Weekly One Liners 01st July to 07th of July 2019

Union Budget 2019-20: In a Nutshell

Finance Minister Nirmala Sitharaman presented the **maiden budget of Narendra Modi 2.0 government** in Lok Sabha. It is a tight rope walk for **India's first full-time woman Finance Minister** who has to contain the fiscal deficit target, and lay the roadmap for the ambitious **$5-trillion-dollar** economy dream of Prime Minister.

Important highlights of Union Budget 2019-20:

On the Urban Sector-

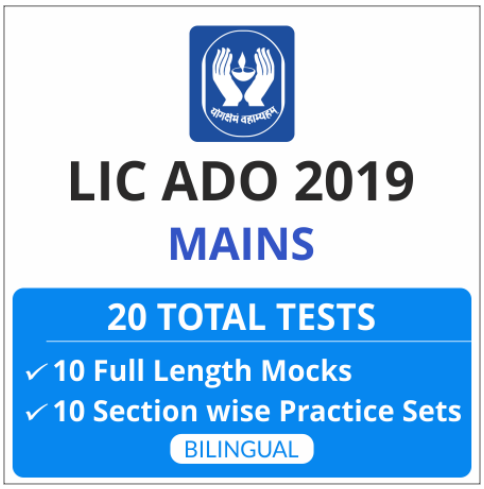
- Over **81 lakh houses** at the investment of **Rs 4.83 lakh crore** have been sanctioned and construction has started in about **41 lakh houses,** under PMAY-Urban. More than **95% of all cities** have declared themselves open defecation free.
- **Rashtriya Swachchta Kendra** to be inaugurated at **Gandhi Darshan on 02nd October 2019.**
- Metro Rail initiatives to be enhanced by encouraging **PPPs and faster completion. Dedicated freight corridor is almost complete.**

On Agriculture Sector-

- Govt. to support private **entrepreneurs in agriculture.** The Minister says the government will focus more on agricultural infrastructure.
- **"Ease of doing business** and ease of living should apply to farmers." FM Minister proposes zero-budget farming, as a model for farmers. **"Steps such as this can help doubling farmers income."**
- Zero-Budget farming is natural farming which is neither chemical-loaded nor organic with its reliance on manure. It's a form of gardening as a self-sustainable practice with minimum external intervention. This concept **of zero budget natural farming (ZBNF)** was first propagated **25 years ago by Subhash Palekar** as a movement for farmers who were in debt due to the Green Revolution and is now being used by a large number of farmers across the country.
- **Jal Shakti Ministry** was created by integrating many water management ministries. To all rural **households by 2024,** water will be supplied. Govt. will explore additional funds for Jal Shakti by accessing the Compensatory Afforestation Fund Management and Planning Authority fund.
- **9.6 crore toilets** have been constructed till now. More than 5.6 lakh villages have become open-defecation free. She proposes to expand Swachch Bharat to solid waste management in every village.
- **Over 2 crore rural Indians** have been made digitally literate.

On the Rural Sector-

- **The Minister** moves on to the rural portion of the Budget. **"Gaon, Gareeb aur Kisan at the centre of all our policies."**
- **"All villages and almost 100%** of houses have been provided with electricity." FM asssures that by **2022 every single** rural family, except those who are unwilling to take the connection, will have electricity and clean cooking gas.
- The completion of houses has come down **from 314 days per house in 2015-16 to 114 days now.**
- The Department of Fisheries will establish a fisheries management network, says the Minister. She says the government's rural road scheme has brought about socio-economic improvements. "All-weather connectivity has now been provided to over **97% of such habitations." 30,000 km of roads in this scheme have been built using green technology, she says.**
- **Under phase three of PM Gram Sadak Yojana, 1.25 lakh kms** of the road to be built in the next five years. Project cost estimated at **over Rs 80,000 crore.**



