

The Most Important Current Affairs June 2019

Union Cabinet approves extension of PM-KISAN scheme

- The newly-sworn in NDA government at the Centre has taken **four major decisions related to farmers'** and traders welfare in the first meeting of the Union Cabinet. It has approved the extension of **Pradhan Mantri Kisan Samman Nidhi (PM-KISAN)** to all the farmers in the country. Earlier the benefit of the scheme was applicable to farmers having **two hectares of land**.
- **Agriculture Minister Narendra Singh Tomar** stated that nearly **14 crores 50 lakh farmers** will be now covered under the revised scheme. Total burden on the exchequer will **be over 87,000 crore rupees** for the year 2019-20. **Over three crore farmers** have been benefited so far. Six thousand rupees per year is being given in three installments to the farmers, under the scheme.
- Centre also approved the **Pradhan Mantri Kisan Pension Yojana** under which small and marginal farmers will get a minimum fixed pension **of 3,000 rupees per month** on attaining the age of **60 years**.
- Pradhan Mantri Kisan Pension Yojana scheme aims to initially **cover 5 crore farmers** in the first 3 years.
- PM-KISAN scheme was launched in Uttar Pradesh's Gorakhpur on **24th February 2019** by transferring the first installment **of ₹2,000 each to over one crore farmers**.

'One nation one ration card' scheme from July 1, 2020

- **'One Nation One Ration Card'** scheme will be available across the country from **01st July 2020**. The scheme will allow portability of food security benefits according to which the poor migrant workers will be able to buy subsidised rice and wheat from any ration shop in the country as long as their ration cards **are linked to Aadhaar**.

Jal Shakti Abhiyan

- **Union Jal Shakti Minister** has launched a water conservation campaign '**Jal Shakti Abhiyan**', with an emphasis on **1592 stressed blocks in 256 districts**. The campaign will run through citizen participation during the monsoon **1st July-15th September**. An additional phase-II will run from **1st October-30th November** for states receiving the northeast retreating monsoons.
- **The campaign will focus on five aspects:** water conservation and rainwater harvesting, renovation of traditional and other water bodies,

reuse of water and recharging of structures, watershed development, and intensive afforestation.

French Open 2019 Concludes: Complete List of Winners

The 2019 French Open (also known as Roland Garros) was a Grand Slam tennis tournament played on outdoor clay courts. **It was the 123rd edition** of the French Open. It took place at the Stade Roland Garros in Paris, France.

Rafael Nadal was the defending champion in the Men's Singles and won his 12th French Open title. Ashleigh Barty of Australia won the Women's Singles Category after defeating Marketa Vondrousova.

Here is the Complete List of Winners of French Open 2019 (with their Respective Countries):

Category	Winner	Runner Up
Men's Singles	Rafael Nadal (Spain)	Austria Dominic Thiem
Women's Singles	Ashleigh Barty (Australia)	Marketa Vondrousova (Czech Republic)
Men's Doubles	Kevin Krawietz (Germany) and Andreas Mies (Germany)	Jeremy Chardy (France) and Fabrice Martin (France)
Women's Doubles	Tímea Babos (Hungary) and Kristina Mladenovic (France)	Duan Yingying (China) and Zheng Saisai (China)
Mixed Doubles	Latisha Chan (Chinese Taipei) and Ivan Dodig (Croatia)	Gabriela Dabrowski (Canada) and Mate Pavic (Croatia)

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Sumitra Mahajan was the 16th Lok Sabha Speaker.

RBI launches Complaint Management System

- The **Complaint Management System (CMS)** is a software application launched by **Reserve Bank of India** on its website. It will be used for lodging complaints against banks and NBFCs with a view to improve customer experience in timely redressal of grievances. Customers can lodge complaints against any regulated entity on the platform. These complaints will be directed to the appropriate office of the **Ombudsman/Regional Office of the RBI**.
- The RBI is also planning to introduce a dedicated **Interactive Voice Response (IVR) system to track the status of complaints**.

G-20 summit begins in Osaka, Japan

- G-20 summit concluded in **Osaka, Japan**. The theme of the summit is **Human-centred future society**. Several state heads including Prime Minister **Narendra Modi take part in the two-day summit**.
- **19 countries, the European Union** and several special invitees are participating at the Osaka Summit which see discussions on Global Economy- Trade & Investment, Innovation in Digital Economy and Artificial Intelligence, Addressing Inequalities, Realizing an Inclusive & Sustainable World and Climate Change Energy and Environment in four different sessions. With nearly a year and half to go before the **2020 G-20 summit in Saudi Arabia**, Osaka summit is expected to set the tone for next year's discussions.

Suman Rao from Rajasthan Crowned Miss India 2019

- **Suman Rao from Rajasthan** has won the **Femina Miss India World 2019 beauty pageant** during a star-studded ceremony in New Delhi.
- **Shivani Jadhav from Chhattisgarh** clinched Femina Miss Grand India 2019 title and **Shreya Shanker from Bihar** won Miss India United Continents 2019 title during the grand finale of the beauty pageant.

United Nation released its "World Population Prospects Report 2019".

- **India will overtake China** as the **most populous country by 2027** and will have almost **1.64 billion inhabitants by 2050**.
- The Central and the Southern Asia region is expected to see a **25% increase** in population **till 2050**.

India static at 101st in FIFA rankings

- The **Indian football team** remained static at **101st place in the FIFA rankings**. India had finished third in the King's Cup in Thailand. The Indian team is at 18th spot among the Asian countries led by **Iran (20th), Japan (28), Korea (37), Australia (43) and Qatar (55)** form the top five in Asia.
- **Belgium** continued to **top overall world rankings**, followed by **France, Brazil, England, and Portugal**.

31.4% of Indian children stunted by 2022: Food and Nutrition Security Report

- Recently released **ood and Nutrition Security Report** stated that **31.4% of Indian children** will be stunted by **2022**. Which means **one in every three Indian children** under five years will be stunted by 2022. In States like **Bihar (48%) and Uttar Pradesh (46%)**, almost one in two children is stunted, while it is only one in five children in Kerala and Goa (20% each).
- The report is **prepared by the UN World Food Programme** in collaboration with the **Ministry of Statistics and Programme Implementation**.

First session of 17th Lok Sabha

- First session of **17th Lok Sabha** has started. Prime Minister **Narendra Modi is the first MP** to take oath in the 17th Lok Sabha. The inaugural session of the new Lok Sabha has started with the swearing in of its members. All the members will be administered the oath by the **protem Speaker Virendra Kumar**. The first session of the 17th Lok Sabha end on 26th of June.

Om Birla Elected As 17th Lok Sabha Speaker

- **Om Birla**, two times **BJP Member of Parliament (MP)** from Rajasthan is elected as the 17th Lok Sabha Speaker. Om Birla was elected to the 17th Lok Sabha from the **Kota-Bundi constituency**.

- The rate of population growth is the highest in sub-Saharan Africa, where the fertility rate stand at **4.6 births per woman over a lifetime**.
- India is still among the countries where the working-age **population (25-64 years)** is growing faster than other groups.
- People aged **above 65 are the fastest growing age group**.

