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Must Do Current Affairs for FCI Phase-II Exam 2019

Union Budget 2019-20: In a Nutshell

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

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 of about **41 lakh houses** started, under PMAY-Urban.
- More than **95% of all cities** have declared themselves open defecation free.
- Rashtriya Swachhta 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.**
- "Ease of doing business and ease of living should apply to farmers."** Zero-budget farming proposed as a model for farmers. **"Steps such as this can help doubling farmer's 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** created by merging many water management ministries. Water will be supplied to all rural **households by 2024 under Jal Jeevan Mission..** 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 Swachh Bharat to solid waste management in every village.
- Over 2 crore rural Indians** have been made digitally literate.

On the Rural Sector-

- "Gaon, Gareeb aur Kisan at the centre of all our policies."**
- "All villages and almost 100%** of houses have been provided with electricity." FM assures 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. FM 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.**
- Under phase three of PM Gram Sadak Yojana, 1.25 lakh kms** of the road to be built in the next 5 years. Project cost estimated at **over Rs 80,000 crore.**

For Investments and Markets-

- FII and FPIs could be allowed to invest in infrastructure debt funds. Minimum public shareholding in listed companies can be increased from **25% to 35%**
- 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-

- Govt's transport infrastructure schemes such as **Sagar Mala, UDAN** are bridging rural-urban divide.
- 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-utilisation 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.
- **Govt will create a payment platform for MSMEs** to enable them to pay bills, and save time. Under **PM Karam Yogi Maan Dhan scheme** Govt will extend pension benefits to 3 crore retail traders and shopkeepers who have a revenue of less than **Rs. 1.5 crore**.

On the Youth-

- new **National Education Policy proposed**. A new National Research Foundation to be set up 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**.

Govt proposes starting exclusive TV channel for start-ups (within the set of DD channels).

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**.
- Increased personal tax surcharge on top-end income brackets—for those in **the Rs. 2-5 crore, and Rs. 5 crore & above**, increasing the effective tax rate is **3% and 7% respectively**.

On Indirect Taxes-

- **17 taxes and 13 cesses** became one tax under GST.
- 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 exempted 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".

Here are the key highlights from the Economic Survey:

- Survey sees Financial Year **2020 GDP growth at 7%**, higher growth on stables macros.
- India needs to grow at **8% per year to be \$5 trillion** economy by Financial Year 2025.
- The survey suggests diplomatic type privileges, naming roads for top taxpayers.
- Investment the "key driver" of simultaneous growth in demand, jobs, exports, and productivity.
- Green shoots in investment activity seems to taking hold.
- Rural wage growth started increasing since **mid-2018**.
- Political stability should push the animal spirits of the economy.
- Poor enforcement of contracts and dispute resolution is a big hurdle. A faster legal process should be the top priority.
- Savings and growth are positively co-related. Savings must increase more than investment.

- Survey argues that nudging behaviour change is the simplest way to solve many social issues.
- Top policymakers must ensure actions are predictable. Policymaking needs: 1. Clear Vision 2. Strategic blueprint 3. Tactical tools for constant recalibration.
- The success of **MGNREGS shows govt.** schemes can make a difference on the ground with skillful use of technology.
- A minimum wage policy for the bottom rung of wage earners to drive up demand and strengthening the middle class.
- Indian MSMEs need to be freed from shackles that convert them into dwarfs. MSMEs need to be seen as a source of innovation, growth and job creation. Policies should be reoriented for MSMEs growth, create greater profits for their owners and contribute to job creation and productivity in the economy.
- India needs to increase per capita energy consumption to raise real per capita **GDP by US\$ 5000 and improve its HDI ranking.**
- The Survey is inspired by Gandhiji's Talisman: "...Recall the face of the poorest man [woman], and ask yourself, if the step you contemplate is going to be of any use to him [her]."
- India will enjoy the "demographic dividend" phase in the next two decades but some states will start transitioning to an aging society by the 2030s.
- India moving forward from **Swachh Bharat to Swasth and Sundar Bharat.**
- Investment rate seems to have bottomed out.
- Govt stands by the fiscal consolidation path.
- Jan-March economic slowdown due to poll-related activity.
- NBFC stress reason for **Financial Year 2019 slowdown.**
- Decline in **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 Bachao Beti Padhao'** to **'BADLAV' (Beti Aapki Dhan Lakshmi Aur Vijay Lakshmi).**
- From **'Give it up'** for the **LPG subsidy** to **'Think about the Subsidy'.**
- From **'Tax evasion'** to **'Tax compliance'.**

Union Cabinet Ministers Portfolio 2019

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

Council of Ministers and their portfolios, under the Modi Government 2.0.

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

Cabinet Ministers

- **Rajnath Singh**- Defence (**Lucknow, Uttar Pradesh**)
- **Amit Shah** - Home Affairs (**Gandhinagar, Gujarat**)
- **Nirmala Sitharaman** - Finance; Corporate Affairs (**Rajya Sabha, Karnataka**)
- **Subrahmanyam Jaishankar** - External Affairs (**Rajya Sabha, Gujarat**)
- **Nitin Gadkari** - Road Transport and Highways; Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises (**Nagpur, Maharashtra**)
- **DV Sadananda Gowda** - Chemical and Fertilizers (**North Bengaluru, Karnataka**)
- **Ram Vilas Paswan** - Consumer Affairs, Food and Public Distribution (**Rajya Sabha, Bihar**)
- **Narendra Singh Tomar** - Agriculture and Farmers Welfare; Rural Development; Panchayati Raj (**Murena, Madhya Pradesh**)
- **Ravi Shankar Prasad** - Law and Justice; Communications; Electronics and Information Technology (**Patna Sahib, Bihar**)
- **Harsimrat Kaur Badal** - Food Processing Industries (**Bhatinda, Punjab**)
- **Thawarchand Gehlot** - Social Justice and Empowerment (**Rajya Sabha, Madhya Pradesh**)
- **Ramesh Pokhriyal Nishank** - Human Resource Development (**Haridwar, Uttarakhand**)
- **Arjun Munda** - Tribal Affairs (**Khunti, Jharkhand**)
- **Smriti Irani** - Women and Child Development; Textiles (**Amethi, Uttar Pradesh**)
- **Dr. Harsh Vardhan** - Health and Family Welfare; Science and Technology; Earth Sciences (**Chandani Chowk, Delhi**)
- **Prakash Javdekar** - Environment, Forest and Climate Change; Information and **Broadcasting** (**Rajya Sabha, Maharashtra**)
- **Piyush Goyal** - Railways; Commerce and Industries (**Rajya Sabha, Maharashtra**)
- **Dharmendra Pradhan** - Petroleum and Natural Gas; Steel (**Rajya Sabha, Madhya Pradesh**)
- **Mukhtar Abbas Naqvi** - Minority Affairs (**Rajya Sabha, Jharkhand**)
- **Prahlad Joshi** - Parliamentary Affairs; Coal; Mines (**Dharwad, Karnataka**)
- **Mahendra Nath Pandey** - Skill Development and Entrepreneurship (**Chandauli, Uttar Pradesh**)
- **Arvind Sawant** - Heavy Industries and Public Enterprise (**South Mumbai, Maharashtra**)
- **Giriraj Singh** - Animal Husbandry, Dairying, and Fisheries (**Begusarai, Bihar**)

- **Gajendra Singh Shekhawat** - Jal Shakti (Jodhpur, Rajasthan)

Ministers of State (Independent Charge)-

- **Santosh Kumar Gangwar** - Labour and Employment
- **Rao Inderjit Singh** - Statistics and Programme Implementation; Planning
- **Shripad Yesso Naik** - Ayurveda, Yoga and Naturopathy, Unani, Siddha and Homoeopathy (AYUSH); MoS Defence
- **Dr. Jitendra Singh** - Ministry of Development of North Eastern Region; MoS PMO; Personnel, Public Grievances, and Pensions; Department of Atomic Energy; Department of Space
- **Kiren Rijiju** - Youth Affairs and Sports; MoS Minority Affairs
- **Prahalad Singh Patel** - Culture; Tourism
- **Raj Kumar Singh** - Power; New and Renewable Energy; MoS Skill Development and Entrepreneurship
- **Hardeep Singh Puri** - Housing and Urban Affairs; Civil Aviation; MoS Commerce and Industry
- **Mansukh L Mandaviya** - Shipping; MoS Chemicals and Fertilizers

Minister of States (MoS)-

- **Faggansingh Kulaste**- Steel
- **Ashwini Kumar Choubey** - Health and Family Welfare
- **Arjun Ram Meghwal** - Parliamentary Affairs; Heavy Industries and Public Enterprises
- **General (Retd) VK Singh** - Road Transport and Highways
- **Krishan Pal** - Social Justice and Empowerment
- **Danve Raosaheb Dadarao** - Consumer Affairs, Food, and Public Distribution
- **G Kishan Reddy** - Home Affairs
- **Parshottam Rupala** - Agriculture and Farmers Welfare
- **Ramdas Athawale** - Social Justice and Empowerment
- **Sadhvi Niranjan Jyoti** - Rural Development
- **Babul Supriyo** - Environment, Forest and Climate Change
- **Sanjeev Kumar Balyan** - Animal Husbandry, Dairying, and Fisheries
- **Dhotre Sanjay Shamrao** - Human Resource Development; Communications; Electronics and Information Technology
- **Anurag Singh Thakur** - Finance; Corporate Affairs
- **Angadi Suresh Channabasappa** - Railways
- **Nityanand Rai** - Home Affairs
- **Rattan Lal Kataria** - Jal Shakti; Social Justice and Empowerment
- **V Muraleedharan** - External Affairs; Parliamentary Affairs
- **Renuka Singh Saruta** - Tribal Affairs
- **Som Parkash** - Commerce and Industry

- **Rameswar Teli** - Food Processing Industries
- **Pratap Chandra Sarangi** - Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises; Animal Husbandry, Dairying and Fisheries
- **Kailash Choudhary** - Agriculture and Farmers Welfare
- **Debasree Chaudhuri** - Women and Child Development

French Open 2019 Concludes

The 2019 French Open (also known as Roland Garros) was the 123rd edition of the French Open.

Sl.No.	Category	Winner	Runner Up
1.	Men's Singles	Rafael Nadal (Spain)	Austria Dominic Thiem
2.	Women's Singles	Ashleigh Barty (Australia)	Marketa Vondrousova (Czech Republic)
3.	Men's Doubles	Kevin Krawietz (Germany) and Andreas Mies (Germany)	Jeremy Chardy (France) and Fabrice Martin (France)
4.	Women's Doubles	Timea Babos (Hungary) and Kristina Mladenovic (France)	Duan Yingying (China) and Zheng Saisai (China)
5.	Mixed Doubles	Latisha Chan (Chinese Taipei) and Ivan Dodig (Croatia)	Gabriela Dabrowski (Canada) and Mate Pavic (Croatia)

Need, Jurisdiction and Powers of LOKPAL

Lokpal and Lokayukta Act, 2013

The Lokpal and Lokayukta Act, 2013 seeks to provide for the establishment of Lokpal for the Union and Lokayukta for States to inquire into allegations of corruption against certain public functionaries and for related matters.

Justice PC Ghose Appointed 1st Lokpal

Powers of Lokpal

- It has powers to superintendence over, and to give direction to CBI.
- If it has referred a case to CBI, the investigating officer in such case cannot be transferred without the approval of Lokpal.
- Powers to authorize CBI for search and seizure operations connected to such case.
- The Inquiry Wing of the Lokpal has been vested with the powers of a civil court.

- Lokpal has powers of confiscation of assets, proceeds, receipts and benefits arisen or procured by means of corruption in special circumstances
- Lokpal has the power to recommend transfer or suspension of public servant connected with allegation of corruption.
- Lokpal has power to give directions to prevent destruction of records during preliminary inquiry.

Highlight of IPL 2019

Mumbai Indians became IPL champions for the **fourth time** after defeating **Chennai Super**.

- **Orange Cap-** David Warner of Sunrisers Hyderabad scored most runs: 692 Runs in 12 Matches.
- **Purple Cap-** Imran Tahir of Chennai Super Kings took most wickets: 26 Wickets in 17 Matches.
- **Jonny Bairstow-** Sunrisers Hyderabad Highest Individual Score: 114 Runs.
- **IPL 2019's Emerging Player** of the Year award: KKR's Shubman Gill.

India Becomes Elite Space Power

- PM Narendra Modi addressed the nation announcing that **India** has entered its name as an **elite space power**.
- **Under Mission Shakti led by DRDO, an Anti-Satellite Weapon (A-SAT)** successfully targeted a live satellite on a **low earth orbit (LEO)**. The satellite was orbiting at an altitude of **300 km**.
- After the **US, Russia, and China, India is the fourth country** to acquire this space capability.



Pradhan Mantri Shram Yogi Maan-Dhan Implemented In India

- **Pradhan Mantri Shram Yogi Maan-dhan (PM-SYM)** was rolled out by the Ministry of Labour and Employment from **15 February 2019**. The scheme announced in the Interim Budget was notified by the Ministry recently. As many as **42 crore workers** are estimated to be engaged in the unorganized sector of the country.
- **The Salient Features of PM-SYM:**

- 1. Minimum Assured Pension:** Each subscriber, shall receive minimum assured pension of Rs 3000/- per month after attaining the age of 60 years.
- 2. Family Pension:** During the receipt of pension, if the subscriber dies, the spouse of the beneficiary shall be entitled to receive **50% of the pension** received by the beneficiary as family pension. Family pension is applicable only to spouse.

New e-Commerce Policy Comes into Effect

- **India's new e-commerce policy** came into effect From **February 1, 2019**.
- **Department for Promotion of Industry and Internal Trade (previously DIPP)** gave them a 60-day window period for aligning themselves to the government's modified foreign direct investment (FDI) rules.

Important Highlights of the new policy:

- **Govt bars online retailers from selling products** through vendors in which they have an equity interest. also **bars them from entering into exclusive deals with brands** for selling products only on their platforms.
- **All online retailers will be required to maintain a level playing field** for all the vendors selling their products on the platform, and it shall not affect the sale prices of goods in any manner.
- **Disallows e-commerce players to control the inventory of the vendors.** Any such ownership over the inventory will convert it into inventory-based model from marketplace based model, which is not entitled to FDI.
- **The e-commerce retailer shall be deemed to own the inventory** of a vendor if over 25% of the purchases of such a vendor are through it.

Grammy Awards 2019

- **The 61st Annual Grammy Awards ceremony** was held at Staples Center in Los Angeles. The list of important winners of **Grammy Awards 2019** given below:

Category	Winner
Album Of The Year	Golden Hour, Kacey Musgraves
Record Of The Year	"This Is America," Childish Gambino
Best New Artist	Dua Lipa
Best Rap Album	Invasion Of Privacy, Cardi B
Best R&B Album Winner	H.E.R., H.E.R.
Best Rap Song	"God's Plan," Drake
Best Country Album	Golden Hour, Kacey Musgraves
Song Of The Year	"This Is America," Childish Gambino

Laureus World Sports Awards 2019

- The **Laureus World Sports Award for Sportsman of the Year** is an annual award honoring the achievements of individual men from the world of sports.

Category	Winner
Sportsman of the Year	Novak Djokovic
Sportswoman of the Year	Simone Biles
Comeback of the Year	Tiger Woods
Team of the Year	France
Sportsperson with a Disability	Henrieta Farkkasova
Lifetime Achievement Award	Arsene Wenger

New CMs: Arunachal/Sikkim/AP/MP/Odisha/Rajasthan/Chhatisgarh/Goa

- **Pema Khandu** was sworn in as the **CM of Arunachal Pradesh** for a **second term**.
- **Naveen Patnaik** took oath as the **CM of Odisha** for the **fifth time**.
- **Sikkim Krantikari Morcha (SKM)** president Prem Singh Tamang, popularly known as **PS Golay, CM of Sikkim**.
- **YSR Congress party** president **YS Jagan Mohan Reddy** has taken oath as **CM of Andhra Pradesh**.
- **Congress' Ashok Gehlot** (2nd term) sworn in as the **CM of Rajasthan** along with deputy **CM Sachin Pilot**.
- **Kamal Nath** took oath as the **18th CM of Madhya Pradesh**.
- **Bhupesh Baghel** as the **CM of Chhattisgarh**.
- **Pramod Sawant** took oath as **CM of Goa**.

72nd BAFTA Awards 2019 Announced

- **List of important winners:**

Category	Winner
Best Director	Alfonso Cuaron, Roma
Best Film	Roma
Best Actress	Olivia Colman, The Favourite
Best Actor	Rami Malek – Bohemian Rhapsody
Outstanding British Film	The Favourite
Best Animated Film	Spider-Man Into the Spider-Verse
Best British Short Animation	Roughhouse
Best British Short Film	73 Cows

2nd Bi-Monthly Monetary Policy Statement: Repo Rate Reduced to 5.75%

On the basis of an assessment of the current and evolving macroeconomic situation, the **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 Reserve Bank of India lowered the economic growth forecast for the current fiscal to **7% due to slowdown** in domestic activities and escalation in global trade war.
- **GDP growth plunged to a five-year low of 5.8%** in the January-March quarter due to lackluster growth in agriculture, manufacturing, construction, trade, hotels and power sectors. This, in turn, pulled down the **FY19 GDP growth rate** to a five-year low of 6.8%. The next meeting of the MPC is scheduled during **August 5 to 7, 2019**.

Mathematician Karen Uhlenbeck becomes 1st Woman to Win Abel Prize

- **University of Texas professor Karen Uhlenbeck** has become the **first woman to win the Abel Prize, a mathematics honour first given in 2003**.
- The 76-year-old was awarded for the impact of her work on **"analysis, geometry and mathematical physics"**.

64th Filmfare Awards

- **Winners of the 64th Filmfare Awards were announced in Mumbai.**
- **Here's the complete winner's list:**

Category	Winner
Best Film	Raazi
Critics' Award for Best Film	AndhaDhun
Best Actor in a Leading Role (Female)	Alia Bhatt, Raazi
Best Actor in a Leading Role (Male)	Ranbir Kapoor, Sanju
Best Director	Meghna Gulzar, Raazi
Best Debut Actor(Female)	Sara Ali Khan, Kedarnath
Best Debut Actor(Male)	Ishaan Khatter, Beyond The Clouds
Critics' Award for Best Actor (Male)	Ranveer Singh for "Padmaavat"
Critics' Award for Best Actor (Female)	Neena Gupta, Badhaai Ho
Critics Best Actor In a Leading Role (Male)	Ayushmann Khurrana

All England Open Badminton Championships

All England Open 2019, officially YONEX All England Open Badminton Championships 2019 was a BWF World Tour 1000 event which took place at Arena Birmingham in England from 6 to 10 March 2019. It had a total purse of \$1,000,000.

Event	Winner	Runner Up
Men's Singles	Kento MOMOTA (Japan)	Viktor AXELSEN (Denmark)
Women's Singles	CHEN Yufei (China)	Tai Tzu-ying (Taiwan)
Men's Doubles	Mohammad Ahsan and Hendra Setiawan (Indonesia)	Aaron Chia and Soh Wooi Yik (Malaysia)
Women's Doubles	Chen Qingchen and Jia Yifan (China)	Mayu Matsumoto and Wakana Nagahara (Japan)
Mixed Doubles	Zheng Siwei and Huang Yaqiong (China)	Yuta Watanabe and Arisa Higashino (Japan)

Swiss Open Championship

Swiss Open, officially the YONEX Swiss Open 2019, was a badminton tournament which took place at St. Jakobshalle in Basel, Switzerland and had a total purse of \$150,000.

Event	Winner	Runner Up
Men's Singles	Shi Yuki (China)	B Sai Praneet (India)
Women's Singles	Chen Yufei (China)	Saena Kawakami (Japan)
Men's Doubles	Fajar ALFIAN and Muhammad Rian ARDIANTO (Indonesia)	LEE Yang and WANG Chi-Lin (Taiwan)
Women's Doubles	CHANG Ye Na and JUNG Kyung Eun (South Korea)	Nami MATSUYAMA and Chiharu SHIDA (Japan)
Mixed Doubles	Mathias BAY-SMIDT and Rikke SOBY (Denmark)	Rinov RIVALDY and Pitha Haningtya MENTARI (Indonesia)

Pulitzer Prize 2019 has Declared

- The **Pulitzer Prize** is an award for achievements in newspaper, magazine and online journalism, literature, and musical composition in the United States. Here is the complete list:

Category	Winner
JOURNALISM	

Public service	Staff of the South Florida Sun Sentinel
Criticism	Carlos Lozada of The Washington Post
Editorial writing	Brent Staples of the New York Times
BOOKS, DRAMA, AND MUSIC	
Fiction	"The Overstory" by Richard Powers
Drama	"Fairview" by Jackie Sibblies Drury
History	"Frederick Douglass" by David W. Blight
Biography or autobiography	"The New Negro" by Jeffrey C. Stewart
Poetry	"Be With" by Forrest Gander
General nonfiction	"Amity and Prosperity" by Eliza Griswold
Music	"p r i s m" by Ellen Reid
Special Citation	Aretha Franklin

23rd Asian Athletics Championships Concludes in Doha, Qatar

- PU Chitra won gold in Women's 1,500 metres race. Here is the list of top 4 countries in the Championship:

Rank	Nation	Gold	Silver	Bronze	Total
1.	Bahrain	11	7	4	22
2.	China	9	13	7	29
3.	Japan	5	4	9	18
4.	India	3	7	7	17

Odisha struck with Cyclone Storm FANI

- Hurricanes, Typhoons and Cyclones** are just different names for the same kind of tropical storm that have a low-pressure centre with high wind speeds and heads towards land.
- Cyclone FANI** is named by Bangladesh. It is pronounced "**Foni**" and loosely translates to "**the hood of a snake**".

India Open Badminton 2019 Concludes in New Delhi

Event	Winner	Runner Up
Men's Singles	Viktor Axelsen(Denmark)	Srikanth Kidambi (India)
Women's Singles	Ratchanok Intanon(Thailand)	He Bingjiao (China)
Men's	Lee Yang and Wang	Ricky Karanda

Doubles	Chi-lin (Chinese Taipei)	Suwardi and Angga Pratama (Indonesia)
Women's Doubles	Greysia Polii and Apriyani Rahayu (Indonesia)	Chow Mei Kuan and Lee Meng Yean (Malaysia)
Mixed Doubles	Wang Yilü and Huang Dongping (China)	Praveen Jordan and Melati Daeva Oktavianti (Indonesia)

that no Literature Prize was given in 70 years because of a #MeToo scandal.

Field	Winner	Description
Physiology or Medicine	James P Allison (USA) & Tasaku Honjo (Japan)	"for their discovery of cancer therapy by inhibition of negative immune regulation"
Physics	Arthur Ashkin (USA), Gerard Mourou (France) and Donna Strickland (Canada)	"for groundbreaking inventions in the field of laser physics"
Chemistry	(a) one half to Frances H. Arnold (USA) (b) Other half jointly to George P. Smith (USA) & Sir Gregory P. Winter (UK)	(a) "for the directed evolution of enzymes" (b) "for the phage display of peptides & antibodies"
Peace	Denis Mukwege (Congo) & Nadia Murad (Iraq)	"for their efforts to end the use of sexual violence as a weapon of war & armed conflict"
Economic Sciences	(a) William D. Nordhaus (USA) (b) Paul M. Romer (USA)	(a) "for integrating climate change into long-run macroeconomic analysis" (b) "for integrating technological innovations into long-run macroeconomic analysis."

Badminton Asia Championships 2019 Concluded in China

Event	Winner	Runner-Up
Men's singles	Kento Momota	China Shi Yuqi
Women's singles	Akane Yamaguchi (Japan)	China He Bingjiao
Men's doubles	Hiroyuki Endo and Yuta Watanabe (Japan)	Marcus Fernaldi Gideon and Kevin Sanjaya Sukamuljo (Indonesia)
Women's doubles	Chen Qingchen and Jia Yifan (China)	Mayu Matsumoto and Wakana Nagahara (Japan)
Mixed doubles	Wang Yilü and Huang Dongping (China)	He Jiting and Du Yue (China)

Asian Wrestling Championship 2019 in China: India Finishes With 16 Medals, Iran Tops

- Only Bajrang Punia won the gold medal.

Rank	Nation	Gold	Silver	Bronze	Total
1	Iran	11	0	6	17
2	China	5	5	6	16
3	Japan	4	7	6	17
8	India	1	6	9	16

David Malpass Named World Bank President

- **David Malpass** appointed as the **President of the World Bank**. He has replaced Former **World Bank President Jim Yong Kim** who left in January.

Complete List | Nobel Prize Winners 2018

- **2018 Nobel Prize** were announced in 5 different fields viz. Physiology or Medicine, Physics, Chemistry, Peace, & Economic Sciences. This is for the first time

Astronomers Capture First-ever Image of a Black Hole

- Astronomers have taken the first-ever image of a black hole, which is located in a distant galaxy known as **'Messier 87' (M87)**. The **'Event Horizon Telescope'** captured the image from the galaxy that is 50 million lightyears away.

CEAT Cricket Rating Awards 2019 Announced in Mumbai

Sl.No.	Category	Winner
1.	International Cricketer and Batsman of the Year	Virat Kohli
2.	International Bowler of the Year	Jasprit Bumrah
3.	International Test Cricketer of the Year	Cheteshwar Pujara

4.	International ODI Cricketer of the Year	Rohit Sharma
5.	International T20 Player of the Year	Aaron Finch
6.	Outstanding Performance of the Year	Kuldeep Yadav
7.	International T20 Bowler of the Year	Rashid Khan
8.	Lifetime Achievement Award	Mohinder Amarnath
9.	Junior Cricketer of the Year	Yashasvi Jaiswal

- BoB consolidated bank will have over **9,500 branches, 13,400 ATMs, 85,000 employees** to serve 12 crore customers.

Independence Day Gallantry Awards Announced: Complete List of Winners

- **On the occasion of 72nd Independence Day**, President Ram Nath Kovind approved 131 Gallantry Awards to members of Armed Forces personnel & Paramilitary Forces. Defence Ministry said that one Kirti Chakra, three Bar to Sena Medals (Gallantry), three Vayu Sena Medals (Gallantry), 11 Nao Sena Medals (Gallantry), 20 Shaurya Chakras & 93 Sena Medals (Gallantry) will be awarded.

Award	No's	Remarks
Kirti Chakra	01	Posthumous
Shaurya Chakra	14	Including 02 posthumous
Sena Medal (Gallantry)	96	Including 08 posthumous
Mention-in-Despatches	27	Including 04 posthumous

Oman Author Jokha Alharthi Wins Booker International Prize

- An author from **Oman, Jokha Alharthi** has won the prestigious Man Booker International Prize for **"Celestial Bodies"**, the story of three sisters of a desert country confronting its slave-owning past and a complex modern world.

Madrid Open 2019 in Spain

Event	Winner
Men's singles	Novak Djokovic (Serbia)
Women's singles	Kiki Bertens (Netherlands)
Men's doubles	Jean-Julien Rojer (Netherlands) and Horia Tecau (Romania)
Women's doubles	Hsieh Su-wei (Chinese Taipei) and Barbora Strýcová (Czech Republic)

Nilekani panel suggests 24x7 RTGS, NEFT, elimination of all charges

- The Nandan Nilekani committee which was appointed by the RBI, has suggested a host of measures, to the governor Shaktikanta Das to encourage digital payments, which includes elimination of charges, round-the-clock **RTGS and NEFT facility**, and duty-free import of point-of-sales machines.

76th Italian Open 2019

Event	Winner
Men's singles	Rafael Nadal (Spain)
Women's singles	Karolina Pliskova (Czech Republic)
Men's doubles	Juan Sebastián Cabal and Colombia Robert Farah (Colombia)
Women's doubles	Victoria Azarenka (Belarus) and Australia Ashleigh Barty

US won FIFA Women's World Cup 2019

- **United States won FIFA Women's World Cup 2019 held in Lyon, France.** They defeated the **Netherlands with a score of 2-0.** This is the **4th world cup title** for the US's women football team.

BOB is now third largest lender as Dena Bank and Vijaya Bank Merger

- **Bank of Baroda is the third largest bank** in the country after **SBI and HDFC Bank** with the merger of Dena Bank and Vijaya Bank with itself from **01st April 2019.**
- This is **second merger of state-run banks** in the recent years after State Bank had merged five of its associate banks and Bhartiya Mahila Bank effective 01st April 2017.

Gender Equality Index: India Ranks 95, Denmark Tops

- **India ranked 95th out of 129 countries** in a new index that measures global gender equality looking at aspects such as poverty, health, education, literacy, political representation and equality at the workplace.
- **The list was topped by Denmark.** Chad was placed at bottom most position (**129th**).
- The Sustainable Development Goals Gender Index has been developed by UK-based Equal Measures **2030, a joint effort of regional and global organizations.**

ICC Men's Cricket World Cup 2019

- **The ICC Men's Cricket World Cup 2019** has begun from **30th May 2019.** **England opens the tournament at The Oval in London when they take on South Africa.**

- The World Cup will span **48 matches in all**, of which **45 will make up** the group stage.

India Ranks 140th In World Press Freedom Index 2019, Norway Topped

India ranked **140th out of 180 countries** in the World Press Freedom Index 2019, released by Reporters Without Borders. The index is topped by **Norway**. **Paris-based Reporters Sans Frontieres (RSF)**, or Reporters Without Borders, is a non-profit organisation that works to document and combat attacks on journalists around the world.

- 1st: Norway
- 2nd: Finland
- 179th: North Korea
- 180th: Turkmenistan

RBI categorises IDBI Bank as private sector lender

- **The RBI stated that IDBI Bank** has been categorised as a private sector bank for regulatory purposes with effect from 21st January 2019. This follows LIC acquires **51%** of the total paid-up equity share capital of the bank. In April 2005, IDBI Bank was categorised under a new sub-group, 'other public sector banks,' by the RBI.

RBI Sells Its Entire Stake in NABARD And NHB To The Government

- **RBI** has divested its entire stake held in National Housing Bank (**NHB**), the regulator for housing finance companies, and National Bank for

Agriculture and Rural Development (**NABARD**) to the government, which now holds **100%** in these entities.

- **RBI** had 100% shareholding in **NHB**, which was divested for **INR1, 450 crore**. The **NABARD** stake was divested in two phases. **RBI** had **72.5%** stake in **Nabard** amounting to **INR1,450 crore**, out of which **71.5%**, worth **INR 1,430 crore** was divested in **October 2010** and the residual shareholding was divested in February 2019 for **INR 20 crore**.
- **NHB** is the regulator for **housing finance companies** while **NABARD** is responsible for regulating and supervising the functions of **Co-operative banks and RRBs**.

Deposits in Jan Dhan bank accounts set to cross Rs 1 lakh crore

- The total deposits in bank accounts opened under the **Jan Dhan scheme** are set to cross **Rs 1 lakh crore soon**. Government data claimed that the cumulative balance in 35.29 crore accounts under the flagship programme of the Modi government reached **Rs 97,665.66 crore as on 03rd April 2019**.

Padma Awardees 2019 Complete List

- **Padma Awards** - one of the highest civilian Awards of the country, are conferred in three categories, namely, **Padma Vibhushan**, **Padma Bhushan** and **Padma Shri**. The Awards are given in various disciplines/ fields of activities, viz.- art, social work, public affairs, science and engineering, trade and industry, medicine, literature and education, sports, civil service, etc. '**Padma Vibhushan**' is awarded for exceptional and distinguished service; '**Padma Bhushan**' for distinguished service of high order and '**Padma Shri**' for distinguished service in any field. The awards are announced on the occasion of Republic Day every year.
- These awards are conferred by the President of India at ceremonial functions which are held at Rashtrapati Bhawan usually around March/April every year. This year the President of India has approved conferment of **112 Padma Awards**. The list comprises 4 Padma Vibhushan, 14 Padma Bhushan and 94 Padma Shri Awards.

BHARAT RATNA (3)

Name	Description
Shri Nanaji Deshmukh	(Posthumously)
Dr Bhupen Hazarika	(Posthumously)
Shri Pranab Mukherjee	-

PADMA VIBHUSHAN (4)

Name	Field	State
Ms. Teejan Bai	Art-Vocals-Folk	Chhattisgarh
Shri Ismail Omar Guelleh (Foreigner)	Public Affairs	Djibouti

Shri Anilkumar Manibhai Naik	Trade & Industry-Infrastructure	Maharashtra
Shri Balwant Moreshwar	Art-Acting-Theatre	Maharashtra

PADMA BHUSHAN-(14)

Name	Field	State
Shri John Chambers (Foreigner)	Trade & Industry-Technology	USA
Shri Sukhdev Singh Dhindsa	Public Affairs	Punjab
Shri Pravin Gordhan (Foreigner)	Public Affairs	South Africa
Shri Mahashay Dharam Pal	Trade & Industry-Food Processing	Delhi
Shri Darshan Lal Jain	Social Work	Haryana
Shri Ashok	Medicine-	Maharashtra

Laxmanrao Kukade	Affordable Healthcare	
Shri Kariya Munda	Public Affairs	Jharkhand
Shri Budhaditya Mukherjee	Art-Music-Sitar	West Bengal
Shri Mohanlal Viswanathan Nair	Art-Acting-Film	Kerala
Shri S Nambi Narayan	Science & Engineering-Space	Kerala
Shri Kuldip Nayar (Posthumous)	Literature & Education (Journalism)	Delhi
Ms. Bachendri Pal	Sports-Mountaineering	Uttarakhand
Shri V K Shunglu	Civil Service	Delhi
Shri Hukumdev Narayan Yadav	Public Affairs	Bihar

Banking Current Affairs

- **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 upto **Rs 10 lakh** for study in India and **upto Rs 20 lakh** for study abroad.
 - Collateral free loans **upto 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.
- **Reserve Bank of India** launched **Complaint Management System (CMS)**, a software application to be used to lodge complaints against banks and **NBFCs with a view to improve customer's experience in timely redressal of grievances.**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.
- 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**.
- **The Jammu and Kashmir Bank** will now come under the purview of Right to Information Act and **Central Vigilance Commission (CVC)**.
- **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 **Indiabulls Housing Finance and Lakshmi Vilas Bank**. The merged entity will be amongst the **top eight private banks in India by size and profitability, with a net worth of Rs 19,472 crore, a loan book of Rs 1.23 lakh crore**
- As per Second Bi-monthly **Monetary Policy Statement for 2019-20**, RBI stopped imposing additional charges on Fund transfer through **RTGS and NEFT systems from 1st July 2019**.
- **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-Fr' (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.
- 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.
- The govt has approved recapitalization of **Rs 48,239 crore in 12 public sector banks** in this fiscal to help them maintain regulatory capital requirements and finance growth plans. The government will infuse over **Rs. 9000 crore in Corporation Bank** and **rupees Rs. 6896 crore in Allahabad Bank**, **Rs. 4368 crores will be provided Bank of India** and **Rs. 205 crore to Bank of Maharashtra**.
- **Bank of Baroda** has tied up with **Germany's KfW Development Bank** for funding of **USD 113 million** to refinance solar projects.
- RBI taken off **Allahabad Bank, Corporation Bank and Dhanlaxmi Bank** from the **Prompt Corrective Action (PCA)** framework allowing them to resume their normal lending activities.
- **RBI & Bank of Japan** have signed a **Bilateral Swap Arrangement (BSA)**. The BSA provides for India to access **75 billion US dollars** whereas the earlier BSA had provided for **50 billion dollars**.
- **JP Morgan** rolled out the first US bank **cryptocurrency**. The cryptocurrency, called "JPM Coin."
- RBI withdrew the **20% limit on investments by FPIs** in corporate bonds of an entity with a view to encourage more foreign investments.
- RBI decided to treat deposits to over **Rs. 2 crores as 'bulk'** as they doubled the limit for the same from the earlier **Rs.1crore**. **National Federation of Urban Cooperative Banks and Credit Societies Limited (NAFCUB)** have suggested this proposal.
- RBI in the exercise of powers conferred under **Section 47A of the Banking Regulation Act, 1949** has levied a penalty of Rs. 1 crore on SBI for not monitoring the end use of funds in respect of one of **its borrowers**.
- RBI raised the limit of collateral-free agricultural loans to **Rs. 1.6 lakh** from the current **Rs. 1 lakh** with a view to help small and marginal farmers. RBI also announced measures to boost the farming

sector in addition to annual payment of **Rs. 6,000 to small and marginal farmers**.

- **Indian Banking Association** issued advisory **requesting banks** to waive off the processing, documentation, inspection and all other service charges for **Kisan Credit Card** and crop loans up to **3 lakh rupees**.
- **Fino Payments Bank (FPB)** announced the launch of a sweep account facility in association with **Suryoday Small Finance Bank (SSFB)**.
- **RBI slapped an Rs. 1-crore penalty on Syndicate Bank** and **Rs. 20 lakh on Axis Bank** for violating norms.
- **Two regional rural banks (RRBs) - Pallavan Grama Bank and Pandyan Grama Bank** - will be merged to form the **Tamil Nadu Grama Bank** as per the Finance Ministry notification. The integration **will be effective from April 1**. The new Tamil Nadu Grama Bank will be under the **sponsorship of Indian Bank** with **head office in Salem, Tamil Nadu**.
- '**Kisan Suvridha loan**' for small and marginal farmers launched by **Ujjivan Small Finance Bank**. It can be used by farmers for **both agriculture and allied activities**.
- **Bank of India, Bank of Maharashtra and Oriental Bank of Commerce** have been allowed to exit the **PCA framework fully**. The three lenders were part of **11 government-owned banks put under the framework in 2017 and 2018**.
- **IFFCO Tokio General Insurance** has launched '**bank locker protector policy**', the first stand-alone bank locker cover offered by any insurance company with a plan to protect the contents of a bank locker such as **jewelry, title documents, and other valuables**.
- **State Bank of India (SBI) and Hitachi Payment Services Pvt Ltd**, a wholly-owned subsidiary of Hitachi Ltd has launched their merchant-acquiring joint venture, **SBI Payment Services Pvt Ltd (SBIPSPL)** in Mumbai for establishing a **digital payments platform for India** and other countries in the region.
- **United Bank of India** has signed a bancassurance deal with private life insurer **HDFC Life Insurance Company**.
- **IRDAI** and the **National Health Authority (NHA)** have formed a working group on the **Ayushman Bharat Pradhan Mantri Jan Arogya Yojana (AB-PMJAY)**.
- **United Bank of India** has signed a bancassurance deal with **private life insurer HDFC Life Insurance Company**.
- **Korea Exim Bank** has come forward to extend a **Rs 4,100 crore loan for Visakhapatnam (VIZAG) Metro Rail project**.
- **SBI** has become the **first domestic bank** to link the interest rate it offers on savings account deposits to

an external benchmark — the Reserve Bank of India's repo rate.

