National Affairs


- National Academy of Art, Lalit Kala Akademi, celebrated its 65th Foundation Day in New Delhi.

- The Rajya Sabha has passed the Consumer Protection Bill, 2019. The bill will lead to setting up of a Central Consumer Protection Authority to promote, protect and enforce the rights of consumers as a class.

- India contributed 5 million USD to the UN Palestine refugee agency and called for ensuring sustained financial support for the organisation's work. The amount was handed over to the United Nations Relief and Works Agency (UNRWA) for Palestinian Refugees.

- The Rajya Sabha has passed a Bill for more judges in Supreme Court. The bill proposed an increase in the sanctioned strength of the Supreme Court from 30 to 33 judges.

- The 66th National Film awards have been announced by Rahul Rawail, head of the Jury for feature films. The Jury unanimously conferred the award for the Most Film Friendly State to "Uttarakhand".

- India and Bangladesh have agreed to set up a Joint Technical committee for optimum use of Ganges water.

- Union HRD Minister will launch ‘Samagra Shiksha-Jal Suraksha’ to create awareness about Water Conservation among all school students in the country.

- The NITI Aayog will launch the 4th Edition of Women Transforming India (WTI) Awards in collaboration with the United Nations to recognize women entrepreneurs from across India.

- President Ram Nath Kovind has signed National Medical Commission Bill. The NMC bill aims at mega reforms in the medical education sector and will replace the nearly 63-year-old Indian Medical Council Act.

- President has approved the Motor Vehicles (Amendment) Act, 2019. The bill amends the Motor Vehicles Act, 1988.

- "One Nation One Ration Card" scheme to be rolled out in India from June 1, 2020. To implement the scheme successfully, the centre has kick started inter state portability of ration card pairing two states each.

- The Khadi and Village Industry Commission has launched "Leather Mission" on World Tribal Day. Under this mission, the commission will give leather kits to the leather artisans across the nation.

- On the nation's Independence Day, Air India will become the 1st Indian airline to fly over the North Pole while connecting New Delhi and North America.

- Central government has made "Headgear" mandatory for children above 4 years while travelling on a motorcycle. Only Sikhs wearing turban have been exempted from the provision of Section 129 that makes helmets mandatory for all riders of motorcycles above 4 years of age.
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Event</th>
<th>Details</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Union Housing and Urban Affairs Ministry</td>
<td>has launched an app &quot;Swachh Nagar&quot; that will allow users to have waste — solid, wet or construction and demolition (C&amp;D) — collected by their urban local bodies.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Railway Protection Force (RPF) of Indian Railways</td>
<td>launched a Special Drive with a Code Name &quot;Operation Number Plate&quot; to identify and verify all vehicles parked in Railway premises, circulating area, parking and even in the 'No Parking' areas for a longer duration.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Prime Minister</td>
<td>has announced the appointment of a Chief of Defence Staff. The Chief of Defence Staff will be above the three Service Chiefs.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>The Inter-State Council</td>
<td>has been reconstituted with Prime Minister as its chairman and 6 Union ministers and all chief ministers as its members. Home Minister Amit Shah will chair the standing committee of the Inter-State Council.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>National Tribal Festival “Aadi Mahotsav”</td>
<td>has begun in Leh-Ladakh. The theme of the festival is “A celebration of the spirit of Tribal Craft, Culture and Commerce”.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>India has contributed $1 million to the UN Special Purpose Trust Fund</td>
<td>for the Resident Coordinator System. The Special Purpose Trust Fund (SPTF) is a specific fund housed within the UN Secretariat.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>The Union Minister of Human Resource Development</td>
<td>inaugurated the International Conference titled “Journey of Teacher Education: Local to Global” in New Delhi.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sports Minister Kiren Rijiju and former India football captain</td>
<td>Baichung Bhutia flagged off Op-Blue Freedom. This is an initiative in which a group of armed forces veterans train sports enthusiasts in survival training and self-defence.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>NISHTHA (National Initiative for School Heads and Teachers Holistic Advancement)</td>
<td>is the training programme to improve Learning Outcomes at the Elementary level across the country. This is the largest teachers' training programme of its kind in the world.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Amazon</td>
<td>has opened its largest campus in the world in Hyderabad.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Union Government</td>
<td>is planning to launch an e-commerce portal named “Bharatcraft” for MSME’s. The portal is based on other e-commerce portals like ‘Alibaba’ and ‘Amazon’.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>The Health Ministry</td>
<td>has notified the new warnings on “Tobacco packs”. The text messages that will be printed on the packs are “tobacco causes painful death”. A quitline number “1800-11-2356” will also be printed on the packs.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>President Ram Nath Kovind</td>
<td>inaugurated the first-ever World Youth Conference. The theme of the conference was ‘Vasudhaiva Kutumbakam: Gandhi for the Contemporary World: Celebrating the 150th birth anniversary of Mahatma Gandhi.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>“Hunar Haat”</td>
<td>has proved to be an effective programme to provide employment and employment opportunities to master artisans.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Atal Innovation Mission (AIM),</td>
<td>is an initiative of NITI Aayog is all set to launch a new program for community innovation in New Delhi to make innovation ecosystem socially inclusive as well as to ensure equitable distribution of infrastructure for innovation across the country to encourage the spirit of innovation.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dr Harsh Vardhan, Union Minister of Health and Family Welfare</td>
<td>at the 110th Annual Day celebrations of National Centre for Disease Control (NCDC) inaugurated the laboratory complex (Lab 3) at NCDC and the new building of National Vector Borne Disease Control Programme (NVBDCP).</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
○ Indian Railways 'Northeast Frontier Railway zone' has started a unique initiative to earmark a special portion of the SLR coach with pink colour.

