
4.	Best Actor In Supporting Role (Female)	Aditi Rao Hydari (Padmaavat)
5.	Best Actor In Supporting Role (Male)	Vicky Kaushal (Sanju)
6.	Best Director	Sriram Raghavan (Andhadhun)
7.	Best Playback Singer (Male)	Arijit Singh (Ae Watan from Raazi)
8.	Best Playback Singer (Female)	Harshdeep Kaur and Vibha Saraf for Dilbaro (Raazi)
9.	Best Music	Sonu Ke Titu Ki Sweety

Sl. No.	Category	Winners
10.	Lifetime Achievement Award	Legendary actor and comedian Jagdeep Jaffery
11.	Best Debut Award (Female)	Sara Ali Khan (Kedarnath)
12.	Best Debut Award (Male)	Ishaan Khatter (Dhadak)
13.	20 Years Best Actor (Female)	Deepika Padukone
14.	Outstanding performance by a director in the last 20 years	Rajkumar Hirani (Sanju)
15.	20 Years Best Actor (Male)	Ranbir Kapoor
16.	Best music in the last 20 years	Pritam
17.	Best film of the past 20 years	Kaho Na Pyaar Hai

71st Emmy Awards 2019 Declared

➤ The 71st annual primetime Emmy Awards honours handed out at the Microsoft Theater in Los Angeles.

Sl. No.	Category	Winner
1.	OUTSTANDING DRAMA SERIES	Game of Thrones (HBO)
2.	OUTSTANDING COMEDY SERIES	Fleabag (Amazon)
3.	LEAD ACTOR, DRAMA	Billy Porter, Pose
4.	LEAD ACTRESS, DRAMA	Jodie Comer, Killing Eve
5.	LEAD ACTOR, COMEDY	Bill Hader, Barry
6.	LEAD ACTRESS, COMEDY	Phoebe Waller-Bridge, Fleabag
7.	SUPPORTING ACTOR, DRAMA	Peter Dinklage, Game of Thrones
8.	SUPPORTING ACTRESS, DRAMA	Julia Garner, Ozark
9.	SUPPORTING ACTOR, COMEDY	Tony Shalhoub, The Marvelous Mrs Maisel
10.	SUPPORTING ACTRESS, COMEDY	Alex Borstein, The Marvelous Mrs Maisel
11.	OUTSTANDING LIMITED SERIES	Chernobyl (HBO)
12.	OUTSTANDING TELEVISION MOVIE	Black Mirror: Bandersnatch (Netflix)
13.	LEAD ACTOR, LIMITED SERIES OR MOVIE	Jharrel Jerome, When They See Us
14.	LEAD ACTRESS, LIMITED SERIES OR MOVIE	Michelle Williams, Fosse/Verdon
15.	SUPPORTING ACTOR, LIMITED SERIES OR MOVIE	Ben Whishaw, A Very English Scandal
16.	SUPPORTING ACTRESS, LIMITED SERIES OR MOVIE	Patricia Arquette, The Act
17.	COMPETITION PROGRAM	RuPaul's Drag Race
18.	VARIETY SKETCH SERIES	Saturday Night Live

FIFA Football Awards 2019

➤ The "Best FIFA Football Awards 2019" felicitated in Milan. Barcelona's **Lionel Messi** won the best men's player at the Best Fifa Football Awards in Milan. It is the 6th time Messi has been voted the world's best men's player after winning it in 2009, 2010, 2011, 2012 and 2015.

- **The complete list of awards is as follows:**
- Best Men's Player Award: Lionel Messi
- Best Women's Player Award: Megan Rapinoe
- Men's Coach of the Year: Jurgen Klopp
- Women's Coach of the Year: Jill Ellis
- Best Men's Goalkeeper: Alisson

- Best Women's Goalkeeper: Sari van Veenendaal
- Fair Play Award: Marcelo Bielsa and the Leeds United squad
- Puskas Award for the Best Goal: Daniel Zsori
- FIFA Fan Award: Silvia Grecco

Government announces Mega Merger of Public Sector Banks

- Union Finance Minister **Nirmala Sitharaman** has announced a **big consolidation of public sector banks**. Under the scheme of amalgamation, **10 public sector banks** are to be merged **into four banks**. After the amalgamation, the total number of Public Sector Banks in the country will come down to 12 from 27 banks.

- **The amalgamation of banks will be in the following manner:**
 - ✚ Punjab National Bank, Oriental Bank of Commerce and United Bank of India to be merged into one single bank, with business of Rs 7.95 trillion to make **India's 2nd largest bank.**
 - ✚ Canara Bank and Syndicate Bank are to be merged to become the **4th largest public sector bank** with business of Rs 15.2 lakh crore.
 - ✚ Union Bank of India, Andhra Bank and Corporation Bank are to be merged to become the **5th largest public sector bank** with business of Rs 14.6 lakh crore.
 - ✚ Indian Bank will be merged with Allahabad Bank to become the **7th largest public sector bank** with business of Rs 8.08 lakh crore.
- The government has also announced capital infusion of over **Rs 55,000 crores** into public sector banks:
 - ✚ PNB (Rs 16,000 crore),
 - ✚ Union Bank of India (Rs 11,700 crore),
 - ✚ Bank of Baroda (Rs 7000 crore),
 - ✚ Indian Bank (Rs 2500 crore),
 - ✚ Indian Overseas Bank (Rs 3800 crore),
 - ✚ Central Bank (Rs 3300 crore),
 - ✚ UCO Bank (Rs 2100 crore),
 - ✚ United Bank (Rs 1600 crore) and
 - ✚ Punjab and Sind Bank (Rs 750 crore).

66th National Film Awards

- The **66th National Film awards** have been announced by **Rahul Rawail**, head of the **Jury for feature films**. The Jury unanimously conferred the **award for the Most Film Friendly State** to **“Uttarakhand”** for furthering the growth of the film industry in the state including creating an environment for ease of filming in the state.

Sr. No.	Category	Winner
1	Best Feature Film	Hellaro (Gujarati Film)
2	Best non feature film	Son Rise by Vibha Bakshi and The Secret Life of Frogs by Ajay and Vijay Bedi
3	Best Director	Adhitya Dhar for Uri : The Surgical Strike
4	Best Actor	Ayushmann Khuranna for Andhadhun and Vicky Kaushal for Uri : The Surgical Strike
5	Best Actress	Keerthy Suresh for Mahanati
6	Best Supporting Actor	Swanand Kirkire for Chumbhak
7	Best supporting actress	Surekha Sikri for Badhaai Ho
8	Best Action Direction	KGF Chapter I
9	Best Choreography	Padmaavat for Ghumar
10	Best Cinematography	MJ Radhakrishnan for Olu (Malayalam)
11	Best Educational Film	Sarala Virala
12	Best Popular Film	Badhaai Ho
13	Best film on Environment issues	Paani
14	Best Debut Film of a Director	Naal (Marathi)
15	Best Film for National Integration	Ondalla Eradalla (Kannada)
16	Best film on Social Issues	Padman
17	Best Child artist	P V Rohith (Kannada), Sameep Singh (Punjabi), Talha Arshad Reshi (Urdu) and Shrinivas Pokale (Marathi)
18	Best Children’s Film	Sarkari Area Prathamika Shaale Kasaragod
19	Best Special Effects	KGF
20	Special Jury Award	Sruthi Hariharan, Joju George for Joseph, Savithri for Sudani From Nigeria, Chandrachood Rai
21	Best Film on Environment Conservation/Preservation	Paani
22	Best Lyrics	Nathichirami (Kannada)
23	Best Music Direction (Songs)	Sanjay Leela Bhansali for Padmaavat
24	Best Music Direction (Background score)	Uri : The Surgical Strike

Sr. No.	Category	Winner
25	Best Sound Design	Uri : The Surgical Strike
26	Best Female playback Singer	Bindu for Mayavi Manave (Kannada)
27	Best Male Playback Singer	Arijit Singh for Bhinte Dhill
28	Best Original Screenplay	Chi La Sow
29	Best Adapted Screenplay	Andhadhun
30	Best Dialogues	Tariqh

Ravish Kumar wins Ramon Magsaysay award 2019

- Indian journalist **Ravish Kumar** has been awarded the **2019 Ramon Magsaysay Award** for “**harnessing journalism to give voice to the voiceless**”.
- The **Magsaysay award** was **started in 1957** and celebrates the memory and leadership example of the **former Philippine president Ramon del Fierro Magsaysay**. It is given every year to **individuals or organisations in Asia** who manifest the same **selfless service and transformative influence** that ruled the life of the late and beloved Filipino leader. Ramon Magsaysay Award is **regarded as the Asian version of the Nobel Prize**.
- The **other winners** of the award are:
- **Ko Swe Win (Myanmar)**: He is a **human rights defender** and the **chief editor** of Myanmar Now news agency.
- **Angkhana Neelapajit (Thailand)** is **human rights activist** and a leading human rights defender in Southern Thailand.
- **Raymundo Pujante Cayabyab (Philippines)** is a **musician** who has served in the music faculty of the University of the Philippines and has conducted free workshops for thousands of students all across the country.
- **Kim Jong-Ki (South Korea)** is an **activist working with violence and mental health issues** in youth and a South Korean agrarian movement leader who pioneered wasteland cultivation, and strove to demonstrate through his work that life as a farmer can be fulfilling and productive.

India slips to 7th largest economy in 2018

- According to the World Bank, **India** has been pushed to the **7th place** in the global **GDP rankings** in 2018. In 2017, India had emerged as the 6th largest economy.
- The **US** remains the top economy with a GDP of \$20.5 trillion in 2018. **China** was the 2nd largest economy with \$13.6 trillion, while **Japan** took the 3rd place with \$5 trillion. India’s GDP was at \$2.7 trillion in 2018, while UK and France were at \$2.8 trillion. India still remains **the fastest-growing major economy in the world**.

Forbes highest paid actors list 2019

- Bollywood Actor **Akshay Kumar** has made it to the **4th position** on the Forbes magazine’s World’s Highest-Paid Actors Of 2019 list. Akshay has raked in **\$65 million**. Hollywood star Dwayne ‘Rock’ Johnson tops the Forbes list of the 10 highest-paid actors.

 1. Dwayne Johnson (\$89.4 million)
 2. Chris Hemsworth (\$76.4 million)
 3. Robert Downey Jr. (\$66 million)
 4. Akshay Kumar (\$65 million)
 5. Jackie Chan (\$58 million)
 6. Bradley Cooper (\$57 million)
 7. Adam Sandler (\$57 million)
 8. Chris Evans (\$43.5 million)
 9. Paul Rudd (\$41 million)
 10. Will Smith (\$35 million)

Scarlett Johansson tops Forbes highest-paid actresses list

- For the second consecutive year, **Hollywood star Scarlett Johansson** has topped the Forbes’ list of highest-paid female actors in the world. Spurred by the success of her summer Marvel film Avengers: Endgame, the 34-year-old actor’s earning reached **USD 56 million**.

 1. Scarlett Johansson – \$56 million
 2. Sofia Vergara – \$44.1 million
 3. Reese Witherspoon – \$35 million
 4. Nicole Kidman – \$34 million
 5. Jennifer Aniston – \$28 million
 6. Kaley Cuoco – \$25 million
 7. Elisabeth Moss – \$24 million
 8. Margot Robbie- \$23.5 million
 9. Charlize Theron- \$23 million
 10. Ellen Pompeo – \$22 million

RBI to transfer Rs 1.76 lakh crore to government

- The **Reserve Bank of India** has given its approval to transfer a sum of **Rs 1,76,051 crore** to the Government of India, comprising of **Rs 1,23,414 crore** of surplus for the year 2018-19 **and Rs 52,637 crore** of excess provisions identified as per the revised Economic Capital Framework. The decision was taken on the recommendations of the Expert Committee to Review the Extant Economic Capital Framework for RBI. The panel was led by former RBI Governor **Bimala Jalan**.

National Sports Awards 2019

- **Selection Committee for the Sports Awards 2019** was headed by **Justice Mukundakam Sharma**, Retired Judge of Supreme Court.
- Apart from a medal and a citation, Rajiv Gandhi Khel Ratna Awardee will receive a cash prize of Rs. 7.5 lakh. Arjuna, Dronacharya and Dhyani Chand Awardees will receive statuettes, certificates and cash prize of Rs. 5 lakh each. A trophy and citation is given to the entity in the Rashtriya Khel Protsahan Puruskar, 2019. Recipients of Rashtriya Khel Protsahan Puruskar will be given Trophies and certificates. Overall top performing university in inter-university tournaments will be given MAKA Trophy, award money of Rs. 10 lakh and certificate.

Sr. No.	Award	Name	Discipline
1	Rajiv Gandhi Khel Ratna	Sh. Bajrang Punia	Wrestling
2	Rajiv Gandhi Khel Ratna	Ms. Deepa Malik	Para Athletics
3	Dronacharya Award (Regular Category)	Sh. Vimal Kumar	Badminton
4	Dronacharya Award (Regular Category)	Sh. Sandeep Gupta	Table tennis
5	Dronacharya Award (Regular Category)	Sh. Mohinder Singh Dhillon	Athletics
6	Dronacharya Award (Life-Time Category)	Sh. Merzban Patel	Hockey
7	Dronacharya Award (Life-Time Category)	Sh. Rambir Singh Khokhar	Kabaddi
8	Dronacharya Award (life-time category)	Sh. Sanjay Bhardwaj	Cricket

Article 370 and Article 35A revoked from J&K

- A series of historical decisions which includes the scrapping of **Article 370 & Art-35-A** and the introduction of **“J&K Reorganisation Bill 2019”** were taken during the session of Rajya Sabha. **Article 370** was providing special autonomous status to the Indian state **“Jammu & Kashmir”**
- Union Government scrapped **article 370 and 35A in J&K** and introduced a new bill named **“J&K Reorganisation Bill 2019”**.

Prime Minister launches Fit India Movement

- On the occasion of **National Sports Day (29th August)**, Prime Minister **Narendra Modi** has launched the Fit India Movement at the Indira Gandhi Stadium Complex in New Delhi. During the event, PM appealed to the nation to join this fitness movement and make a **‘Fitter & Better India’**.
- The nation-wide Fit India Movement aims to motivate every Indian to incorporate simple, easy ways of staying fit in their everyday life.

Banking Current Affairs

- **RBI** has launched a mobile app “**Mobile Aided Note Identifier (MANI)**” for **visually challenged people**.
- **SBI** will introduce **OTP based ATM cash withdrawals** for every cash withdrawal of **Rs 10,000** and above between 8 am and 8 pm.
- **GoI** approved the release of **Rs 8,655 crore** as fresh capital to three public sector banks: **Allahabad Bank** (Rs 2,153 crore), **Indian Overseas Bank** (Rs 4,630 crore) and **UCO Bank** (Rs 2,142 crore) for preferential allotment of shares.
- **RBI** introduced a new **semi-closed** prepaid payment instrument (**PPI**) which can be used for the transaction of goods and services up to a limit of **Rs 10,000**. The loading facility of the instrument will be linked only from a bank account.
- **RBI** directed **large cooperative banks** to report all exposures of **Rs 5 crore** and more to the **Central Repository of Information on Large Credits (CRILC)** with effect from December 31, 2019. The CRILC was created **RBI**.
- **Google** searches for “**Operation Twist**” surged in India after the central bank announced its version of the **U.S. Federal Reserve’s unconventional monetary policy**. The **Reserve Bank of India** will buy longer-tenor bonds while selling shorter debt. The concept is similar to Operation Twist used by the Fed in 2011-2012 in an effort to cheapen long-term borrowing and spur bank lending.
- **RBI** has imposed a **penalty on 2 online payment solutions providers**: **Mobikwik Systems Private Limited** has been slapped a fine of **Rs 15 lakh** while **Hip Bar Pvt Ltd** faced a fine of **Rs 10.85 lakh**.
- **RBI** has relaxed norms for end-use of money raised through **external commercial borrowings** for corporates as well as liquidity starved non banking lenders.
- The **postal department** has decided to convert the **India Post Payments Bank** into a **small finance bank**.
- **RBI** allowed “**Bank of China**” to offer regular banking services in the country.
- **SBI Shanghai branch** is now connected to **China’s National Advance Payment System (CNAPS)**.
- **RBI** has imposed a collective penalty of **Rs 11 crore on 7 public sector banks** for non-compliance with certain provisions of directions issued by **RBI** on ‘**Code of Conduct for Opening and Operating Current Accounts**’.
- **RBI** has imposed a fine of **Rs 1 crore on Corporation Bank** for non-compliance of norms related to cyber security framework for banks, frauds classification and reporting.
- **RBI** has decided to set up a “**Central Payment Fraud Registry**”. The registry will track frauds in the **payment systems**.
- **SEBI** has approved **Singapore Stock Exchange and National Stock Exchange of India Ltd** to operate jointly in **Gujarat International Finance Tec-City, Gandhinagar**. The two entities will create a new platform for trading called **NSE International Financial Service Centre (IFSC)-SGX Connect**.
- **RBI** will make available the **National Electronic Funds Transfer** system on a **24x7** basis from **December 2019** as per the **Payment System Vision 2021 document**.
- Private sector bank, **RBL Bank** and **digital healthcare platform Practo** have partnered to launch an industry-first co-branded health **credit card**. This credit card is powered by **Mastercard**.
- **The Central government** has rolled out scheme for liquidity support to **NBFCs**. The partial guarantee scheme will allow state-run banks (PSBs) to purchase assets of **NBFCs** and **HFC**. **NBFCs** will be able to sell **20% of standard assets**, worth up to **Rs 5,000 crore**, as on March 31. The Department of Economic Affairs will provide government guarantee of up to 10% of the fair value of assets purchased by a bank from a stressed **NBFC or HFC**.
- **RBI**, the transactions which should not be counted as valid ATM transactions for the customer as the ‘**free ATM transactions**’ includes transactions failed at ATMs due to technical reasons and non-availability of currency in ATMs, and use of ATMs for non-cash withdrawal transactions such as balance enquiry, cheque book request, payment of taxes, funds transfer.
- As per the latest **RBI data**, **India’s forex reserves** has reached the highest ever valuation of **\$430.57 billion**.
- **RBI** has permitted processing of e-mandate on credit and debit cards for recurring transactions (merchant payments). The maximum limit for such a transaction will be **Rs 2,000**.
- **SEBI** has announced a new mechanism to reward insider trading informants to uncover insider trading cases. The reward would be **10%** of the money collected, subject to a **maximum amount of Rs 1 crore**.
- **Bandhan Bank** launched a co-branded credit card in association with **Standard Chartered bank**.
- **Canara Bank** has launched India’s first **OTP facility for ATM withdrawals**. **OTP** facility will be provided on cash withdrawals of above **Rs 10,000** in a day.
- **Indian Bank** has opened **MSME CPC** (centralized Processing Centre) in **Chennai** with an aim to give a boost to the bank’s **MSME portfolio**.
- **IDBI Bank** will introduce two Repo Linked Products - **Suvidha Plus Home Loan** and **Suvidha Plus Auto Loan**.
- The Cabinet has approved a capital infusion of **Rs 4,557 crore** into **IDBI Bank**.
- **Standard Chartered Bank**, a British multinational banking and financial services company has launched a **DigiSmart credit card**.

- The Finance Ministry has introduced a **Code of Conduct** for **non-official directors** of **public sector banks** to improve corporate governance in banks.
- RBI is to implement the idea to develop a mobile application with an aim to help the **visually impaired** people to **identify** currency **notes**. For this, RBI has selected **Daffodil Software Pvt. Ltd.**
- **IPPB** rollout of **Aadhaar Enabled Payment System Services (AePS)**.
- Finance Minister **Nirmala Sitharaman** has announced that Public Sector Banks will organise **'loan melas'** or **"Shamiana meetings"** in **400 districts**.
- **Airtel Payments Bank** launched **"Bharosa savings account"** services, designed for deepening the financial inclusion in the country.
- RBI imposed restrictions on **Punjab and Maharashtra** Co-operative Bank, under which the depositors cannot withdraw more than Rs 1,000 from their accounts.
- SBI opened its Melbourne office and becoming the first Indian bank to have a branch in the **Australian state of Victoria**.
- **Axis Bank**, India's third-largest private sector bank has launched the **'Express FD'**, a digital fixed deposit (FD) product that allows a customer to open an FD account in 3 minutes through the digital mode without opening a savings account with the bank.
- **UCO Bank** launched three new digital products called, **UCash, Digilocker and an app** in Kolkata.
- RBI **rejected** the merger proposal of **Indiabulls Housing Finance** and **Lakshmi Vilas Bank**.
- RBI given the **go-ahead** to the **Kerala government** to amalgamate **13 district cooperative banks (DCBs)** with the Kerala State Cooperative Bank to form the proposed "Kerala Bank". **Except** the **Malappuram District Cooperative Bank**, all district banks had approved the scheme of amalgamation.
- ICICI Bank has launched a fixed deposit scheme called **FD Health** that comes with an in-built critical insurance policy. The **FD Health - Critical illness Cover** will be provided to only the primary holder of the FD account.
- **SBI Card** announced the launch of **'SBI Card Pay'**, a feature which allows contactless payment using mobile phones at PoS terminals.
- **Vreedhi Financial Services (VFS)** has secured a **non-banking finance company licence** from the **Reserve Bank of India** to provide credit and other services to micro-enterprises operating in tier II-III cities and small towns.
- **RBI** has imposed a penalty of **Rs 35 lakh** on **Tamilnad Mercantile Bank** for violating norms on **fraud classification and notification**.
- The finance service company, **Ujjivan Small Finance Bank (SFB)** has launched an instant digital savings account (SA) along with Fixed Deposit (FD) and Privilege Savings Account to offer distinctive banking and digital services to its customers.
- The **Karnataka Gramin Bank (KGB)** has launched **'mobile ATMs'** in **Kalaburagi**, among several other districts in the Karnataka.
- As per the report titled **"Furthering Digital Payments"** released by the **RBI**, banks can no longer charge savings bank account holders for online transactions in the **NEFT** system from **January 2020**.
- The economic research team from the SBI has revised **India's Gross Domestic Product (GDP)** to **5%** from its earlier estimate of 6.1% for the **Fiscal Year 2020** in their **report** titled **"EcoWrap"**.
- The **Reserve Bank of India** superseded the board of debt-laden **Dewan Housing Finance Corporation Limited (DHFL)** as it intends to shortly initiate the process of resolution of the company under the insolvency and bankruptcy rules.
- The **RBI** expanded the scope of **Special Non-Resident Rupee Accounts (SNRR account)** by permitting non-residents to open such accounts for rupee-denominated overseas borrowings, trade credit and trade invoicing for popularising cross-border transactions in the domestic currency.
- **RBI** has expressed concern over rising bad loans from **Pradhan Mantri MUDRA Yojana (PMMY)**.
- **RBI** imposed a monetary penalty of **Rs. 1.50 crore** on Corporation Bank for non-compliance with certain provisions of directions issued by RBI.
- Non-bank lender **Aditya Birla Finance** became the first company to list its commercial papers borrowing of **Rs 100 crore on the bourses**.
- **Karnataka Vikas Grameena Bank (KVGB)** and **Canara, HSBC, Oriental Bank of Commerce, Life Insurance Company Ltd.** signed an MoU for **bancassurance (for selling life insurance products through the branches of KVGB)**.

Economy/Financial/Business Current Affairs

- **A Group of Ministers (GoM)** GoM will fast-track and oversee the implementation of the **Rs 69,000 crore** revival plan for state-owned telecom corporations **BSNL and MTNL**.
- **Central Board of Indirect Taxes and Customs (CBIC)** has announced that it has paid **Rs 1,12,000 crore** as Integrated Goods and Services Tax (IGST) refunds to exporters.
- Union Finance Minister has announced that the **Merchant Discount Rate (MDR)** charges for businesses with over **Rs 50 crore annual revenues** will be waived off from **January 1, 2020**.
- **Mastercard** has announced an agreement to acquire **RiskRecon**.
- **Edelweiss Asset Management Company (AMC)**, a subsidiary of Edelweiss Capital Limited (ECL) has launched India's 1st Corporate Bond ETF (exchange trade fund) called the **Bharat Bond ETF**.
- **GoI and ADB** have signed a \$250 million loan for Energy Efficiency Services Limited (EESL).
- **Infosys** has announced the launch of three **blockchain-powered distributed applications**. The applications will be dedicated for government services, insurance, and supply chain management domains.
- French carmaker **"Peugeot SA"** and **US-Italian "Fiat Chrysler"** have signed an agreement to create the world's fourth largest automaker.
- **ADB** and the **GoI** signed a **\$490 million loan**. The loan is signed for PPP project through the hybrid-annuity model (HAM) to upgrade about 1,600 km of state highways and major district roads in the state of Madhya Pradesh.
- Union Government informed that loans worth over **10 lakh crore rupees** have been **sanctioned till 1st November 2019** under the Pradhan Mantri Mudra Yojana, **PMMY**.
- **National Stock Exchange** has launched **interest rate options** on **10-year Government bonds** maturing in **2029** with a coupon rate of 7.26% and 6.45%.
- **Xiaomi** has formally launched its lending platform **"Mi Credit"** in India for Android phones. Under this, the individuals can avail up to **Rs 1 lakh loan**.
- **Export-Import Bank of India** has provided **\$500 million (Rs 3561 crore) Line of Credit** to **Bangladesh** for defence-related procurement in the neighbouring country.
- **Microsoft** has acquired **data privacy, governance service firm BlueTalon**.
- To protect consumers' interest, the **Centre** has **proposed guidelines for e-commerce firms that entail a 14-day deadline** to effect refund request, mandate e-tailers to display details of sellers supplying goods and services on their websites and moot the procedure to resolve consumer complaints.
- **Mastercard** announced the launch of **Identity Check Express**, a next-generation, mobile-first authentication solution that aims to redefine the e-commerce journey for Indian consumers.
- **Bengaluru based** Housing startup **"Grextor Living"** which is a co-living provider, has acquired **i2Stay**.
- **NPCI** announced that **Aadhaar enabled Payment System** has crossed the milestone of over **200 million transactions during July 2019**. The transaction count of AePS stood at **220 million in July 2019**.
- Business-to-business payments startup **EnKash** has launched the country's **first corporate credit card** called **'Freedom Card'** for small and medium enterprises (SMEs) to avail credit facility for immediate needs and to manage their liquidity.
- Cab aggregator **Ola** acquired of **Pikup.ai**, an Artificial Intelligence start-up based in Bengaluru.
- **Asian Development Bank (ADB)** has approved a **USD 200 million** loan for improving road infrastructure in 34 districts of Maharashtra.
- **Johnson & Johnson** has been ordered to pay **\$572 million** for Opioid addiction crisis in the US.
- The Department of Financial Services has approved the **Rs 12,000 crore** capital infusion plan in the 3 state-run general insurance companies: **National Insurance, Oriental Insurance and United India Insurance**.
- The **Goods and Services Tax Network** has decided to make **Aadhaar** authentication or physical verification mandatory for new dealers from January 2020.
- **SEBI** has imposed a penalty of over **Rs 22 crore** on **Aurobindo Pharma** and its promoters. They have been penalised for violating insider trading norms.
- **Wipro Consumer Care and Lighting** has launched **"Wipro Consumer Care-Ventures"**, a startup venture fund to invest in startups in the consumer brands space.
- **Reliance Mutual Fund** has been renamed as **"Nippon India Mutual Fund"** following the purchase of 75% stake in Reliance Nippon Life Asset Management by Nippon Life Insurance.
- **Infosys** has been selected as the main supplier to deliver **Volvo Cars' digital transformation** services for its enterprise digital commercial operations applications and products.
- **Life Insurance Council** has decided to launch the Indian life insurance industry's first joint mass media campaign with the slogan **'Sabse Pehle Life Insurance'**.
- **Department of Post** announced that it has launched **mobile banking** for its savings account customers.
- **Bajaj Allianz General Insurance** has launched a new mobile app called **'Farmitra'** for the ease of farmers.
- **Exim Bank** has provided a **USD 30 million (about Rs 210 crore) line of credit** to **Ghana** for a potable water project in the country.

- GoI has issued fresh rules under the **Insolvency and Bankruptcy Code (IBC)** to govern the rescue of non-bank lenders. Reserve Bank of India has been given the authority to decide which companies will be taken up to a bankruptcy tribunal under these rules.
- **Muthoot Finance Ltd**, the largest gold loan non-banking finance company in the country, entered into a definitive agreement to **acquire IDBI Asset Management Ltd and IDBI Mutual Fund Trustee Company Ltd**.
- **Finance Minister Nirmala Sitharaman** unveiled two new IT Initiatives – **ICEDASH and ATITHI** for improved monitoring and pace of customs clearance of imported goods and facilitating arriving international passengers.
- **Asian Development Bank** will provide a **\$451 million** (about Rs 3,200 crore) loan to strengthen power connectivity between the southern and northern parts of the **Chennai-Kanyakumari Industrial Corridor (CKIC)** in Tamil Nadu.
- The **Asian Development Bank** has approved the 2nd tranche of **USD 150 million** (about Rs 1,065 crore) for West Bengal to boost capital investment and infrastructure in the state.
- **Markets regulator SEBI** imposed a total fine of **Rs 40.5 lakh** on 7 companies for indulging in fraudulent trading in the illiquid stock options segment on the BSE.
- The **International Finance Corporation (IFC)**, a unit of the World Bank Group, has anchored an investment round of **\$200million** in **Mahindra & Mahindra Financial Services Limited (MMFSL)**.
- The country's foreign exchange reserves crossed the **\$450-billion** mark for the first time ever on the back of strong inflows which enabled the central bank to buy dollars from the market, thus checking any sharp appreciation of the rupee.
- **HDFC ERGO general insurance company**, India's third-largest non-life insurance provider in the private sector, has launched "**my: health Woman Suraksha policy**", a comprehensive medical insurance scheme specially designed for women.

- **India Ratings and Research** has revised its projection of India's GDP growth in the financial year 2019-20 to **6.7%**.
- Rating agency **CRISIL** has revised India's fiscal year **2020 GDP** growth forecast to **6.3%**.
- The American financial service company **Moody's** has downgraded India's economic outlook to "**Negative**" from "**Stable**". **Moody's Investors Service** has slashed **India's economic growth** forecast to **5.6%** for the fiscal year **2019**.
- The **National Council of Applied Economic Research (NCAER)** has pegged India's gross domestic product (GDP) growth for 2019-20 at **4.9% as against 6.8 % in 2018 (or FY-19)**.
- Global rating agency **Moody's** expects the Centre's fiscal deficit to touch **3.7%** of the GDP.
- **India's GDP growth** hit an over six-year low of **4.5 percent in July-September 2019**, dragged mainly by the deceleration in manufacturing output and subdued farm sector activity. The GDP growth was recorded at 7 percent in the corresponding quarter of **FY 2018-19**.
- **IMF** downgrading **global growth of World in 2019 to 3%**, the slowest since the global financial crisis.
- **India's growth** projections have also been downgraded to **6.1% and 7.0% in 2019 and 2020 respectively by IMF**.
- **World Bank** cuts India's growth projection to **6 percent for fiscal year 2019-20**.

India's GDP Reports

- The **Asian Development Bank** has lowered its forecast for **India's economic growth** in fiscal year 2019-20 to **5.1%**.