- **PNB** has sanctioned loans worth Rs. 689 crore to over 1,600 Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises (MSMEs) through the psbloansin59minutes.com portal as part of its effort to promote such industries.
- **SBI** launched doorstep banking service for senior citizens over 70 years of age and differently-abled customers. Eligible customers can avail this service at a nominal fee of 100 rupees per transaction for financial transactions and 60 rupees for non-financial transactions. Doorstep banking services are available to KYC-compliant account holders, with a valid mobile number registered with the bank and residing within 5 kilometers radius from their home branch.
- **RBI** named **SBI, ICICI Bank and HDFC Bank as Domestic Systemically Important Banks (D-SIBs)**, which in other words mean banks that are too big to fail. As per the norms, these banks will have to set aside more capital for their continued operation.
- The **SBI** has launched a new service called You Only Need One or '**YONO Cash**' for its customers using which customers can withdraw money from ATMs without using debit cards.
- **RBI** provided no objection to **Bandhan Bank** for the proposed acquisition of **Gruh Finance**.
- **The country's largest lender SBI** has signed a pact with the Bank of China to boost business opportunities. SBI has signed an MoU to enhance business synergies between both the banks.
- The **RBI** has slapped a penalty of Rs 2 crore on **PNB for non-compliance of regulatory directions** with regard to **SWIFT operations**.
- **BOB** has signed an MoU with agriculture services companies to develop an agriculture digital platform, **Baroda Kisan**, which will provide solutions for agricultural requirements. BoB has signed the agreement with **Skymet Weather Services**, Weather Risk Management Services, BigHaat, Agrostar India, EM3 Agri Services, and Poorti Agri Services.
- **The Finance Ministry** has decided to infuse Rs 5,042 crore into state-owned **Bank of Baroda (BoB)** ahead of the merger of two other public sector lenders **Dena Bank and Vijaya Bank with BoB**.
- **PNB** had sold stake in its housing finance arm, **PNB Housing Finance (PNBHF)** to General Atlantic Group and VardePartners for Rs 1,851 crore at Rs 850 per share.
- **RBI** set the average base rate to be charged from borrowers by **non-banking financial companies (NBFCs) and micro-finance institutions (MFIs) at 9.21%** for the first quarter of the next fiscal (April-June).

- **Kotak Mahindra Bank** will charge customers for UPI transactions starting **1st of May 2019**.
- **RBI** has tweaked **Liquidity Coverage Ratio (LCR) norms** to provide an additional **2% window to lenders**. This move will harmonise the liquidity requirements of banks and release additional money for lending.
- **Karnataka Bank** entered into an **MoU with Bharti AXA Life Insurance Company** to distribute the latter's life insurance products.
- **The RBI** came out with **guidelines for banks to set up new currency chests**, which include a minimum area of 1,500 square feet for strong room. The new chests should have a processing **a capacity of 6.6 lakh pieces of banknotes per day**.
- **Emirates Islamic** has announced the launch of Chat Banking services for customers via WhatsApp, marking a **global first in the Islamic banking sector**.
- **RBL Bank** has partnered with credit profiler **CreditVidya** to improve the lender's customer experience.
- **The Institute for Development and Research in Banking Technology (IDRBT)**, an arm of **RBI**, has launched a **5G Use Cases Lab** for banking and financial sector. The 5G technology, along with blockchain, will be progressively adopted by banks.
- **IDBI Bank** has launched '**NRI-Insta-Online**' account opening process for NRIs residing in the **Financial Action Task Force (FATF)** member countries.
- **ACI Worldwide** announced that **Canara Bank** has successfully rolled out major new functionality to support EMV card acquiring across its ATM network and Aadhaar Authentication, leveraging ACI's UP Retail Payments solution to achieve market firsts. **Canara Bank is the first public sector bank to shift to EMV chip and PIN** for card present transactions across the country's vast ATM network.
- **Bandhan Bank** has received approval from the **Competition Commission of India (CCI)** for the proposed scheme of **amalgamation of Gruh Finance with the bank**. The approval made under sub-section (1) of Section 31 of the Competition Act, 2002.
- **Bank of Maharashtra** has partnered with **M1Xchange Trade Receivables Discounting System (TReDS)** platform for MSME bill discounting.
- **Exim Bank** has provided soft loans of **USD 266.60 million** to **Rwanda** for various projects.
- **Allahabad Bank** stated that the government has increased its authorised capital by **Rs 5,000 crore to Rs 8,000 crore**. The central government after consultation with the **RBI** increased the authorised capital of the bank.
- **Kotak Mahindra Bank** has launched the first **debit card-based authentication** solution on **NPCI's e-**

Mandate (electronic mandate) **API** (Application Program Interface) platform.

- The **RBI** has become the **first central bank** in the **Asia-Pacific** (APAC) region to begin an explicit **interest rate easing cycle**. The Monetary Policy Committee (MPC), headed by RBI Governor **Shaktikanta Das**, cut rates in **February, April and June**.
- **SBI** has launched India's first '**Green Car Loan**' (Electric Vehicle) to encourage customers to buy electric vehicles. The new scheme will offer the loan at **20 basis points** lower than the interest rate on the existing car loan schemes.
- The **RBI** issued **Rs20** denomination banknotes in the Mahatma Gandhi (New) Series, bearing the signature of Shri Shaktikanta Das, Governor, RBI. The new denomination has the **motif of Ellora Caves** on the reverse, depicting the country's cultural heritage. The base colour of the note is **Greenish Yellow**. The dimension of the banknote is **63 mm x 129 mm**.
- **Canara Bank** and its life insurance partner **Canara HSBC Oriental Bank of Commerce Life Insurance** launched '**Webassurance**' to enable its customers to purchase life insurance in a convenient and hassle-free way.
- National Company Law Tribunal (**NCLT**) approved the merger of private sector lender **IndusInd Bank** with **Bharat Financial Inclusion (BFIL)**, a microfinance company. Earlier, IndusInd Bank had received '**No Objection**' from RBI, National Stock Exchange and Bombay Stock Exchange. Bharat Financial will become a **subsidiary** of the private lender.
- **Bharti AXA General Insurance** tied up with financial marketplace **Wishfin's insurance arm Wishpolicy**, to offer two-wheeler insurance to customers via WhatsApp. This service option is an instant and additional customer service option for policyholders.
- **SBI** moved to a new interest rate regime on large savings account deposits as well as short-term loans. SBI linked its **interest rate on savings account with a balance above Rs1 lakh** and short-term loans like overdraft and cash credit facility to RBI's repo rate, **effective 1 May 2019**.
- LIC Housing Finance (LIC HFL) launched '**Udyam**', a skilling center in **Bengaluru**. It was launched in association with **Lok Bharti Education Society**, the implementing partner.
- **RBI** slapped a monetary penalty on five pre-paid payment instrument issuers including **Vodafone m-pesa** and **Phonepe**, for violating regulatory guidelines. A penalty of **INR 3.05 crore** imposed on Vodafone m-pesa and **INR 1 crore** each on Mobile Payments, PhonePe, and **G.I. Technology Private Ltd.**
- **RBI** enhanced the housing loan limits for **RRBs** and Small Finance Banks (**SFBs**) for eligibility under priority sector lending. Henceforth, housing loans given by RRBs and SFBs to individuals up to **INR 35 lakh** in metropolitan centers (with population of 10 lakh and above) and **INR 25 lakh** in other centers, provided the overall cost of the dwelling unit in the metropolitan centers and at other centres does not exceed **INR 45 lakh** and **INR 30 lakh**, respectively, will be eligible for classification under priority sector lending.
- **India Ratings** downgraded the **YES bank's long-term rating to 'IND AA-'** with a negative outlook, while reaffirming short-term rating. ICRA also downgraded the long-term ratings of the lender.
- The **National Bank for Agriculture and Rural Development (NABARD)** announced **Rs 700-crore venture capital fund for equity investments** in agriculture and rural-focused startups. NABARD is contributing to other funds till now and **this is the first time that the rural development bank launched a fund of its own**.
- **Bank credit grew by 13.2%** in the financial year 2018-19 as compared to **10.3% in the previous financial year**, mainly aided by loans to services and retail sector. Deposit growth also gained momentum, growing by 10% as compared to 6.7% a year ago.
- **ICICI Bank** announced the launch of a **co-branded multi-currency card** with online travel booking portal **Goibibo**. The card also includes benefits of up to **Rs20, 000, including gift vouchers of Rs15, 000** from Goibibo.
- **RBI** imposed a monetary penalty of **Rs1 crore** on **Nainital Bank** for its failure to fully automate the **non-performing asset (NPA)** identification process, despite specific directions issued in this regard.
- **RBI** released a vision document '**Payment and Settlement Systems in India: Vision 2019 – 2021**', with its core theme of 'Empowering Exceptional E-payment Experience' for ensuring a safe, secure, convenient, quick and affordable e-payment system.
- **SIDBI** put together a **pilot scheme to extend financial assistance of up to Rs10 crore** to new-age **fintech non-banking finance companies (NBFCs)** engaged in financing small businesses and other income-generating activities.
- The **SBI** announced a **strategic partnership with the FMCG arm of The Art of Living – Sri Sri Tattva**. Under this partnership, **YONO users can avail a discount of 15%** on the entire range of products offered by Sri Sri Tattva
- **RBI** announced that it **will allow large modern currency chests to increase the service charges on cash deposited** by non-chest bank branches from the existing rate of **Rs5 per packet of 100**

pieces to a higher rate subject to a maximum of Rs8 per packet.

- **Corporation Bank** launched 'Corp SME Suvidha', a product for GST-registered MSMEs. The product designed as part of the bank's efforts to provide the best products to the MSME sector.
- **RBI** stated that all non-deposit-taking **non-banking financial companies (NBFCs)** with an asset size of **Rs 5,000 crore and above**, and all deposit-taking NBFCs irrespective of their asset size, have to maintain a liquidity buffer in terms of a **Liquidity Coverage Ratio (LCR)**.
- **Indian Overseas Bank (IOB)** announced that it has launched 'Bank on Wheels' facility in 14 of its lead districts in **Tamil Nadu and Kerala**, besides Vijayawada.
- **RBI** extended timings for customer transactions in the **Real Time Gross Settlement (RTGS)** system to **6:00 pm from 4:30 pm**. The new time window for RTGS comes into effect from **01st June 2019**. The customer is charged a 'time-varying charge' on each outward transaction in addition to the flat processing charge. The fee for transfers between **8 am to 11 am is nil**, from **11 am to 1 pm is Rs 2**, and from **1 pm to 6 pm is Rs 5**.

- **RBI** constituted a six-member committee headed by **TN Manoharan, Chairman, Canara Bank** on the Development of **Secondary Market** for Corporate Loans to come up with recommendations to increase the efficiencies of the debt market and aid in the resolution of stressed assets.
- **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.



Economy/Financial/Business Current Affairs

- **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**.
- 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.
- **Employees' Provident Fund Organisation** has hiked interest rate on employees' provident fund to **8.65% from 8.55% for the 2018-19 fiscal years**.
- The country's foreign exchange reserves increased by **USD 1.875 billion to USD 421.867 billion** in the week ending 31st May 2019.
- **World Bank, United Nations Entity for Gender Equality** and the Empowerment of Women (UN Women), and SIDBI launched new social impact bonds exclusively for women, called Women's Livelihood Bonds (WLBs), with an initial corpus of **Rs 300 crore**. It will enable individual women entrepreneurs in sectors like food processing, agriculture, services, and small units to borrow around **Rs 50,000 to Rs 3 lakh** at an annual interest rate of around **13% to 14%** or less and have tenure of **5 years**.
- **The GST Council** met for its **33rd meeting and slashed GST rate** on under-construction residential properties and the affordable housing projects. The revised rates will be applicable from **April 1, 2019**.
- **Ministry of Commerce and Industry** in an attempt to provide relief to and boost investments into start-ups in India decided to simplify the process for them to get exemptions under the **Income Tax Act, 1961**. It will now recognize an entity as a start-up up to **10 years from** the date of its incorporation or registration instead of the existing duration of **7 years**. It will also recognize an entity as a start-up if its turnover for any of the financial years since its incorporation or registration does **not exceed Rs 100 crore unlike** the previous amount of **Rs 25 crore**.
- **India has boosted the Customs Duty** on all the goods imported from **Pakistan to 200%** followed by the day after India repealed **Most Favoured Nation (MFN)** status from Pakistan.
- Govt. of India gets **Rs.10000 crore** from **Bharat-22 Exchange Traded Fund (ETF)** by additional offering. The government has absorbed approximately **Rs.46000 crore** by way of disinvestment with the successful offering of **Bharat-22 ETF**.
- **National Bulk Handling Corporation (NBHC)** released Kharif Crop estimation for the year 2018-2019. As per the report, the basmati rice production

is expected to decline by **9.24% to 5.18 million metric tonnes**. The total oilseeds production is estimated to be 19.87 million metric tonne which is **5.36 % lower as compared to the year 2018**.

- **HDFC ERGO General Insurance Company** announced the launch of **'Trip Protector'** insurance policy, a pioneering policy in the non-life insurance segment in India.
- **Infosys**, the country's **2nd largest IT firm** launched a next-generation digital platform **'InfyTQ'** to facilitate engineering students with best learning experiences by imparting technical and professional skills.
- Amazon launched **"Amazon Pay Unified Payments Interface (UPI)"** for Android users in partnership with **Axis Bank to issue UPI IDs to its customers in India**.
- State-owned power **giant NTPC** has announced that it has signed a term loan agreement for **Rs 5,000 crore** with **SBI**.
- Food delivery startup **Swiggy** acquired **Bengaluru-based AI startup Kint.io**.
- Asian Development Bank (ADB) has bought a **14% stake in micro-financier Annapurna Finance** for **Rs 137 crore**.
- **Paytm** launched **hotel bookings** on its platform and acquired **Night Stay**, which offers deals on last-minute bookings at luxury hotels, as the **Alibaba-backed payments and e-commerce** Company expands its travel business.
- **The Organisation for Economic Co-Operation & Development** or **OECD** forecast in its interim outlook report that the world economy would grow **3.3 percent in 2019 and 3.4 percent in 2020**.
- **Markets regulator SEBI** withdrew the **20% limit** on investments by Foreign Portfolio Investors in corporate bonds of an entity.
- **RBI** has decided to use a new tool for the first time to enhance liquidity in the system using which it will buy **\$5 billion** from the banks in a swap deal that is capable of injecting around **Rs. 35,000 crores into the system**. Minimum bid size for the auction has been fixed at \$25 million and multiple bids submission by banks will be allowed.
- **The Finance Ministry** has decided to keep the interest rate unchanged on small savings schemes for the three-month period beginning April 1st, 2019. The unchanged interest rate means the **NSC (5 years) and the PPF (15 years)** will fetch **8% interest**, while money deposited in KVP will double in little over **nine years**. At the same time, if one is parking money in a fixed deposit with a maturity of five years with the SBI, he/she will **get 6.85%**. **Senior citizens will get half a percent more: 7.35%**.
- The Ahmedabad bench of the **National Company Law Tribunal (NCLT)** has approved the **Rs 42,000-**

core resolution plan submitted by **Arcelor Mittal for the debt-ridden Essar Steel Ltd**.

- **HDFC Bank Ltd** crossed the **Rs. 6 trillion market capitalization mark** for the first time, making it only the third Indian firm—after **Tata Consultancy Services Ltd (TCS)** and **Reliance Industries Ltd (RIL)**—to achieve the milestone. **RIL is the most valued company in India with a market cap of Rs 8.50 trillion, followed by TCS at Rs7.48 trillion**.
- **ICICI Lombard and Mobikwik** announced a strategic partnership to provide cyber-insurance cover.
- **Hyundai Motor Group (the Group)** and **Ola** announced a strategic partnership under which **Hyundai Motor Company and Kia Motors Corporation** will invest a total of **\$ 300 million in Ola**, making it their biggest combined investment to date.
- **ADB** has inked an agreement to invest **USD 50 million** in solar energy project developer **Avaada Energy Pvt Ltd** to help the company scale up rapidly. The investment will come equally from ADB's Ordinary Capital Resources and **Leading Asia's Private Infrastructure Fund (LEAP)**.
- **Apple Inc & Goldman Sachs Group Inc** jointly launched the **Apple Card credit card for iPhones**.
- **Power Finance Corporation (PFC)** has completed the acquisition of majority stake in **REC Ltd** by transferring **Rs 14,500 crore to the government**.
- **GAIL India Ltd** has signed an agreement with **Bharat Heavy Electricals Ltd (BHEL)** for cooperation in the development of solar power projects.
- **Ola** has signed an MoU with the **Government of Telangana** to support the latter's efforts in **strengthening traffic infrastructure in the city**.
- **Infosys**, a global leader in next-generation digital services and consulting, and Roland-Garros Grand Slam tennis tournament, also called the French Open, announced a **three-year strategic technology partnership**.
- **Wipro Limited (Bengaluru Based)**, a leading global information technology, consulting and business process Services Company and **IIT Kharagpur** signed an MoU to collaborate on high-impact, industry-focused applied research in the areas of **5G and AI**.
- **Netherlands** emerged as the **third largest foreign direct investor** in India during 2017-18, with investments pegged at about **\$2.67 billion across sectors**. The Netherlands was also the second largest destination for foreign investment by Indian companies, **after Singapore**, with investments worth **\$12.8 billion in 2017**.
- **The Asia-Pacific region's** expected to grow at **5.7% in 2019**. According to the bank's Asian

Development Outlook 2019 report released in April, developing Asia which comprises 45 nations ranging from China to Tuvalu is projected to grow by **5.7% in 2019**.

- **Wholesale Price Index (WPI)**-based inflation for **April 2019 eased to 3.07%, from 3.62% in April 2018**. The latest WPI print was also lower than 3.18% recorded in March this year. Build up inflation for the financial year so far was 0.75%, lower than 0.86% in the corresponding period of the previous year.
- According to the Ministry of Commerce & Industry data, India's overall exports, combining Merchandise and Services, in April 2019 is estimated to be around **44 billion US dollars** with a positive growth of **1.34% over April 2018**. Overall imports in April 2019 are estimated to be around **53 billion dollars** with a positive growth of **4.5% over the corresponding period of 2018**.
- The Trump administration removed **India from its currency monitoring list** of major trading partners. **Switzerland is the other nation that removed from the list**.
- **Markets regulator SEBI directed National Stock Exchange** to pay more than **Rs. 625 crore** in the case of misuse of its co-location facility. The amount, if considered with simple interest, would come to little less than **Rs.1,000 crore**. If it involves a compound interest, the fine could amount to around **Rs. 1,300 crore**.
- **Paytm launched** a recurring payment service for merchants that are working on a **digital subscription model**.
- **Facilities management provider UDS** acquired a majority stake in Matrix Business Services, which operates in the business assurance and background verification segment. This acquisition includes buying out the entire **19.77% stake of Kotak Mahindra Investments and 2.67% of Mahindra & Mahindra Contech**.
- **Iraq becomes India's top crude oil supplier** for the second consecutive year, meeting more than one-fifth of the country's oil needs in the 2018-19 fiscal year.
- **Huawei Technologies Co. overtook Apple Inc** to claim the **No. 2 spot** in smartphones making in the first quarter, moving a step closer to its avowed ambition of displacing **Samsung at the top of the market**.
- **Global card payments brand Mastercard** announced its plan of investing **\$1 billion in India** operations over the period of **next 5 years**.
- **Sunil Mittal led telecom major Bharti Airtel and Hughes Communications India (HCIL)** have decided to combine their **VSAT (Very Small Aperture Terminal) satellite** communications operations in India.

- **Reliance Industries Ltd. (RIL)** acquired British toy retailer 'Hamleys' in an all cash deal. RIL acquired **Hamleys in 67.96 million pounds (about Rs. 620 cr)**.
- **Facebook chosen London** as the centre for the **global roll-out of WhatsApp pay**, before the social media giant launches its digital payments service on the **mobile messaging platform in India**.
- **BharatPe – India's first Fintech start-up** enabling payments for merchants through interoperable UPI QR codes, announced its foray into merchant services with a new app.
- **Digital payments company Paytm**, in association with **Citibank**, launched its first credit card called **Paytm First Card**.
- **Bharti Airtel and HDFC Life Insurance** have tied up to offer life cover for customers who **get a prepaid recharge done**.
- **IT services firm Tech Mahindra** and French digital content publishing firm **Rakuten Aquafadas** signed an MoU to collaborate on building enhanced customer experience offerings.
- **BSNL announced** that it will join hands with internet major **Google to expand its WiFi footprint** across the country.
- **Reliance Industries toppled state-owned Indian Oil Corporation (IOC)** to become the country's biggest company *by revenue*. The Mukesh Ambani-led conglomerate, in the 2018-19 fiscal years that ended March 31, reported a **turnover of Rs 6.23 lakh crore**.
- **Social media giant Facebook** apparently formed a new **financial tech firm, Libra Networks LLC, in Geneva, Switzerland. Libra Networks was registered in Geneva by Facebook Global Holdings II LLC**.
- **Ride-hailing company Ola** launched **Ola Money SBI Credit Card** in partnership with SBI Card, one of India's largest credit card issuers. **Ola Money SBI Credit Card**.
- **HDFC group overtaken the 151-year-old Tata group** to emerge as India's most valuable by way of market capitalization (m-cap). The combined market value of the five listed companies of the **HDFC group – HDFC, HDFC Bank, HDFC Life, HDFC Asset Management and Gruh Finance** stood at **Rs 11.66 lakh crore**.
- 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 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.**

- **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. According to earnings statements of the listed companies, **Oil and Natural Gas Corp (ONGC)** reported a 34 percent jump in its 2018-19 fiscal net profit to **Rs 26,716 crore.**
- **Tata Motors-owned Jaguar Land Rover** has joined hands with **BMW to develop** next-generation electric drive systems.
- **India's largest software services company TCS** has surpassed **US technology giant IBM** in terms of market capitalisation. As of recent closing, the market cap of **TCS stood at Rs. 8.37 lakh crore (\$120.5 billion)** compared to **IBM's \$119.5 billion.**


FCI 2019
PHASE-II
ASSISTANT GRADE-III
(General)
10 Full Length Mocks
(Paper-I)
BILINGUAL

INDIA'S GDP REPORTS

- **Fitch Ratings cut India's economic growth forecast for the next financial year starting April 1, to 6.8% from its previous estimate of 7%,** on weaker than expected momentum in the economy. The rating agency has also cut growth forecasts for **FY20 and FY21 to 7% from 7.3% and 7.1% from 7.3%, respectively.**
- **India Ratings & Research (A Fitch Group Company) lowered the country's growth forecast for the current fiscal to 7.3%,** from the earlier projection of 7.5 %.
- The country's median GDP is forecast at **7.1% for Financial Year 2020 and 7.2% for Financial Year 2021.** The industry body FICCI's economic outlook survey stated that the minimum and maximum growth estimate stood at **6.80% and 7.3% for 2019-20.**
- Fitch Solutions, the research arm of Fitch Group, projected the government's fiscal deficit to overshoot the budgeted target by **0.2% to 3.6% of GDP in 2019-20 fiscal.** Accordingly, Fitch Solutions revised its forecast for the central government fiscal deficit to come in at 3.6% of GDP in FY 2019-20, from 3%.
- The World Bank retained its forecast of India's growth rate at **7.5%** for the current financial Year **2019-20.** In its Global Economic Prospects report.
- 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.**

AGREEMENTS/MOU SIGNED

- **SBI** has signed an MoU with **National Investment and Infrastructure Fund to boost availability** of capital for infrastructure projects.
- **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.**

- **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 Office of the **Principal Scientific Adviser (PSA)** to the Government of India **IIT Delhi** signed an MoU for setting up a **Centre of Excellence (CoE) for Waste to Wealth Technologies** for implementation of sustainable, scientific and technological solutions for waste management.
- **To nab tax evaders** and reduce black money generation, the **Central Board of Direct Taxes (CBDT) and Goods and Services Tax Network (GSTN)** signed an agreement to facilitate the exchange of data between the two.
- **Common Service Centre's (CSC) e-Governance Services India Limited,** a special purpose vehicle under the **Ministry of Electronics & IT** tied up with Indian Institute of Technology (IIT)-Kanpur to upscale '**Unnat Bharat Abhiyan**'. '**Unnat Bharat Abhiyan**' is an initiative of the **Ministry of HRD.**
- India's largest telecom operator **Vodafone Idea Ltd** announced a **five-year multi-million-dollar** IT outsourcing deal with tech giant **IBM.** The company did not divulge the size of the deal but some reports pegged it at about **\$700 million.**
- The **National Institute of Open Schooling Ministry of Human Resources Development (NIOS)** and **National Health Mission of Public Health Department (NHMPH)** of Government of Maharashtra signed a Memorandum of Understanding in Mumbai.
- **Tractor-manufacturer Tractors and Farm Equipment (TAFE) Ltd** signed an MoU with **Petroleum Conservation Research Association (PCRA)** to aid conservation of resources. Under the MoU, the association plans to jointly conduct agricultural workshops by involving TAFE's dealership network.
- **Commerce Secretary, Anup Wadhawan** and **Vice Minister, General Administration of Customs of China (GACC), Li Guo,** held a meeting in New Delhi to discuss trade related issues of pending Indian request for clearance of agricultural products.

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.**
- **Konkan Railways Corporation Ltd** signed a contract agreement with **Nepal's Department of Railways** to supply **two 1600 HP DEMU train sets.** These trains be used to operationalise railway link between **Jayanagar in India and Kurtha in Nepal.** The train sets be manufactured by the **Integrated Coach Factory, Chennai.**
- **India and the United Kingdom** agreed to increase their collaboration in the fields of Indo-Pacific cooperation, climate change, disaster resilience, development in third world countries amongst other areas.
- A tripartite MoU was signed between **National Mission for Clean Ganga, HCL Foundation and INTACH** for taking up a project of '**Plantation of Rudraksh Trees in Uttarakhand**' as a part of CSR initiative under the '**Namami Gange**' Programme.
- India signed the '**Christchurch Call to Action**' in **Paris.** The agreement came in the backdrop of the attacks on mosques in March and is aimed at stopping the abuse of the Internet by **extremists.**
- **IBM India** tied-up with **HDFC ERGO** General Insurance Company, India's third-largest non-life insurance provider in the private sector, to co-create new **Artificial Intelligence (AI)-based solutions.**
- **Tech Mahindra** announced its **biggest defence order worth over Rs 300 crore** with the **Indian Navy.** As part of the '**Armed Forces Secure Access Card**' (**AFSAC**) Project, Tech Mahindra implement **RFID (Radio Frequency Identification)** based Access Control System across all naval bases and ships.
- Multilateral funding agency **Asian Development Bank (ADB)** announced that it signed an **agreement to provide USD 750 million equivalent** in Indian rupee long-term financing to electrify railway tracks in India. It is the **largest single non-sovereign loan ever committed by**

- **ADB** to Indian Railway Finance Corporation (IRFC) to fund the railways track electrification project.
- **The Department of Biotechnology (DBT) under Ministry of Science and Technology and Department of Atomic Energy (DAE),** under Prime Minister of India signed an MoU for supporting joint collaborative research programmes in the area of Cancer.
- **The National Small Industries Corporation Limited (NSIC) signed an MoU with Ministry of Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises (MSME) for the year 2019-20.** The MoU envisages provision of enhanced services by NSIC under its **marketing, financial, technology, and other support services schemes** for MSMEs in the country.
- **Sri Lanka** signed a tripartite agreement with **India and Japan** for development of eastern terminal of Colombo port. The Memorandum of Cooperation (MoC) was signed in Colombo by Sri Lankan ports minister Sagala Ratnayake, Indian high commissioner to Sri Lanka Taranjit Singh Sandhu and a Japanese representative.
- **The United States and the United Arab Emirates** have announced that mutual defense cooperation agreement had come into force, amid increasing tensions between **Washington and Tehran.**
- **Indian Institute of Technology (IIT),** Guwahati signed an MoU with The Indian Space Research Organisation (ISRO) to set up an **IITG-ISRO Space Technology Cell (STC)** at the institute where **Assam Governor Jagdish Mukhi** inaugurated a new academic complex and research and development building.
- **India and Chile signed three MoUs** in the fields of **mining, culture and empowerment of persons with disabilities.** Chile announces it will allow visa-free entry to Indians holding valid US Visa. President Ram Nath Kovind participated in **India-Chile Business Forum** and interacted with young scientists at the University of Chile.
- **Tata Power and Indraprastha Gas Limited (IGL) signed a memorandum of understanding** to set up integrated customer services and optimize value for customers.
- The **Bureau of Indian Standards (BIS)** has inked an MoU with the **Indian Institute of Technology, Delhi (IIT-D)** to collaborate in the field of standardisation and conformity assessment. The MoU was signed by **IIT Delhi Director Professor V Ramgopal Rao** and **Director General of BIS Surina Rajan.**
- **BSE and India International Exchange (India INX)** have signed a memorandum of understanding with **Moscow Exchange (MOEX)** to connect investor community and companies in both countries besides allowing a capital formation platform.
- **The Indian Navy and Council of Scientific and Industrial Research** inked an MoU to undertake joint research and development of advanced technologies for the Indian Navy.
- **State-run power giant National Thermal Power Corporation** has inked a term-loan agreement with **Canara Bank to raise Rs 2,000 crore,** which would be used to part finance its capital expenditure.
- The **BSE** has signed a MoU with **HDFC Bank** with an objective to strengthen the **BSE Startups platform.** The MoU signed to spread more awareness on the benefits of the listing of startups on this BSE startup platform.
- **India and Sweden launched a joint programme** that will work towards addressing a range of challenges around smart cities and clean technologies among others. The programme was co-funded by **Indian Department of Science and Technology (DST) and Swedish agency Vinnova.**
- **PAISALO Digital Limited** signed the **first co-origination loan agreement with SBI,** the first agreement of its kind in the country that SBI has signed. Introducing a platform for the last mile customer, the loan ticket is designed at **Rs 10,000 to 2 lakh.** The company expects to disburse 200,000 loan applications in FY20.
- The **Central Marine Fisheries Research Institute (CMFRI)** and the **ISRO** have joined hands to map, validate and protect smaller wetlands in coastal regions.
- **The Union Cabinet chaired by PM Modi has given the following set of approvals. The important Cabinet Approvals are given as follows:**
The Cabinet:
 1. Approves **MoU between India and Bolivia** on Cooperation in the field of Geology and Mineral Resources.
 2. Approves **MoU between India and Cambodia** on Cooperation in the field of Communications.
 3. Approves MoU between **India and Bolivia** on Cooperation in the Field of Traditional Systems of Medicine and Homoeopathy.
 4. Approves creation of one post of Deputy Comptroller and Auditor General in the office of Comptroller and Auditor General of India.
 5. Approves **Cooperation Agreement between India and Denmark** in the field of Renewable Energy with focus on Offshore Wind Energy.
 6. Apprised about **MoU between India and Republic of Korea** in issuing jointly Postage Stamp.
 7. Approves Continuation of Phase 4 of Geosynchronous Satellite Launch Vehicle (GSLV).
 8. Apprised about MoU between **India and Brazil** in the area of Biotechnology.

- **TCS** has partnered with the **Department of Posts** in a bid to transform it into a multi-service digital hub.
- **BSE** has entered a MoU with **Network Intelligence**, a global cybersecurity services provider to provide **cybersecurity services** to its members in line with the cybersecurity framework set by SEBI.
- The **Ministry of AYUSH** inked an MoU with **Council of Scientific and Industrial Research (CSIR)** for cooperation in research and education in areas of traditional systems of medicine and its integration with modern science.
- **Indian Army** signed a MOU with **National Hydroelectric Power Corporation (NHPC)** Limited, to build four underground tunnels along **China** and **Pakistan** borders for storage of ammunition and other war-related equipment.
- NITI Aayog's **Atal Innovation Mission (AIM)** and **Adobe** signed a Statement of Intent (SOI) to collectively drive the charter of developing creative skills and spreading digital literacy across all **Atal Tinkering Labs (ATL)** in India.
- **India and Brunei** signed a pact for the exchange of **Information and Assistance in Collection** with respect to taxes in order to curb tax evasion and tax avoidance in **New Delhi**.
- The Centre and the **Asian Development Bank (ADB)** have signed a **926 million dollar** loan agreement to operationalize two lines of the **Mumbai Metro Rail System**. It is the single largest infrastructure project loan in ADB history approved by the ADB Board.
- A loan agreement of **USD 455 million** was signed between the **Asian Infrastructure Investment Bank (AIIB)** and the Government of India for financing the **Andhra Pradesh Rural Roads Projects**. These projects will connect **3,300 habitations** with a population of more than **250**, and benefit around **2 million** people.
- The **Government of India**, the **State Government of Chhattisgarh** and the **World Bank** signed a **\$25.2 Million Loan Agreement** to support the State's Reforms in Expenditure Management. This support will cover Expenditure Planning, Investment Management, Budget Execution, Public Procurement, and Accountability.
- The **World Bank** will provide a **\$250-million loan** for the **National Rural Economic Transformation Project (NRETP)** to help women in rural households develop viable enterprises for farm and non-farm products. An agreement in this regard was signed between the **World Bank** and the **Government of India**.
- **India and Paraguay** have agreed to identify sectors of mutual interest to **promote bilateral investment** and decided to explore new areas of collaboration, including Information and Communication Technology and space and biotechnology.
- The **Ministry of Women and Child Development and the Ministry of Skill Development and Entrepreneurship** entered into an MoU aimed at improving women livelihood and empowering them through skill development. The MOU was signed in the presence of **Smt. Maneka Sanjay Gandhi, Minister, Women and Child Development** and **Shri. Dharmendra Pradhan, Minister, Skill Development and Entrepreneurship**.
- The **Government of India and the Asian Development Bank (ADB)** signed in New Delhi a **\$26 Million Loan Agreement** to provide additional financing for improving drainage infrastructure in Dibrugarh town of Assam under the ongoing Assam Urban Infrastructure Investment Program.
- The **World Bank, the Government of India and representatives of 5 States of Government of India and Implementing Agencies** signed in New Delhi the Loan Agreement for **Additional Financing of \$137 Million** for the **Dam Rehabilitation and Improvement Project (DRIP)**.
- The **Union Cabinet** approved a pact with **Germany** for cooperation in the field of occupational safety and health. The cabinet has approved the Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) between India and Germany on cooperation in the field of **Occupational Safety and Health (OSH)**.
- The **Insolvency and Bankruptcy Board of India (IBBI)** has signed a **Cooperation Agreement with the International Finance Corporation (IFC)**, a member of the **World Bank Group (WBG)**.
- **India and Pakistan** have agreed to work expeditiously on operationalizing the **Kartapur corridor**. The corridor will facilitate Indian pilgrims to visit the holy shrine of **Gurdwara Darbar Sahib at Kartarpur in Pakistan**.
- **IIT Roorkee and ISRO** have signed an **MoU to develop Space Technology Cells on the campus of the varsity**. IIT Roorkee issued a statement saying the premier technology school has inked an MoU with **ISRO** to setup Space Technology Cells.
- The **Ministry of Human Resource Development** has signed an MoU with the Afghanistan government to work on **digital education initiatives**, which include many prominent programs developed by **Indian Institutes of Technology (IITs)**.
- **Maldives finance ministry** has signed an **agreement with India's EXIM Bank** for line of credit (LOC) of **800 million US dollars**.
- The Insolvency and Bankruptcy Board of India (IBBI) signed an **MoU SEBI**.
- **ADB** inked an **agreement to invest USD 50 million in solar energy project developer Avaada Energy Pvt Ltd** to help the company scale

up rapidly. The investment will come equally from ADB's Ordinary Capital Resources and **Leading Asia's Private Infrastructure Fund (LEAP)**.

- **Oman has signed an agreement with the United States of America** that allow American ships and warplanes to take advantage of his ports and airports.
- **India and the African Union** to establish an **India-Africa health sciences collaborative platform**. The MoU will pave the way for cooperation in research and development, capacity building, health services, pharmaceutical trade and manufacturing capabilities for drugs and diagnostics.
- **India and the US** signed an agreement for **exchange of country-by-country (CbC) report**. The agreement was signed by **PC Mody, Chairman, Central Board of Direct Taxes (CBDT)**, and **Kenneth I Juster, US Ambassador to India**.
- **India and Bolivia signed eight MoUs** in the fields of culture, Visa waiver arrangement for diplomats, exchange between diplomatic academies, mining, space, traditional medicine, establishment of Centre of Excellence in IT and Bi-Oceanic Railway project.
- **An MoU was signed between Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change (MoEF&CC)** and University of British Columbia (UBC), Canada for next 10 years in New Delhi.
- **India and Sri Lanka signed** an MoU to establish a business center for ICT incubators in Jaffna (a city in Sri Lanka) through the grant of 25 crore Sri Lankan rupees from India.
- **Navratna Defence PSU, Bharat Electronics Limited (BEL) and Hughes India** have entered into a Teaming Agreement for design, development, supply, installation, integration and commissioning of Satellite Communication solutions for helicopters **under the Ministry of Defence, Government of India at Aero India 2019, Bengaluru**.
- **Inland Waterways Authority of India (IWAI)** and Indian Oil Corporation Limited (IOCL) signed an MoU for jointly developing infrastructure for fuels, lubricating oil, LPG, Natural Gas and any other related fuel and gas for meeting the requirement of National Waterways.
- **United Arab Emirates (UAE)** based international cooling provider, National Central Cooling Company PJSC (Tabreed) entered into a 30-year concession with Andhra Pradesh Capital Region Development Authority (APCRDA) to build India's first district cooling system in Amaravati.
- **Government of India, Government of Himachal Pradesh (GoHP) and the World Bank** signed a **\$40 Million Loan Agreement** to help bring clean and reliable drinking water to the citizens of the Greater Shimla area, who have been facing severe water shortages and water-borne epidemics over the last few years.