○ The Government of India begins the 7th Economic Census from Tripura. Ministry of Statistics and Programme Implementation (MoSPI) will conduct the census.

○ The 5th international Dharma-Dhamma conference was inaugurated by Union Minister of State Kiren Rijiju.

○ Haryana Chief Minister Manohar Lal Khattar has invited Nepal to be the partner country for this year’s 'Gita Jayanti Mahotsav 2019' scheduled to be held at Kurukshetra.

○ During the President Ram Nath Kovind’s visit to Gambia, India has promised to extend an assistance of USD 500,000 to Gambia.

○ Minister of Petroleum and Natural Gas & Steel has launched Atal Community Innovation Centre (ACIC) in New Delhi, to encourage the spirit of innovation at the community level.

○ Lok Sabha Speaker has announced that the Lower House will become paperless from the next session.

○ Cabinet has approved the setting up of ISRO Technical Liaison Unit (ITLU) at Moscow in Russia.

○ Wing Commander Tarun Chaudhri has become the first Indian Air Force pilot to perform a wingsuit skydive jump.

○ Scientists at IIT Hyderabad have developed low-cost, environment-friendly solar cells by employing an off-the-shelf dye used to make kumkum or vermilion.

○ A joint venture company Khanij Bidesh India limited has been set up with the participation of 3 Central Public Sector Enterprises: National Aluminium Company Limited, Hindustan Copper Limited and Mineral Exploration Company limited.

○ Bureau of Indian Standards (BIS) in collaboration with Ladakh Autonomous Hill Development Council (LAHDC) will work together to promote the pashmina products at the high-level market for the proper value of this fine product of pashmina ( Lena-Ladakhi).

○ Ministry of Information & Broadcasting has launched a competition for designing a Postage Stamp along with the First Day Cover to commemorate Golden Jubilee edition of International Film Festival of India (IFFI).

○ President Ram Nath Kovind inaugurated exhibitions on Mahatma Gandhi and Khadi at the “Ebunjan Theatre” in the Gambia to commemorate the 150th birth anniversary of the Mahatma Gandhi.

**States in the News**

○ Arunachal Pradesh State Home Minister has flagged of 5 Anti-Riot police vehicle, also known as Vajra, from Police Headquarter in Itanagar.

○ Maharashtra has launched an initiative Mission Shakti to train athletes from Chandrapur and Gadchiroli for international events like the Olympics.