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Agreements/Memorandum of Understandings

- **HDFC Life Insurance** has partnered with **Paytm** to expand its distribution.
- **Wipro** partnered with **Nasscom** to train students on **emerging technologies** such as artificial intelligence, data science, internet of things, cybersecurity as a part of its corporate social responsibility programme "**TalentNext**". The programme will be extended to students through **Future Skills**, a Nasscom platform.
- **BOB** signed an MoU with the **Gujarat** government to facilitate the flow of credit in the **Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises (MSMEs)** sector for greenfield

- projects, startups, women entrepreneurs and entrepreneurs from backward areas.
- **Federal Bank** has tied up with online real estate platform **Magicbricks** for listing and e-auctioning of immovable properties repossessed by it in recovery proceedings.
- **Kotak Mahindra Bank** has tied up with **Pine Labs** to enable debit card facility for their debit cardholders across point-of-sale terminals by Pine Labs. Banks customers can avail EMI facility with a minimum purchase of Rs 8,000 and repay over 3 months to 12 months.

- **Indian Council of Agricultural Research (ICAR)** and the **NABARD** signed an MoU to promote sustainable agriculture and climate-resilient farming systems.
- **SBI** signed a loan agreement worth of **\$277 million** (about Rs 1,958 crore) with Kreditanstalt für Wiederaufbau (KfW) German development bank for establishing an energy-efficient housing programme in India.
- **“Amazon.com Inc”, “Apple Inc” and Alphabet Inc’s “Google”** have announced a partnership to lay the groundwork for better compatibility among their smart home products.
- An MoU signed between **National Small Industries Corporation** and **Saudi Aramco (Asia)** for the development of **MSME Ecosystem in India** in Oil & Gas Sector.
- **NTPC** signed a term loan agreement of **Rs 5,000 crore** with **SBI** to part finance the capital expenditure of NTPC.
- **Dell Technologies** partnered with **UNESCO MGIEP** (Mahatma Gandhi Institute of Education for Peace) to enable school teachers to adopt technology in classrooms by using **ICT tools** which are developed by **Dell Aarambh** and **FramerSpace platform**.
- The **Ministry of Shipping** announced that **Mongla** and **Chattogram** (Both in Bangladesh) have been declared as **Ports of Call** under **“Coastal Shipping Agreement”** between India & Bangladesh. The Port of Mongla is declared as Port of Call under PIWT&T (Protocol on Inland Water Transit and Trade) and Chattogram port is not part of PIWT&T.
- **Maldives government** has signed a contract with a joint venture of **Indian companies** which aims to prepare project report and the development of Addu, which is the 2nd biggest city in the island nation. The project will be **financed by EXIM bank** of India through **line of credit of USD 800 million**.
- Public sector Bank, **Indian Bank** signed an MoU with **Tata AIG General Insurance**. The MoU offers the latter’s diverse range of general insurance policies benefiting the bank’s customers by way of protection, wealth creation and savings.
- **Acko General Insurance**, an insurtech company, **has partnered with Zest Money**. This partnership will help Zest Money customers cover their monthly EMI payments during times of crisis.
- **India and Bangladesh** have agreed to set up a **Joint Technical committee** for optimum use of Ganges water.
- **Discovery India and World Wildlife Fund (WWF)** India have partnered with the Forest Directorate, the government of West Bengal and local communities to preserve Sundarbans.
- **India and Benin** signed 4 MoUs on **education, health and e-visa facilities and an agreement on the fresh line of credit of 100 million US dollars** by India to finance development projects in **Benin**.
- Minister of State for Defence and Senior General Min Aung Hlaing, Commander-in-Chief of Defence Services of Myanmar signed MoU to **enhancing defence co-operation, review joint exercises** and training provided to **Myanmar Defence Services**.
- **Prime Minister of Nepal** inaugurated **India-Nepal Logistics Summit** between **India and Nepal** in **Kathmandu**. The **theme** of the summit was **“Transforming Logistics Landscape”**.
- **India, Mozambique** sign **2 MoUs** to strengthen defence cooperation. The two MoUs include an agreement on sharing **white shipping information** and another on **co-operation in the field of Hydrography**.
- **WhatsApp** has partnered with **NITI Aayog**, under the **Women Entrepreneurship Platform (WEP)** to announce its plan to support and promote women entrepreneurs in India.
- **Australian Super and Ontario Teachers’ Pension Plan** will invest **\$1 billion** each in the National Investment and Infrastructure Fund (NIIF) Master Fund.
- **The Indian Institute of Technology Madras** partnered with **National Institute of Ocean Technology** to harness electricity from ocean waves.
- **The National Institute of Solar Energy** and the United Nations Industrial Development Organization have signed an agreement to initiate a skill development programme for different levels of beneficiaries in the solar thermal energy sector.
- **The Uttar Pradesh government** has extended bilateral agreements with **Netherlands till 2024**. The previously inked MoUs sought cooperation and exchange of the knowledge and techniques in the fields of solid waste management, spatial planning, water management including restoration of water bodies and mobility planning.
- **Indian Bank** has entered into a corporate agency agreement with **Cholamandalam MS General Insurance Company Ltd**.
- **Reliance Jio and Microsoft** announced a partnership to accelerate the digital transformation in India. Under this deal, Microsoft will bring in the Azure Cloud on Jio Network and target the enterprise and business users **seeking a technological shift**.
- **The Naval Air Enclave in Kochi** and Cochin International Airport Limited have signed a MoU for commencement of naval air operations from the NAE, a naval aviation facility at CIAL in **Nedumbassery**.
- **I-League champion Chennai City FC** has announced a strategic partnership with German sports goods supplier **"uhlsport"**.
- **Wipro** announced a strategic partnership with the Indian Institute of Science (**IISc**) to conduct advanced applied research in autonomous systems, robotics and 5G.
- **Shri Mata Vaishno Devi University (SMVDU)**, Jammu and National Institute of Solar Energy (NISE) have signed a (MoU) to work jointly to achieve the objective of National Solar Mission through training programmes.
- Army Welfare Housing Organization (AWHO) and Tata Realty & Housing have signed a memorandum of understanding (MoU). This MoU enables the personnel of Indian Army to immediately take over dwelling units.
- **BookMyForex.com**, a marketplace for foreign exchange and **remittances**, has partnered with **YES Bank** to launch a co-branded multi-currency forex travel card for Indian **overseas travellers**.

- **Indian Institute of Technology, Delhi** has partnered with Denmark-based firm to start **DESMI Centre of Excellence** on Waste-to-Wealth at IIT-Delhi.
- The **Department of Social Justice** signed an MoU with the National AIDS Control Organization (NACO) to enhance outreach on **AIDS prevention**, address the risk of HIV transmission among all substance users.
- **Small Industries Development Bank of India (SIDBI)** has partnered with **Incuspaze Solutions Private Limited** (Incuspaze) to open a first-of-its-kind co-working space named **@Workspaze**, exclusively designed for MSMEs and startups.
- The Indian School of Business (ISB) and **Microsoft India** announced a new partnership to take forward their shared vision for an **AI-empowered India**.
- India Meteorological Department (IMD) signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) with the **Indian Navy** to hand over **Cyclone Detection Radar (CDR)** building to naval forces for meteorological purposes. The building is set to be utilised by **Indian Naval Meteorological Analysis Centre (INMAC)**.
- **Government e-Marketplace** has signed an MoU with **Small Industries Development Bank of India**. The MoU aims to benefit **MSMEs**, women entrepreneurs, Self Help Groups.
- The **Steel Users Federation of India** has signed an MoU with the **Bombay Stock Exchange** to launch trading in **steel futures**.
- **IIT Guwahati** has signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) with **RD Grow Green India Pvt** for Technology transfer for **safer drinking water**.
- The **Central TB Division** of the Health Ministry has signed an MoU with **Wadhvani Institute for Artificial Intelligence**, to explore the application of cutting-edge Artificial Intelligence technology in its fight against TB.
- **ECL Finance Ltd**, a subsidiary of Edelweiss Financial Services, and **Central Bank of India** have signed an agreement for priority sector lending to (MSME's) customers.
- The Bangladesh government has signed The agreement with **Reliance Power of India** for gas-based power plant. The plant will set up a **750 MW gas-based power plant** in **Meghnahat near Dhaka**.
- Google and the Ministry of Electronics and Information Technology have signed a statement of intent to roll-out '**Build for Digital India**'.
- **Reliance Power** has signed a partnership agreement with Japanese energy major **Japan's Energy For a New Era (JERA)**.
- **IIT Kharagpur** has collaborated with **Amazon Web Services (AWS)** to develop a **National Artificial Intelligence resource platform (NAIRP)** to promote learning and development in artificial intelligence (AI).
- **Employees' State Insurance Corporation (ESIC)** signed Memorandum of Agreement (MoA) with **State Bank of India** for direct transfer of benefits electronically into bank accounts of all stakeholders.
- IT services major **Wipro Limited** has bagged a strategic contract valued at **\$300 million** from the **ICICI Bank**.
- **Microsoft India** and the **Central Board of Secondary Education** have partnered to build AI learning for schools.
- **Multi Commodity Exchange of India (MCX)** and **Zhengzhou Commodity Exchange (ZCE)**, one of the leading commodity exchanges in China, have signed a MoU for co-operation and the exchange of information.
- **Gujarat Government** and the **Delaware State of America** signed MoU for **sister state**.
- Hiranandani Group energy arm **H-Energy** has signed a port service agreement with **Kakinada Seaports Limited** to develop a liquefied natural gas (**LNG**) regasification and reloading terminal at **Kakinada port**.
- The **Gurugram** traffic police have **tied up** with **Google maps** for real time traffic updates. The traffic related information will be shared in real time for public use.
- **National Institution for Transforming India** has selected **McKinsey & Company** to set up India's first **Digital Capability Centre (DCC)**.
- The **Industrial Development Bank of India** and **Life Insurance Corporation of India** Credit Cards Services will launch a **co-branded credit card**, which will be marketed to customers, agents, and employees of the corporation and its subsidiaries.
- **India** and **Asian Development Bank (ADB)** has signed **200 million dollar** loan agreement to upgrade rural roads in 34 districts of **Maharashtra** to improve road safety.
- **International Finance Corporation**, part of the World Bank Group, has signed a **MoU** with the **Finance Industry Development Council** to collaborate on the **training of NBFCs** in the country.
- **Railway Ministry** signed a MoU with **Confederation of Indian Industry (CII)** for evaluating the **green initiatives** and rate the performance of its industrial units pursuing environmentally sustainable practices.
- **Kerala** signs MoU with the **Maldives** to strengthen cancer care in the island nation.
- **ISRO** joined hands with **DRDO** for the development of **human-centric systems** for the Human Space Mission to demonstrate its human space flight capabilities.
- Defence PSU **Bharat Earth Movers Limited (BEML)** and **Wipro Infrastructure Engineering (WIN)** have signed an MoU to work together in the areas of aerospace, industrial automation, 3-D printing, artificial intelligence and hydraulic system engineering.
- **Ayushman Bharat Pradhan Mantri Jan Arogya Yojana (AB-PMJAY)** has partnered with Ola, a mobility platform, to extend the welfare to its drivers.
- **Tata Communications** has partnered with Cisco to offer enterprises a secure, fully-managed, multi-channel, intelligent and cloud-based Cisco **Webex Contact Center solution**.
- **Directorate General of Training (DGT)**, under the skill development and entrepreneurship ministry, has signed an agreement with IT major **IBM** to carry out a nationwide Train-the-Trainer programme in basic artificial intelligence.

- **Nasscom's** Data Security Council of India (DSCI) collaborated with the electronics and IT ministry (**MeitY**) and **Google India** to launch a nationwide awareness campaign '**Digital Payment Abhiyan**'.
- **BoB** signed an MoU with the **Indian Army** under which the bank would offer customised services along with a host of facilities to account holders.
- **National Health Authority** signed a Statement of Intent with **Google** to collaborate and strengthen the implementation of Ayushman Bharat-Pradhan Mantri Jan Arogya Yojana (**PMJAY**). Google will support NHA in **improving digital presence** of PMJAY.
- **Government e-Marketplace** signed an MoU with **Union Bank of India**. UBI will be able to offer an array of services including transfer of funds through GeM Pool Accounts, advising of Performance Bank Guarantees and Earnest Money Deposit to the registered users on the GeM portal.
- **IIT Madras** will collaborate with **ExxonMobil** on Research in Energy and Biofuels. The 5-year joint-research agreement focuses on biofuels, data analytics, gas conversion and transport, and is intended towards finding low-emission solutions.
- **Mastercard**, along with cricketer **Mahendra Singh Dhoni**, launched a nationwide initiative '**Team Cashless India**' to accelerate the acceptance and adoption of digital payments.
- **Home Credit India (HCIN)**, a local arm of the international consumer finance provider, has tied-up with **Karur Vysya Bank (KVB)** for joint lending.
- **AYUSH** ministry has signed an MoU with the **Defence Ministry** to provide **traditional medicine services** at the armed forces' hospitals and dispensaries. **Ayurveda Palliative Care Unit** was inaugurated at the Base Hospital in the **Delhi** Cantonment.
- **Grasim Industries Limited** has signed a definitive agreement to form a **joint venture** company in India with **Maschinenfabrik Reinhausen GmbH (MR)** of Germany for the manufacturing and sale of **Composite Hollow Core Insulators**.
- The **Government e-Marketplace** signed a MoU with **Federal Bank** to offer services including transfer of funds through GeM Pool Accounts (GPA), advising of Performance Bank Guarantees (e-PBG) and Earnest Money Deposit (EMD) to the registered users on the portal.
- The Government of **India**, Government of **Odisha** and the **World Bank** have signed a **USD 165 million** loan agreement for Odisha's **Integrated Irrigation Project for Climate Resilient Agriculture**.
- **Indian Overseas Bank** in association with **Universal Sampo General Insurance Co Ltd.** has launched upgraded health care plus insurance policy designed for IOB customers with a sum insured starting from **₹50,000** and going up to **₹15 lakh**.
- **Government e-Marketplace (GeM)** has signed MoU with **Indian Bank and Canara Bank**. The MoU will facilitate a cashless, paperless and transparent payment system on the portal and would create an efficient procurement system for government entities.
- The **Indian Institute of Technology, Delhi (IIT-D)** will set up a space technology cell (STC) in collaboration with the **Indian Space Research Organization (ISRO)**.
- **Siemens** signs MoUs with **NTPC, TERI** on decarbonisation, energy transition.
- **MSTC Ltd** has signed an agreement with Allahabad Bank for the development of a dedicated e-Auction platform.
- IT services firm **Tech Mahindra Ltd (Tech M)** has acquired BORN Group, a New York-based digital content and production agency, for \$95 million.
- **Government e-Marketplace (GeM)** signed MoU with **Central Bank of India**.
- Public sector **Indian Bank** has signed a memorandum of understanding with **Muthoot Microfinance** to serve Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises (MSME).
- **Federation of Indian Chambers of Commerce and Industry** has signed a MoU with **Singapore Fintech Association (SFA)** as part of the growing Singapore-India fintech ecosystems during the 4th edition of **Singapore Fintech Festival**.
- The Competition Commission of India (**CCI**) approves the **merger** of the **BNP Paribas (BNPP) Mutual Fund** and the **Baroda (BOB) Mutual Fund**, under Section 31(1) of the Competition Act, 2002.
- Council of Scientific & Industrial Research (**CSIR**)-Institute of Microbial Technology (**IMTECH**), **Chandigarh** signed a MoU with Indian Institute of Technology (**IIT**) **Bombay** to promote collaborative research.
- The Centre and **Asian Development Bank (ADB)** has signed an agreement to extend 91 million US dollar loan to modernize the **Vijayanagara Channel Irrigation Systems** and prepare river basin management plans in the Krishna river basin.
- **ICICI Lombard** has been partnering with **Fino Payments Bank** to offer non-life insurance solutions to its customers. As part of this association, ICICI Lombard has introduced several innovative insurance solutions that complement Fina's technology-enabled platforms and harness its customer reach.
- The Union ministry of health and family welfare signed a memorandum of cooperation (MoC) with **Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation (BMGF)**.
- **IIM Indore** has signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) with **Lal Bahadur Shastri National Academy of Administration (LBSNAA)**, Mussoorie. The MoU has been signed with a view to exchange faculty members for various training programme.

- Commercial vehicle manufacturer **Ashok Leyland Ltd. (ALL)** has entered into a two- year memorandum of understanding (MoU) with **ICICI Bank** to offer customised financial solutions to customers across India with a focus on semi-urban and rural geographies.
- **India and Uzbekistan** have signed a pact for further strengthening of cooperation in the fields of counter-terrorism and organised crime.
- **NewQuest-backed U GRO Capital** inked an SME loan co-origination agreement with **State Bank of India** to facilitate broader credit outreach and faster disbursal.
- **Asian Development Bank (ADB)** agreed to advance a loan of **US \$206 million** to develop water supply and sewerage infrastructure in **Tiruchi and other cities in Tamil Nadu**.
- **Walmart India**, in partnership with **HDFC Bank**, launched a co-branded credit card exclusively for members of its Best Price Modern Wholesale “B2B Cash & Carry” stores, offering “**free credit up to 50 days**”.
- **NIIF of India and Canada Pension Plan Investment Board (CPPIB)** have agreed for CPPIB to invest up to **\$600 million through the NIIF Master Fund**.
- The **Online trucking platform BlackBuck** has partnered with private lenders **IDFC Bank** and **Yes Bank** to provide **FASTags to truck owners free of cost**.

- The ties between **India and Bangladesh transcend the strategic partnership**. The multidimensional relationship between the two countries covers not only traditional areas like trade, commerce, security and border management but also new areas such as IT, space and nuclear science among others.
- **Investor Education & Protection Fund Authority (IEPFA)** works under the Ministry of Corporate Affairs, has signed an MOU with **BoB** to spread customer awareness and investor education and reaching out to investors and stakeholders.



New Appointments: National

	Designation/Post	Who is Appointed?
Constitutional & Other Posts		
1.	Given the “additional” charge to head CRPF. He replaces RR Bhatnagar.	SS Deswal (DG of ITBP)
2.	New Foreign Secretary take over from incumbent Vijay Gokhale	Harsh Vardhan Shringla
3.	Nagaland Governor given additional charge of Meghalaya	R N Ravi
4.	Finance Secretary	Rajiv Kumar
5.	Director General (DG) of the country’s largest border guarding force, BSF	VK Johri
6.	Chairman of the "Estimates Committee" of the Parliament	Girish Bapat
7.	Director General of Military Operations (DGM0) of the Indian Army	Lt Gen Paramjit Singh
8.	Ombudsman and Ethics Officer of Indian Federation of Sports Gaming (IFSG)	Justice Arjan Kumar Sikri
9.	Director General Narcotics Control Bureau	Rakesh Asthana
10.	Secretary of the Department for Promotion of Industry and Internal Trade	Guruprasad Mohapatra
11.	Secretary, Ministry of Textiles	Ravi Capoor
12.	Ambassador of India to the Republic of Congo	Ghotu Ram Meena
13.	Director of National Institute of Health and Family Welfare	Harshad Pandurang Thakur
14.	President of Paytm	Madhur Deora
15.	MD and CEO of Idea-Vodafone. He will replace Balesh Sharma	Ravinder Takkar
16.	Cabinet secretary for two years. He will replace PK Sinha	Rajiv Gauba
17.	Defence Secretary. He will replace Sanjay Mitra	Ajay Kumar
18.	Union Home Secretary. He will replace Rajiv Gauba	Ajay Kumar Bhalla
19.	India’s Ambassador to the United Arab Emirates	Pavan Kapoor
20.	Chairman of Coal India	Pramod Agarwal

	Designation/Post	Who is Appointed?
21.	Officer on Special Duty” in the office of the Prime Minister	PK Sinha
22.	Vice Chief of the Indian Army. He succeeded Lieutenant General D. Anbu.	Lieutenant General Manoj Mukund Naravane
23.	India's High Commissioner to South Africa accredited as the next High Commissioner of India to the Kingdom of Lesotho.	Jaideep Sarkar
24.	Indian Ambassador to Norway	B Bala Bhaskar
25.	Chief Justice of the Gujarat High Court	Justice Vikram Nath
26.	Principal Secretary to PM. He will replace Nripendra Mishra	Pramod Kumar Mishra
27.	Principal Advisor to Prime Minister Narendra Modi	Pradeep Kumar Sinha
28.	Managing Committee of Indian Banks' Association (IBA).	Mahabaleshwara MS
29.	Lokayukta of Andhra Pradesh	P Lakshmana Reddy
30.	Chief of Air Staff (CAS)	Air Marshal RKS Bhadauria
31.	Ambassador of India to the Republic of Guinea Bissau	Godavarthi Venkata Srinivas
32.	Vice Chief of Indian Air Force	Air Marshal HS Arora
33.	Principal Director General of Press Information Bureau	KS Dhatwalia,
34.	National women's badminton coach Kim Ji-Hyun has stepped down from her post of National women's coach of India .	
35.	Senior BJP leader Manohar Lal Khattar was sworn in as the chief minister of Haryana for second straight time and Dushyant Chautala took oath as deputy chief minister of Haryana .	
36.	Ambassador of India to Greece	Amrit Lugun
37.	High Commissioner of India to Niue	Muktesh Kumar Pardeshi
38.	President of Mumbai Cricket Association (MCA)	Vijay Patil
39.	Lokpal of Punjab government	Justice Vinod Kumar Sharma
40.	Ambassador of India to Georgia	Kishan Dan Dewal
41.	Law Secretary (Secretary, Legal Affairs) in the Union Law Ministry	Anoop Kumar Mendiratta
42.	Director-General of the National Security Guard (NSG)	Anup Kumar Singh
43.	Ambassador of India to the Republic of Panama	Upender Singh Rawat
44.	Policy Advisor in the External Affairs Ministry in the rank of Additional Secretary	Ashok Malik
45.	Accredited Ambassador to the Republic of Cabo Verde	Godavarthi Venkata Srinivas
46.	Ambassador of India to the Republic of Iraq	Birender Singh Yadav
47.	Deputy National Security Advisor (NSA)	Datta Padsalgikar
48.	Secretary, Ministry of Power	Sanjeev Nandan Sahai
49.	Chairman of the Land Ports Authority of India (LPAI) .	Aditya Mishra
50.	MD and CEO of IndusInd Bank	Suman Kathpalia
51.	Ambassador of India to the Republic of Mali	Anjani Kumar
52.	Chief Justice of Patna High Court	Justice Sanjay Karol
53.	Girish Chandra Murmu and Radha Krishna Mathur as the 1st Lieutenant Governors of Jammu and Kashmir (J&K) and Ladakh respectively.	
54.	Satya Pal Malik appointed as Governor of Goa and P S Sreedharan Pillai has been appointed as the 15th governor of Mizoram .	
55.	Chief Justice of the Madras High Court	Justice Amreshwar Pratap Sahi
56.	High Commissioner of Bangladesh to India	Mohammad Imran
57.	Chief Justice of Meghalaya High Court	Justice Muhammad Raffiq
58.	Chief Justice of Jharkhand High Court	Justice Dr Ravi Ranjan
59.	Chief Justice of the High Court of Tripura	Justice Akil Abdulhamid Kureshi
60.	Maharashtra CM Devendra Fadnavis announced his resignation.	
61.	General Bipin Rawat to be first Chief of Defence Staff .	
62.	Lt Gen Podali Shankar Rajeshwar as the 14th Commander-in-Chief of the Andaman & Nicobar Command (CINCAN) .	
63.	Army's first female Judge Advocate General officer	Lieutenant Colonel Jyoti Sharma
64.	Senior security advisor in the Union Home Ministry	K Vijay Kumar
65.	High Commissioner of India to the Republic of Ghana	C. Sugandh Rajaram

	Designation/Post	Who is Appointed?
CEO'S/Chairman of Companies/Organizations/Banks/ Other Appointments		
66.	Will succeed Balkrishan Goenka as the new president of ASSOCHAM	Niranjan Hiranandani
67.	Chairman and managing director of Power Grid Corporation of India	Kandikuppa Sreekant
68.	1st woman president of the Indian National Science Academy	Chandrima Shaha
69.	Member of the Asian Athletics Association's (AAA) Athletes Commission	PT Usha
70.	CEO of NDTV	Suparna Singh
71.	Resignation of SBI MD. She appointed as MD and CEO of World Bank	Anshula Kant
72.	Extension of the tenure of CBDT Chairman	Pramod Chander Mody
73.	Vice-Chairman of Press Trust of India (PTI)	Vineet Jain
74.	MD of Microsoft India Research and Development Pvt. Ltd.	Rajiv Kumar
75.	CMD of Cognizant Technology Solutions India	Ramkumar Ramamoorthy
76.	Deputy Managing Director (DMD) of IDBI Bank	Samuel Joseph Jebaraj
77.	First Principal Chief Commissioner of Income Tax of NeAC.	Krishna Mohan Prasad
78.	Chairman of the Association of Mutual Funds in India (AMFI)	Nilesh Shah
79.	Brand Ambassador of VISA	PV Sindhu
80.	Goodwill ambassador by the Chief Electoral Office in Maharashtra	Madhuri Dixit
81.	MD and CEO of Punjab National Bank	SS Mallikarjuna Rao
82.	Air Officer Commanding-in-Chief of the South Western Air Command (SWAC) of the Indian Air Force (IAF), Gandhinagar.	Air Marshal S K Ghotia
83.	Executive director of the IMF for a period of three years.	Surjit Bhalla
84.	MD and CEO of Oil India Limited	Sushil Chandra Mishra
85.	Yes Bank Ltd Chief Operating Officer	Anita Pai
86.	Chief Marketing Officer of Yes bank	Jasneet Bachal
87.	President of the Indian Pharmaceutical Alliance (IPA)	K Satish Reddy
88.	Chief Operating Officer (COO) of Mastercard India	Vikas Varma
89.	Controller General of Accounts (CGA)	Soma Roy Burman
90.	Whole-Time Member, Insolvency and Bankruptcy Board of India (IBBI) .	Sudhaker Shukla
91.	Chairman of Indian Banks' Association	SBI chairman Rajnish Kumar
92.	RBI superseded the Board of Punjab and Maharashtra Cooperative Bank Limited, Mumbai and appointed Jai Bhagwan Bhoria .	
93.	Thomas Dennerby (Sweden) as the Indian head coach of the Women's U-17 football team .	
94.	Secretary of Indian Banks' Association	Rakesh Sharma
95.	Kapil Dev resigns from the Cricket Advisory Committee (CAC) of BCCI.	
96.	Nils Andersen new chairman of British-Dutch consumer goods company Unilever	
97.	G Kamala Vardhana Rao appointed CMD of India Tourism Development Corporation (ITDC) .	
98.	Prakash Javadekar took charge as the Union Minister of Heavy Industries and Public Enterprises after resignation of Shiv Sena leader Arvind Sawant from the Union Cabinet .	
99.	Private sector lender Dhanlaxmi Bank MD and CEO T. Latha resigned.	
100.	Sudhir Mital and Shantikumar Singh were elected as president and general secretary respectively, of the Gymnastics Federation of India (GFI).	
101.	CEO of the Unique Identification Authority of India	Pankaj Kumar
102.	39th President of BCCI	Sourav Ganguly
103.	Vice President of BCCI	Mahim Verma
104.	Chairman of the Airports Authority of India (AAI)	Arvind Singh
105.	Former deputy governor of RBI, HR Khan appointed as the first chairman of the steering committee of the Code for Responsible Lending (CRL) in micro-credit .	
106.	News Broadcasters Federation (NFB) elected editor-in-chief of Republic TV Arnab Goswami as the President of its governing board.	
107.	Devesh Srivastava rose to the position of CMD at the General Insurance Corporation India (GIC Re).	
108.	Justice CV Ramulu appointed as the Lokayukta of Telangana . V Niranjan Rao has been appointed as Upa Lokayukta .	
109.	Sangita Reddy , Joint Managing Director of Apollo Hospitals Group, has taken over as the President of the FICCI for 2019-20. She will succeed Sandip Somany.	
110.	Chairman of National Stock Exchange of India Ltd	Girish Chandra Chaturvedi
111.	CMD of National Aluminium Company Ltd (NALCO)	Sridhar Patra

New Appointments: International

	Designation/Post	Who is Appointed?
President/PM/Heads of Countries/Organizations		
1.	In Cuba , President appointed Manuel Marrero Cruz as the country's first prime minister in more than 40 years since its scrapping in 1976.	
2.	Dr Monisha Ghosh appointed as the first woman Chief Technology Officer at the US government's powerful Federal Communications Commission (FCC). She will replace Dr Eric Burger.	
3.	Boris Johnson returns to power with big majority in the United Kingdom from Conservative Party.	
4.	Lieutenant General Shavendra Silva as 23rd Commander of the Sri Lankan Army.	
5.	Atish Dabholkar new director of Abdus Salam International Centre for Theoretical Physics (ICTP) , Italy. He will succeed Fernando Quevedo .	
6.	Noel Quinn , HSBC's Global Commercial Banking unit will replace John Flint as the interim CEO of HSBC .	
7.	Former human rights lawyer Lionel Aingimea has been elected Nauru's new President .	
8.	Chief election commissioner Sunil Arora as chairman of Association of World Election Bodies (AWEB) . The CEC will serve a two-year term till 2021.	
9.	Lieutenant General (Retired) Abhijit Guha appointed as head of the UN mission in Hodeidah, Yemen .	
10.	Wing Commander Anjali Singh has joined the Indian Embassy in Russia as India's first female military diplomat .	
11.	Asian Development Bank (ADB) President Takehiko Nakao has announced his resignation. He became the president of ADB on April 28, 2013.	
12.	Robert O'Brien appointed as the National Security Adviser of the USA .	
13.	Bulgarian economist Kristalina Georgieva has been selected as the new Managing Director of the International Monetary Fund . She will succeed Christine Lagarde.	
14.	Adille Sumariwalla has been elected as the member of the International Association of Athletics Federations council.	
15.	Suresh Chitturi appointed as chairman of the International Egg Commission (IEC) for the next two years.	
16.	World Steel Association (Worldsteel) elected Sajjan Jindal, CMD, JSW Steel .	
17.	New chief of the European Central Bank .	Christine Lagarde
18.	Director-General of the International Atomic Energy Agency	Rafael Mariano Grossi of Argentina
19.	General Vice President (GVP), International Organisation Development Association (IODA)	Dr Vinaya Shetty
20.	FIFA's Chief of global football development	Arsene Wenger (France)
21.	Director of Nations World Tourism Organisation (UNWTO)	Suman Billa
22.	President of Asian Development Bank (ADB)	Masatsugu Asakawa
23.	Alphabet Inc. CEO after Google	Sundar Pichai
24.		
25.		
26.	The UNESCO named Mexican actress Yalitza Aparicio as a UNESCO Goodwill Ambassador for Indigenous Peoples.	