- **NITI Aayog and the Michael & Susan Dell Foundation (MSDF)** signed a Statement of Intent (SOI) to codify, document and share best practices to improve learning outcomes in public school education through systemic reforms, based on their collective experiences of working with various state governments in India.
- **Ministry of Environment, Forests and Climate Change** signed a Letter of Intent establishing the India-Norway Marine Pollution Initiative together with the Norwegian Ministry of Foreign Affairs.
- An MoU was signed between **Engineers India Limited (EIL) and Mongolia for Project Management Consultancy** for oil refinery. EIL is a PSU under the Ministry of Petroleum and Natural Gas.
- **The Institute of Chartered Accountants of India (ICAI)** announced that it has signed a pact with Invest India to promote foreign investments in the country and Indian investments abroad.
- **Government e Marketplace (GeM) and Competition Commission of India (CCI)** entered into an MoU to enable a fair and competitive environment in the e-Marketplace. Chairman CCI, A.K. Gupta, CEO GeM, S. Radha Chauhan were present on the occasion.
- **Indian Coast Guard and the Airport Authority of India (AAI)** signed a Memorandum of Understanding at Coast Guard Regional Headquarters in Port Blair for coordination in the aeronautical and maritime search and rescue 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**.
- **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**.
- **The Union Govt., the Tamil Nadu Govt. and the World Bank** have signed a **\$287-million loan agreement for the Tamil Nadu Health System Reform Programme (TNHSRP)**.
- **The 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.
- **The 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, so there will be no financial liability on IRSDC or Indian Railways.

NEW APPOINTMENTS: NATIONAL

	Designation/Post	Who is Appointed?
Constitutional & Other Posts		
1.	Chairman of Microfinance Institutions Network	Manoj Kumar Nambiar
2.	1 year extension as RBI Deputy Governor	NS Vishwanathan
3.	CMD of BSNL	PK Purwar
4.	23rd Director-General of the Indian Coast Guard (ICG)	Krishnaswamy Natarajan
5.	Officer on Special Duty (OSD) in the office of Lokpal.	Dilip Kumar
6.	BSE first independent woman director	Jayshree Vyas.
7.	Quit the Paytm	Bhushan Patil (resigned)
8.	Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation	Sanjay Ubale
9.	first brand ambassadors of Myntra	Virat Kohli and Anushka Sharma
10.	The Volleyball Federation of India	Serbian Dragan Mihailovic
11.	India's Jagjit Pavadia re-elected by the UN Economic and Social Council to a five-year term on International Narcotics Control Board (INCB).	
12.	Ace Special Forces operative and Sri Lanka war veteran Major General AK Dhingra appointed as the first head of country's first tri-services Special Operations Division comprising commandos from all three services.	
13.	commissioner Ajoy Mehta	Maharashtra's new chief secretary.
14.	Ambassador of India to the State of Eritrea	Subh Chand
15.	brand ambassador of BharatPe	Salman Khan
16.	Supreme Court Collegium for elevation as judges of the apex court	Justice Aniruddha Bose, Justice A S Bopanna, Justice B R Gavai and Justice Surya Kant.
17.	Judicial member of the National Consumer Disputes Redressal Commission (NCDRC),	Justice VK Jain
18.	Navy Chief of India	Vice Admiral Karambir Singh
19.	First Chief Justice of the newly-constituted Andhra Pradesh High Court.	Justice Vikram Nath
20.	Secretary in Defence Finance	Gargi Kaul
21.	first Indian to be appointed Chair of International Hockey Federation (FIH)	Bibhu Kalyan Nayak
22.	Ambassador of India to Bhutan	Ruchira Kamboj
23.	Mizoram Governor Kummanam Rajasekharan has stepped down from his post. Governor of Assam, Prof. Jagdish Mukhi, has been given temporary charge of Mizoram.	
24.	Ajit Doval has been granted cabinet status and five more years as the NSA.	
25.	Secretary of the Ministry of Civil Aviation	Pradeep Singh Kharola
26.	Ambassador of India to Argentina	Dinesh Bhatia
27.	Ambassador of India to Republic of Colombia	Sanjiv Ranjan
28.	Principal Secretary	Nripendra Misra
29.	Additional Principal Secretary	PK Mishra
30.	Chattisgarh government appointed a new advocate general, Satish Chandra Verma with immediate effect, replacing Kanak Tiwari on the post.	
31.	Arvind Kumar will head the Intelligence Bureau , the main internal intelligence unit of the government. He will succeed Rajiv Jain.	
32.	Samant Goel will take charge of the RAW , which looks after the external intelligence of the country. He will succeed Anil Dhasmana.	
33.	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.	
34.	Secretary to Vice President M Venkaiah Naidu.	I V Subba Rao
35.	Pro-tem speaker of the Lok Sabha	Virendra Kumar
36.	Central Vigilance Commissioner (CVC)	Sharad Kumar
37.	officer for the BCCI's Annual General Meeting (AGM)	N Gopalaswami
38.	Chief Justice of the Delhi High Court	Justice Dhirubhai Naranbhai Patel
39.	IT Industry icon Azim Premji will retire as Executive Chairman of Wipro with effect from 30th July 2019	
40.	chief of India Meteorological Department (IMD)	Mrutyunjay Mohapatra
CEO'S/Chairman of Companies/Organizations/Banks/ Other Appointments		
41.	President of Federation of Indian Export Organisations (FIEO)	Sharad Kumar Saraf
42.	Principal chief general manager to Executive Director in the RBI.	Dr. Rabi N. Mishra
43.	LIC Mutual Fund as the company's CEO	Dinesh Pangtey
44.	Yes Bank additional Director	R Gandhi
45.	ITC chairman and managing director.	Sanjiv Puri
46.	MD and CEO of Ujjivan Small Finance Bank Limited from 01st December 2019	Nitin Chugh
47.	MD and CEO of ICICI Securities	Vijay Chandok
48.	Managing Director of Life Insurance Corporation of India	Vipin Anand
49.	India's Ambassador to the Socialist Republic of Vietnam.	Pranay Kumar Verma
50.	CS Rajan appointed Managing Director while Vineet Nayyar named as Executive Vice-Chairman of Infrastructure Leasing & Financial Services (IL&FS).	
51.	R A Sankara Narayanan (former MD and CEO of Vijaya Bank) will move to Canara Bank as MD and CEO.	
52.	first woman vice-chancellor of Jamia Millia Islamia	Najma Akhtar
53.	Karnam Sekar will take over as MD and CEO of Indian Overseas Bank from July 01st 2019.	
54.	Indian women's cricket team captain Mithali Raj named the goodwill ambassador of Team India at the Street Child Cricket World Cup (SCCWC).	
55.	Yes Bank Ltd appointed former IRDAI chief T.S. Vijayan as an additional director (Independent).	
56.	RBI Deputy Governor Viral Acharya has quit six months before the scheduled end of his term.	
57.	Twitter has appointed Manish Maheshwari as the Managing Director of its India operations. In 2018, Taranjeet Singh had stepped down	
58.	Uday Kumar Varma retired from the post of Secretary, Ministry of Information and Broadcasting , resigned from the post of The Associated Chambers of Commerce and Industry (Assocham) Secretary-General.	
59.	Deutsche Bank CEO for India to succeed Ravneet Gill, who left the bank to head private lender YES Bank.	Kaushik Shaparia
60.	High Commissioner of India to the Republic of Seychelles	Dalbir Singh Suhag
61.	Non-executive chairman of Bank of Baroda.	Hasmukh Adhia
62.	chairman of the newly constituted National Commission for Backward Classes (NCBC).	Bhagwan Lal Sahni
63.	Ajay Narayan Jha has joined as a member of the 15th Finance Commission.	
64.	The government has appointed MR Kumar as the Chairman of LIC and Vipin Anand and TC Suseel Kumar as the MDs.	
65.	Bajaj Finserv's Chairman and Non-Executive Director Rahul Bajaj has resigned and will take over as the Chairman Emeritus from May 2019.	
66.	Next ambassador of India to Saudi Arabia	Dr. Ausaf Sayeed,
67.	Ministry of Finance as Finance Secretary	Subhash Chandra Garg,
68.	Director of Bhabha Atomic Research Centre (BARC),	Ajit Kumar Mohanty

69.	Axis Bank as Non-Executive Chairman	Rakesh Makhija (will take over from Sanjiv Misra)
70.	Country's first Lokpal	Pinaki Chandra Ghose
71.	Ambassador of India to the Republic of Uzbekistan	Santosh Jha
72.	as one of the 12 election ambassadors from Maharashtra	transgender social activist Gauri Sawant,
73.	Tata Coffee MD and CEO (replace Sanjiv Sarin)	Chacko Purackal Thomas
74.	President of the Boxing Federation	Ajay Singh
75.	First ombudsman under the new BCCI Constitution approved by the court in a judgment.	DK Jain
76.	IDBI Bank as non-executive, non-whole time chairman	Hemant Bhargava
77.	Chairman of CBDT (succeed Sushil Chandra)	Pramod Chandra Mody
78.	Election Commission of India	Sushil Chandra
79.	Chief of CBI	Rishi Kumar Shukla
80.	Axis Bank Chairman	Rakesh Makhija
81.	Ujjivan Small Finance Bank Independent Director	Sachin Bansal
82.	CEO of Reckitt Benckiser	Laxman Narasimhan
83.	J&K Bank Chairman	RK Chibber
84.	Naval Staff Admiral Sunil Lanba retires in May 2019.	
85.	P V Bharathi assumed charge as CEO of the Corporation Bank and became the first woman CEO of the bank.	
86.	Yes bank Senior group President and head of retail and business banking, Pralay Mondal resigned from his post.	
87.	Jet Airways Founders Naresh Goyal and wife Anita Goyal have stepped down from the board of the cash-strapped airline.	
88.	Supreme Court-appointed BCCI Ombudsman Justice D K Jain (retd) will now serve as the Ethics Officer of the Indian cricket board on an ad-hoc basis.	

NEW APPOINTMENTS: INTERNATIONAL

	Designation/Post	Who is Appointed?
President/PM/Heads of Countries/Organizations		
1.	Indian Olympic Association president Narinder Batra has been elected as a member of the International Olympic Committee.	
2.	Qu Dongyu becomes the first Chinese national to head the UN's Food and Agriculture Organization.	
3.	Shefali Juneja is appointed as India's representative in the council of International Civil Aviation Organisation (ICAO) , a United Nations body.	
4.	Pakistan has appointed Lieutenant General Faiz Hameed as the new Director General of the Inter-Services Intelligence (ISI).	
5.	European Commission has elected Ursula von der Leyen as its new president. She will replace Jean Claude Juncker.	
6.	Professor Tijjani Mohammad Bande appointed as the new President of the United Nations General Assembly.	
7.	17 global public figures appointed by UN Secretary-General Antonio Guterres	actress Dia Mirza and Alibaba chief Jack Ma
8.	the United States' latest deputy attorney general by the US Senate	Jeffrey Rosen
9.	Indonesia's re-elected president	Joko Widodo
10.	President of Ukraine	Volodymyr Zelenskiy
11.	Parliamentary speaker of Maldives	former Maldives president Mohamed Nasheed
12.	President of World Bank (Jim Yong Kim left in January 2019)	David Malpass
13.	International Cricket Council (ICC) CEO	Manu Sawhney
14.	International Chamber of Commerce (ICC) – India.	Vikramjit Singh Sahney
15.	New interim president of Algeria	Abdelkader Bensalah

16.	New PM of Haiti	Jean Michel Lapin
17.	New PM of Palestine	Mohammed Ishtayeh
18.	Deputy Executive Director in UN	Anita Bhatia
19.	Thailand's Prime Minister.	Prayuth Chan-ocha a
20.	Algeria's President Abdelaziz Bouteflika has resigned	
21.	Padma Lakshmi has been appointed by the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) as its newest Goodwill Ambassador .	
22.	Mali's PM Soumeylou Boubeye Maiga has resigned	
23.	Soumya Swaminathan , a Deputy Director-General of the World Health Organisation has been named Chief Scientist of the WHO.	
24.	Kazakhstan President Nursultan Nazarbayev has announced his resignation after nearly 30 years in power.	
25.	Egypt's President Abdel-Fattah el-Sissi has been elected as the chairman of the African Union	
26.	external WHO auditor	CAG Rajiv Mehrishi
27.	Israeli PM Benjamin Netanyahu has won a fifth term in office.	
28.	Former Law Minister of Nepal Nilambar Acharya has been appointed as country's ambassador to India .	
29.	The Amateur International Boxing Federation (AIBA) President Gafur Rahimov has announced his resignation	
30.	Amazon's board of directors.	India-born former PepsiCo's CEO Indra Nooyi

Other Appointments

31.	MP from Rajasthan elected as the 17th Lok Sabha Speaker and elected to Lok Sabha from the Kota-Bundi constituency .	Om Birla
32.	Independent person to sort out the ongoing mess in the Archery Association of India (AAI) .	Abhinav Bindra
33.	Vice President for Google India and South East Asia	Rajan Anandan
34.	Chief technology officer and chief development officer of Walmart	Suresh Kumar
35.	Indian Army officer, Lieutenant General Shailesh Tinaikar has been appointed as the new Force Commander of the United Nations Mission in South Sudan (UNMISS).	
36.	Algeria's President Abdelaziz Bouteflika has resigned from the post with immediate effect.	
37.	Chicago has created history by electing an African-American woman as its mayor for the first time .	
38.	Chandramouli Ramanathan appointed as Controller, Assistant Secretary-General for Programme Planning, Budget and Finance in the management strategy, policy and compliance department. He succeeds Bettina Tucci Bartsiotas.	

AWARDS & RECOGNITION

	Name of the Award	Winner
Awards for Literature/Journalism		
1.	GD 'Robert' Govender , an Indian-origin journalist in South Africa, honoured in the UK	2019 V K Krishna Menon award for his outstanding contribution as a pioneer of decolonised journalism.
2.	2019 winner of the USD 100,000 Nine Dots Prize , a prestigious book prize	Indian writer Annie Zaidi
3.	UNESCO/Guillermo Cano Press Freedom Prize 2019 .	Reuters journalists, Kyaw Soe Oo , and Wa Lone .
4.	Pandit Govind Ballabh Pant Award for his book titled ' Samvidhan Kavya '.	Sunil Kumar Gautam
5.	The second edition of Rabindranath Tagore Literary Prize	Author Rana Dasgupta for his 2010 novel " Solo ",
6.	Windham-Campbell prize of USD 165,000 for his debut book, ' Farthest Field: An Indian story of Second World War	'Raghu Karnad'

	Vyas Samman 2018 for his collection of poems "Jitne Log Utne Prem.	Leeladhar Jagudi
Country's Highest Honour Given		
7.	Former ISRO chairman A S Kiran Kumar was conferred with France's highest civilian honour, Chevalier de l'Ordre national de la Legion d'Honneur , for his contribution to India-France space cooperation.	
8.	Israel honoured Lt. Gen. (retd) Jack Farj Rafael (JFR) Jacob , who negotiated the historic surrender of Pakistani troops in Dhaka after the 1971 Bangladesh's liberation	
9.	IPS officer Chhaya Sharma , who led the investigation team of the infamous Nirbhaya gang-rape and murder case , awarded the 2019 McCain Institute Award for Courage and Leadership.	
10.	United Nations Office for Disaster Risk Reduction (UNDRR) conferred Sasakawa Award 2019 for Disaster Risk Reduction to Dr. Pramod Kumar Mishra , Additional Principal Secretary to Prime Minister of India.	
11.	Anil Kapoor was felicitated by Council of European Chambers of Commerce in India and a European Union delegation in Mumbai .	
12.	Former foreign secretary Shyam Saran was conferred with Japan's second highest national award, 'Order of the Rising Sun, Gold and Silver Star' .	
13.	N Kumar, Vice-Chancellor of Tamil Nadu Agricultural University conferred the lifetime recognition award by the Confederation of Horticulture Association of India .	
14.	The UAE honoured PM Narendra Modi with the prestigious Zayed Medal for giving a " big boost " to bilateral strategic ties. President of the UAE Sheikh Khalifa bin Zayed Al Nahyan conferred PM Modi with the award, the highest decoration awarded to kings, presidents, and heads of states	
15.	Vice President Venkaiah Naidu conferred President's Certificate of Honour and Maharshi Badrayan Vyas Samman Awards at New Delhi.	
16.	Team India captain Virat Kohli named as the Wisden Almanack's 'Leading Cricketer of the Year' for the third straight time.	
17.	Team India opener Smriti Mandhana named as the Wisden Almanack's 'Leading Women's Cricketer of the Year' .	
18.	The National Mission for Clean Ganga (NMCG) was awarded the distinction of " Public Water Agency of the Year " by Global Water Intelligence at the Global Water Summit in London .	
19.	PM Modi was decorated with Order of St Andrew the Apostle – the highest state decoration of Russia, for exceptional services in promoting special and privileged strategic partnership between the two countries. This is the seventh international award that PM Modi honoured with.	
20.	Dr. A K Singh , director at Life Sciences, DRDO honoured with Lifetime Achievement Award 2019	
21.	The Intellectual Property Rights Cell (IPR Cell) of Kerala Agricultural University (KAU) selected for the National Intellectual Property Award 2019 .	
22.	Benny Antony honoured with the National Intellectual Property Award, 2019 in the category of Top Individual for Patents and Commercialization.	
23.	Prime Minister Narendra Modi conferred the Shanti Swarup Bhatnagar Prizes for Science and Technology for the years 2016, 2017 and 2018 in New Delhi . There were 34 prize winners.	
24.	Indore has bagged the cleanest city award for the third straight year under Swachh Survekshan, 2019.	
25.	Rajasthan government's Medical & Health Department or its award this year in recognition of its achievements in the field of tobacco control by WHO .	
26.	Maldives will confer ' Nishan Izzuddin ' award on Prime Minister Narendra Modi . It is the highest award to honour foreign nationals. In the United States.	
27.	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 in recognition of the two companies' contribution as the leading technology-driven platforms .	
28.	Jawaharlal Nehru University will confer the distinguished alumni award to Union Ministers Nirmala Sitharaman and Subrahmanyam Jaishankar .	
Film/Music Awards		
29.	Rapper Drake set a record with the most wins ever, taking home 12 honours at the Billboard Music Awards .	
30.	Oscar-winning actress Anne Hathaway	Star on the Hollywood Walk Of Fame in Los Angeles, US.
31.	Indian filmmaker, Achyutanand Dwivedi's film, "Seed Mother" , won the third prize in the international section of Nespresso Talents 2019 in Cannes. This year's theme was ' We Are What We Eat ',	

32.	Comedian-actor Kapil Sharma acknowledged as the most viewed stand-up comedian in India and abroad by the World Book of Records London.
33.	
34.	The prestigious Master Deenanath Mangeshkar Award 2019 was awarded to National Award-winning filmmaker Madhur Bhandarkar , popular scriptwriter Salim Khan and dancing diva Helen .
35.	President Ram Nath Kovind presented the Sangeet Natak Akademi Awards for the year 2017 to 42 noted artists in five categories.
36.	Malayalam Actor Sheela J.C. has won the J.C. Daniel Award , the highest honour in Malayalam cinema.
Other Awards Conferred	
37.	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.
38.	IIT Kanpur honours India's chief national badminton coach Pullela Gopichand with honorary doctorate on the occasion of their 52 nd convocation.
39.	India-born Priya Serrao crowned Miss Universe Australia 2019.
40.	Veyil Marangal (Trees Under the Sun) have become the first Indian film to win ' Outstanding Artistic Achievement' award at the Shanghai International Film Festival.
41.	Six grassroots environmental activists received the prestigious Goldman Environmental Prize . Known as the Green Nobel Prize, the Goldman Prize honors environmental activists from each of the six continental regions: Europe, Asia, North America, Central America and South America, Africa and islands and island nations. The winners of the award are- <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Alfred Brownell, Liberia 2. Bayarjargal Agvaantseren, Mongolia 3. Ana Colovic Lesoska, North Macedonia 4. Jacqueline Evans, Cook Islands 5. Alberto Curamil, Chile 6. Linda Garcia, United States
42.	Police Officer Jitender Kumar , an Indian peacekeeper is among the 119 military, police and civilian personnel who was honoured with a prestigious UN medal 2019 for courage and sacrifice in the line of duty.
43.	Bharti AXA Life Insurance , a private life insurer conferred with the FICCI Claims Excellence Award.
44.	The Gairdner Foundation announced the 2019 Canada Gairdner Award laureates, recognizing Goa and Boston-based Vikram Patel , Ph.D., F. Med. Sci., for his research career raising the global profile of mental health problems.
45.	Dr. Pawan Munjal , Chairman, Hero MotoCorp , the world's largest manufacturer of motorcycles and scooters, was felicitated by the Asian Tour with a Special Achievement Award for his contributions to Asian Golf.
46.	Tata Steel named as the ' Global Slag Company of the Year ' at the 14th Global Slag Conference and Exhibition 2019.
47.	Indonesian Eni Nuraeni was named by Asian Athletic Association (AAA) as the best athletic coach in Asia for the short-haul run category in 2019. It was announced by Indonesian athletic sports association (PB PASI).
48.	India's education technology startup ' Dost Education ' won a \$25,000 tech prize along with two other winners from Tanzania and Egypt.
49.	Indian Oil Corporation (IOC) has bagged the prestigious ' AIMA Managing India Award 2019 for outstanding PSU of the year.
50.	Telugu poet K Siva Reddy selected for the prestigious Saraswati Samman, 2018 for his collection of poetry titled Pakkaki Ottigilite.
51.	Two schemes of the West Bengal government for skill development- " Utkarsh Bangla " and distribution of bicycles to students " Sabooj Sathi " have won the prestigious World Summit on the Information Society (WSIS) awards of the United Nations.
52.	An image of a little girl crying , as she and her mother have been taken into custody by US border officials in Texas won the prestigious World Press Photo of the Year. Veteran Getty photographer John Moore took the picture in the Rio Grande Valley in June 2018.
53.	Fincare Small Finance Bank awarded the prestigious Celent Model Bank 2019 Award in the category of

	Financial Inclusion, for 'Redesigning Lending to Reach Small Businesses'.	
54.	A total of 150 Indian peacekeepers serving with the UN Mission in South Sudan (UNMISS) have received medals of honour for their dedicated service and sacrifice.	
55.	Prominent scientist and businessman Yusuf Hamied is among a host of Indian-origin experts honoured in the 2019 list of new fellows of the UK's Royal Society .	
56.	Indian-American scientist and social activist Sree Sreenath inducted into the prestigious Cleveland International Hall of fame for his contribution in applications in systems biology, global issues, and sustainable development.	
57.	Dawn editor and Columnist Cyril Almeida from Pakistan has won the IPI's (International Press Institute) World Press Freedom Hero award in 2019. He won this award for his "critical" and "tenacious coverage" of the civil-military relations in Pakistan.	
58.	Ex-South Africa all-rounder Jacques Kallis honoured with the Order of Ikhamanga in the Silver Division .	
59.	Arjuna awardee and star Indian golfer Gaganjeet Bhullar won the outstanding achievement as a player award at the fourth edition of the annual India Golf Industry Association (GIA) awards at the Delhi Golf Club.	
60.	ASSOCHAM has conferred ' Non-Life Insurer of the Year Award 2019 ' to Bharti AXA General Insurance.	
61.	Satheesh Reddy , the Secretary of India's Department of Defence R&D and Chairman of DRDO has been chosen by the American Institute of Aeronautics and Astronautics (AIAA) as the co-winner of the 2019 Missile Systems Award .	
62.	Tata Steel has received the award as one of the 2019 World's Most Ethical Companies given by Ethisphere Institute, USA .	
63.	Indian Bank has been awarded the Best Bank Award by the Tamil Nadu government.	
64.	Two Nobel prizes in literature will be awarded this year, to make up for the lack of one in 2018 while the scandal-plagued Swedish Academy attempted to get its house in order.	
65.	Three pioneers in AI, University of Toronto faculty member and Google Brain researcher Geoffrey Hinton , Facebook chief AI scientist and NYU professor Yann LeCun , and Element AI founder and University of Montreal professor Yoshua Bengio has been honored with the Turing Award.	
66.	The 2019 Templeton Prize	Brazilian physicist and astronomer Marcelo Gleiser
67.	highest civilian award of Mexico for foreigners	Former President Pratibha Patil
68.	Indian engineer has won the 2019 Commonwealth Secretary General's Innovation for Sustainable Development Award in the "People" category in London, UK.	Nitesh Kumar Jangir,
69.	Nobel Prize-winning economist Amartya Sen will be awarded the prestigious Bodley Medal, the highest honor granted by the University of Oxford's world-famous Bodleian Libraries.	
70.	ACKO General Insurance a new-age digital insurance company was awarded the coveted Golden Peacock Innovative Product Award – 2019	
71.	Swiss-based NRI scientist Dr Rajendra Joshi has been conferred with the Pravasi Bhartiya Samman Award by the President of India Ram Nath Kovind.	
72.	Eminent Indian playwright Mahesh Elkunchwar has been chosen for this year's META Lifetime Achievement Award.	
73.	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.	
74.	Sports Journalists Federation of India 2019 Awards: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ 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. 	
75.	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.	
76.	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.	

77.	Automobile major Mahindra won the Gold Award in South Africa
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SUMMITS | EVENTS | FESTIVALS Held (NATIONAL/INTERNATIONAL)

	Name of the Summit	Location/Held in
SUMMITS HELD NATIONALLY		
1.	32nd edition of the International Seed Testing Association congress (ISTA)	Telangana
2.	National Council of Educational Research and Training (NCERT) organised 4th edition of National Yoga Olympiad of school children	New Delhi
3.	Union Minister of Finance and Corporate Affairs chaired the 20th Meeting of the Financial Stability and Development Council (FSDC)	New Delhi
4.	Indian Coast Guard (ICG) co-hosts 12th Capacity Building workshop	New Delhi
5.	The second edition of World Food India to be held in November 2019	New Delhi
6.	The fifth meeting of the Governing Council of NITI Aayog	New Delhi
7.	The IBSA (India, Brazil & South Africa) Sherpas' Meeting	Kochin, Kerala
8.	The 15th Finance Commission headed by Chairman, N.K. Singh held a detailed meeting with the Governor and Deputy Governors of RBI	Mumbai
9.	Central Board of Indirect Taxes and Customs (CBIC)	Kochi
10.	Ministry of New & Renewable Energy (MNRE) held a 'Chintan Baithak' chaired by Secretary, MNRE, Anand Kumar.	
11.	A WTO Ministerial meeting of developing countries is being hosted by India	New Delhi
12.	The 11th Joint Consular Committee Meeting between India and Iran	New Delhi
13.	The third round of Foreign Office Consultations between India and Botswana	New Delhi
14.	17th Investiture Ceremony of Border Security Force, BSF in New Delhi.	
15.	The International Centre for Automotive Technology (ICAT) NuGen Mobility Summit will be held	Manesar, NCR
16.	The Resilient Cities Asia-Pacific (RCAP) 2019 Congress	New Delhi
17.	International Digital Health Symposium and an exhibition on Digital Health in New Delhi.	
18.	NITI Aayog has organized a day-long FinTech Conclave	New Delhi
19.	Ministry of Commerce & Industry will be organizing the 14th CII-EXIM Bank Conclave on India-Africa Project Partnerships in New Delhi	
20.	The 4th IoT India Congress, an event will be held in Bengaluru	
21.	Regional conference on 'Deendayal Disabled Rehabilitation Scheme (DDRS)' was organised in Kolkata, West Bengal.	
22.	Heeralal Samariya, Secretary, Ministry of Labour and Employment inaugurated the Conference on the VISION ZERO held in Mumbai.	
23.	World Corporate Social Responsibility Congress (World CSR Congress 2019 in Mumbai.	
24.	'4th Global Digital Health Partnership Summit'	New Delhi
25.	The 4th India-ASEAN Expo and Summit held in New Delhi.	
26.	Conference on "The Future of Indian Banking" with the Foundation for Economic Growth and Welfare (EGROW Foundation) in New Delhi.	
27.	The 16th edition of BioAsia 2019 Asia's largest biotechnology and life-sciences forum was conducted in Hyderabad, Telangana.	
28.	Network-18 Rising India Summit	New Delhi
29.	Early Ed Asia 2019	Jaipur, Rajasthan
30.	The Ministry of Civil Aviation, in association with Airports Authority of India, AAICLAS and Confederation of Indian Industry, is organizing the Aviation Conclave 2019 with an overarching theme of "Flying for All" in New Delhi	
31.	4th Agri Leadership Summit 2019	Sonapat, Haryana
32.	5th India-Bangladesh Joint Consultative Committee Meeting held in New Delhi	
33.	40th International Annual Desert Festival	Jaisalme, Rajasthan
34.	The First Annual Conference of Media Units working under I&B Ministry in New Delhi	
35.	World Sustainable Development Summit (WSDS) 2019	New Delhi
36.	1st LAWASIA Human Rights Conference in New Delhi	
37.	India and the United States held India-U.S. Commercial Dialogue and India-U.S.	New Delhi

	CEO Forum	
38.	CREDAI YouthCon -19 summit in New Delhi	
39.	5th International Dam Safety Conference 2019 held in Bhubaneswar, Odisha	
40.	Asia LPG summit in New Delhi	
41.	The 13th International Oil and Gas Conference – PETROTECH – 2019 in Greater Noida, UP	
42.	The 13th Conference of Parties (COP) of the Convention on the conservation of migratory species of wild animals in Gandhinagar, Gujarat.	
43.	2nd ASEAN-India Youth Summit in Guwahati.	
44.	The 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.	
45.		
SUMMITS HELD INTERNATIONALLY		
46.	G-20 summit in Osaka, Japan. The theme of the summit is “Human centred future society”.	
47.	G20 Ministerial Meeting on Energy Transitions and Global Environment for Sustainable Growth in Karuizawa, Japan.	
48.	The 16th Ministerial Meeting of Asia Cooperation Dialogue (ACD) was held in Doha, Qatar. The theme of the meeting was “Partners in Progress”.	
49.	United Nations General Assembly (UNGA) to hold its 5-day long 2020 high-level conference early June in Portugal’s Lisbon.	
50.	The G7’s (Group of Seven) Environment Ministers	Metz, France
51.	Foreign ministers’ meet of the Shanghai Cooperation Organization (SCO) in Bishkek, Kyrgyz Republic.	
52.	Turkmenistan-Afghanistan-Pakistan-India (TAPI) gas pipeline meeting held in Ashgabat, Turkmenistan.	
53.	17th MENA World Economic Forum	Jordan
54.	World’s foremost Artificial Intelligence (AI) Summit	Dubai, UAE
55.	The second edition of Belt and Road Forum (BRF) was held in Beijing, China.	
56.	G20 summit in November 2020	Saudi Arabia
57.	Abu Dhabi hosted the 46th session of the Council of Foreign Ministers of the Organisation of Islamic Cooperation (OIC).	
58.	5th Asia Pacific Broadcasting Union (ABU) Media Summit	Kathmandu, Nepal
59.	The first BRICS (Brazil, Russia, India, China, and South Africa) Sherpa meeting in Curitiba, Brazil	
60.	The second joint secretary level meeting to review the India-Nepal Trade Treaty	Pokhara, Nepal.
61.	The ‘2nd Global Disability Summit’	Buenos Aires, Argentina.
62.	The 14th summit of the Organisation of Islamic Cooperation (OIC)	Mecca, Saudi Arabia
63.	Indonesia has hosted the first ever High-Level Dialogue on Indo-Pacific Cooperation (HLD-IPC) in its capital city Jakarta.	
64.	India invited to deliver an address at the Organisation of Islamic Cooperation (OIC) in Abu Dhabi. This is the first time that a leader of the non-Muslim country has been invited to the OIC conference.	
65.	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.	
66.	G20 Ministerial meeting on Trade and Digital Economy in Tsukuba city in Japan.	

COMMITTEES IN NEWS


	Purpose for which Committee is formed	Headed by
1.	to review margins on derivatives. The panel will submit its recommendations to the Secondary Market Advisory Committee.	NSE Clearing Ltd.
2.	Beekeeping Development Committee	Bibek Debroy
3.	Committee give recommendations for MSME sector	U.K. Sinha
4.	RBI’s to review the regulatory and supervisory framework for core investment companies (CIC).	Tapan Ray
5.	National Clean Air Programme (NCAP) , which aims to reduce particulate matter (PM) pollution by 20%-30% in at least 102 cities by 2024.	Secretary, Union Environment Ministry.

6.	Unlawful Activities (Prevention) Tribunal to adjudicate whether or not there is sufficient cause for declaring the Liberation Tigers of Tamil Eelam (LTTE)	Justice Sangita Dhingra Sehgal .
7.	To adjudicate if there exists sufficient cause to ban the Jamaat-e-Islami Jammu and Kashmir (JeI) and the Jammu and Kashmir Liberation Front-Yasin Malik (JKLF-Y) faction.	Justice Chander Shekhar
8.	Central Works Public Department (CPWD) has constituted an expert committee to formulate a design policy for building construction and infrastructure development.	M K Sharma
9.	IRDAI has set up committee to review the regulatory framework on microinsurance & recommend measures to increase the demand for such products.	IRDAI Executive Director Suresh Mathur
10.	The Ram Janmabhoomi-Babri Masjid land dispute case to arrive at a "permanent solution" to the politically and religiously sensitive issue.	The five-judge constitution bench headed by CJI Ranjan Gogoi
11.	The Delhi government's Dialogue and Development Commission (DDC), has set up a 17-member high-level committee	DDC vice-chairperson Jasmine Shah.
12.	National Mission on Transformative Mobility and Battery Storage	Amitabh Kant
13.	To strengthen digital payments as well as to boost financial inclusion through Financial Technology.	Nandan Nilekani
14.	Determining the Methodology for Fixation of the National Minimum Wage"	Anoop Satpathy
15.	On the recommendation of Cabinet Secretary PK Sinha, the government constituted a committee under the Central Electricity Authority (CEA) to explore prepaid payments by state electricity distribution companies to power plants.	PK Sinha
16.	CBDT formed a 4-member committee to look into the matter of taxation related pain points and submit its final report and recommendations by mid-March.	Sanjeev Sharma
17.	National Educational Policy (NEP)	Dr. Kasturirangan
18.	To review the ATM interchange fee structure with a "view to increase the ATM deployment in the unbanked areas"	V G Kannan
19.	The Government has reconstituted eight Cabinet Committees. These are Appointments Committee, Committees on Accommodation, Economic Affairs, Parliamentary Affairs, Political Affairs, Security, Investment and Growth and Cabinet Committee on Employment and Skill Development.	-----
20.	Chief Ministers for transforming Indian agriculture and raising farmers' income.	MH CM Devendra Fadnavis

NATIONAL CURRENT 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**
- 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**.
- **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.**
- **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.



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5 Full Length Mocks (Paper-II)

BILINGUAL

- 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.
- **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**'.
- 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 is 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**.
- **India was re-elected as Observer to the Arctic Council**, an intergovernmental forum. The decision was taken during the **11th Arctic Council ministerial meeting at Rovaniemi, Finland**.
- **India** is unanimously chosen as co-chair of the **Consultative Group (CG) of Global Facility for Disaster Reduction and Recovery (GFDRR)** for the fiscal year 2020. The decision was taken during the **CG meeting of GFDRR held in Geneva, Switzerland**, on the margins of the 6th Session of the GPDRR 2019.