Banking/Insurance Current Affairs

- **2nd Bi-Monthly monetary policy statement** has been released. Monetary Policy Committee (MPC) at its meeting decided to:
 - **Reduce the policy repo rate** under the liquidity adjustment facility (LAF) by **25 basis points to 5.75% from 6.00%** with immediate effect.
 - Consequently, the **reverse repo rate under the LAF** stands adjusted to 5.50%, and the marginal standing facility (MSF) rate and the **Bank Rate to 6.0%**.
- **The country's foreign exchange reserves** increased by **USD 1.875 billion to USD 421.867 billion** in the week ending 31st May 2019. Reserve Bank weekly data released showed that **foreign currency assets**, which is a major component of the overall reserves, rose by **USD 1.946 billion to USD 394.134 billion**.
- **The RBI has slapped** a penalty of **Rs. 2 crores on Kotak Mahindra Bank** for the non-state lender's failure to adhere to the regulator's diktat **on promoter shareholding**.
- According to the **SEBI circular**, **rating companies** will now create a uniform probability of default benchmark for **each rating category** on their website, for **one-year, two-year and three-year** cumulative default rates, both for the **short term and long term**.
- **Reserve Bank of India** will infuse **Rs 12,500 crore** into the financial system through bond purchases under the **Open Market Operation (OMO)**.
- Based on the recommendations of the **Committee on Currency Movement (CCM)**, the **Reserve Bank** have directed banks to ensure their ATMs are grouted to a wall, pillar, or floor by **September-end**, except those installed in high secured premises such as airports, to enhance security of the cash vending machines.
- **The Jammu and Kashmir Bank** will now come under the purview of Right to Information Act and **Central Vigilance Commission (CVC)** guidelines as per the decisions taken by the Board of Directors of the Jammu and Kashmir Bank to ensure **greater transparency and accountability**.
- **Reserve Bank** fined country's largest private sector lender **HDFC Bank Rs 1 crore** for not reporting frauds and non-compliance with other directions.
- From **1st July 2019**, **Canara Bank** customers can deposit cash of up to **Rs 50,000** for free only thrice a month. From the fourth transaction or for cash deposits of over Rs 50,000, there will be a service charge of Rs 1 per thousand, with a minimum of **Rs 50** and a maximum of **Rs 5,000 plus GST**.
- **Competition Commission of India (CCI)** has approved the merger of the **India bulls Housing Finance and Lakshmi Vilas Bank**.
- **The Reserve Bank of India** has advised all **Scheduled Commercial Banks** to adopt Education Loan Scheme, formulated by Indian Banks Association.

Salient features of the Scheme includes:

 - Loan up to **Rs 10 lakh** for study in India and **upto Rs 20 lakh** for study abroad.
 - Collateral free loans **up to Rs 7.5 Lakh** under the Credit Guarantee Fund Scheme for Education Loans (CGFSEL).
 - No Margin for loan up to **Rs 7.50 Lakh**.
 - Repayment period of **15 years**.
 - One Year Moratorium for repayment after completion of studies in all cases.
 - Moratorium taking into account spells of unemployment/under employment, say two or three times during the life cycle of the loan.
 - Moratorium for the incubation period if the student wants to take up a start-up venture after graduation.
- The **Reserve Bank** relaxed the **leverage ratio (LR)** to **4% for Domestic Systemically Important Banks (DSIBs)** and **3.5% for other banks**. This has been done to help them boost their lending activities. It will be **effective from** the quarter commencing **October 1, 2019**.
- The **Reserve Bank of India** has allowed **Asset Reconstruction Companies (ARCs)** to **buy financial assets** from other **ARCs**. The transactions must be settled in cash between the 2 **ARCs**.

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Economy Current Affairs

- Overseas investors pumped more than **9,000 crore rupees** into the Indian capital markets in last month on expectations of more business-friendly measures.
- India's goods and services tax (GST) revenue collections crossed **Rs 1 lakh crore** for the **third straight month in May to Rs 1,00,289 crore**, despite the slowdown in the industrial activities.
- Global efforts to impose a **unified tax policy on Google, Facebook and other internet giants** have cleared a major hurdle ahead of a **G20 summit in Japan**.
- World Bank retained its forecast of India's growth rate at **7.5%** for the current financial Year **2019/20**.
- India's trade deficit expanded to a six-month high of **\$15.4 billion** in May, with import growth outpacing export growth. According to data, the commerce ministry, **exports grew 3.93%** in May, while **imports rose 4.31%**.
- In its latest **Global Economic Outlook**, the global rating agency Fitch lowers India's growth forecast from **6.8% to 6.6%** for the current fiscal, as manufacturing and agriculture sectors showed signs of slowing down over the past year. Fitch also retained its GDP growth forecast for the next fiscal **(2020-21) at 7.1% and 7.0% for 2021-22**.
- The **Asian Development Bank (ADB)** has approved projects for infrastructure development worth **Rs 1,650 crore (\$235 million)** in seven of the eight districts headquarter towns in **Tripura**.
- The government has reduced the total rate of contribution made by workers and employers towards the **Employees' State Insurance (ESI)** scheme from **6.5% to 4%** for the first time in over two decades.

Business Current Affairs

- **ONGC, India's top oil and gas producer**, has **toppled Indian Oil Corp (IOC)** to

regain the crown of being the country's **most profitable public sector company**.

- **Tata Motors-owned Jaguar Land Rover** has joined hands with **BMW** to develop next-generation electric drive systems.
- India's largest software services company **Tata Consultancy Services (TCS)** has **surpassed US technology giant IBM** in terms of market capitalisation.
- Mortgage lender **HDFC** has sold over **4.22%** stake in subsidiary **Gruh Finance Ltd (Gruh)**, which is proposed to be amalgamated with **Bandhan Bank for Rs899.43 crore**.
- **ZestMoney**, partnered with **Digit Insurance** to offer **EMI insurance** to the company's five million customers.
- **HCL Technologies** is all set to roll out "**Tech Bee**" programme, a company initiative under which it **trains and hires** students who have completed **XII standard**, across several states.
- The **Central Board of Direct Taxes** has directed the Income Tax Department to share in "public interest" the details of assets and accounts of all such loan defaulters whose details are requested by the public sector banks.

Schemes/Committees by the Union & State Government

- **Telangana Government** has issued a notification to extend the Rythu Bandhu scheme for 2019-20 while enhancing the amount from **Rs 4000 to Rs 5000**.
- **Rajasthan government** has increased the financial assistance given to school girls under the '**Aapki Beti**' scheme and ex-gratia payment to the families of polling personnel who die during election duty.
- The **Kasturirangan committee** has revised the Draft **New National Education Policy** and effected some changes in the three-language formula.
- The **Nandan Nilekani committee** has suggested a host of measures, including elimination of charges, round-the-clock **RTGS and NEFT facility**, and duty-free import of point-of-sales machines.
- The **Reserve Bank of India** constituted a **six-member committee** to review the **ATM interchange fee structure** with a "view to increase the ATM deployment in the unbanked areas". The committee will be led by **V G Kannan, Chief Executive**, Indian Banks Association.
- **Arjun Munda, Union Minister for Tribal Affairs** launched the "**e-governance initiatives for ST Welfare schemes**" at a function organized by Ministry of Tribal Affairs.

- The Govt will set up **51 new incubators for startups** in the information and communications technology space across India as part of its Technology Incubation and Development of **Entrepreneurs (Tide) 2.0 scheme**.
- Unemployed youth having graduation or equivalent degree will be given unemployment allowance by **Rajasthan government**. **Male applicants will get Rs 3,000/month**, while the women and differently-abled will get **Rs 3,500/month under Chief Minister Yuva Sambal Yojana** from February this year.
- **NSE Clearing Ltd.** will head the **panel set up by SEBI** to review margins on derivatives. The panel will submit its recommendations to the **Secondary Market Advisory Committee**.
- **A Standing Group of Secretaries (GoS)** has been constituted on **e-Commerce** by **Ministry of Commerce and Industry**.
- **The Kaleshwaram Lift Irrigation Project** which is one of the world's largest multi stage and multi purpose lift irrigation scheme, **was inaugurated by Telangana Chief Minister in Jayashankar-Bhupalapally district of Telangana**.
- RBI's U.K. Sinha led committee give the following recommendations for MSME sector:
 - The creation of a distressed asset fund, with a corpus of **Rs 5,000 crore**, structured to assist MSME units in clusters.
 - The formation of a government sponsored **Fund of Funds of Rs 10,000 crore to support venture capital and private equity firms investing in MSMEs**.
 - **SIDBI** should deepen credit markets for MSMEs in underserved districts and regions.
 - SIDBI should develop additional instruments for debt and equity to crystallize new sources of funding for **MSMEs and MSME lenders**.
 - The PSBLoansIn59Minutes.com portal should cater to new entrepreneurs, who lacks information like GSTIN, income-tax returns and bank statement
 - The threshold of loan should be enhanced up **to Rs 5 crore**.
 - The introduction of adjusted priority sector lending guidelines for banks to specialize in lending to a specific sector, doubling the collateral free loan limit to **Rs 20 lakh** and providing insurance coverage to MSME employees by the government.
- **The Economic Advisory Council to the Prime Minister** set up a Beekeeping Development Committee under the **Chairmanship of Bibek Debroy** to identify ways of advancing beekeeping in India.