For Investments and Markets-

- Investment by **FIIs and FDIs** in debt securities in infrastructure debt funds to be allowed. Minimum public shareholding in listed companies can be increased from **25% to 35% says the Minister, saying this is being considered.**
- **A social stock exchange** is proposed, for social and voluntary organisations, to raise capital, equity and debt.
- Global FDIs fell to **$1.3 billion from $1.5 trillion,** but inflows in India remained strong **at $54.37 billion, a growth of 6%.**

- **"100% FDI for insurance** intermediaries. Local sourcing norms to be eased for FDI in single-brand retail."
- Global Investors Meet to happen in India. Limit on FPI in a company increased to **24%.** NRI investment in Indian capital markets is comparatively less. **NRI investment to merged with FPIs.**

For Transport Sector-

- FM Minister goes on to cite the government's transport infrastructure schemes such **as Sagar Mala, UDAN etc. "**This government has given a massive push to all forms of physical connectivity.
- Government will do a restructuring of the **national highway programme.** In the second phase of Bharat Mala, States will be helped to develop State highways.
- Government envisions using **rivers for cargo transport.**
- The Minister proposes **Rs. 50 lakh crore investment for Railway infrastructure** between 2018 and **2030, and using public-private partnerships** unleash faster development, completion of tracks, passenger freight services.
- **Recommendations of high-level committee** on retiring old power plants, and addressing the under-utlilisation of power plants will be taken up now. A package for power sector tariffs and reforms will be announced soon.

For MSMEs-

- **The Minister proposes** a modern tenancy law. Loans **of upto Rs. 1 crore to be given to MSMEs** for ease of access.
- **Government will create a payment platform for MSMEs** to enable them to pay bills, and save time. The Government will extend pension benefits to 3 crore retail traders and shopkeepers who have a revenue of less than **Rs. 1.5 crore.** This will be called the **PM Karam Yogi Maan Dhan scheme.**

On the Youth-

- She cites the new **National Education Policy.** National Research Foundation to assimilate all research grants given by different ministries independent of each other.
- Massive Open Online Courses through **SWAYAM has been successful.** She proposes the programme Study in India to bring in foreign students.
- Draft legislation for setting up of Higher Education Commission will be presented later this year. **10 million youth** to take up industry-relevant skill training under the Kaushal Vikas Yojana.
- Multiple labour laws to be streamlined into **four labour codes.**
- Propose to start a **TV channel, within DD's boquet of channel, just for start-ups."**

On Ease of Living-

- This government aims to bring greater ease of living in the lives of its citizens.
- 35 crore LED bulbs have been distributed through Ujala Yojana, leading to a cost-saving of Rs.18,341 crore annually. India is going to be free of incandescent bulbs.
- A massive programme for railway station modernization to be launched.

On Digital Payments-

- **TDS of 2% on cash withdrawals** exceeding **Rs.1 crore in a year from bank accounts,** to discourage business payments in cash.
- No charges or merchant discount rates shall be imposed on customers or the merchants. **RBI and banks will absorb these costs.**
- Those in the highest income brackets will have to pay more surcharge for those in **the Rs. 2-5 crore, and Rs. 5 crore and above,** increasing the effective tax rate by **3% and 7% respectively.**