○ The Rajasthan Assembly passed Bills against mob lynching and honour killing, which make the cognisable, non-bailable and non-compoundable offences with life imprisonment and a fine up to Rs 5 lakh.

○ The Centre has approved a Kosi-Mechi river interlining project in Bihar. Estimated cost of the project is Rs 4,900 crore.

○ The Andhra Pradesh government will launch the Navodayam scheme which is an outreach programme for thousands of ailing Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises (MSMEs) in the state.

○ Minister of State for Higher Education Bhanwar Singh Bhati inaugurated the new higher education model, titled Resource Assistance for Colleges with Excellence (RACE) in Rajasthan.
Asian Development Bank (ADB) has approved a USD 200 million loan for improving road infrastructure in 34 districts of Maharashtra.

Uttar Pradesh’s "Vriksharopan Mahakumbh" drive has created world record after planting more than 22 crore saplings. The drive was launched on the occasion of 77th anniversary of Quit India Movement.

Vice President M Venkaiah Naidu launched the Jharkhand government’s 'Mukhya Mantri Krishi Ashirwad Yojana' under which money would be directly transferred into the bank accounts of farmers in the state.

The event, organised by Vasudhaiv Kutumbakam Foundation has entered the Champions Book of World Records (for the longest tricolour) after thousands of students and members of several social organisations unfurled a 15-km long national flag by forming a human chain ahead of the Independence day. The event was held in Chhattisgarh.

Jammu and Kashmir administration will host a 3 days global investors summit from October 12 in Srinagar.

The Panchamirtham is an ‘abhishega prasadam’ of the Murugan temple has been bestowed with the Geographical Indication tag. The Murugan temple is situated in Tamil Nadu.

O Tawlhlohpun & Mizo Puanchei from Mizoram, and Tirur betel vine from Kerala has received the Geographical Indication tag.

O 5 New fish species discovered in Arunachal Pradesh and there name’s are Mystus prabini, Exostoma kottelati, Creteuchilloglanis tawangensis, Garra ranganensis, Physoschistura harkishorei.

O The Odisha Wetland Authority has approved implementation of an integrated management plan of lakes "Chilika and Ansupa".

O Manipur Chief Minister N Biren Singh launching the "School Fagadaba" scheme to improve the infrastructure of government schools in the state.

O Karnataka government has amended the Karnataka Poisons (Possession and Sale) Rules 2015 and notified Nicotine as "Class A poison".

O India’s first Central Institute of Chemical Engineering & Technology will be set up in Gujarat.

O chief minister of Punjab has launched a universal health insurance scheme "Sarbat Sehat Bima Yojana " benefiting nearly 46 lakh families. With this scheme, covering 76% of the state’s population.

O Maharashtra’s Tribal Development Department launched an academic programme “Super 50”. Super 50 programme will mentor 50 most meritorious tribal students from the State and prepare them for engineering and medical exams.

O 24th Meeting of Western Zonal Council held was held in Panaji, Goa. Western Zonal Council is a forum for the Centre and the states to cooperate and exchange ideas and experiences on issues related to health,security and social welfare.

O The rasagola, a popular dessert of Odisha, has received the geographical indication tag from the Registrar of Geographical Indication.
Odisha Chief Minister announced in the State Assembly that the Sachivalaya or Secretariat building in Bhubaneswar will now be called ‘Lok Seva Bhavan’.

Jammu and Kashmir, District Administration Udhampur has launched a helpline, “Jeene Do” to improve sex ratio and deal with defaulters of Pre-Conception and Pre-Natal Diagnostic Techniques PCPNDT Act under the Centrally sponsored Beti Bachao Beti Padhao scheme.

The Innovating for Clean Air (IfCA), is a UK-India joint initiative providing Indian and UK stakeholders opportunities to test interventions related to air quality and EV integration, was launched in Bengaluru.

Culture and Tourism Minister flagged off a mobile library bus service under scheme “Ghar Ghar Dastak Ghar Ghar Pustak” which aims to reach out to readers in Delhi, especially those in slums, resettlement colonies and rural areas.

One Nation-One Ration Card scheme launched on a pilot basis in Telangana, Andhra Pradesh, Maharashtra and Gujarat.