- **Haryana Chief Minister Manohar Lal Khattar** announced an **annual financial assistance of Rs 5 lakh** to "**loktantra senanis**" or their spouse. "**Loktantra senanis**" are those people who were **imprisoned during the 1975-77 Emergency** under preventive detention laws.
- The **Govt** has **reduced interest rates for small savings schemes by 10 basis points** for the **July-September** quarter of the 2019-20 financial year.

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States Current Affairs

- **Madhya Pradesh Cabinet** has passed a resolution to increase reservation quota for **Other Backward Classes (OBC)** from existing **14% to 27%**.
- **Assam government** will set up a Skill University at the cost of **850 crore rupees at Darrang district**.
- The **Himachal Pradesh government** makes mandatory for trekkers to carry a **GPS device** so that they can be provided all possible help in case of any emergency. According to the Himachal Pradesh government, as Himachal Pradesh being a disaster prone state, therefore
 - **Kullu and Dalhousie** have been identified for installation of early warning system.
 - **Rampur and Mandi** towns have been zeroed in for setting up the relief and rescue base of National Disaster Response Force.
- **Japan gifts Manipur a "Peace Museum"** which is built on the memories of one of the fiercest battles of the **Second World War**.
- **Govt. distributes free Doordarshan (DD)** set-top boxes to people living in border areas of Jammu and Kashmir. The event was organized by **Doordarshan Kashmir**.
- On the occasion of the **fifth Telangana State Formation Day on 02nd June 2019**, President **Ram Nath Kovind** and Prime Minister **Narendra Modi** have extended their wishes to the people of the state.

Appointments/Resignations (National & International)

- In the Central American country of **El Salvador**, **Nayib Bukele** has been sworn-in as the **nation's President**.
- **Chattisgarh** government appointed a new advocate general, **Satish Chandra Verma** with immediate effect, replacing **Kanak Tiwari** on the post.
- **Ajit Doval** has been granted cabinet status and **five more years as the National Security Adviser (NSA)**.
- **Ujjivan Small Finance Bank** has appointed **Flipkart founder Sachin Bansal** as its **independent director**.
- **Axis Bank** stated that the Reserve Bank of India has approved the appointment of **Rakesh Makhija** as **chairman of the bank**.
- The election was held in the **72nd WHO Assembly in Geneva** where the CAG **Rajiv Mehrishi** was elected with a majority (**90 out of 162 votes**) in the first round of voting itself.
- **Renowned scientist and cyclone warning specialist Mrutyunjay Mohapatra** was appointed as the **chief of India Meteorological Department (IMD)**.
- **IT Industry icon Azim Premji** will retire as **Executive Chairman of Wipro** with effect from 30th July 2019. His son **Rishad Premji, Chief Strategy Officer and a board member**, will take over as the **Executive Chairman of the company**.
- **Justice Dhirubhai Naranbhai Patel** was sworn in as **Chief Justice of the Delhi High Court**.
- **The Jammu and Kashmir government** has removed **J&K Bank Chairman Parvez Ahmad** and appointed **RK Chibber** as interim chairman of the lender.
- **Former Chief Election Commissioner N Gopalaswami** has been appointed as an electoral officer for the BCCI's Annual General Meeting (AGM), to be held on October 22, 2019.
- **Thailand's** new parliament has elected **military government chief Prayuth Chan-ocha** as the country's prime minister.
- **Sharad Kumar** has been named as acting **Central Vigilance Commissioner** as current (CVC) **K V Chowdary** completed his tenure at the anti-graft body.
- **Virendra Kumar**, a seven-term member of Parliament will be the **pro-tem speaker** of the **Lok Sabha**.
- Appointments Committee of the Cabinet has approved the continuation of **I V Subba Rao** as a secretary to Vice President **M Venkaiah Naidu**.
- **Nripendra Misra and PK Mishra** were re-appointed as **Principal Secretary and Additional Principal Secretary**, respectively, to Prime Minister Narendra Modi with Cabinet minister rank.
- British consumer goods giant **Reckitt Benckiser** named **PepsiCo executive Laxman Narasimhan** to succeed **Rakesh Kapoor** as chief executive officer.
- **Pakistan** has appointed **Lieutenant General Faiz Hameed** as the new Director General of the **Inter-Services Intelligence (ISI)**.
- **Dr. Rabi N. Mishra** has been elevated from principal chief general manager to **Executive Director in the RBI**.
- **World Archery** appointed **Abhinav Bindra** as an independent person to sort out the ongoing mess in the **Archery Association of India (AAI)**.
- **RBI Deputy Governor Viral Acharya** has quit six months before the scheduled end of his term.
- **Senior bureaucrat Shefali Juneja** is appointed as India's representative in the council of **International Civil Aviation Organisation (ICAO)**, a United Nations body. She will replace the senior IAS officer **Alok Shekhar**.
- **WarnerMedia, part of AT&T Inc**, has appointed **Ann Sarnoff** as the **chief executive officer** of Warner Bros. Ann Sarnoff has become the first **female CEO of Warner Bros**.
- **Krishnaswamy Natarajan** has been appointed as the next **director general of Indian Coast Guard**. He will replace the incumbent **Rajendra Singh**.
- **Arvind Kumar** will head the **Intelligence Bureau, the main internal intelligence unit** of the government. **He will succeed Rajiv Jain**.
- **Samant Goel** will take charge of the RAW, which looks after the external intelligence of the country. **He will succeed Anil Dhasmana**.
- **The Appointments Committee of the Cabinet** has approved the extension of **Amitabh Kant's** tenure as the **CEO of NITI Ayog** for 2 years beyond June 30, 2019 to June 30, 2021.
- **Qu Dongyu** becomes the first **Chinese** national to head the **UN's Food and Agriculture Organization**.
- **Health insurance provider Max Bupa** partners with **fintech platform MobiKwik** to promote bite sized group health insurance products for **MobiKwik's 107 million customers** across the country.
- **Indian Olympic Association president Narinder Batra** has been elected as a **member of the International Olympic Committee**. He secured 58 votes out of 62.
- **Padmanabha Balakrishna Acharya** sworn in as **Governor of Manipur**. The Nagaland Governor Acharya will serve as Governor of Manipur as an additional charge during the absence, on leave, of **Dr Najma Heptulla, Governor of Manipur**.
- Exporters body **Federation of Indian Export Organisations (FIEO)** has elected **Sharad Kumar Saraf** as its new **president**. Sharad Kumar Saraf will

replace renowned exporter **Ganesh Kumar Gupta**.

Sports Current Affairs

- In **Football**, **Liverpool breezed** past Tottenham at Madrid to win the **Champions League for the sixth time**.
- **Indian junior women's hockey** team clinched the **Cantor Fitzgerald U21 International 4-Nations title** after beating Ireland 1-0 in the final at **Dublin, Ireland**.
- Third seed **Sidharth Rawat defeated Rio Noguchi of Japan** to clinch his maiden title in the **\$25,000 ITF men's Futures tennis tournament**.
- **Sunil Chhetri** became the most capped India player by **surpassing Bhaichung Bhutia's 107 international matches**.
- 2019 FIFA Women's World Cup is the 8th edition of the FIFA Women's World Cup that will be held in nine cities across France.
- In French Open Tennis, **Australian Ashleigh Barty** won her **first Grand Slam singles** title after easing past **Czech teenager Marketa Vondrousova** in straight sets in the women's final.
- In the **International Hockey Federation (FIH) Men's Hockey Series** Finals match played at Kalinga Stadium in Bhubaneswar, **Japan defeated Mexico** by a goal margin of 3-1.
- In **Tennis**, world number two Rafael Nadal has lifted the **French Open Men's Singles** title for the **12th time**.
- **Mercedes Driver Lewis Hamilton** secures a record-breaking **seventh win at the 2019 Canadian Grand Prix** after Sebastian Vettel (Ferrari) was penalised for dangerous driving.
- **Yuvraj Singh announced retirement from international cricket**, ending a roller-coaster career during which he became the hero of India's 2011 World Cup triumph and fought a gritty battle with cancer.
- **Virat Kohli**, ranked 100th, remains the sole Indian in the **Forbes** list of world's highest-paid athletes with estimated annual earnings of **\$25 million**.
- Cancer-hit Malaysian badminton star **Lee Chong Wei** announced his retirement.
- **Indian football team** remained static at **101st place in the FIFA rankings**. **Belgium** continued to **top overall world rankings**.
- In the **FIH Men's Series Finals**, **India** defeated **South Africa by 5 goals** to one in a summit clash at the **Kalinga Stadium in Bhubaneswar**.
- **Joshna Chinappa** made a record for the most number of **national titles** after beating her Tamil Nadu state-mate **Sunayna Kuruvilla**.