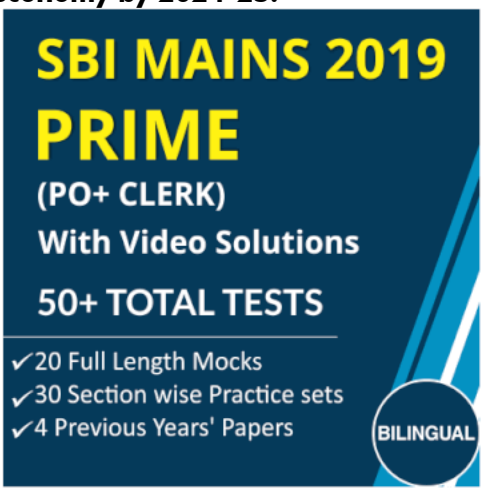
On Indirect Taxes-

- **17 taxes and 13 cesses** became one tax under GST. In the initial phase, GST witnessed teething problems, and the Centre and States worked to make it better.
- Relief of above **Rs. 92,000 crore** per year has been given. GST to be further simplified to a single monthly return.
- The Minister reads out various exemptions under customs duty. Defence products not manufactured in India are exempt from basic customs duty.
- Proposed to increase custom duty on gold and other precious metals from **10 % to 12.5%.**
- Excise duty on fuel hiked by Re.1. **Fiscal deficit is 3.3%, brought down from 3.4%.**
- The Finance Bill is introduced.

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"** to sustained economic growth for objective of $5 trillion by 2024-25.

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 $5 trillion** economy by Financial Year 2025.
- The survey suggests diplomatic type privileges, naming roads for top taxpayers.
- Investment the "key driver" of simultaneous growth in demand, jobs, exports, and productivity.
- Green shoots in investment activity seems to taking hold.
- Rural wage growth started increasing since **mid-2018.**
- Political stability should push the animal spirits of the economy.
- Poor enforcement of contracts and dispute resolution is a big hurdle. The faster legal process should be the top priority.
- Savings and growth are positively co-related. Savings must increase more than investment.
- Constant recalibration based on real-time data. Data must be created as a public good "of the people, by the people, for the people.
- Survey argues that nudging behaviour change is the simplest way to solve many social issues.
- Top policymakers must ensure actions are predictable. Policymaking needs: 1. Clear Vision 2. Strategic blueprint 3. Tactical tools for constant recalibration.
- The success of **MGNREGS shows govt.** schemes can make a difference on the ground with skillful use of technology.
- A minimum wage policy for the bottom rung of wage earners to drive up demand and strengthening the middle class.
- Indian MSMEs need to be freed from shackles that convert them into dwarfs. MSMEs need to be seen as a source of innovation, growth and job creation.
- The policy should enable MSMEs to grow, create greater profits for their owners and contribute to job creation and productivity in the economy.
- India needs to increase per capita energy consumption to raise real per capita **GDP by US$ 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.
- India moving forward from **Swachch 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.
- Green shoots in investment seems to be taking hold.
- NBFC stress reason for **Financial Year 2019 slowdown.**
- Decline in **NPAs 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 Baco 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'**.

National Affairs

- **The Minister of State for Tribal Affairs** launched the following campaigns for the Tribes of India in New Delhi:

- **'Go Tribal Campaign'** of Tribes India launched to promote the use of tribal handicrafts, handicrafts and natural products.
- **'Tribes India'** launched globally through Amazon Global Selling to step up Exports of Tribal Products.

- **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.
- **Lord Jagannath Rath Yatra** begins in **Puri, Odisha.** The Rath Yatra marks the journey of Lord Jagannath along with his siblings Lord Balabhadra and Devi Subhadra from Jagannath temple to Gundicha temple. This journey covers a distance of around **17 km in Puri.**
- According to the GoI, the Indian Railways has set a target to install **CCTV cameras in more than 7,000 coaches** of mainline passenger **trains by March 2021.**
- **The Cabinet Committee on Economic Affairs has approved the increase in the Minimum** Support Prices for all Kharif crops for 2019-20 Season. MSP of the following crops has been increased by:
  - **Paddy: 65 rupees per quintal**
  - **Jowar: 120 rupees per quintal**
  - **Ragi: 253 rupees per quintal**
  - **Tur: 125 rupees per quintal**
  - **Moong: 75 rupees per quintal**
  - **Urad Pulses: 100 rupees per quintal**
  - **Soyabean: 311 rupees per quintal**
  - **Sunflower: 262 rupees per quintal**
  - **Sesamum: 236 rupees per quintal**
- **Unique Identification Authority of India** has opened its **first** '**Aadhaar Seva Kendra' in Delhi and Vijayawada.** The Aadhaar card issuing authority has an ambitious plan to set up 114 such centres by the year end.
- **Army Chief General Bipin Rawat** has released a Kargil Tribute Song to honour, salute and pay homage to the Kargil martyrs and war veterans. The song has been composed by eminent Hindi lyricist Sammer Anjaan and sung by Shatadru Kabir. **The song was released as part of the celebration of the 20th anniversary of Kargil Vijay Diwas to be celebrated on 26th of July.**