The West Bengal Government has launched an awareness campaign ‘Save Green, Stay Clean’ for preserving the greenery and keeping the environment clean.

Maharashtra became the first state to adopt a digital fingerprint and iris scanning system to aid police investigations.

Gujarat Chief Minister has launched the ‘Vhali Dikri Yojna’ from his home town Rajkot, Gujarat. The scheme for the welfare of the girl child.

International Affairs

The United States has officially labeled China a "currency manipulator". The US has accused China of using yuan to gain “unfair competitive advantage” in trade.

Bangladesh signed a deal with Russia for the supply of its 2400 MW Rooppur Nuclear Power Plant (RNPP).

5 lakh Rohingya refugees living in Bangladesh have been issued identity documents by the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR).

Iran unveiled 3 precision-guided air-to-air missiles named the "Yasin", "Balaban" and a new series of the "Ghaem".

South Korea has decided to remove Japan from its preferred trade list because Japan has failed to uphold international principles while managing its export controls on sensitive materials.

Alejandro Giammattei has been elected as new president of Guatemala.

Iceland commemorated the loss of 1st glacier "Okjokull", lost due to climate change. A bronze plaque bears the inscription "A letter to the future" was unveiled by Iceland in a ceremony.

Pakistan Prime Minister Office has announced a 3-year extension of General Qamar Javed Bajwa’s tenure as Chief of Army Staff.

President of Sri Lanka has appointed Lieutenant General Shavendra Silva as 23rd Commander of the Sri Lankan Army.

Discovery India and World Wildlife Fund (WWF) India have partnered with the Forest Directorate, the government of West Bengal and local communities to preserve Sundarbans.

Iran has unveiled new missile defence system “Bavar-373”. This is also Iran’s first domestically produced long-range missile defence system which has been inducted into the country’s missile defence network.

Pakistan has been placed on the blacklist of the Financial Action Task Force’s Asia Pacific Group.

Russia launched the world’s first floating nuclear reactor. This reactor loaded with nuclear fuel.

The U.S. Embassy in Nepal has organized a South Asia Air Quality Tech Camp in Kathmandu.
**Agreements/MoUs Signed**

- **AustralianSuper and Ontario Teachers’ Pension Plan** will invest $1 billion each in the National Investment and Infrastructure Fund (NIIF) Master Fund.

- **The Indian Institute of Technology Madras** partnered with National Institute of Ocean Technology to harness electricity from ocean waves.

- **The National Institute of Solar Energy** and the United Nations Industrial Development Organization have signed an agreement to initiate a skill development programme for different levels of beneficiaries in the solar thermal energy sector.

- **The Uttar Pradesh government has extended bilateral agreements with Netherlands till 2024.** The previously inked MoUs sought cooperation and exchange of the knowledge and techniques in the fields of solid waste management, spatial planning, water management including restoration of water bodies and mobility planning.

- **Indian Bank** has entered into a corporate agency agreement with Cholamandalam MS General Insurance Company Ltd.

- **Reliance Jio** and **Microsoft** announced a partnership to accelerate the digital transformation in India. Under this deal, Microsoft will bring in the Azure Cloud on Jio Network and target the enterprise and business users seeking a technological shift.

- **The Naval Air Enclave in Kochi and Cochin International Airport Limited** have signed a MoU for commencement of naval air operations from the NAE, a naval aviation facility at CIAL in Nedumbassery.

- **I-League champion Chennai City FC** has announced a strategic partnership with German sports goods supplier "uhlsport".

- **Wipro announced** a strategic partnership with the **Indian Institute of Science (IISc)** to conduct advanced applied research in autonomous systems, robotics and 5G.

- **Shri Mata Vaishno Devi University (SMVDU), Jammu and National Institute of Solar Energy (NISE)** have signed a (MoU) to work jointly to achieve the objective of National Solar Mission through training programmes.

- **Army Welfare Housing Organization (AWHO) and Tata Realty & Housing** have signed a memorandum of understanding (MoU). This MoU enables the personnel of Indian Army to immediately take over dwelling units.