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Awards and Recognition

	Name of the Award	Winner
Awards for Literature/Journalism		
1.	40th edition of prestigious Sarala Puraskar for his poetry work Charu Chibar O Charjya	Noted Odia writer Pradeep Dash
2.	Senior journalist and Ramon Magsaysay awardee, Ravish Kumar	Gauri Lankesh National Award for Journalism.
3.	U.S. based-Indian author Madhuri Vijay's debut novel, " The Far Field " bagged this year's JCB prize for Literature, the most expensive Indian award for writing.	Madhuri Vijay
4.	Renowned Rabindra Sangeet exponent from Bangladesh conferred the ICCR distinguished alumni award in Dhaka, Bangladesh.	Rezwana Choudhury Bannya
5.	12th 'Shakti Bhatt First Book Prize' for his 2018 book, " Early Indians: The Story of Our Ancestors and Where We Came From ".	English author Tony Joseph
Country's Highest Honour Given		
6.	India's ophthalmologist Dr Santosh G Honavar becomes the 1st Indian to be conferred with the American Academy of Ophthalmology's (AAO) highest award Life Achievement honour .	
7.	Noted archaeologist R. Nagaswamy honoured at Silver Jubilee International Conference of Art in Dhaka by Bangladesh .	
8.	Priya Priyadarshini Jain 'Indian Woman of Influence' award in United Kingdom Parliament, London .	
9.	President Ram Nath Kovind awarded the National Order of Merit by the President of Guinea for his exceptional contribution to the advancement of overall relations and development of mutual cooperation between India and Guinea.	
10.	Wing Commander Abhinandan Varthaman honoured with the Vir Chakra on Independence Day .	
11.	Priyam Chatterje, 1st Indian chef to be awarded the 'Chevalier de l'Ordre du Mérite Agricoleto' by the government of France.	
12.	USE honour the Indian PM Narendra Modi with the " Order of Zayed ", the highest civilian award of the country.	
13.	JNU Professor Meeta Narain was conferred the ' Pushkin Medal - 2019 ' by Russia	
14.	Nobel Laureate Professor Muhammad Yunus from Bangladesh was conferred the ' Lamp of Peace of Saint Francis ' award by the Vatican.	
15.	Navdeep Singh Suri , India's envoy to United Arab Emirates, has been honoured with the First Class Order of Zayed II award.	
16.	Russia honoured NASA astronaut Nick Hague with one of its highest honours, " The Order of Courage "	
17.	Vice President was conferred " The Order of the Green Crescent ", the highest Civilian Honour of Comoros , by Azali Assoumani, President of Comoros in Moroni.	
18.	Ramesh Pandey has been selected for the prestigious Asia Environmental Enforcement Award by the United Nations Environment Programme.	
19.	Ashleigh Barty awarded Australian sport's highest individual honour ' The Don ' Award at the annual Sport Australia Hall of Fame.	
Film/Music Awards		
20.	Veteran star Meryl Streep won the Tribute Actor award at the 2019 in 44th Toronto International Film Festival .	
21.	Actor Steve Coogan will be felicitated with the Charlie Chaplin Award by the British Academy's Los Angeles branch.	
22.	A biographical documentary "100 Years of Chrysostum" received Guinness Award in the category of longest documentary.	
23.	Indian documentary film " I'm Jeeja ", directed by Swati Chakraborty, has won the award in the ' Under 30 minute ' category at the 14th edition of the ' We Care Film Festival on Disability Issues '.	
24.	Bollywood actor Neena Gupta won 2 awards at Indian International Film Festival of Boston .	
25.	The Film Federation of India (FFI) has chosen ' Gully Boy ' as India's official entry to the Oscars.	
26.	Sonu Nigam honoured with the Magnificent Performing Arts Award at the annual 21st Century Icon Awards in London.	
27.	The Dadasaheb Phalke award , presented this year to Amitabh Bachchan .	
28.	Short film Spirit Of Kerala has won the People's Choice Award	
29.	Madhya Pradesh's National Kishore Kumar Samman for 2018-19 to Priyadaeshan	

	Name of the Award	Winner
30.	"Gully Boy" won the best film from India award in the regional finals at the Asian Academy Creative Awards ceremony .	
31.	Netflix series " Delhi Crime " has won in a number of categories at the Asian Academy Creative Awards . Delhi Crime won for Best Actress, Best Direction, Best Drama Series , Best Editing and Best Original Programme.	
32.	Indian actor Nawazuddin Siddiqui awarded the prestigious Golden Dragon Award for his works in Hindi cinema at the Cardiff International Film Festival (CIFF) 2019 held in Wales, United Kingdom.	
33.	50th IFFI honour superstar Rajinikanth with a special Icon of Golden Jubilee Award and Life Time Achievement Award for a Foreign Artiste to French Actress Isabelle Huppert .	
34.	A documentary on Real Kashmir Football Club bagged the prestigious British Academy of Film and Television Awards (BAFTA) and Scotland Awards at a glittering ceremony in Glasgow, Scotland.	
35.	Sridevi and Rekha conferred with the Akkineni Nageswara Rao National Award for 2018 and 2019 respectively.	
36.	Joker ' fame Joaquin Rafael Phoenix , American actor from California, United States (US) has been bestowed with the PETA (People for the Ethical Treatment of Animals) 'Person of the Year' Award 2019 .	
37.	Shilpa Shetty's fitness app " Shilpa Shetty App " awarded Google Play's Best Apps of 2019 . The app was awarded in the category of ' Personal Growth '.	
Other Awards Conferred		
38.	Aditya K. of Kerala becomes the 1st child from the State to bag the Bharat Award for bravery given away by the Indian Council for Child Welfare.	
39.	England cricketer Ben Stokes voted BBC Sports Personality of the Year 2019.	
40.	The state police of Gujarat were honoured with ' President's colours '.	
41.	Jammu and Kashmir selected for the national award by Union Rural Development Ministry for best performance in the implementation of Pradhan Mantri Gram Sadak Yojana (PMGSY) .	
42.	Tony-Ann Singh of Jamaica as the winner of the Miss World 2019 beauty pageant held in London.	
43.	FICCI India Sports Awards 2019 awarded to Railway Sports Promotion Board under the category of Best Company Promoting Sports .	
44.	Odisha won the ' World Habitat Award ' for Jaga Mission which is also called Odisha Liveable Habitat Mission (OLHM) .	
45.	Miss South Africa Zozibini Tunzi crowned Miss Universe 2019 in Atlanta, US.	
46.	Abu Dhabi (UAE) selected as the world's leading Sports tourism Destination at the 26th edition of the World Travel Awards (WTA) being held in Muscat, Oman .	
47.	Vidisha Baliyan from Uttar Pradesh's Muzaffarnagar , was crowned the Miss Deaf World 2019 title in the international beauty pageant held in Mbombela, South Africa .	
48.	Sudarsan Pattnaik won People's Choice Award at a prestigious sand sculpting festival in the U.S.	
49.	Entrepreneur Award 2019 to Ruhan Rajput , a renowned entrepreneur, co-founder and Director of Einfole Technologies Pvt Ltd.	
50.	DD News is awarded with " Champions of Empathy Award " for spreading awareness about hepatitis.	
51.	Bhasha Mukherjee , a 23-year-old Indian origin doctor Miss England 2019 .	
52.	India's transsexual woman Naaz Joshi crowned Miss World Diversity 2019. Event was held in Port Louis, Mauritius.	
53.	ISRO announced its " Vikram Sarabhai Journalism Award in Space Science, Technology and Research ".	
54.	The 4th edition of the National Entrepreneurship Awards , instituted in a bid to recognize and encourage outstanding Indian Entrepreneurs and catalyse a cultural shift in youth for entrepreneurship by the Ministry of Skill Development and Entrepreneurship (MSDE) .	
55.	Barcelona's Lionel Messi has been awarded UEFA's Goal of the Season award 2018-19 for his free-kick against Liverpool .	
56.	Rajasthan wins the " best innovation and initiative leadership award " for its achievements in higher education in the World Education Summit-2019 held in New Delhi.	
57.	Tamil Nadu government has awarded Indian Space Research Organisation's chairman K. Sivan with its Dr. A.P.J. Abdul Kalam Award .	
58.	Dr K Thangaraj , Chief Scientist at Council of Scientific & Industrial Research (CSIR)- Centre for Cellular and Molecular Biology (CCMB) was awarded JC Bose Fellowship .	
59.	Women and Child Development Minister distributed the Poshan Abhiyaan Awards for 2018-19 . The awards were given to the States, Districts, Blocks and Anganwadi Workers for their contributions in scaling up the Abhiyaan.	
60.	Prabhakar Singh , Director General, Central Public Works Department has been chosen for the ' Eminent Engineer Award for the Year 2019 '.	
61.	Former Manchester United forward player Eric Cantona will be honoured with the 2019 UEFA President's Award .	

	Name of the Award	Winner
62.	Deendayal Antyodaya Yojana-National Urban Livelihoods Mission (DAY-NULM), conferred the prestigious SKOCH Governance Gold Award for its initiative "Portal for Affordable Credit and Interest Subvention Access (PAiSA)"	
63.	Maitri Mobile app clinched the bronze medal at the Technovation Challenge .	
64.	Prime Minister Narendra Modi prestigious 'Global Goalkeeper Award' by the Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation for the Swachh Bharat Abhiyaan .	
65.	Shri Mata Vaishno Devi Shrine in Jammu and Kashmir adjudged as the " Best Swachh Iconic place ."	
66.	Odisha State Disaster Management Authority (OSDMA) won the IT Excellence Award, 2019. " SATARK " (System for Assessing, Tracking and Alerting Disaster Risk Information based on Dynamic Risk Knowledge)	
67.	" Oscars of science " awarded to Event Horizon Telescope Team, with prize money \$3 million .	
68.	MD and Chairman of Hero Moto Corp, Pawan Munjal , Asia Pacific Golf Hall of Fame .	
69.	England cricket greats Geoffrey Boycott and Andrew Strauss have been honoured with " Knighthoods " by Theresa May.	
70.	Five Indian women police officers honoured by UN for their commendable services in the world body's mission in South Sudan. The women officers who were conferred the UN medal were: Reena Yadav, Gopika Jahagirdar, Bharati Samantray, Ragini Kumari and Kamal Shekhawat.	
71.	Bangladesh PM Sheikh Hasina received Dr Kalam Smriti International Excellence Award 2019 in Dhaka.	
72.	Meghalaya-based rights activist Agnes Kharshiing , who survived an assault by the coal mafia almost a year ago, received the 11th International Hrant Dink Award .	
73.	Vinod Kumar Yadav , Chairman of Railway Board with Eminent Engineers Award .	
74.	Super 30 founder and noted mathematician Anand Kumar has been felicitated in the US with a prestigious Education Excellence Award 2019 .	
75.	Super 30 founder and noted mathematician Anand Kumar has been felicitated in the US with a prestigious Education Excellence Award 2019 .	
76.	Kerala Tourism has won three prestigious Pacific Asia Travel Association (PATA) Gold awards in Nur-Sultan (Astana), Kazakhstan.	
77.	Physicist Thanu Padmanabhan for Astronomy and Astrophysics received the MP Birla Memorial Award 2019 for his contributions to the world of cosmology.	
78.	The SASTRA Ramanujan prize for 2019 will be awarded to Adam Harper . Mathematician Adam Harper is an Assistant Professor with the University of Warwick, England.	
79.	Rajasthan's Payal Jangid , aged 17, and became the first Indian to receive the Changemaker Award 2019 at the Goalkeepers Global Goals Awards 2019.	
80.	IT major Infosys has received the United Nations Global Climate Action Award in the ' Climate Neutral Now ' category.	
81.	Airport Council International has recognized Cochin International Airport Limited as the best airport in terms of services offered to passengers.	
82.	Odisha's Tapan Kumar Mishra honoured with the National Tourism Award for the Category of " Best Tourist Guide " for the year 2017-18 during celebration of the World Tourism Day.	
83.	India's Kallie Puri has been awarded with " India's Most Powerful Women in Media " award at the famed Confluence Excellence Awards.	
84.	President Ram Nath Kovind presented the most effective Swachhta Ambassador award to Former Indian cricketer Sachin Tendulkar on the occasion of 150th birth anniversary of Mahatma Gandhi.	
85.	England all-rounder Ben Stokes has been voted Professional Cricketers' Association player	
86.	Human rights lawyer from Kyrgyzstan Azizbek Ashurov was awarded the 2019 UN High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR) prestigious Nansen Award.	
87.	31st Indira Gandhi Award for National Integration for the years 2017 and 2018 will be awarded to the pioneer of the Chipko Movement Chandi Prasad Bhatt for his services in promoting and preserving the national integration.	
88.	Margaret Atwood and Bernardine Evaristo have jointly won the 2019 Booker Prize .	
89.	Messi received his 6th Golden Shoe as the top scorer in the European leagues.	
90.	Hong Kong Philharmonic Orchestra has been named orchestra of the year at the 2019 Gramophone Awards .	
91.	Vice President Venkaiyah Naidu presented the " Most Eminent Senior Citizen Award " to the scholar, legal luminary and former Attorney General of India K Parasaran on the occasion of Elder's Day celebration.	
92.	Jennifer Aniston to receive People's Icon Award 2019 at the 2019 People's Choice Awards .	
93.	Mohun Bagan Athletic Club has conferred life membership to Nobel laureate Abhijit Banerjee .	
94.	Golden Sand Art Award 2019 given to Sand Artist Sudarsan Pattnaik .	
95.	5th Edition of 'Miss Asia Global Title 2019' was organized at Gokulam Convention centre in Kochi, Kerala. Sara Damjanovic from Serbia has been crowned ' Miss Asia Global 2019 '.	

	Name of the Award	Winner
96.	Kumar Mangalam Birla , chairman of the Aditya Birla Group , was conferred the ABLF Global Asian Award ,	
97.	Indira Gandhi Prize for Peace, Disarmament and Development for 2019 will be conferred on renowned naturalist and broadcaster Sir David Attenborough for his tireless work to preserve and protect biodiversity.	
98.	India captain Virat Kohli was named People for the Ethical Treatment of Animals (PETA) India's 'Person of the Year for 2019' for his animal advocacy efforts.	
99.	Union Minister of the Ministry of Chemical and Fertilizers conferred the Swachh Survekshan Grameen 2019 awards . The top-ranked state: Tamil Nadu , and the top-ranked district: Peddapalli (Telangana) , along with the state with the maximum citizen participation: Uttar Pradesh .	
100.	Royal Aeronautical Society (RAeS) London has conferred the Honorary Fellowship of the Society for the year 2019 to G Satheesh Reddy , Secretary Department of Defence R&D and Chairman DRDO. He is the first Indian recipient of this prestigious award in over 100 years.	
101.	Barcelona forward Lionel Messi won the Ballon d'Or award for the world's best player for a record 6th time.	
102.	The Mumbai Central station of Railways was conferred with the 'Eat Right Station' certification with four stars rating by the Food Safety and Standards Authority of India (FSSAI) ,	
103.	Late Arun Jaitley former Finance Minister of India was bestowed with the Economic Times (ET) Lifetime Achievement Award for Public Service 2019 .	
104.	President of India conferred 36 awardees with the National Florence Nightingale Awards 2019 at an event in Vigyan Bhawan, New Delhi. The award was given to Late Lini Sajeesh from Kozhikode, Kerala, who died while on duty caring for a Nipah (NiV) virus-infected patient in Kerala.	

Summits | Events | Festivals (National/International)

	Name of the Summit/Events	Venue
Summits Held Nationally		
1.	49th Border Coordination Conference between border guarding forces of India and Bangladesh	New Delhi
2.	107th edition of the Indian Science Congress	Bengaluru
3.	Environmental Sustainability and Economic Development	New Delhi
4.	79th Conference of Presiding Officers of Legislative Bodies by Lok Sabha Speaker Om Birla	Dehradun, UK
5.	5th meeting of the Economic Advisory Council (EAC) of 15th Finance Commission	New Delhi
6.	46 Heads of Central Universities and Institutes of Higher Learning in several fields including agriculture, pharmaceuticals, aviation, design, petroleum and energy	Rashtrapati Bhavan, New Delhi
7.	World Design Organization launch new global programme World Design Protopolis	Bengaluru, Karnataka
8.	Prime Minister Narendra Modi has chaired the first meeting of the National Ganga Council	Kanpur, UP

	Name of the Summit/Events	Venue
9.	The 'International Seminar on Climate Smart Farming Systems' for BIMSTEC.	New Delhi
10.	Switzerland is partner country at the 17th edition of BioAsia2020 held with the theme "Today For Tomorrow".	Hyderabad, Telangana.
11.	54th edition of DGSP/IGSP Conference	Pune, MH
12.	24th Meeting of Western Zonal Council	Panaji, Goa
13.	22nd National Conference on e-Governance. Theme- 'Digital India: Success to Excellence'	Shillong, Meghalaya
14.	Technology Expo by HRD Minister	IIT Delhi
15.	The 3rd edition of ScooNews Global Educators Fest (SGEF)	Udaipur
16.	The 2nd All India Annual Conference	New Delhi
17.	The 3rd International Electric Vehicle Conclave	Manesar, Haryana
18.	United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification (COP14)	Greater Noida, UP
19.	4th edition Internet of Things (IoT) India Congress 2019 held in with the theme of 'Mainstreaming the Internet of Things'.	Bengaluru, Karnataka
20.	The 7th 'Community Radio Sammelan'	New Delhi
21.	The 12th India Security Summit	New Delhi
22.	4th General Assembly of Association of World Election Bodies	Bengaluru
23.	5th edition of the aquaculture event, Aqua Aquaria India	Hyderabad
24.	72nd Session of the WHO Regional Committee for South-East Asia	New Delhi
25.	India- New Development Bank workshop	New Delhi
26.	1st National Conference on Cyber Crime Investigation and Cyber Forensics	New Delhi
27.	The 68th Plenary session of the North Eastern Council (NEC)	Guwahati
28.	1st conference on military medicine for the SCO	New Delhi
29.	India's first-ever helicopter summit	Dehradun
30.	6th India-China Strategic Economic Dialogue	New Delhi
31.	International conference ANGAN (Augmenting Nature by Green Affordable New-habitat)	New Delhi
32.	National Conference on "Criminal Activities and Radicalization in Jails: Vulnerability of Inmates and Jail Staff and their Protection"	New Delhi
33.	Union Home Minister Amit Shah chaired 29th meeting of the Northern Zonal Council	Chandigarh
34.	State Power Ministers' Conference	Gujarat
35.	1st India Sports Summit 2019	New Delhi
36.	2nd "India-China Informal Summit"	Mamallapuram, Tamil Nadu
37.	The first National Hindi Science writers conference 2019	Lucknow
38.	Conference on 'One Nation One Tag - FASTag'	New Delhi
39.	41st DRDO Directors Conference	New Delhi
40.	91st Interpol General Assembly in 2022	India
41.	1st India-Bangladesh Stakeholders' meet	Guwahati
42.	Global Bio-India 2019	New Delhi
43.	10th Asian Conference of Emergency Medicine	New Delhi
44.	Sanskrit Bharati Vishwa Sammelan	New Delhi
45.	58th Indian Society of Aerospace Medicine Annual Conference. The theme for this year's conference is 'Changing Paradigms in Aerospace Healthcare'.	Bengaluru
46.	India-ASEAN Business Summit 2019 in on the theme: "Today, Tomorrow, Together".	New Delhi
47.	Research Designs and Standards Organization organized the "Mega Vendor Meet 2019" in Lucknow, UP.	
48.	7th World Hindu Economic Forum (WHEF) 2019 held in Mumbai.	
49.	27th Conference of Central and State Statistical Organizations (COCSSO) by Ministry of Statistics and Programme Implementation (MoSPI). Theme "Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs)".	Kolkata
50.	International Conference on Yoga at with the theme 'Yoga for Heart Care'.	Mysuru, Karnataka

	Name of the Summit/Events	Venue
51.	“Replication of Good Governance Practices in Union Territories of J&K and Ladakh.	Jammu.
52.	8th International Conference on Agricultural Statistics (ICAS-VIII) in New Delhi.	
53.	2nd edition of South Asia Safety Summit	New Delhi
54.	Global Bio-India Summit 2019	New Delhi
55.	1st International Conference on “Landslides Risk Reduction and Resilience” in New Delhi.	
56.	47th All India Police Science Congress (AIPSC)	Lucknow
57.	Armed Forces Flag Day-CSR Conclave in New Delhi	
58.	3rd edition of National Public Procurement Conclave in New Delhi	
59.	PM Narendra Modi addresses ASSOCHAM annual conference in Delhi. The theme of the event was ‘New India Aspiring for a USD 5 trillion economy’. The event was organised on the completion of 100 years of ASSOCHAM.	

Summits Held Internationally

60.	The 5th Round of India-Japan Maritime Affairs Dialogue was held in Tokyo, Japan.	
61.	External Affairs Minister S Jaishankar co-chaired 19th Joint Commission meeting with Foreign Minister of Iran in Tehran.	
62.	52nd ASEAN summit in Bangkok, Thailand.	
63.	10th Mekong-Ganga Cooperation (MGC) in Bangkok, Thailand.	
64.	The 5th meeting of India-Nepal Joint Commission in Kathmandu, Nepal.	
65.	The Group of 7 or G7 Summit (informal) has begun in Biarritz, France.	
66.	The 2019 Indo Pacific Chiefs of Defence (CHOD) Conference in Bangkok, Thailand.	
67.	4th Indian Ocean Conference 2019 in Male, Maldives. The theme was: ‘Securing the Indian Ocean Region: Traditional and Non-Traditional Challenges’.	
68.	Japan-India Defence Ministerial Meeting in Tokyo, Japan.	
69.	5th Eastern Economic Forum held in Vladivostok, Russia	
70.	24th World Energy Congress commence in Abu Dhabi under the patronage of Sheikh Khalifa bin Zayed Al Nahyan, President of the United Arab Emirates. The theme of this World Energy Congress is “Energy for Prosperity”.	
71.	Nepal Infrastructure Summit 2019 was held in Kathmandu, Nepal. The theme of the summit was “Resilient Infrastructure for Sustainable Development”.	
72.	World Sindhi Congress (WSC) hosted a 31st international conference on Sindh in London.	
73.	9th Regional Comprehensive Economic Partnership (RCEP) Intersessional Ministerial Meeting in Bangkok, Thailand. Piyush Goyal was leads from India.	
74.	The 35th ASEAN Summit in Bangkok, Thailand.	
75.	The biennial Commonwealth Law Ministers’ Conference in Colombo, Sri Lanka.	
76.	6th parliamentary summit of G20 countries, held in Tokyo, Japan 2019	
77.	2nd ‘No Money for Terror’ 2019 conference going on in Melbourne, Australia.	
78.	15th governing council meeting (GCM) of the South Asia Cooperative Environment Programme 2019 (SACEP) in Dhaka, Bangladesh.	
79.	22nd Session of UN Committee on Convention on Rights of Persons with Disabilities	Geneva
80.	11th BRICS Summit in Brasilia, Brazil. The theme of the Summit this year is “Economic Growth for an Innovative Future”.	
81.	India will host the 19th council of heads of government of the SCO 2020.	
82.	18th Non-Aligned Movement (NAM) Summit	Baku, Azerbaijan
83.	9th edition of Bangladesh-India Friendship Dialogue	Cox Bazar, Bangladesh
84.	India will host the SCO Forum of Young Scientists and Innovators in 2020.	
85.	United Kingdom(UK) hosted two days organised 2019 NATO (North Atlantic Treaty Organization) Summit	London

Committees in News

	Purpose for which Committee is formed	Headed by
1.	To formulate steps to cease illegal groundwater extraction	NGT has constituted a committee
2.	Committee of officers to suggest measures to augment GST revenue collections and administration.	Central Government has constituted

	Purpose for which Committee is formed	Headed by
3.	Tamil Nadu government constituted two committees to deal over water disputes with Kerala relating to the Parambikulam-Aliyar Project (PAP) and the Pandiyar-Punnampuzha project	Secretary of Tamil Nadu's Public Works Department (PWD) K. Manivasan would lead both the committees.
4.	The Jammu and Kashmir government has set up a 10-member committee to declare Srinagar's famous Dal Lake and its surrounding areas as an eco-sensitive zone (ESZ) , following concerns over its shrinking size. The capacity of the lake has shrunk to 40%.	

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National Current Affairs

- **Election Commission of India** has launched a **Political Parties Registration Tracking Management System (PPRTMS)**.
- Union Home Minister laid the foundation stone of Directorate General Building of **CRPF** in **New Delhi**.
- **Finance Minister** has launched an **e-auction platform "eBkray"**.
- **Minister of State (I/C)** for Civil Aviation launched the Biometric enabled **Centralised Access Control System (CACS)** and 'e-BCAS Project Training Module'.
- Indian Railways introduced a new **"Passenger Information System"** at Anakapalle Railway Station of Vijayawada Division in South Central Railway.
- Union Minister for **Environment, Forest and Climate Change** released the biennial **"India State of Forest Report (ISFR)"**, in New Delhi.
- **NITI Aayog** released **2nd edition of the Sustainable Development Goals (SDG) India Index**, which comprehensively documents the progress made by India's States and Union Territories towards achieving the 2030 SDG targets.
- **Coal Ministry** will establish **'Sustainable Development Cell' (SDC)** for promoting sustainable coal mining in the country.
- **Government of India** has constructed **Girls' Hostel** for **Nepal Armed Police Force School, Kirtipur, Nepal**. The new infrastructure is constructed with the GoI's grant assistance of **40.42 million Nepali Rupees**.
- President Ram Nath Kovind released the **mobile app** of the **Red Cross Society of India**, developed by the **Telangana Centre for Good Governance**.
- Swachh Bharat Mission-Urban has achieved its target of creating **Urban India Open Defecation Free** as urban areas of 35 states and Union Territories have become ODF.
- Petroleum and Natural Gas Minister unveiled **India's 1st long-distance CNG bus** fitted with CNG cylinders in **New Delhi**. It can travel around 1000 kilometres in a single fill and will **ply from Delhi to Dehradun**.
- Prime Minister Narendra Modi named **Rohtang passageway** in **Himachal Pradesh** as **Atal Tunnel** to mark the 95th birth anniversary of former Prime Minister Atal Bihari Vajpayee.
- The Union Health Minister has inaugurated the **2nd edition of "Eat Right Mela"** in **New Delhi** organized by Food Safety and Standards Authority of India (FSSAI). **"The PURPLE Book"** a handbook on diets for diseases was also launched during the event.
- **Chhatrapati Shivaji Maharaj Terminus (CSMT)** railway station in **Mumbai** has been conferred with **'Eat Right Station'** certification with the five-star rating by the Food Safety and Standards Authority of India (FSSAI) for **food safety and hygiene**.
- All India Radio organized the **National Symposium of Poets 2020** which was attended by select poets of all 22 languages recognized in the constitution.

- **Walmart** will train **50,000 entrepreneurs** from the micro, small & medium enterprises (MSME) sector by opening 25 institute hubs in India under the '**Walmart Vriddhi Supplier Development Programme**' across the nation in **next 5 years** which would train the MSME entrepreneurs.
- **President Ram Nath Kovind** has laid the foundation stone of the memorial to be built in the memory of the **Paika rebellion, a 200-year-old armed revolt in 1817** against the British East India Company in **Odisha**.
- The external affairs ministry is organising the **6th Indian Ocean Dialogue** with the theme "**Indo-Pacific: Re-imagining the Indian Ocean through an Expanded Geography**" and **Delhi Dialogue XI** with the theme of "**Advancing Partnership in Indo-Pacific**" in **New Delhi**.
- **Department of Social Justice and Empowerment** has started the scheme of **National award** for outstanding service in the field of **Prevention of Alcoholism and Drug abuse**. The award will be distributed on the occasion of International Day against Drug Abuse and Illicit Trafficking on 26th of June 2020.
- **Jammu and Kashmir** will host the workshop on **Bamboo cultivation** which focuses on the promotion of Bamboo cultivation in the potential **Kandi** areas of Jammu.
- A **National Tribal Dance Festival** will be held in **Chhattisgarh's** capital Raipur.
- **FASTags** or prepaid rechargeable tags for toll collection have become mandatory for all vehicles from 15th December 2019.
- The Union government has launched **National Broadband Mission** to provide Broadband access to all villages by **2022**.
- **Government e-commerce portal GeM** launched a national outreach programme, "**GeM Samvaad**", to bring on-board more local sellers.
- Indian Railways has decided to grant **50% concession** for youth participating in the "**Ek Bharat Shrestha Bharat**" programme.
- **Chennai Corporation** launched India's first waste exchange platform namely "**Madras Waste Exchange**" (www.madraswasteexchange.com) to buy and sell municipal solid waste online.
- The **Indian Pharmacopoeia (IP)** recognised formally by the National Department of Regulation of Medicines and Health Products of the Ministry of Public Health of Islamic Republic of Afghanistan.
- Indian Navy Ship **LCU L-56**, the 6th of the **Landing Craft Utility (LCU) MK IV class ships**, was commissioned into the Indian Navy by Vice-Admiral Atul Kumar Jain.
- **Atal Innovation Mission (AIM)** is all set to launch a new program for **community innovation** in New Delhi to make innovation ecosystem socially inclusive as well as to ensure equitable distribution of infrastructure for innovation across the country to encourage the spirit of innovation.
- **Dr Harsh Vardhan, Union Minister of Health and Family Welfare** at the **110th Annual Day celebrations of National Centre for Disease Control (NCDC)** inaugurated the laboratory complex (Lab 3) at NCDC and the new building of National Vector Borne Disease Control Programme (NVBDCP).
- Indian Railways '**Northeast Frontier Railway zone**' has started a unique initiative to earmark a special portion of the SLR coach with **pink** colour.
- The Government of India begins the **7th Economic Census from Tripura. Ministry of Statistics and Programme Implementation (MoSPI)** will conduct the census.
- **The 5th international Dharma-Dhamma** conference was inaugurated by Union Minister of State Kiren Rijju.
- Haryana CM **Manohar Lal Khattar** invited **Nepal** to be the **partner country** for this year's '**Gita Jayanti Mahotsav 2019**' in **Kurukshetra**.
- During the President Ram Nath Kovind's visit to **Gambia, India** has promised to extend an assistance of **USD 500,000** to Gambia.
- **Minister of Petroleum and Natural Gas & Steel** has launched **Atal Community Innovation Centre (ACIC)** in New Delhi, to encourage the spirit of innovation at the community level.
- **Lok Sabha Speaker** has announced that the **Lower House** will become **paperless** from the next session.
- Cabinet has approved the setting up of **ISRO Technical Liaison Unit (ITLU)** at **Moscow in Russia**.
- **Wing Commander Tarun Chaudhri** has become the **first Indian Air Force pilot** to perform a wingsuit skydive jump.
- **Scientists at IIT Hyderabad** have developed low-cost, environment-friendly **solar cells** by employing an off-the-shelf dye used to make **kumkum or vermilion**.
- A joint venture company **Khanij Bidesh India limited** has been set up with the participation of 3 Central Public Sector Enterprises: **National Aluminium Company Limited, Hindustan Copper Limited and Mineral Exploration Company limited**.
- **Bureau of Indian Standards (BIS)** in collaboration with **Ladakh Autonomous Hill Development Council (LAHDC)** will work together to promote the pashmina products at the high-level market for the proper value of this fine product of **pashmina (Lena-Ladakhi)**.
- **Ministry of Information & Broadcasting** has launched a competition for designing a **Postage Stamp** along with the **First Day Cover** to commemorate **Golden Jubilee** edition of **International Film Festival of India (IFFI)**.
- **President Ram Nath Kovind** inaugurated exhibitions on **Mahatma Gandhi and Khadi** at the "**Ebunjan Theatre**" in the **Gambia** to commemorate the **150th birth anniversary of the Mahatma Gandhi**.
- National Academy of Art, Lalit Kala Akademi, celebrated its 65th Foundation Day in New Delhi.