- As per **Election Commission of India**, the 2019 Lok Sabha elections witnessed a **voter turnout of 67.10% (interim)**, which is the **highest ever voter turnout in the history of general elections**.
- **India** elected to the Executive Board of the first **UN-Habitat Assembly**, announced by **Ministry of Housing and Urban Affairs**. India elected to the Executive Board of the first **UN-Habitat Assembly** at the Plenary Session of the Assembly being held in the HQ of UN-HABITAT **Nairobi, Kenya**.
- **Two women IAF officers** from Punjab were part of the country's first all-women crew to fly a medium-lift helicopter **Mi-17 V5**. **Flight Lieutenant Parul Bhardwaj (Captain)**, **Flying Officer Aman Nidhi (co-pilot)** and **Flight Lieutenant Hina Jaiswal (Flight Engineer)** flew the chopper, which took off from a forward air base in South Western air command.
- Leaders of **BIMSTEC** were invited for PM Modi's swearing-in ceremony held on **30th May 2019**.
- **Record 78 women candidates** elected to the Lok Sabha in the recently held general elections. According to the Election Commission, the number grown from the previous **62 women** who were elected to the **16th Lok Sabha in 2014**.
- Prime Minister Narendra Modi dedicated a new **National War Memorial**, situated in the India Gate complex in **New Delhi, to the nation**.
- **Former Union Home Minister Rajnath Singh** inaugurated a new park which houses the replicas of Seven Wonders of the World in New Delhi. The park, which is called the 'Waste to Wonder Park', was built by the **South Delhi Municipal Corporation (SDMC)**.
- Union Minister for Science & Technology, **Earth Sciences, Environment, Forest and Climate Change, Dr. Harsh Vardhan**, inaugurated the North Karnataka Agromet Forecasting and Research Centre (NKAFC), **India's first agromet forecast centre, at University of Agricultural Sciences (UAS) in Dharwad, Karnataka**.
- **Indian Government** has signed a deal with the US under **Fast Track Procurement (FTP)** to avail the Indian Army with 72,400 new '**Sig Sauer Assault Rifles**' which will overhaul the army's inventory of frontline rifles.
- The last session of **16th Lok Sabha** came to an end on **13th of February 2019**.
- PM Modi launched a **dedicated 24x7 Satellite channel, 'DD Arunprabha'** for Arunachal Pradesh during his visit to **Arunachal Pradesh, Assam, and Tripura**.
- PM Modi dedicated to the **nation the 1.33 million metric ton capacity Visakhapatnam Strategic Petroleum Reserve facility** at Guntur in Andhra Pradesh.
- **India and Bangladesh signed** an MOU for training 1800 Bangladesh Civil Servants at the National Centre for Good Governance (NCGG) an institute under the Department of Administrative Reforms and Public Grievances (DAR&PG), **Ministry of Personnel, Public Grievances & Pensions, Govt. of India, over the next 6 years**.
- **India and Germany joined hands** for cooperation on Water and Waste Management.
- Former External Affairs Minister **Sushma Swaraj** and Road Transport and Highways Minister **Nitin Gadkari** flagged off Suraksha Yatra – a motor car rally from Rajghat in New Delhi to commemorate the **150th Birth Anniversary of Mahatma Gandhi**.
- **PM Modi inaugurated** various development projects, worth nearly **12,000 crore rupees, at Leh**. He laid the foundation stone for a **480 crore rupee Terminal Building at Leh Airport**. Mr Modi inaugurated the 9-megawatt Dah hydroelectric project. He also dedicated to the nation the 220 KiloVolt **Srinagar-Alusteng-Drass-Kargil-Leh transmission system** & also launched the University of Ladakh, the first-ever in the state's region.
- **DIPP has been renamed as the Department for Promotion of Industry and Internal Trade** with a mandate to deal with matters related to start-ups, facilitating ease of doing business among others.
- The first session of the **17th Lok Sabha** was commenced from **17th June**. The session will continue till 26th of July.
- The **Indian Air Force (IAF)** has removed all the temporary restrictions on all air routes in the Indian air space.
- **25 year old Chandrani Murmu**, who has replaced **Dushyant Chautala**, was elected as **Biju Janata Dal (BJD)** candidate from the **Keonjhar seat, Odisha** has become the youngest Member of Parliament to the **17th Lok Sabha**.
- **In a bid to spur investment and create new employment opportunities**, 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.
- **The Delhi Metro Rail Corporation (DMRC)** has become the first ever project in the country to receive power generated from a waste-to-energy plant. It has started receiving 2 MW power from a 12 MW capacity waste-to-energy plant set up in Ghazipur.
- **The 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 Govt. for the two-wheeler segment. The certificate was released and handed over by Director ICAT, Dinesh Tyagi to top officials of the OEM (Original Equipment Manufacturers).**
- **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.**
- **The Union Cabinet has cleared the New Delhi International Arbitration Centre (NDIAC) Bill, 2019.**

Current Affairs Related to States in India

NORTHERN STATES

- **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.**
- **The Himachal Pradesh government makes mandatory for trekkers to carry a GPS device.**
- **Uttarakhand CM Trivendra Singh Rawat has laid the foundation stone for the Dehradun-Mussoorie ropeway project at Rs 300-crore ropeway project is expected to be completed in three years.**
- **Punjab government approved a rural development scheme worth Rs 384.40 crore to supplement the ongoing works to build village infrastructure and provide essential amenities. It is named as 'Smart Village Campaign'.**
- **Punjab CM Captain Amarinder Singh announced a high-powered 5-member committee to prepare a comprehensive action plan to boost the dairy sector with the aim of supplementing the income of farmers in a result-oriented manner.**
- **UP CM Yogi Adityanath launched Scheme for Adolescent girls (SAG). The scheme focuses on girls aged between 11 to 14 years who have left studies and will take steps for proper nutrition and special care for them.**
- **Union Minister of Textiles, Smriti Zubin Irani, launched four projects in North East for the development of silk sector through video conference in New Delhi. She inaugurated Muga silk seed production centre in Tura, Meghalaya, silk printing and processing unit in Agartala, Tripura, Eri spun silk mill in Sangaipat, Imphal and development of sericulture in Mamit, Mizoram.**
- **PM Modi unveiled development projects worth Rs. 3350 crores for Varanasi, UP. These projects pertain to various sectors of Health, Sanitation, Smart City, Connectivity, Power, Housing and others. He released commemorative postage stamp on completion of 100 Years of IIT BHU.**

- **The Legislative Assembly of Rajasthan passed the Rajasthan Panchayati Raj (Amendment) Bill, 2019 and the Rajasthan Municipality (Amendment) Bill, 2019 to end the minimum education criterion for panchayat and civic polls candidates.**
- **Union Minister for Food Processing Industries laid the foundation stone of a Mega Food Park at Chhata-Barsana road in Mathura, UP.**
- **The Jammu and Kashmir issued a notification of creation of Ladakh as 3rd Division in the state.**
- **Uttar Pradesh has launched the IIInd phase of Communicable Disease Control and Dastak Abhiyan 2019.**

EASTERN STATES

- **'Kandhamal Haldi', a variety of turmeric indigenous to southern Odisha, has earned the Geographical indication (GI) tag from Intellectual Property India, an organization functioning under the auspices of the Union ministry of commerce & industry.**
- **'KALIA Chhatra Bruti' scholarship for the children of farmers benefited under the KALIA scheme was launched by Odisha.**
- **Bihar has become the first state to deploy specially-trained dogs to check smuggling of liquor which continues to take place inspite of the total ban imposed in the state for the last 3 years.**
- **WB Education Minister Partha Chatterjee inaugurated a web portal, 'Banglar Shiksha', which is set to provide real-time data on state-run and aided schools. The portal, banglarshiksha.gov.in, will be up and running in two months' time.**
- **Bihar CM, Nitish Kumar announced a Universal Old Age Pension scheme, named Mukhya Mantri Vriddha Pension Yojana (MMVPY), irrespective for all caste, community, religion, except for those who are retired from government organizations. The scheme facilitates the amount of Rs. 400 monthly pension for all in the state above the age of 60 who are not getting a pension from the government.**

- **Bihar Governor Lalji Tandon** and Union Agriculture Minister jointly inaugurated the three-day Krishi Kumbh in Motihari.
- **The Union Road Transport Minister Nitin Gadkari** laid the foundation stone of three major highway projects with an investment worth **Rs 2,345 crores** in Angul and Dhenkanal districts of **Odisha**.
- The **Hong Kong government** has approved over **\$9 million** for relief and rehabilitation work in cyclone-hit **Odisha**.

NORTH-EASTERN STATES

- **Japan gifts Manipur a "Peace Museum"** which is built on the memories of one of the fiercest battles of the **Second World War**.
- **Assam government** will set up a Skill University at the cost of **850 crore rupees** at **Darrang district**.
- **The GoI** has sanctioned an additional amount of **Rs 358 crore** for the construction of new roads in rural areas of **Tripura**.
- **President Ram Nath Kovind** greeted the people of **Sikkim** on their **statehood day**. It was on **16th May 1975** that **Sikkim** officially merged with the Indian union and became the 22nd state of the country.
- **Meghalaya government** approved setting up of a commission to look into the problem faced by farmers. The proposal was made by the Agriculture Department to set up the **Farmers' Commission** in line with the resolution passed at the '**farmers' parliament**'.
- **Rice Knowledge Bank-Assam**, is an agriculture **web portal**. It was launched under the World Bank funded project –**Agri-business and Rural Transformation (APART)**.
- Union Minister of State for Food Processing Industries has inaugurated **Tripura's first mega food park** named **Sikaria Mega Food Park Pvt Ltd** at **Village Tulakona in Agartala**.
- **Assam CM Sarbananda Sonowal** launched the Parents Responsibility and Norms for Accountability and Monitoring (PRANAM) Commission.
- **Meghalaya Cabinet** has decided to rename the Dikkibandi stadium in Tura town after former **Lok Sabha Speaker Purno A Sangma**.
- Assam government has waived admission fees for students taking admission up to Post Graduate level whose **parental income is less than 2 lakh rupees per year**.
- **Ministry of Home Affairs** has extended The **Armed Forces (Special Powers) Act (AFSPA)** for another six months in **Nagaland**.

WESTERN STATES

- **Gujarat Shops and Establishments** (Regulation of Employment and Conditions of Service) **Act, 2019** passed by Gujarat Assembly which came into

force from May 1, 2019. The Act allows the shops and other businesses in the state to operate **24x7**.

- **Goa** celebrates its **statehood day** on 30th May. It was on this day in **1987** Goa became the **25th state of the Indian Union**. It was a Union Territory along with Daman and Diu from **December 1961** onwards when Goa was liberated from the colonial rule.

CENTRAL STATES

- **The Chhattisgarh police** for the **first time** inducted **women commandos** in the **District Reserve Guard (DRG)**, its frontline anti-Naxal force. Comprising 30 women led by **Deputy Superintendent of Police (DSP) Dineshwari Nand**, have received extensive training in jungle combat.
- In **MP**, ancient **tribal language Gondi** will be taught in **tribal districts**
- **The MP government** issued an ordinance increasing reservation quota for the **Other Backward Classes (OBC)** to **27% from the current 14%**. The announcement was made by the state's **Law and Legal Affairs Minister PC Sharma**.
- **Madhya Pradesh Chief Minister Kamal Nath** launched the State Government's flagship scheme '**Mukhyamantri Yuva Swabhiman Yojana**' that guarantees **100 days of employment every year** to urban youth from economically weaker sections. Under the scheme, **Rs 4,000 stipend per month during 100 days period**. (Only those youths, whose family's annual income is less than **Rs 2 lakh** and who are in the age group of **21-30 years**, are eligible for the scheme).


SOUTHERN STATES

- **Kerala** became the first state to tap into **masala bond** market by listing the **Kerala Infrastructure Investment Fund Board (KIIFB)**'s masala bond worth of **USD 312 million (Rs 2,150 crore)** in London Stock Exchange (**LSE**)'s International Securities Market (**ISM**).
- For the **second year** in succession, **Telangana** ranks number **1** in the **e-Learning training program** of the Department of Personnel and Training (**DoPT**), Government India.
- Union Railway Minister **Piyush Goyal** announced a new railway zone for **Andhra Pradesh**, that is the **Southern Coast Railway** and it will be headquartered in **Visakhapatnam**. It will be the **18th zone** in the country.
- **Kerala** become the first State to set up a **Price Monitoring and Research Unit (PMRU)** to track violation of prices of essential drugs and medical devices under the **Drugs Price Control Order (DPCO)**.

- **Tamil Nadu** became the first state in the country to get a **second Coast Guard district** headquarters - Thoothukudi. The first district headquarters is Chennai.
- **Union Minister of Food Processing Industries** has commissioned **Godavari Mega Aqua Food Park at Tundurru Village in Bhimavaram Mandal, West Godavari Distric, Andhra Pradesh**. It will be the first Mega Aqua Food Park operationalised exclusively for fish and marine products processing in the state of Andhra Pradesh.
- **The fifth Telangana State Formation Day** on **02nd June 2019**.
- **Tamil yeoman (Cirrochroa thais) butterfly** has been declared the state **butterfly of Tamil Nadu**

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International Current Affairs

- **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**.
- **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.
- **In Slovakia**, anti-corruption campaigner **Zuzana Caputova** was sworn in as country's **first female president**.
- **El Salvador, Nayib Bukele** has been sworn-in as the **nation's President**.
- **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 PM Justin Trudeau** announced that single-use plastics will be banned in the country **from 2021**.
- **Akihito** became the **first Japanese Emperor** to step down from the throne in more than 200 years.

- In a huge diplomatic win for India, the **United Nations Security Council** designated **Pakistan-based Jaish-e-Mohammed chief Masood Azhar as a global terrorist** after China lifted its hold on a proposal to blacklist him under the Security Council's Sanctions Committee.
- The **UK parliament** became the **first national legislative body in the world to declare a climate change emergency**.
- **Russian President Vladimir Putin** signed into law a new measure that **aims to expand government control over the Internet**. It would enable the creation of a **national network**, able to operate separately from the rest of the world.
- The **Asian Development Bank (ADB)** launched a \$5 Billion Action Plan for **Healthy Oceans and Sustainable Blue Economies for the Asia and Pacific region** at the 52nd Annual Meeting of ADB's Board of Governors in **Fiji**.
- A **Japanese aerospace start-up Interstellar Technology Inc.** Successfully launched a **first privately developed rocket 'Momo-3'** into space. The unmanned Momo-3 was launched from its test site in **Hokkaido** and reached about **110 kilometers (68 miles)** in altitude before falling into the Pacific Ocean after **10 minutes** of flight time.
- **India** will be attending the **Group of 7 industrialised nations meet** organised by **France in Biarritz** in August 2019 along with **Australia, Chile, and South Africa**.
- **Vice President of India Venkaiah Naidu** embarked on a **four-day official visit to Vietnam** to participate in **16th United Nations Day of Vesak**.
- The **US Air Force Research Laboratory** tested a laser system called **Self-Protect High Energy Laser Demonstrator (SHIELD)** at the US Army's White Sands Missile range in New Mexico.
- **Singapore's Parliament** passed a law to curb the spread of **fake news under which offenders may**

face up to 10-year jail or fines of up to \$51 million (over Rs5.12 crore).

- The Australian flight carrier, **Qantas** operated the world's **first zero-waste** commercial flight from Sydney to Adelaide which disposed of all waste through compost, reuse or recycle.
- **Ireland declared a climate emergency in their country**, to be the second country after **Britain to do so**.
- **Japan** started testing its **fastest-ever bullet train** capable of reaching **400 kilometers per hour (249 mph)** as it continues to develop the revolutionary mode of travel. The **ALFA-X** version of the **Shinkansen** train began three years' worth of test runs.
- The **UN imposed sanctions on terror group ISIS-Khorasan (ISIS-K)** for its links with Al-Qaeda and **involvement in several attacks in Afghanistan and Pakistan**.
- **Taiwan** approved a bill legalizing **same-sex marriage**, a landmark decision that makes the self-ruled island the **first place in Asia** to pass gay marriage legislation.
- The **Saudi Arabia** government approved for the first time a scheme that gives **permanent residency** to certain expatriates, allowing them to own real estate in the kingdom and reside with their families without a Saudi sponsor.
- The **World Bank and the Commonwealth Bank of Australia (CommBank)** have teamed up to enable recording of secondary market bond trading using blockchain tech.
- The **World Health Organization (WHO)** declared **Algeria and Argentina** as malaria-free, with no recorded cases of indigenous transmission of the disease since 2013 and 2010 respectively.
- **British Prime Minister Theresa May** announces resignation from her post. **She resigns on 7th June**.
- US President **Donald Trump** got the red carpet treatment at **Japan's Imperial Palace** where he made history, becoming the first world leader to meet with the new **emperor of Japan Naruhito**.
- **Cyril Ramaphosa**, the head of the **African National Congress**, was sworn in for a five-year term as **South Africa's president** after being elected unopposed by Parliament following the sixth general elections.
- **Austrian Parliament** removed **Chancellor Sebastian Kurz** from office as he lost the no confidence in a special Parliamentary session. His previous coalition ally, the **far-right Freedom Party (FPO)** and the **opposition Social Democrats (SPO)** backed the no-confidence motions.
- **Russia launched a nuclear-powered icebreaker**, in St Petersburg, is one of a trio that when

completed the largest and most powerful **icebreakers in the world**.

- **Scott Morrison** sworn in as **Australia's Prime Minister** along with **Deputy Prime Minister Michael McCormack**.
- **James Marape**, a former finance minister and critic of a major global gas development deal elected by **parliament** as the prime minister of **Papua New Guinea**.
- **Muhammadu Buhari** sworn in for a second term as **Nigeria's president**.
- **US President Donald Trump** announced tariffs on all goods coming from **Mexico** in a bid to curb illegal immigration. From 10th June 2019, a **five percent tariff** would be imposed and slowly raised until the **Illegal Immigration problem is remedied**.
- Tesla has developed its '**largest power storage system in Asia**' at **Osaka train station in Japan** to reduce energy demand and provide emergency backup power to trains in Japan.
- Zoologists at Trinity College Dublin have discovered two **new bird species named as the Wakatobi white-eye and the Wangi-Wangi white-eye** in the Wakatobi Archipelago of Sulawesi, Indonesia.
- The **United Nations and the European Union (EU)** have signed a joint framework aimed at strengthening partnership in counter-terrorism efforts.
- US President **Donald Trump** stated that his administration is withdrawing the U.S. signature from the **U.N. Arms Trade Treaty**, in response to concerns from gun rights activists that it could impinge on Americans' right to bear arms.
- Anti-graft lawyer **Zuzana Caputova** won **Slovakia's** presidential election, making her the country's **first female** head of state.
- Japan has announced that the name of its new imperial era, set to begin on 1 May, will be '**Reiwa**', signifying order and harmony. The country's current era, Heisei, will end in April.
- India has signed an MoU with the **National Bank for Agriculture and Rural Development Consultancy Service (NABCONS)** for setting up the India-Africa Institute of Agriculture and Rural Development (IAIARD) in Malawi, a landlocked country in southeastern Africa.
- The joint military exercise between **Morocco and the US, "African Lion 2019,"** kicked off in southern Morocco. The exercise marks the participation of thousands of military officers.
- The **US designated Iran's Revolutionary Guard Corps (IRGC)** a foreign terrorist organisation. It is the **first time that the US has designated an entity of another government** as a terrorist organization, placing a group with vast economic resources that answer only to **Iran's supreme**

leader in the same category as al-Qaida and the Islamic State.

- **Google parent Alphabet** has beaten Amazon to launch one of the **first commercial drone delivery businesses**. Alphabet made its first delivery in Canberra after getting approval from the country's civil aviation authority.
- London is the **first city in the world to implement a 24-hour**, seven day a week Ultra Low Emission Zone (ULEZ), inside which vehicles will have to meet tough emissions standards or face a charge.
- The UAE has announced that **India will be the Guest of Honour country at the Abu Dhabi International Book Fair, ADIBF 2019**, to be held at the end of April 2019.
- **Hong Kong's equity market has overtaken Japan** to be the world's third largest in value, behind only the U.S. and mainland China. Hong Kong's market cap was \$5.78 trillion, compared with \$5.76 trillion for Japan, **according to data compiled by Bloomberg** based on where primary securities are listed.
- The world's first armed amphibious drone boat named '**Marine Lizard**' and guided by China's BeiDou Navigation Satellite System, successfully tested by China. It possesses the capability of forming a combat triad with aerial drones and other drone ships.
- **Google** has opened its **first African artificial intelligence (AI) centre** in Ghana's capital **Accra**, one year after announcing the project.
- The **International Monetary Fund (IMF)** and the **World Bank** have together launched a private blockchain with a pseudo-token. The new token, called "**Learning Coin**" and only accessible within the IMF and World Bank, has a purpose to teach relevant individuals within the organizations about blockchain.
- The **Asian Tea Alliance (ATA)**, a union of five tea-growing and consuming countries, was launched in Guizhou, **China**.
- **Volodymyr Zelenskiy**, an actor and comedian has won a landslide victory in **Ukraine's** presidential election.
- The **London School of Economics and Political Science (LSE)** has announced the creation of the **Amartya Sen Chair** in Inequality Studies, named in honour of the India-born economist, philosopher, and Nobel laureate, who was Professor of Economics at LSE from 1971-82.
- Indonesia has released a special commemorative stamp on the theme of **Ramayana to mark the 70th anniversary of the establishment of its diplomatic ties with India**.
- Israeli PM **Benjamin Netanyahu** has announced that he would name a new community in the **Golan Heights** after US President **Donald Trump**, who

officially recognised the disputed area as Israeli territory.

- **Russia** has successfully tested the world's **first floating nuclear power plant (NPP), Akademik Lomonosov**, a subsidiary of Rosatom nuclear corporation stated. Reactors of the floating atomic block were launched in November 2018.
- The world's **first-ever malaria vaccine** was launched in a pilot project in Africa's **Malawi**.
- **Kazakhstan has set up Coordinating Council for attracting foreign investments** including from India.
- **Iran and Pakistan** have agreed to set up a joint border "**reaction force**" to combat the attacks by militant groups on both sides their frontier.
- **Russia's Vladimir Putin and North Korea's Kim Jong Un** met face-to-face for the first time and vowed to seek closer ties. The meeting was held at Russia's Pacific port city of Vladivostok.
- The United States has officially shuttered its consulate in **Jerusalem**, downgrading the status of its main diplomatic mission to the **Palestinians** by folding it into the U.S. Embassy to **Israel**.
- **Chinese Premier Li Keqiang trade war with the US** and continued economic slowdown. The world's second-largest economy has slashed its GDP target to **6.00 to 6.50 percent** this year.
- **Kylie Jenner aged 21** was named the **youngest self-made billionaire of all time by Forbes** magazine. Jenner after debuting her Kylie Cosmetics online in **2015 with \$29 lip kits** containing matching lipstick and lip liner.
- The **Venezuelan government** has announced to expel **German ambassador Daniel Kriener** from the country. President Nicolas Maduro's embattled government has declared the German ambassador persona non grata and ordered him to leave the country within 48 hours.
- **Malaysia** has become a member of the **International Criminal Court**. The ICC is the world's only permanent war crimes court and aims to prosecute the worst abuses when national courts are unable or unwilling. **Malaysia becomes the 124th member** of the court since its establishment in **2002**.
- **India and Costa Rica** signed **two documents during Vice President Venkaiah Naidu's first visit to the Central American nation**. The documents were signed and exchanged following talks between Naidu and **Costa Rican President Carlos Alvarado Quesada**.
- **Mozambique, Zimbabwe and Malawi** have been **hit by a vicious cyclone 'IDAI' that has killed nearly 150 people**, left hundreds more missing and stranded tens of thousands who are cut off from roads and telephones in mainly poor, rural areas.

- **Kazakhstan** has renamed its capital **Astana** to **Nursultan** to honor outgoing leader **Nursultan Nazarbayev**. Mr. Nazarbayev, 78, served nearly 30 years as president of the nation.
- **New Zealand** has imposed an immediate ban on assault weapons following the **Christchurch massacre** that claimed the lives of 50 mosque-goers.
- **Oman** has signed an agreement with the **United States of America** that allow American ships and warplanes to take advantage of his ports and airports. The framework agreement is aimed at bolstering Omani-American military relations.
- **President Ram Nath Kovind** embarked on a state visit to **Croatia, Bolivia** and **Chile** to hold talks with the leaders of these countries and strengthen ties in trade, investment and renewable energy.
- **US President Donald Trump** has signed a proclamation recognising **Israel's** sovereignty over the **Golan Heights** and told the visiting **Israeli Prime Minister, Benjamin Netanyahu**, that Israel has an absolute right to self-defence.
- **Oslo**, the capital city of **Norway** will become the **world's first city** to install **wireless, induction-based charging stations** for its fleet of electric taxis with an aim to have a zero-emission cab system by the year **2023** according to a report by Reuters.
- The world's largest e-waste recycling plant has been opened in **Dubai Industrial Park, Dubai** by 'Enviroserve' company with a total cost of **\$5 million**. It will recycle Waste Electrical and Electronic Equipment (**WEEE**), IT asset disposition (ITAD), refrigerant gas and specialized waste.
- The **UN Security Council** has unanimously passed the **first-ever resolution ordering members to enforce laws against terror financing**. UNSC resolution demands all states "ensure that their domestic laws and regulations establish serious criminal offenses" to collect funds or financial resources to terrorist groups or individual criminals.
- India-ASEAN trade and investment relations have been growing steadily, with ASEAN being the second largest trading partner of India, after China, with a total bilateral merchandise trade of USD 81.33 billion.
- A month-long 'Festival of India' held in Kathmandu, Nepal to familiarise the new generation of the country about the similarities between the two countries.
- **Chinese news agency Xinhua** unveiled the world's first female AI news anchor **Xin Xiaomeng**. She has been developed in collaboration with Sogou Inc, a search engine company.
- **Sudanese President Omar al-Bashir** has declared a year-long state of emergency, dissolving his cabinet and local governments throughout the country.
- **Zimbabwe started** to trade its new currency, the RTGS dollar, two days after the central bank announced measures to try and resolve a chronic monetary crisis.
- **US President Donald Trump** signed Space Policy Directive-4 (SPD-4), ordering the Pentagon to establish the Space Force as the 6th branch of the United States military, to go along with the Army, Navy, Air Force, Marines, and Coast Guard, in order to secure and extend American dominance of the space domain.
- **Thailand and the United States** hosted the annual Cobra Gold military exercise, the biggest activity of its type in the Asia-Pacific region with 29 nations taking part as participants or observers.
- **Muhammadu Buhari** was re-elected **Nigeria's President**, results showed, after a delayed poll that angered voters and led to claims of rigging and collusion.
- **Saudi Arabia** became the 73rd nation to sign the International Solar Alliance. ISA was unveiled by PM Modi and former French President Francois Hollande in 2015.
- Iran's President Hassan Rouhani unveiled the first Iranian made semi-heavy submarine named 'Fateh' ('Conqueror' in Persian), capable of being fitted with missiles, as per the reporting on Iran's state TV.
- The country, formerly known as the Republic of Macedonia officially changed its name to the Republic of North Macedonia, on paper ending a decades-long dispute that should pave the way for NATO membership.
- **Asian Development Bank (ADB)** raised **5.2204 billion Philippine pesos (\$100 million)** from a new issue of local currency bonds in the international market. Currency-linked bonds are denominated in the local currency but settled in US dollars.
- Abu Dhabi decided to include Hindi as the third official language used in its courts, alongside Arabic and English, as part of a move designed to improve access to justice.
- US Commerce Secretary Wilbur Ross announced the names of the American private sector members of the US-India CEO Forum among who are MasterCard CEO Ajay Banga and Qualcomm CEO Steve Mollenkopf. The first meeting of the forum will be held in New Delhi.
- **Macedonia** signed an accord to join **NATO** to become the **30th member** of the US-led alliance.
- **The United Nations announced 2019** as the International Year of the Periodic Table of the Chemical Elements to highlight its first publication in 1869.

OBITUARIES (NATIONAL/INTERNATIONAL)

	Person Died	Profession/Famous In?
Politician (National-International)		
1.	Former Egyptian President	Mohamed Morsy
2.	BJP Rajya Sabha MP and senior journalist	Rajnath Singh 'Surya'
3.	SK Shivakumar	Former Director of ISRO
4.	Lorraine Warren	paranormal investigator
5.	Dr Negasso Gidada	The former Ethiopian president
6.	Manohar Parrikar	Goa Chief Minister
7.	Alan Krueger	Former White House economist, Princeton University professor
8.	John Dingell	the longest-serving congressman in US history
9.	R V Janakiraman	Puducherry Chief Minister between 1996 and 2000
10.	Lennart Johansson	President of European soccer's governing body
Singer/Musician (National-International)		
11.	Hiralal Yadav	Bhojpuri vocal artist
12.	Amar Paul	Eminent Bengali folk singer
13.	Vinjamuri Anasuya Devi	Kala Prapoorna awardee and folk artist
14.	Scott Walker	one of the most innovative and enduring songwriters
Actor/Director/Producer (National-International)		
15.	Malayalam director	Babu Narayanan
16.	Veteran actor-filmmaker	Vijaya Nirmala
17.	Master Hirannaiah	Kannada theatre personality, satirist and TV actor
18.	Peter Mayhew	Actor
19.	Rallapalli Venkata Narasimha Rao	Veteran Telugu actor
20.	Sammy Shore	an actor and stand-up comedian
21.	Vijaya Mulay	Renowned filmmaker, film historian, researcher and educationist
22.	Veeru Devgn	Bollywood's most famous stunt and action choreographer
23.	Carmine Caridi	actor
31.	J. Mahendran	Film Director
24.	Terry Rawlings	A British film and sound editor
25.	Mark Medoff	Actor
26.	John Singleton	Academy Award-nominated filmmaker
27.	Luke Perry	American actor
28.	Raj Kumar Barjatya	filmmaker
29.	Bruno Ganz	Swiss actor
30.	Mahesh Anand	Noted actor in Bollywood
31.	Albert Finney	Oscar-nominated British actor
32.	Ramesh Bhatkar	Veteran Marathi actor
33.	Crazy Mohan	Tamil writer, comedian and actor
34.	Girish Karnad	Noted actor, filmmaker and playwright
35.	John Rebennack	Musician
36.	Dinyar Contractor	comedian, film and theatre actor
Author/Journalist/Activist/Painter (National-International)		
37.	Telugu story writer and the Sahitya Akademi award winner	Abburi Chaya Devi
38.	An Eminent Social Activist and secretary of the Gandhi Ashram Trust	Jharna Dhara Chowdhury
39.	Veteran freedom fighter from Goa and Padmashri winner	Mohan Ranade
40.	Maramraju Satyanarayana Rao	Prominent writer and academician
41.	Thoppil Mohamed Meeran	Noted Tamil novelist and Sahitya Akademi awardee

42.	I M Pei	American architecture
43.	S. Muthiah	Chennai's famed chronicler, cartographer, and journalist
44.	Zhores Alferov	Russian physicist and Nobel Prize laureate
45.	Andre Previn	Legendary composer and pianist
46.	Darryl D'Monte	Senior journalist and environmental activist
47.	Prafulla Rajguru	Veteran journalist and academician
48.	Namvar Singh	Noted Hindi writer
49.	Andrea Levy	British author
50.	Ruma Guha Thakurta	Actor-singer
Sportsmen/Sportswomen (National-International)		
51.	Former Bengal cricketer	Shyam Sundar Mitra
52.	Derek Sippy	Former Indian Cue sports Player, Coach and administrator
53.	champion Niki Lauda	former Formula One driver and three-time world champion
54.	Con de Lange	Scotland all-rounder
55.	Pungam Kannan	Former India footballer
56.	Gordon Banks	famous goalkeeper
Others (National-International)		
57.	Automobile industry legend from USA	Lee Iacocca
58.	Birla Group patriarch	Basant Kumar Birla
59.	Carlin Dunne and also known as " The King of the Mountain "	Professional motorcycle racer
60.	Prof. Kirpal Singh	first chronicler of Partition
61.	Prof N.R. Madhava Menon	educationist, scholar, and the pioneering spirit
62.	Baidyanath Mishra	economist
63.	YC Deveshwar	The Padma Bhushan awardee and ITC's Non-Executive Chairman
64.	Kartik Chandra Rath	veteran dramatist
65.	Sydney Brenner	Biologist
66.	Pradeep Choubey	Poet
67.	Jerrie Cobb	America's first female astronaut candidate, pilot
68.	Rama Sengupta Paul	Veteran lady mountaineer
69.	Ashita	Celebrated Malayalam writer and poet
70.	Valery Bykovsky	Russian cosmonaut
71.	William E. Butterworth III	American military veteran and novelist
72.	Wallace Smith Broecker	Climate scientist
73.	Manfred Eigen	German scientist
74.	Hiten Bhaya	Former Planning Commission member and ex-director of IIMC

LIST/INDEXES ANNOUNCED RECENTLY

- **Randstad rates Amazon India** as country's most attractive employer brand. **Microsoft India** emerged as the runner-up, followed by **Sony India**.
- United Nation released its "**World Population Prospects Report 2019**".
Findings of the report are:
- **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.
- 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.
- 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)**.
- **Global air passengers' right expert Airhelp** came out with the list of world's best airports and **Hyderabad Rajiv Gandhi International airport** was ranked the world's eighth best airport. **Qatar's Hamad International Airport** topped the list.
- The **Geological Survey of India (GSI)** in its report revealed that about **35% of India's total Graphite reserves** are found in **Arunachal Pradesh**. This is the highest found in the country.
- **India** stands in a lowly **117th position out of 181 countries** in the **KidsRight Index**; **Iceland** secured the **top position** in the index followed by Portugal.
- A report by **OpenSignal**, which is named as '**OpenSignal's hottest city for 4G Availability**' reveals the **4G Availability** in **India's 50 largest cities**. Out of the 50 cities, **Dhanbad**, which is also known as the coal capital of India has the highest 4G availability of **95.3%**, followed by **Ranchi** which has **95%** of 4G Availability.
- **President Ram Nath Kovind** has released the **national ranking of higher institutes** by **Ministry of HRD** in New Delhi. **Indian Institute of Technology Madras** topped the rankings while the Indian Institute of Science, Bangalore bagged the second rank followed by IIT Delhi. **Delhi University's Miranda House** was ranked the best among colleges across the country, while the varsity's **St Stephen's College** was ranked fourth. **AIIMS** ranked first among medical sciences institutes and National Law School, Bangalore has topped law colleges.
- **As per the World Bank Report**, **India** retained its position as the **world's top recipient of**

- remittances** with its diaspora sending a whopping **USD 79 billion back home in 2018**. India was followed by China (USD 67 billion) and Mexico (USD 36 billion). The Report was titled as '**World Bank's Migration and Development Brief**'.
- **India's asset management companies (AMCs)** own assets under management (AUM) worth Rs24.46 trillion, according to data released by the **Association of Mutual Funds in India (Amfi)**. **HDFC Asset Management Co. Ltd** has claimed the top spot with an average AUM of Rs3.42 trillion
- India's population grew at an average annual rate of **1.2% between 2010 and 2019 to 1.36 billion**, more than **double** the annual growth rate of **China**, according to a report by the **United Nations Population Fund (UNPFA)**. India's population in 2019 stood at 1.36 billion, growing from **942.2 million in 1994**.
- **HDFC Bank** identified as **number 1 bank** by customers in India, **as per Forbes World's Best Bank survey**. In the first edition of this survey, Forbes partnered with market research firm Statista to measure the best banks in 23 countries. **HDFC Bank emerged as India's No 1 bank**. ICICI Bank was at number 2 and **SBI was surprisingly ranked 11th** in the list.
- The **Time 100 Most Influential People 2019** list released, naming the world's most influential pioneers, leaders, titans, artists, and icons of the year. Reliance Industries Chairman **Mukesh Ambani** and public-interest litigators **Arundhati Katju** and **Menaka Guruswamy**, who spearheaded a historic legal battle for LGBTQ rights in India, are the Indian names that appeared in the list.
- **India** ranked **140th** out of **180** countries in the **World Press Freedom Index 2019**, released by Reporters Without Borders. The index is topped by Norway. **Paris-based Reporters Sans Frontieres (RSF), or Reporters Without Borders**.
- India was ranked **17th** position among **100** countries in **Startup Ecosystem Ranking for 2019** released by **StartupBlink**. It was ranked **37th** spot last year. The report ranks countries based on the strength of its startup ecosystem.
- India was ranked **19th** out of 28 countries in the **Index of Cancer Preparedness (ICP)** released by the **Economist Intelligence Unit (EIU)**. Top 3 countries are **Australia (1st)**, Netherlands (2nd) and Germany (3rd).
- **India was the world's fourth biggest military spender in 2018** behind the United States, China, and Saudi Arabia, according to new data think tank **Stockholm International Peace Research Institute (SIPRI)**.
- According to **BCG-IBA Report – EASE Reforms for Public Sector Banks**, released by Union Minister of

Finance & Corporate Affairs, **Punjab National Bank (PNB)** secured the **top spot** among all public sector banks in the implementation of 'Reforms agenda'. PNB which topped the list with a score of **78.4** out of 100 in the EASE-index was followed by **BoB (77.8)**, **SBI (74.6)**, and Oriental Bank of Commerce (69).

- According to the **Delta ranking report** released by **NITI Aayog**, Assam's **Hailakandi** has become the top aspirational district among the **112 aspirational districts** of the country. Hailakandi in Assam has made a giant leap from **52nd position** to no. 1 position on the basis of its performance during November-December 2018 and January 2019.
- **India is the second largest importer of weapons** in the world, as per the annual report 'Trends in International Arms Transfers-2018' released by the think tank **Stockholm International Peace Research Institute (SIPRI)**. **Saudi Arabia is now the world's largest weapons importer.**
- **India**, which is the **world's largest consumer of gold**, has the **11th largest gold reserve**, with the current holding pegged at **607 tonnes**, as per the latest report by the **World Gold Council (WGC)**. The top spot is occupied by the **US** with gold reserves of **8,133.5 tonnes**, followed by **Germany** with **3,369.7 tonnes**.
- A recent study published in **PLOS Biology** found that human impacts on species occur across **84%** of the earth's surface and India ranks **16th** in such impacts, with **35 species** impacted on an average. **Malaysia** ranks **1st** among the countries with the highest number of impacted species (**125**).
- The human resource consulting firm, **Mercer's annual Quality of Living Survey 2019** has placed Austria's capital city **Vienna** at the number 1 spot, making it the **10th year** in a row. The only cities outside of Europe to make the top 10 list are Vancouver, Canada, and Auckland, New Zealand. Hyderabad and Pune, at a rank of **143**, continue to be the most liveable cities in **India** for expatriates.
- The **United Nation Environment Program (UNEP)** has released the sixth edition of the **Global Environment Outlook (2019)** titled '**Healthy Planet, Healthy People**'.
- **Tata, Reliance, and Airtel** emerged as the top three Indian brands of 2019, according to a report published by Interbrand, part of the Omnicom Media Group. **Tata** continued to hold the **top** position in the best Indian Brands ranking as its brand value grew by 6%, mainly due to Tata Consultancy Services (TCS).
- **Reliance Industries CMD Mukesh Ambani** leads **Forbes' list of richest sports team owners with a net worth of around \$50 billion.**

- The **World Happiness Report** was released by the **Sustainable Development Solutions Network for the United Nations** on March 20, the **International Day of Happiness**. India is ranked **140th** out of 156 nations. India shows a 7 spot decline. For the second consecutive year, **Finland** topped the list.
- The "**100 Most Influential People in Climate Policy**" list is comprised of seven Indian names including **Union Ministers Piyush Goyal and Dr Harsh Vardhan**, who took important measures to combat climate change. The list is prepared by Apolitical, a peer to peer learning platform for governments. The list has been **topped by Alexandria Ocasio-Cortez (Congresswoman, US Congress)**.
- In accordance with the preliminary world airport traffic rankings for **2018** released by **Airports Council International (ACI)**, **Indira Gandhi International Airport (IGIA)** of **New Delhi** has elevated 4 ranks to reach at **12th** spot in terms of the busiest airport as compared to **2017's** 16th spot. The list of world's busiest airports by passenger traffic ranking has been topped by **Hartsfield-Jackson Atlanta International Airport (US)**.
- India has moved up 2 places to rank **76th** on a **global energy transition index**. The annual list, compiled by **Geneva-based World Economic Forum (WEF)**, has ranked **115** economies on how well they are able to balance energy security and access with environmental sustainability and affordability. **Sweden** remains on the top and is followed by **Switzerland** and **Norway** in the top three.
- **Singapore's Changi Airport has been crowned the world's best aviation hub** for the seventh time in a row, while **New Delhi's Indira Gandhi International (IGI) Airport featured at number 59**, according to the **Skytrax World Airport Awards**. New Delhi's Indira Gandhi International (IGI) Airport is India's best Airport.
- **India ranked 47th** in the 'Inclusive Internet Index 2019' which is prepared by the 'Economist Intelligence Unit (EIU) for Facebook. Sweden topped the index whereas Singapore ranked 2nd and the USA ranked 3rd.
- With a net worth of \$54 billion, Reliance Industries Chairman Mukesh Ambani has broken into the global top 10 richest billionaire list compiled by Hurun Research. The Hurun Global Rich List 2019 is topped by Amazon chief Jeff Bezos & Ambani is placed 8th.
- The **International Labour Organization** released World Employment and Social Outlook Trends 2019 report. As per the report, unemployment rates will fall to **4.9% in 2019 and remains steady in 2020**.
- **India has jumped eight places to 36th** position on the **International Intellectual Property (IP) Index**, which analyses the IP climate in 50 global

economies, this year. The US, the UK, Sweden, France and Germany remained the top five economies on the intellectual property index in 2019 retaining their spots from the last year.