- **BookMyForex.com**, a marketplace for foreign exchange and remittances, **has partnered with YES Bank** to launch a co-branded multi-currency forex travel card for Indian overseas travellers.

- **India and Benin signed 4 MoUs on education**, health and e-visa facilities and an agreement on the fresh line of credit of 100 million US dollars by India to finance development projects in Benin.

- **Minister of State for Defence and Senior General Min Aung Hlaing, Commander-in-Chief of Defence Services of Myanmar** signed MoU to enhancing defence co-operation, review joint exercises and training provided to Myanmar Defence Services.

- **Prime Minister of Nepal inaugurated India-Nepal Logistics Summit** between India and Nepal in Kathmandu. The theme of the summit was “Transforming Logistics Landscape”.
India, Mozambique sign 2 MoUs to strengthen defence cooperation. The two MoUs include an agreement on sharing white shipping information and another on co-operation in the field of Hydrography.

WhatsApp has partnered with NITI Aayog, under the Women Entrepreneurship Platform (WEP) to announce its plan to support and promote women entrepreneurs in India.

Appointments/Resignations

Indian IT company Mindtree Ltd has announced the appointment of Debashis Chatterjee as its new Managing Director and Chief Executive Officer.
State-owned Power Grid Corporation Director (Finance) Kandikuppa Sreekant assumed the charge of the chairman and managing director of Power Grid Corporation of India.
Chandrima Shaha is set to be the 1st woman president of the Indian National Science Academy.
Ghotu Ram Meena has been appointed as the next Ambassador of India to the Republic of Congo.
Legendary Indian sprinter P.T. Usha, one of India’s greatest athletes, has been appointed as a member of the Asian Athletics Association’s (AAA) Athletes Commission.
Harshad Pandurang Thakur has been appointed as the director of National Institute of Health and Family Welfare.
Digital payments player Paytm announced the promotion of its Chief Financial Officer Madhur Deora as the company’s President.
Home Secretary Rajiv Gauba appointed as a Cabinet secretary for two years. He will replace P.K. Sinha.
Ajay Kumar has been appointed as Defence Secretary. He will replace Sanjay Mitra.
Ajay Kumar Bhalla was appointed as the new Union Home Secretary. He is currently serving as an officer on special duty in the home ministry. He replaces Rajiv Gauba.

Suparna Singh, interim CEO of NDTV has resigned with immediate effect.
Rajiv Kumar, Secretary Financial Services in the Ministry of Finance, was designated as Finance Secretary.
Lt Gen Paramjit Singh, who has vast experience in counter-terror operations, will be the next Director General of Military Operations (DGMO) of the Indian Army.
The Indian Federation of Sports Gaming (IFSG), country’s self-regulatory industry body for the online fantasy sports gaming sector, announced the appointment of Justice Arjan Kumar Sikri as its ombudsman and ethics officer.
The Appointments Committee on Cabinet has given the additional charge of the post of Director General Narcotics Control Bureau to Rakesh Asthana.
IAS Officer Guruprasad Mohapatra assumed charge as the secretary of the Department for Promotion of Industry and Internal Trade.
Ravi Capoor, an Indian Administrative Service (IAS) officer, assumed charge of the office of Secretary, Ministry of Textiles in New Delhi.
Atish Dabholkar, a theoretical physicist from India, has been appointed as the new director of Abdus Salam International Centre for Theoretical Physics (ICTP) in Trieste, Italy. He will succeed Fernando Quevedo, who has led the centre since 2009.
Giriraj Prasad Gupta, Indian Civil Accounts Service (ICAS) officer, took over as the Controller General of Accounts (CGA).
Defence News

- India successfully test-fired its all-weather tracked-chassis Quick Reaction Surface-to-Air Missile (QR-SAM), jointly developed by Defence Research and Development Organisation (DRDO) and Bharat Electronics Ltd, from a mobile launcher at launch complex III of the Integrated Test Range at Chandipur in Odisha.
- The 5th edition of International Army Scout Masters Competition with teams from 8 countries including India, China and Russia as participants was inaugurated at the Jaisalmer Military Station under the aegis of the Southern Command.
- INS Tarkash has arrived in Norway for a 3 day visit as part of Western Fleet Overseas Deployment.
- Japanese ship "JS Sazanami", visited Kochi on a 2 day goodwill visit. JS Sazanami, a Japanese Maritime Self Defence Force Ship is a missile destroyer.
- Union Home Ministry has fixed the retirement age of all Central Armed Police Force personnel at 60 years.
- Defence Research and Development Organisation (DRDO) handed over the design of Mobile Metallic Ramp (MMR) to the Indian Army. MMR has been designed and developed by DRDO. It is portable, modular in design, which can be easily assembled or disassembled.