- The Rajya Sabha has passed the **Consumer Protection Bill, 2019**. The bill will lead to setting up of a Central Consumer Protection Authority to promote, protect and enforce the rights of consumers as a class.
- **India contributed 5 million USD** to the UN Palestine refugee agency and called for ensuring sustained financial support for the organisation's work. The amount was hand over to the United Nations Relief and Works Agency (UNRWA) for Palestinian Refugees.
- The Rajya Sabha has passed a Bill for more judges in Supreme Court. The bill proposed an increase in the sanctioned strength of the Supreme Court from **30 to 33 judges**.
- Union HRD Minister will launch 'Samagra Shiksha-Jal Suraksha' to create awareness about Water Conservation among all school students in the country.
- **The NITI Aayog** will launch the **4th Edition of Women Transforming India (WTI) Awards** in collaboration with the United Nations to recognize women entrepreneurs from across India.
- President Ram Nath Kovind has signed **National Medical Commission Bill**. The NMC bill aims at mega reforms in the medical education sector and will replace the nearly **63-year-old Indian Medical Council Act**.
- President has approved the Motor Vehicles (Amendment) Act, 2019. The bill amends the Motor Vehicles Act, 1988.
- The Khadi and Village Industry Commission has launched "**Leather Mission**" on World Tribal Day. Under this mission, the commission will give leather kits to the leather artisans across the nation.
- The President of India, Shri Ram Nath Kovind, hosted an 'At Home' reception for freedom fighters. The reception was hosted on the occasion of the **77th anniversary of Quit India Day (August 9)** at Rashtrapati Bhavan.
- On the nation's Independence Day, Air India will become the 1st Indian airline to fly over the North Pole while connecting **New Delhi and North America**.
- Union Information and Broadcasting Minister has released a patriotic song "**Watan**" to mark the occasion of Independence Day, 2019.
- Central government has made "**Headgear**" mandatory for children above 4 years while travelling on a motorcycle. Only Sikhs wearing turban have been exempted from the provision of Section 129 that makes helmets mandatory for all riders of motorcycles above 4 years of age.
- Union Housing and Urban Affairs Ministry has launched an app "**Swachh Nagar**" that will allow users to have waste — solid, wet or construction and demolition (C&D) — collected by their urban local bodies.
- **Railway Protection Force (RPF)** of Indian Railways launched a Special Drive with a Code Name "**Operation Number Plate**" to identify and verify all vehicles parked in Railway premises, circulating area, parking and even in the 'No Parking' areas for a longer duration.
- Prime Minister has announced the appointment of a Chief of **Defence Staff**. The Chief of Defence Staff will be above the three Service Chiefs.
- **The Inter-State Council** has been reconstituted with **Prime Minister** as its chairman and 6 Union ministers and all chief ministers as its members. Home Minister Amit Shah will chair the standing committee of the **Inter-State Council**.
- National Tribal Festival "**Aadi Mahotsav**" has begun in **Leh-Ladakh**. The theme of the festival is "A celebration of the spirit of Tribal Craft, Culture and Commerce".
- India has contributed **\$1 million** to the **UN Special Purpose Trust Fund** for the Resident Coordinator System. The Special Purpose Trust Fund (SPTF) is a specific fund housed within the UN Secretariat.
- The Union Minister of Human Resource Development inaugurated the International Conference titled "**Journey of Teacher Education: Local to Global**" in **New Delhi**.
- **Sports Minister Kiren Rijiju** and former India football captain Baichung Bhutia **flagged off Op-Blue Freedom**. This is an initiative in which a group of armed forces veterans train sports enthusiasts in survival training and self-defence.
- **NISHTHA (National Initiative for School Heads and Teachers Holistic Advancement)** is the training programme to improve Learning Outcomes at the Elementary level across the country. This is the largest teachers' training programme of its kind in the world.
- **Amazon** has opened its largest campus in the world in **Hyderabad**.
- Union Government is planning to launch an e-commerce portal named "**Bharatcraft**" for **MSME's**. The portal is based on other e-commerce portals like '**Alibaba**' and '**Amazon**'.
- The Health Ministry has notified the new warnings on "**Tobacco packs**". The text messages that will be printed on the packs are "**tobacco causes painful death**". A quitline number "1800-11-2356" will also be printed on the packs.
- President Ram Nath Kovind inaugurated the **first-ever World Youth Conference**. The theme of the conference was '**Vasudhaiva Kutumbakam: Gandhi for the Contemporary World: Celebrating the 150th birth anniversary of Mahatma Gandhi**'.
- "**Hunar Haat**" has proved to be an effective programme to provide employment and employment opportunities to master artisans.
- Prime Minister of India Narendra Modi has launched the **RuPay card**, making the **UAE** the first country in the Middle East to initiate the Indian indigenous system of electronic payment.
- **National Centre for Avian Ecotoxicology** as inaugurated at Salim Ali Centre for Ornithology and Natural Sciences (SACON) in **Coimbatore, Tamil Nadu**. The centre would study the movement of environmental contaminants such as pesticides, heavy metals etc.

- Union Health Minister Harsh Vardhan inaugurated FSSAI's **National Food Laboratory (NFL)** in **Ghaziabad** on the occasion of 13th anniversary of the Food Safety and Standards Act, 2006.
- Human Resource Development Ministry has launched the **National Digital Library of India** project to develop a framework of virtual repository of learning resources with a single-window search facility.
- Mobile application "**Janaushadhi Sugam**" was launched. It will enable people to search for Janaushadhi generic medicines and the stores at the tip of their fingers.
- **India** has become the **first country** in the world to issue **Biometric Seafarer Identity Document (BSID)**, capturing the facial biometric data of seafarers.
- The **Union Environment Ministry** has transferred **Rs 47,436 crore** to **27 States** for **afforestation**. The amount has been released from the **Compensatory Afforestation Fund**.
- Union Human Resource Development Minister launched one of the **world's largest** Integrated Online Junction for School Education '**Shagun**' in New Delhi.
- The amended provisions of the **Motor Vehicle Act**, which hike the penalty for traffic rules violation have come into force from **01st September 2019**. As many as **63 clauses** of the Act, which correspond to an increase in the fine for traffic rule violation came into force.
- The Election Commission launched a new mega **Electors Verification Programme (EVP)** across the country.
- The entire month of **September 2019** will be celebrated as the **Rashtriya Poshan Maah**. This year the theme is **Complementary Feeding**.
- Tourism Minister launched **first-ever architectural LED illumination in Qutub Minar, New Delhi**.
- PM **Narendra Modi** inaugurated the **Garvi Gujarat Bhavan** in **New Delhi**.
- Government of India has announced a contribution of **22 million US Dollars** to the Global Fund for **AIDS, TB and Malaria (GFTAM)** for the **6th replenishment cycle (2020-22)**.
- Delhi's **Indira Gandhi International (IGI) Airport** gets **India's tallest ATC tower** to enhance the safety and boost the efficiency of air transport management services. Its height is **102 metres**.
- HRD Ministry has awarded the Institute of Eminence status to 5 public institutions. The status was awarded to the following institutions: **IIT Madras, IIT Kharagpur, Delhi University, Benares Hindu University, and University of Hyderabad**.
- Union Minister of State for Culture and Tourism (Independent Charge) flagged off the **first-ever Mobile Science Exhibition buses for the entire Ladakh Region in Leh**.
- The **central government** will spend **3.5 lakh crore rupees** in the next five years on '**Jal Jeevan Mission**' to deliver potable water at every household across the country.
- Prime Minister Narendra Modi will dedicate to the nation India's second **riverine Multi-Modal terminal (MMT)** built at Sahibganj in **Jharkhand**.
- PM Modi has launched the **National Animal Disease Control Programme** in UP's Mathura.
- Minister of State for Agriculture, Parshottam Rupala has launched a multilingual Mobile App "**CHC Farm Machinery**" during a conference on **Crop Residue Management** in New Delhi.
- **Skill India** gets its first Batch of **IES officers** to the **Indian Skill Development Services (ISDS)** cadre. The aim for this is to attract young and talented administrators towards institutionalizing the Skill Development environment in the country.
- Minister for Skill Development and Entrepreneurship (MSDE), laid the foundation stone for **Indian Institute of Skills (IIS)** at **Mumbai**.
- **India** has joined the **Global Antimicrobial Resistance Research (AMR)** and Development hub as a new member.
- The **World Bank** will provide **Rs 3,000 crore** assistance to finance **mini and mega food parks** across India.
- Union Government has set a target of setting up **12,500 Ayush Health and Wellness Centres** across the country.
- **Jal Shakti Minister** and Sports Minister flagged off "**Great Ganga Run-2019**" at Jawaharlal Nehru Stadium in New Delhi.
- **Saint Vincent and Grenadines** became the **79th country** to join the **International Solar Alliance (ISA)**, an initiative by India aimed at combating the threats of climate change and global warming.
- Union Minister for Communications, Electronics & Information Technology and Law & Justice **Ravi Shankar Prasad** has launched the **Maritime Communication Services** at **Mumbai, Maharashtra**.
- India's first **National Antimicrobial Resistance Hub** was recently inaugurated in **Kolkata**.
- India has formally launched an initiative to fund **1000 scholars from South East Asian countries** to pursue **PhD at its 23 Indian Institutes of Technology**.
- The Public Premises (**Eviction of Unauthorized Occupants**) **Amendment Bill, 2019** has come into effect.
- India has commenced a special training programme for **Maldivian and Bangladeshi civil servants at Mussoorie in Uttarakhand**.
- **5th International Ramayan Festival** organized by **Indian Council for Cultural Relations (ICCR)**, in New Delhi.
- Union Minister of State for Power **RK Singh** and Jammu and Kashmir Governor **Satya Pal Malik** has jointly inaugurated 15 power projects.
- The **Jal Shakti Ministry** is planning to develop a **National Water Museum** to increase awareness among people on the conservation of the natural resource.

- The Department of India Posts has announced commencing of International Speed Post (EMS) Service to **Bosnia and Herzegovina, Brazil, Ecuador, Kazakhstan, Lithuania and North Macedonia.**
- **Google** has announced that it will open an **artificial intelligence (AI) based research lab “Google Research India”**. The lab will be opened in Bengaluru.
- The country’s **first central police university** will be set up by the Union home ministry off the **Yamuna Expressway in Greater Noida.**
- Human Resource Development Minister **Ramesh Pokhriyal ‘Nishank’** has launched Waste Management Accelerator for **Aspiring Women Entrepreneurs (WAVE) summit.**
- The **Digital Communication Commission**, the highest decision making body in the Department of **Telecom** has approved multiple projects worth over **Rs 8,500 crore.**
- **National Thermal Power Corporation Limited (NTPC)** plans to set up a 5-gigawatt solar park in the western state of Gujarat, which would be the **biggest in the country.**
- **Maharashtra and Haryana** Assembly (Vidhan Sabha) Election 2019 Date, Scheduled on 21st October, while counting of votes will be held on October 24.
- Prime Minister **Narendra Modi** inaugurated a 50 kilowatt **‘Gandhi Solar Park’** at the UN headquarters. PM Modi and other leaders also released a commemorative postage stamp of Mahatma Gandhi, at the programme “Relevance of Mahatma Gandhi in the Contemporary World” at the UN headquarters.
- **President Ram Nath Kovind** inaugurated the sixth **“India Water Week-2019”** being organised with the theme of “Water cooperation-coping with 21st-century challenge” at Vigyan Bhawan in New Delhi.
- As per the **Indian Meteorological Department**, Earthquake hits the Pakistan-India border region at around 4:31 PM on 24th September 2019. The earthquake was of the magnitude of **6.3** on the Richter scale and a depth of **40 km.**
- The Asian Development Bank has slashed its growth forecast for India for fiscal year 2019-20 to **6.5% from 7%.**
- The Union Minister of State for Culture and Tourism (Independent Charge), inaugurated the exhibition of **India Tourism Mart (ITM) 2019 in New Delhi.**
- The President of India Ramnath Kovind unveiled the first **Indigenous High-Temperature Fuel Cell System.** This system is developed by **Council of Scientific and Industrial Research (CSIR).**
- The International Astronomical Union (IAU) has named an **asteroid**, formally known as a minor planet and located between Mars and Jupiter, after Indian classical singer **Pandit Jasraj.**
- Union Home Minister **Amit Shah** flagged off **Delhi-Katra Vande Bharat Express** from the New Delhi Railway Station. The first commercial run of the train will start from 5th October.
- **Palestine** has released a **commemorative postage stamp** on **Mahatma Gandhi**, honouring his legacy and values, to mark the 150 birth anniversary of the world leader.
- Union Minister **Smriti Irani** Inaugurates India’s Largest **‘Charkha’** made of Waste Plastic in Noida. This ‘charkha’ (spinning wheel) made of used plastic waste was inaugurated the eve of Mahatma Gandhi’s 150th birth anniversary.
- The Nation pays homage to the Father of the Nation, Mahatma Gandhi on his **150th birth anniversary on 2nd October 2019.**
- The nation is also remembering Former **Prime Minister Lal Bahadur Shastri** on his **115th birth anniversary.** He gave the nation the powerful slogan of **Jai Jawan, Jai Kisan** to enthuse soldiers and farmers.
- China unveiled the **Dongfeng-41 (DF-41)** intercontinental-range ballistic missile, touted to be the most powerful missile on the planet at the National Day parade, as China observed its 70th anniversary of Communist rule.
- The nationwide **Paryatan Parv, 2019** kicked off to promote tourism in the country. The aim is to propagate the message of **Dekho Apna Desh** to encourage people to visit tourist destinations of the country and also spread the message of Tourism for All.
- Prime Minister **Narendra Modi** and **Mauritius PM Pravind Jugnauth** jointly inaugurated 2 landmark projects in Mauritius via video conference.
- Tourism Ministry has launched the Audio Guide facility **“Audio Odigos”** for 12 sites of India (including Iconic Sites) on the occasion of **“Paryatan Parv 2019”.**
- Passengers of IRCTC’s **Delhi-Lucknow Tejas Express** will be compensated in case of delays, the Railway subsidiary, announcing a first of its kind offer from any national carrier.
- Uttar Pradesh Chief Minister **Yogi Adityanath** flagged off country’s first private train **Delhi-Lucknow Tejas Express** started its maiden journey from Lucknow. It will be the first train of Indian Railways that will be entirely run by **Indian Railway Catering and Tourism Corporation (IRCTC).**
- The **Goa Maritime Conclave (GMC)-2019** was inaugurated by the National Security Advisor, Shri Ajit Kumar Doval, at Goa.
- **Atal Innovation Mission (AIM), NITI Aayog** and United Nations Development Programme (**UNDP**) **India** jointly launched **Youth Co:Lab.** It aims at accelerating **social entrepreneurship** and **innovation** in young India and to recognize young people as critical drivers of sustainable development.
- The three-day event **“5th World Parliament of Science, Religion and Philosophy”** with the theme of **‘role of science, religion and philosophy for world peace and well-being of mankind’** will be held at the MIT World Peace University in **Pune, Maharashtra.**

- **All India Institute of Medical Sciences** in collaboration with the **Health Ministry** launched the 1st-ever website and mobile application on oral health awareness “**eDantSeva**” which contains a detailed list of all the dental facility and colleges, Information, Education and Communication (IEC) material.
- **Central Board of Direct Taxes** has launched “**Faceless e-Assessment scheme**” that eliminates **physical interface** between an assessing officer and an assessee. They also inaugurated the National e-Assessment Centre (**NeAC**) in **Delhi** to be headed by **Principal Chief Commissioner** of Income Tax.
- “**DHRUV**” a Pradhan Mantri Innovation Learning Programme has commenced from **ISRO** in **Bengaluru** and will conclude at IIT, Delhi. It aims to further sharpen innovative imagination, skills and knowledge of the students who are expected to contribute to bringing solutions to socio-economic, political and environmental issues in the country.
- **Jal Shakti Minister** has launched an initiative ‘**Ganga Amantran**’. The initiative has been launched to **connect with the stakeholders of the river**. It is a pioneering exploratory open-water **rafting and kayaking expedition** on the Ganga river. The expedition will start at Devaprayag and culminate at Ganga Sagar.
- **SARAS Aajeevika Mela** begins at India Gate Lawns, in **New Delhi** and organized by the **Ministry of Rural Development** under the initiative of the Deendayal Antyodaya Yojana-National Rural Livelihoods Mission.
- **Government of India** has launched the **Surakshit Matritva Aashwasan (SUMAN)** initiative in **New Delhi** during the 13th Conference of Central Council of Health and Family Welfare. It aims to assure dignified, respectful and quality health care at no cost for every woman and newborn visiting the public health facility
- Vice President **M Venkaiah Naidu** has signed an **MoU** with the island nation **Comoros**. As per MoU, **India** will extend over **\$60 mn line of credit** to Comoros for Energy and Maritime Defence Cooperation.
- 10th edition of the **Rashtriya Sanskriti Mahotsav-National Cultural Festival** is being organized by the Union Ministry of Culture from 14th to 21st of October under the ‘**Ek Bharat, Shreshtha Bharat**’ campaign in Madhya Pradesh.
- **Prime Minister Narendra Modi** has become the most-followed elected world leader on photo-sharing app **Instagram**.
- The nation pays homage to **former President Dr APJ Abdul Kalam** on his **88th birth anniversary** and remembered his contributions to the country.
- **Air India** became the first airline in the world to use a **Taxibot on a A320 aircraft** with passengers on board. Taxibot is a robot-used aircraft tractor for taxiing an aircraft from parking bay to runway and vice versa.
- **Central Board of Indirect Taxes and Customs** has launched a revamped and streamlined programme to attract investments into India and strengthen Make in India through manufacture and other operations under the bond scheme, of **Customs Act, 1962**.
- Indian Railways (IR) has announced that it will become a **net-zero carbon emitter by 2030**.
- **Railways Minister Piyush Goyal** flagged off 9 ‘Sewa Service’ trains.
- India’s longest Tunnel **Chenani- Nashri** on **NH 44**, in Jammu and Kashmir will be named after **Bhartiya Jansangh Founder Dr Shyama Prasad Mukherjee**.
- Union Road Transport and Highways Minister **Nitin Gadkari** has announced the naming of new **National Highway No. 703AA** as “**Shri Guru Nanak Dev Ji Marg**.”
- **Union Minister for Health and Family Welfare Harsh Vardhan** released a **postal stamp** to commemorate the centenary celebrations of the city-based ICMR-National Institute of Nutrition (NIN).
- Defence Minister Rajnath Singh inaugurated **Col. Chewang Rinchen Setu (Bridge)** which is named in honour of Colonel Chewang Rinchen and has been **constructed** by the **Border Road Organization** at an altitude of 14,650 feet in the forward area of Ladakh region.
- Union Minister of State for Culture & Tourism (IC), Prahlad Singh Patel launched the **E-Portal of Centre for Cultural Resources and Training (CCRT) ‘Digital Bharat Digital Sanskriti’** and CCRT YouTube Channel in New Delhi. Film ‘**Rahas: Raaslila of Chhattisgarh**’ directed by Sunil Shukla and a book “**Dewas ki Sanskritik Parampara**” written by Jeewan Singh Thakur was also released.
- The **United Nations World Food Programme (WFP)** has launched a cinema advertisement campaign ‘**Feed Our Future**’ to raise awareness and take steps against **hunger and malnutrition** in India.
- Government of India has decided to **open** the entire area from **Siachen base camp to Kumar Post for tourism purposes**. The step has been taken to boost tourism in Ladakh.
- **Indian Railways** has installed the most advanced **Electronic Interlocking System** on the **Grand Chord route** reducing the travel time between Delhi and Howrah to about 12 hours from the existing 17 to 19 hours. Grand Chord is part of the Howrah-Gaya-Delhi line and Howrah-Allahabad-Mumbai line.
- **IIM Kozhikode and Mangalore Refineries and Petrochemicals Ltd.** have announced a special drive Labelled as “**La Eve (meaning The Woman)**” to support women entrepreneurs in the country.
- ‘**Maharatna**’ status has been granted by the Government to state-owned **Hindustan Petroleum Corporation Limited** and **Power Grid Corporation of India Limited**.

- The Ministry of **Health and Family Welfare** will observe the **Vigilance Awareness Week** from 28th October to 2nd November, 2019 with the theme of **"Integrity-a way of life"**.
- The Union Cabinet chaired by Prime Minister Narendra Modi has approved the **merger** of loss-making telecom firms **BSNL** and **MTNL** as part of a revival package.
- The Centre's first-ever common foundation course **"Aarambh"** (Beginning) for 2019 batch probationer civil servants has begun at the **Statue of Unity** in Kevadia, **Gujarat** with the theme **'How to achieve the goal of making India a 5 trillion dollar economy'**.
- After the implementation of **"Jammu and Kashmir Reorganisation Act, 2019"** from **31st October 2019**, the total number of **states** in the country has reduced to **28** while the total **Union Territories** will go up to **nine**.
- The people over **80 years** of age and Persons with Disability can now cast their votes **through postal ballot**.
- Kerala Governor Arif Mohammed Khan inaugurated the **3rd edition of Global Ayurveda Summit 2019**. he two-day summit organized by Confederation of Indian Industry (CII) will deliberate on the theme **"Mainstreaming Ayurveda through Startups, Innovation and Branding"**.
- Vice President M. Venkaiah Naidu inaugurated the **21st North East Book Fair** in Guwahati, Assam.
- Union Minister of Health and Family Welfare launched Intensified Mission **Indradhanush (IMI) 2.0 portal** in New Delhi.
- Union Minister of State (Independent Charge) for AYUSH inaugurated **National Research Institute of Unani Medicine for Skin Disorders (NRIUMSD)** upgraded from Central Research Institute of Unani Medicine (CRIUM) at Erragadda, Hyderabad.
- The Government of India released the maps of **newly created union territories of Jammu-Kashmir and Ladakh** and the map of India depicting these union territories.
- The first-ever containerised cargo movement via **Indo-Bangladesh** protocol route and Brahmaputra river will start from West Bengal's Haldia. The vessel **MV Maheshwari**, carrying 53 containers of petrochemicals, edible oil and beverage will take 12-15 days to reach the IWAI terminal at Pandu in Assam's Guwahati.
- The **Ministry of Skill Development & Entrepreneurship (MSDE)** launched the **SkillsBuild platform** in collaboration with **IBM**.
- Agriculture Minister Narendra Singh Tomar released the **5th edition of Wastelands Atlas 2019**.
- Prime Minister Narendra Modi inaugurates **5th India International Science Festival (IISF)** at Biswa Bangla Convention Centre, **Kolkata** through video conferencing. The theme of the festival is **"RISEN: Research, Innovation and Science Empowering the Nation"**.
- Union Human Resource Development Minister Ramesh Pokhriyal 'Nishank' and Minister for Food Processing Industries Harsimrat Kaur Badal will launch **three books on Guru Nanak Dev Ji**. The National Book Trust has published three titles: **Guru Nanak Bani, Nanak Bani, and Sakhian Guru Nanak Dev** to spread the message of Guru Nanak Dev's writings among readers of Indian sub-continent.
- **Indian Railways** has launched three applications for all-India roll out. The applications, namely **CRS Sanction Management System, Rail-road crossing GAD approval system and TMS for construction** aim at **beefing up IT-enabled services**.
- The **5th edition of Global Exhibition on Services (GES 2019)** will be held at **Bengaluru, Karnataka**, to engage industry and governments across the world and to promote greater exchange of trade in services between India and the rest of the world.
- Union Minister of Petroleum & Natural Gas and Steel Dharmendra Pradhan inaugurated the **India Pavilion** at the **Abu Dhabi International Petroleum Exhibition and Conference (ADIPEC)**.
- The Government of India has given approval for setting up **four medical device parks** in **Andhra Pradesh, Telangana, Tamil Nadu and Kerala** with a view to support Make in India initiative and provide world-class products at an affordable price for treatment.
- The Supreme Court **five-judge bench** led by **Chief Justice Ranjan Gogoi** ruled that the **office of Chief Justice** comes under the **transparency law, the Right to Information (RTI) Act**.
- Union Minister for Science and Technology Harsh Vardhan inaugurated an exhibition of **Technologies in Food Processing** developed by **Council of Scientific and Industrial Research** organized in **New Delhi**.
- Union Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change is undertaking a mass cleanliness-cum-awareness drive in 50 identified beaches under the programme called **'Swachh- Nirmal Tat Abhiyaan'**.
- **39th India International Trade Fair 2019** begins in **New Delhi** with the theme of **'Ease of Doing Business'**. This year the status of **'Partner Country'** has been accorded to **'The Islamic Republic of Afghanistan'** and **'The Republic of Korea'** will be the **'Focus Country'**. **Bihar** and **Jharkhand** will be the **focus states** in this edition of the fair.
- The **Khadi Pavilion** has been inaugurated at the **India International Trade Fair (IITF)** in **New Delhi**. The Pavilion entrance has been themed upon Sabarmati Ashram, with melodious Shehnai celebrating the 'spirit of Indianness'.
- **India** will **contribute USD 13.5 million** for various operational activities of development across the **UN agencies** for the year **2020**.
- The Union Minister for Rural Development, Panchayati Raj and Agriculture inaugurated the **SARAS India International Trade Fair(IITF) Mela 2019 at Pragati Maidan, New Delhi**.

- Union Minister for Health and Family Welfare launched 'SAANS' campaign in Gujarat during the inauguration of 6th National Summit on Good, Replicable practices and innovations.
- Union Home Minister Amit Shah launched the supply of special **winter-grade diesel for high altitude Ladakh**, which faces sub-zero temperatures during the winter months.
- **Meghalaya-based** insurgent group, **Hynniewtrep National Liberation Council (HNLC)** has been banned by the central government for its increased activities of violence and other subversive acts.
- The Union Cabinet chaired by Prime Minister Narendra Modi approved the establishment of the **National Institute for Sowa-Rigpa in Leh, Ladakh**.
- Union Minister of State for Home Affairs Nityanand Rai informed that **Census 2021 will be conducted in 16 languages**.
- Union Minister of State (Independent Charge) Ministry of **Development of North Eastern Region (DoNER)** Dr Jitendra Singh will inaugurate the '**Destination North East**' Festival in Varanasi, Uttar Pradesh on 23rd November 2019.
- Union Minister **Nitin Gadkari** inaugurating the **11th edition of Agro Vision-2019**, an Agricultural exhibition at Reshimbag Ground of Nagpur, Maharashtra.
- As a mark of tribute to one of the most decorated soldiers of Indian **Army Late Naib Subedar Chuni Lal**, an Army Goodwill Park was dedicated at his native village Bhara in Doda, Jammu and Kashmir.
- Minister for Housing and Urban Affairs has launched **Credit-linked Subsidy Services Awaz Portal, CLAP**, in New Delhi.
- Union Human Resource Development (HRD) Minister launched the **kartavya.ugc.ac.in** portal for holding monthly essay competitions for students. The portal was launched as part of year-long '**Nagrik Kartavya Paalan Abhiyan**' being observed throughout the country.
- **India** wins bid to host **2023 Men's Hockey World Cup** Kalinga Hockey Stadium in Bhubaneswar and Biju

Patnaik Hockey Stadium in Rourkela to be the venues for the tournament.

- Defence Minister Rajnath Singh will inaugurate the 3-day-long **Military Literature Festival (MLF)** in Chandigarh.
- The Transport Ministry has extended the **01st December** deadline for **100% electronic toll collection** across National Highways in the country by two weeks (15th December).
- Hallmarking of **gold jewellery and artefacts** will be made mandatory across the country from **January 15, 2021**. The step aims to ensure the purity of the precious metal.
- Public sector trading firm **MMTC** has ordered import of **11,000 metric tonnes of onions from Turkey**.
- The **Election Commission of India** will implement the **political parties Registration Tracking Management System (RTMS)**.
- Union HRD Minister **Ramesh Pokhriyal 'Nishank'** and Minister of State for Youth Affairs & Sports **Kiren Rijiju** has jointly launched the **Fit India School Rating System**.
- The Central Government launched the **National Clean Air Programme (NCAP)** as a long-term, time-bound, national-level strategy to tackle the air pollution problem across the country in a comprehensive manner.

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Current Affairs Related to States in India

Northern States

- PM Narendra Modi unveiled a **statue** of former PM **Atal Bihari Vajpayee** in **Lucknow**, Uttar Pradesh and also laid the foundation stone for the Atal Bihari Vajpayee Medical University in Lucknow.
- Rajasthan CM inaugurated its first "**Janta clinic**" in the Malviya Nagar area of **Jaipur**. The clinic will provide **free primary health care** to people living in **slums**.
- **Haryana police** have introduced unique barcoding software "**Trakea**" to enable foolproof security of the samples collected in Forensic reports. Haryana became the first state in the country to introduce this unique barcoding system.

- **The Rajasthan Assembly** passed Bills against mob lynching and honour killing, which make the cognisable, non-bailable and non-compoundable offences with life imprisonment and a fine up to Rs 5 lakh.
- Minister of State for Higher Education Bhanwar Singh Bhati inaugurated the new higher education model, titled **Resource Assistance for Colleges with Excellence (RACE) in Rajasthan**.
- Uttar Pradesh's "**Vriksharopan Mahakumbh**" drive has created world record after planting more than **22 crore saplings**. The drive was launched on the occasion of 77th anniversary of Quit India Movement.
- Jammu and Kashmir administration will host a **3 days global investors' summit** from October 12 in Srinagar.

- The **Uttarakhand** government has decided to form a **Special Tiger Force** for Corbett Tiger Reserve.
- Haryana government has announced Rs **4,750 crore** interest and penalty waiver on crop loans. The step will benefit around **10 lakh farmers in the state**.
- **SpiceJet** has started the air shuttle service between **Hisar and Chandigarh** under the **Ude Desh ka Aam Nagarik (UDAN)** Regional Connectivity Service scheme.
- **UNESCO** and **Rajasthan government** joined hands to promote community-based responsible tourism based on the rich intangible cultural heritage of Rajasthan.
- **Rajasthan** became the **third state** in India after **Maharashtra and Bihar** to **ban certain categories of pan masala** containing magnesium carbonate, nicotine, tobacco, mineral oil and flavoured 'supari'.
- Chief Minister of **Uttarakhand Trivendra Singh Rawat** launched an awareness campaign "**Urjagiri**" which aims at stopping power theft and saving.
- Himachal Pradesh Chief Minister **Jai Ram Thakur** launched the **Pragati Rath** of the **HDFC bank**.
- The Culture Department of Uttar Pradesh government is going to organise the country's first training and performance programme of world-famous **KHON Ramlila**, a masked form of **Ramlila art of Thailand** in collaboration with the **Thai government**.
- Jammu and Kashmir Governor **Satya Pal Malik** has inaugurated **J&K Bazar**.
- **Ladakh** administration is organizing the first-ever **Ladakh Literature** festival to celebrate the uniqueness of the region in the fields of Art, Culture and Literature.
- **Punjab State Cabinet** passed a unanimous resolution to institute **Sri Guru Nanak Dev Ji Award** for Promotion of Peace and Interfaith Understanding, in commemoration of the **550th Prakash Purb of Sri Guru Nanak Dev Ji**.
- **Punjab CM Amarinder Singh** has launched a first of its kind job helpline number 76260-76260 for the unemployed youth of the state under '**Ghar Ghar Rozgar**' programme.
- The Indian Railways has installed two '**Health ATMs**' at the Charbagh railway station in **Lucknow**.
- Prime Minister Narendra Modi has inaugurated a two-day **Himachal Pradesh Global investors'** meet - '**Rising Himachal**' in Dharamshala.
- The **Ministry of Environment** has granted clearance to the **Indian Oil Corporation Ltd** to set up a ₹ 766-crore **2G ethanol plant** in Haryana's **Panipat** district.
- **Uttar Pradesh Chief Minister Yogi Adityanath** has inaugurated **North India's first sugar mill which will produce ethanol** direct from sugarcane in **Gorakhpur**.
- National Health Mission Jammu & Kashmir has launched the **Bio-Medical Equipment Waste Management Programme (BMEWMP)** in the **Jammu & Kashmir and Ladakh**.
- In Jammu, the Directorate of School Education (DSEJ) has launched a special enrollment drive under the banner '**Aao School Chalein**' for increasing the enrollment in government schools.