- **Assam occupied the top** slot in the ranking of best practices followed by states in the **Budget formulation, followed by Andhra Pradesh and Odisha**, as per a survey by Transparency International.
- 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.
- **An analysis of traffic congestion in more than 400 cities** across six continents has found that commuters in Mumbai spent the most time on the road in 2018. Mumbai ranked first in the study, 'Traffic Index-2018',

- 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.

IMPORTANT DAYS OBSERVED RECENTLY

Date	Day	Theme
1st July	National Doctors' Day	
1st July	Goods & Services Tax Day	
6th July	The United Nations observes first Saturday of July every year as International Day of Cooperatives. Theme for 2019: COOPS 4 DECENT WORK.	
1st June	World Milk Day- Theme- Drink Milk: Today & Everyday	
03rd June	World Bicycle Day-	
04th June	The International Day of Innocent Children Victims of Aggression	
5th June	World Environment Day - Theme- 'Beat Air Pollution' .	
5th June	International Day For The Fight Against Illegal, Unreported And Unregulated Fishing	
7th June	World Food Safety Day- Theme- Food Safety, Everyone's Business	
8th June	World Blood Donor Day- Theme- Blood donation and universal access to safe blood transfusion	
12th June	World Day Against Child Labour- Theme- Children shouldn't work in fields, but on dreams!	
15th June	World Elder Abuse Awareness Day	
17th June	"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!	
18th June	Sustainable Gastronomy Day	
18th June	Autistic Pride Day	
19th June	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" .	
20th June	World Refugee Day Theme for 2019: Step With Refugees — Take A Step.	
21st June	The International Day of Yoga is being observed on 21st June every year. Theme: Yoga for Climate Action.	
21st June	World Music Day	
23rd June	International Olympic Day	
23rd June	United Nations Public Service Day	
23rd June	International Widows Day	
25th June	The International Maritime Organization. The 2019 campaign for the day: I Am On Board	
26th June	International Day against Drug Abuse and Illicit Trafficking. Theme: Health for Justice, Justice for Health.	
27th June	Micro, Small and Medium sized Enterprises Day.	
1st to 15th June	Ministry of New and Renewable Energy and institutions under it observed Swachhta Pakhwada (cleanliness fortnight) from 1st June to 15th June 2019.	

29 th June	International Day of the Tropics	
29 th June	National Statistics Day	
30 th June	The United Nations International Asteroid Day	
30 th June	The United Nations International Day of Parliamentarism	
1 st May	International Labour Day (also known as May Day or International Workers' Day): Theme: "Sustainable Pension for all: The Role of Social Partners" .	
1 st May	'Maharashtra Day' and 'Gujarat Day' .	
2 nd May	World Tuna Day	
3 rd May	World Press Freedom Day (WPF): "Media for Democracy: Journalism and Elections in Times of Disinformation" .	
5 th May (first Sunday of May)	World Laughter Day	
7 th May (first Tuesday in May)	World Asthma Day. The theme of World Asthma Day 2019 was 'STOP for Asthma' .	
8 th May	World Red Cross Day. The 2019 theme chosen by them is, '#Love' .	
11 th May	National Technology Day	-----
12 th May	International Nurses Day	"Nurses – A Voice to Lead – Health for All" .
11 th May	World Migratory Bird Day	'Protect Birds: Be the Solution to Plastic Pollution.'
15 th May	International Day of Families.	"Families and Climate Action: Focus on SDG 13" .
16 th May	International Day of Light	-----
17 th May	World Telecommunication & Information Society Day	'Bridging the Standardization Gap'.
20 th May	World Bee Day	-----
20 th May	World Metrology Day	-----
21 st May	UAE celebrated World Day for Cultural Diversity	-----
21 st May	Anti-terrorism day	-----
22 nd May	International Day for Biological Diversity	'Our Biodiversity, Our Food, Our Health' .
29 th May	12th Republic Day of Nepal	-----
29 th May	International Everest Day	-----
29 th May	International Day Of UN Peacekeepers	Protecting Civilians, Protecting Peace
31st May - World No Tobacco Day (WNTD- Theme- tobacco and lung health."		
2 nd April	World Autism Awareness Day	Assistive Technologies, Active Participation
4 th April	International Mine Awareness Day	United Nations Promotes SDGs – Safe Ground – Safe Home
5 th April	National Maritime Day	Indian Ocean-An Ocean of opportunity
7 th April	World Health Day	'Universal health coverage (UHC): Everyone, Everywhere'
10th April- The World Homoeopathy Day- -----		
12 th April	International Day of Human Space Flight	-----
18 th April	International Day for Monuments and Sites.	Rural Landscapes'
22 nd April	World Earth Day	-----
21 st April	World Creativity and Innovation Day	-----
23 rd April	World Book Day	-----
24 th April	National Panchayati Raj Day	-----
25 th April	World Malaria Day	Zero malaria starts with me
26 th April	World Intellectual Property Day	Reach Gold-Intellectual Property (IP) And Sports" .
29 th April	International Dance Day	----- '

<p>World Allergy Week 2019 globally from 7-13 April 2019. The theme for World Allergy Week 2019 is “The Global Problem of Food Allergy”. The last week of April every year is observed as World Immunisation Week in order to promote the use of vaccines for the protection of people of all age-groups against disease. The WIW 2019 observed from 24-30th April, carrying the theme “Protected Together: Vaccines Work”. It was observed for the very first time in 2012.</p>		
3 rd March	World Wildlife Day - : ‘Life below water: for people and planet’.	
7 th March	Janaushadhi Diwas	-----
8 th March	International Women’s Day – Theme- “Think equal, build smart, innovate for change”, campaign theme: #BalanceforBetter.	
15 th March	World Consumer Rights Day	: “Trusted Smart Products
20 th March	International Day of Happiness	‘Happier Together’.
21 st March	International Day of Forests	Forests and Education.
22 nd March	International World Water	Leaving no one behind’.
<p>World Kidney Day (WKD) is observed annually on the second Thursday in March (14th March in 2019) to create awareness on the importance of the kidneys and reducing the frequency and impact of kidney disease. 2019 Theme: Kidney Health for Everyone Everywhere.</p>		
<p>Shaheed Diwas or Martyr’s Day on 23rd March. Each year, March 23, homage is paid to the great revolutionary fighters Bhagat Singh, Rajguru and Sukhdev who sacrificed their lives for the country.</p>		
22 nd March	Bihar Diwas or Bihar Day	-----
24 th March	World Tuberculosis (TB) Day	‘It’s time’. ’
23 rd March	World Meteorological Day	The Sun, the Earth and the Weather
21 st February	International Mother Language Day	-----
28 th February	National Science Day	‘Science for people and people for science’.
20 th February	World Day of Social Justice	If You Want Peace & Development, Work for Social Justice
<p>13 February is celebrated as World Radio Day by UNESCO all over the world. The theme was “Dialogue, Tolerance and Peace”.</p>		
11 th February	International Day of Women and Girls in Science	-----
2 nd February	World Wetlands Day	‘Wetlands and Climate Change’.
<p>World Cancer Day is being observed globally on 4th February. The theme was “I Am and I Will.”</p>		

BOOKS & AUTHORS

- Pakistan’s former captain and star all-rounder **Shahid Afridi** released his autobiography, titled **‘Game Changer’**. The book is co-authored by Afridi and journalist **Wajahat S Khan**.
- The Indian Publishing company, **Garuda Prakashan Private Limited**, launched its book **‘Saffron Swords- Centuries of Indic Resistance to Invaders’**. Written by **Manoshi Sinha Rawal**, it is a book on 52 unsung warriors of India from the last 1300 years.
- A book containing English translation of the **100-year-old** classic Punjabi poem about Jallianwala Bagh massacre, **‘Khooni Vaisakhi’** released in Abu Dhabi. India’s Ambassador to the UAE **Navdeep Singh Suri** commended the launch of the book.
- A book titled, **‘Mann Ki Baat- A Social Revolution on Radio’** was released by Finance Minister **Arun Jaitley in New Delhi**. The book is a compendium encompassing 50 editions of the ‘Mann Ki Baat’ programme by Prime Minister Narendra Modi on All India Radio.
- **Former Vice-President Hamid Ansari** launched the book titled **‘Every Vote Counts-The Story of India’s Elections’**. The author of this book is **former Chief Election Commissioner Navin Chawla**.
- The **Chairman of 15th Finance Commission** of India, **N.K. Singh** launched the book **“Indian Fiscal Federalism”**. The book has been written by **Dr. Y. V. Reddy, former Governor of RBI and Chairman of the 14th Finance Commission of India** along with **Dr. G. R. Reddy, Advisor (Finance) to the Government of Telangana**.
- The book titled **‘Quality, Accreditation, and Ranking - A Silent Revolution in the Offing in Indian Higher Education’** edited by Education Promotion Society for India’s (EPSI) Alternate President **Dr. H Chaturvedi in New Delhi**.

- A book 'Simplicity & Wisdom' written by Dinesh Shahra was launched at Parmarth Ashram in Kumbh Mela.
- Former Vice President Hamid Ansari launched the new book of former Finance Minister P Chidambaram named "Undaunted: Saving the Idea of India" at Nehru Memorial Museum, New Delhi.

- **Acclaimed Indo-Canadian filmmaker Deepa Mehta** will be given the Lifetime Achievement Award by the Academy of Canadian Cinema and Television. Mehta is best known for her Elements Trilogy - 'Fire', 'Earth' and 'Water'.
- **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.

DEFENCE CURRENT AFFAIRS

- 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**.
- **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 Astrobe 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 **Indian Space Research Organisation** has distributed **250 NavIC Messaging Receivers** to fishermen of Kerala on a trial basis.
- The first part of the **Indo-French joint naval exercise, Varuna 19.1** was kicked off the Goa coast. The second part, **Varuna 19.2** was held at the end of May in Djibouti.
- Defence ministry approved the procurement of **10 Kamov Ka-31** Airborne Early Warning and Control **helicopters** for the Indian Navy. The cost of the deal would be around **Rs 3,600 crore**.
- **INS Ranjit**, an Indian navy **destroyer** built by erstwhile **USSR**, is set to be decommissioned. The third of the five Kashin-class destroyers, it was commissioned in **1983** and rendered service to the Navy for over **36 years**.
- The fourth of Indian Navy's stealth Scorpene class Submarines of Project 75, **INS Vela** was launched at the Kanhoji Angre Wet Basin of Mazagon Dock Limited at Mumbai in **Maharashtra**.
- The Indian Army is commemorating this year as the **'Year of Next of Kin'** and plans to reach out to the next of kin of battle casualties, ex-servicemen and serving soldiers to inform them of entitled

- financial benefits, welfare schemes and help resolve pension-related problems.
- **First AH-64E (I) – Apache Guardian helicopter** was formally handed over to the **Indian Air Force** at Boeing production facility in Arizona, USA. Air Marshal AS Butola, represented the Indian Air Force and accepted the first Apache. IAF had signed a contract with US Government and **M/s Boeing Ltd in Sep 2015 for 22 Apache helicopters**.
- **India successfully conducted the flight test of ABHYAS – High-speed Expendable Aerial Target (HEAT)** from a test range in Odisha. The trial, carried out by the DRDO from the Integrated Test Range (ITR) at Chandipur in Balasore, was tracked by various radars and electro-optic systems.
- **Indian Navy's first full-fledged Services Selection Board (SSB)** was inaugurated by **Navy Chief Admiral Sunil Lanba** at Diamond Harbour near **Kolkata, West Bengal**. Spread over 27 acres on the banks of Hooghly, the SSB (Kolkata) has the capacity to screen 5,000 officer-candidates annually. This is the **fifth SSB of the Indian Navy**.
- The **Indian Coast Guard ship (ICGS) Vighraha** was decommissioned at **Visakhapatnam, Andhra Pradesh**. It is a frontline offshore patrol vessel (OPV). It was commissioned into service on April 12, 1990.
- The **Indian Navy** successfully test-fired a **Medium Range Surface to Air Missile (MRSAM)**, achieving a significant milestone to enhance its anti-air warfare capability.
- The 26th Edition of **Singapore India Maritime Bilateral Exercise (SIMBEX)-19** commenced in the **South China Sea**. In addition to IN Ships **Kolkata** and **Shakti**, Long Range Maritime Patrol Aircraft **P8I** also participates in the exercise.
- **Indian Air Force** successfully fired the **BrahMos air version missile** from its frontline **Su-30 MKI fighter** aircraft. The launch from the aircraft was smooth and the missile followed the desired trajectory before directly hitting the land target.
- **Flight Lieutenant Bhawana Kanth** became the **first woman pilot of the Indian Air Force to qualify to undertake missions by day on a**

- fighter aircraft. She completed the Day Operational syllabus on **MiG-21 Bison**.
- **U.S. Navy ships** conducted joint drills with warships from allies **Japan, Australia and South Korea** in their first combined exercise in the Western Pacific.
 - **DRDO successfully** test-fired the new version of the **Akash surface-to-air defence missile system** with a new indigenously-developed seeker in Balasore off the **Odisha coast**. The medium range multi-target engagement capable missile was developed as part of the **Integrated Guided-Missile Development Programme (IGMDP)** other than Nag, Agni, Trishul, and Prithvi missiles.
 - **Garden Reach Ship Builders and Engineers Ltd (GRSE)** became the '**first Indian shipyard**' to build and deliver **100 warships**. GRSE Chairman and Managing Director, Rear Admiral (Retd) VK Saxena, formally handed over the 100th warship 'IN LCU L-56' to the Indian Navy.
 - The Indian Army has successfully built the longest suspension bridge '**Matiri Bridge**' over the **Indus River** in the **Leh-Ladakh** region. Built in a record time of **40 days** 'Maitri Bridge' is longest Suspension Bridge over Indus River.
 - The joint military exercise between **Morocco and the US, "African Lion 2019,"** kicked off in southern Morocco. The exercise marks the participation of thousands of military officers.
 - India's first indigenously designed and developed **Dhanush artillery gun was inducted in the Indian Army** during a ceremony held at Ordnance Factory in Jabalpur, MP. Dhanush 155mm/45 calibre towed gun system can be deployed in all types of terrains.
 - The sixth edition of the joint military training exercise between the **Indian Army and the Sri Lankan Army**, Exercise **Mitra Shakti** concluded in Sri Lanka.
 - **Military forces of India and Singapore** got together to participate in a joint exercise in **Babina Cantonment in Jhansi**. The three-day exercise, '**Bold Kurukshetra-2019**', is being conducted to develop military technology, boost maritime security and bolster the nations' fight against terrorism.
 - **India has successfully test-fired** first indigenously designed and developed long-range sub-sonic cruise missile '**Nirbhay**' from a test range in Odisha. The all-weather missile, has a 1,000-kilometre strike range.
 - Chief of Army Staff General **Bipin Rawat** commissioned the Indian Coast Guard Ship **Veera** at a ceremony held at Naval Jetty at the dockyard at Vishakhapatnam, Andhra Pradesh.
 - The Indian Navy undertook the second edition of the bilateral maritime exercise between the Indian Navy and Vietnam Peoples' Navy, (**IN - VPN BILAT EX**) at/ off Cam Ranh Bay, **Vietnam**.
 - The Indian Navy will participate in **International Fleet Review (IFR)** that is scheduled to take place in **Qingdao, China** as part of 70th Anniversary celebrations of People's Liberation Army Navy (**PLA Navy**).
 - **India and France** will conduct their largest ever naval exercise '**Varuna**' in **May 2019**. It will witness the participation of aircraft carriers, destroyers, submarines, and fighters. India will deploy its aircraft carrier, **INS Vikramaditya** with its **MiG-29K** fighters.
 - **Indigenously designed 'INS Imphal'** a guided missile destroyer was launched by Navy Chief Sunil Lanba at Mazagon Dock Shipbuilders Limited (MDL) in Mumbai. This ship is designed by the Indian Navy's Directorate of Naval Designs, New Delhi.
 - The United States and South Korea decided to call off their joint exercise "**Foal Eagle**" and "**Key Resolve**" and instead bifurcate them into **smaller exercises**. This is being done to ease tensions with **North Korea**. "**Key Resolve**" will be replaced by "**Dongmaeng**" which is also known as **alliance** in English, Foal Eagle drills will be replaced by a smaller battalion-sized exercise.
 - **Border Security Force (BSF) and Border Guards Bangladesh (BGB)** took part in the 3-day '**Mainamati Maitree Exercise 2019**' as a part of '**Confidence Building Measures**' between **India and Bangladesh** held in Agartala, Tripura.
 - The third edition of the bilateral joint exercise between **India and Oman, Al Nagah 2019** will begin from 12th of this month (March) at **Jabel Al Akhdar Mountains in Oman**.
 - **Defence Research and Development Organization (DRDO)** successfully test fired the **PINAKA guided WEAPON rocket system** from Pokhran range in Rajasthan. The weapon system is equipped with state-of-the-art guidance kit comprising of an advanced navigation and control system.
 - **Indo Oman Joint Exercise Al Nagah III 2019**, a joint military exercise between **Indian and Royal Army of Oman (RAO)**, commenced this morning at HQ Jabel Regiment, Nizwa, Oman.
 - **The United States Special Forces Group stationed in Japan** is involved in a joint exercise with **India's National Security Guard in Hyderabad**, aimed at enhancing the capabilities of the armed forces of the two countries.
 - **Exercise Sampriti-VIII**, a joint **Indo-Bangladesh military exercise** which witnessed participation of a company group of **9th Battalion the Rajputana Rifles** from the Indian Army and the Company of **36 East Bengal Battalion, Bangladesh Army** concluded at Tangail, Bangladesh.
 - Highlighting the close maritime proximity between India and Indonesia, **Indian Coast Guard Ship**

'Vijit' became the first-ever Coast Guard ship to visit Sabang, Indonesia.

- The inaugural Africa-India Field Training Exercise-2019 for India and African nations called **AFINDEX-19** started with a grand opening ceremony at **Aundh Military Station, Pune**.
- **Exercise MITRA SHAKTI** is conducted annually as part of military diplomacy and interaction between **armies of India & Sri Lanka**. The joint exercise for the year 2018-19 will be conducted in Sri Lanka.
- The joint training exercise **MITRASHAKTI - VI** between **Indian and Sri Lanka Army** kick-started at **Diyatalawa in Sri Lanka**. MITRASHAKTI is one of the largest bilateral armies to army exercises conducted in the region.
- The Indian Air Force formally inducted the **CH 47 F(I)- Chinook heavy-lift helicopters** into its inventory at Air Force Station Chandigarh. IAF had **signed a contract with M/s Boeing Ltd** in September 2015 for 15 Chinook helicopters.
- The Indian Navy's state of the art Nuclear, Biological, and Chemical Training Facility (NBCTF) was inaugurated by Chief of Naval Staff Admiral **Sunil Lanba** at INS Shivaji, Lonavala. The training facility has been named **ABHEDYA**, which means impenetrable in Sanskrit.
- Indian Navy's frontline ASW corvette, **INS Kadmatt** arrived at **Langkawi, Malaysia** on a 7 days official visit. The ship is scheduled to participate in the 15th edition of **Langkawi International Maritime and Aerospace Exhibition, LIMA-19** during the visit. INS Kadmatt was commissioned into the Indian Navy in **January 2016**.
- **First Indian Army Mountaineering Expedition to Mt Makalu (8485m)** comprising five Officers, two JCOs and eleven OR was flagged off by Director General Military Training. In furtherance of the objective of summiting all challenging peaks above 8000M, Indian Army is launching its maiden expedition to Mt Makalu in Mar-May 2019.
- **The third edition of the biennial, bilateral exercise AUSINDEX 19 between India and Australia** will be held in **Vishakhapatnam, Andhra Pradesh**. The upcoming exercise will focus on anti-submarine warfare and will see Australia's largest defence force deployment in India.
- India has signed a deal with a Russian firm to manufacture **7.5 lakh AK-203 rifles**. These are the latest derivative of the **AK-47 rifles**.
- **Indian Air Force** conducted mega exercise '**Vayu Shakti**' in **Pokhran, Rajasthan**.
- **Flight Lieutenant Hina Jaiswal** from **Chandigarh**, became the **First Indian Woman Flight Engineer** of the Indian Air Force (IAF).
- **Indian Army showcased its artillery firepower** by using ultralight Howitzers and **indigenous**

Swathi weapon-locating radar at the annual "Exercise Topchi". The exercise was held at **Deolali Camp near Nashik**.

- **Joint Humanitarian Assistance and Disaster Relief Exercise 'Exercise Rahat'** concluded in **Jaipur, Rajasthan**. It was demonstrated in Jaipur, Kota, and Alwar in Rajasthan.
- **INS Trikand**, the frontline warship of the Indian Navy, participated in a multi-national training exercise '**CUTCLASS EXPRESS 2019**'. The annual Exercise Cutlass Express is sponsored by U.S. Africa Command (USAFRICOM) and conducted by Naval Forces Africa (NAVAF). It was held in the vicinity of Djibouti, **Mozambique and Seychelles**.
- **The 5-day multinational maritime exercise 'AMAN-19'** in which 46 nations participated from all over the world was formally commenced at Pakistan Navy Dockyard, with a colorful flag hoisting ceremony.
- Defence Acquisitions Council, DAC chaired by **Defence Minister approved indigenous** construction of six submarines worth 40 thousand crore rupees. It also approved the acquisition of about five thousand MILAN Anti-Tank Guided Missiles for the Army.
- As part of the ongoing India Bangladesh defence cooperation, a joint military exercise **Sampriti-2019** will be conducted at Tangail, Bangladesh from 02 March to 15 March 2019.
- **In a major boost for the Navy's firepower, the Defence Ministry** has approved the acquisition of more than **100 heavyweight torpedoes** which will be equipped on the force's six Scorpene-class submarines being built at Mazagon Dockyards in Mumbai.
- **India** has successfully tested fired **Brahmos Supersonic Cruise Missile from Chandipur in Odisha**.



FCI 2019

PHASE-II

TYPIST (HINDI)

10 Full Length Mocks
(Paper-III)

BILINGUAL

SPORTS CURRENT AFFAIRS

Cricket {National Game of: Australia, Bermuda, England, Jamaica No. of Players: 11

Important Terms associated: Arm ball, Beamer, Bottom hand, Bouncer, Cameo, Carrom ball, Chinaman, Flick, Free hit, Glance, Googly, Hat-trick, Hit wicket, Leg bye, Nelson, Night watchman, Pinch hitter, Sweep, Upper Cut.}

- **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**.
- **Afghanistan leg spinner Rashid Khan** recorded the worst bowling figures in ICC World Cup Match after conceding **110 runs in 9 overs against England**.
- Indian batsman **Ambati Rayudu** has announced his retirement from **international cricket**.
- **Amul** announced as the principal sponsor of the **Afghanistan** cricket team for the upcoming **World Cup**, slated to be held in **England and Wales** from **May 30**.
- **Pakistan off-spinner Sana Mir** becomes the **most successful women's ODI spinner** in history after she took her 147th wicket, highest ever by any spinner in One-day International (ODI) cricket.
- **India's GS Lakshmi** become the **first ever woman** to be appointed to the **ICC International Panel of Match Referees** and will be eligible to referee international games with immediate effect.
- **Ten million US Dollars** or little more than 70 crore rupees are on offer in the upcoming **ICC men's cricket World Cup 2019**.
- The **ICC** launched the **criiio** campaign on the eve of the **men's World Cup**, bringing together **460 million people playing cricket globally** to celebrate the magnificent diversity of cricket.
- **West Indies** opener **Chris Gayle** has become the **first batsman ever** to smash **500 or more sixes** in international cricket. In the 4th ODI against **England** in **Grenada**, Gayle scored 162 runs.
- The **Supreme Court** appointed senior advocate **PS Narasimha** as a mediator for resolving various disputes related to cricket administration within the cricket body, the **Board of Control for Cricket in India (BCCI)**.

Football {National Game of: Brazil, Italy, Germany, Israel, Mauritius, Poland No. of Players: 11

Important Terms Associated: Back Pass, Corner Kick, Free Kick, Dribble, Futsal, Header, Kick off, Banana Kick, Toe Poke, Throw-in, Bicycle Kick}

- **The Spanish footballer Fernando Torres** who was a part of 2010 World Cup Winning Team of Spain has announced his retirement **from football**.
- **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**
- **Spain and Barcelona** legend **Xavi Hernandez** announced that he will retire from professional **football** at the end of the current season. Xavi Hernandez spent 14 years in Barcelona, where he won 35 trophies, including 8 La Liga titles, before moving to Qatari club **Al-Sadd**.
- **Former Manchester City and Barcelona** midfielder **Yaya Toure** officially announced his retirement from football.
- **Manchester City** clinched their **fourth Premier League title (football)** after winning the 2018-19 season. Manchester City registered a **4-1 victory against Brighton** to accumulate 98 points, while **Liverpool, who were also in the title race, finished second with 97 points**.
- **Sethu FC** turned around a first-half deficit to **clinch their first ever Indian Women's League trophy** after **defeating Manipur Police** at the Guru Nanak Stadium, in Ludhiana, Punjab.
- **Chelsea** got the better of its **English Premier League** rivals to win the Europa League final, **beating Arsenal 4-1 in the Baku Olympic Stadium, Azerbaijan**.
- **Praful Patel, president of All India Football Federation (AIFF)**, has become the **first Indian to be elected as a member of FIFA Executive Council**.
- **In Football**, Liverpool breezed past Tottenham at Madrid to win the Champions League for the **sixth time**.

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

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

- **The Indian women's hockey team** have won the **FIH Series Finals after defeating Japan**. The best player title was clinched by **Rani Rampal**.
- 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**.

- **South Korea** defeated **India** in the penalty shootout in the final of **Sultan Azlan Shah Cup 2019**.
- The **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.
- 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**.

Current Affairs related to Tennis

- **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**.
- **Gary Woodland** won the **119th US Open**, capturing his first Major title after defeating two-time defending champion **Brook Koepka**.
- The **All India Tennis Association (AITA)** has signed an **MoU with Serbian Tennis Federation (STF)** to train **Indian junior players under world-renowned Serbian coaches**.
- **Fabio Fognini** became the **first Italian** to win an **ATP Masters 1000 title** at the **Rolex Monte-Carlo Masters**. He defeated **Dusan Lajovic**.
- **Dominic Thiem (Austria)** won the **Barcelona Open 2019** after defeating **Daniil Medvedev (Russia)**.
- **Roger Federer** has claimed the **100th ATP title** of his career after beating 20-year-old Greek **Stefanos Tsitsipas** in the final of the **Dubai Tennis Championships**.
- 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.
- **Third seed Sidharth Rawat** defeated **Rio Noguchi of Japan** to clinch his maiden title in the **\$25,000 ITF men's Futures tennis tournament**.
- In **Tennis**, world number two **Rafael Nadal** has lifted the **French Open Men's Singles title for the 12th time**.

Current Affairs related to Grand Prixes

- **Mercedes Driver Lewis Hamilton** wins **France Grand Prix 2019**. This is his **sixth** triumph in eight races in this season.
- **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.
- **Mercedes' Lewis Hamilton** won the **Spanish Grand Prix in Barcelona, Spain** and rose to the top of the Formula One world championship.

- **Lewis Hamilton** won the **Monaco Grand Prix** to extend his championship lead over Mercedes teammate **Valtteri Bottas**.
- Five times world champion **Lewis Hamilton** won **Bahrain Grand Prix 2019** title by beating **Valtteri Bottas** of Finland who secured the second position.
- In motor racing, **Lewis Hamilton won the Chinese Grand Prix** for a record sixth 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.

Badminton

- The world body governing **Badminton, BFA** launched two new formats of the game **AirBadminton and Triples** with new dimensions of the court and an innovative shuttlecock called **Airshuttle**. Traditional competitive badminton an indoor game.
- **China** won the badminton world mixed-team championship, **Sudirman Cup 2019** in **Nanning, China**.
- **Former junior national champion Harsheel Dani** rallied from a game down against **Mads Christophersen of Denmark** to clinch the **Dutch International badminton title** in **The Hague, Netherlands**.

Boxing/ Wrestling/Weightlifting

- **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**.
- **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**.
- **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**.
- World number one **Bajrang Punia** becomes the **first Indian** to win gold at the **Ali Aliev wrestling tournament** after defeating **Viktor Rassadin of Russia** in the 65 kg freestyle in **Kapiisk**. He had also won a gold at the **Asian Championships in Xi'an, China**.
- Indian boxers finished with a rich haul of **six medals, including two gold** at the **36th Feliks Stamm International Boxing Tournament in Warsaw, Poland**. **Gaurav Solanki and Manish Kaushik bagged one gold each**. Indian boxers also clinched a silver and three bronze.

- **India bagged a Gold and two Silver medals** at the **Boxing World Cup at Cologne in Germany**.
- India's **Bajrang Punia** has regained the world number **one** spot in the men's **65-kilogram** freestyle category rankings.
- World number one **Bajrang Punia** won gold at **Asian Wrestling Championship in China's Xian**.
- India won **gold** each in **10 metres Air Rifle Mixed Team** and **10 metres Air Pistol Mixed** team events in the **ISSF World Cup in Beijing**.
- **Young Mumbai sailor Upamanyu Dutta** bagged the **bronze medal in the Laser Standard race for men** in the **Laser Asian Sailing Championship** which concluded in **Singapore**.

Sports Events | Tournaments Current Affairs

- **The International Olympic Committee** has formally opened new headquarters in **Switzerland** exactly 125 years after the Olympic Games were revived.
- **The International Olympic Committee (IOC)** lifted the sanctions imposed **on India to host international sporting events**.
- **Jaipur** host the **8th Asian Youth Women Handball Championship** in which 10 teams will be participating. It will be played in **August 2019**. Earlier **Delhi** had hosted it in **2015** where the hosts India had finished 7th.
- **China** becomes the sole contender to host **Asian Cup Football tournament in 2023** after South Korea announced to withdraw its bid to host the game.
- **2nd India Open International Boxing Tournament** started in **Guwahati**.
- India bags a total of **57 medals including 12 Gold, 18 Silver and 27 Bronze** at **India Open International Boxing tournament in Guwahati**.
- **Asian Athletics Championships 2019** held at **Doha in Qatar**.
- **Special Olympics World Games 2019** which is being held from **March 14 to March 21 in the UAE** has made history by welcoming a **record-breaking 200 nations ahead of the Games**.
- **The 2019 FIFA Women's World Cup** is the **8th edition of the FIFA Women's World Cup, the quadrennial international football championship contested by the women's national teams between 7 June and 7 July 2019**.

Other Sports Current Affairs

- **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**.

- **India's ace cueist Pankaj Advani** has clinched the **35th men's Asian Snooker Championship** held in **Doha**.
- **Annu Rani** won the women's javelin bronze in the **58th Ostrava Golden Spike athletics meet, an IAAF World Challenge event**.
- **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**.
- **Aparna Kumar** becomes first IPS officer to complete Seven Summit challenge by scaling **Mt Denali**. **Mt Denali** is the tallest mountain in **North America**.
- Indian shooting ace **Apurvi Chandela** ranked the world number **one** in the **women's 10 metres air rifle** event while compatriot **Anjum Moudgil** rose to number **two** after consistent performances.
- Ace Indian squash players **Saurav Ghoshal** and **Joshna Chinappa** won their respective **Asian Individual Squash Championship titles in Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia**. **Saurav Ghoshal** defeated **Leo Au Chun Ming** of **Hong Kong**.
- **Former Croatia international and manager Igor Stimac** appointed as the **Indian men's team coach** after the **All India Football Federation's (AIFF)** technical committee recommended him for the post.
- **India's Rahil Gangjee** finished **tied 39th** while **Viraj Madappa** ended **tied 53rd** at the **Asia-Pacific Diamond Cup** held in **Japan**. **Japan's Yosuke Asaji** won the **Asia-Pacific Diamond Cup 2019** at the **Sobu Country Club**.
- **Germany's double Olympic biathlon champion Laura Dahlmeier** announced her retirement at the age of just 25 after struggling with health issues.
- **Brooks Koepka (of USA)** returned to the **top of the world rankings** after his nerve-jangling **second straight US PGA Championship victory at Bethpage Black**.
- **Indians** had a good day at the year's third **International Shooting Sport Federation (ISSF) World Cup Rifle and Pistol** tournament in **Munich, Germany**.
- **Indian shooters** continued their dominance claiming five gold medals on the final day of the **Asian Airgun Championships to sign off with a total of 25 medals in Taoyuan, Taipei**. India finished with **16 gold, 5 silver, and 4 bronze medals**.
- **Saurav Ghosal** became the **first Indian male squash player** to enter the top 10 in latest **Professional Squash Association (PSA) world rankings**.

- Ethiopian athletes **Gelete Burka** (women's race) and **Abrha Milaw** (men's race) won the 43rd edition of the **Paris Marathon**.
- **Famous Golfer Tiger Woods** completed one of the sport's great all-time comebacks to end an 11-year

- major title drought at the **Masters by claiming a fifth Green Jacket**.
- **Sunil Chhetri** became the most capped India player by **surpassing Bhaichung Bhutia's** 107 international matches.
- **Yuvraj Singh** announced retirement from international cricket.

SCIENCE & TECHNOLOGY (NASA, ISRO & OTHERS)

- **ISRO** unveiled its **Human Space Flight Centre (HSFC)** at ISRO Headquarter campus in Bengaluru, Karnataka for its maiden **manned space mission 'Gaganyaan'**.
- **India's 40th communication satellite GSAT-31** has been launched successfully from French Guiana. The Ariane-5 rocket lifted off with it from Kourou Launch Base, and in 42-minutes, placed it in the intended Geosynchronous Transfer Orbit.
- **NASA announced** that its Opportunity Rover mission is complete after the rover failed to respond despite repeated trials since August 2018.
- **NASA has announced a new space telescope mission dedicated to** understanding the origins of life and the universe. It's called the Spectro-Photometer for the History of the Universe, Epoch of Reionization and Ices Explorer or SPHEREx, for short. The space agency is aiming for a 2023 launch.
- **Infosys, the country's 2nd largest IT firm** has launched a next-generation digital platform 'InfyTQ' to facilitate engineering students with best learning experiences by imparting technical and professional skills.
- **Israel is to launch its first moon mission**, sending an unmanned spacecraft to collect data to be shared with NASA. According to a report, the **585-kilogram Beresheet (Genesis)** spacecraft is to lift off atop a Falcon 9 rocket from Cape Canaveral, Florida. Mission control will be in Yehud, near Tel Aviv.
- **AntBot is the first walking robot to have navigational capabilities** without GPS or mapping.
- Bandicoot, a drainage-cleaning robot, has been introduced for the first time in India at the Kumbakonam city corporation as part of efforts to rid of manual scavenging at the cost of Rs 18 lakh in Chennai, Tamil Nadu.
- **Cyber Prevention Awareness and Detection (CyPAD)** Centre and the National Cyber Forensic Lab (NCFL) were inaugurated by Union Home Minister Rajnath Singh and LG Anil Baijal in Dwarka, New Delhi.
- **Kerala Chief Minister, Pinarayi Vijayan, inaugurated** India's first Humanoid Police Robot named KP-BOT, ranked as Sub-Inspector (SI), at the Police Headquarters in Thiruvananthapuram, Kerala.
- **Chinese news agency Xinhua unveiled** the world's first female AI news anchor Xin Xiaomeng. She has been developed in collaboration with Sogou Inc, a search engine company.
- **Bengaluru-based Signalchip has unveiled semiconductor chips for 4G, LTE and 5G modems.** These are first such chips developed in India. All devices and infrastructure in India whether imported or domestically manufactured, currently use imported silicon chips.
- **ISRO has launched 'Yuva Vigyani Karyakram', a 'Young Scientist Programme'** for the School Children to be studying in the 9th standard.
- Just in time for International Women's Day, NASA announced that it will be conducting the first-ever, all-female spacewalk.
- **National space agency ISRO** and its French counterpart CNES sealed an agreement to set up a joint maritime surveillance system in the country in May. K.Sivan, Chairman of the Indian Space Research Organisation, and Jean-Yves Le Gall, President of CNES of France, signed the agreement in Bengaluru.
- **ISRO has launched a special programme for schoolchildren** called Young Scientist Programme or Yuva Vigyani Karyakram (YUVIKA), in tune with the government's vision "Jai Vigyan, Jai Anusandhan".
- **ISRO has launched a Defence Intelligence Satellite, EMISAT** in its 47th Polar Satellite Launch Vehicle (PSLV) mission, along with 28 other customer satellites, onboard the advanced PSLV-C45 Rocket.
- **Tesla has developed its 'largest power storage system in Asia'** at Osaka train station in Japan to reduce energy demand and provide emergency backup power to trains in Japan. It was Launched in partnership with Kintetsu, a railway operator in Japan's Osaka.
- **South Korea launches the world's first fully-fledged 5G mobile networks.** The system will bring smartphones near-instantaneous connectivity 20 times faster than the existing 4G allowing users to download entire movies in less than a second.
- **Astronomers have taken the first-ever image of a black hole**, which is located in a distant galaxy known as 'Messier 87' (M87).