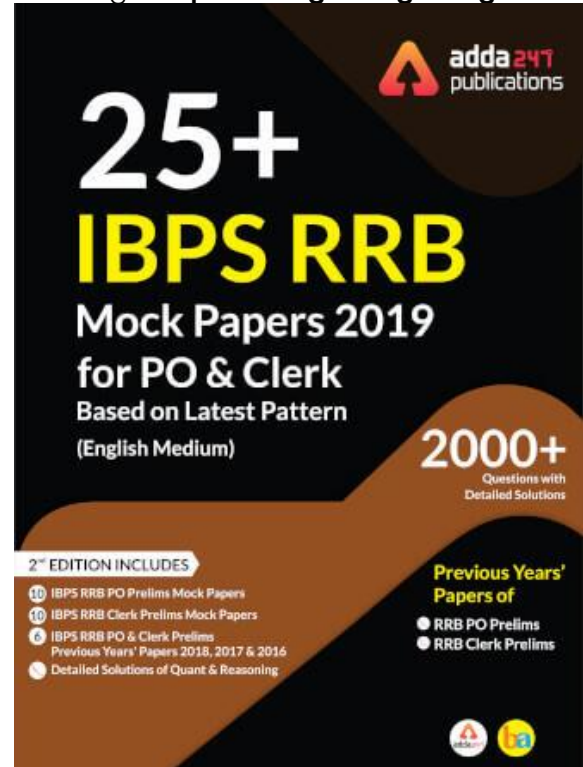
- **Indian men's recurve team** bagged a **silver medal** in the **Archery World Championships** at Den Bosch in **The Netherlands**, thus ending India's campaign with one silver and two bronze medals in the Championships.
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- **Indian men's recurve team** bagged a silver medal in the **Archery World Championships** at **Den Bosch in The Netherlands**.
- **Gary Woodland** won the **119th US Open**, capturing his first Major title after defeating two-time defending champion **Brook Koepka**.
- **Afghanistan leg spinner Rashid Khan** recorded the worst bowling figures in ICC World Cup Match after conceding **110 runs in 9 overs against England**.
- **Annu Rani** won the women's javelin bronze in the **58th Ostrava Golden Spike athletics meet**, an IAAF World Challenge event.
- **The International Olympic Committee (IOC)** lifted the sanctions imposed on **India to host international sporting events**.
- **India's ace cueist Pankaj Advani** has clinched the **35th men's Asian Snooker Championship** held in Doha.
- **The Indian women's rugby team** has claimed a historic first ever **international Rugby 15s** victory. They defeated **Singapore with a score of 21-19**.
- **The Spanish footballer Fernando Torres** who was a part of 2010 World Cup Winning Team of Spain has announced his retirement **from football**.
- **India's gymnast Pranati Nayak** has won a bronze medal in the vault event at the **Senior Asian Artistic Championships**. The championship was held in **Ulaanbaatar, Mongolia**.
- **The International Olympic Committee** has formally opened new headquarters in **Switzerland** exactly 125 years after the Olympic Games were revived.
- **The Indian women's hockey team** have won the **FIH Series Finals after defeating Japan**. The best player title was clinched by **Rani Rampal**.
- **Ashleigh Barty** becomes world **No.1 women tennis player** after winning the Birmingham Classic by defeating Julia Goerges by 6-3, 7-5. She is an **Australian Professional tennis player**.
- **Mercedes Driver Lewis Hamilton** wins **France Grand Prix 2019**. This is his **sixth** triumph in eight races in this season.
- **Former England batsman Marcus Trescothick** is to retire from professional cricket.

- **Virat Kohli** becomes the fastest cricketer to score 20,000 international runs. He took just **417 innings** to reach the milestone and bettered the time taken by legends such as **Sachin Tendulkar and Brian Lara**.

Summits and Conferences

- **Health Minister Dr. Harsh Vardhan**, chaired a **high-level meeting** to review the status of the **Revised National Tuberculosis Control Program (RNTCP)** in New Delhi.
- **14th summit of the Organisation of Islamic Cooperation (OIC)** held in Mecca, Saudi Arabia was hosted by **Saudi King Salman bin Abdul Aziz Al Saud**.
- **'2nd Global Disability Summit'** will be held in **Buenos Aires, Argentina**. The Indian delegation will be headed by **Union Minister for Social Justice and Empowerment Thaawarchand Gehlot**.
- **Finance Minister Nirmala Sitharaman** will attend the **two-day meeting of G-20 Finance Ministers and central bank governors in Japan**.
- **Commerce and Industry Minister Piyush Goyal** is leading the Indian delegation for the **two-day G20 Ministerial** meeting on Trade and Digital Economy beginning at Tsukuba city in Japan.
- **India has received an invitation from France** to attend the outreach Session at the **G-7 Summit to be held in France in August 2019**.
- **Intersessional meeting of Kimberley Process (KP)** will be hosted by India from **17th to 21st June 2019 in Mumbai**.
- **The fifth meeting** of the Governing Council of **NITI Aayog** was held under the chairmanship of the **PM Narendra Modi in New Delhi**.
- **Union Power Minister** participated in **G20 Ministerial Meeting** on Energy Transitions and Global Environment for Sustainable Growth in **Karuzawa, Japan**.
- **The second edition of World Food India** to be held from 1st to 4th November 2019 **in New Delhi**.
- **Indian Coast Guard (ICG) co-hosts 12th** Capacity Building workshop with Regional Cooperation Agreement on Combating Piracy and Armed Robbery against Ships in Asia (ReCAAP) Information Sharing Centre (ISC) in **New Delhi**.
- **Union Minister of Finance and Corporate Affairs** chaired the **20th Meeting of the** Financial Stability and Development Council (FSDC) **held in New Delhi**.
- **National Council of Educational Research and Training (NCERT)** organised 4th edition of **National Yoga Olympiad** of school children in **New Delhi**.

- **Telangana hosts 32nd edition** of the **International Seed Testing Association congress**. This is the first edition of **ISTA congress to be held in Asia**.
- The Department of Revenue, Ministry of Finance is hosting a Meeting of Expert Working Group on Paris Pact Initiative in **New Delhi**. The meeting focuses on **Illicit Financial Flows** deriving from the trafficking of **Opiates originating in Afghanistan**.



National News

- In a first, a **25-year-old** engineering graduate from **Odisha** has become the youngest **Member of Parliament** to the **17th Lok Sabha**.
- **Prime Minister Narendra Modi set up two Cabinet committees** to deal with the two crucial issues. Both the panels, respectively **on Investment and Growth** and **on Employment and Skill Development**, will be headed by the **prime minister**.
- **Delhi Metro Rail Corporation (DMRC)** has become the **first ever project in the country to receive power generated from a waste-to-energy plant**.
- **Ministry of Home Affairs (MHA)** has amended the **Foreigners (Tribunals) Order, 1964**, and has empowered **district magistrates** in all States and Union Territories to set up tribunals to decide whether a person staying illegally in India is a foreigner or not.
- **International Centre for Automotive Technology (ICAT)** released India's first **Type Approval Certificate (TAC)** for **Bharat Stage – VI (BS – VI)** norms that are the latest emission norms as

notified by the Government of India for the **two-wheeler segment**.