Awards and Recognitions

- India’s transsexual woman Naaz Joshi was crowned Miss World Diversity 2019. This event was held in Port Louis, Mauritius.
- ISRO has announced its “Vikram Sarabhai Journalism Award in Space Science, Technology and Research” to recognize and reward journalists who have actively contributed towards the field of space science, applications, and research.
- The 4th edition of the National Entrepreneurship Awards, instituted in a bid to recognize and encourage outstanding Indian Entrepreneurs and catalyse a cultural shift in youth for entrepreneurship by the Ministry of Skill Development and Entrepreneurship (MSDE).
- Barcelona’s Lionel Messi has been awarded UEFA’s Goal of the Season award 2018-19 for his free-kick against Liverpool.
- The Union Minister for Youth Affairs & Sports (I/C) conferred the National Youth Awards. The awards were conferred to 20 individuals (aged between 15-29 years) and 3 organizations for excellent work and contribution in different fields of development and social service.
- Wing Commander Abhinandan Varthaman will be honoured with the Vir Chakra on Independence Day.
- Priyam Chatterjee became the 1st Indian chef to be awarded the ‘Chevalier de l’Ordre du Mérite Agricolet’ by the government of France to recognise his contribution towards reinventing the gastronomic scene in India.
- Rajasthan wins the “best innovation and initiative leadership award” for its achievements in higher education in the World Education Summit-2019 held in New Delhi.
- Tamil Nadu government has awarded Indian Space Research Organisation's chairman K. Sivan with its Dr. A.P.J. Abdul Kalam Award.
- The United Arab Emirates will honour the Indian Prime Minister Narendra Modi with the "Order of Zayed", the highest civilian award of the country.
- A biographical documentary "100 Years of Chrysostum" will receive Guinness Award in the category of longest documentary. This documentary is based on the life of Philipose Mar Chrysostum, scripted and directed by filmmaker Blessy.
Dr K Thangaraj, Chief Scientist at Council of Scientific & Industrial Research (CSIR)-Centre for Cellular and Molecular Biology (CCMB) was awarded JC Bose Fellowship.

Navneeth Murali, an Indian-American teenager from New Jersey, has won the 2019 South Asian Spelling Bee contest.

JNU Professor Meeta Narain was conferred the ‘Pushkin Medal – 2019’. Pushkin Medal is given to a scholar of Russian language and literature for outstanding contribution to Russian studies abroad.

Women and Child Development Minister distributed the Poshan Abhiyaan Awards for 2018-19. The awards were given to the States, Districts, Blocks and Anganwadi Workers for their contributions in scaling up the Abhiyaan.

Vidisha Baliyan, a 21 year old girl from Uttar Pradesh’s Muzaffarnagar city, was crowned the Miss Deaf World 2019 title in the international beauty pageant held in Mbombela, South Africa.

Padma Awardee Sudarsan Pattnaik has won the People’s Choice Award at a prestigious sand sculpting festival in the U.S.

Veteran star Meryl Streep will be honoured Tribute Actor award at the 2019 in 44th Toronto International Film Festival.

East Bengal club will officially start the centenary celebrations on its foundation day with a glittering ceremony at the Netaji Indoor Stadium and will award Kapil Dev with its highest honour, Bharat Gaurav.

Ruhan Rajput, a renowned entrepreneur, co-founder and Director of Einfolge Technologies Pvt Ltd was awarded the prestigious Entrepreneur Award 2019.

DD News is awarded with "Champions of Empathy Award" for spreading awareness about hepatitis.