- **Google launched Anthos, a new open platform** from Google Cloud, that lets users run applications from anywhere.
- **The most powerful operational rocket in the world, SpaceX's Falcon Heavy, launched its first commercial mission** from Florida in a key demonstration for billionaire entrepreneur Elon Musk's space company in the race to grasp lucrative military launch contracts.
- **Space Exploration Technologies Corp. (Space X)** launched its 17th commercial resupply mission to the International Space Station (ISS) by using Falcon 9 rocket with Dragon Spacecraft.
- **Microsoft has unveiled fully-managed Azure Blockchain Service** that would simplify the formation, management, and governance so that businesses can focus on workflow logic and application development.
- **After decades of ground-breaking laboratory works,** the world's scientific and technical community, in a landmark and historic decision has unanimously adopted the resolution to redefine four of the seven base units, the kilogram (SI unit of weight), Kelvin (SI unit of temperature), mole (SI unit of amount of substance), and ampere (SI unit of current).
- **ISRO has successfully launched the 'RISAT-2B' Satellite** from the Sriharikota's, Satish Dhawan Space

- **Centre, SHAR. The Polar Satellite Launch Vehicle (PSLV-C46) lifted-off from the First Launch Pad and injected RISAT-2B into an orbit of 556 km, about 15 minutes and 25 seconds after lift-off.**
- **NASA unveiled the calendar for the "Artemis" program that will return astronauts to the Moon for the first time in half a century, including eight scheduled launches and a mini-station in lunar orbit by 2024.** The original lunar missions were named for Apollo – Artemis was his twin sister in Greek mythology, and the goddess of hunting, wilderness, and the Moon.

FCI 2019
PHASE-II

J.E.
(Electrical Mechanical Engineering)

10 Full Length Mocks (Paper-I)
5 Full Length Mocks (Paper-II)

BILINGUAL

SCHEMES

- **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 Gol has reduced interest rates for small savings schemes by 10 basis points for the July-September quarter of the 2019-20 financial year.**
- **The Gol 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.**
- **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.**
- **'One Nation One Ration Card' scheme will be available across the country from 1st July 2020.**
- **Union Minister of Tribal Affairs launched the ambitious scheme of the Ministry of Tribal Affairs named Van Dhan. The scheme is for Minimum Support Price (MSP) for Minor Forest Produce (MFP) and Development of Value Chain of MFPs at a National Workshop organized by TRIFED. The Scheme will offer remunerative Minimum Support Price for 50 commercially viable items to the Tribals.**
- **Union Minister of Textiles launched a comprehensive scheme for the development of knitting and knitwear sector under PowerTex India in New Delhi. Apart from financial incentives, the two key elements are Yarn Bank and financial assistance for the solar energy scheme.**
- **The Cabinet Committee on Economic Affairs, chaired by Prime Minister Narendra Modi approved the 'Pradhan Mantri Jaiv Indhan- Vatavaran Anukool fasal awashesh Nivaran (JI-VAN) Yojana' for providing financial support to the Integrated Bioethanol Projects. The scheme aims to incentivise the Second Generation (2G) Ethanol sector and support the industry by creating a suitable ecosystem for setting up commercial projects and increasing R&D in this area.**

- **Gram Samridhi Yojana**, a **Rs 3,000 crore** scheme funded by the **World Bank** and the Government of India, is being worked upon by the **Ministry of Food Processing Industries** in order to strengthen the **unorganised food processing sector** concentrated in rural areas. NITI Aayog has given its approval to the scheme. World Bank will be giving **Rs 1,500 crore**, **Rs 1,000 crore** will be borne by the **Centre** while state governments will put in **Rs 500 crore**. The scheme will be run in **Uttar Pradesh, Andhra Pradesh, Maharashtra** and **Punjab**.
- **'Mukhyamantri Parivar Samman Nidhi'** scheme was launched by **Haryana** Chief Minister Manohar Lal Khattar in **Chandigarh**. It is primarily meant for farmers of the state who cultivate on land with areas up to **5 acres** and the families with an income of less than **Rs. 15,000 per month**. The scheme would provide a sum of **Rs. 6,000 yearly** and each family has to nominate a member who will be provided with this amount.
- A water conservation scheme **'Jal Amrutha'** was launched by **Karnataka** chief minister **H D Kumaraswamy**, in **Bengaluru**. A function was organized by the Rural Development and Panchayat Raj department at Dr. B R Ambedkar Bhavan in **Bengaluru**. The state government has declared **2019** as the **Year of Water**.
- The **government of Tripura** announced **'Notun Disha' (New Direction)** for assessing the academic level of students in **classes III-VIII** and then improving their current level. It was launched by state Education Minister **Ratan Lal Nath**.
- The **government** has introduced a scheme for providing financial assistance for transport and marketing of agriculture products with a view to boosting export of farm commodities to certain countries in **Europe and North America**. Under the **Transport and Marketing Assistance (TMA) scheme**, the government would reimburse a certain portion of freight charges and provide assistance for marketing of agricultural produce.
- **IRCTC** launched its own digital payment aggregator called **'IRCTC iPay'**. With iPay, passengers will not need any third-party platforms as it will provide payment options like credit card, debit card, unified payment interface and international card. This will help reduce the gap between **IRCTC and banks** which will eventually lead to a substantial reduction in payment failures.
- **Bharat Electronics Limited (BEL)**, a defence public sector undertaking, presented SWAGAT – the Automatic Fare Collection Gating System. PM Narendra Modi launched the system as part of the inaugural of Phase-I of the Ahmedabad Metro.
- **Tech giant Google** has unveiled a new app **'Bolo'** that aims to help children in primary school learn to read in Hindi and English. The free app, which is being launched in **India first**, uses **Google's speech** recognition and text-to-speech technology. The app features an animated character **'Diya'**, who encourages children to read stories aloud and helps if the child is unable to pronounce a word.
- **Aviva Life Insurance** announced the launch of **'Wings'**, a specially designed mentorship program to empower the female workforce. Wings program is an initiative of the **SHE** division of Aviva Life Insurance for mentoring all the women employees in Aviva.
- The **'i-help'** initiative to promote **digital electoral literacy** in **Assam** has been launched in view of the forthcoming Lok Sabha polls. It is a joint initiative of the Office of the Chief Electoral Officer (**CEO**) and Common Service Centres (**CSC**) in Assam.
- **Indian Institute of Public Health** Gandhinagar, (IIPHG) in collaboration with **National Mental Health Program**, Department of Health and Family Welfare, Government of Gujarat has developed a mobile application called as **'Conquer Exam, Be a Warrior'** for students to reduce the exam pressure.
- The **Central Board of Secondary Education (CBSE)** launched a new podcast app **'Shiksha Vani'** that will disseminate crucial information to students and parents in a timely manner.
- The **Human Resource Development (HRD) Ministry** launched Operation Digital Board on the lines of Operation Blackboard to provide better digital education in school.
- **Odisha Cabinet** approved the **'Khushi'** scheme to provide free sanitary napkins to school girls across the state.
- **Union minister Prakash Javadekar** launched **'Scheme for Higher Education Youth in Apprenticeship and Skills' (SHREYAS)** for providing industry apprenticeship opportunities to fresh graduates. This scheme is a programme basket comprising the initiatives of three central ministries, including the **HRD, Ministry of Skill Development and Entrepreneurship, and the Ministry of Labour and Employment**.
- A tele-law mobile application **'Nyaya Bandhu'** was launched by the Law Minister Ravi Shankar Prasad.
- The **Union Minister of Human Resource Development** launched the 'Operation Digital Board' to boost quality education in the country. An expert committee has worked out optimum configuration of the Digital Class Rooms under the Operation Digital Board.
- Union Minister for Tourism inaugurated the project **'Development of Eco Circuit: Pathanamthitta – Gavi – Vagamon – Thekkady'** under the Swadesh Darshan scheme of Ministry of Tourism at Vagamon, Kerala.

- **Union Minister of Commerce & Industry and Civil Aviation, Suresh Prabhu, launched SWAYATT in New Delhi.**
- **Home Minister and Minister for Women and Child Development** launched a range of citizen safety initiatives in New Delhi. Persons in distress can dial a pan-India number: 112. Under this system, all the states have to set up a dedicated Emergency Response Centre, ERC.
- **Minister of State (IC) for AYUSH, Shripad Yesso Naik launched the e-AUSHADHI portal, for online licensing of Ayurveda, Siddha, Unani and Homoeopathy drugs and related matters at New Delhi.**
- **Actor Vijay Sethupathi launched the mobile App 'DigiCop' of the Chennai police department at the Commissioner's office. Using the App, people can**

- track the status of stolen two-wheelers and cell phones.
- **'Darwaza Band- Part 2' campaign launched by Swachh Bharat Mission Grameen focuses on sustaining the open defecation free status of villages across the country. Earlier Darwaza Band campaign was launched in 2017.**
- **Shehri Samridhi Utsav, an initiative of Ministry of Housing & Urban Affairs (MoHUA), aims to extend the outreach of Deendayal Antyodaya Mission – National Urban Livelihoods Mission (DAY-NULM), to the most vulnerable, showcase its initiatives and facilitate access of Self-Help Group (SHG) members to the other government schemes.**
- **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.**

MISCELLANEOUS CURRENT AFFAIRS

- **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.**
- **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"** are 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.**
- The Central government asked the state transport departments to make it mandatory for **all EVs** to use the **green number plates,** irrespective of the year in which they were bought.
- **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.**

AWaRe classifies antibiotics into three groups:

- **A statue of Maharaja Ranjit Singh**, the legendary ruler of Punjab, was unveiled at **the Lahore Fort** on his **180th death anniversary**.
- State-owned telecom firm **BSNL** become the **first** operator to start optical **fiber-based high-speed broadband** service in Pulwama with the launch of **'Bharat Fibre'**. This is the first such FTTH (**fiber-to-the-home**) service deployment in the (Kashmir) Valley.
- **Mangaluru** City Police launched an **all-women police patrol** unit **'Rani Abbakka Force'**. All-women police patrol force named after the **16th-century** warrior of coastal Karnataka, **Queen Abbakka** of Ullal near Mangaluru, who fought the Portuguese in the 16th century.
- Vice President **M Venkaiah Naidu** released a postage stamp to commemorate the **750th birth anniversary** of **Sri Vedanta Desikan** in New Delhi. The stamp released by **Indian postal department**.
- **Stockholm International Peace Research Institute (SIPRI)** launched new initiative named **Global Registry of Violent Deaths (GREVD)** to count deaths caused by all forms of violence across the world and display these in open-source database.
- 18-year-old Nepali girl, **Bandana** danced continuously for **126 hours** to set a Guinness World Records on **'Longest Dancing Marathon by an Individual'**, a feat previously held by an **Indian**.
- The 5th United Nations Global Road Safety Week is being observed from **May 6 to 12, 2019**. It is celebrated once in two years. The theme of the Road Safety Week is **'Leadership for Road Safety'**.
- Pune-based **Indian Institute of Science Education and Research (IISER)** team found a new species of reddish-brown pit viper snake with a unique heat-sensing system, the first in past 70 years in India. The species is named **'Trimeresurus arunachalensis'** after Arunachal Pradesh, where it was discovered.
- Inaugural issue of **world's first exclusive women's cricket magazine 'Criczone'** was released with **Indian team vice-captain Smriti Mandhana** featuring as the cover story.
- One of the most prestigious international events from the world of cinema, **the Cannes Film Festival** begun in France. **Information and Broadcasting Secretary Amit Khare** is leading the Indian delegation at Cannes and inaugurate India Pavilion.
- **Doordarshan** launched an **online souvenir store for its viewers on Amazon India** so that one can easily access it. **A. Surya Prakash Chairman, Prasar Bharati** launched DD souvenir store on Amazon India.
- The **Home Ministry** cancelled the registration of Bengaluru-based NGO **Infosys Foundation** for alleged violation of norms in receiving **foreign grants**. All non-government organizations (NGOs) are mandatorily required to be registered under the **Foreign Contribution (Regulation) Act** or **FCRA** to receive foreign funding.
- **Nepalese Sherpa climber Kami Rita** scaled Mount Everest for a **23rd** time, breaking his own record for the **most successful ascents** of the world's highest peak. He first scaled Everest in **1994**.
- **Captain Aaroohi Pandit, a 23-year-old pilot from Mumbai** became the **world's first woman to cross the Atlantic Ocean solo in a Light Sports Aircraft (LSA)**.
- Commandos of the premier counter-terror force **National Security Guard (NSG)** created history as they scaled the **Mount Everest (world's highest peak)** in their **maiden attempt**.
- **HDFC Capital Advisors**, a wholly-owned subsidiary of **HDFC Ltd**, launched a new initiative called **'HDFC Affordable Real Estate and Technology Program (HeART)**.
- Leading stock exchange **BSE** launched **'BSE StAR MF'** app to enable more participation and help mutual fund distributors process transactions faster.
- **Niti Aayog** circulated a **cabinet note to provide Rs 7,500 crore** for the establishment of **AIRAWAT**, a cloud computing platform along with research institutes. This is part of the policy think tank's proposal to create an institutional framework for artificial intelligence (AI) in the country.
- **Taiwan Expo 2019** began in Pragati Maidan, New Delhi. The **representative of Taipei Economic and Cultural Centre Tien Chung-Kwang** and **Chairman of Taiwan External Trade Development Council, TAITRA James CF Huang** inaugurated the three-day event in the presence of **Joint Secretary Praveen Bonigala** and **ITPO Chairman LC Goyal**.
- **South African Saray Khumalo** reached the **highest point on the planet** becoming the first black African woman to **scale Mount Everest**. This was her fourth attempt at climbing Mount Everest.
- The **5th Smart Cities India 2019 expo**, including Transport India, Solar India, Buildings India and Water India expos, was inaugurated by **Durga Shanker Mishra, Secretary, Ministry of Housing and Urban Affairs (MoUHUA)** at the **Pragati Maidan, New Delhi**.
- After the **RBI** released a draft framework for setting up a **regulatory sandbox (RS) for fintech players** in the counter, the market and insurance regulators **SEBI** and **IRDAI** have also launched **similar initiatives**.
- The **Jamaat-ul-Mujahideen Bangladesh** also called as **Jamaat-ul-Mujahideen India** or **Jamaat-ul-Mujahideen Hindustan** declared as a banned terrorist organization by the government of **India**.

- Facebook is planning to launch its own **cryptocurrency in early 2020**, allowing users to make digital payments in a dozen countries. The currency, dubbed **GlobalCoin**, would enable **Facebook's 2.4 billion monthly users** to change dollars and other international currencies into its digital coins.
- **Swatantryaveer Vinayak Damodar Savarkar's** birth anniversary is being celebrated on 28th May. **Born on 28th May in 1883 near Nasik in Maharashtra**, Savarkar was popularly called **Veer Savarkar**.
- **Orchha town in Madhya Pradesh** has a plethora of historical sites with the Bundela dynasty architectural style.
- **Kerala's fruits and vegetable** exporters have heaved a sigh of relief following the **lifting of the export ban by Saudi Arabia** after the **Nipah virus attack last year**.
- **A 41-year-old orangutan** at **Odisha's Nandankanan Zoological Park** died following a prolonged illness. "**Binny**", the country's lone orangutan passed away around 9:40 pm due to old-age related ailments followed by respiratory tract infection.
- As the **World Environment Day** is approaching, **Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change** launched a theme song '**Hawa Aane De**' on air pollution. The song was launched in the national capital. The aim is to spread awareness regarding protecting the environment.
- **Assam's festival – the Rongali Bihu, also known as 'Bohaag Bihu'** which marks the beginning of the new Assamese calendar year started. Assam celebrates major agricultural events as the festival of Bihu.
- State-owned telecom service provider **Bharatiya Sanchar Nigam Limited (BSNL)** has received a licence from the **Department of Telecommunications** to provide **Internet and mobile services on flights**.
- **Phayeng Village in Imphal West district of Manipur** has become **India's first carbon-positive settlement**. A village is given carbon-positive tag if it sequesters more carbon than it emits, slowing accumulation of greenhouse gases (GHGs) and mitigating effects of climate change.
- **India's first-of-its-kind 'Voter Park'** was inaugurated in **Gurugram, Haryana**, aimed at increasing voter awareness and educating people about the electoral process. **Haryana Chief Electoral Officer Rajeev Ranjan** inaugurated the park.
- The **8th edition of Home Expo India 2019** opened at India Expo Centre and Mart, Greater Noida. The three-day exhibition organized by the Export Promotion Council for Handicrafts (EPCH).
- **Ethad Airways, UAE** based flag carrier, has become the **first major airline** in the Gulf region to operate a flight without any **single-use plastics** on board. The objective is to raise awareness about pollution.
- Cyclone Fani intensified into a severe cyclonic storm and has now become an 'extremely severe cyclonic storm' according to an Indian Meteorological Department (IMD) report.
- The Department for Promotion of Industry and Internal Trade, Ministry of Commerce and Industry, Government of India has recently awarded **Geographical Indication (GI)** to five varieties of Indian coffee. They are:
 1. Coorg Arabica coffee,
 2. Wayanaad Robusta coffee,
 3. Chikmagalur Arabica coffee,
 4. Araku Valley Arabica coffee,
 5. Bababudangiris Arabica coffee.
- **Tashigang, a Himachal Pradesh village at an altitude of 15,256 feet** has now become the highest polling station in the world. Situated about 29 km from the **India-China border**, the polling station covers two villages, **Tashigang and Gate**.
- The 3rd edition of **Namaste Thailand** festival, organised by the Royal Thai Embassy with an aim to strengthen bilateral ties and increase cultural exchange between **India and Thailand**, began at Select Citywalk in **New Delhi**.
- The Registrar of Geographical Indications, Government of India, accorded a GI tag, '**Sirsi Supari**', to arecanut grown in Sirsi, Siddpaur and Yellapur taluks of **Uttara Kannada** district in **Karnataka**.
- After an eight-year-long process, **Erode turmeric (of Tamil Nadu)** finally got a **Geographical Indication (GI) tag** from the Geographical Indication Registry.
- **Indian gymnast Dipa Karmakar** was selected as Barbie role model & was presented with a **one-of-a-kind doll by Barbie as the company celebrates its 60th anniversary**. She was part of the 'Shero' program launched in 2015 by the company.
- **A 116-year-old Japanese woman** who loves playing the board game Othello is being honored as the **world's oldest living person by Guinness World Records**.
- **Idukki's The Marayoor Jaggery**, the traditional and handmade product from Idukki district of Kerala received the **Geographical Indication (GI) tag** from the Central Government.
- The **National Green Tribunal** has slapped a fine of **Rs 500 crore** on German auto major Volkswagen for damaging the environment through the use of "cheat device" in its diesel cars in India. A bench headed by **NGT chairperson Justice Adarsh Kumar Goel** directed the carmaker to deposit the amount within two months.

- The **Central Industrial Security Force (CISF)** created the **Guinness World Record** for '**longest single line bicycle parade (moving)**' at the Yamuna Expressway, **Noida**. CISF personnel rode **1,327** bicycles non-stop in a single line, maintaining a uniform distance between the bicycles.
- A National Conference on "**Deendayal Disabled Rehabilitation Scheme (DDRS)**" was inaugurated by the Union Minister of Social Justice & Empowerment **Thaawarchand Gehlot**. Mr. Gehlot stated that the "**7th Guinness Book of World Record**" has been created by the Department of Empowerment of Persons with Disabilities (**DEPwD**), at **Bharuch, Gujarat**.
- Railway Minister Piyush Goyal launched Rail Drishti Dashboard in New Delhi. The dashboard has been launched to keep people informed about the work going on in the Railways across the country.
- A small brown rat of bramble cay melomys species lived on a tiny island off northern Australia becomes the world's first mammal to have become extinct due to "human-induced climate change".
- Wallace's giant bee (Wallace Bee), the largest bee known on the Earth which was considered to be extinct since 1981 was re-spotted in an Indonesian forest.
- Union Textiles Minister Smriti Irani inaugurated the '**Titanwala Museum**' that showcases the hand block printing of the Chhipa community in Bagru. Bagru printing is one of the traditional techniques of printing with natural color followed by the chhipas of Rajasthan.
- Under 'Make in India' initiative, Indian Railways created history by converting a diesel locomotive into electric locomotive for the first time in the world. This all new converted energy-efficient electric locomotive has been flagged off by PM Modi in Varanasi. As per the Indian Railways, the entire project is an Indian R&D innovation for the entire world.
- Union Culture Minister Mahesh Sharma inaugurated India's very first 'Full dome 3D Digital Theatre' at the Science City in Kolkata, West Bengal.
- Inland Waterways Authority of India (IWAI) launched a new portal Least Available Depth Information System (LADIS) for real-time data on available depth on stretches of National Waterways.
- A Himalayan Cloud Observatory is set up in Tehri district of Uttarakhand with a motive to forecast and monitor cloudburst incidents in the Himalayan region and help to minimize the damage.
- Union Minister of Textiles Smriti Irani launched the India Size project in Mumbai. A first-of-its-kind project in the history of the country, India Size aims to arrive at a standard Indian Size for the ready-to-wear clothing industry, on the lines of the standardized sizes available in countries such as the USA and the UK.
- **Pradhan Mantri Jan Arogya Yojana (PM-JAY) App** launched on Google play store. Ayushman Bharat Yojana or Pradhan Mantri Jan Arogya Yojana (PM-JAY) is a centrally sponsored scheme; which was launched in the year 2018, under the Ayushman Bharat Mission of MoHFW in the country.
- Ministry of Coal of India entered into an MoU with the Ministry of Energy, Republic of Poland. The objective is to foster relations in the field of coal mining and clean coal technologies.
- **Minister of Railways** the "**The Future of Rail**" report of the International Energy Agency (IEA). The Future of Rail is the first-of-a-kind report that analyses the current and future importance of rail around the world through the perspective of its energy and environmental implications.
- Centre 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.
- **Union cabinet approved the Pradhan Mantri Kisan Pension Yojana (PM-KPY)** 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. PM-KPY scheme aims to initially cover 5 crore farmers in the first 3 years.
- Narendra Modi has approved changes to the **Prime Minister's Scholarship Scheme** for wards of deceased defense personnel under the National Defence Fund. The quota of new scholarships for children of state police officials will be 500 in a year. The rates of scholarship have also been increased from Rs. 2000 per month to Rs. 2500 per month for boys and from **Rs. 2250 per month to Rs. 3000 per month for girls**.
- The **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 amount has been increased to **Rs 2,100 from Rs 1,100 for the girls studying in class 1 to 8** and for the girls in class 9 to 12, the financial aid has been increased to **Rs 2,500 from Rs 1,500**. Similarly, the government has also increased ex-gratia payment to the next of kin of an officer killed on election duty to **Rs 20 lakh from Rs 15 lakh**.
- **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. **Abu Dhabi-based Indian retail tycoon MA Yusuff Ali has become the first expat to get the UAE's first gold card permanent residency.**

- **Jay-Z** has been named the world's first billionaire rapper by Forbes.
- **US** end special trade treatment for **India** amid tariff dispute.
- **Air Chief Marshal Birender Singh Dhanoa** has left for **Sweden** on a four-day official visit.
- The U.S. Embassy organised its fifth annual **'Student Visa Day'** and launched 'EducationUSA India'. It is a mobile application to provide Indian students with "current, comprehensive and accurate information about studying in the U.S.". It was launched by the Embassy in collaboration with the United States-India Educational Foundation.
- The 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, about 470 km west-northwest of Goa, 280 km south-southwest of Mumbai (Maharashtra) and 340 km nearly south of Veraval (Gujarat).

- **L&T Financial Services' (LTFS) 'Digital Sakhi'**, an educational programme aimed at digital financial inclusion of rural women, was launched in two villages of Villupuram district in Tamil Nadu.
- **In an effort to raise awareness about science and environment through films**, the 10th National Science Film Festival of India (NSFFI) will be organised in Tripura in January and February 2020.
- **Confederation of Indian Industry (CII) has launched a Fiscal Performance Index (FPI) to assess state and central budgets.**



STATIC TAKEAWAYS FROM THE CURRENT AFFAIRS

1. 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**.
2. Pradhan Mantri Kisan Pension Yojana scheme aims to initially cover **5 crore farmers** in the **first 3 years**.
3. **PM-KISAN** scheme was launched in Uttar Pradesh's **Gorakhpur** on **24th February 2019** by transferring the first installment of **Rs.2,000 each** to over one crore farmers
4. **San Salvador** is the capital of El Salvador.
5. **United States Dollar** is the currency of el salvador
6. **Stockholm** is the capital of Sweden.
7. **The krona** is the official **currency of Sweden**.
8. The current PM of Sweden is **Stefan Lofven**.
9. **K Chandrashekhara Rao** is the first and present CM of Telangana.
10. **Hyderabad** is the capital of Telangana.
11. The current governor of Telangana is **ESL Narasimhan**.
12. **Bhupesh Baghel** is the current CM of Chhattisgarh.
13. **Anandiben Patel** is the current Governor of Madhya Pradesh and Chhattisgarh.
14. **Raipur** is the capital of Chhattisgarh.
15. The headquarters of ONGC is in **New Delhi**.

16. **Shashi Shankar** is Chairman and Managing Director of ONGC.
17. OECD was founded in **1961**.
18. **Jose Angel Gurría** is Secretary-General of the OECD
19. **Ashok Gehlot** is the CM of Rajasthan.
20. **Jaipur** is the capital of Rajasthan.
21. **Kalyan Singh** is the current Governor of Rajasthan
22. NEFT is a nation-wide payment system.
23. **RTGS (Real Time Gross Settlement)** is the fastest possible money transfer system through the banking channel.
24. The minimum amount of transfer required for **RTGS** is **Rs. 2 lakh**.
25. **RTGS enables transmission on a real-time basis**
26. The Ujjivan Small Finance Bank commenced its banking operations from **01st February 2017**.
27. **Ittira Davis** is MD and CEO of Ujjivan Small Finance Bank.
28. Head Office of Ujjivan Small Finance Bank is in **Bengaluru**.
29. Dr Harsh Vardhan is the present Minister of Earth Sciences.
30. The Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO) is a specialized agency of the United Nations that leads international efforts to defeat hunger.

31. **FAO Founded in:** October 1945, **Headquarters:** Rome, Italy, **Current Director-General:** José Graziano da Silva
32. **World Bank Headquarters in:** Washington DC, USA, **Established in:** 1944, **President:** David Malpass
33. The organization of Islamic Cooperation (OIC) is the second largest inter-governmental organization after the United Nations with a membership of **57 states**.
34. The Organization was established upon a decision of the historical summit which took place in Rabat, the Kingdom of Morocco on **25 September 1969**.
35. Secretary-General of Organization of Islamic Cooperation is **Yousef Bin Ahmad Bin Abdul Rahman Al-Othaimeen**.
36. The '1st Global Disability Summit' was held in London in July 2018.
37. **Mr Vikram Kirloskar is the President of Confederation of Indian Industries**
38. **Male** is the capital of Maldives.
39. The **Maldivian rufiyaa** is the currency of the Maldives.
40. **Ibrahim Mohamed Solih** is the current President of the Maldives.
41. **Thailand Capital:** Bangkok, **Currency:** Baht
42. **Union Home Minister:** Amit Shah
43. **Kalaimamani Award:** It is given by **Tamil Nadu Iyal Isai Nataka Mandram** for excellence in the field of **art and literature**.
44. **BS (Bharat Stage)- VI norms:** Bharat Stage norms are the automotive emission norms to be implemented with effect from 1st April 2020, to curb the growing menace of air pollution through the vehicle's emission.
45. **ICAT: International Centre for Automotive Technology** is the premier testing and certification agency authorized by the **Ministry of Road Transport and Highways** for providing testing and certification services to the vehicle and component manufacturers in India and abroad.
46. **Current CM of Puducherry:** Velu Narayanasamy
47. **Railway Minister:** Piyush Goyal
48. **President of France:** Emmanuel Macron, **Capital:** Paris, **Currency:** Euro, CFP Franc
49. **Canada Capital:** Ottawa, **Currency:** Canadian dollar
50. The 45th summit of the G7 group of countries is going to take place from August 24 to August 26 in Biarritz in France.
51. **CEO of Amazon:** Jeff Bezos
52. **Central Vigilance Commission**, headquartered in **New Delhi**.
53. Set up by the GoI in **February, 1964**.
54. CVC is an apex vigilance institution.
55. **Constituency of Virendra Kumar:** Tikamgarh, Madhya Pradesh
56. 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.
57. **NDMA: National Disaster Management Authority** is the apex body, mandated to lay down the policies on disaster management.
58. Based on the **Disaster Management Act** enacted on **23rd December 2005** by GoI, headed by the Prime Minister.
59. **Headquarter:** New Delhi
60. **ATM:** Automated Teller Machine
61. **SEBI Headquarter:** Mumbai, **Chairperson:** Ajay Tyagi.
62. The National Stock Exchange of India Ltd. is the second largest in the world by nos. of trades in equity shares from January to June 2018, according to World Federation of Exchanges (WFE) report.
63. NSE launched electronic screen-based trading in 1994.
64. Mr. Vikram Limaye is the Managing Director and CEO of NSE
65. International Labour Organization was founded in 1919.
66. It Headquarters in Geneva, Switzerland.
67. Justice Pinaki Chandra Ghose is the chairperson of Lokpal
68. Sanjeev Srinivasan is the MD and CEO of Bharti AXA General Insurance.
69. It Headquarters in Mumbai.
70. **ITTF** - International Table Tennis Federation.
71. **Headquarters:** Lausanne, Switzerland.
72. **Iraq Capital:** Baghdad, **Currency:** Iraqi dinar.
73. The UN Security Council has primary responsibility for the maintenance of international peace and security.
74. It has 15 Members, and each Member has one vote
75. The Prize was established by late philanthropists and civic leaders, **Rhoda and Richard Goldman** in **1989** in San Francisco, California to celebrate grassroots environmentalists.
76. **Maharashtra CM:** Devendra Fadnavis, **Governor:** CH Vidyasagar Rao. **Capital:** Mumbai
77. **Gujarat CM:** Vijay Rupani, **Governor:** Om Prakash Kohli. **Capital:** Gandhinagar.
78. **Netherlands Capital:** Amsterdam, **Currency:** Euro and USD.
79. The **Companies Act of 2013** mandates a certain class of companies to have at least **one woman director** on board. Sebi, in compliance with the Companies Act 2013, made it compulsory to have at least one woman on board from **October 2014**.
80. **BSE MD & CEO:** Ashishkumar Chauhan.
81. **LIC HFL MD and CEO:** Vinay Sah.
82. **UK Capital:** London, **Currency:** Pound sterling.
83. **Karnataka Capital:** Bengaluru, **CM:** H.D Kumaraswamy, **Governor:** Vajubhai Vala.
84. PC Modi is the present Chairperson of CBDT.

85. ACD **Asia Cooperation Dialogue** was founded in 2002 and India is a founder member of it.
86. **NATO-** North Atlantic Treaty Organization, **headquarters:** Brussels, Belgium.
87. **Space X Headquarter:** Hawthorne, California, U.S, **Founder & CEO:** Elon Musk.
88. **SIPRI Stockholm International Peace Research Institute(SIPRI)** is an international institute dedicated to research into conflict, armaments, arms control and disarmament.
89. It was established in **1966** and is based in Stockholm, **Sweden**.
90. The G-7 groups together the US, Britain, France, Italy, Canada, Japan, and Germany.
91. The grouping had included **Russia** but it was left out following tensions with Western nations over the annexation of Crimea in **2015**.
92. **INS Ranjit** was constructed as Yard 2203 in the 61 Communards shipyard in the town of Nikolev in present-day **Ukraine**.
93. The keel of the ship was laid on June 29, **1977**, launched on June 16, **1979**, and commissioned as **INS Ranjit** on September 15, **1983**.
94. **Balesh Sharma** is the CEO of Vodafone Idea.
95. The **Wall of Honour** at the Ammunition Hill pays tributes to the heroism and courage of Jewish soldiers who fought in the defence of their countries they lived in "implementing values of bravery, loyalty, commitment and dedication to a mission, leadership, creativity, camaraderie, and sanctity of life".
96. **Israel Capital:** Jerusalem, **Currency:** Israeli new shekel.
97. **Poland Capital:** Warsaw, **Currency:** Polish zloty
98. Central Board of Indirect Taxes and Customs is a part of the Department of Revenue under the Ministry of Finance, Government of India.
99. INCB consists of 13 members who are elected by the ECOSOC and who serve in their personal capacity.
100. Established in 1968, the INCB is an independent and quasi-judicial monitoring body for the implementation of the UN's international drug control conventions.
101. **Vietnam Capital:** Hanoi, **Currency:** Vietnamese dong, **Vice President:** Dang Thi Ngoc Think.
102. The Arctic Council, a high level intergovernmental organisation **set up in 1996** to promote cooperation, coordination and interaction among the Arctic States and protect the Arctic environment.
103. The Arctic Council is formed of eight circumpolar countries- **Norway, Sweden, Finland, Iceland, Denmark, Canada, US and Russia**.
104. India has its Arctic research station '**Himadri**' in Svalbard, Norway since 2008
105. **Australia Capital:** Canberra, **Currency:** Australian Dollar.
106. **Afghanistan Capital:** Kabul, **Currency:** Afghan Afghani.
107. **State of Eritrea Capital:** Asmara, **Currency:** Eritrean nakfa
108. Dublin is the capital city of Ireland
109. Some of the famous awardees of **McCain Institute Award** are - **Malala Yousafzai (2015) and Dikembe Mutombo (2016)**.
110. For Cannes 2019, Mexican filmmaker **Alejandro Gonzalez Inarritu** has been named the jury president. It was Founded in 1946 as International Film Festival.
111. **NABARD Chairman-** Harsh Kumar Bhanwala, **Headquarters-** Mumbai, **Established on-** 12 July 1982. NABARD is now 100% owned by the government.
112. LIC Mutual Fund was established on 20th April 1989 by LIC of India.
113. **DRDO Chairman:** G Satheesh Reddy, **Estd. in:** 1958, **Headquarters in:** New Delhi.
114. The first woman on the ICC Development Panel of Umpires was Kathy Cross, who retired in 2018.
115. **Paytm Founder:** Vijay Shekhar Sharma. **Parent Organization:** One97 Communications.
116. GFDRR Global Facility for Disaster Reduction and Recovery is a global partnership that helps developing countries better understand and reduce their vulnerability to natural hazards and climate change. India became a member of CG of GFDRR in 2015 and expressed its interest to co-chair in last meeting of CG held in October 2018.
117. Aditya Puri is the MD of HDFC Bank. Headquarters in Mumbai, Maharashtra.
118. SIDBI was set up in 1990 under an Act of Indian Parliament. Mohammad Mustafa is the Chairman & Managing Director of SIDBI. **Headquarters:** Lucknow
119. Infosys Foundation was established in **1996**. **Sudha Murthy** is the chairperson of the Foundation.
120. **Infosys CEO:** Salil Parekh.
121. A bill for the creation of NSG **National Security Guard** was introduced in the parliament in August 1986. It received the assent of the President on September 22, 1986, and it formally came into being from that date. **Sudeep Lakhtakia** is the Director General of NSG
122. 17th May also marks the anniversary of the signing of the first International Telegraph Convention and the creation of the International Telecommunication Union.
123. **Saudi Arabia Capital:** Riyadh, **Currency:** Saudi riyal.
124. 2015 Cricket World cup was held jointly in Australia and New Zealand. Australia (5th title) was the champion team. New Zealand team was runner up
125. **Botswana Capital:** Gaborone, **Currency:** Botswana pula.