- **NDMA** is conducting a basic training programme at the **Deendayal Port Trust in Kandla, Gujarat**, aimed at increasing the awareness and enhancing the preparedness of **Seaport Emergency Handlers (SEHs)** to respond to **CBRN** (Chemical, Biological, Radiological and Nuclear) threats which emanate at seaports due to arrival, storage and transportation of a large amount of chemical, petrochemical and other CBRN agents.
- **Japan** has decided to invest an amount of **205.784 billion Yen**, equivalent to approximately Rs.13,000 crore, in several ongoing as well as new projects in different states of India's North- Eastern region.
- **Union Cabinet** has cleared the **New Delhi International Arbitration Centre (NDIAC) Bill, 2019**.
- **The Deputy Prime Minister of Russia Yury Trutnev** addressed a gathering of businesspersons and industrialist in **Mumbai** and invited Indian Investments in the Russian Far East.
- The **Economic Advisory Council** to the Prime Minister releases a detailed note titled '**GDP estimation in India- Perspectives and Facts**'.
- The new methodology that uses 2011-12 as the base year includes two major improvements:
 - Incorporation of **MCA21 database**.
 - Incorporation of the Recommendations of System of **National Accounts (SNA), 2008**. This change was in line with other countries that have changed their methodologies in line with System of National Accounts (SNA) 2008 and revised their respective GDP figures.
- According to **Department for Promotion of Industry and Internal Trade**, Fund of Funds for Startups have provided financial support to **249 startups in last 3 years**.
- **According to the President of India**, construction or upgradation of about **35,000 kilometres of national highways are to be undertaken by 2022 under the 'Bharatmala Project'**.
- **India** has opened its first specialised hydrotherapy treatment for elephants **suffering** from arthritis, joint pain and foot ailments in **Mathura, Uttar Pradesh**.
- Union Civil Aviation Minister **Hardeep Singh Puri** inaugurated the Air Traffic Flow Management-Central Command Centre in **New Delhi**.
- **Samagra Shiksha**, an Integrated Scheme for School Education has been launched by **Department of School Education and Literacy, Ministry of Human Resource Development**.

- Recently released Food and Nutrition Security Report stated that **31.4% of Indian children** will be stunted **by 2022**. Which means one in every three Indian children under five years will be stunted **by 2022**.
- **Union Minister of Social Justice & Empowerment flagged off "17th Run Against Drug Abuse"** on the occasion of "International Day against Drug Abuse and Illicit Trafficking" in **New Delhi**. '**Listen First**' was chosen as the theme to increase the support for prevention of drug use.
- **The Rahimatpur police station in Satara district in Maharashtra** has emerged as the State topper in a survey based on the '**SMART**' policing concept.
- **Prime Minister Narendra Modi** and Japanese **PM Shinzo Abe** meets in Osaka, Japan. This is the first meeting between the two leaders since the start of Japan's Reiwa era.
- The **Department of Higher Education of HRD Ministry** has finalized and released a five year vision plan named **Education Quality Upgradation and Inclusion Programme**. The Expert Groups have set the following goals for higher education sector:
 - Double the **Gross Enrolment Ratio (GER)** in higher education and resolve the geographically and socially skewed access to higher education institutions in India.
 - **Upgrade the quality of education to global standards**.
 - Position at least 50 Indian institutions among the top **1000 global universities**.
 - Introduce governance reforms in higher education for well-administered campuses.
 - Accreditation of all institutions as an assurance of quality.
 - Promote Research & Innovation ecosystems for positioning India in the Top-3 countries in the world in matters of knowledge creation.
 - **Double the employability** of the students passing out of higher education.
 - Harness education technology for expanding the reach and improving pedagogy.
 - Promote India as a **global study destination**.
 - Achieve a quantum increase in investment in higher education.

International Current Affairs

- **The US will end preferential trade status for India**, President **Donald Trump** has confirmed amid a deepening row over protectionism.
- **UAE's Federal Authority for Identity and Citizenship (ICA)** has issued the **first Golden Residence Permit**

in Abu Dhabi, as part of the **Investors Permanent Residence System** aimed to attract investors, entrepreneurs and qualified individuals who meet its criteria.

- In **Russia**, the first tourist train traveling through **Russia's Arctic region** and on to Norway set off from **St. Petersburg station** with 91 passengers aboard for the inaugural trial journey.
- **Canada Prime Minister Justin Trudeau** announced that **single-use plastics will be banned in the country from 2021**.
- In **Slovakia**, anti-corruption campaigner **Zuzana Caputova** was sworn in as country's **first female president**.
- After nearly **16 years** of exploring the cosmos in infrared light, NASA's **Spitzer Space Telescope** will be switched off permanently on **Jan. 30, 2020**.
- In **Slovakia**, anti-corruption campaigner **Zuzana Caputova** was sworn in as country's **first female president**.
- **Mohamed Ould Ghazouani** won the presidential election of **Mauritania with 52% votes**. The election was the **first in Mauritania**, since independence from France in 1960.
- **Saudi Arabia** has become the **1st Arab country** to be granted full membership of the **Financial Action Task Force**. It becomes the **39th member of FATF** during the group's Annual General Meeting in Orlando, Florida.
- The **UAE has become the first country in the Gulf to launch 'goAML'**, a new anti money laundering reporting platform developed by the **United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime to curb organised crimes**.

Defence Current Affairs

- **Air Chief Marshal Birender Singh Dhanoa** has left for Sweden on a four-day official visit.
- India has successfully test fired **Brahmos Supersonic Cruise Missile** from Chandipur in Odisha. Described as the **world's fastest supersonic cruise missile with high rate of precision** and accuracy, **BrahMos** can be fired from land, sea and air.
- India successfully conducted a first test flight of the indigenously developed **Hypersonic Technology Demonstrator Vehicle (HSTDV)** from a base off the **Odisha coast**.
- **ISRO** has opened its laboratories for Indian school students to undergo two-week training from this year. The training module has been devised as part of its new **Young Scientists Programme, or Yuva Vigyanik Karyakram, YUVIKA**.
- **Indian Navy's first Naval Air Squadron 550** celebrated its Diamond Jubilee at naval base

Kochi after **Completing 60 glorious years** of yeoman service to the nation.

- **NASA's** robot named Bumble became the **first Astrobee robot** to fly under its own power in space.
- **Indian Navy** launched **Operation Sankalp** in the Persian Gulf and the Gulf of Oman to reassure **Indian flagged vessels safe transit through the area**.
- The **ISRO** has distributed **250 NavIC Messaging Receivers** to fishermen of Kerala on a trial basis.

Ranks/ Indexes Released

- **Jay-Z** has been named the **world's first billionaire rapper by Forbes**.
- The report on 'Benchmarking India's Payment Systems' which was released mentions that the country is "strong" in areas like having necessary laws and cash in circulation per capita.
- India ranked 95th out of 129 countries in Global Gender Equality Index. **The list was topped by Denmark**.
- Mumbai ranked first in the study, '**Traffic Index-2018**', compiled by location technology specialist TomTom, with a **congestion level of 65%**.
- **Serbia's Novak Djokovic** has topped in the recently released ATP Rankings.
- According to global market research agency **Kantar** in its 2019's '**100 Top BrandZ Report**', US retail giant **Amazon** has moved past hi-tech titans **Apple** and **Google** to become the world's most valuable brand.
- According to annual report on internet trends by venture capitalist **Mary Meeker**, **India** accounts for **12% world's internet users**.
- According to a report released by brand analytics firm **TRA Research**, "**Dell**" has emerged as the most trusted brand in India in 2019.
- India's rank has slipped five places to **141 among 163 countries on the Global Peace Index 2019**, while **Iceland remains the most peaceful country** and **Afghanistan the least peaceful nation**, as per the report by Australian think tank Institute for Economics & Peace.
- **Randstad rates Amazon India** as country's most attractive employer brand. **Microsoft India** emerged as the runner-up, followed by **Sony India**.
- In the recently released **QS World University rankings for 2020**, IIT-Bombay which is ranked **152** is India's best university for the second year in a row. The next two Indian Universities in the top **200 are IIT Delhi (182)** and the Indian Institute of Science, Bengaluru (184). There are a total of 23 Indian institutions in the top 1,000.

- Kerala has topped in NITI Aayog's Health Index followed by Andhra Pradesh and Maharashtra.
- Mercer has released 25th Annual Cost of Living Survey.
Some findings of the survey:
 - The costliest city in the world for the second consecutive year is Hong Kong followed by Tokyo, Singapore and Seoul.
 - Mumbai fell 12 spots and was ranked at the 67th position out of 209 cities surveyed.
 - Eight out of the top ten of the world's most expensive cities for expatriates are Asian.
 - The world's least expensive cities for expatriates are Tunis (209), Tashkent (208), and Karachi (207).