The winners of the Ramon Magsaysay award 2019 are: Ravish Kumar (Indian Journalist), Ko Swe Win (Myanmar’s human rights defender), Angkhana Neelapajit (Thailand’s human rights activist), Raymundo Pujante Cayabyab (Philippines’s musician) and Kim Jong-Ki (South Korea) is an activist working with violence and mental health issues.

A research team at IIT Kharagpur has developed a technology "Hydro Thermal Carbonization (HTC)" which can generate energy from solid waste with high moisture content.

Bhasha Mukherjee, a 23-year-old Indian origin doctor was crowned Miss England 2019.

President Ram Nath Kovind has been awarded the National Order of Merit by the President of Guinea for his exceptional contribution to the advancement of overall relations and development of mutual cooperation between India and Guinea.

Summit and Conference

Human Resources Development Minister inaugurated Technology Expo at IIT Delhi to showcase the latest innovation in the field of science and technology.

The 3rd edition of India’s largest education brainstorming event, the ScooNews Global Educators Fest (SGEF) will held in the city of lakes, Udaipur.

The 3rd International Electric Vehicle Conclave was inaugurated at the International Centre for Automotive Technology (ICAT) in Manesar, Haryana.

The 5th meeting of India-Nepal Joint Commission will be held in Kathmandu, Nepal. The Joint Commission Meeting will review overall state of bilateral relations and various areas of cooperation.
**Ranks and Reports**

- Tarava police station in the Subarnapur district of Odisha has been adjudged as one of the 10 best police stations in India in the annual ranking for the year 2018.
- Serena Williams topped the List Of Highest-Paid Female Athletes 2019 published by Forbes.
- Manipur has topped the rankings in Breastfeeding and Infant and Young Child Feeding Practices in the country.

**Sports News**

- Formula One Mercedes driver Lewis Hamilton defeated Max Verstappen to win the Hungarian Grand Prix.
- India’s Satwiksairaj Rankireddy and Chirag Shetty defeated Li Jun Hui and Liu Yu Chen to won the men's doubles final of the Thailand Open badminton championship in Bangkok.
- Indian off-spinner Ravichandran Ashwin has been named as Professional Cricketers Association’s Player of the month of July 2019.
- South African batsman Hashim Amla has retired from all formats of international cricket.
- The Cricket Australia has announced new transgender inclusive policy. This policy will enable transgender players to play the game of cricket at the highest levels.
- Rafael Nadal wins in Montreal to win 35th Masters crown and also extended his record haul of Masters 1000 titles.
- Indian Badminton star Sourabh Verma defeated Singapore’s Loh Kean Yew to clinch the Men’s Singles title in the Hyderabad Open.
- Aiswarya Pissay made history by becoming the first Indian to win a world title in motorsports as she won the FIM World Cup in women’s category after the final round of the championship in Varpalota, Hungary.
- The 77th anniversary of the August Kranti Din or Quit India Movement, which is considered as one of the important milestones in the history of freedom struggle of our country, is being observed.
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Liverpool defeated Chelsea in the finals to win UEFA Super Cup held in Istanbul.

Deepak Punia defeated Russia's Alik Shebzukov in the 86 kg junior freestyle event to win the gold medal at the Junior World Championships held in Talinn, Estonia and become the 1st Indian in 18 years to win a Junior World Championship title.

India defeated England by 36 runs in the finals to win the inaugural T20 Physical Disability World Cricket Series 2019 held in England.

Indian cyclists team comprising of Esow Alben, Ronaldo Singh and Rojit Singh, have won the gold medal in the Team Sprint event at World Junior Track Cycling Championships held in Frankfurt, Germany. This is India's first ever gold medal in a global cycling competition.

Former all-rounder Ravi Shashtri has been appointed as the head coach of Indian cricket team for another two years.

Indian sprinters Hima Das and Mohammad Anas have won a gold medal and Nirmal Tom clinched a bronze medal in 300m races at the Athleticky Mitink Reiter event.

India have won the gold medal at the Under 12 Asian Tennis Team championship held in Kazakhstan. India defeated Chinese Taipei in the summit clash to win the title.