- **Uttarakhand** Chief Minister **Trivendra Singh Rawat** launched a project that will connect **500 secondary schools** to virtual classrooms and schools in the state facing a shortage of teachers will benefit from the new technology.
- **Jammu and Kashmir** have achieved the highest road length in the country this year so far under a **Centre's rural roads' programme** with the completion of around 11,400 kilometres covering 1,838 habitations.
- The **Etawah Lion Safari**, formally known as **Etawah Safari Park** was thrown open for public in Uttar Pradesh without the lion segment.
- **Uttar Pradesh** government is launching a massive immunisation campaign against the **filariasis or Filaria**.
- In a major step to conserve the endangered vulture population, the **Uttar Pradesh** government will set up the state's **first vulture conservation and breeding centre in farenda area of Maharajanj district**.
- **Uttar Pradesh government** has decided to provide **25% subsidy and 100% stamp duty** waiver for setting up the defence industry in the state.
- Union Minister for Jal Shakti **Gajendra Singh Shekhawat** and Uttarakhand Chief Minister **Trivendra Singh Rawat** inaugurated the **14 MLD sewage treatment plant (STP)** in Sarai village near Haridwar in the presence of Sweden's King **Carl XVI Gustaf** and Queen **Silvia**.

Eastern States (Bihar, Jharkhand, Odisha and West Bengal)

- **11-day long 'Dhanu Jatra'** begins at Bargarh in western Odisha. **Dhanu Jatra** is considered as the largest open-air theatre of the world.
- In **Jharkhand**, Grand Alliance leader **Hemant Soren** took oath as 11th **Chief Minister**.
- Odisha CM **Naveen Patnaik** has launched the '**Jalsathi**' programme to ensure supply of safe drinking water to all households in the state. The Odisha CM also launched the '**JalSathi**' App on the occasion.
- **Odisha** to set up **45 new fast track courts** out of which 21 courts would be dedicated to cases of rape and sexual harassment of women while the remaining 24 fast track courts will specifically deal with Protection of Children from Sexual Offences (POCSO) cases.
- **The rasagola**, a popular dessert of **Odisha**, received the **GI tag** from the Registrar of Geographical Indication.
- **Odisha CM** announced in the State Assembly that the **Sachivalaya or Secretariat building** in Bhubaneswar will now be called '**Lok Seva Bhavan**'.
- The **West Bengal Government** launched an awareness campaign '**Save Green, Stay Clean**' for preserving the greenery and keeping the environment clean.
- The Centre has approved a **Kosi-Mechi** river interlining project in Bihar. Estimated cost of the project is **Rs 4,900 crore**.
- The Odisha Wetland Authority has approved implementation of an integrated management plan of lakes "**Chilika and Ansupa**".

- Chief Minister of **Odisha Naveen Patnaik** rolled out '**Mo Sarkar**' programme which finds its roots in the Gandhian philosophy of giving people their voice in daily governance.
- **Odisha's smart city Bhubaneswar** gets its 1st **Robo Chef Restaurant in Odisha**. Where two indigenously developed robots, '**Champa**' and '**Chameli**' are engaged.
- **Odisha** has inked a Letter of Understanding on "**drink from tap mission**" with the **United Nations Children's Fund** to provide piped quality drinking water supply to each household on a 24-hour basis.
- **Odisha** has launched "**Odisha Mo Parivar**" (**Odisha, My Family**) programme which aims to encourage environment protection, blood donation and the welfare of Odias in distress.
- **Odisha state** government signed agreements with **Tata Strive and Tech Mahindra** to add new dimensions in skilling and employability of the youth.
- The festival '**Bali Yatra**' which is organised every year in memory of the rich maritime history of the state was inaugurated in Cuttack, **Odisha** at the bank of Mahanadi River.
- The **green tea and white tea** of Darjeeling (West Bengal) have been registered as geographical indication (GI) products in the country.
- The **Kolkata Municipal Corporation (KMC)** has installed first of its kind high-end reverse transcription-polymerase chain reaction (RT-PCR) machines in India for quick detection of diseases like **dengue, tuberculosis and swine flu**.
- Chief Minister of **Odisha Naveen Patnaik** inaugurated the **National Tribal Craft Mela - 2019** in Bhubaneswar.
- **Odisha CM Naveen Patnaik** launched '**Madhu**' app. It is an e-learning mobile phone application which will help school students to understand their subjects in a better and most efficient way. The app is named after '**Utkal Gourab**' **Madhusudan Das**.

North-Eastern States

- **Meghalaya Assembly** unanimously adopted a resolution urging the Government of India to implement Inner Line Permit in the state under the Bengal Eastern Frontier Regulation, 1873.
- CM **N. Biren Singh** inaugurated the State-level Orange festival at district **Tamenglong in Manipur**.
- CM of Sikkim foundation stone of 2 **Integrated Organic Food Processing** units of **Sikkim IFFCO Organics Ltd.** (a joint venture between IFFCO and Government of Sikkim) in **Rangpo, East Sikkim**.
- **Arunachal Pradesh** State Home Minister has flagged off **5 Anti-Riot police** vehicle, also known as **Vajra**, from Police Headquarter in Itanagar.
- **5 New fish species discovered** in Arunachal Pradesh and their names are **Mystus prabini, Exostoma kottelati, Creteuchiloglanis tawangensis, Garra ranganensis, Physoschistura harkishorei**.
- **Tawlhlohpuan & Mizo Puanchei** from Mizoram has received the Geographical Indication tag.

- CM of **Meghalaya** launched the '**Walk to Work**' campaign in the state. The campaign is a part of **Fit India Movement**.
- Union Minister of State (Independent Charge) for Tourism and Culture **Prahlad Singh Patel** inaugurated **Shirui Lily Festival, 2019** at Shirui Vangayan Ground of Ukhrul in Manipur.
- State Cabinet of **Assam** has decided to make **government jobs** out of bounds for people with **more than 2 children** and policy will come into effect from **January 1, 2021**.
- **Assam State Commission for Protection of Child Rights** is going to launch a mobile app **Sishu Suraksha** on the occasion of **Children's Day** to empower citizens to take moral responsibility for protecting future generations.
- Defence Minister **Rajnath Singh** inaugurated **Sisseri Bridge**, built by the Border Road Organisation (BRO) on Pasighat-Bomjir Highway, Arunachal Pradesh.
- Meghalaya CM has inaugurated the **4th International Cherry Blossom Festival 2019** held in Shillong, Meghalaya.
- **Assam** Chief Minister **Sarbananda Sonowal** released the **new Land Policy 2019** prepared by Revenue and Disaster Management Department.
- Every year the State of **Manipur** celebrates the '**Manipur Sangai Festival**' from 21st to 30th November. The 'Festival' is named after the State animal, **Sangai**, the brow-antlered deer found only in Manipur.
- Ministry of Information & Broadcasting is organising a '**Multi Media Exhibition**' at **World War II museum, Kisama in Nagaland**.
- Nagaland celebrates its **57th Statehood Day on 01st December 2019**.
- The **20th Edition of Hornbill Festival** began with a colourful blend of culture and tradition with a modern twist at **Naga Heritage Kisama in Nagaland**.
- **Donyi Polo Cultural & Charitable Trust and Indigenous Faith & Cultural Society of Arunachal Pradesh** celebrated '**Indigenous Faith Day**' on **1st December**.

Western States (Goa, Gujarat and Maharashtra)

- **Maharashtra** became the **first state to adopt a digital fingerprint and iris scanning system** to aid police investigations.
- **Maharashtra's Tribal Development Department** launched an academic programme "**Super 50**". Super 50 programme will mentor 50 most meritorious tribal students from the State and prepare them for engineering and medical exams.
- **Maharashtra** launched an initiative **Mission Shakti to train** athletes from Chandrapur and Gadchiroli for international events like the Olympics.
- India's first Central Institute of Chemical Engineering & Technology will be set up in **Gujarat**.
- Bollywood actor **Shah Rukh Khan** launched heritage postal stamp of **Bandra station** in Mumbai, Maharashtra on the completion of 150 years of the railway station.

- The **Maharashtra** cabinet has cleared the “**vertical property rules**” to create a database of all flats, buildings and commercial complexes. The “vertical property rules” would **prevent property-related frauds**.
- **Gujarat** Government has given approval to the **world’s first CNG terminal** at Bhavnagar port, Gujarat. Joint venture of United Kingdom-based **Foresight Group** and **Mumbai-based Padmanabh Mafatlal Group** will invest 1,900 crore in the project.

Central States (Madhya Pradesh and Chhattisgarh)

- 1st edition of **Mandu Festival** begins at Mandu, picturesque fort city of **Madhya Pradesh**.
- In **Madhya Pradesh**, popular classical music festival ‘**Tansen Samaroh**’ began with traditional style in Gwalior with the recitations of Harikatha and Milad.
- The MP CM **Kamal Nath** will inaugurate the International Film Festival in **Shilpkala village of Khajuraho**.
- **Ambikapur Municipal Corporation** of Chhattisgarh will open a first-of-its-kind ‘**Garbage Cafe**’.
- The Bhopal Municipal Corporation (BMC) and the Central Pollution Control Board (CPCB) have joined hands to set up the country’s **first e-waste clinic** in **Bhopal, Madhya Pradesh**, which will enable segregation, processing and disposal of waste from both household and commercial units.
- **CM of MP Kamal Nath** formally inaugurated the 2-day Magnificent MP Conference started.
- **Madhya Pradesh** government has announced **5% reservation** to national and international medallists’ sportspersons in state government jobs.
- The **Chhattisgarh** government has decided to declare **Guru Ghasidas National Park** in the state’s Korea district as a tiger reserve.
- The Union Minister for food processing inaugurated **Avantee mega Food Park** in **Dewas, Madhya Pradesh**.

Southern States (Andhra Pradesh, Karnataka, Kerala, Tamil Nadu, Telangana)

- **Andhra Pradesh** CM YS Jaganmohan Reddy launched the ‘**YSR Nethanna Nestham**’ scheme at Dharmavaram in **Anantapur district** to provide **financial assistance** of **Rs 24,000** annually to **handloom weavers** across the state.
- **Human Library** event will be held in **Mysuru, Karnataka** and will generate greater human cohesion across various social, religious and ethnic diversities.
- **Andhra Pradesh** Cabinet approves the **A.P. Disha Bill, 2019** (A.P. Criminal Law (Amendment) Bill, 2019)

paving the way for awarding the **death penalty** for the **offences of rape and gang-rape** and expediting the verdict in trials of such cases to **21 days**.

- Chief Minister **Y.S. Jagan Mohan Reddy** inaugurated the **Virtual Police Station** at **Andhra University, Andhra Pradesh**.
- The **Innovating for Clean Air (IFCA)**, is a **UK-India joint initiative** providing Indian and UK stakeholders opportunities to test interventions related to **air quality and EV integration**, was launched in **Bengaluru**.
- The Panchamirtham is an ‘**abhishega prasadam**’ of the Murugan temple has been bestowed with the Geographical Indication tag. The Murugan temple is situated in **Tamil Nadu**.
- **Tirur betel vine** from **Kerala** has received the Geographical Indication tag.
- **Karnataka government** has amended the **Karnataka Poisons (Possession and Sale) Rules 2015** and notified Nicotine as “**Class A poison**”.
- **Tamil Nadu** government launched its exclusive 24x7 education channel ‘**Kalvi Tholaikkatchi**’ (**Education TV**).
- **Tamil Nadu’s Dindigul locks and Kandangi sarees** have received Geographical Indication (**GI**) tags.
- **Tamil Nadu** becomes the **1st state** in the country to enact a **law on contract farming** after the approval of **Tamil Nadu Agricultural Produce and Livestock Contract Farming and Services (Promotion and Facilitation) Act, 2019**.
- **Andhra Pradesh** government has launched the ‘**Nadu-Nedu**’ programme which aims to **introduce English** medium from classes 1 to 6 in state-run schools. It will cover all schools in three years’ time with a budget of **Rs 12,000 crores**.
- The first flight from **Kalaburagi Airport** to Kempegowda International Airport, Bengaluru took off after the inauguration of Kalaburagi airport by the **Chief Minister of Karnataka**. The airport has been built under the UDAN-RCS Scheme of Govt.



International Current Affairs

- **Umaro Cissoko Embalo** has won the **Guinea-Bissau's presidential election**.
- **President of Nepal** launched the "Visit Nepal Year 2020" during the ceremony held at historic **Dasaratha Rangashala in Kathmandu**.
- **Pacific nation of Palau** has become the **first country** to ban sun cream which is harmful to corals and sea life.
- **Ecuador** activated the **emergency protocols** in the **Galapagos Islands** to contain the environmental impact of a fuel spill in the Galapagos Islands. The step was taken after the accident occurred in a port on **San Cristobal Island** when a crane collapsed while loading a container onto the barge.
- Eight West African countries: **Benin, Burkina Faso, Guinea-Bissau, Ivory Coast, Mali, Niger, Senegal and Togo** have agreed to change the name of their **common currency** to **Eco** and severed their earlier currency CFA Franc's links to former colonial ruler France.
- **David Calhoun** will replace Dennis Muilenburg as the **CEO** of the world's largest aerospace company **Boeing**.
- **China** has successfully launched its **largest carrier rocket "Long March-5"** also known as "**CZ-5**" from Wenchang Space Launch Center in south China's Hainan Province. It carried a communication satellite "**Shijian-20**".
- **Russia's 1st missile** unit equipped with **Avangard Hypersonic** glide vehicle with latest strategic **missiles of intercontinental range**, enters into service.
- **Portuguese Prime Minister** Antonio Costa announced the setting up of a **Gandhi Citizenship Education Prize**.
- Thailand's famous 2000-year-old massage, **Nuad Thai** was added to UNESCO's (United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization) prestigious heritage list.
- **Abdelmadjid Tebboune**, former Prime Minister (PM) of Algeria was elected as the President of Algeria succeeding Abdelkader Bensalah.
- **Sri Lankan government** formally released its new National policy Framework titled '**Vistas of Prosperity and Splendor**'.
- **Donald Trump** becomes the **third US President** in history to be impeached by the **House of Representatives**.
- **Ethiopia** launched its first satellite, a landmark achievement for the country's space program that caps a banner year for the **African space industry**.
- US President Donald Trump has picked Indian-American computer scientist **Sethuraman Panchanathan** to lead the prestigious **National Science Foundation (NSF)** in **USA**.
- 34 year old **Sanna Marin** elected as **Finland's new prime minister**, making her the youngest head of government in the country's history.
- The **8th edition** of the Embassy's annual film festival titled "**Ambassador's Choice: Screening of Films**" was inaugurated at the auditorium of Embassy of India, **Riyadh**.
- **world's first fully-electric commercial aircraft** inaugural test flight by taking off from the Canadian city of **Vancouver**.
- The representatives from the United States, Mexico and Canada inked a revamped version of their regional trade pact "**United States-Mexico-Canada Agreement (USMCA)**".
- The **U.S. Embassy in Nepal** has organized a **South Asia Air Quality Tech Camp in Kathmandu**.
- The United States has officially labeled China a "**currency manipulator**". The US has accused China of using yuan to gain "unfair competitive advantage" in trade.
- **Bangladesh** signed a deal with Russia for the supply of uranium for its **2400 MW Rooppur Nuclear Power Plant (RNPP)**.
- **5 lakh Rohingya refugees** living in **Bangladesh** have been issued identity documents by the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR).
- **Iran** unveiled 3 precision-guided air-to-air missiles named the "**Yasin**", "**Balaban**" and a new series of the "**Ghaem**".
- **South Korea** has decided to remove Japan from its preferred trade list because **Japan** has failed to uphold international principles while managing its export controls on sensitive materials.
- **Alejandro Giammattei** has been elected as new **president of Guatemala**.
- **Iceland** commemorated the loss of **1st glacier "Okjokull"**, lost due to climate change. A bronze plaque bears the inscription "**A letter to the future**" was unveiled by Iceland in a ceremony.
- **Pakistan Prime Minister Office** has announced a **3-year extension of General Qamar Javed Bajwa's** tenure as Chief of Army Staff.
- **Iran** has unveiled new missile defence system "**Bavar-373**". This is also Iran's first domestically produced long-range missile defence system which has been inducted into the country's missile defence network.
- **Pakistan** placed on the blacklist of the **Financial Action Task Force's Asia Pacific Group**.
- **Russia** launched the world's first floating nuclear reactor. This reactor loaded with nuclear fuel.
- Indonesia's president announced that the country's capital will move from overcrowded, sinking and polluted **Jakarta** to a site in sparsely populated **East Kalimantan** province on **Borneo Island**.
- First **ASEAN-US Maritime Exercise (AUMX)** between the regional bloc and Washington, starting at the Sattahip Naval Base in Thailand and ending in Singapore.
- US's Federal Trade Commission has fined **Google's YouTube with \$170 million**. YouTube will have to pay \$170 million to settle allegations of collecting personal information about children.
- Indian army will participate in a multilateral exercise "**TSENTR 2019**" to be held in Russia. Armies of Pakistan,

China, Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Tajikistan, Uzbekistan and Russia will also participate in the exercise.

- WHO South-East Asia Region has resolved to eliminate **measles and rubella by 2023**.
- **Typhoon Faxai** has hit **Tokyo**, Japan with winds of up to 210km/h (130mph). Faxai is one of the strongest typhoons to hit the Japanese capital in a decade.
- **Thailand** became the **first Asian** nation to unveil **plain cigarette packaging** to reduce the appeal of smoking.
- **Vietnam** has inaugurated Southeast Asia's largest solar power farm "**Dau Tieng Solar Power Complex**" which has the capacity to produce 688 million kWh of electricity annually.
- **Sri Lanka** has flagged off 'Make In India' train "**Pulathisi Express**" rake from Colombo Fort Railway station. The rake of the train was manufactured in the **Integral Coach Factory (ICF)** in **Chennai**.
- **Sri Lanka** unveiled **South Asia's tallest tower**, costing over \$100 million, 80% of which has been **funded by China** under the controversial Belt and Road Initiative (BRI). The **350-metre-tall 17-storey Lotus Tower**, located in the heart of Colombo city.
- Japan launched an unmanned **H-2B rocket** towards the **International Space Station**. The **H-2B rocket** lifted off with cargo vessel Kounotori8, Mitsubishi Heavy Industries.
- **Antonio Costa** has been re-elected as the Prime Minister of **Portugal** after winning the general elections.
- **Kais Saied** is elected as the new President of Tunisia after a landslide victory in recently concluded Presidential runoff. The Independent law professor Kais Saied won against his rival, Nabil Karoui.
- India handed over the second pair of Mi-24V helicopters to war-torn Afghanistan, boosting the capability of the Afghan Air forces.
- UAE announced the establishment of the **Mohamed bin Zayed University of Artificial Intelligence (MBZUAI)** in Abu Dhabi. This is the first graduate-level, research-based AI university in the world.
- Italy approved a new tax on digital companies, including U.S. tech giants, as part of its 2020 draft budget on October 16.
- The **United Nation General Assembly** has elected **14 States** to the 47 member body of UN Human Rights Council (UNHRC). The Assembly elected **Armenia, Brazil, Germany, Indonesia, Japan, Libya, Marshall Islands, Mauritania, Namibia, Netherlands, Poland, Republic of Korea, Sudan and Venezuela**.
- Nasa astronauts **Christina Koch and Jessica Meir** have made history by completing the first-ever all-female spacewalk. They spent **7 hours outside the International Space Station (ISS)** replacing a failed power control unit.
- **Sri Lanka** has been removed from the "**Grey List**" of the international terror financing watchdog **FATF** as Sri Lanka made significant progress in addressing the strategic AML/CFT deficiencies identified earlier.
- The world's oldest, 8,000-year-old pearl natural pearl named '**Abu Dhabi Pearl**' has been discovered on

Marawah Island off **Abu Dhabi**, the capital of the **United Arab Emirates**.

- **Prime Minister of Lebanon, Saad Hariri** has resigned from the portfolio amid anti-government protests.
- The **38th edition** of the **Sharjah International Book Fair (SIBF) 2019** was inaugurated by Sheikh Sultan bin Muhammad Al Qasimi, Supreme Council Member and Ruler of Sharjah, UAE with the **theme 'Open Books Open Minds'**.
- **Russia's Knyaz Vladimir submarine** of Borei-class vessel, test-fired its most advanced nuclear-powered missile named, **Bulavaintercontinental ballistic missile** which precisely hit the target range of 1000 km away in the Russian region of Kamchatka.
- The Spanish capital city of **Madrid** will host the **UN Climate Change Conference (COP 25)** from 2 to 13 December.
- According to the **International Monetary Fund (IMF)**, **Guyana's GDP** is expected to be more at **86%** in 2020 after expanding 4.4% in 2019.
- **Sudan's** first-ever satellite for conducting research in military, economic and space technology has been launched by China. **Sudan's remote-sensing satellite (SRSS-1)**, was developed by the Shenzhen Aerospace Oriental Red Sea Satellite Co.
- The **UAE's** Supreme Council of the Union has re-elected his Highness **Sheikh Khalifa bin Zayed Al Nahyan** as its President for a 4th five-year term, in accordance with the provisions of the UAE Constitution.
- Mauritius's incumbent Prime Minister **Pravind Jugnauth** was sworn in for a **five-year term** after elections in which his coalition consolidated its grip on parliament.
- **Iran** has discovered a new oilfield with **53 billion barrels** of crude oil in **Khuzestan province**, home to Iran's Khuzestan's crucial oil industry.
- **Sri Lanka's** former Defence Secretary **Gotabaya Rajapaksa** has won the Presidential election.
- **Ocean Dance Festival 2019** kicked off in Cox Bazar of **Bangladesh**. Ocean Dance Festival is the largest international dance festival of Bangladesh in which more than 200 dancers, choreographers and scholars from 15 countries are participating. The theme of this year's festival is 'Bridging the distance' or Durotter Shetubandhan.
- The **European Union's legislature** has declared a **climate emergency**, in a symbolic move aimed at increasing pressure on the incoming European Commission to take a stronger stance on climate change.
- The **G20 Presidency** has been taken over by **Saudi Arabia from Japan**. Saudi Arabia has become the 1st Arab nation to assume the G20 presidency.
- Iraqi Prime Minister **Adel Abdul Mahdi** submitted his resignation to Parliament amid ongoing **anti-government protests across the country**.
- The **Global Migration Film Festival (GMFF)** was organised in Dhaka, Bangladesh. The festival screened **15 films** on the theme of "**migration and its various aspects**".

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Obituaries (National/International)

	Person Died	Profession/Famous In?
Politician (National-International)		
1.	Vikho-o Yhoshu	Nationalist Democratic Progressive Party (NDPP) leader and Nagaland Assembly Speaker
2.	Thomas Chandy	Nationalist Congress Party's Kerala State President
3.	ID Swami	Former Union Minister
4.	Noel Kelman	Naval war hero and Kirti Chakra awardee Commander
5.	Rajnish Kumar Babbi	Congress (MLA) from the Mukerian assembly seat in Punjab
6.	Navnitbhai Shah	Socialist leader and former MLA of Palghar
7.	Babulal Gaur	Former CM of Madhya Pradesh
8.	Arun Jaitley	Former Union finance minister and senior BJP leader
9.	Amarendra Sharan	Senior advocate and former Additional Solicitor General
10.	Sushma Swaraj	Former External Affairs Minister and BJP Leader
11.	Subir Vithal Gokarn	Former RBI Deputy Governor and Noted economist
12.	S. Jaipal Reddy	Former Union Minister and senior Congress leader
13.	Donkumar Roy	Meghalaya Assembly Speaker and former Meghalaya CM
14.	Vitthal Radadiya	Former Gujarat MP
15.	Robert Mugabe	Zimbabwe's former President
16.	Ram Jethmalani	India's finest lawyers and a former union minister
17.	Akilisi Pohiva	the South Pacific and Prime Minister of Tongan
18.	BN Yugandhar	Former bureaucrat and Secretary to the PMO
19.	Kodela Siva Prasada Rao	Former speaker of Andhra Pradesh Assembly
20.	Zine el-Abidine Ben Ali	Tunisia's former President
21.	K.P.S. Menon	Former Foreign Secretary
22.	Jacques Chirac	Former French President
23.	Dilip Parikh	Former Gujarat Chief Minister
24.	Gurudas Dasgupta	Former Parliamentarian and veteran CPI leader
25.	Babasaheb Dhabekar	Former Maharashtra minister and senior Congress party leader
26.	Kailash Joshi	Former Madhya Pradesh Chief Minister
27.	Kshiti Goswami	Former West Bengal Minister
28.	Yasuhiro Nakasone	Japan's longest-reigning Prime Ministers
Singer/Musician (National-International)		
29.	Allee Willis	American songwriter
30.	Vidushi Savita Devi	Renowned Hindustani classical vocalist
31.	Mohammed Zahur Hashmi (Khayyam)	Veteran music composer
32.	DJ Arafat	Ivory Coast music star

	Person Died	Profession/Famous In?
33.	Jose Jose	Legendary Mexican singer
34.	Ramakant Gundecha	Padma Shri-awardee Dhrupad vocalist
Actor/Director/Producer (National-International)		
35.	Gita Siddharth Kak	Bollywood actress
36.	Shriram Lagoo	Veteran Bollywood film actor
37.	Danny Aiello	Veteran film actor
38.	Gollapudi Maruti Rao	Former Nandi Award winner and renowned Telugu actor and writer
39.	Nimu Bhowmik	Veteran Bengali actor
40.	Jagannath Mishra	Former Bihar Chief Minister
41.	Vidya Sinha	Veteran Bollywood actress
42.	J Om Prakash	Veteran director
43.	Russi Taylor	Veteran actor, who voiced Disney's Minnie Mouse
44.	Valerie Harper	4 Times Emmy Award-winning actress
45.	Veeru Krishnan	Actor and Kathak dancer
46.	Raja Sekar	Tamil Film Director, Actor and Cinematographer
47.	Sanjib Kumar Datta	Film editor
48.	Sathar	Veteran Kerala actor
49.	Shyam Ramsay	Bollywood's famous horror film producer
50.	Venu Madhav	Telugu film actor
51.	J. Michael Mendel	American television producer & a four-time Emmy Award winner
52.	Viju Khote	Bollywood Actor
53.	Jessye Norman	Renowned International Opera star
54.	Eric Pleskow	American-Austrian film producer
55.	Diahann Carroll	US actress
56.	Kadri Gopalnath	Legendary saxophonist and the Padma Shri awardee
57.	Alexei Leonov	the first human to walk in space
58.	Sara Danius	First female head of Nobel's Literature Award Body
59.	Alicia Alonso	Cuban ballet dancer
60.	John Witherspoon	Actor and comedian
61.	Geetanjali	Popular Telugu actress
62.	Champak Jain	Film producer
63.	Shaukat Kaifi	Actor
64.	Bala Singh	Veteran Tamil actor and theatre artist
65.	Shelley Morrison	Former Hollywood actress
66.	Baskar Menon	Veteran Journalist in the Press Trust of India (PTI)
Author/Journalist/Activist/Painter (National-International)		
67.	Ganga Prasad Vimal	Renowned Hindi Author
68.	L.S. Sheshagiri Rao	Kannada writer and critic
69.	Niranjan Singh Tasneem	Punjabi writer and Sahitya Akademi winner Professor
70.	Damodar Ganesh Bapat	noted social worker and Padma Shri award winner
71.	Kanti Bhatt	Veteran Gujarati journalist, author and columnist
72.	Toni Morrison	1st African American woman to win the Nobel (1993) in literature
73.	Rajalakshmi Parthasarathy	Former Padma Shri award winner and educationist
74.	Kiran Nagarkar	Sahitya Akademi Award-winning writer
75.	Sukhdev Singh Libra	Veteran Congress leader and former MP
76.	Sivaraman Cherianad	Renowned writer of Kerala
77.	Robert Skinner Boyd	Noted American Journalist and Pulitzer Prize winner
78.	B R Vats	Ex-PTI correspondent
79.	Farook Khan	Indian-origin journalist in South Africa
80.	Kalidas Karmakar	Internationally acclaimed painter of Bangladesh
81.	K.B. Siddaiah	Writer, philosopher and one of the founder members of Dalitha Sangharsha Samithi
82.	Nanammal	Padma Shri awardee & India's oldest Yoga teacher
83.	Nabaneeta Dev Sen	Sahitya Akademi awardee writer
84.	Vashishtha Narayan Singh	Renowned mathematician
85.	Clive James	Australian writer and broadcaster

	Person Died	Profession/Famous In?
Sportsmen/Sportswomen (National-International)		
86.	Martin Peters	Former West Ham and Tottenham midfielder
87.	Peter Snell	Gollapudi Maruti Rao
88.	Jose Luis Brown	Argentina World Cup-winning team football player
89.	VB Chandrasekhar	Former India and Tamil Nadu cricketer
90.	Anant Setalvad	Cricket Commentator
91.	Harley Race	American professional wrestler
92.	Malcolm Nash	Former cricketer
93.	Abdul Qadir	Pakistan's master leg-spinner
94.	Fernando Ricksen	Former Rangers and Netherlands football player
95.	SK Padmadevi	Veteran actor and multi-faceted artiste
96.	Madhav Apte	Former Indian cricketer
97.	Dadu Chougule	wrestler and recipient of Major Dhyanchand award
98.	Marieke Vervoort	Belgian Paralympic athlete
Others (National-International)		
99.	Vishwesa Tirtha Swami	The pontiff of Pejawar Mutt
100.	Vikas Sabnis	Veteran Political cartoonist
101.	Da Chen	China's brilliant storyteller
102.	Paul Volcker	Former US Federal Reserve chief
103.	George Joseph Laurer	The inventor of Universal Product Code (UPC) or Barcode
104.	Braj Bihari Kumar	Chairman of Indian Council of Social Science Research (ICSSR)
105.	Kanchan Chaudhary Bhattacharya	India's first woman Director General of Police (DGP)
106.	Neelum Sharma	Doordarshan Anchor and Nari Shakti Award Winner
107.	Dayanidhi Nayak	Freedom Fighter
108.	Heeralal Sharma	Rajasthan born freedom fighter
109.	V Ganesan	Indian National Army (INA) veteran
110.	Dr H L Trivedi	Renowned kidney transplant surgeon and Padma Shri recipient
111.	Gopal Krishna Kadekodi	Centenarian philatelist and coin collector
112.	Satyapriya Mohathero	second highest Buddhist leader of Bangladesh and head of Sima Bihar of Ramu
113.	Mark Hurd	Former Co-Chief executive Officer (CEO) of Oracle
114.	N. Venkatachala	former judge of the Supreme Court and former Lokayukta of Karnataka
115.	Sadako Ogata	1st female UN refugee chief
116.	Justice N.V. Balasubramanian	Retired Judge of Madras High Court
117.	Krishnan Kumar Modi	Former President of FICCI
118.	TN Seshan	Former chief election commissioner
119.	Sudhir Dar	Renowned cartoonist
120.	Brad Gobright	A world-renowned rock climber from USA

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CURRENT AFFAIRS
MEGA CAPSULE
By **Piyush Sir**
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STARTS JANUARY 10, 2020
9 AM to 11 AM | Bilingual

List/Indexes Released Recently

- **Indore** topped the **cleanliness charts** for two consecutive quarters among cities with over 10 lakh population while Kolkata was the worst performer. Jamshedpur has topped the cleanliness charts for two consecutive quarters among cities with 1 lakh to **10 lakh population**.
- **India** emerged as the **world's 3rd-largest publisher of science and engineering articles** as per the statistics compiled by the **US National Science Foundation (NSF)**. **China** is at the **top** position, followed by the **US**.
- According to a report by the **Stockholm International Peace Research Institute**, the **worldwide arms sales** rose by nearly **5%** in **2018** and the market is **dominated** by the **United States**. US firm **Lockheed Martin** is the world's **largest arms maker** with the sales accounting for **11%** of the world market.
- **London** has named the **world's best city** for students for the **2nd consecutive year**, beating **Tokyo** and **Melbourne** that came 2nd and 3rd, respectively, on a new worldwide ranking.
- **Tarava police station** in the Subarnapur district of Odisha has been adjudged as one of the 10 best police stations in India in the annual ranking for the year 2018.
- **Serena Williams topped** the List Of Highest-Paid Female Athletes 2019 published by Forbes.
- **Manipur** has topped the rankings in Breastfeeding and Infant and Young Child Feeding Practices in the country.
- **Karnataka tops** the State Rooftop Solar Attractiveness Index which was launched during the Review Planning and Monitoring (RPM) Meeting with States and **State Power Utilities**.
- **Statue of Unity' in Gujarat and Mumbai's Soho House** have been featured by the Time magazine in its second annual list of the 2019 World's greatest places, in a compilation of 100 new and newly "noteworthy destinations.
- According to a report of Economist Intelligence Unit, **Mumbai** ranked as the **45th safest city** on the **Safe Cities Index (SCI) 2019**, while **Delhi stood at the 52nd position**.
- "Global Happiness Survey" by Ipsos, Indian has been ranked 9th on the happiness index among **28 global markets**.
- **Economist Intelligence Unit's Global Livability Index for 2019**, released with both **Delhi and Mumbai** sliding down ranks. **Vienna** in Austria, Melbourne and Sydney in Australia make the top three cities.
- **India has surpassed the Netherlands** to move into the list of top10 countries in terms of total gold reserves. India has gold reserves totaling **618.2 tonnes**. U.S. leads the country list with total gold reserves of 8,133.5 tonnes followed by Germany with 3,366.8 tonnes.
- **World Economic Forum (WEF) report**, India has jumped 6 places to claim **34th spot on world Travel & Tourism Competitiveness Index 2019**.
- **Indian Institute of Technology Ropar** and **Indian Institute of Science Bangalore** were ranked number 1 among the 56 Indian institutes on the list of the best universities of the world in the **World University Rankings 2020**, topped by the University of Oxford, published by the United Kingdom based Times Higher Education.
- Filmmaker **Anurag Kashyap's Gangs of Wasseypur** has become the only Indian film to feature in "**The Guardian**" list of **100 Best Films of the 21st century**. The film has bagged the **59th position**.
- The **International Migrant Stock 2019** was released by the Population Division of the UN Department of Economic and Social Affairs (DESA). As per the report, **India** was the leading country of origin of international migrants in 2019 with a **17.5 million** strong diaspora.
- **India** was ranked **44th in the IMD World Digital Competitiveness Ranking 2019** produced by the IMD World Competitiveness Center.
- **Kerala** has topped the "**School Education Quality Index**" launched by NITI Aayog. Uttar Pradesh was ranked at the bottom of the list. Chandigarh has topped the list of Union Territories.
- The **Reserve Bank of India** has released the results of the September 2019 round of its **Consumer Confidence Survey**. The survey was conducted in 13 major cities.
- **5 of the Richest Indians in Forbes India Rich List 2019** are: **Mukesh Ambani** with net worth of \$51.4 billion; Gautam Adani (\$15.7 billion); Hinduja Brothers (\$15.6 billion); Pallonji Mistry (\$15 billion); Uday Kotak (\$14.8 billion).
- India ranked **82 spots** among the **128 countries** surveyed in the **World Giving Index (WGI)**.
- The **IIT Bombay** has topped all Indian Institutes in the 2nd edition of **Quacquarelli Symonds India University Rankings 2020** with an overall score of 88.5 followed by IISc Bangalore (ranked 2 with 84.7 score) & IIT Delhi ranked 3rd with score of 82.2.
- According to '**India Justice Report 2019**', **Maharashtra** is the top state in delivering justice to its citizens followed by **Kerala, Tamil Nadu, Punjab and Haryana** in the first-ever ranking of states on their capacity to deliver justice to citizens. In this classification, **Jharkhand, Bihar and Uttar Pradesh are at the bottom**.
- **Bangladesh** has topped the **business bribery risk in South Asia** according to the **Trace Bribery Matrix**.
- The **International Institute of Management Development's (IMD) World Talent Ranking (WTR)** report for the year 2019 was released. In the released report, India was ranked at **59th position**, a slip by 6 places on a global annual list of 63 countries. The list was topped by Switzerland.