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Important Days

- Financial Literacy Week 2019 to be observed from June 3-7 on the theme of "Farmers" and how they benefit by being a part of the formal banking system.
- Food and Agriculture Organisation of the United Nations (FAO) selected June 1st as World Milk Day. Theme: "Drink Milk: Today & Everyday".
- International Day of Innocent Children Victims of Aggression is a United Nations observance each on 04th June.
- United Nations General Assembly declared 3 June as International World Bicycle Day.
- World Environment Day is celebrated every year on June 5th in more than 100 countries. Theme: 'Beat Air Pollution'.
- International Day for the Fight against Illegal, Unreported and Unregulated Fishing is organized every year on 5th June.
- World Food Safety Day is observed every year on 7th June. Theme: 'Food Safety, Everyone's Business'.
- World Oceans Day takes place every 8 June. The theme of World Oceans Day 2019 is 'Gender and the Ocean'.

- 12 June: World Day Against Child Labour, Theme: Children shouldn't work in fields, but on dreams!
- 15th June: World Elder Abuse Awareness Day.
- World Elder Abuse Awareness Day is being observed on 15th June.
- In 1994, the United Nations General Assembly declared June 17 the "World Day to Combat Desertification and Drought" to promote public awareness of the issue. The slogan for World Day to Combat Desertification 2019 is Let's grow the future together!
- Sustainable Gastronomy Day is celebrated around the world on 18th June.
- Autistic Pride Day is being observed on 18th June every year.
- International Day for the Elimination of Sexual Violence in Conflict is celebrated around the world on 19th June. Panel Discussion: "The Importance of a Survivor Centred Approach".
- World Refugee Day is celebrated around the world on 20th June. Theme for 2019: Step With Refugees — Take A Step.
- The International Day of Yoga is being observed on 21st June every year. Theme: Yoga for Climate Action.
- World Music Day is observed every year on June 21st.
- 23rd June is the International Olympic Day.
- United Nations Public Service Day is celebrated around the world on 23rd June.
- The United Nations observes 23 June as International Widows Day.
- The International Maritime Organization observes 25 June as the Day of the Seafarer. The 2019 campaign for the day: I Am On Board.
- The United Nations observe 26 June as the International Day against Drug Abuse and Illicit Trafficking. Theme: Health for Justice, Justice for Health.
- The United Nations observe 27 June as the Micro, Small and Medium sized Enterprises Day.
- Ministry of New and Renewable Energy and institutions under it observed Swachhta Pakhwada (cleanliness fortnight) from 1st June to 15th June 2019.
- The United Nations observe 29 June as International Day of the Tropics.
- The Gol celebrates the Statistics Day on 29 June every year. The day is celebrated on the birth anniversary of Prof. P C Mahalanobis.

Agreement Signed/ MoU Approved

- Airports Authority of India (AAI) and aerospace major Boeing announced the signing of a technical assistance agreement to develop an

air traffic management roadmap which will improve airspace utilization and help maintain efficient aircraft operations.

- **IndianOil, Bharat Petroleum Corporation (BPCL) and Hindustan Petroleum Corp Ltd (HPCL)** had signed a joint venture in New Delhi for Kandla-Gorakhpur LPG Pipeline Project.
- **The Centre, the Tamil Nadu Government and the World Bank** have signed a **\$287-million** loan agreement for the **Tamil Nadu Health System Reform Programme (TNHSRP)**.
- **National Center for Good Governance (NCGG)**, India's leading civil services training institution, has **entered into an MOU with the Maldives Civil Services Commission** for capacity building of 1000 Maldives civil servants over the next 5 years.
- **V.O. Chidambaranar Port Trust, Tuticorin and Central Warehousing Corporation (CWC)** have signed an MoU for facilitating **Direct Port Entry (DPE)** of e-sealed factory stuffed export container to the port under '**Ease of Doing Business**'.
- **Indian Railway Station Development Corporation (IRSDC)** entered a Tripartite Agreement with **French Railways (SNCF) & AFD**, a French Agency which will finance up to **7,00,000 EURO**, through French National Railways (SNCF)-Hubs and Connexions as a Technical Partner to IRSDC to support the **Railway Station Development Program** in India.
- **Declaration/Agreements/MoUs during the visit of Prime Minister to Kyrgyz Republic:**

1. Road map on Trade and Economic Cooperation between the Republic of India and the **Kyrgyz Republic for the Five-Year period (2019-2024)**.
2. **Bilateral Investment Treaty (BIT)** between India and the Kyrgyz Republic
3. Memorandum of Understanding for cooperation between **National Security Council Secretariat of India and Office of the Security Council of the Kyrgyz Republic**.
4. Protocol to Amend Article 26 of India-Kyrgyzstan **Double Taxation Avoidance Agreement (DTAA)**.
5. Memorandum of Understanding on Cooperation in the field of Health
6. MoU between DRDO and Kyrgyz India Mountain Biomedical Research Centre
7. Memorandum of Understanding on cooperation between National Security Guards of India and National Guards of the Armed Forces of the Kyrgyz Republic
8. Memorandum of Understanding on cooperation between National Defence

Academy of India and Kyrgyz Military Institute of the Kyrgyz Republic

9. Memorandum of Understanding on cooperation between High Altitude Warfare School (Gulmarg), Indian Armed Forces and Joint Mountain training Centre of the Armed Forces of the Kyrgyz Republic
 10. Memorandum of Cooperation between Export-Import Bank of India and the Investment Promotion and Protection Agency of the Kyrgyz Republic
 11. MoU between India and the Kyrgyz Republic on cooperation on Information and Communication Technology
 12. **Memorandum of Understanding** between Ministry of Consumer Affairs of India and Ministry of Economy of the Kyrgyz Republic on cooperation in the field of Legal Metrology.
 13. Memorandum of Understanding between Research and Information System for Developing Countries (RIS) of India and National Institute of Strategic Studies (NISS) of the Kyrgyz Republic
 14. **Memorandum of Understanding between Y. S. Parmar University** of Horticulture and Forestry, Himachal Pradesh and Kyrgyz National Agrarian University (KNAU).
- **India** has granted financial support of **\$15 million to Niger** for the African Union Summit.
 - **India** has signed agreements with **Bangladesh and South Korea for DD India** to be telecasted on the state platforms of the respective countries.
 - Global internet body **Internet Corporation for Assigned Names and Numbers (ICANN)** and Indian IT industry body **National Association of Software and Services Companies (Nasscom)** collaborated to develop identifier technology to manage devices and infrastructure using internet.
 - **IT firm Tech Mahindra** has signed a multi-year contract with **Airbus for cabin and cargo design engineering**.
 - **National Small Industries Corporation** has signed an MoU with **Common Service Centres e-Governance Services India**. The aim is to enhance new offerings for **the MSME sector by synergizing each other's competence**.
 - **The Government of India, the Government of Jharkhand and the World Bank** signed a **\$147 Million Loan Agreement**.
 - **National Thermal Power Corporation Limited and Power Grid Corporation of India Limited** have signed an agreement to set up National Electricity Distribution Company Ltd.
 - **The GoI, the Government of Kerala and the World Bank** have signed the Loan Agreement of **USD**

250 million for the **First Resilient Kerala Program**.

The program will focus on strengthening the state's institutional and financial capacity to protect the assets and livelihoods of poor and vulnerable groups.

- **India** has signed a **loan agreement worth 400 million dollar** with the **World Bank** to help treat and **eliminate Tuberculosis from the country**. The World Bank supported program will **cover nine States** and it will support the government's **National Strategic Plan to end TB in India by 2025**.

Awards & Recognition

- **World Health Organization** has selected the **Rajasthan government's Medical & Health Department** for its award this year in recognition of its achievements in the field of tobacco control.
- **Former President Pratibha Patil** was bestowed on the **highest civilian award of Mexico "Orden Mexicana del Aguila Azteca"** (Order of the Aztec Eagle) for foreigners.
- **Malayalam Actor Sheela J.C.** has won the **J.C. Daniel Award**, the highest honour in Malayalam cinema. She is **only the second woman to get it**, after Aranmula Ponnamma in 2005.
- In the United States, **Google's India-born CEO Sundar Pichai and Nasdaq president Adena Friedman** have been chosen for the **prestigious Global Leadership Awards 2019** by business advocacy group USIBC.
- **Automobile major Mahindra** won the **Gold Award** in South Africa for fairing on various indicators, including level of satisfaction among its network of dealers and the manner of allocation of vehicles to them.
- **Jawaharlal Nehru University** will confer the distinguished alumni award to Union Ministers **Nirmala Sitharaman and Subrahmanyam Jaishankar**.
- Renowned author **Amitav Ghosh** was awarded the **54th Jnanpith Award** for his contribution to the enrichment of Indian Literature in **English**.
- **Priyanka Chopra**, a global **UNICEF** Goodwill Ambassador for Child Rights is going to be honoured with **Danny Kaye Humanitarian Award** by UNICEF at the UNICEF SNOWFLAKE BALL.
- **Akshaya Patra**, a non-profit organisation, has been awarded the **BBC World Service Global Champion Award**.
- **Sahitya Akademi** announced name of **22 winners for Bal Sahitya Puraskar** and **23 winners for Yuva Puraskar**.
- **Suman Rao from Rajasthan** has won the **Femina Miss India World 2019 beauty pageant** during a

star-studded ceremony at Sardar Vallabhbhai Patel Indoor Stadium in **New Delhi**.