States in the News

- **Tamil yeoman (Cirrochroa thais) butterfly** has been declared the state **butterfly of Tamil Nadu.** These butterflies are also known as **Tamil Maravan,** which means warrior, is found mainly in the hilly areas.
- **Ministry of Home Affairs** has extended The **Armed Forces (Special Powers) Act (AFSPA)** for another six months in **Nagaland.** The Act is implemented with effect from **June 30 and will be in force till December end.**
- **Chief Minister of Uttar Pradesh has** launched the IInd phase of **Communicable Disease Control and Dastak Abhiyan 2019.** The campaign is launched to eradicate deadly Acute Encephalitis Syndrome and Japanese Encephalitis disease.
- The **Hong Kong government has approved over $9 million** for relief and rehabilitation work in cyclone-hit **Odisha.**
- **The GoI** has sanctioned an additional amount of **Rs 358 crore** for the construction of new roads in rural areas of **Tripura.**

International Affairs

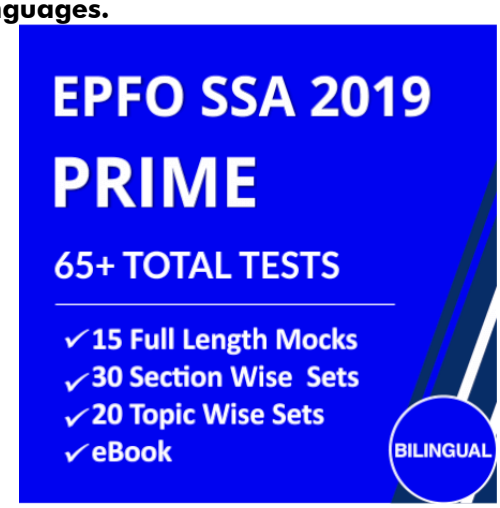
- **New Zealand** has officially banned single-use plastic shopping bags. **Under the new rules, thin plastic single-use shopping bags can no longer be supplied,** but reusable carriers are allowed.
- **The IMF has approved a USD 6 billion loan** over a period of 3 years for cash strapped **Pakistan.** The USD 6 billion financial aid includes an immediate disbursement **of USD 1 billion to help Pakistan address its balance of payment crisis.**
- **UNESCO's World Heritage Committee** has listed **Iraq's Babylon** as a World Heritage Site.

Agreements/MoUs Signed

- **The State Bank of India** has signed a memorandum of understanding with **National Investment and Infrastructure Fund to boost availability** of capital for infrastructure projects.
- **ICICI Bank** has tied up with **NBFC IndoStar Capital** for vehicle financing for small and medium

fleet owners to buy new as well as old commercial vehicles.

- **Delhi Police** has signed a pact with **Solar Energy Corporation of India.** Under this, the SECI will support the implementation of grid-connected rooftop solar photovoltaic systems on the establishments of Delhi police.
- **The Ministries of AYUSH** and **Electronics and Information Technology** have signed a MoU to collaborate on the digitization of the AYUSH sector.
- An MoU has been signed between **CSIR-Centre for Cellular and Molecular Biology** (CCMB) and Centre for DNA Fingerprinting and Diagnostics (CDFD). **The aim of the MoU is to enable better ways of diagnosis and treatment of genetic disorders.**
- The Union Cabinet has approved the pact signed between **India and Maldives** to start passenger and cargo services via sea route.
- **To develop a sustainable workforce** for disruptive technologies, IT industry's apex body **Nasscom announced that it is organising 'WorldSkills** India's International Cloud Computing Challenge 2019' in partnership with the **National Skill Development Corporation (NSDC).**
- **Reliance Jio** ties up with Facebook for digital literacy initiative 'Digital Udaan'. The initiative will have audio-visual training in **10 regional languages.**