126. Geological Survey of India (GSI) was founded in 1851 with primarily goal of finding coal deposits for the Railways. It is an attached office to the Ministry of Mines and it is Headquartered in Kolkata.
127. Graphite is the most stable allotrope of Carbon, with standard entropy being zero.
128. The United Nations **Sasakawa Award** is the most prestigious international award in the area of Disaster Risk Management.
129. Ajay Singh is the President of Boxing Federation of India (BFI).
130. **Kerala CM:** Pinarayi Vijayan, **Governor:** P. Sathasivam.
131. The EU, which consists of 28 countries, has the world's largest economy and its third largest population, after China and India. In 2012, the EU was awarded the Nobel Peace Prize for advancing the causes of peace, reconciliation, democracy and human rights in Europe. The European Union Headquarters in Brussels, Belgium.
132. The Nespresso 2019 first prize in the international section was won by New Zealand's Josh Morrice for "Subak", about rice cultivation in Bali.
133. **Chairman HDFC Ltd:** Deepak Parekh
134. **SCO Shanghai Cooperation Organization (SCO) Headquarters** in Beijing, China.
135. UNESCO Headquarters in Paris, France. Director-General of UNESCO Audrey Azoulay.
136. **Ambassador of India to Indonesia:** Pradeep Kumar Rawat.
137. **FMCG** stands for Fast Moving Consumer Goods
138. Mr. Rajiv Gandhi was the youngest Prime Minister of India.
139. India's Permanent Representative to the UN Ambassador Syed Akbaruddin.
140. India is the fourth largest contributor of uniformed personnel to the UN peacekeeping.
141. 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.
142. Mount Everest is the world's highest mountain at its official elevation of 8848m above sea level. Sir Edmund Hillary and Nepalese Sherpa mountaineer Tenzing Norgay were the first people to reach the mountain's summit on May 29, 1953
143. Hardayal Prasad is the MD & CEO of SBI Card. SBI Card is headquartered in Gurgaon, Haryana
144. SBI Card was launched in October 1998 by the State Bank of India and GE Capital.
145. **Sunil Arora** is the Chief Election Commissioner of India.
146. **Ashok Lavasa and Sushil Chandra** are 2 Election Commissioner of India.
147. **The Order of the Rising Sun** is a Japanese government honour established in 1875 by Emperor Meiji
148. Malaria parasite was first discovered in Algeria by French physician Charles Louis Alphonse Laveran in 1880.
149. **Algeria Capital:** Algiers, **Currency:** Algerian dinar.
150. CJ Ranjan Gogoi is the present Chief Justice of India.
151. **Ukraine Capital:** Kyiv, **Currency:** Ukrainian hryvnia.
152. **IRDAI Chairman-** Subhash Chandra Khuntia, **Headquarters in-** Hyderabad
153. The SCO was founded at a summit in Shanghai in 2001 by the presidents of Russia, China, Kyrgyz Republic, Kazakhstan, Tajikistan and Uzbekistan. India became a full member of the China-dominated grouping in 2017. Along with India, Pakistan was also granted the SCO membership in 2017.
154. **Utkal Divas or Odisha Day falls every year on 01st April.**
155. **Capitals of South Africa:** Cape Town, Pretoria, Bloemfontein.
156. **The rand is the official currency of South Africa**
157. **Gangtok is the capital of Sikkim.**
158. **The Sikkim Krantikari Morcha (SKM) was founded in 2013.**
159. **The PK Chamling government was ousted by the SKM after over 24 years.**
160. **R Subramaniakumar is MD & CEO of IOB.**
161. **The headquarters of IOB is in Chennai.**
162. **Vladimir Putin is President of Russia.**
163. **Moscow is the capital city of Russia.**
164. **The Russian ruble is the currency Russia.**
165. **Dmitry Medvedev is PM of Russia.**
166. NSIC Limited is established by the **Government of India in 1955. 2. NSIC falls under Ministry of Micro, Small & Medium Enterprises of India. 3. Headquarters of NSIC is in New Delhi**
167. Headquarters of Corporation Bank is in **Mangaluru. PV Bharathi** is Managing Director and CEO of Corporation Bank.
168. **Khalifa bin Zayed Al Nahyan is President of the UAE.**
169. **Washington, D.C. is Capital of the USA.**
170. **Abu Dhabi is the Capital of the UAE.**
171. **The United Arab Emirates dirham is the currency of the UAE.**
172. **Mount Everest, known in Nepali as Sagarmatha and in Tibetan as Chomolungma, is Earth's highest mountain above sea level, located in the Mahalangur Himal sub-range of the Himalayas.**
173. **The international border between Nepal and China runs across its summit point.**
174. **Pramod Sawant is the 13th and current Chief Minister of Goa.**
175. **Panaji is the state capital of Goa.**
176. **Mridula Sinha is present Governor of Goa.**
177. **The kina is the currency of Papua New Guinea.**

178. **Port Moresby is the capital of Papua New Guinea.**
179. **The NCDRC National Consumer Disputes Redressal Commission (NCDRC) is a quasi-judicial commission in India which was set up in 1988 under the Consumer Protection Act, 1986.**
180. **The head office of NCDRC is in New Delhi.**
181. After Jawaharlal Nehru and Indira Gandhi, Narendra Modi is the third prime minister of the country who has been able to retain power for a second term with full majority in Lok Sabha.
182. **FICCI** stands for Federation of Indian Chambers of Commerce and Industry.
183. Headquarters of FICCI is in **New Delhi.**
184. FICCI established in **1927.**
185. President of Mexico is **Andres Manuel Lopez Obrador.**
186. Capital of Mexico is **Mexico City.**
187. The **Mexican peso** is the currency of Mexico
188. **Japan Capital:** Tokyo, **Currency:** Japanese yen, **PM:** Shinzo Abe.
189. MD and CEO of Bank of Baroda is P. S. Jayakumar. Headquarter of Bank of Baroda is in Vadodara
190. **ICICI Bank Headquarters:** Mumbai, **Tagline:** Hum Hain Na!
191. **RBI 25th Governor:** Shaktikant Das, **Headquarters:** Mumbai, **Founded:** 1 April 1935, Kolkata.
192. **Slovakia Capital:** Bratislava, **Currency:** Euro.
193. **ICC Chairperson:** Manu Sahney, **Headquarters:** Dubai, United Arab Emirates.
194. **Chile Capital:** Santiago, **Currency:** Chilean peso..
195. Odisha, on **April 1, 1936**, was carved out as a separate state in the then British India on a linguistic identity. **Odisha CM:** Naveen Patnaik, **Governor:** Ganeshi Lal
196. **Garuda CEO:** Sankrant Sanu.
197. **Asian Development Bank Headquarters:** Manila, Philippines, **President:** Takehiko Nakao.
198. **South Korea Capital-** Seoul, **Currency-** South Korean won.
199. World Squash Federation is the highest governing body of squash.
200. **MR Kumar** is the present Chairman of **Life Insurance Corporation (LIC)**
201. **Italy Capital:** Rome, **Currency:** Euro.
202. Mahabaleshwara MS is the Managing Director and Chief Executive Officer of **Karnataka Bank. Headquarters in:** Mangalore.
203. **MOEX CEO:** Alexander Afanasiev.
204. **Malawi Capital:** Lilongwe, **Currency:** Malawian kwacha.
205. **Morocco Capital:** Rabat, **Currency:** Moroccan dirham
206. Mr Ratan Naval Tata is the Emeritus Chairman of TATA Steels
207. US Secretary of State **Mike Pompeo.**
208. ISO stands for "**International Organisation for Standardisation**" that is responsible for establishing the standard in different areas of activities.
209. **World Economic Forum Headquarters:** Geneva, Switzerland. **Founder and Executive Chairman:** Mr. Klaus Schwab.
210. **Indian Overseas Bank Headquarters in Chennai, Tamil Nadu.**
211. **UNPFA Headquarters:** New York, United States, **Head:** Natalia Kanem
212. **Abdullah Majed Al Ali** is the Director of ADIBF
213. RBL/Ratnakar Bank Limited is a scheduled commercial bank, headquartered in Mumbai
214. **CEO Google:** Sundar Pichai
215. Natarajan Chandrasekaran is the Chairman of Tata Sons.
216. The All India Management Association (AIMA), the apex body of management professionals in the country, is committed to enhancing business excellence through its multifaceted activities. It was instituted in the year 2010.
217. **Hong Kong** is an autonomous territory, and former British colony, in southeastern China
218. Keshari Nath Tripathi is the governor of West Bengal. Mamta Banerjee is the CM of West Bengal.
219. Sanjay Mitra is the present Defence Secretary.
220. **Haiti Capital:** Port-au-Prince, **Currency:** Haitian gourde.
221. Jamia Millia Islamia was founded in **1920** in Aligarh and became a Central University by an Act of Parliament in **1988**. Manipur Governor **Najma Heptulla** is the university's chancellor.
222. Central Marine Fisheries Research Institute was established on February 3rd 1947 under the Ministry of Agriculture and Farmers Welfare and later it joined the ICAR in 1967.
223. The **Guillermo** award is a tribute to Colombian journalist **Guillermo Cano Isaza**. In December 1986, he was killed in front of the offices of his newspaper **El Espectador** in Bogota, **Colombia**.
224. EPCH (Export Promotion Council for Handicrafts) is the nodal export promotion body for handicrafts in India.
225. **Palestine Capitals-** Ramallah & East Jerusalem
226. Mr. Rajeev Yadav is the **MD & CEO** of Fincare Small Finance Bank. It was Launched in **2017**.
227. **World Bank President:** David Malpass, **Headquarters in:** Washington DC, USA, **Established in:** 1944.
228. **MD of IMF-** Christine Lagarde, **Headquarters in-** Washington DC, USA.
229. UPI is an instant **real-time payment system** developed by National Payments Corporation of


- India (NPCI) which facilitates inter-bank transactions.
230. **Nepal Prime Minister:** K P Sharma Oli, **Capital:** Kathmandu.
231. CRISIL was formerly known as Credit Rating Information Services of India Limited.
232. **Deutsche Bank Headquarters:** Frankfurt, Germany
233. **Rwanda Capital-** Kigali, **Currency-** Rwandan franc.
234. The Royal Society is an independent scientific academy of the **UK** and the Commonwealth, dedicated to promoting excellence in science
235. Vice Admiral **Karambir Singh** has been appointed as **next** Chief of the Naval Staff.
236. World IP Day is observed on April 26.
237. The award constituted by the Indian Intellectual Property Office under the **Union Ministry of Industry and Commerce** is conferred on persons and organisations working in the field of patents, trademarks, and Geographical Indications.
238. Amartya Sen won the **Nobel Prize in Economics in 1998**, **Bharat Ratna in 1999** and National Humanities Medal in **2012**.
239. **MD & CEO of SBI General Insurance:** Pushan Mahapatra.
240. **MD & CEO, Bajaj Allianz General Insurance:** Tapan Singhel
241. **MD & CEO of Bajaj Allianz Life Insurance:** Tarun Chugh.
242. **Founder & CEO of Network Intelligence:** K K Mookhey
243. **CSIR Headquarter:** New Delhi, **Director General:** Shekhar C. Mande.
244. **Union Minister of State (IC) in the Ministry of AYUSH:** Shripad Naik
245. **Assocham President:** B K Goenka
246. **Indonesia Capital-** Jakarta, **Currency-** Indonesian rupiah.
247. The government increased the accident insurance cover to **Rs 2 lakh** from Rs 1 lakh for new accounts opened after **28th August 2018** and the overdraft limit was also doubled to Rs **10,000**.
248. Israel captured the **Golan** from **Syria** in a **1967** war and annexed it, in a move not recognized internationally.
249. **Allahabad Bank MD and CEO:** S. S. Mallikarjuna Rao, **Headquarters:** Kolkata.
250. **WHO Headquarters:** Geneva, Switzerland, **Director general:** Tedros Adhanom.
251. **Kazakhstan PM:** Askar Mamin, **Capital:** Nur-Sultan, **Currency:** Kazakhstani Tenge.
252. NHB is the regulator for **housing finance companies** while NABARD is responsible for regulating and supervising the functions of **Co-operative banks and RRBs**.
253. **Kotak Mahindra Bank MD & CEO:** Uday Kotak, **headquarters:** Mumbai.
254. **e-NACH:** Electronic National Automated Clearing House; **OTP:** One Time Password
255. **IndusInd Bank Headquarter:** Mumbai, **CEO:** Romesh Sobti.
256. **NCLT Headquarter:** New Delhi
257. **ISSF-** International Shooting Sport Federation, **Headquarters:** Munich, Germany.
258. **International Press Institute Headquarters-** Vienna, Austria.
259. **Seychelles Capital:** Victoria, **Currency:** Seychellois rupee
260. **(ICMR) Indian Council of Medical Research Headquarters:** New Delhi.
261. **Microsoft CEO:** Satya Nadella.
262. **North Korea Capital:** Pyongyang, **Currency:** North Korean won..
263. **UN Secretary-General:** António Guterres of Portugal, **Headquarters in:** New York, United States, **Established on:** 24th October 1945.
264. **Tony Award** is given in recognition of excellence in live theatre.
265. **China Capital-** Beijing, **Currency-** Renminbi.
266. 22nd Asian Athletics Championships in Bhubaneswar India. India topped the medal tally with for the 1st time in 22nd edition.
267. **Canara Bank Chairman:** Shri. T.N. Manoharan, **Headquarters:** Bangalore, **MD & CEO** R A Sankara Narayanan.
268. Order of Ikhamanga Grades: **Gold (OIG)-** for exceptional achievement, **Silver (OIS)-** for excellent achievement, **Bronze (OIB)-** for outstanding achievement.
269. **South Africa President:** Cyril Ramaphosa,
270. **Since 1961, Arjuna Awards** are given by the Ministry of Youth Affairs and Sports, to recognize outstanding achievement in sports.
271. **Philippines Capital:** Manila, **Currency:** Philippine peso.
272. **GRSE Headquarters:** Kolkata, **GRSE Garden Reach Shipbuilders & Engineers Limited (GRSE)** was founded in **1884** as a small privately owned company. it was renamed as Garden Reach Workshop in **1916**. The company was nationalised by the Government of India in **1960**
273. **Ethiopia Capital-** Addis Ababa, **Currency-** Birr.
274. The Adobe Digital Disha Programme, launched in 2018, is aimed at driving synergies in creative thinking and technology-based learning.
275. **ATL (Atal Tinkering Lab)** is based on the philosophy to identify and nurture innovation in young students across India.
276. **AIM (Atal Innovation Mission)** is the Government of India's flagship initiative to promote a culture of innovation and entrepreneurship in India.
277. **Brunei Capital:** Bandar Seri Begawan, **Currency:** Brunei dollar, **Prime Minister:** Hassanal Bolkiah

278. **Y S Jaganmohan Reddy** is the present CM of Andhra Pradesh.
279. **Punjab National Bank CEO:** Sunil Mehta, **Headquarters:** New Delhi.
280. **SIGNALCHIP Founder and CEO:** Himanshu Khasnis.
281. **Finance Minister of India:** Nirmala Sitharaman.
282. **15th Finance Commission Chairman:** N K Singh
283. **Bangladesh Capital:** Dhaka, **Currency:** Taka, **PM:** Sheikh Hasina.
284. **AIIB President:** Jin Liqun, **Headquarters:** Beijing, China.
285. IFFCO Tokio is a joint venture between the Indian Farmers Fertilizer Co-operative (IFFCO) and its associates and Tokio Marine and Nichido Fire Group which is also the largest listed insurance group in Japan.
286. **IFFCO Tokio Chairman:** Mr. K. Srinivasa Gowda, **Headquarters:** Gurugram, Haryana.
287. **Assam Capital:** Dispur, **CM:** Sarbananda Sonowal, **Governor:** Jagdish Mukhi.
288. **Haryana Capital:** Chandigarh, **Chief Minister:** Manohar Lal Khattar, **Governor:** Satyadev Narayan Arya.
289. **Tamil Nadu Capital:** Chennai, **CM:** Edappadi K. Palaniswami, **Governor:** Banwarilal Purohit.
290. **Tripura Capital:** Agartala, **CM:** Biplab Kumar Deb, **Governor:** Kaptan Singh Solanki.
291. **KN Radhakrishnan- Director & CEO of TVS Motor**
292. **Capital of Paraguay:** Asuncion, **Currency:** Paraguayan Guarani, **President of Paraguay:** Mario Abdo Benitez
293. **ISRO Director:** K. Sivan, **Headquarters:** Bengaluru, **Established in:** 1969.
294. **MD and CEO of United Bank Of India:** A.K. Pradhan, **Headquarters in:** Kolkata, West Bengal.
295. **HDFC Life MD and CEO:** Vibha Padalkar, **Head Office in:** Mumbai, Maharashtra.
296. **BARC Headquarters in:** Mumbai, **Founder:** Homi J. Bhabha, **Founded:** 3 January 1954.
297. A geographical indication (GI) is a name or sign used on products which correspond to a specific geographical location or origin (e.g. a town, region, or country).
298. **Costa Rica Capital:** San José, **Currency:** Costa Rican colón.
299. **Finland Capital:** Helsinki, **Currency:** Euro.
300. **Korea Exim Bank Headquarters in:** Seoul, **Founded in:** 1976, **Chairman and President:** Sung-soo Eun.
301. M. S. Sahoo is the Chairperson of Insolvency and Bankruptcy Board of India (IBBI)
302. **SBI Chairperson:** Rajnish Kumar, **Headquarters:** Mumbai, **Founded:** 1 July 1955.
303. Acko's General Insurance Company was Founded in 2016 by Varun Dua. Its Head office is in Mumbai.
304. The CII-EXIM Bank Annual Conclave was held for the first time in 2005.
305. **Madhya Pradesh CM:** Kamal Nath, **Governor:** Anandiben Patel.
306. **Dr. Homi Jehangir Bhabha** established the **Atomic Energy Establishment, Trombay (AEET)** in January 1954. After the sad demise of Bhabha in 1966, **AEET was renamed Bhabha Atomic Research Centre (BARC)**
307. Dipa Karmakar was the 1st Indian female gymnast in the Olympics.
308. **Ravi Shankar Prasad** is the Minister of Communications and Information Technology
309. **Mizoram CM:** Zoramthanga, **Capital:** Aizawl, **Formation in:** 1987.
310. **Oman Capital:** Muscat, **Currency:** Omani rial
311. **National Security Guard (NSG)** formally came into being in September 1986.
312. Now total government sector banks are 20 in number. After 1 Apr 2019 merger of 2 more Government Banks Dena and Vijaya Bank in Government-owned bank of Baroda, the number of Government Sector Banks will be reduced to 18.
313. **BCCI President:** C.K. Khanna, **Headquarters:** Mumbai.
314. **UNEP Headquarters:** Nairobi, Kenya, **Head:** Joyce Msuya.
315. **Aviva Life Insurance Headquarters:** Gurgaon, Haryana, **MD and CEO:** Trevor Bull.
316. **BRICS Headquarters:** Shanghai, China; **President:** K V Kamath.
317. **Guinea Capital:** Conakry, **Currency:** Guinean franc.
318. **Bandhan Bank headquarters:** Kolkata.
319. **Mumbai Indians** lifted the IPL crown in 2013, 2015 and 2017.
320. **Indonesian President:** Joko Widodo.
321. The United Nations General Assembly designated **22 March 1993** as the **first World Water Day**.
322. **New Zealand Capital:** Wellington, **Currency:** New Zealand dollar.
323. The next Special Olympic Games are set to take place in Sweden in 2021.
324. **CBSE Chairperson-** Anita Karwal, **Headquarters-** New Delhi.
325. **Governor of Bihar-** Lalji Tandon, **Chief Minister-** Nitish Kumar.
326. India has **clinched all five editions** of SAFF championship.
327. **NITI Aayog:** National Institution for Transforming India.
328. **NITI Aayog CEO:** Amitabh Kant, **Vice Chairman:** Rajiv Kumar.

329. **World Meteorological Organization**
Headquarters: Geneva, Switzerland.
330. **The founder and Chairman of World Economic Forum-** Klaus Schwab. **WEF Headquarters-** Switzerland.
331. Lalit Kala Akademi established in 1954 is an autonomous organisation under the Ministry of Culture. It is headquartered in New Delhi.
332. **Suresh Raina** is the 1st Indian to score 100 in all 3 formats.
333. **Croatia** **Capital:** Zagreb, **Currency:** Croatian kuna.
334. **Bolivia** **Capital:** Sucre, **Currency:** Bolivian boliviano.
335. Air Chief Marshal BS Dhanoa is the present Chief of the Air Staff of IAF.
336. **Norway** **capital:** Oslo, **Currency:** Norwegian krone
337. Vice Admiral **Karambir Singh** has been appointed as the next **Chief of the Naval Staff (CNS)**.
338. Makalu is the fifth highest mountain in the world at 8,485 metres. It is located in the Mahalangur Himalayas 19 km southeast of Mount Everest, on the border between Nepal and Tibet, China.
339. SWIFT is abbreviated as Society For Worldwide Interbank Financial Telecommunications.
340. **Apple Inc.** **CEO-** Tim Cook; **Headquarters-** California, USA.
341. On May 25, 1963, in Addis Ababa, Ethiopia, the 32 African states that had achieved independence at that time agreed to establish the Organization of African Unity (OAU). There are 55 Member States currently in the African Union.
342. Abdel Fattah El-Sisi (of Egypt) is the chairperson of AU from Jan 2019 to Jan 2020.
343. **Justice D K Jain (retd)** has been appointed as the first Ombudsman of the BCCI recently.
344. The UN Security Council has primary responsibility for the maintenance of international peace and security. It has 15 Members, and each Member has one vote.
345. Vladimir Voronkov is the chief of U.N. counter-terrorism.
346. **Himachal Pradesh** **CM-** Jai Ram Thakur, **Governor-** Acharya Dev Vrat.
347. **Rajeev Sharma** is the Chairman & Managing Director of Power Finance Corporation. PFC headquarters in **New Delhi**. PFC was incorporated on **July 16th, 1986** and is a leading Non-Banking Financial Corporation in the Country.
348. The currency of Switzerland is Swiss franc.
349. **Exercise Malabar** is a naval exercise b/w U.S.A, Japan & India.
350. GAIL is India's biggest natural gas company.
351. BHEL is one of the few companies in the world, and only company in India, having the capability to manufacture the entire range of power plant equipment.
352. Based on the recommendations of the **Shyamala Gopinath panel**, interest rates on these schemes are reviewed before the end of every quarter, and accordingly, new rates are announced for the next quarter.
353. **Navy, Day** in India is celebrated on **4th December**
354. **Punjab CM:** Capt. Amarinder Singh, **Governor:** VP Singh Badnore
355. **Yes Bank** **Headquarters:** Mumbai, Maharashtra, **Tagline:** Experience our Expertise.
356. **Union for International Cancer Control** **Headquarters:** Geneva, Switzerland, **Founded:** 1933.
357. Nepal's central bank is called as Nepal Rashtira Bank. It was established in 1956 under the Nepal Rashtira Bank Act 1955. Dr. Chiranjibi Nepal is the Governor of Nepal Rashtira Bank.
358. John Mathai was the first Railways Minister of Independent India.
359. **Monaco Capital:** Monte Carlo, **Currency:** Euro.
360. Indu Bhushan is the CEO of PM-JAY
361. **Germany**
Capital: Berlin, **Currency:** Euro, **Chancellor:** Angel a Merkel.
362. Indian Coast Guard Headquarters in New Delhi.
363. **Fino Payments Bank** **Registered Office:** Mumbai, **MD & CEO:** Rishi Gupta, .
364. **Suryoday Small Finance Bank**
Headquarter: Navi Mumbai, **CEO & MD:** R Baskar Babu.
365. Under the first MOU signed 5 years ago, 1500 Bangladesh Civil Servants have already been trained in NCGG.
366. India has been a Party to the Convention on the conservation of migratory species of wild animals (CMS) since 1983. The Conference of Parties (COP) is the decision-making organ of this convention.
367. India has also signed non legally binding MOU with CMS on the conservation and management of Siberian Cranes (1998), Marine Turtles (2007), Dugongs (2008) and Raptors (2016).
368. Satya Pal Malik is the present Governor of Jammu & Kashmir.
369. **Shripad Yesso Naik** is the Minister of State (Independent Charge) of the Ministry of Ayurveda, Yoga and Naturopathy, Unani, Siddha and Homoeopathy (AYUSH).
370. Globally India ranks third after China and the USA in terms of the number of large dams with 5264 large dams in operation and 437 large dams under construction.
371. Established in 1999, CREDAI is the apex body representing real-estate developers from over 200 cities in the country.
372. **President of LAWASIA:** Mr. Christopher Leong
373. **President Bar Association of India:** Dr. Lalit Bhasin

374. National Film Development Corporation Ltd. (NFDC), incorporated in the year 1975, (100% owned Central Public Sector Undertaking) was formed by the Government of India with the primary objective of planning and promoting an organized, efficient and integrated development of the Indian film industry.
375. **Chief of the Army Staff** – General Bipin Rawat.
376. **North Macedonia Capital:** Skopje, **Currency:** Macedonia denar.
377. **Meghalaya Capital:** Shillong, **Chief Minister:** Conrad Sangma, **Governor:** Tathagata Roy.
378. **US President:** Donald Trump, **Capital:** Washington, D.C, **Currency:** US Dollar.
379. UPI is an instant **real-time** payment system developed by **National Payments Corporation of India** processing inter-bank transactions.
380. **ILO Headquarter:** Geneva, Switzerland, **Director General:** Guy Ryder, **Formed:** 1919.
381. **TERI Director-General:** Dr. Ajay Mathur, **Headquarters:** New Delhi
382. **ICICI Prudential Mutual Fund Headquarters:** Mumbai, **MD and CEO:** Nimesh Shah.
383. The FIH awards were established in **1998**
384. **Pakistan Capital:** Islamabad, **PM:** Imran Khan, **President:** Arif Alvi.
385. **Argentina Capital:** Buenos Aires, **Currency:** Argentine peso.
386. **Jharkhand Capital:** Ranchi, **CM:** Raghubar Das, **Governor:** Draupadi Murmu.
387. **Iran Capital:** Tehran, **Currency:** Rial, **President:** Hassan Rouhani.
388. **Governor of UP:** Ram Naik, **CM of UP:** Yogi Adityanath.
389. Radha Chauhan is the CEO of Government e Marketplace (GeM).
390. Assam is the 1st state nationalized (1950) in India among North-East states.
391. **Delhi Chief Minister:** Arvind Kejriwal, **Lieutenant Governor:** Anil Baijal.
392. The idea to celebrate International Mother Language Day was the initiative of Bangladesh. It was approved at the 1999 UNESCO General Conference and has been observed throughout the world since 2000
393. India-ASEAN trade and investment relations have been growing steadily, with ASEAN being the second largest trading partner of India, after China, with a total bilateral merchandise trade of USD 81.33 billion.
394. **Sri Lanka Capitals:** Colombo, Sri Jayawardenepura Kotte, **Currency:** Sri Lankan rupee, **Prime minister:** Ranil Wickremesinghe, **President:** Maithripala Sirisena

395. Hughes India is a majority-owned subsidiary of Hughes Network Systems, LLC, USA (Hughes), Hughes is the world's largest provider of broadband satellite networks and services.
396. BEL Headquarters in Bengaluru, Karnataka.
397. **AIBA President:** Mohamed Moustahsane.
398. **UN Women Executive Director:** Phumzile Mlambo-Ngcuka, **Headquarters:** New York.
399. **Zimbabwe Capital:** Harare, **President:** Emmerson Mnangagwa.
400. The 42-metre-high India Gate was built during the British Raj as the All India War Memorial Arch to honour the soldiers who died in the First World War (1914-1918) and the Third Anglo-Afghan War (1919).
401. FAGMIL is a GoI Undertaking, under the administrative control of Department of Fertilizers, Ministry of Chemicals and Fertilizers, Government of India..
402. Instituted in 1995 on the occasion of the 125th birth anniversary of Mahatma Gandhi, the annual award is given to individuals and institutions for their contribution towards social, economic and political transformation through non-violence and other Gandhian methods.
403. **Chairman of IWAI:** Jalaj Shrivastava, **Head office:** Noida, UP.
404. **Nigeria Capital:** Abuja, **Currency:** Nigerian naira
405. **Facebook Headquarters:** California, US, **CEO:** Mark Zuckerberg.
406. **IDBI Bank Headquarters:** Mumbai, **MD and CEO:** Rakesh Sharma



FCI 2019

PHASE-II

J.E.

(Civil Engineering)

10 Full Length Mocks (Paper-I)

5 Full Length Mocks (Paper-II)

BILINGUAL

Static GA: Awards & Fields

1. International Gandhi Peace Prize: For contributions towards social, economic & political transformation through non-violence & other Gandhian methods.
2. Bharat Ratna: Premier civilian award, to serve the nation.
3. Padma Vibhushan: Ranking wise the second award is the Padma Vibhushan in the Indian Republic. It awarded people from various fields including Govt. service to distinguish extraordinary service for the country.

4. Padma Bhushan: The Padma Bhushan is the highest civilian award third in rank in the Indian Republic.
5. Padma Shri: It is awarded to citizens of India for their distinguished contribution in several fields including Education, Literature, Arts, Science, Industry, Social Service, Medicine, Sports&Public Affairs.
6. Dronacharya Award: For brilliance in sports coaching.
7. Dhyan Chand Award: Highest lifetime achievement award in sports&games in India
8. Rajiv Gandhi Khel Ratna: Highest honor given for accomplishment in sports.
9. Vyas Samman: For literary in the Hindi language.
10. Saraswati Samman: For outstanding prose or poetry literary works in any Indian language listed in Schedule VIII of the Constitution of India.
11. Param Vir Chakra: Highest decoration Awarded for the most conspicuous bravery or some daring or prominent act of valour or self-sacrifice in the presence of the enemy on land, sea or air.
12. Maha Vir Chakra: Second highest decoration. It is awarded for acts of conspicuous gallantry in the presence of the enemy, whether on land, at sea or in the air.

13. Vir Chakra: It is the third in the order of awards for acts of gallantry in the face of the enemy on land, sea or air.
14. Ashok Chakra: Awarded for the most conspicuous bravery or some daring act of valour or self-sacrifice on land, at sea or in the air.
15. Academy (Oscar) Awards: Film (From 1929)
16. Grammy Award: Music (From 1958)
17. Ramon Magasaysay Award: Govt. (Public) Service, Social Service, Journalism, Literature, Communication&International Understanding
- Bourlog Award: Agriculture (From 1992)
18. Grammy: Music
19. Pulitzer: Journalism&Literature
20. Arjun: Sports
21. Boweloy: Agriculture
22. Kalinga: Science
23. Dhanwantri: Medical Science
24. Nobel Prize: Peace, Literature, Economics, Physics, Chemistry, Medical Science
25. Abel: Maths
26. Man Booker: Literature
27. Vachspati Samman: Sanskrit Literature

Topic 1: CM/Governors/Wildlife Sanctuaries/National Parks / Power Plants in India

States	National Parks(NP)	Wild Life Sanctuaries	Power Plants
J&K Satya Pal Malik Capital: Jammu(Winter) Srinagar(Summer)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 🚩 Dachigam National Park 🚩 Hemis National Park 🚩 Kishtwar National Park 🚩 Salim Ali National Park 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 🚩 Gulmarg WLS 🚩 Limber WLS 🚩 Nandini WLS 	-
Himachal Pradesh CM: Jairam Thakur Governor: Acharya Dev Vrat Capital: Shimla	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 🚩 Pin Valley National Park 🚩 Great Himalayan National Park 🚩 Inderkilla National Park 🚩 Khirganga National Park 🚩 Simbalbara National Park 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 🚩 Bandli WLS 🚩 Daranghati WLS 🚩 Dhauladhar WLS 🚩 Nargu WLS 🚩 Pong Dam Lake WLS 🚩 Shilli WLS 🚩 Talra WLS 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 🚩 Girinagar Hydrel Project 🚩 Binwa Hydrel Project 🚩 Rangtong Hydrel Project 🚩 Baner&Neugal Project
Punjab CM: Captain Amarinder Singh Governor: V P Singh Badnore Capital: Chandigarh		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 🚩 Abohar WLS 🚩 Harike Lake WLS 🚩 Jhajjar Bacholi WLS 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 🚩 Guru Gobind Singh Super Thermal Power Plant
Haryana CM: Manohar Lal Khattar Governor: Satya Dev Narayan Capital: Chandigarh	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 🚩 Kalesar National Park 🚩 Sultanpur National Park 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 🚩 Bhindawas WLS 🚩 Kalesar WLS 🚩 Khaparwas WLS 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 🚩 Gorakhpur Atomic Power Station 🚩 Deenbandhu Chhotu Ram TPS 🚩 Rajiv Gandhi TPS

Uttar Pradesh CM: Yogi Adityanath Governor: Ram Naik Capital: Lucknow	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 🚩 Dudhwa National Park 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 🚩 Hastinapur WLS 🚩 Ranipur WLS 🚩 Sohagibarwa WLS 🚩 Sur Sarovar WLS 🚩 Chandraprabha WLS 🚩 National Chambal WLS 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 🚩 Narora Atomic Power Station 🚩 Rihand Thermal Power Station 🚩 Anpara Thermal Power Station
Bihar CM: Nitish Kumar Governor: Lalji Tandon Capital: Patna	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 🚩 Valmiki National Park 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 🚩 Gautam Budha WLS 🚩 Kaimur WLS 🚩 Pant (Rajgir) WLS 🚩 Valmiki WLS 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 🚩 Kahalgaon Super Thermal Power Station 🚩 Barauni TPS
Chhattisgarh CM: Bhupesh Baghel Governor: Anandiben Patel Capital: Raipur	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 🚩 Indravati National Park 🚩 Kanger Valley National Park 🚩 Guru Ghasi Das (Sanjay) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 🚩 Badalkhol WLS 🚩 Bhairamgarh WLS 🚩 Bhoramdev WLS 🚩 Udanti Wild Buffalo WLS 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 🚩 Sipat Thermal Power Plant 🚩 Hasdeo TPS 🚩 Bhilai Expansion Power Plant
Jharkhand CM: Raghubar Das Governor: Draupadi Murmu Capital: Ranchi	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 🚩 Betla National Park 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 🚩 Lawalong WLS 🚩 Palkot WLS 🚩 Parasnath WLS 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 🚩 Chandrapura TPS 🚩 Koderma Thermal Power Station 🚩 Bokaro TPS
Andhra Pradesh CM: Jaganmohan Reddy Governor: E.S.L Narasimhan Capital: Amravathi [*Hyderabad initially]	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 🚩 Sri Venkateswara National Park 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 🚩 Coringa WLS 🚩 Kolleru WLS 🚩 Nellapattu WLS 🚩 Pulicat Lake WLS 🚩 Rajiv Gandhi (Nagarjuna Sagar-Srisailam) WLS 🚩 Rollapadu WLS 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 🚩 Simhadri Super Thermal Power Plant 🚩 Sri Damodaram Sanjeevaiah Thermal Power Station
Telangana CM: K. Chandrashekar Rao Governor: E. S. L. Narasimhan Capital: Hyderabad	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 🚩 Mrugavani National Park 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 🚩 Kawal WLS 	
Assam CM: Sarbananda Sonowal Governor: Jagdish Mukhi Capital: Dispur	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 🚩 Dibru-Saikhowa NP 🚩 Kaziranga National Park 🚩 Manas National Park 🚩 Nameri National Park 🚩 Rajiv Gandhi Orang National Park 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 🚩 Amchang WLS 🚩 Chakrashila WLS 🚩 Dihing Patkai WLS 🚩 East Karbi Anglong WLS 🚩 North Karbi Anglong WLS 🚩 Nambor WLS 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 🚩 Bongaigaon Thermal Power Plant
Goa CM: Pramod Sawants Governor: Mridula Sinha Capital: Panaji	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 🚩 Bhagwan Mahavir (Mollem) National Park 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 🚩 Bondla WLS 🚩 Madei WLS 🚩 Bhagwan Mahavir (Mollem) WLS 🚩 Netravali WLS 	-
Gujarat CM: Vijay Rupani Governor: O.P.Kohli Capital: Gandhinagar	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 🚩 Blackbuck National Park, Velavadar 🚩 Gir Forest National Park 🚩 Marine National 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 🚩 Jambugodha WLS 🚩 Jessore WLS 🚩 Kutch Desert WLS 🚩 Mitiyala WLS 🚩 Porbandar Lake WLS 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 🚩 Mundra Thermal Power Station 🚩 Ukai Thermal Power Station 🚩 Akrimota

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✚ Park, Gulf of Kutch ✚ Bansda National Park 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✚ Rampara Vidi WLS ✚ Ratanmahal WLS ✚ Shoolpaneswar (Dhumkhal) WLS ✚ Thol Lake WLS ✚ Wild Ass WLS 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Thermal Power Station ✚ Kakrapar Nuclear Power Plant
<p>Karnataka CM: H.D. Kumaraswamy Governor: Vajubhai R. Vala Capital: Bangaluru</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✚ Bandipur National Park ✚ Bannerghatta National Park ✚ Kudremukh National Park ✚ Nagarhole National Park ✚ Anshi national park 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✚ Arabithittu WLS ✚ Attiveri WLS ✚ Bhadra WLS ✚ Bhimgad WLS ✚ Brahmagiri WLS ✚ Cauvery WLS ✚ Nugu WLS ✚ Pushpagiri WLS ✚ Ranganathittu Bird WLS ✚ Sharavathi Valley WLS ✚ Someshwara WLS 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✚ Raichur Thermal Power Station ✚ Udupi Thermal Power Plant ✚ Bellary Thermal Power Station
<p>Kerala CM: Pinarayi Vijayan Governor: P. Sathashivam Capital: Thiruvananthapuram (or Trivandrum)</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✚ Eravikulam National Park ✚ Mathikettan Shola National Park ✚ Periyar National Park ✚ Silent Valley National Park ✚ Anamudi Shola National Park ✚ Pampadum Shola NP 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✚ Aralam WLS ✚ Chimmony WLS ✚ Idukki WLS ✚ Malabar WLS ✚ Mangalavanam Bird WLS ✚ Neyyar WLS ✚ Periyar WLS ✚ Thattekad Bird WLS 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✚ Brahmapuram Power Station ✚ Kayamkulam Power Station
<p>Madhya Pradesh CM: Kamal Nath Governor: Anandiben Patel Capital: Bhopal</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✚ Kanha National Park ✚ Madhav National Park ✚ Mandla Plant Fossils National Park ✚ Panna National Park ✚ Pench National Park ✚ Sanjay National Park ✚ Satpura National Park ✚ Van Vihar National park 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✚ Bori WLS ✚ Gandhi Sagar WLS ✚ Ghatigaon WLS ✚ Ken Gharial WLS ✚ Narsighgarh WLS ✚ National Chambal WLS ✚ Orcha WLS ✚ Kuno WLS ✚ Sardarpur WLS ✚ Son Gharial WLS 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✚ Vindhyachal Super Thermal Power Station ✚ Sant Singaji Thermal Power Plant ✚ Satpura Thermal Power Station ✚ Amarkantak TPS ✚ Sasan Ultra Mega Power Project
<p>Maharashtra CM: Devendra Fadnavis Governor: C. Vidyasagar Rao Capital: Mumbai</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✚ Chandoli National Park ✚ Navegaon National Park ✚ Tadoba National Park ✚ Gugamal national park 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✚ Aner Dam WLS ✚ Bhamragarh WLS ✚ Bhimashankar WLS ✚ Great Indian Bustard WLS ✚ Jaikwadi WLS ✚ Koyana WLS ✚ Nagzira WLS ✚ Painganga WLS ✚ Radhanagari WLS ✚ Sagarshwar WLS 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✚ Tarapur Atomic Power Station ✚ Tirora Thermal Power Station ✚ Amravati Thermal Power Plant

		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✚ Tipeswar WLS ✚ Tungareshwar WLS 	
Manipur CM: N Biren Singh Governor: Najma A Heptulla Capital: Imphal	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✚ Keibul Lamjao National Park 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✚ Yangoupokpi-Lokchao WLS 	-
Meghalaya CM: Conrad Sangma Governor: Tathagata Roy Capital: Shillong	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✚ Balphakram National Park ✚ Nokrek National Park 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✚ Baghmara Pitcher Plant WLS ✚ Nongkhylllem WLS ✚ Siju WLS 	-
Mizoram CM: PU Zoramthanga Governor: Jagdish Mukhi Capital: Aizawl	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✚ Murlen National Park ✚ Phawngpui Blue National Park ✚ Mountain National Park 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✚ Dampa WLS (TR) ✚ Ngengpui WLS ✚ Pualreng WLS ✚ Tokalo WLS 	-
Nagaland CM: Neiphiu Rio Governor: P.B.Acharya Capital: Kohima	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✚ Intanki National Park 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✚ Fakim WLS ✚ Puliebadze WLS ✚ Rangapahar WLS 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✚ Dikhu Hydro Electric Power Plant
Odisha CM: Naveen Patnaik Governor: Ganeshi Lal Capital: Bhubaneswer	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✚ Bhitarkanika National Park ✚ Simlipal National Park 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✚ Badrama WLS ✚ Baisipalli WLS ✚ Chilika (Nalaban) WLS ✚ Hadgarh WLS ✚ Khalasuni WLS ✚ Satkosia Gorge WLS 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✚ Talcher Super Thermal Power Station
Rajasthan CM: Ashok Gehlot Governor: Kalyan Singh Capital: Jaipur	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✚ Sariska National Park ✚ Ranthambore National Park ✚ Darrah National Park ✚ Desert National Park ✚ Keoladeo National Park 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✚ Bundh Baratha WLS ✚ Darrah WLS ✚ Jawahar Sagar WLS ✚ Kailadevi WLS ✚ Mount Abu WLS ✚ Ramsagar WLS ✚ Sariska WLS ✚ Sawai Man Singh WLS ✚ Shergarh WLS ✚ Sitamata WLS 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✚ Chhabra Thermal Power Station ✚ Suratgarh Power Station
Sikkim CM: PS Golay Governor: Ganga Prasad Capital: Gangtok	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✚ Khangchendzonga National Park 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✚ Fambong Lho WLS ✚ Kitam WLS (Bird) ✚ Maenam WLS ✚ Pangolakha WLS 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✚ Rangit Hydro Electric Power Project
Tamil Nadu CM: Edappadi Palaniswami Governor: Banwaril Lal Purohit Capital: Chennai	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✚ Mudumalai National Park ✚ Mukurthi National Park ✚ Indira Gandhi (Annamalai) National Park ✚ Guindy National Park ✚ Gulf of Mannar Marine National Park 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✚ Indira Gandhi (Annamalai) WLS ✚ Kalakad WLS ✚ Karaivetti WLS ✚ Karikili WLS ✚ Mudumalai WLS ✚ Pulicat Lake WLS ✚ Vaduvor WLS ✚ Vedanthangal WLS ✚ Vettangudi WLS 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✚ Kudankulam Nuclear Power Plant ✚ Neyveli Thermal ✚ Tuticorin Thermal Power Station
Tripura	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✚ Bison(Rajbari) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✚ Gumti WLS 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✚ Palatana

CM: Biplab Deb Governor: Kaptan Solanki Capital: Agartala	National Park Clouded Leopard National Park	Rowa WLS Sepahijala WLS Trishna WLS	Thermal Power Plant
UK CM: Trivendra Singh Rawat Governor: Baby Rani Maurya Capital: Dehradun	Gangotri National Park Jim Corbett National Park Valley of Flowers National Park	Askot Musk Deer WLS Binsar WLS Govind Pashu Vihar WLS Kedarnath WLS Sonanadi WLS	Chibro Power Plant Khodri Power Plant Chilla Power Plant
West Bengal CM: Mamata Banerjee Governor: Keshari Nath Tripathi Capital: Kolkata	Buxa National Park Neora Valley National Park Singalila National Park Sundarbans National Park	Ballavpur WLS Chintamani Kar Bird Sanctuary Haliday Island WLS Lothian Island WLS Mahananda WLS	Mejia Thermal Power Station Farakka Super Thermal Power Station Kolaghat Thermal Power Station Bakreshwar Thermal Power Station Durgapur Steel Thermal Power Station
Arunachal Pradesh Capital: Itanagar CM: Pema Khandu Governor: BD Mishra	Namdapha National Park Mouling National Park		

Topic 2: Upcoming Important Sport Events

Summer Olympics	Japan (2020); Paris (2024), Los Angeles (2028)
Winter Olympics	Pyeong Chang, South Korea (2018); Beijing, China (2022)
Commonwealth Games	Queensland, Australia (2018); London (2022)
Asian Games	Indonesia (2018); Hangzhou, China (2022)
FIFA	Russia (2018); Qatar (2022)
Commonwealth Youth Games	Brahmas (2017); Belfast (2021)
Commonwealth Weightlifting Championship	Lima, Peru (2018)

Men Hockey World Cup	2018 (India)
Women Hockey World Cup	2018 (London)
ICC Women Cricket World Cup	2021 (New Zealand)
ICC Men Cricket World Cup	2019 (England); 2023 (India)
FIFA (Women) World Cup	2019 (France) → Dare to Shine

ITTF Table Tennis World Cup	2018 (London)
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ICC World Cup Cricket Venue:

ODI: (One day International): 1. England – 2019 | 2. India – 2023

T20 World Cup: Australia - 2020.