- **Suman Rao from Rajasthan** has won the **Femina Miss India World 2019 beauty pageant** in New Delhi. **Shivani Jadhav from Chhattisgarh** clinched **Femina Miss Grand India 2019** title and **Shreya Shanker from Bihar** won **Miss India United Continents 2019** title during the grand finale of the beauty pageant.
- **Twenty-nine journalists** from print and electronic media and a social activist felicitated with the **Bharat Mata Shield** at the **44th Matri Shree Media Award ceremony**.
- **Nitesh Kumar Jangir**, an Indian engineer has won the **2019 Commonwealth Secretary General's Innovation for Sustainable Development Award in the "People" category in London, UK**.
- **Veyil Marangal (Trees Under the Sun)** have become the first Indian film to win '**Outstanding Artistic Achievement**' award at the Shanghai International Film Festival.
- **The RedInk Awards for Excellence in Journalism** are conferred to encourage good quality reporting and analysis, fair play and high ethical standards in Indian journalism.
 - **Rachna Khaira of The Tribune** has bagged the prestigious RedInk Award for 'Journalist of the Year'. She won it for exposing the functioning of the UIDAI and its Aadhaar data cache.
 - **Two retired senior journalists Dinu Ranadive from the Maharashtra Times**, and **Sebastian D'Souza**, from the Mumbai Mirror, have jointly received the Lifetime Achievement Award for this year.
- **India-born Priya Serrao** crowned **Miss Universe Australia 2019**.
- **IIT Kanpur** honours India's chief national badminton coach **Pullela Gopichand** with honorary doctorate on the occasion of their 52nd convocation.

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Books & Authors

- **“Cricket World Cup: The Indian Challenge”** – a book on the history of the tournament from an Indian perspective by veteran broadcaster and **writer Ashis Ray** – has been formally unveiled.
- **“The New Delhi Conspiracy”** is **Meenakshi Lekhi’s** first novel to be published soon. She has co-written it with **Krishna Kumar**. The novel will be published by Harper Collins.
- Bollywood actor **Anupam Kher** is coming out with his autobiography, **“Lessons Life Taught Me Unknowingly”**.

Miscellaneous Current Affairs

- **The 10th National Science Film Festival of India (NSFFI)** will be organised in Tripura in January and February 2020.
- **Abu Dhabi-based** Indian retail tycoon **MA Yusuf Ali** has become the first expat to get the **UAE’s first gold card permanent residency**.
- **L&T Financial Services’ (LIFS) ‘Digital Sakhi’,** an educational programme aimed at digital financial inclusion of rural women, was launched in two villages of Villupuram district in Tamil Nadu.
- **Confederation of Indian Industry (CII)** has launched a **Fiscal Performance Index (FPI)** to assess state and central budgets.
- **Maldives** will confer **‘Nishan Izzuddin’** award on **Prime Minister Narendra Modi**. It is the highest award to honour foreign nationals.
- **Very Severe Cyclonic Storm ‘VAYU’** over East-central Arabian Sea moved nearly northwards with a speed of about 13 kmph in last six hours and lay centred over East-central Arabian Sea.
- **U.S. Embassy** organised its fifth annual **‘Student Visa Day’** and launched **‘EducationUSA India’**.
- A team of scientists from Delhi University and the Wildlife Institute of India, in collaboration with
- **The Mata Vaishno Devi Shrine**, a religious pilgrimage, will get a dedicated in-house disaster response force by **September, 2020**.
- **“The New Delhi Conspiracy”** is **Meenakshi Lekhi’s** first novel to be published soon. She has co-written it with **Krishna Kumar**.
- Bollywood actor **Anupam Kher** is coming out with his autobiography, **“Lessons Life Taught Me Unknowingly”**.
- **BSES Yamuna Power Ltd** launches behavioural energy saving app ‘Susthome’. **The app was launched as part of its Demand Side Management programme.**
- **A statue of Maharaja Ranjit Singh**, the legendary ruler of Punjab, was unveiled at **the Lahore Fort** on his **180th death anniversary**.

researchers from Indonesia and the US, have discovered a new species of **‘paddy frog’** from Northeast India, primarily **Assam**.

- A team of Tribhuvan University and National Geographic Society scientists and researchers have installed the **world’s highest, fully automated weather stations atop Mount Everest**.
- **Information and Broadcasting Ministry** directed all satellite TV channels to display the **cast, credits and titles** of Hindi and regional language serials that they broadcast in the respective languages too.
- **Facebook** has announced a **digital currency called Libra** that will allow its billions of users to make financial transactions across the globe.
- **WHO offers a new tool “AWaRe”** to contain rising antimicrobial resistance and make antibiotic use safer and more effective.
 - **“Access”** specifies which antibiotics to use for the most common and serious infections.
 - **“Watch”** specifies which ones should be available at all times in the healthcare system.
 - **“Reserve”** is those that must be used sparingly or preserved and used only as a last resort.
- **The India International Institute of Democracy and Election Management (IIIDEM)** (ECI) organized five-day training programme on **Use of Technology in Elections for Election Officials of Union Election Commission of Myanmar**.
- **Namma Kolhapuri chappal** has earned **Geographical indication** tag from Intellectual Property India. The approval for GI tag was jointly received by **Karnataka and Maharashtra**.
- The Indian government has developed a **National Strategic Plan** with the goal of ending **Tuberculosis (TB) by 2025**.
- **Actor-singer Ruma Guha Thakurta**, who featured in films such as **Jwar Bhata, Ganga and 36 Chowringhee Lane** while straddling an equally successful playback career, died aged 84.
- **Veteran comedian, film and theatre actor Dinyar Contractor** passed away aged 79.
- **Lennart Johansson**, who oversaw the introduction of the Champions League during a 17-year reign as president of European soccer’s governing body, has died.
- **Six-time Grammy-winning musician Malcolm John Rebennack**, better known as **Dr John**, passed away aged 77.
- **Noted actor, filmmaker and playwright Girish Karnad** passed away.
- Tamil writer, comedian and actor, **Crazy Mohan**, who was also an **Kalaimamani awardee**,

Obituaries

was known for his witty one-liners passed away in Chennai.

- **Former Puducherry Chief Minister** between 1996 and 2000, a senior Dravida Munnetra Kazhagam leader **R V Janakiraman**, who headed the coalition government of DMK and the Tamil Maanila Congress died after a brief age-related illness.
- Poet and lyricist **Pazhavila Ramesan** passed away.
- **Former BJP Rajya Sabha MP** and senior journalist **Rajnath Singh 'Surya'** passed away in Lucknow.
- Former **BJP Rajya Sabha MP and senior journalist Rajnath Singh 'Surya'** passed away in Lucknow.
- **Former Egyptian President Mohamed Morsy** passed away. He served as Egyptian President from **30 June 2012 – 3 July 2013**.
- **Veteran freedom fighter from Goa and Padmashri winner Mohan Ranade** passes away after a prolonged illness.
- **Veteran actor-filmmaker Vijaya Nirmala** passed away in Hyderabad.
- Former Bengal cricketer **Shyam Sundar Mitra** passes away.
- **Jharna Dhara Chowdhury**, an **Eminent Social Activist** and secretary of the Gandhi Ashram Trust in Jayag, Noakhali, **Bangladesh passes away in Dhaka**.
- Malayalam director **Babu Narayanan** passes away.
- **Telugu story writer** and the **Sahitya Akademi award winner Abburi Chaya Devi** passes away.