Banking/Economy/Business News

- As per Second Bi-monthly **Monetary Policy Statement for 2019-20,** the Reserve Bank of India will stop imposing additional charges on Fund transfer through **RTGS and NEFT systems from 1st July 2019.**
- India has pledged to contribute **USD 5 Million in 2019** to the UN Palestine refugee agency. The Indian Government is assisting **150 Palestinian professionals** every year under the **Indian Technical and Economic Cooperation programme.**
- **Japanese** company **SoftBank has invested around $250 million** in Ola Electric Mobility.
- **The Reserve Bank of India** has imposed penalties on four state-run lenders for violating Know Your Customer norms and anti-money laundering standards. **Punjab National Bank, Allahabad Bank, and UCO Bank were fined Rs 50 lakh each while Corporation Bank was fined Rs 25 lakh.**
- **Karnataka Bank** Ltd has launched the web tool **'Vasool So-Ft' (Vasool So-Fast) for digitalising the** Non Performing Asset recovery process of the bank.
- **Airtel Payments** Bank has partnered with **Bharti AXA Life Insurance** to offer a life term insurance plan. The bank will offer the plan through its extensive network of banking points across the country.
- **Punjab & Sind Bank** has set up a centralised hub **"Centralised MSME & Retail Group".** It will process retail and **MSME** loans for the better efficiency of branches in business acquisition.

Appointments/Resignations

- **K. Natarajan** took over as the **Director-General of the Indian Coast Guard (ICG).** He has become the **23rd chief of India's** coastal security force. He took over from **Rajendra Singh.**
- The GoI has appointed **MTNL CMD PK Purwar as the Chairman and Managing Director of Bharat Sanchar Nigam Ltd**. He will replace **Anupam Shrivastava** as the CMD of BSNL.
- **Reserve Bank of India** Deputy Governor **N S Vishwanathan** has been given a one-year extension by the GoI. Presently he is heading the Department of Banking Regulation of the Reserve Bank of India.
- **Microfinance Institutions Network** has elected **Manoj Kumar Nambiar** as its chairman. MFIN comprises 56 NBFC-MFIs and 40 associates including banks, small finance banks and NBFCs.
- European Commission has elected **Ursula von der Leyen** as its new president. She will replace **Jean Claude Juncker.**

Defence News

- The International Security Alliance's first Joint Exercise **ISALEX19** started in **Abu Dhabi.** The exercise is hosted by the **UAE Ministry of Interior (MoI).**
- The **Indian and French Air Force** has started **Garuda VI exercise at Mont de Marsan in France.**