- Microsoft's India-born Chief Executive Officer **Satya Nadella** has occupied the top spot in **Fortune's Businessperson of the Year 2019** list.
- The first-ever **Prosperity & Inclusion City Seal and Awards (PICSA)** Index, released in the Basque Country capital of Bilbao in northern Spain.
- The **Comptroller and Auditor General's report** stated that the railways recorded an operating ratio of **98.44%** in **2017-18**. The above operating ratio was the worst in the last 10 years. Operating ratio is a measure of expenditure against the revenue.
- **Aberdeen Police station** in the **Andaman and Nicobar Islands** ranks 1st in the list of the best-performing police stations in the country while dealing with a property offence, a crime against women and weaker sections.

Important Days (August to December)

6 August	Hiroshima Day
7 August	National Handloom Day
10 August	World Biofuel Day (Production of Bio-diesel from Used Cooking Oil.)
12 August	The International Youth Day 2019 (Transforming education)
19 August	World Humanitarian Day
19 August	World Photography Day
20 August	Sadbhavana Diwas
21 August	International Day of Remembrance and Tribute to the Victims of Terrorism.
22 August	"International Day Commemorating the Victims of Acts of Violence Based on Religion or Belief".
23 August	International Day for the Remembrance of the Slave Trade and its Abolition".
29 August	International Day Against Nuclear Tests
30 August	International Day of the Victim
5 September	International Day of Charity
8 September	International Literacy Day. Theme of International Literacy Day 2019 is Literacy and Multilingualism.
10 September	World Suicide Prevention Day (WSPD)
14 September	Hindi Diwas
15 September	International Day of Democracy (Participation)
16 September	International Day for the Preservation of the Ozone Layer. Theme of the day for 2019: 32 Years and Healing
18 September	World Bamboo Day
21 September	International Day of Peace (Climate Action for Peace)
23 September	International Day of Sign Languages (Sign Language Rights for All)
26 September	International Day for the Total Elimination of Nuclear Weapons.
26 September	World Maritime Day. Theme: Empowering women in the maritime community.
27 September	World Tourism Day
1 October	International Day of Older Persons; Theme: The Journey to Age Equality.
2 October	International Day of Non-Violence (birth anniversary of Mahatma Gandhi)
1st Monday of October	World Habitat Day. Theme: Frontier Technologies
4-10 October	World Space Week. Theme: The Moon: Gateway to the Stars
8 October	Air Force Day
9 October	World Post Day
10 October	World Mental Health Day. Theme: Suicide Prevention
11 October	International Day of the Girl Child. Theme: GirlForce: Unscripted and Unstoppable
12 October	World Migratory Bird Day. Theme for 2019: Protect Birds: Be the Solution to Plastic Pollution!

14 October	World Standards Day (International Standards Day). Theme: Video standards create a global stage.
15 October	International Day of Rural Women. Theme: “Rural Women and Girls Building Climate Resilience”
15 October	World Students’ Day (APJ Abdul Kalam’s birthday)
16 October	World Food Day. Theme: “Our Actions Are Our Future”.
17 October	United Nations’ (UN) International Day for the Eradication of Poverty. Theme: Acting Together to Empower Children, their Families and Communities to End Poverty
20 October	World Statistics Day. Theme is “Better Data, Better Lives
24 October	World Development Information Day
24 October	United Nations Day
27 October	World Day for Audiovisual Heritage. Theme: “Engage the Past Through Sound and Images”
31 October	National Unity Day (144th birth anniversary of Sardar Vallabh Bhai Patel)
31 October	World Cities Day. Theme “Changing the world: innovations and better life for future generations”
2 nd November	International Day to End Impunity for Crimes against Journalists
5 th November	World Tsunami Awareness Day
6 th November	International Day for Preventing the Exploitation of the Environment in War and Armed Conflict.
7 th November	National Cancer Awareness Day
10 th November	World Science Day for Peace and Development, theme- for 2019 is “Open science, leaving no one behind”.
11 th November	National Education Day
12 th November	Public Service Broadcasting Day
12 th November	World Pneumonia Day
13 th November	World Kindness Day
14 th November	World Diabetes Day, Theme- Family and Diabetes
16 th November	National Press Day
16 th November	International Day for Tolerance
17 th November	World Day of Remembrance for Road Traffic Victims
19 th November	World Toilet Day, Theme- Leaving No One Behind.
20 th November	World Children’s Day
21 st November	World Television Day
24 th November	71st Raising Day of NCC
25 th November	International Day for the Elimination of Violence against Women
26 th November	National Milk Day
29 th November	International Day of Solidarity with the Palestinian People
01 st December	World AIDS Day. Theme of this year’s World AIDS Day is “Communities make the difference”.
02 nd December	United Nations observes International Day for the Abolition of Slavery
03 rd December	International Day of Persons with Disabilities
05 th December	International Volunteer Day
05 th December	World Soil Day
07 th December	International Civil Aviation Day globally
07 th December	Armed Forces Flag Day
09 th December	International Anti-Corruption Day. Theme for 2019 is “ United Against Corruption ”.
09 th December	UN International Day of Commemoration and Dignity of the Victims of the Crime of Genocide and of the Prevention of this Crime.
10 th December	UN Human Rights Day. Theme for year 2019 is “ Youth Standing Up for Human Rights ”.
12 th December	International Day of Neutrality
12 th December	International Universal Health Coverage Day
18 th December	International Migrants Day
20 th December	International Human Solidarity Day
22 nd December	National Mathematics Day
23 rd December	Kisan Diwas or National Farmers’ Day
23 rd December	National Consumer Day with a theme “ alternate consumer grievance/dispute redressal ”.
25 th December	Good Governance Day (Birthday of former PM Atal Bihari Vajpayee)

Books & Authors

- A book titled **‘Turbulence and Triumph: The Modi Years’** jointly authored by **Rahul Agarwal** and **Bharathi S Pradhan** was released in New Delhi. The book is about the life journey of Prime Minister **Shri Narendra Modi** from his days as a young boy in **Gujarat to becoming the Prime Minister of India**.
- A book titled **“Dreams of a Billion: India and the Olympic Games”** authored by **Boria Majumdar** with **Nalin Mehta** will be published by HarperCollins India in January 2020.
- A book titled **“Politics of Opportunism: Regional Parties, Coalitions, Centre-State Relations In India”** and authored by **R P N Singh** was released by noted economist and political analyst **S Gurumurthy**.
- **Viswanathan Anand** launched his autobiography **‘Mind Master’**. **Anand’s** autobiography is co-authored by sports journalist **Susan Ninann**.
- Social Justice and Empowerment Minister launched the Braille version of the book **“Exam Warriors”** written by **Prime Minister Narendra Modi in New Delhi**.
- **Home Minister Amit Shah** released a **Vice President M Venkaiah Naidu’s** book titled **“Listening, Learning & Leading”**.
- **The book, titled ‘Sridevi: Girl Woman Superstar’** will be launched on **Sridevi’s 56th birth anniversary**. The book is written by author-screenwriter **Satyarth Nayak**.
- Culture Minister will launch the book **“The Diary of Manu Gandhi”**. The book has been brought out by National Archives of India, on the occasion of **150th anniversary of Mahatma Gandhi** in collaboration with Oxford University Press.
- The book titled as **“Big Billion Startup: The Untold Flipkart Story”** is written by **Mihir Dalal** and will be published by **“Pan Macmillan India”**.
- A new book titled **“Obama: The Call of History”** written by **Peter Baker** has been released.
- A new book on the history of Indian Railways named **“A Short History of Indian Railways”**, has been penned by veteran journalist and author **Rajendra B Aklekar**.
- The book, **“India’s Lost Frontier the Story of the North-West Frontier Province of Pakistan”**, has been penned by veteran civil servant **Raghvendra Singh**.
- The Vice President of India, **Shri M. Venkaiah Naidu** will release 2nd editions of **‘Loktantra Ke Swar (Khand 2)’** and **‘The Republican Ethic (Volume 2)’** in New Delhi.
- **‘Fortune Turners: The Quartet That Spun India To Glory’**, book on India’s spin quartet: **Bishan Singh Bedi, Erapalli Prasanna, Bhagwat Chandrashekar** and **S. Venkataraghavan**, written by **Aditya Bhushan** and **Sachin Bajaj** has been launched.
- A book titled **“Savarkar: Echoes from a forgotten past, 1883-1924”** which describes the life of freedom fighter and Philosopher **Vinayak Damodar Savarkar**, is penned by **Vikram Sampath** and published by Penguin.
- The book titled **“The Cousins Thackeray: Uddhav, Raj and the Shadow of their Senas”** written by the journalist **Dhaval Kulkarni** was released. It is published by Penguin Random House.
- A new book titled **“Being Gandhi”** written by award-winning author **Paro Anand** released.
- A new comic book series **‘Professor Ayushman’** conceived by the **National Medicinal Plants Board(NMPB)** was unveiled by the Ayush ministry in New Delhi.
- Former president **Pranab Mukherjee** released a book named **‘Reset: Regaining India’s Economic Legacy’**. The book was written by **BJP MP Subramanian Swamy**.
- A book penned by Indian Ambassador to the Netherlands **Venu Rajamony** titled **‘India and the Netherlands – Past, Present and Future,’** was released in Amsterdam.
- A new book entitled **“The Tech Whisperer”**, written by digital transformation expert **Jaspreet Bindra**, features a chapter on **AI (Artificial Intelligence)**.
- A new book titled **“150 Years of Celebrating the Mahatma the South African Legacy”**, by **Fakir Hassen** launched in **Johannesburg, South Africa**.
- The founder of Microsoft Corporation and American philanthropist **Bill Gates’** new book titled **“How to Avoid a Climate Disaster: The Solutions We Have and the Breakthroughs We Need”** will be released on **June 2020**.
- A new book titled **“India in a Warming World: Integrating Climate Change and Development”** is set to release on **November 2019**, edited by **Navroz K Dubash**.
- Indian Chess player, **Viswanathan Anand** has penned a book titled **“Mind Master: Winning Lessons from a Champion’s Life”**.
- Prime Minister **Narendra Modi** unveiled a book titled **‘Bridgital Nation’** in New Delhi and authored by **N Chandrasekaran**, Chairman, **Tata Sons** and **Roopa Purushothaman** Eminent industrialist.
- **Kashi Nath Pandit’s** new book entitled **“Ten Studies in Kashmir: History and Politics”**, published by **Academic Foundation**.
- Vice-President **M. Venkaiah Naidu** released a monograph, **‘Musical Excellence of Mridangam’**, a rare fusion of art and science of an ancient South Indian instrument on the **CSIR-Central Leather Research Institute (CLRI)** campus in **Chennai, Tamil Nadu**.
- Chief Justice of India Justice **Ranjan Gogoi** released the **Assamese version** of the book **‘Courts of India: Past to Present’** in **Guwahati, Assam**.
- Union Minister for **Jal Shakti** released a short documentary film on **Water Conservation** named **‘SHIKHAR SE PUKAR’** in New Delhi. The film has been made to promote **‘Jalshakti Abhiyan’** and is based on the Journey of an **IAS Officer Ravindra Kumar**.
- On 11th anniversary of the **26/11 Mumbai** terror attacks, a book titled **“Hemant Karkare -A Daughter’s Memoir”** by his daughter **Jui Karkare Navare** was released in **Mumbai, Maharashtra**.

- Union HRD Minister **Ramesh Pokhriyal 'Nishank'** launched 3 books which are a collection of stories for **Children** namely **Kumbh, Garam Pahad and Dilli ki Bulbul (Sindhi edition)** in New Delhi.
- The **National Council of Science Museums (NCSM)** and **IIT (Indian Institutes of Technology) Gandhinagar and Kharagpur**, have joined hands to develop **Gandhipedia**, an online repository of books, letters and speeches written by Mahatma Gandhi, to commemorate his 150th birth anniversary.
- The yearly magazine called **'Borderman'** was released by **Nityanand Rai**, Minister of State for Home Affairs on the occasion of 55th raising day of BSF (Border Security Force) organized by the Ministry of Home Affairs.



Defense Current Affairs

- **Indian Coast Guard** has conducted a regional level pollution response exercise named **'Swachhh Samundra NW-2019'** at sea off Vadinar in Gulf of Kutch.
- **Quick Reaction Surface to Air Missile system** developed by **DRDO** was successfully flight-tested from Integrated Test Range, Chandipur off the **Odisha coast**.
- **Indian Air Force** bids farewell to the iconic **"MiG-27"** with a decommissioning ceremony at the **Jodhpur air base**.
- A joint military training exercise **"SURYA KIRAN-XIV"** was held in Salijhandi, Rupendehi district of Nepal. The exercise was conducted between the armies of India and Nepal.
- India successfully conducted a developmental trial of the land-attack version of BrahMos supersonic cruise missile from Chandipur Integrated Test Range, off **Odisha coast**.
- The **Indian Navy**, in collaboration with Indian Coast Guard, Cochin Port Trust and all other concerned stakeholders, conducted a large-scale anti-hijacking exercise off the Port of Kochi.
- An upgraded version of the indigenously developed **Pinaka-guided** rocket system with enhanced strike range and guidance system was successfully test-fired from the **DRDO's Proof and Experimental Establishment** firing test range off Odisha coast.
- **"Duchifat-3"** is an **Israeli student's made satellite** to be launched from **ISRO's Sriharikota** launch site. The satellite is jointly built by Herzliya Science Center and Sha'ar HaNegev High School **students of Israel**.
- **Indian Air Force** decided to put tail numbers in **30 Rafale jets** with **"BS"** initials after the recently retired Air Force Chief **Birender Singh Dhanoa**. 6 Rafale trainer aircraft will carry **RB** series tail numbers which stands for Air Chief Marshal **RKS Bhadauria**, the current Chief of Air Staff.
- **UAE** and the **United States** commenced a joint military exercise **'Iron Union 12'** to enhance the combat and tactical capabilities.
- **4th edition** of International Seminar cum Exhibition on Naval Weapon Systems **'NAVARMS-19'** begins in Institute for Defence Studies and Analysis, Development Enclave, **New Delhi** with the **theme "Make in India - Fight Category: Opportunities and Imperatives"**.
- **India** has signed a deal worth around **Rs 1,500 crore** to acquire **R-27 air-to-air missiles** from **Russia** to be equipped on the Su-30MKI combat aircraft.
- **India successfully test-fired** its all-weather tracked-chassis **Quick Reaction Surface-to-Air Missile (QR-SAM)**, jointly developed by **Defence Research and Development Organisation (DRDO)** and Bharat Electronics Ltd, from a mobile launcher at launch complex III of the Integrated Test Range at **Chandipur in Odisha**.
- The **5th edition of International Army Scout Masters Competition** with teams from **8 countries** including India, China and Russia as participants was inaugurated at the Jaisalmer Military Station under the aegis of the Southern Command.
- **INS Tarkash** has arrived in Norway for a 3 day visit as part of Western Fleet Overseas Deployment.
- The Army has launched **"Mission Reach Out"** to ensure that basic necessities and essential services are available in the region post the abrogation of the provisions of **Article 370** and reorganisation of Jammu and Kashmir.
- **Japanese ship "JS Sazanami"**, visited Kochi on a 2 day goodwill visit. **JS Sazanami**, a Japanese Maritime Self Defence Force Ship is a missile destroyer.
- **Union Home Ministry** has fixed the retirement age of all **Central Armed Police Force personnel at 60 years**.
- **Defence Research and Development Organisation (DRDO)** handed over the design of Mobile Metallic Ramp (MMR) to the Indian Army. MMR has been designed and **developed by DRDO**. It is portable, modular in design, which can be easily assembled or disassembled.
- An Indo-Israel joint venture's **"Astra Rafael Communication System"** was inaugurated in Hyderabad. The Joint Venture is between **Astra Microwave** and Israel's **Rafael Advanced Defense Systems**.

- Indian Air Force's Wing Commander **Shalija Dhama** has become the **first female officer** in the country to become **Flight Commander** of a flying unit.
- Indian Air Force has inducted **8 Apache AH-64E attack helicopters** at the Pathankot Air Force station to enhance its combat capabilities. The AH-64E Apache is one of the world's most advanced multi-role combat helicopters.
- Indian Army has announced that the first batch of **100 women soldiers in the Army** is likely to be commissioned by March 2021.
- **Indo-US defence cooperation**, a joint military training, Exercise "**Yudh Abhyas 2019**". This exercise is being conducted at Joint Base Lewis Mc Chord, Washington, the USA.
- '**SLINEX 2019**', the bilateral maritime exercise between **India and Sri Lanka** commenced on 7 September 2019 at Visakhapatnam (Andhra Pradesh).
- Defence Research and Development Organisation (**DRDO**) successfully flight tested an indigenously-developed low weight, fire and forget **Man-Portable Antitank Guided Missile (MPATGM)** in the ranges of Kurnool, **Andhra Pradesh**.
- Indian Air Force (**IAF**) resurrected the Air Force Station (AFS) Ambala-based 17 Squadron '**Golden Arrows**', which will operate the first squadron of Rafale fighter jets.
- India's 2nd Scorpene-class submarine, **INS Khanderi** will be **commissioned** into the Indian Navy by Defence Minister Rajnath Singh.
- Defence Research Development Organization (**DRDO**) has handed over the second airborne warning plane, **Netra**, to the Indian Air Force. The Netra is an Airborne Early Warning and Control (AEWC) aircraft.
- **India and Thailand** are all set to organize Joint Military Exercise **MAITREE-2019** at Foreign Training Node, Umroi (**Meghalaya**).
- **Defence Acquisition Council** accorded approval for Capital Procurement for the Services amounting to approximately **Rs 2,000 crores**.
- DRDO and the Aeronautical Development Agency successfully executed the first-ever arrested landing of **Light Combat Aircraft (LCA) Tejas (Navy)** at the shore-based test facility in Goa. This is a step towards the aircraft getting operational on aircraft carrier **INS Vikramaditya**.
- The White water Rafting Expedition christened '**RUDRASHILA**' being undertaken by **Kalidhar Battalion** under the aegis of Battle Axe Division was Flagged Off at Jaisalmer Military station.
- A maiden trilateral exercise **SITMEX**, involving Republic of Singapore Navy (RSN), Royal Thailand Navy (RTN) and Indian Navy (IN) started at Port Blair.
- Indian Air Force has successfully flight-tested air-to-air missile **Astra** off the coast of Odisha. The missile was launched from a **Sukhoi Su-30 MKI combat aircraft**.
- Defence Minister **Rajnath Singh** becomes the first defence minister to fly in the indigenously-built light combat aircraft (LCA) Tejas. He flew in the **Tejas fighter aircraft from the HAL airport in Bengaluru**.
- Indian Army conducted a massive rare exercise '**Chang Thang**' in Eastern **Ladakh** bordering China. The exercise involved the use of infantry, **mechanised forces, T-72 tanks**, with force multipliers such as artillery guns and Unmanned Aerial Vehicles. The Indian Air Force was also roped in the exercise.
- **India and the United States** are set to hold their first tri-services exercise code-named "**Tiger Triumph**" at Visakhapatnam and Kakinada, Andhra Pradesh in November this year.
- 4th edition of Joint Military Exercise **KAZIND-2019** between **India and Kazakhstan** will be conducted at Pithoragarh, Uttarakhand.
- Army officer **Ponung Doming** became the first woman officer from **Arunachal Pradesh** to be elevated to the rank of **Lieutenant Colonel** in the Indian Army.
- Defence Minister **Rajnath Singh** has formally commissioned the Indian Coast Guard offshore patrol vessel '**Varaha**' at the Chennai Port Trust.
- The **23rd edition** of the trilateral maritime exercise of **India, Japan and the United States (US)** named "**Malabar 2019**" exercise begun at Sasebo, Japan.
- Army chief Gen **Bipin Rawat** takes over as the new Chairman of the **Chiefs of Staff Committee**.
- India successfully test-fired a land-attack version of **BrahMos supersonic missile** from Chandipur coast in Odisha's Balasore district. DRDO conducted the test-fire successfully.
- 14th edition of **Indo-Mongolian** joint military training, Exercise **Nomadic Elephant-XIV** started. The Indian Army is being represented by a contingent of a battalion of RAJPUTANA RIFLES.
- India has got the **1st Rafale fighter jet "RB-001"** built for the Indian Air Force (**IAF**) at Production Unit of Dassault Aviation in France. **1st batch of jets** will arrive in India only in **May 2020**.
- The 2nd edition of **Coordinated Patrol (CORPAT)** of the navies of **India and Bangladesh** has begun in Northern Bay of Bengal.
- The 2nd joint military exercise '**Dharma Guardian-2019**' to promote military cooperation between **India and Japan** will be held in Mizoram from 19 Oct to 02 Nov 2019.
- The 10th edition of the joint military exercise '**Vajra Prahar 2019**' between India and the US will be held at Joint Base Lewis-McChord (**JBLM**) in **Seattle, US**.
- **Indian Air Force and Japanese Air Self Defence Force (JASDF)** carrying out a joint military air force exercise named '**Shinyuu Maitri**' began from October 17 to 23, at the air force station, Arjan Singh in Panagarh town in West Bengal.
- Indian Air Force (**IAF**) kickstarted its bilateral joint exercise with Royal Air Force Oman (RAFO), named '**EX EASTERN BRIDGE-V**' at Air Force Base Masirah, Oman.

- Andaman and Nicobar Command (ANC) has conducted the 2nd edition of **Defence of Andaman & Nicobar Islands 2019 (DANX-19)**.
- The **India-Myanmar** Naval Exercise called **IMNEX-2019** is being organised in **Visakhapatnam**, Andhra Pradesh. The exercise would be conducted in two phases: Harbour phase and Sea Phase.
- 2-day long manoeuvres by **Sudarshan Chakra Vahini** of Indian Army Started at **Jaisalmer**, field firing range in Rajasthan.
- The **Defence Acquisition Council** has approved 3 projects worth **Rs 3,300 crore** of “indigenously designed and developed equipments”. The projects include 3rd generation Anti-Tank Guided Missiles (**ATGM**) and Auxiliary Power Units (**APUs**) for the T-72 and T-90 Tanks to be executed by the Indian industry.
- The **Defence Research and Development Organisation** has started work to produce **hypersonic weapon missiles** that travel at 5 times speed of sound, or a little over a mile every second.
- The **Indian Army (IA)** is to conduct exercise codenamed “**Sindhu Sudarshan**” for the year 2019 in the deserts of **Rajasthan** to evaluate the capability of the defence services in an integrated air-land battle.
- The bilateral ‘**Exercise SHAKTI**’ between the armies of **India** and **France** will be conducted at Foreign Training Node in Mahajan Field Firing Ranges, **Rajasthan**.
- The first-ever **India-Uzbekistan** joint military exercise **Dustlik-2019** begin at Chirchiq Training Area near Tashkent, Uzbekistan.
- The second phase of the biggest **US- Bangladesh** Navy exercise named ‘**Cooperation Afloat Readiness and Training (CARAT)- 2019**’ started in Chattogram, Bangladesh.
- Union Minister of State for Defence Shripad Naik inaugurated the Defence Research & Development Organisation (DRDO) Igniter Complex at **High Energy Materials Research Laboratory (HEMRL)** in Pune, Maharashtra.
- **Garden Reach Shipbuilders and Engineers Ltd (GRSE)** delivered Fast Patrol Vessel (FPV) **ICGS Annie Besant**, the second in the series of five such ships, to the Indian Coast Guard.
- India is jointly exercising its anti-submarine warfare corvette **INS Kamorta** along with Indonesian warship **KRI Usman Harun**, a multi-role corvette, in the Bay of Bengal as part of an ongoing bilateral exercise “**Samudra Shakti**”.
- The **Indian Coast Guard (ICG)** tested its efficiency and preparedness during the **Regional Level Search and Rescue Workshop and Exercise 2019 (ReSAREX- 19)** conducted off the Goa coast.
- The defence ministry is organising **Def-Connect** in **New Delhi** to showcase the accomplishments of the Innovations for Defence Excellence (**iDEX**) initiative.
- The **India-U.S. tri-services** amphibious exercise “**Tiger Triumph**” has begun in **Visakhapatnam, Andhra Pradesh**.
- **Lt. Cdr. Karabi Gogoi** has become the **first woman officer** from the **Indian Navy** to be posted as the **Assistant Naval Attache** at the Indian embassy in Moscow.
- **India** has successfully conducted the first night trial of Agni-II, its versatile surface-to-surface medium-range nuclear-capable missile from **Dr Abdul Kalam Island** off Odisha coast.
- The **Sudarshan Chakra** Corps of the Indian Army conducted ‘**Sindhu Sudarshan**’ exercise in **Barmer, Rajasthan**.
- **Navies of India** and **Qatar** have started a 5-day bilateral maritime exercise “**Za’ir-Al-Bahr**” begins in **Doha, Qatar**.
- **Garden Reach Shipbuilders and Engineers Ltd (GRSE)** delivered to the **Indian Coast Guard Ship (ICGS) ‘Amrit Kaur’**, the third in a series of five ‘Fast Patrol Vessels’ (FPV).
- The **National Investigation Agency (NIA)** will host the first-ever counter-terrorism (CT) exercise for the Quad countries in New Delhi. The Quad countries include the **United States (US), India, Australia, and Japan**.
- President **Ram Nath Kovind** and Supreme Commander of Indian Armed Forces awarded **President’s Colour to Indian Naval Academy (INA)**, Ezhimala at Kochi, Kerala.
- The US State Department cleared the sale of sophisticated **MK-45 naval guns** worth **\$1 billion to India**.
- The **Indian Navy** will host military drill ‘**Milan 2020**’ in March which will witness the participation of several countries. 41 nations from South Asia, Southeast Asia, Africa and Europe that share defence cooperation with India have been invited for the drill. **MILAN stands for ‘Multilateral Naval Exercise’**.
- A maiden bilateral exercise between the **Indian Navy and the Japanese Maritime Self Defence Force (JMSDF)** have conducted Mine Countermeasure Exercise (MINEX) 2019 at Kochi, Kerala.
- The Indian Army has successfully test-fired **2 Spike long-range anti-tank missiles** at Mhow in **Madhya Pradesh**.
- The **7th edition of India-Sri Lanka joint exercise “MITRA SHAKTI”** begins at Aundh Military Station, Pune.
- India successfully test-fired its indigenously developed surface-to-surface nuclear-capable **Prithvi-II missile** off Odisha coast.
- The **8th India-China joint training exercise ‘HAND-IN-HAND 2019’** with the theme counter-terrorism under United Nations mandate is scheduled to be conducted at Umroi, Meghalaya from 07 to 20 December 2019.
- **Exercise INDRA 2019** a joint, tri-services exercise **between India and Russia** will be conducted in India from 10-19 December 2019 simultaneously at Babina (near Jhansi), Pune, and Goa.