- Australia Capital: Canberra, Currency: Australian Dollar.
- Netherlands Capital: Amsterdam, Currency: Euro and USD.

International or Indian Organizations/Companies in News

- The headquarters of ONGC is in New Delhi.
- Shashi Shankar is Chairman and Managing Director of ONGC.
- The Ujjivan Small Finance Bank commenced its banking operations from 01st February 2017.
- Head Office of Ujjivan Small Finance Bank is in Bengaluru.
- Headquarters of WHO: Geneva, Switzerland.
- Tedros Adhanom Ghebreyesus is Director-General of the WHO.
- FAO is a specialized agency of the United Nations that leads international efforts to defeat hunger.
- FAO Founded in: October 1945, Headquarters: Rome, Italy, Current Director-General: Jose Graziano da Silva.
- World Bank Headquarters in: Washington DC, USA, Established in: 1944, President: David Malpass.
- The organization of Islamic Cooperation (OIC) is the second largest inter-governmental organization after the United Nations with a membership of 57 states.
- The Organization was established upon a decision of the historical summit which took place in Rabat, the Kingdom of Morocco on 25 September 1969.
- Secretary-General of Organization of Islamic Cooperation is Yousef Bin Ahmad Bin Abdul Rahman Al-Othaimeen.
- Mr Vikram Kirloskar is the President of Confederation of Indian Industries.
- CEO of Amazon: Jeff Bezos.
- Central Vigilance Commission, headquartered in New Delhi and Set up by the Gol in February, 1964.
- CVC is an apex vigilance institution.
- Headquarter of NDMA: New Delhi.
- RBI 25th governor: Shaktikanta Das
- Headquarter: Mumbai, Established on 1st April, 1935.
- The ADB established on 19th December 1966.
- Takehiko Nakao is the president of ADB.
- Interim Chairman of J&K Bank: R K Chibber, Headquarters: Srinagar, Jammu & Kashmir, Founded: 1938.
- ISRO Director: K. Sivan
- Headquarters: Bengaluru, Established in: 1969.

Countries | Capital | Currencies

- San Salvador is the capital of El Salvador.
- United States Dollar is the currency of el salvador.
- Stockholm is the capital of Sweden.
- The krona is the official currency of Sweden.
- Male is the capital of Maldives.
- The Maldivian rufiyaa is the currency of the Maldives.
- Thailand Capital: Bangkok, Currency: Baht.
- The Russian ruble is the currency Russia.
- France Currency: Euro, CFP Franc.
- Canada Capital: Ottawa, Currency: Canadian dollar.
- Euro is official currency in Slovakia.
- US Capital: Washington, D.C, Currency: US Dollar
- Bratislava is the capital of Slovakia.
- Japan Capital: Tokyo, Currency: Japanese yen.
- Bangladesh Capital: Dhaka, Currency: Taka, PM: Sheikh Hasina.

- FORBES: Forbes is an American business magazine.
- Dell is an American based multinational computer technology company
- CEO of Dell: Michael S Dell.
- UNICEF: United Nations International Children's Emergency Fund
- Headquarter: New York, USA, Founded on 11th Dec, 1946.
- SEBI Headquarter: Mumbai, Chairperson: Ajay Tyagi.
- Chairman of HDFC Ltd: Deepak Parekh.
- DRDO Founded: 1958, Headquarter: New Delhi.
- Chairman of DRDO: Dr G Satheesh Reddy.
- CEO of Mobikwik: Bipin Preet Singh.
- Director General of UNODC: Yury Fedotov.
- President of International Olympic Committee: Thomas Bach.
- Chairman of CBDT: PC Mody.

- Minister of State (Independent Charge) of MoSPI: Rao Inderjit Singh.
- Kerala CM: Pinarayi Vijayan, Governor: P. Sathasivam.
- Chief minister of Manipur: N. Biren Singh ; Capital of Manipur: Imphal.
- Union Sports Minister of India: Kiren Rijju.
- Biplab Kumar Deb is CM of Tripura.
- Union Minister for Environment, Forest and Climate Change: Prakash Javadekar.
- Union Minister of Information and Broadcasting: Prakash Javadekar.
- Union Power Minister of India: Raj Kumar Singh

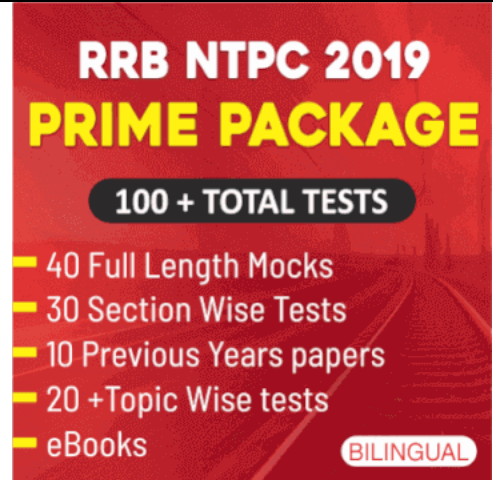
States | CMs | Governors | Capital | Ministers | Static General Awareness

- K Chandrashekhara Rao is the first and present CM of Telangana.
- Hyderabad is the capital of Telangana.
- The current governor of Telangana is ESL Narasimhan.
- Bhupesh Baghel is the current CM of Chhattisgarh.
- Anandiben Patel is the current Governor of Madhya Pradesh and Chhattisgarh.
- Raipur is the capital of Chhattisgarh.
- Ashok Gehlot is the CM of Rajasthan.
- Jaipur is the capital of Rajasthan.
- Kalyan Singh is the current Governor of Rajasthan.
- Dr Harsh Vardhan is the present Minister of Earth Sciences.
- Tamil Nadu CM: Edappadi K. Palaniswami, Governor: Banwarilal Purohit.
- Union Home Minister: Amit Shah.
- Current CM of Puducherry: Velu Narayanasamy.
- Railway Minister: Piyush Goyal
- S Jaishankar is the current Minister of External Affairs.
- Constituency of Virendra Kumar: Tikamgarh, Madhya Pradesh
- Nirmala Sitharaman is the Minister of Finance and Minister of Corporate Affairs.
- Nirmala Sitharaman is Rajya Sabha Member from Andhra Pradesh.
- Haryana Capital: Chandigarh, Chief Minister: Manohar Lal Khattar, Governor: Satyadev Narayan Arya.
- Union Minister of HRD Ministry of India: Ramesh Pokhriyal 'Nishank'.

Other Static General Awareness Current Affairs

- The current PM of Sweden is Stefan Lofven.
- OECD was founded in 1961.
- Jose Angel Gurría is Secretary-General of the OECD.
- Saudi Arabia will host the G20 summit in November 2020.
- Vladimir Putin is President of Russia.
- Moscow is the capital city of Russia.
- Ibrahim Mohamed Solih is the current President of the Maldives.
- President of France: Emmanuel Macron, Capital: Paris.
- The 45th summit of the G7 group of countries is going to take place from August 24 to August 26 in Biarritz in France.
- Lok Sabha has 545 seats which is made up by the election of up to 543 elected members and at a maximum, 2 nominated members of the Anglo-Indian Community by the President of India.
- NDMA: National Disaster Management Authority is the apex body, mandated to lay down the policies on disaster management.
- Slovakia is a landlocked country in Central Europe.
- Virat Kohli: Captain of Indian Cricket Team in all the three formats.
- US President: Donald Trump.
- ICC Cricket World Cup 2019: It is the 12th edition of the Cricket World Cup being hosted by England and Wales.
- Total BWF World Championship: 19-25 August, 2019, Host: Basel, Switzerland
- Jnanpith Award is a Indian Literary Award presented to author for his outstanding contribution towards literature. The award consists of a shawl, citation, statue of goddess Saraswati and Rs 11 lakh.
- Sahitya Akademi is an organisation dedicated to the promotion of literature in India.

- KPCS has 55 members representing 82 countries including EU with 28 members.
- The Matri Shree Media Awards was constituted during the Emergency to felicitate people for their contribution towards journalism.
- The first award was presented to journalist Lala Jagat Narayan.
- The next G20 Summit will be hosted by Saudi Arabia in November 2020.
- United Nations Headquarters in New York, USA. It was founded on 24 October 1945. Mr Antonio Guterres of Portugal is the Secretary General of the United Nations.



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