Awards and Recognitions

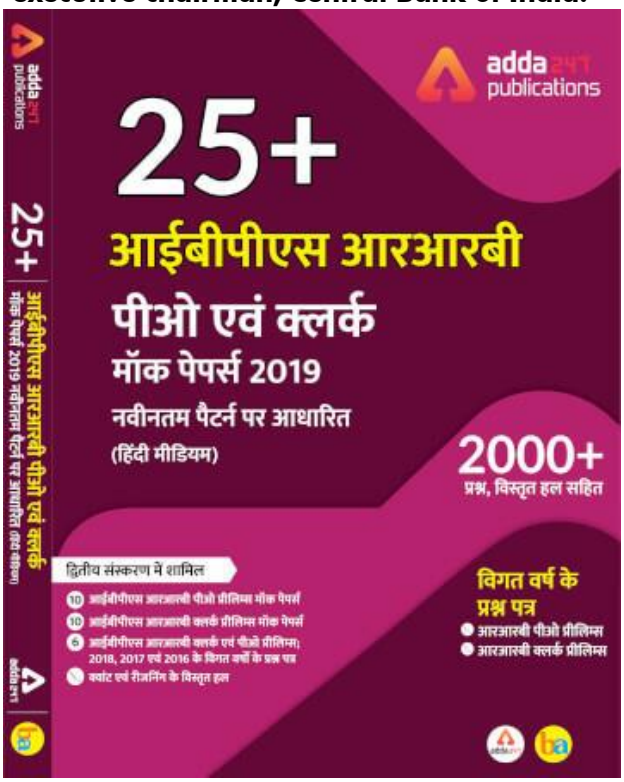
- **Sports Journalists Federation of India 2019 Awards:**
  - SJFI Medal (Highest Honour): **Prakash Padukone (Badminton).**
  - Sportsperson of the Year Award: **Pankaj Advani (Billiards and Snooker) and Bajrang Punia (Wrestling).**
  - Emerging Talent of the Year Award: **Saurabh Choudhary (Shooting).**
  - Team of the Year Award: **Vidarbha Cricket Team.**
- **National Aluminium Company Limited** has been selected for President's award for utilisation of Corporate **Social Responsibility fund in social development. NALCO started a scheme "Aliali Jhia"** in 2015 to promote the education of Girls of BPL families. **NALCO is an Odisha based Navaratna Company.**
- **The US-India Strategic Partnership Forum** has announced that Mastercard CEO and President **Ajay Banga and Wipro Chairman Azim Premji** will receive the 2019 Global Excellence Awards. This is the Second Annual Leadership Summit of USISPF.

Ranks and Reports

- **According to the Swiss National Bank (SNB), India** has moved down one place to **74th rank** in terms of money parked by its citizens and enterprises with Swiss banks. **U.K. has retained its top position.**
- **Maharashtra** achieves first rank in **NITI Aayog launched** "Agricultural Marketing and Farmer Friendly Reforms Index (AMFFRI)".
- **The Henley Passport Index 2019** have ranked the Indian passport on the **86th position** with a mobility score of 58. The score points out that Indian passport holders can access **58 countries** around the world without a prior visa. Japan and Singapore holds the top spot with a score of 189.

Schemes and Committees

- **'One Nation One Ration Card' scheme** will be available across the country from **1st 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.
- **University Grants Commission** has approved a **'Scheme for Trans-disciplinary Research for India's Developing Economy' (STRIDE)** to boost research culture in India.
- **Prime minister** has constituted a high powered committee of **chief ministers for transforming Indian agriculture and raising farmers' income. Maharashtra chief minister** will be the convenor of the committee. The committee has been asked to submit its report within two months.
- **The Reserve Bank of India** has set up a working group to review the regulatory and supervisory framework for **core investment companies (CIC).** The group will be headed by **Tapan Ray, non-executive chairman, Central Bank of India.**