Sports Current Affairs

Cricket {National Game of: Australia, Bermuda, England, Jamaica No. of Players: 11}
Important Terms associated: Arm ball, Beamer, Bottom hand, Bouncer, Cameo, Carrom ball, Chinaman, Flick, Free hit, Gance, Googly, Hat-trick, Hit wicket, Leg bye, Nelson, Night watchman, Pinch hitter, Sweep, Upper Cut.}

- **India skipper Virat Kohli** and pace bowler **Jasprit Bumrah** were the only Indians in **Wisden's T20 International team** of the decade. Australia's limited overs skipper was named captain of the Wisden's T20 International team of the decade.
- **Australian pace bowler Peter Siddle** has announced his retirement from **International Cricket**.
- **South African** all-rounder **Vernon Philander** announced international **retirement** from all forms of cricket.
- Former India skipper and wicket-keeper batsman **MS Dhoni** named **Captain of Cricket Australia's (CA) ODI** team of the decade. Apart from Dhoni, Virat Kohli and Rohit Sharma also made into the CA's team.
- Indian skipper **Virat Kohli** is one of the five players named in the **Wisden Cricketers of the Decade**. Other players in the list are: Australian batsman **Steve Smith**, and South Africans: **Dale Steyn**, and **AB de Villiers**. Australian all-rounder **Ellyse Perry** is the only female cricketer in the list.
- India opener **Smriti Mandhana** was named in both the International Cricket Council's ODI and T20 teams of the year.
- **ICC** announced that it has extended its partnership with **UNICEF** through to the **Women's T20 World Cup 2020** with the focus on empowering women and girls through cricket.
 - Bangladesh's inaugurated the special edition of **Bangabandhu Bangladesh Premier League T20 cricket championship** to mark Bangabandhu Sheikh Mujibur Rahman's birth centenary in 2020.
 - **Wasim Jaffer** has become the **first player** in Indian cricket to feature in **150 Ranji matches**. Actor **Suniel Shetty** has been selected as the **brand ambassador** of **National Anti-Doping Agency NADA**.
 - Indian match referee **GS Lakshmi** is set to become the **first woman match referee** to officiate a **men's ODI match**.
 - The top tier of Spanish club football "**La Liga**" announced cricketer **Rohit Sharma** as its **brand ambassador in India**.
 - The **Laura Alexandra Marsh**, England cricketer announced her retirement.
 - Indian pace bowler **Jasprit Bumrah** become the third Indian to register a hat-trick in test cricket against West Indies, held in Kingston, Jamaica.

- Zimbabwe captain **Hamilton Masakadza** has announced to retire from international cricket.
- Senior India **batswoman Mithali Raj** has announced retirement from International T-20 Cricket.
- FormerPak captain **Misbah-ul-Haq** appointed as head coach and chief selector of Pakistan's cricket team. **Waqar Younis** as the team's new bowling coach.
- **Rashid Khan** broke the 15-year-old record by becoming the youngest Test captain in the Test Cricket history.
- **India Red** beat India Green to clinch the **Duleep Trophy title** in Bengaluru.
- Sri Lanka's **Lasith Malinga** has become the first T20I bowler to take **100 wickets** and became the first-ever bowler to **pick up 2 hat-tricks** in T20I cricket during the 3rd T20I against New Zealand at Pallekele.
- Australian fast bowler **Megan Schutt** scripted history by becoming the **first woman** to claim **two hat-tricks** in white-ball cricket.
- Former England captain **Andrew Strauss** appointed as the **chairman** of the England and Wales Cricket Board's **cricket committee**.
- Former Indian Cricketer **Dinesh Mongia** announced retirement from all forms of cricket.
- ICC banned Sri Lankan off-spinner **Akila Dananjaya** from bowling in international matches for **1 year**.
- **Prithvi Shaw** has been suspended by **Board of Control for Cricket in India** for 8 months for a **doping violation**.
- The **International Cricket Council** has named **Michael Gough** of England and **Joel Wilson** of the **West Indies** in the **Emirates ICC Elite Panel of Umpires** for 2019-20 seasons.
- Former **India player** and Andhra Ranji captain, **Y. Venugopal Rao** has announced his **retirement** from all forms of cricket.
- ICC has launched the **inaugural World Test Championship** in **red-ball cricket** to determine the World Test Champion. The **top 9 Test teams** will compete in the 2-year long tournament.
- **Australia** all-rounder **Ellyse Perry** became the **first cricketer** of either gender to reach the rare milestone of scoring **1000 runs** and **taking 100 wickets** in the **T20 format**.
- **South African bowler Dale Steyn** has announced his **retirement from Test cricket**.
- **South African batsman Hashim Amla** has retired from all formats of international cricket.
- The **Cricket Australia** has announced new transgender inclusive policy.

- **Cricket** has been included in the **Commonwealth Games** for the 1st time since 1998 in Kuala Lumpur. Women's T20 has been included for the 2022 edition CWG to be held in Birmingham.
- **India** defeated **England** to win the inaugural T20 Physical Disability World Cricket Series 2019 in England.
- Former all-rounder **Ravi Shashtri** has been appointed as the head coach of Indian cricket team for another two years.
- **Australian player Marnus Labuschagne** become the 1st Concussion Substitute player of International cricket.
- **Former Australian** pace bowler **Mitchell Johnson** elected as an Honorary Life Member of the MCC.
- **Former India paceman Shanthakumaran Sreesanth's** life ban has been reduced to 7 years by BCCI. The Ban will end in 2020. This order was passed by BCCI Ombudsman, Justice (Retd.) **DK Jain**.
- **The Board of Control for Cricket in India** has announced that mobile payments and e-commerce company "**Paytm**" has retained the title sponsorship rights.
- **Former Indian opener Vikram Rathour** appointed as team India's new batting coach. He will replace Sanjay Bangar.
- West Indies pacer **Cecil Wright** has announced his **retirement** from all forms of **cricket** at the ripe old age of **85**.
- **Ajantha Mendis**, the mystery spinner from **Sri Lanka**, has announced his **retirement** from all forms of **cricket**.
- Veteran Mumbai all-rounder **Abhishek Nayar** has announced his **retirement** from all forms of **cricket**.
- **Karnataka** defeated Tamil Nadu by 9 wickets in the finals to win the 2019-20 **Vijay Hazare Trophy**.
- Indian Fast bowler **Jasprit Bumrah** and batswoman **Smriti Mandhana** has won the **Wisden India Almanack Cricketer of the Year** award. The book titled "**Cricket Country: The Untold History of the First All India Team**" by Prashant Kidambi was adjudged the Wisden India Book of the Year 2019 (Published by Penguin India).
- ICC banned **Bangladesh** Test and T20 Captain **Shakib Al Hasan** for 2 years from all forms of cricket for not reporting to the ICC that he was approached by the bookies.
- **Harmanpreet Kaur** has become the 1st Indian to play **100 T20 International matches**.
- ICC changed the super-over rule for all its major events following the uproar over the outcome of the **men's World Cup final** this year when England was declared winners against New Zealand on boundary count.
- The **17-year-old Mumbai teenager Yashasvi Jaiswal** make history as she became the **youngest cricketer** in the world to score a double century in One Day cricket. She scored 203 off 154 balls against Jharkhand at Alur, Karnataka.

- England all-rounder **Jennifer Louise Gunn** has announced her retirement from international cricket.
- Indian cricketer **Rohit Sharma** smashed the former Australia cricketer Don Bradman's record of **highest average in Test cricket on home soil**. He broke the 71-year-old record that was previously held by Bradman by scoring an average of 99.84.
- Former South Africa skipper **Graeme Smith** and Former Australian off-spinner **Tim May** has been elected an **Honorary Life Member** of the Marylebone Cricket Club (MCC).
- **Steve Smith** became the fastest cricketer to score **7,000 Test runs**, shattering a record that had stood since 1946, while moving past **Donald Bradman** to become Australia's 11th highest scorer.
- The **Indian cricket team** played its first-ever Day-Night Test match against **Bangladesh** at the **Eden Gardens, Kolkata**.
- India pacer **Deepak Chahar** has become the **first Indian bowler** to take a **hat-trick** in the **Twenty20 Internationals** during the match against Bangladesh and also produced the best-ever figures in the Twenty20 Internationals i.e. 6 wickets for 7 runs in 3.2 overs.

**Football {National Game of: Brazil, Italy, Germany, Israel, Mauritius, Poland No. of Players: 11
Important Terms Associated: Back Pass, Corner Kick, Free Kick, Dribble, Futsal, Header, Kick off, Banana Kick, Toe Poke, Throw-in, Bicycle Kick}**

- **Belgium** crowned FIFA '**Team of the Year**' for the second successive time after a record-breaking year for the global ladder.
- The Indian men's football team remained static at **108th spot** in the year-ending **FIFA rankings**.
- Former France and Manchester United **defender Patrice Evra** has announced his **retirement**.
- Liverpool Football player **Virgil van Dijk** has won **UEFA's Player of the Year** award and England's footballer **Lucy Bronze** won the **Women's Player of the Year** award.
- In football, **Gokulam Kerala FC** won the **129th Durand Cup**, defeating heavyweights Mohun Bagan in Salt Lake Stadium Kolkata.
- **Former Chelsea, Arsenal and England football player** Ashley Cole aged 38, announced his retirement from football.
- **Liverpool** defeated Chelsea in the finals to win **UEFA Super Cup held in Istanbul**.
- **The Netherlands'** most-capped player Wesley Sneijder announced his retirement from football.
- Soccer body **CONMEBOL** suspended **Lionel Messi** from **international matches for three months** because of **accusations of corruption** he made at the **latest Copa America**.

- **Legendary Uruguay striker** Diego Forlan has announced his retirement from professional football.
- **India U-15 team thrashed Nepal 7-0** to lift the **SAFF U-15** title at the Kalyani Stadium in Kolkata.
- **Qatar** unveiled the logo for the **FIFA 2022 World Cup**. The design is a stylised Arabic white unisex shawl with maroon patterning, which is displayed in a figure-of-eight symbolising infinity.
- **Manipur** defeated Railways by 1-0 to win the Senior Women's National Football Championship held in **Pasighat, Arunachal Pradesh**. This was Manipur's 20th National title.
- German World Cup champion **Bastian Schweinsteiger** has announced his **retirement** from soccer.
- The **Indian football team** won the **3rd Edition of the SAFF U-15 Women's Championships 2019** by beating Bangladesh by 5-3 in the penalty shoot-out.
- Indian football team dropped two places to **106th position** in the latest FIFA rankings. **Belgium** has managed to hold on to the top spot, followed by **France and Brazil**.
- **FIFA** has banned 3 South American **football officials**-Former Peru Football Federation **Manuel Burga** and Argentinian officials **Eduardo Deluca** and **Jose Luis Meiszner**, for a lifetime for connection with a 2015 corruption scandal in football.
- Spain's striker **David Villa** has announced his retirement from football.
- **Brazilian football team** defeated the football team of Mexico in the finals for 2-1, to win the 18th edition of the FIFA (Fédération Internationale de Football Association) **under 17 World Cup trophy** held in Brasilia, Brazil.

Hockey {National Game of: India, Pakistan No. of Players: 11

Important Terms Associated: Advancing, Bully, Center Pass, Dribble, Drive, Flagrant Foul, Flick, Free Hit, Striker, Tackle, Undercutting, Dodge, Drag Flick, Grip, Hacking, Penalty Corner, Wall Pass}

- Indian women's hockey team captain **Rani Rampal** and ace pistol shooter **Saurabh Chaudhary** won the **Sports Person of the Year** awards at the FICCI India Sports Awards 2019.
- The **International Hockey Federation** unveiled a **new world ranking system** for **2020** in Lausanne, Switzerland. It will come into effect from the 1st January 2020. The new ranking will be match-based instead of tournament-based calculation.
- **Great Britain** defeated **India** in the finals of the **9th edition** of the **Sultan of Johor Cup 2019**, an international men's under-21 field hockey tournament, held at Johor Bahru, **Malaysia**.

Tennis

- Indian tennis ace **Leander Paes** announced to **retire** from Tennis in **2020** as a professional tennis player.
- India won gold medal at the **Under 12 Asian Tennis Team championship** held in Kazakhstan defeated Chinese Taipei.
- Canadian teenager **Bianca Andreescu** wins **Rogers Cup tennis tournament 2019** held in **Toronto, Canada**.
- **Nikoloz Basilashvili** wins the **German Tennis Championships**.
- **Rafael Nadal** wins in Montreal to win **35th Masters crown** and also extended his record haul of **Masters 1000 titles**.
- **Chennai Lions** defeated **Dabang Delhi** to win the Ultimate Table Tennis league.
- Indian tennis player **Divij Sharan** clinched the men's doubles title in ATP Tour tennis tournament in St. Petersburg, Russia. Divij Sharan Open with partner Igor Zelenay, defeating Matteo Berrettini and Simone Bolelli.
- **Daniil Medvedev** won a sixth career title as he defeated **Borna Coric** 6-3, 6-1 in the final of the St Petersburg Open, Russia.
- **Nelly Korda** has won the Ladies European Tour Title at **Lacoste Ladies French Open**. She shot a four-under 67 to win her first Ladies European Tour title.
- Indian tennis player **Sumit Nagal** has won the men's singles title at the **ATP Challenger Tournament** held in Buenos Aires, Argentina.
- **Prithvi Sekhar** beats Jaroslav Smedek to clinch the men's singles title in **World Deaf Tennis Championships 2019** held in Antalya, Turkey.
- Indian men's doubles pair **Chirag Shetty** and **Satwiksairaj Rankireddy** has won the **silver** medal in the men's doubles event at **French Open**.
- Japan's **Naomi Osaka** defeated world number one **Ashleigh Barty** with a score of 3-6, 6-3, 6-2 to win the **China Open** held in Beijing, China.
- **Novak Djokovic** defeated Australia's John Millman in the finals to win the **Japan Open title**.
- **Novak Djokovic** won the **Paris Masters 2019 title**. He won the title for the fifth time.
- Indian paddler **Harmeet Desai** wins men's singles title at **International Table Tennis Federation (ITTF) Challenge Indonesia Open 2019** Table Tennis tournament held at Batam, Indonesia.
- **Rafael Nadal** has clinched **6th Davis Cup title for Spain** after beating Denis Shapovalov of Canada in front of a jubilant home crowd in Madrid.

Grand Prixes

- Spain motorcycle racer, **Alex Rins** of the Team **SUZUKI ECSTAR** defeated Marc Marquez won the **British Grand Prix**.
- **Red Bull's Max Verstappen** wins **German Grand Prix** held in Hockenheim, **Germany**.

- **Formula One Mercedes driver Lewis Hamilton** defeated Max Verstappen to win the **Hungarian Grand Prix**.
- **Charles Leclerc** won the **Belgian Grand Prix** after defeating Lewis Hamilton by less than a second.
- Ferrari's **Charles Leclerc** has won the **Italian Grand Prix**.
- **Ferrari Sebastian Vettel** has won the **Singapore Grand Prix**. The event was held at the Marina Bay Street Circuit, Singapore.
- Mercedes' driver **Lewis Hamilton** has won the **Mexican Grand Prix 2019**.
- Formula One world champion **Lewis Hamilton** of Mercedes won the 2019 Russia F1 Grand Prix (Formula 1 GP) at Sochi Autodrom race track in Russia.
- Mercedes' **Valtteri Bottas (Finland)** won the **2019 Japanese Grand Prix** held at the **Suzuka International Racing Course** in Suzuka in Mie Prefecture, Japan.
- Red Bull's **Max Verstappen** (Netherlands) won F1 Brazilian Grand Prix at Interlagos in São Paulo, Brazil.
- Mercedes racer **Lewis Hamilton** has won the **Abu Dhabi Grand Prix held in Abu Dhabi, UAE**.

Badminton

- Ace Indian shutter **PV Sindhu** won the **World Championships title** defeating Japan's Nozomi Okuhara in the final at Basel, Switzerland. She has become the **first Indian** to book a gold medal at the World Championships.
- **India's Satwiksairaj Rankireddy and Chirag Shetty defeated Li Jun Hui and Liu Yu Chen** to win the men's doubles final of the Thailand Open badminton championship in **Bangkok**.
- **Indian Sourabh Verma** defeated Singapore's Loh Kean Yew to clinch the Men's Singles title in the Hyderabad Open.
- **Sourabh Verma** has won the Vietnam Open Super 100 title held at the Ho Chi Minh City, Vietnam defeated China's Sun Fei Xiang in the thrilling Men's Singles.
- Indian Badminton star, **Lakshya Sen** has won the Belgian International badminton title. He defeated Victor Svendsen of Denmark.
- Indian shuttler **Kaushal Dharmamer** has won the Myanmar International Series. He defeated Indonesia's Karono Karono.
- Olympic gold medalist **Carolina Marin** defeated Taiwan's Tai Tzu Ying in the women's badminton singles final match to lift the **China Open title**.
- **Indian shuttler Lakshya Sen** clinched his maiden BWF World Tour title by winning the **Dutch Open men's singles** at Almere in the Netherlands.
- **Indian shuttler Priyanshu Rajawat** wins the **men's singles title at the Bahrain International Series Badminton** at Isa Town, Bahrain.
- India's **Maisnam Meiraba Luwang** clinched the boys' singles U-19 title at the **Woncheon Yonex Korea Junior Open Badminton International Challenge 2019** in Miryang, Korea.

- India's **Lakshya Sen** has won the **SaarLorLux Open badminton tournament** at **Saarbrücken** in Germany.
- India's **Lakshya Sen** has won the **Scottish Open badminton men's singles title**, defeating Brazilian Ygor Coelho to seal his fourth title in 3 months.

Boxing/ Wrestling/Weightlifting

- **Tamil Nadu girl Jerlin Anika** has won the **gold medal** in the **World Deaf Youth Badminton Championships** held in **Taipei**.
- Indian sprinter **VK Vismaya** has won the **gold medal** in the **400m** run at the International Athletic Meeting-Josef Seckar Memorial (MJS) in Brno, Czech Republic.
- India's **Komalika Bari** became **recurve cadet world champion** at the World Archery Youth Championships in Madrid, Spain.
- **Vinesh Phogat** won gold in women's **53kg category** at Poland Open wrestling tournament in Warsaw.
- German cancer researcher **Fiona Kolbinger** won the **mixed annual 4,000km(2,485 miles)** cycling Transcontinental Race from Burgas in Bulgaria to Brest in France.
- **Australia's reigning** world-champion hurdler Sally Pearson announced her surprise retirement due to injury.
- **The World Archery (WA)** has suspended the Archery Association of India for violating its guidelines.
- **Bajrang Punia** defeated **Iran's Peiman Bibyani** to win gold at Tbilisi Grand Prix held in **Tbilisi, Georgia**.
- Shot putter **Tejinderpal Singh Toor** won a silver medal during an athletic meet at Decin in the Czech Republic.
- Kenya's **Brigid Kosgei** completed the **fastest half-marathon** ever ran by a woman. She won the Great North Run in a time of 1 hour, 04 minutes and 28 seconds.
- **Bajrang Punia** won a bronze medal at the 2019 **World Wrestling Championships** in Nur-Sultan, Kazakhstan. He defeated Mongolia's **Tulga Tumur Ochir** in the 65 kg weight category.
- Indian wrestler **Rahul Aware** has won a bronze medal in **men's 61-kilogram freestyle category** at the World Championship in Nur-Sultan, Kazakhstan.
- **Aryna Sabalenka** defeated American Alison Riske in the summit clash by to win the **WTA Wuhan Open** held in Wuhan, China.
- India's **N. Wilson Singh and Satish Kumar Prahapati** won the gold medal in the 10m platform synchronised diving event at the Asian Age Group Championships held in Bengaluru.
- Jamaican sprint legend Shelly-Ann Fraser-Pryce won gold medal in **100m race of 2019 IAAF World Championships** held in Doha.
- Indian fencer **Bhavani Devi** wins the silver medal in the women's sabre individual event at the Tournoi satellite competition in Belgium.

Sports Events | Tournaments Current Affairs

- **Indian Olympic Association (IOA)** withdrawn its boycott call for the **2022 Commonwealth Games to be held in Birmingham**.
- **Assam Chief Minister** launched the torch relay of the 3rd edition of Khelo India Youth Games in **Guwahati, Assam**.
- **India** finished on top with **312 medals** comprising 174 gold, 93 silver and 45 bronze in the **13th South Asian Games** recently concluded in **Nepal**.
- **World Anti-Doping Agency** has **banned Russia** for 4 years from participation in global sporting events including the 2020 Tokyo Olympics and the 2022 Beijing Winter Olympics.
- **International Army Games** was held in **Belarus in August 2019**.
- Indian team created history by winning **one gold, one silver and two bronze medals** at the world's biggest international vocational skill competition, **45th World Skills Kazan 2019, Russia**.
- The **3rd edition of Khelo India Youth Games 2020** will be held in **Guwahati**. The Games will see a participation of more than 10,000 athletes and officials.
- **Egan Bernal** became the **1st Colombian** to win the **Tour de France** which finished in **Paris, France**.
- Indian shooter **Yashaswini Singh Deswal** won gold in the **women's 10meter Air Pistol event** at the ISSF World Cup at Rio de Janeiro in Brazil.
- The 8th edition of **Ladakh Marathon** was held in **Leh**. It is the **highest marathon** in the world as it is held at over 11,000 feet above the mean sea level.
- **Zimbabwe and Nepal** were re-admitted as **ICC members** in a meeting held in Dubai.
- **India** will host the **2023 Men's Hockey World Cup** from **13th to 29th of January**.
- **2019 World Kabaddi Cup** will take place in **Punjab**.
- **13th edition of South Asian Games** has officially kicked off in **Kathmandu, Nepal**.

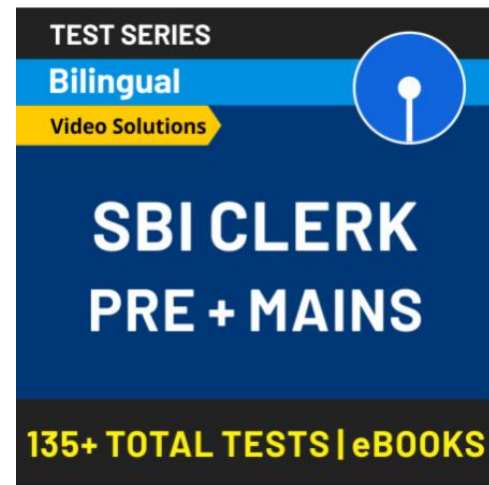
Other Sports Current Affairs

- **Indian Grandmaster Koneru Humpy** wins the World Women's Rapid Chess Championship held in **Moscow, Russia**.
- **Abhinav Lohan** won the **Bengaluru Open Golf Championship 2019** powered by Karnataka Tourism.
- American **Collin Morikawa** has won the **US PGA** title at the **Barracuda Championship**. This was his **1st win in the US PGA title**.
- **Abhishek Verma** won the gold medal and **Saurabh Chaudhary** won the bronze medal in the men's 10m air pistol event of the World Cup at Rio de Janeiro. While **Elavenil Valarivan** opened India's account with a gold in the women's 10m air rifle event.

- The Indian team of **Sukhbeer Singh, Sangampreet Singh Bisla** and **Tushar Phadtare** clinched a bronze medal in the junior compound men's team event in the World Archery Youth Championships in **Madrid, Spain**.
- **B.N.S. Reddy** beats Bruce Barrios of the U.S. in the men's singles final to win the gold medal at the World Police and Fire Games. The tournament was held in **Chengdu, China**.
- **Indian Para Swimmer Satendra Singh Lohia** has become the first Asian swimmer to cross the Catalina Channel of America. Satendra holds the Asian record of crossing both the English and Catalina channels.
- **Indian sprinters Hima Das and Mohammad Anas** have won a gold medal and **Nirmal Tom** clinched a bronze medal in 300m races at the Athleticky Mitink Reiter event.
- **Deepak Punia** defeated Russia's **Alik Shebzukov** in the 86 kg junior freestyle event to win the gold medal at the Junior World Championships held in **Talinn, Estonia** and become the 1st Indian in 18 years to win a Junior World Championship title.
- **Simone Biles makes history** with a never-before-seen **"triple-double"** floor exercise landing.
- **Aishwarya Pissay** made history by becoming the first Indian to win a world title in motorsports as she won the FIM World Cup in women's category after the final round of the championship in **Varpalota, Hungary**.
- **Anupama Swain** won a bronze medal in the recently concluded **World Martial Arts Mastership 2019**.
- **Manu Bhaker** and **Saurabh Chaudhary** won the gold medal in **mixed 10m air pistol** at the **ISSF World Cup in Rio de Janeiro**.
- The Sports Ministry of India **de-recognised** the **Paralympic Committee of India** for violation of the National Sports Code. The committee violated the code by removing its elected president **Rao Inderjit Singh**.
- **Pankaj Advani** defeated **Nay Thway Oo** to win the 150-up format at the **IBSF World Billiards Championship** held in **Mandalay, Myanmar**.
- **Spain** defeated **Argentina** by 95-75 to win the **Basketball World Cup** held in **Beijing, China**.
- Union Minister of State for Finance and Corporate Affairs **Anurag Thakur** announced that a **cricket and sports academy** will be set up in **Leh, Ladakh**.
- Indian chess grandmaster, **Koneru Humpy** of Gudivada (Andhra Pradesh) has clinched **Fide World Grand Prix 2019** title with 8 points from 11 rounds in **Skolkovo, Russia**.
- The Indian team of **Pankaj Advani and Aditya Mehta** to win the "IBSF World Snooker" title.
- Indian track and field legend **PT Usha** was presented the **Veteran Pin** by the world athletics governing body, in recognition of her contribution to the growth of the sport.
- **Rupa Gurunath** was appointed as the first woman president of **Tamil Nadu Cricket Association (TNCA)** at the 87th Annual General Meeting of TNCA in **Chennai, TamilNadu**.

- The **Zozo Championship 2019** tournament title was clinched by America's **Tiger Woods**.
- Indian boxer **Shiva Thapa** and **Pooja Rani** has clinched **gold medal** while **Ashish** settled for a **silver**, in Olympic Test Event for Boxing in Tokyo, Japan.
- **Praveen Kumar** defeated Philippines' Russel Diaz by 2-1 in the **men's sanda event** in the **48kg** category and became the **1st Indian man** to win a **gold medal** at the **Wushu World Championships**.
- **Poonam** in women's 75kg category and **Sanathoi Devi** in women's 52kg category secured **silver medals** while **Vikrant Baliyan** bagged the **bronze** in the men's 60kg category at the **Wushu World Championships**.
- Austria's **Christine Wolf** has won the **Hero Women's Indian Open** at Gurugram, Haryana.
- **Simone Biles** has clinched a record-extending **15th World Gymnastics Championship** title in Stuttgart, Germany.
- **Bengal Warriors** defeated Dabang Delhi in the final of **7th season of Vivo Pro Kabaddi League 2019**. Most Valuable Player award of the League was bagged by Naveen Kumar from Dabang Delhi.
- The **logo** "circular design with Paris 2024 in the art deco style incorporating the lips and outline of Marianne, the personification of the French Republic since the revolution in 1789" for the **Paris 2024 Olympic Games** unveiled at a ceremony in the French capital.
- The 6-time world champion **Mangte Chungneijang Mary Kom** inducted into the 10-member sports ambassador group by the **International Olympic Committee (IOC)** on Boxing workforce to represent boxers ahead of the **2020 Tokyo Olympic Games**.
- **South Africa** defeated **England's team** by 32-12 scores in the final of the 9 edition of Rugby World Cup 2019 held at International Stadium, Yokohama, Japan.
- **Manu Bhaker** won gold medal in women's 10m air pistol event in **Asian Shooting Championships 2019**.
- Two-time Olympic boxing champion **Nicola Adams (37 years)** announced her retirement from the sport on medical advice due to the vulnerability of losing eyesight.
- **Saurabh Chaudhary** claimed the silver medal in **men's 10m air pistol** event to continue India's surge at the **14th Asian Championship in Doha, Qatar**.
- Javelin thrower **Sundar Singh Gurjar** has won India's second gold and defending his World Para Athletics Championships title in the men's **F46 javelin throw** event in **Dubai**.

- The **International Association of Athletics Federations (IAAF)** has officially changed its name and will now be known as "**World Athletics**".
- **Laishram Sarita Devi (Manipur)** is among the 6 boxers from 5 continents who were elected as members of AIBA Athletes Commission.
- Reigning Commonwealth Games champion **Shreyasi Singh** won the women's Trap Gold at the ongoing 63rd National Shooting Championship for shotgun events in New Delhi.
- India's **Manu Bhaker** created history at World Cup Finals in Women's 10m Air Pistol event of **International Shooting Sport Federation at Putian in China**.
- **Elavenil Valarivan and Divyansh Panwar** clinching gold medals in their events to give the country its best ever single-day show in the **ISSF World Cup Finals in Putian, China**.
- **Sangram Dahiya and Varsha Varman** clinched double trap titles, winning gold at the **63rd National Shotgun Shooting Championship in New Delhi**.
- Indian archers **Deepika Kumari and Atanu Das** won a bronze medal in the recurve and compound mixed event at the **Asian Archery Championships in Kolkata**.
- **Abhishek Verma and Jyothi Surekha Vennam** claimed the gold in compound mixed pair event at the 21st Asian Archery Championships, which ended in **Bangkok, Thailand**.
- **Star wrestlers Vinesh Phogat and Sakshi Malik** registered convincing wins in the finals to claim gold medals at the Senior Wrestling National Championships in Jalandhar, Punjab.



Science & Technology

- **NASA Astronaut Christina Koch** has created a record for the longest single spaceflight by a woman. She has surpassed the earlier record of 288 days in space which was previously established by **NASA astronaut Peggy Whitson in 2017**.
- **ISRO** will establish a 2nd launch port in Thoothukodi district in **Tamil Nadu**.
- **ISRO** begun preparatory works for setting up a **3rd rocket launchpad** in the small coastal hamlet of **Kulashekrapattinam** in the Thuthukudi district of **Tamil Nadu**.

- The **International Astronomical Union (IAU)** announced the names of the newly discovered stars and planets, where the name “**Sharjah**” was chosen for a star with “**Barjeel**” being the name of one of its planets.
- **World Health Organization** approved a “**biosimilar**” medicine of Trastuzumab named “**Ontruzant**” to make cheaper breast cancer treatment at an affordable rate to women globally.
- **Scientists** have developed an automated system that uses **artificial intelligence (AI)** to detect and capture fast radio bursts (FRBs) in real-time.
- The Super-Earth planet named **GJ 357d** was discovered in early **2019** owing to **NASA's** Transiting Exoplanet Survey Satellite (TESS), a mission designed to comb the heavens for exoplanets.
- A team of researchers at the Indian Institute of Technology, Guwahati has developed a portable device to detect bacteria without cell culture or microbiological assays.
- **US carrier rocket** Falcon 9 loaded with **Israeli AMOS-17** communication satellite successfully lifted off from a space centre in Florida, spacecraft manufacturer **SpaceX**.
- **Researchers from IIT Kharagpur** have developed a low-cost diagnostic device which can perform various pathological tests by using blood taken from a **fingerprick**.
- **Chinese telecom giant Huawei** unveiled its own operating system which will be called the **HongmengOS, also known as the HarmonyOS**.
- **Ankita Gulati** from **IIT Delhi** was awarded the NCPEDP-Mphasis Universal Design Award 2019 for developing a multisensory kit named Touch Vision. This Kit aims at digital inclusion for 253 million persons with visual impairment globally.
- **Artificial intelligence (AI)** company Cerebras Systems has unveiled the world’s largest single silicon-based processor named Cerebras Wafer Scale Engine(WSE). This chip has 1.2 trillion transistors.
- **Russia launched** an unmanned rocket carrying a **life-size humanoid robot named Fedor**, to assist astronauts on the International Space Station.
- **NASA announced** that it has named a rock on **Mars in honour of the iconic English band, The Rolling Stones**.
- **Intel Corp** launched its latest processor, it's first using artificial intelligence (AI), designed for large computing centres. The name of the chip is **Nervana NNP-I** or **Springhill**.
- **Microsoft India** launched a program '**Digital Governance Tech Tour**' under which it will train 5000 government employees over the next year on AI (artificial intelligence) and cloud computing skills.
- The 5th edition of **India International Science Festival (IISF)** will be held in Kolkata from November 5-8. IISF is the largest science festival in the world. The theme for this year’s festival is '**RISEN India - Research, Innovation, and Science Empowering the Nation**'.
- **Saturn** overtakes Jupiter as planet with **most moons**. A team of astronomers has **discovered** a haul of **20 new moons** orbiting the ringed planet, Saturn. This discovery has brought its total to 82 moons, while Jupiter, by contrast, has 79 natural satellites.
- Union Minister of Science & Technology and Minister of Earth Science has inaugurated India’s 1-ever multi-venue Mega science exhibition, '**Vigyan Samagam 2019**', in **Kolkata, West Bengal**.
- **Indian Institute of Technology-Madras**, in collaboration with Phoenix Medical Systems, launched the country’s first indigenously-designed **standing wheelchair**.
- NASA’s "**Neutron Star Interior Composition Explorer**" telescope on the **International Space Station** has detected a massive thermonuclear explosion coming from outer space, caused by a massive thermonuclear flash on the surface of a pulsar.
- **NASA** (National Aeronautics and Space Administration) has launched its **1st all-electric** experimental aircraft named the **X-57 “Maxwell”** to be **operational by late 2020**.
- **National Aeronautics and Space Administration** (NASA) has renamed a distant space rock **Ultima Thule**, to **Arrokoth** or “**sky**”. Arrokoth is a name of the Native American Powhatan language following a significant backlash over the old name’s Nazi connotations.
- **Microsoft** rolled out its **K12 Education Transformation Framework** more widely to schools across India at the second edition of the **Microsoft Education Days** in Gurgaon.
- **NVIDIA** has announced a new kind of GPU-accelerated supercomputer in the cloud on Microsoft Azure. **NDv2** supercomputer is designed to handle demanding AI and high-performance computing applications, using up to 800 NVIDIA V100 Tensor Core GPUs interconnected on a single.
- **ISRO** has transferred its indigenous technology to produce space-grade Li-Ion cells to **Bharat Heavy Electricals Limited (BHEL)**.