FIFA (Football) World Cup venue:
 2018: Russia | 2022: Qatar
Commonwealth Games venues: 2018 – Gold Coast (Australia). | **2022: Birmingham (England)**

Olympics Games venues:
 2016 Summer: Rio de Janeiro (Brazil)
 2018 winter: Pyeongchang (South Korea)
 2020 summer: Tokyo (Japan)
 2022 Winter: Beijing (China)
 2024 Summer: Paris (France)

Asian Games host cities:
1. 2014: Incheon (South Korea)
2. 2018: Jakarta, Indonesia
3. 2022: Hangzhou, China

Topic 3: The Headquarters of the UN Organizations

International Organizations	HQ:
UNO (United Nations Org)	New York
UNICEF	New York
UNCTAD	Geneva
WHO (World Health Org)	Geneva
ILO (International Labour Org)	Geneva
WMO (World Meteorological Org)	Geneva
World Intellectual Property Org	Geneva
International Standards Org.	Geneva
IMF	Washington DC
World Bank	Washington DC
UNESCO	Paris
OECD	Paris
UNIDO (United Nations Industrial Dev. Org)	Vienna
IAEA (International Atomic Energy)	Vienna

Agency	
OPEC	Vienna
Amnesty International	London
Commonwealth of Nations	London
International Maritime Organization	London
ICJ (International Court of Justice)	The Hague
Food & Agricultural Organization	Rome
NATO	Brussels
Transparency International	Berlin
SAARC	Kathmandu
ASEAN	Jakarta
APEC (Asia Pacific Economic Forum)	Singapore
Organization of Islamic Cooperation	Jeddah

Topic 4: A Brief on the Census 2011

- The population of the country as per the provisional figures of Census 2011 is 1210.19 million of which 623.7 million (51.54%) are males & 586.46 million (48.46%) are females.
Major highlights of the Census 2011 (Provisional figures) are as under:
*The population of India has increased by more than 181 million during the decade 2001-2011.
- %age growth in 2001-2011 is 17.64; males 17.19 & females 18.12.
- *Uttar Pradesh (199.5 million) is the most populous State in the country followed by Maharashtra with 112 million.

Some of the highlights

- Slogan - Our census, Our Future
- India's 1st Census - 1872
- 2011 Census is - 15th Census
- Total Population - 1,21,01,93,422
- India's Rank in population - 2nd with 17.5% (1st China with 19%)
- Most Populous State - Uttar Pradesh
- Least Populous State - Sikkim
- Most Literate State - Kerala (93.9%)
- Least Literate State - Bihar (63.82%)

- National Sex Ratio - Female : Male (940 : 1000)
- Highest Sex Ratio (State) - Kerala (1084 : 1000)
- Lowest Sex Ratio (State) - Haryana
- Highest Sex Ratio (UT) - Puducherry
- **Least Sex Ratio (UT) - Daman & Diu (618 : 1000)**
- Literacy of Male - 82.14%
- Literacy of Female - 65.46%
- Population Growth Rate - 17.64%
- Highest fertility Rate - Meghalaya
- Most literate union territory - Lakshadweep (92.2%)
- Least literate Union Territory - Dadra Nagar & Haveli
- Most Literate District - Serechhip (Mizoram)
- Least Literate District - Dadra Naga & Haveli
- Highest Density of Population - Bihar (1102 sq.km)
- Lowest Density of Population - Arunachal Pradesh (17)
- Total number of districts - 640
- Highest Populous District - Thane (Mumbai)
- 100% Literacy District - Palakkad (Kerala)
- 100% Banking State - Kerala
- 100% Banking District - Palakkad (Kerala)
- Density of Population in India - 382 sq. km
- Increase in population (during 2001-2011) - 181 million

Topic 5: Current Office Holders List

Important National Officials	
Designation	Name
Chairperson, CBDT	Pramod Chandra Mody
Chairperson, National Commission for Scheduled Tribes	Nand Kumar Sai
Chairperson, UGC	Dhirendra Pal Singh

Chairman, ISRO	K Sivan
Chairman, Atomic Energy Commission	Kamlesh Nilkanth Vyas
Chairperson, TRAI	Ram Sevak Sharma
Chairperson, NHAI	Nagendra Nath Sinha
Director General, National Cadet Corps	PP Malhotra

Chairperson, Central Board of Secondary Education	Anita Karwal
Chairperson, IRDAI	Subhash Chandra Khuntia
Chairperson, Press Council of India	CK Prasad
Director General, BSF	Rajni Kant Mishra
Director General, SSB	Rajesh Chandra
Director General, CRPF	Rajiv Rai Bhatnagar
Director General, ITBP	S. S. Deswal
Solicitor General	Tushar Mehta
Attorney General	KK Venugopal
Chairperson, National Green Tribunal	Justice Adarsh Kumar Goel
Director, NCERT	Hrushikesh Senapaty
President, ASSOCHAM	Sandeep Jajodia
Chairperson, NASSCOM	Rishad Premji
Chairman, Press Trust of India	Vivek Goenka
DRDO Chairman	G Satheesh Reddy
LIC Chairman	MR Kumar
Designation	Name
National Security Advisor	Ajit Kumar Doval
Chairman, Railway Board	Vinod Yadav
Chief, Intelligence Bureau (IB)	Arvind Kumar
Chief, Research & Analysis Wing (RAW)	Sawant Kumar Goel
Director General, NIA	YC Mody

Chief Election Commissioner	Sunil Arora
Chairman, Union Public Service Commission	Sh. Arvind Saxena
Deputy Chairman, Rajya Sabha	Harivansh Narayan Singh

Designation	Name
Secretary-General, United Nations Organisation	Antonio Guterres
Managing Director, International Monetary Fund	Christine Lagarde
President, World Bank	David R. Malpass
Director-General, World Trade Organisation	Roberto Azevedo
DG, UNESCO	Audrey Azoulay
President, UN General Assembly	Maria Fernanda Espinosa
Director-General, WHO	Tedros Adhanom Ghebreyesus
President, International Court of Justice	Abdulqawi Ahmed Yusuf
President, Asian Development Bank	Takehiko Nakao
President, International Olympic Committee	Thomas Bach
Director-General, International Atomic Energy Agency	Yukiya Amano
Secretary-General, NATO	Jens Stoltenberg
Secretary-General, ASEAN	Lim Jock Hoi
Secretary-General, SAARC	Amjad Hussain B Sial
Secretary-General, Commonwealth	Patricia Scotland
President, FIFA	Gianni Infantino
Chairman, International Cricket Council	Shashank Manohar

Post	Name
Chief Justice, Supreme Court	Ranjan Gogoi (46 th)
Speaker, Lok Sabha	Om Birla
Deputy Speaker, Lok Sabha	NA
Comptroller & Auditor General of India	Rajiv Mehrishi

Topic 6: Important Ports in India

Port	State
Kolkata	West Bengal
Paradip	Orissa
Vishakhapatnam	Andhra Pradesh
Chennai	Tamil Nadu
Ennore	Tamil Nadu
Tuticorin	Tamil Nadu

Cochin	Kerala
New Mangalore	Karnataka
Mormugao	Goa
Jawaharlal Nehru	Maharashtra
Mumbai	Maharashtra
Kandla	Gujarat

Topic 7: The Most Famous Temples in India

- ✚ Badrinath Temple: Chamoli district, Uttarakhand
- ✚ The Konark Sun Temple: Puri district of Odisha
- ✚ Brihadeeswara Temple: Thanjavur city of Tamil Nadu
- ✚ Somnath Temple: Saurashtra (Gujarat)
- ✚ Kedarnath Temple: Garhwal area (Uttarakhand)
- ✚ Sanchi Stupa: Raisen district of Madhya Pradesh
- ✚ Ramanathaswamy Temple: Tamil Nadu

- ✚ Vaishno Devi Mandir: J&K, near Katra.
- ✚ Siddhivinayak Temple: Prabha Devi, Mumbai
- ✚ Gangotri Temple: Uttarkashi district of Uttarakhand
- ✚ Golden Temple or Sri Harmandir Sahib: Amritsar
- ✚ Kashi Vishwanath Temple: Varanasi (Uttar Pradesh)
- ✚ Lord Jagannath Temple: Puri (Orissa)
- ✚ Yamunotri Temple: Uttarkashi district of Uttarakhand

- ✚ Meenakshi Temple: Madurai (Tamil Nadu)
- ✚ Amarnath Cave Temple: State of J&K
- ✚ Lingaraja Temple: Orissa
- ✚ Tirupati Balaji: Tirumala (Andhra Pradesh)
- ✚ Kanchipuram Temples: Tamil Nadu
- ✚ Khajuraho Temple: [Madhya Pradesh](#)
- ✚ Virupaksha Temple: Hampi, Bellary, Karnataka
- ✚ Akshardham Temple: Delhi
- ✚ Shri Digambar Jain Lal Mandir: Oldest Jain temple in Delhi
- ✚ Gomateshwara Temple: Shravanabelagola town of Karnataka
- ✚ Ranakpur Temple: Pali district of [Rajasthan](#)
- ✚ Shirdi Sai Baba Temple: Shirdi town of Maharashtra
- ✚ Sree Padmanabhaswamy Temple : Thiruvananthapuram, the capital city of Kerala
- ✚ Dwarkadhish Temple: Dwarka city (Gujarat)

✚ Laxminarayan Temple: In Delhi



Topic 8: List of the Important Airports in India

Airport	City	State/UT	Sri Guru Ram Dass Jee International Airport	Amritsar	Punjab
Kempegowda International Airport	Bangalore	Karnataka	Swami Vivekananda Airport	Raipur	Chhattisgarh
Netaji Subhash Chandra Bose Intl. Airport	Kolkata	West Bengal	Bagdogra Airport	Bagdogra	West Bengal
Rajiv Gandhi International Airport	Hyderabad	Telangana	Veer Savarkar International Airport	Port Blair	andaman&Nicobar Islands
Sardar Vallabhbhai Patel International Airport	Ahmedabad	Gujarat	Birsra Munda Airport	Ranchi	Jharkhand
Chaudhary Charan Singh Intl. Airport	Lucknow	Uttar Pradesh	Maharana Pratap Airport	Udaipur	Rajasthan
Lokpriya Gopinath Bordoloi Intl. Airport	Guwahati	Assam	Raja Bhoj International Airport	Bhopal	Madhya Pradesh
Srinagar Airport	Srinagar	J&K	Jolly Grant Airport	Dehradun	Uttarakhand
Biju Patnaik International Airport	Bhubaneswar	Odisha	Rajahmundry Airport	Rajahmundry	Andhra Pradesh
Visakhapatnam Airport	Visakhapatnam	Andhra Pradesh	Silchar Airport	Silchar	Assam
Devi Ahilyabai Holkar Airport	Indore	Madhya Pradesh	Lengpui Airport	Aizwal	Mizoram
Dr. Babasaheb Ambedkar Intl. Airport	Nagpur	Maharashtra	Zaruki International Airport	Shillong	Meghalaya
Lok Nayak Jayaprakash Airport	Patna	Bihar	Daporijo Airport	Daporijo	Arunachal Pradesh
			Tezu Airport	Tezu	Arunachal Pradesh
			Kandla Airport	Kandla	Gujarat
			Sonari Airport	Jamshedpur	Jharkhand
			Birsra Munda Airport	Ranchi	Jharkhand
			Agatti Aerodrome	Agatti	Lakshadweep

Topic 9: What are the names of the Borders/Boundary Lines?

- **Durand Line:** Afghanistan & Pakistan
- **Hindenburg Line:** Germany & Poland.
- **Mason-dixon Line:** Line of demarcation between four states in the United States.
- **Mannerheim Line:** Russia-Finland border.
- **Macmahon Line:** India & China
- **Medicine Line:** Canada & the United States.
- **Order-neisse Line:** Poland & Germany
- **Radcliffe Line:** India & Pakistan.
- **Siegfried Line:** Germany on its border with France.
- **17th Parallel:** North Vietnam & South Vietnam
- **26th Parallel south:** Africa, Australia & South America.
- **30TH PARALLEL** Equator & the North Pole.
- **38th Parallel:** Separates North Korea&South Korea.
- **39th Parallel north** is an imaginary circle of latitude that is 39 degrees north of the Earth's equatorial plane.
- **40th Parallel north:** formed the original northern boundary of the British Colony of Maryland.
- **42nd Parallel north:** New York - Pennsylvania Border.
- **The Parallel 440 north** is an imaginary circle of latitude that is 44 degrees north of the Earth's equatorial plane.
- **45th Parallel north** is often called the halfway point between the Equator&the North Pole.
- **45th parallel** makes up most of the boundary between Montana&Wyoming.
- **49th Parallel** is the boundary between USA&Canada

Topic 10: Stock Exchanges around the World

- New York Stock Exchange (NYSE): HQ in New York City
- NASDAQ OMX: HQ in New York City.
- Tokyo Stock Exchange: HQ in Tokyo
- London Stock Exchange: HQ in London.
- Shanghai Stock Exchange: HQ in Shanghai.
- Hong Kong Stock Exchange: HQ in Hong Kong.
- Toronto Stock Exchange: HQ in Toronto.
- BM&F Bovespa: HQ in Sao Paul
- Australian Securities Exchange: HQ in Sydney
- Deutsche Börse: HQ in Frankfurt.
- Taiwan Stock Exchange – HQ in the city of Taipei
- JSE Limited HQ in Johannesburg, South Africa.
- American Stock Exchange (AMEX) HQ in New York, USA
- Borsa Italia HQ in Milan, Italy
- London International Financial Futures&Options Exchange (LIFFE) HQ in London, Great Britain
- Montreal Exchange (MSE) HQ in Montreal, Canada
- Nordic: Baltic market (OMX) HQ in Stockholm, Sweden
- Bolsa de Madrid (Madrid Stock Exchange) HQ in Madrid, Spain
- Afghanistan Stock Exchange HQ in Kabul
- Chittagong Stock Exchange HQ in Chittagong
- Royal Securities Exchange of Bhutan HQ inThimphu
- Maldives Stock Exchange HQ in Malé
- Nepal Stock Exchange HQ in Kathmandu
- Sialkot Stock Exchange HQ in Sialkot
- Colombo Stock Exchange HQ in Colombo



Topic 11: Dams in India

Dam	River	State
Tehri Dam	Bhagirathi	Uttarakhand
Lakhwar Dam	Yamuna	Uttarakhand
Idukki (Eb)/Idukki Arch Dam	Periyar	Kerala
Bhakra Dam	Satluj	Himachal Pradesh
Pakal Dul Dam	Marusudar	J&K
Sardar Sarover Gujarat Dam	Narmada	Gujarat

Srisaillam (N.S.R.S.P) Dam	Krishna	Andhra Pradesh
Ranjit Sagar Dam	Ravi	Punjab
Baglihar Dam	CHENAB	J&K
Pong Dam	Beas	Himachal Pradesh
Nagarjuna Sagar Dam	Krishna	Telangana
Salal (Rockfill& Concrete) Dam	Chenab	J&K

Supa Dam	Kali Nadi	Karnataka	Madupetty (Eb) Dam	Palar	Kerala
Koteshwar Dam	Bhagirathi	Uttarakhand	Parbati II Dam	Parbati	Himachal Pradesh
Rihand Dam	Rihand	Uttar Pradesh	Chakra Dam	Chakra	Karnataka
Indira Sagar (NHDC) Dam	Narmada	Madhya Pradesh	Ukai Dam	Tapi	Gujarat
Pillur Dam	Bhavani	Tamil Nadu			

Topic 12: CLASSICAL DANCES & FOLK DANCES IN INDIA

Indian Classical Dances

- ✦ **Bharatnatyam:** Tamil Nadu & Karnataka
- ✦ **Kathak:** North India
- ✦ **Kathakali:** Kerala.
- ✦ **Kuchipudi:** Andhra Pradesh.
- ✦ **Manipuri:** Manipur
- ✦ **Mohiniattam:** Kerala.
- ✦ **Odissi:** Orissa state.
- ✦ **Gaudiya Nritya:** West Bengal
- ✦ **Sattriya:** Assam
- ✦ **Ghoomar:** Rajasthan
- ✦ **Thang Ta:** Manipur

North India

- ✦ **Dumhal:** Rauf tribe of Jammu & Kashmir
- ✦ **HurkaBaul:** Uttarakhand
- ✦ **Chholiya:** Kumaon region, Uttarakhand
- ✦ **Bhangra:** Punjab
- ✦ **Dhamyal** - 'Dhamyal' or 'Dhuph': Haryana
- ✦ **Mayur Nritya:** Uttar Pradesh
- ✦ **Charkula:** Braj region of Uttar Pradesh.
- ✦ **Giddha:** State of Punjab
- ✦ **Haryana:** Swang, Naqqal, Dhamal
- ✦ **Himachal Pradesh:** Nati, Kariyala, Bhagat

Central India

- ✦ **Gaur Dance:** Chhattisgarh
- ✦ **Muria Dance:** Bastar district of Chhattisgarh
- ✦ **Saila Dance:** Bastar district in the state of Chhattisgarh
- ✦ **Kaksar Dance:** Bastar district in the state of Chhattisgarh
- ✦ **Jawara Dance:** Madhya Pradesh
- ✦ **Bhagoria Dance:** Madhya Pradesh
- ✦ **Suwa Dance:** Chhattisgarh
- ✦ **Grida Dance:** Madhya Pradesh

East India

- ✦ **Brita Dance:** 'Brita' or 'Vrita' dance: West Bengal

- ✦ **Dalkhai:** Odisha.
- ✦ **Gotipua:** Odisha
- ✦ **Bihar:** Jadur, Kathaputli, Bhako, Jhijiya

North East India

- ✦ **Hojagiri:** Tripura
- ✦ **Nongkram Dance:** Meghalaya
- ✦ **Bagurumba:** Assam
- ✦ **Bhortal Dance:** Assam
- ✦ **Cheraw Dance:** Mizoram
- ✦ **Chang Lo:** Nagaland
- ✦ **Bardo Chham:** Arunachal Pradesh
- ✦ **Bihu:** Assam

South India

- ✦ **Padayani:** Kerala
- ✦ **Kolannalu:** Andhra Pradesh
- ✦ **Parai Attam:** Tamil Nadu
- ✦ **Karagattam:** Tamil Nadu
- ✦ **Paampu Attam:** Tamil Nadu.
- ✦ **Poikal Kudirai Attam:** Tamil Nadu
- ✦ **Theyyam:** Kerala
- ✦ **Andhra Pradesh:** Veethi Natakam, Burrakatha, Lambadi, Koya.
- ✦ **Telangana:** Bathukamma
- ✦ **Dollu Kunitha:** Karnataka
- ✦ **Ghodemodni:** Goa
- ✦ **Lava Dance:** Lakshadweep
- ✦ **Fugdi:** Goan dance performed in the Konkan region
- ✦ **Veeragase:** Karnataka
- ✦ **Koli:** Maharashtra

West India

- ✦ **Dandiya:** Gujarat & Rajasthan
- ✦ **Garba:** Gujarat
- ✦ **Padhar Dance:** Gujarat
- ✦ **Rajasthan:** Khyal, Rasdhari, Rammat, Gauri, Ghoomar

Topic 13: The Headquarters of the important Public-Sector Undertakings

- Agriculture Insurance Company of India: New Delhi
- Air India Limited: New Delhi
- Airports Authority of India: New Delhi
- Bharat Bhari Udyog Nigam: Kolkata, West Bengal
- Bharat Earth Movers (BEML): Bangalore, Karnataka
- Bharat Electronics Limited: Bangalore, Karnataka
- Bharat Heavy Electricals Limited(BHEL): New Delhi
- Bharat Petroleum Corporation Limited: Mumbai, Maharashtra
- Coal India Limited: Kolkata, West Bengal

- Damodar Valley Corporation: Kolkata, West Bengal
- Electronics Corporation of India: Hyderabad, Telangana
- Fertilizer Corporation of India Limited: Noida, Uttar Pradesh
- Food Corporation of India: New Delhi
- General Insurance Corporation of India Limited (GIC): Mumbai, Maharashtra
- Hindustan Aeronautics Limited: Bangalore, Karnataka
- Hindustan Petroleum Corporation Limited: Mumbai, Maharashtra
- India Infrastructure Finance Company: New Delhi
- Indian Oil Corporation: New Delhi
- The Jute Corporation of India Limited: Kolkata, West Bengal
- Mahanadi Coalfields Limited: Sambalpur, Odisha
- Mineral Exploration Corporation Limited: Nagpur, Maharashtra
- NHPC Limited: Faridabad, Haryana
- National Aluminium Co Ltd: Bhubaneshwar, Orissa
- National Aviation Company of India: New Delhi
- National Buildings Construction Corporation: New Delhi
- National Fertilizers Limited: Noida, Uttar Pradesh
- National Handloom Development Corporation Limited: Lucknow, Uttar Pradesh
- National Insurance Co Ltd: Kolkata, West Bengal
- National Textile Corporation: New Delhi
- New India Assurance Company: Mumbai, Maharashtra
- Neyveli Lignite Corporation Limited: Tamil Nadu
- North Eastern Regional Agricultural Marketing Corporation: Assam
- Numaligarh Refinery Limited: Assam
- Oil & Natural Gas Corporation: Dehradun, Uttarakhand
- Oil India Limited: New Delhi
- Oriental Insurance Company: New Delhi
- Pawan Hans Limited: New Delhi
- Shipping Corporation of India Limited: Mumbai, Maharashtra
- United India Insurance Company: Chennai, Tamil Nadu
- Uranium Corporation of India: Jaduguda, Jharkhan.

Topic 14: Nick Names of Important Indian Places

Nick Names	City
Golden City	Amritsar
Manchester Of India	Ahmedabad
City Of Seven Islands	Mumbai
Queen Of Arabian Sea	Cochin
Space City	Bangalore
Garden City Of India	Bangalore
Silicon Valley Of India	Bangalore
Electronic City Of India	Bangalore
Pink City	Jaipur
Gateway Of India	Mumbai
Twin City:	Hyderabad, Secunderabad
City Of Festivals	Madurai
Deccan Queen	Pune
City Of Buildings	Kolkata
Dakshin Ganga	Godavari
Old Ganga	Godavari
Egg Bowls Of Asia	Andhra Pradesh
Soya Region	Madhya Pradesh
Manchester Of The South	Coimbatore
City Of Nawabs	Lucknow
Venice Of The East	Cochin

Sorrow Of Bengal	Damodar River
Sorrow Of Bihar	Kosi River
Blue Mountains	Nilgiri
Queen Of The Mountains	Mussoorie (Uttarakhand)
Sacred River	Ganga
Hollywood Of India	Mumbai
City Of Castles	Kolkata
State Of Five Rivers	Punjab
City Of Weavers	Panipat
City Of Lakes	Srinagar
Steel City Of India	Jamshedpur (Called Tatanagar)
City Of Temples	Varanasi
Manchester Of The North	Kanpur
City Of Rallies	New Delhi
Heaven Of India	J&K
Boston Of India	Ahmedabad
Garden Of Spices Of India	Kerala
Switzerland Of India	Kashmir
Abode Of The God	Prayag(Allahabad)
Pittsburg Of India	Jamshedpur

Topic 15: Important Defence Exercise Conducted in the World

- **Garuda:** India-France
- **HAND-HAND:** India-China
- **Indra:** India-Russia
- **Jimex:** India-Japan
- **Malbar:** Us-India-Japan
- **Shade:** Naval Forces Of India, Japan&China
- **Surya Kiran:** India&Nepal
- **Varuna:** France&India
- **Simbex:** Indian Navy With Republic Of Singapore Navy
- **Ibsamar:** India with Brazil&South African Navy
- **Konkan:** Indian Navy&Royal Navy Of Britain

- **Ausindex:** Indian&Australian Navy
- **Indradhanush Or Rainbow:** India-Uk Air Exercises
- **Nomadic Elephant:** Indian Army Exercises with Mongolia
- **Ekuverin:** Maldives&India
- **Garuda Shakti:** India&Indonesia
- **Mitra Shakti:** India-Sri Lanka
- **Naseem Al-Bahr:** India-Oman
- **SLINEX:** Joint exercise in Navy between India&Sri Lanka
- **Sahyog-Kaijin** -Joint exercise of Coast Guards of India&Japan
- **Malabar:** India&US
- **Yudh Abhyas:** India&US
- **Red flag:** India&US
- **Cope:** India&US
- **SAMPRITI** – India&Bangladesh

Topic 16: Stadiums Around the World

Stadiums in Australia

- ✚ Adelaide Oval- **Adelaide**
- ✚ Bundaberg Rum Stadium- **Cairns**
- ✚ Telstra Dome- **Melbourne**
- ✚ Manuka Oval- **Canberra**
- ✚ Marrara Cricket Ground- **Darwin**
- ✚ Melbourne Cricket Ground- **Melbourne**
- ✚ Sydney Cricket Ground- **Sydney**
- ✚ W.A.C.A. Ground- **Perth**

Stadiums in Bangladesh

- ✚ Bangabandhu National Stadium- **Dhaka**
- ✚ Chittagong Stadium- **Chittagong**

Stadiums in England

- ✚ Edgbaston- **Birmingham**
- ✚ Headingley- **Leeds**
- ✚ Lord's- **London**
- ✚ Old Trafford- **Manchester**
- ✚ Sophia Gardens- **Cardiff**
- ✚ St Lawrence Ground- **Canterbury**
- ✚ The Brit Oval- **London**
- ✚ Trent Bridge- **Nottingham**

Stadiums in India

- ✚ Barabati Stadium -**Cuttack**
- ✚ Barkatullah Khan Stadium -**Jodhpur**
- ✚ Barsapara Cricket Stadium: **Guwahati**
- ✚ **Greenfield International Stadium:** Thiruvananthapuram
- ✚ Brabourne Stadium -**Mumbai**
- ✚ Eden Gardens -**Kolkata**
- ✚ Feroz Shah Kotla -**Delhi**
- ✚ Gandhi Stadium -**Jalandhar**
- ✚ Green Park -**Kanpur**
- ✚ Indira Gandhi Stadium -**Vijayawada**
- ✚ Rajiv Gandhi Port Silver Jubilee Stadium - **Visakhapatnam**
- ✚ Jawaharlal Nehru Stadium -**New Delhi**
- ✚ Lal Bahadur Shastri Stadium -**Hyderabad**
- ✚ M.Chinnaswamy Stadium -**Bangalore**
- ✚ MA Chidambaram Stadium -**Chennai**
- ✚ Madhavrao Scindia Cricket Ground -**Rajkot**
- ✚ Moin-ul-Haq Stadium -**Patna**
- ✚ Sardar Vallabhai Patel Motera Stadium -**Ahmedabad**

- ✚ Sawai Mansingh Stadium -**Jaipur**
- ✚ Vidarbha CA Ground -**Nagpur**
- ✚ Wankhede Stadium -**Mumbai**
- ✚ Jawaharlal Nehru Stadium: **Kochi (Kerala)**
- ✚ Dr. Bhupen Hazarika Cricket Stadium: **Guwahati (Assam)**
- ✚ Dhyan Chand National Stadium: **Delhi**

Stadiums in New Zealand

- ✚ Basin Reserve-**Wellington**
- ✚ Eden Park-**Auckland**
- ✚ Jade Stadium-**Christchurch**
- ✚ John Davies Oval-**Queenstown**
- ✚ McLean Park-**Napier**

Stadiums in Pakistan

- ✚ Arbab Niaz Stadium-**Peshawar**
- ✚ Ayub National Stadium-**Quetta**
- ✚ Gaddafi Stadium-**Lahore**

Stadiums in South Africa

- ✚ Kingsmead-**Durban**
- ✚ New Wanderers Stadium-**Johannesburg**
- ✚ Newlands-**Cape Town**
- ✚ St George's Park-**Port Elizabeth**
- ✚ Centurion Super Sport Park-**Pretoria**

Stadium in Sri Lanka

- ✚ Colombo Cricket Club Ground-**Colombo**
- ✚ Galle International Stadium-**Galle**
- ✚ P.Saravanamuttu Stadium-**Colombo**
- ✚ R.Premadasa Stadium-**Colombo**
- ✚ Sinhalese Sports Club Ground-**Colombo**

Stadiums in West Indies

- ✚ Sabina Park Kingston-**Jamaica**
- ✚ Antigua Recreation Ground St John's-**Antigua**
- ✚ Guyana Cricket Stadium Georgetown-**Guyana**
- ✚ Kensington Oval Bridgetown-**Barbados**
- ✚ Mindoo Phillip Park Castries-**St Lucia**
- ✚ Albion Sports Complex Berbice-**Guyana**

Stadiums in Zimbabwe

- ✚ Bulawayo Athletic Club-**Bulawayo**
- ✚ Harare Sports Club-**Harare**

- ✚ Kwekwe Sports Club-Kwekwe
- ✚ Queens Sports Club-Bulawayo

- Stadiums in United Arab Emirates**
- ✚ Sheikh Zayed Stadium-Abu Dhabi
 - ✚ Sharjah Cricket Stadium-Sharjah

Topic 17: List of Indian Cities on Rivers Banks

City	River	State			
Agra	Yamuna	Uttar Pradesh	Karwar	Kali	Karnataka
Ahmedabad	Sabarmati	Gujarat	Bagalkot	Ghataprabha	Karnataka
Allahabad	At the confluence of Ganga, Yamuna & Saraswati	Uttar Pradesh	Honnabar	Sharavathi	Karnataka
Ayodhya	Saryu	Uttar Pradesh	Gwalior	Chambal	Madhya Pradesh
Badrinath	Alaknanda	Uttarakhand	Gorakhpur	Rapti	Uttar Pradesh
Banki	Mahanadi	Odisha	Lucknow	Gomti	Uttar Pradesh
Brahmapur	Rushikulya	Odisha	Kanpur	Ganga	Uttar Pradesh
Chhatrapur	Rushikulya	Odisha	Shuklaganj	Ganga	Uttar Pradesh
Bhagalpur	Ganga	Bihar	Chakeri	Ganga	Uttar Pradesh
Kolkata	Hugli	West Bengal	Malegaon	Girna River	Maharashtra
Cuttack	Mahanadi	Odisha	Sambalpur	Mahanadi	Odisha
New Delhi	Yamuna	Delhi	Rourkela	Brahmani	Odisha
Dibrugarh	Brahmaputra	Assam	Pune	Mula, Mutha	Maharashtra
Ferozpur	Sutlej	Punjab	Daman	Daman Ganga River	Daman
Guwahati	Brahmaputra	Assam	Madurai	Vaigai	Tamil Nadu
Haridwar	Ganga	Uttarakhand	Thiruchirapalli	Kaveri	Tamil Nadu
Hyderabad	Musi	Telangana	Chennai	Cooum, Adyar	Tamil Nadu
Jabalpur	Narmada	Madhya Pradesh	Coimbatore	Noyyal	Tamil Nadu
Kanpur	Ganga	Uttar Pradesh	Erode	Kaveri	Tamil Nadu
Kota	Chambal	Rajasthan	Tirunelveli	Thamirabarani	Tamil Nadu
Kottayam	Meenachil	Kerala	Bharuch	Narmada	Gujarat
Jaunpur	Gomti	Uttar Pradesh	Karjat	Ulhas	Maharashtra
Patna	Ganga	Bihar	Nashik	Godavari	Maharashtra
Rajahmundry	Godavari	Andhra Pradesh	Mahad	Savitri	Maharashtra
Srinagar	Jhelum	Jammu & Kashmir	Nanded	Godavari	Maharashtra
Surat	Tapi	Gujarat	Kolhapur	Panchaganga	Maharashtra
Tiruchirapalli	Kaveri	Tamil Nadu	Nellore	Pennar	Andhra Pradesh
Varanasi	Ganga	Uttar Pradesh	Nizamabad	Godavari	Telangana
Vijayawada	Krishna	Andhra Pradesh	Sangli	Krishna	Maharashtra
Vadodara	Vishwamitri	Gujarat	Karad	Krishna, Koyna	Maharashtra
Mathura	Yamuna	Uttar Pradesh	Hajipur	Ganga	Bihar
Mirzapur	Ganga	Uttar Pradesh	Ujjain	Shipra	Madhya Pradesh
Auraiya	Yamuna	Uttar Pradesh			
Etawah	Yamuna	Uttar Pradesh			
Bangalore	Vrishabhavathi	Karnataka			
Farrukhabad	Ganga	Uttar Pradesh			
Fatehgarh	Ganga	Uttar Pradesh			
Kannauj	Ganga	Uttar Pradesh			
Mangalore	Netravati, Gurupura	Karnataka			
Shimoga	Tunga River	Karnataka			
Bhadravathi	Bhadra	Karnataka			
Hospet	Tungabhadra	Karnataka			