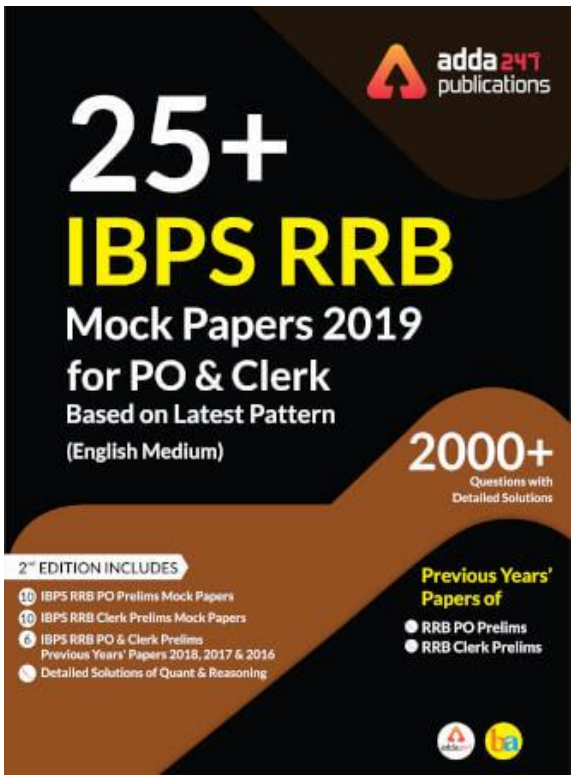


Sports News

- **Red Bull's Max Verstappen** won the **Austrian Grand Prix** for the second year in a row while champion Mercedes lost for the first time in this season.
- **Indian pro boxer Vaibhav Yadav** has become the **WBC Asia Silver Welterweight Champion.** He defeated **Thailand's Fahpetch Singmanassak** in Thailand.
- The Indian team **lost to Pakistan** in the final of the **IBSF Snooker World Cup in Doha.**
- Indian batsman **Ambati Rayudu** has announced his retirement from **international cricket.**
- **Aparna Kumar** becomes first IPS officer to complete Seven Summit challenge by scaling Mt

Denali. Mt Denali is the tallest mountain in **North America.**

- **Hima Das**, the under-20 World champion has won the gold medal in women's **200m in the** Poznan Athletics Grand Prix**. Poznan Athletics Grand Prix is taking place in Poznan, Poland.**
- **Dutch winger Arjen Robben** has announced his retirement from football at the age of 35 after a 10-year spell with **German giants Bayern Munich.**



Important Days

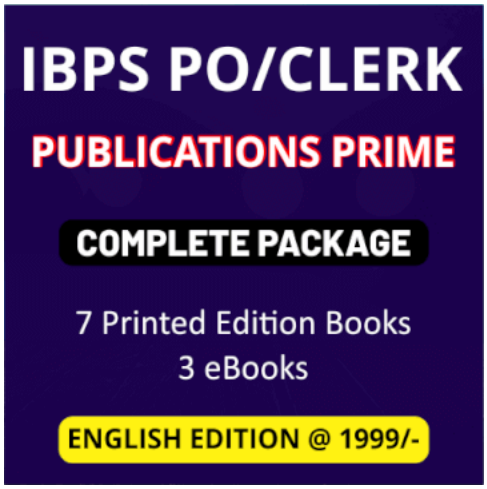
- The United Nations observe **30 June as International Asteroid Day.**
- The United Nations observe **30 June as the International Day of Parliamentarism.**
- **India observe 1st July** as the **National Doctors' Day.** National Doctor's Day is also celebrated to honour the legendary physician **Dr. Bidhan Chandra Roy.**
- India celebrated **1st July** as the **"Goods & Services Tax Day".**
- The United Nations observes **first Saturday of July every year** as **International Day of Cooperatives. Theme for 2019: COOPS 4 DECENT WORK.**

Obituaries

- **Professional motorcycle racer, Carlin Dunne** passes away. He was also known as **"The King of the Mountain".**
- **Birla Group** patriarch and an ace of the Indian industry **Basant Kumar Birla** passed away in Mumbai.
- Automobile industry legend from **USA Lee Iacocca** passed away. He was known for creating the iconic **Ford Mustang and saving Chrysler from bankruptcy.**

Miscellaneous News

- **The U.S. Senate** has passed a legislative provision **National Defense Authorization Act for India.** The act will bring India at par with America's **NATO allies which will increase U.S.-India defence cooperation** in the Indian Ocean in the areas of humanitarian assistance, counter terrorism, counter-piracy and maritime security. The act has been passed for the fiscal year **2020.**
- **The Department of State of USA** has designated the **Balochistan Liberation Army (BLA)** and Hizballah operative Husain Ali Hazzima as Specially Designated **Global Terrorists.**
- **Dubai Duty** Free has announced that **Indian Rupee** will now be an accepted currency at all the retail outlets of the Dubai airport. The move makes the Indian rupee the **16th international currency to be accepted at Dubai's airports.**
- **India's** biggest ride-hailing platform **Ola Cabs,** has received approval from London's transport regulator to start private hire vehicles (PHV) in the **capital city of the UK.**
- **The South Central Railway** has commissioned the longest electrified tunnel of India. The tunnel which is between Cherlopalli and Rapuru stations is 6.6 km long, is built at a total cost of **460 crore.**
- **India's** first Design Development Center **'Fashionova' was launched in the Textile city Surat.**