Schemes Launched By Union and State Governments

- **"One Nation One Ration Card" scheme** to be rolled out in India from **June 1, 2020**. To implement the scheme successfully, the centre has kick started interstate portability of ration card pairing two states each.
- The Department of Heavy Industry has sanctioned **5,595 electric buses** under the phase II of Faster Adoption and Manufacturing of (Hybrid &) Electric Vehicles (**FAME India scheme**).
- J&K, District Administration **Udhampur** has launched a helpline, "**Jeene Do**" to improve sex ratio and deal with defaulters of Pre-Conception and Pre-Natal Diagnostic Techniques PCPNDT Act under the centrally **sponsored Beti Bachao Beti Padhao scheme**.
- **Culture and Tourism Minister** flagged off a **mobile library bus service** under scheme "**Ghar Ghar Dastak Ghar Ghar Pustak**" which aims to reach out to readers in **Delhi**, especially those in slums, resettlement colonies and rural areas.
- **One Nation-One Ration Card** scheme launched on a pilot basis in **Telangana, Andhra Pradesh, Maharashtra and Gujarat**.
- **Gujarat CM** launched the '**Vhali Dikri Yojna**' from his home town Rajkot, Gujarat. The scheme for the **welfare of the girl child**.
- **Andhra Pradesh government** launched **Navodayam scheme**, an outreach programme for thousands of ailing MSMEs.
- **VP M Venkaiah Naidu** launched the Jharkhand government's '**Mukhya Mantri Krishi Ashirwad Yojana**' under which money would be directly transferred into the bank accounts of farmers in the state.
- **CM of Punjab** has launched a universal health insurance scheme "**Sarbat Sehat Bima Yojana** " benefiting nearly 46 lakh families. With this scheme, covering **76% of the state's population**.
- **Manipur CM N Biren Singh** launched the "**School Fagadaba**" scheme to improve the infrastructure of government schools in the state.
- **LT of Delhi Anil Baijal** launched a '**QR Code Scheme**' on the **Himmat Plus** app in Delhi. This mobile app launched by the Delhi Police to ensure the safety of women.
- Prime Minister Narendra Modi will launch the **Pradhan Mantri Laghu Vyapari Maan-dhan Yojana**, the Centre's pension scheme for traders.
- Ministry of Commerce & Industry through Export Credit Guarantee Corporation has introduced a new Export Credit Insurance Scheme called **NIRVIK**. The **Niryat Rin Vikash Yojana** has been launched to enhance loan availability to exporters and to ease the lending process. Under the new scheme NIRVIK, up to 90 per cent of the principal amount and interest will be covered through insurance.
- The Union Home Minister **Amit Shah** has launched a single-window system '**Private Security Agency Licensing Portal**'. The single-window system will be used for issuing licences to private security agencies.
- The **Assam Government** has launched a housing loan subsidy scheme "**Aponar Apon Ghar**". The scheme was launched to provide financial assistance on purchase or construction of the first house for a family. The subsidy of up to Rs 250000 will be provided for loan amounts from **Rs 5,00,000 to Rs 40,00,000**.
- The Indian government has approved the construction of **1.23 lakh houses** under the **Pradhan Mantri Awas Yojana (Urban)**. The approval was given by the Central Sanctioning and Monitoring Committee (CSMC).
- **Rajasthan government** has launched a new health insurance scheme **Ayushman Bharat-Mahatma Gandhi Rajasthan Swasthya Bima Yojna (AB-MGRSBY)**.
- Chief Minister of Andhra Pradesh **Y.S. Jagan Mohan Reddy** launched the "**YSR Vahana Mitra scheme**" in Eluru, Andhra Pradesh.
- '**Yuva Sahakar**' Cooperative Enterprise Support and Innovation Scheme 2019 was launched in New Delhi
- **Central Board of Direct Taxes** has launched "**Faceless e-Assessment scheme**" that eliminates **physical interface** between an assessing officer and an assessee. They also inaugurated the National e-Assessment Centre (**NeAC**) in **Delhi** to be headed by **Principal Chief Commissioner of Income Tax**.
- **National Initiative for School Heads' and Teachers' Holistic Advancement (NISHTHA)** has been launched in the Union Territory of **Jammu and Kashmir**.
- **Assam Govt** approves **Arundhati scheme** to provide **1 Tola Gold to Brides free of cost**.
- The government has launched a drive to enroll one crore beneficiaries under the **Pradhan Mantri Shram Yogi Maandhan (PM-SYM)** and the National Pension Scheme for Traders and Self Employed Persons (**NPS-Traders**) by March next year.

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Miscellaneous Current Affairs

- Search engine giant **Google** has revealed that its powerful mapping service, Google Earth now covers more than 98 per cent of the world, and has captured 10 million miles of Street View imagery, a distance that could circle the globe more than 400 times.
- **UNESCO (United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization)** removed the 'Carnival of Aalst' of Belgium from its Intangible Cultural Heritage of Humanity List.
- **ITBP** started a dedicated matrimonial site for its staff. The website started will be managed by ITBP and only the staff will be able to access it.
- In Turkey, the main body of the **610-year-old Er-Rizk** mosque was removed from the town of **Hasankeyf** ahead of its submergence as part of a Ilisu dam project.
- **Khadi and Village Industries Commission** distributed **500 Bee Boxes, 500 Electric Pottery Wheels** and **200 Leather Tool Kits** in an event in **Boondi** District of **Rajasthan**.
- The **UNESCO-recognized Nilgiri Mountain Railway** conducted a special service for foreign tourists on special steam engine from **Coonoor to Ooty**.
- The **Federation of Indian Association** has invited **Super 30** founder **Anand Kumar** to a function on the eve of India's **Republic Day** celebrations in New York. Year "2020" also marks the 50th anniversary of FIA.
- Jammu and Kashmir's Lt Governor Girish Chandra Murmu has inaugurated the **72-metre long Multi Cell Box Type Load Class 70** Bridge built by **Border Roads Organisation** in **Rajouri**. The bridge spans over **Draj nallah** and connects **Draj Area** to **Tehsil Kotranka** area under District **Rajouri**.
- **Archaeological Survey of India** has identified **138 numbers** of monuments as **Must-See Monuments**. The 'Must See' list of ASI features first-class Indian monuments and archaeological sites including those that feature on UNESCO's (United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization) World Heritage List.
- **PUMA** has signed Indian men's football team captain **Sunil Chhetri** as its **brand ambassador**.
- **PepsiCo** has appointed actor **Salman Khan** as the new **brand ambassador** of its flagship Pepsi brand of carbonated beverage in India.
- Amazon's audiobook company **Audible** has launched a new app "**Audible Suno**" in **India** which features original audio series aiming to expand Audible's reach in India's highly competitive digital entertainment and streaming space.
- **The Virasat-e-Khalsa** Museum in Punjab's Anandpur Sahib town is all set to find a place in the Asia Book of Records for becoming the most visited museum in the Indian sub-continent in a single day.
- **Infosys** announced the launch of its state-of-the-art **Cyber Defence Center** in **Bucharest, Romania**.
- **Pakistan** has opened a **1,000 year old Hindu temple** in eastern city **Sialkot** for worship for the first time since partition on the demand of the local Hindu community.
- The **birth anniversary** of a great **novelist** and **celebrated storyteller Munshi Premchand** is celebrated on **31 July** every year.
- **143rd birth anniversary** of freedom fighter **Pingali Venkayya** is celebrated on **2nd of August**. He was a **freedom fighter** and the **designer of the flag** on which the **Indian national flag** was based, was **born on this day in 1876** near **Machilipatnam** in **Andhra Pradesh**.
- **World Breastfeeding Week (WBW)** being observed from **1st to 7th August 2019** and his theme is "**Empower Parents, Enable Breastfeeding**".
- **French inventor Franky Zapata** is 1st person in history to cross the **English Channel** on the jet-powered hoverboard.
- **ISRO** has set up a **Space Situational Awareness Control Centre** at **Peenya in Bengaluru** to protect high valued space assets from space debris close approaches and collisions.
- **Mohali traffic police** have launched **3-D Smart Traffic Signal** devised by the students of a **Chandigarh** university.
- **The scientists at the University of Leeds**, have created the world's thinnest gold measuring 2 atoms thick or million times thinner than a fingernail.
- **Union Minister of Information & Broadcasting** has launched e-Rozgar Samachar. Rozgar Samachar is the corresponding version of **Employment News (English)**.
- The country is celebrating the **100th birth anniversary** of scientist and innovator **Dr Vikram A Sarabhai**. He is considered as the father of India's space program.
- **President Ram Nath Kovind** gave assent to legislation for bifurcation of **Jammu and Kashmir**, and two Union Territories, **Jammu and Kashmir** and **Ladakh** will come into existence on October 31.
- **IIT Kanpur** has developed a kit in collaboration with the National Commission for Protection of Child Rights to spread awareness about **sexual abuse** among children. The kit can be used in classrooms for kids aged **between 8-12 and in a group of 30-35 students in one session**.
- **President Ram Nath Kovind** inaugurated underground **Bunker Museum** at **Raj Bhavan, Mumbai**. **The British-era bunker was discovered in 2016**.
- India is the world's largest emitter of anthropogenic sulphur dioxide. According to an analysis of a National Aeronautics and Space Administration (NASA) data released by environmental NGO Greenpeace.
- **Indian Railway's 2nd double-decker Uday (Utkrisht Double-Decker Air Conditioned Yatri)** Express will run between **Visakhapatnam** and **Vijayawada**.

- The Ministry of New and Renewable Energy has declared Ocean Energy as renewable energy status.
- Prime Minister Narendra Modi has launched \$4.2 million redevelopment project of the 200-year-old Sri Krishna temple in Manama, Bahrain.
- The Union Minister for Textiles Smriti Zubin Irani has inaugurated Project SU.RE(Sustainable Resolution) which aims to move towards sustainable fashion that contributes to a clean environment.
- Amazon India has launched a Military Veterans Employment programme in the country to create employment opportunities for military veterans and their spouses across the company's fulfilment centres, sort centres and delivery centres in India.
- The Delhi and District Cricket Association (DDCA) decided to rename Feroz Shah Kotla Stadium as Arun Jaitley Stadium in the memory of its former president of DDCA.
- The application "IndTokyo" was launched to help para-athletes to look up accessible places in Tokyo during their visit to the city for the 2020 Paralympics Games.
- The Minister of State for Culture & Tourism (Independent Charge) has launched an integrated NOC online Application Processing System for National Monuments Authority in New Delhi.
- Delhi government will launch mega 10-week campaign against dengue and chikungunya. The campaign has been titled as "10 Hafte, 10 Baje 10 minute Har Ravivar, Dengue Par War".
- Air India, India's national airline, will ban the usage of single-use plastic aboard its flights from October 2, 2019.
- Prime Minister Narendra Modi launched the "Act Far East" policy for Russia. Prime Minister Narendra Modi also announced a \$1 Billion line of credit to Russia for the development of the resource-rich region.
- Russia will train four Indian astronauts for India's ambitious manned mission to space, Gaganyaan.
- Health minister has announced that the Central Government Health Scheme's services would be available to 100 cities by 2022.
- Khadi and Village Industries Commission has launched a 'Terracotta Grinder' at Sewapuri in Varanasi. The machine will be able to grind the wasted and broken pottery items for re-using in pottery-making.
- Union Minister for Information & Broadcasting Prakash Javadekar unveiled the new logo and certificate design of the Central Board of Film Certification (CBFC).
- The High Commissions of Australia, New Zealand, Papua New Guinea, and Fiji jointly organised a cultural event 'Namaste Pacific' held in Delhi, India.
- National Disaster Response Force, Nehru Yuva Kendra Sangathan under the Department of Youth Affairs of MoYAS will prepare Block Level Disaster Response Teams.
- Income Tax Department announced that it will automatically issue PAN to all taxpayers who do not have a Permanent Account Number and are using Aadhaar for filing income tax returns (ITR).
- Indian Army team from 18th battalion, the Mahar Regiment successfully summited Mount Leo Pargyil (6773M).
- Indian Cricket team vice-captain Rohit Sharma is launching Rohit4Rhinos campaign, in partnership with WWF India and Animal Planet. This campaign helps to build awareness for the need to conserve the Greater One-Horned Rhinoceros or the Indian Rhino.
- Asia's first 5th Generation - Virtual Reality based Advanced Driver Training Simulator Centre was launched at the Automobile Association of Southern India Centre (AASI), Chennai.
- High Commissioner of India to Canada Vikas Swarup inaugurated the India Pavilion at the 44th Toronto International Film Festival (TIFF) 2019.
- A fun zone, the first of its kind in India, has been set up by the Railways at the Visakhapatnam Railway Station, Andhra Pradesh.
- India announced humanitarian assistance of USD 1 million to help people in the Bahamas affected by Hurricane Dorian.
- Prime Minister Narendra Modi and Nepal's Prime Minister K.P.Sharma Oli will jointly inaugurate Motihari-Amlekhgunj cross border petroleum products pipeline.
- Scientists have unveiled a newly discovered species of a pterosaur "Cryodrakon boreas" roughly translates to 'frozen dragon of the north wind', the largest ever flying animal according to a study conducted by Queen Mary University in London.
- Astronomers have found water for the first time in atmosphere of habitable exoplanet K2-18b which orbits in its star's "habitable zone".
- The United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO) has decided to translate and publish an anthology of the writings of Guru Nanak Dev in world languages to mark his 550th birth anniversary.
- Moti Bagh, a documentary film based on the struggle of a farmer in a remote Uttarakhand village, has been nominated for the Oscars.
- American breast cancer survivor Sarah Thomas became the first person to swim across the English Channel four times non-stop in a 54-hour feat of endurance.
- Beijing 2022 Paralympic and Olympic mascots unveiled. The mascot, named Bing Dwen Dwen, is a chubby giant panda wearing a suit of ice was revealed as the official mascot for Beijing Winter Olympics 2022 and Chinese lantern Shuey Rhon Rhon was declared as the official mascot for Winter Paralympics 2022.
- The first ever "Jammu International Film Festival" will be held in Jammu. 37 short films and documentaries from 11 countries will be screened at the inaugural edition of Jammu International Film Festival.

- The **Telangana government** has decided to declare **2020 as Artificial Intelligence year** by organising various activities related to the emerging technology.
- Union Minister for Social Justice and Empowerment **Thaawarchand Gehlot** launched the **(Management Information System) MIS portal** in New Delhi.
- The **16th Session of the Joint Economic Commission (JEC)** between **India and Belgium Luxembourg Economic Union (BLEU)** was held in New Delhi.
- **Shondol dance**, which is known as the royal dance of Ladakh, has created history by entering into the Guinness Book of World Records as the largest Ladakhi dance.
- **Nepal Rastra Bank** issued three coins (**100, 1000 and 2500 Nepali rupees**) bearing the **Sikh symbol** to commemorate the **550th Birth Anniversary of Guru Nanak Dev**.
- Union Minister for Agriculture and Farmers Welfare launched 2 mobile apps named **CHC Farm Machinery** and **KrishiKisan App** for geotagging purposes in for easy access of technical agricultural equipment at farmers' doorstep.
- **World University of Design (WUD)** hosted **Global Goals Jam 3.0**. The Indian edition of the global event focusing on design thinking and service design methodologies was hosted with the theme: **eWaste**.
- **Bangladesh** has lifted the ban on the exports of **Hilsa fish** to India as a goodwill gesture during the **Durga Puja**.
- **UNESCO (United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization)** and **Doordarshan**, country's public service broadcaster have joined hands to telecast TV bilingual programme '**Mahatma Lives**' or '**Bapu Zinda Hain**' on 1-2 October 2019.
- Film Division in association with India Tourism will organise a "**Gandhi Film Festival**" in Mumbai from 2nd to 6th October, 2019.
- Power Minister RK Singh and Coal, Mines and Parliamentary Affairs Minister Pralhad Joshi have jointly launched **PRAKASH - Power Rail Koyla Availability through Supply Harmony- portal** in New Delhi.
- **National Buildings Construction Corporation(NBCC)** has signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) with the Ministry of Youth Affairs and Sports to provide project management consultancy for the development of National Sports University at Imphal, Manipur.
- The **National Basketball Association (NBA)** brought to India the first-ever Floating Basketball Court in the Arabian Sea in Mumbai, Maharashtra.
- Union Health Minister, Dr Harsh Vardhan has launched **eco-friendly green firecrackers** developed by Council of Scientific and Industrial Research (CSIR) labs and manufactured by licensee-manufacturers in **India**.
- Health Minister Harsh Vardhan launched the '**trans-fat-free**' logo, which can be voluntarily used by food business operators in their outlets and also on food products. He also released a slogan '**Chefs 4 Trans Fat-Free**'.
- The 1st Government-sponsored and operated **Day-Care cum Recreation Centre** for senior citizens has been inaugurated in **Leh**. It will provide a raft of medical facilities including geriatric care, health consultations and check-ups, physiotherapy to the senior citizens.
- **Vishnu Nandan**, polar researcher from **Kerala**, only Indian aboard among the 300 researchers, will join largest ever Arctic expedition "MOSAiC Expedition". Led by the Alfred Wegener Institute in Germany, MOSAiC, the largest ever Arctic expedition in history, will be the first to conduct a study of this scale at the North Pole for an entire year.
- The Indian **National Centre for Ocean Information Services** collaborated with **Accord**, a private company, to develop "**GEMINI**", a portable receiver developed to avoid communication blackouts and is linked to ISRO-satellites and is "fail-proof" and warn fishermen of danger.
- Union Minister Nityanand Rai has launched a Government Railway Police's website "**railways.delhipolice.gov.in**" and a mobile application "**Sahyatri**".
- The 38th **India Carpet Expo** will be held in **Varanasi, Uttar Pradesh**. The expo will be organized by the Carpet Export Promotion Council (CEPC).
- The **Maharashtra and Goa Circle** of the India Post is celebrating **National Postal Week** in each of the six regions under its jurisdiction - Mumbai, Navi Mumbai, Pune, Nagpur, Aurangabad and Goa.
- The 1st ever '**India International Cooperatives Trade Fair**' to promote export of products of cooperatives has been inaugurated in New Delhi. '**Yuva Sahakar**' Cooperative Enterprise Support and Innovation Scheme 2019 was also launched during the event.
- Prime Minister **Narendra Modi** released a commemorative stamp **in honour of Marshal of the Indian Air Force** late Arjan Singh.
- **Indian nun Mariam Thresia** from Kerala and four other nuns were declared Saints by Pope Francis at a grand ceremony at the Vatican City.
- Over 1,500 students from 32 different colleges and university participated in the '**Sangam Youth Festival**' being organised by the Indian Army in collaboration with **Jammu University Campus** in a bid to spread the message of peace, prosperity, communal harmony and national integration.
- The **2nd phase** of an Indo-Dutch project called Local Treatment of **Urban Sewage Streams for Healthy Reuse, or LOTUS-HR** was launched at Barapullah drain in New Delhi.
- Secretary Department for Promotion of Industry and Internal Trade (DPIIT) **Guruprasad Mohapatra** launched the website and mobile application **L2Pro India** [Learn to
- Protect, Secure and Maximize Your Innovation] on **Intellectual Property Rights (IPRs)**.

- The **129th death anniversary** of the mystic bard **Fakir Lal Shah** is being observed in Bangladesh.
- Textiles Secretary, **Ravi Capoor**, inaugurated the 48th edition of the Indian Handicrafts and Gifts Fair (IHGF) at the India Expo Centre & Mart at Greater Noida. The theme of IHGF-Delhi Fair 2019: **Reduce, Reuse, Recycle**.
- **Kiran Uniyal**, w/o a serving Colonel of Indian Army has created Individual Guinness World Records for **"The most full contact knee strikes in three minutes (one leg) (female), 263 strikes"** & **"The most full contact knee strikes alternate legs in one minute(female),120 strikes"**.
- The **National Council of Educational Research and Training (NCERT)** is planning to review the **14-year-old National Curriculum Framework (NCF)** in accordance with new **national education policy (NEP)** and set up a committee for the purpose.
- India's livestock population has increased to over **535.78 million** showing an increase of 4.6 per cent over Livestock Census-2012. The Department of Animal Husbandry and Dairying released the **20th Livestock Census -2019**.
- IIT Kharagpur graduate **Debayan Saha** has invented a device called **"PM 2.5"** which he claimed when fitted near the silencer pipe in vehicles will **curb air pollution**.
- A team of German researchers from the University of Ulm and Freiburg(Germany) discovered the **Saharan silver ant** which is the **fastest of the world's** 12,000 known ant species, clocking 855 millimetres nearly a metre per second in Douz area of **Tunisia** in Northern Sahara. Its scientific name is *Cataglyphis bombycina*.
- The **Insurance Regulatory and Development Authority of India** has imposed penalties of **Rs 1.01 crore** on **Cholamandalam MS GIC** for violations observed during an inspection.
- Bollywood actress **Deepika Padukone** and Indian badminton player **PV Sindhu** were named the ambassadors for **Bharat Ki Laxmi**, an initiative to celebrate the contribution & accomplishments of women of the nation for the public good. The hashtag for the initiative is **#BharatKiLaxmi**.
- The Amazon's male white **Bellbird** is the **world's loudest bird** which hits 125.4 decibels.
- The **Vijaya Bank Heritage Museum** has been inaugurated at the headquarters of the erstwhile Vijaya Bank i.e. **Bengaluru** having a rare collection of photos through which the growth of the bank is showcased.
- J&K's **Chenani-Nashri Tunnel**, a 9 km-long tunnel that reduces the distance between Jammu and Srinagar by 31 km has been **renamed** as **Shyama Prasad Mukherjee Tunnel**.
- **Indian Railways** has launched **'one touch ATVM'** to render fast ticketing to millions of commuters at 42 suburban stations of Central Railway over Mumbai Suburban Network.
- **Indo-Tibetan Border Police** celebrated its **58th Raising Day** on 24th October 2019.
- **CBSE and NCERT** have launched an online aptitude test **"Try And Measure Aptitude And Natural Abilities (Tamanna)"** to help students of Class 9 and 10 to make a better choice of subjects, eventually helping them in making an informed decision while choosing subjects in Class 11 and 12.
- **Facebook** has unveiled a **'Preventive Health'** tool in the **United States**. The tool connects people to health resources and sends check-up reminders.
- **Nepalese** mountaineer **Nirmal Purja**, created a new speed record by climbing the world's 14 highest peaks over 8,000 metres (26,250 feet) in just **189 days**.
- Union Minister for Finance & Corporate Affairs Nirmala Sitharaman has released a special **commemorative coin** on **Paramahansa Yogananda** to mark Paramahansa Yogananda's **125th birth anniversary**.
- Researchers from the **Indian Institute of Information Technology Hyderabad (IIIT-H), Telangana** have created the first-ever **'Indian brain atlas'**(IBA).
- The government of **Pakistan** released a new coin worth **Pakistan Rupees 50** to commemorate the **550th anniversary of Baba Guru Nanak**.
- **Singapore-based AirCarbon Pte** launched the world's first blockchain-based carbon trading exchange.
- **India** has taken inspiration from Brazil's success in the field of **human milk bank** decided to adopt a similar model in creating a wide network of human milk banks.
- **National Carrier Air India** has painted **'Ek Onkar'** symbol on its Boeing 787 Dreamliner aircraft's tail to mark the 550th birth anniversary of Guru Nanak Dev. The aircraft will fly on October 31 from Amritsar to London.
- UNESCO has designated **Mumbai** as a member of UNESCO Creative Cities Network (UCCN) in the field of **FILM** and **Hyderabad** in the field of **GASTRONOMY**.
- Union Minister for Housing and Urban Affairs has inaugurated a new **Guru Nanak Chair** by the support of Indian government, at the **University of Birmingham** to enable research around the teachings of the founder of the Sikh religion.
- The world's largest **fertilizer cooperative Indian Farmers Fertiliser Cooperative Limited (IFFCO)** introduced India's 1st nanotechnology-based product range by introducing Nano Nitrogen, Nano Zinc, Nano Copper for on-field trials at an event held at its Kalol unit in Gujarat.
- The official emblem of **FIFA U-17 Women's World Cup for the year 2020** which is to be conducted in India was unveiled.
- **China's** National Medical Products Administration has officially approved an indigenously developed Alzheimer's drug called **GV-971 (sodium oligomannurate)**.

- Renowned Indian authors like **R K Narayan** (Swami and Friends), **Arundhati Roy** (The God of small things), **Salman Rushdie** (The Moor’s Last Sigh), **Vikram Seth** (A Suitable Boy) and **S. Naipaul** (A House for Mr Biswas) are among 100 writers who have featured on a list of the most inspiring novels chosen by a panel of experts and revealed by the BBC.
- This year, at the **Golden Jubilee of International Film Festival of India (IFFI)**, will have the screening of Accessible India Films. This unique film section will witness the screening of three films, two in Hindi – **Lage Raho Munna Bhai** and **M.S. Dhoni: The Untold Story** and one in Konkani- **Questao De Confusao in Konkani**.
- **Dhruv Prajapati**, a research scholar from the Gujarat Ecological Education & Research Foundation, has discovered two new **spider species** in **Kerala, Tamil Nadu** and **Gujarat**. Their names are "**Marengo Sachin Tendulkar**" named after Indian cricketer Sachin Tendulkar & "**Indomarengo chavarapater**" named after Saint Kuriakose Elias Chavara.
- **Suranga Bawadi** in Bijapur, **Karnataka** was selected as the **World Monument Watch List for 2020**, by the New York-based non-governmental organisation. It was selected under the category of "**Ancient Water System of the Deccan Plateau**" along with 24 monuments across the world.
- **Nita Ambani** has become the **first Indian** to be named an honorary trustee of "**The Metropolitan Museum of Art**".
- The Information and Broadcasting Ministry launched the official **anthem and radio jingle** for the golden jubilee edition of **International Film Festival of India (IFFI)**, scheduled to take place in **Goa**.
- Brazilian President **Jair Bolsonaro** will be the chief guest at **India's Republic Day 2020** celebrations.
- The new signal fish "**Pteropsaron Indicum**" was found in Lakshadweep sea off **Kerala coast**, which is the home for unusual species like fish with a unique color.
- Union Home Minister Amit Shah will inaugurate the National Tribal Festival "**Aadi Mahotsav**" with the theme "**Spirit of Tribal Culture, Craft, Cuisine and Commerce**" in **New Delhi**.
- **Pakistan** became the 1st country in the world to introduce a new **Typhoid Conjugate Vaccine (TCV)** in an effort to combat a drug-resistant strain of the potentially fatal disease in the Sindh province.
- The **Election Commission** has decided to establish a visiting chair on the inter-disciplinary approach to electoral studies to commemorate former Chief Election Commissioner (CEC) **TN Seshan's** "special connect with the young and aspiring India".
- **UNICEF (United Nations Children's Fund)** has released a 28-page booklet called "From uttapam to sprouted dal parantha".
- The **Karnataka State Tourism Development Corp (KSTDC)** signed a memorandum of understanding with the Indian Railway Catering and Tourism Corporation (IRCTC) to market and operate the Golden Chariot train. The luxurious Golden Chariot train will start plying from March 2020.
- The **Film Bazaar**, which is being organised by the **National Film Development Corporation**, was inaugurated by the Information and Broadcasting Minister on the sidelines of the golden jubilee edition of the International Film Festival of India.
- **International Film Festival of India 2019**, IFFI features a Country of Focus that brings out the cinematic excellence and contributions of that particular country every year and this year, the country of focus is Russia.
- In Madhya Pradesh, the 4-day **Aalmi Tablighi Ijtima**, world's biggest Islamic Congregation began in Bhopal.
- The first woman pilot, **Lieutenant Shivangi**, will join naval operations on completion of operational training here on December 2.
- The Survey of India, India's central engineering agency in charge of mapping and surveying has released an updated map of India with **Amaravati** as the capital of Andhra Pradesh (AP).
- The **Indian Railway Institute of Financial Management (IRIFM)** has been set up in **Hyderabad, Telangana**.
- **Indian Women's Association (IWA)** has donated **two electric vehicles** to Pashupati Area Development Trust (PADT) in Nepal.
- The **Indore-based Devi Ahilya University** becoming **Madhya Pradesh's** first varsity to be accorded A-plus grade by the **National Assessment and Accreditation Council (NAAC)**.
- Minister of State for Human Resource Development **Sanjay Dhotre** inaugurated the India Pavilion at **International Book Fair in Guadalajara, Mexico**. India is the '**Guest of Honour Country**' in book fair and becomes the first Asian country to participate as 'Guest of Honour' in the Fair. This fair is the biggest book fair in the Spanish-speaking world.
- Prime Minister Narendra Modi extended greetings to **Border Security Force (BSF) personnel on the organization's 55th raising day (01st December 2019)**.
- The **35th anniversary of Bhopal Gas Tragedy** is being observed across the country. It is one of the world's worst industrial disaster that claimed thousands of lives on the night of December 2, 1984.
- Vice President M Venkaiah Naidu launched the new **Rotavirus vaccine: ROTAVAC-5D** designed and developed by Bharat Biotech in New Delhi.
- **Government of India (GoI) & Portugal** has decided to cooperate in the setting up of an India's 1st National Maritime Heritage Museum at the ancient Indian site of **Lothal in Gujarat** with the aim to boost the underwater or marine archaeology.

- Tennis legend **Roger Federer** will become the first living person in Switzerland to have a coin minted in his honour. **The Federal Mint, Swissmint, has created a 20-franc silver coin bearing Federer's image.**
- The nation is paying homage to **Bharat Ratna Dr BR Ambedkar** on his **64th Mahaparinirvan Diwas** (death anniversary) **on 6 December.**
- **Jammu and Kashmir** Government has approved **the Leave Travel Concession (LTC)** in favour of its employees.
- **Ripu Daman Bevli** was appointed as **Plogging Ambassador of India** by Kiren Rijju, Minister of State for Youth Affairs and Sports (MYAS) on the 50th Fit India Plogging Run held in Delhi's Jawaharlal Nehru Stadium.



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