Static Takeaways

- United Nations Headquarters in New York, USA. It was founded on 24th October 1945.
- Mr Antonio Guterres is the Secretary General of the United Nations.
- Union Minister for Consumer Affairs, Food and Public Distribution: Ram Vilas Paswan.
- Minister of State for Tribal Affairs: Renuka Singh.
- Brand Ambassador of Tribes India: MC Mary Kom.
- Tamil Nadu Capital: Chennai, CM: Edappadi K. Palaniswami, Governor: Banwarilal Purohit.
- RBI 25th Governor: Shaktikant Das, Headquarters: Mumbai, Founded: 1 April 1935, Kolkata.
- The RTGS system is meant for large value instantaneous fund transfers and the NEFT system is used for fund transfers of up to Rs 2 lakh.
- GST was launched on 1st July 2017 in New Delhi.
- Chairperson of GST Council: Union Finance Minister of India.
- Chief Minister of Maharashtra : Devendra Fadnavis.
- Union Jal Shakti Minister of India: Gajendra Singh Shekhawat.
- SBI Chairperson: Rajnish Kumar, Headquarters: Mumbai, Founded: 1 July 1955.
- MD & CEO of National Investment and Infrastructure Fund: Sujoy Bose.
- Thailand Capital: Bangkok, Currency: Baht.
- Chairman cum Managing Director of NALCO: T.K. Chand.
- Union Minister of Communications and Electronics & Information Technology: Ravi Shankar Prasad.
- Headquarters of International Security Alliance: Abu Dhabi, UAE, Founded: February 2017.
- New Zealand Capital: Wellington, Currency: New Zealand dollar.
- Palestine Capital: Ramallah & East Jerusalem.
- CEO of Ola Electric: Bhavish Aggarwal.
- CEO of Softbank Corp.: Ken Miyauchi, Chairman: Masayoshi Son.
- Air Chief Marshal BS Dhanoa is the present Chief of the Air Staff of IAF.
- Chief Executive Officer of MFIN: Harsh Shrivastava; Founded: December,2009.
- Chief Minister of Uttar Pradesh: Yogi Adityanath; Governor: Ram Naik.
- CM of Odisha: Naveen Patnaik, Governor: Ganeshi Lal.
- Minister for Railways: Piyush Goyal.
- Agriculture Minister: Narendra Singh Tomar.
- Prime Minister of Pakistan: Imran Khan; Capital: Islamabad.
- NITI Aayog CEO: Amitabh Kant; Vice Chairman: Rajiv Kumar.
- Minister of State (Independent charge) of AYUSH Ministry: Shripad Yesso Naik.
- Minister of Communications and Information Technology: Ravi Shankar Prasad.
- CEO of UIDAI: Ajay Bhushan Pandey; Founded: 12 July, 2016.
- MD & CEO of Karnataka Bank Ltd: Mahabaleshwara MS; Headquarters: Mangaluru.
- MD & CEO of Bharti AXA Life Insurance: Vikas Seth.
- MD & CEO of Airtel Payments Bank: Anubrata Biswas.
- Capital of Iraq: Baghdad; Currency: Iraqi dinar.
- Headquarters of UNESCO: Paris, France; Director General: Audrey Azoulay.
- Capital of Tripura: Agartala, CM: Biplab Kumar Deb, Governor: Kaptan Singh Solanki.
- Capital of Maldives: Male; Currency: Maldivian Rufiyaa, President: Ibrahim Mohamed Solih.