Australian player Marnus Labuschagne has become the 1st Concussion Substitute player in the history of International cricket.

Former Australian pace bowler Mitchell Johnson has been elected as an Honorary Life Member of the Marylebone Cricket Club (MCC).

Former Chelsea, Arsenal and England football player Ashley Cole aged 38, announced his retirement from football.

Former India paceman Shanthakumaran Sreesanth's life ban has been reduced to 7 years by BCCI. The Ban will end in 2020. This order was passed by BCCI Ombudsman, Justice (Retd.) DK Jain.

Indian Para Swimmer Satendra Singh Lohia has become the first Asian swimmer to cross the Catalina Channel of America. Satendra holds the Asian record of crossing both the English and Catalina channels.

B.N.S. Reddy beats Bruce Barrios of the U.S. in the men’s singles final to win the gold medal at the World Police and Fire Games. The tournament was held in Chengdu, China.

The Board of Control for Cricket in India has announced that mobile payments and e-commerce company “Paytm” has retained the title sponsorship rights.

Former Indian opener Vikram Rathour appointed as team India’s new batting coach. He will replace Sanjay Bangar.

The Indian team of Sukhbeer Singh, Sangamprit Singh Bisla and Tushar Phadtare clinched a bronze medal in the junior compound men’s team event in the World Archery Youth Championships in Madrid, Spain.

A 9 member Indian Army team has left for Belarus to compete in the Sniper Frontier Competition as part of the International Army Games scheduled on 03 Aug to 17 Aug 2019.

Former France and Manchester United defender Patrice Evra has announced his retirement.

American Collin Morikawa has won the US PGA title at the Barracuda Championship. This was his 1st win in the US PGA title.
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Science &amp; Technology</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>- Scientists have developed an automated system that uses artificial intelligence (AI) to detect and capture fast radio bursts (FRBs) in real-time.</td>
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<tr>
<td>- The Super-Earth planet named GJ 357 d was discovered in early 2019 owing to NASA's Transiting Exoplanet Survey Satellite (TESS), a mission designed to comb the heavens for exoplanets.</td>
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<td>- A team of researchers at the Indian Institute of Technology, Guwahati has developed a portable device to detect bacteria without cell culture or microbiological assays.</td>
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<td>- US carrier rocket Falcon 9 loaded with Israeli AMOS-17 communication satellite successfully lifted off from a space centre in Florida, spacecraft manufacturer SpaceX.</td>
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<td>- Researchers from IIT Kharagpur have developed a low-cost diagnostic device which can perform various pathological tests by using blood taken from a fingerprick.</td>
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<td>- Chinese telecom giant Huawei unveiled its own operating system which will be called the HarmonyOS, also known as the HongmengOS.</td>
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<td>- Ankita Gulati from IIT Delhi was awarded the NCPEDP-Mphasis Universal Design Award 2019 for developing a multisensory kit named Touch Vision. This Kit aims at digital inclusion for 253 million persons with visual impairment globally.</td>
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<td>- Artificial intelligence (AI) company Cerebras Systems has unveiled the world’s largest single silicon-based processor named Cerebras Wafer Scale Engine (WSE). This chip has 1.2 trillion transistors.</td>
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<td>- Russia launched an unmanned rocket carrying a life-size humanoid robot named Fedor, to assist astronauts on the International Space Station.</td>
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<td>- NASA announced that it has named a rock on Mars in honour of the iconic English band, The Rolling Stones.</td>
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| Tamil Nadu girl Jerlin Anika has won the gold medal in the World Deaf Youth Badminton Championships held in Taipei. |
| Olympic champion Dalilah Muhammad shattered one of the longest standing records in women's athletics with a superb display to clinch victory in the 400m hurdles at US Championships. |
| Prithvi Shaw has been suspended by Board of Control for Cricket in India for 8 months for a doping violation. |
| Former India player and Andhra Ranji captain, Y. Venugopal Rao has announced his retirement from all forms of cricket. |
| The International Cricket Council has launched the inaugural World Test Championship thus setting the stage for a long tournament in red-ball cricket to determine the World Test Champion. The top 9 Test teams will compete in the 2-year long tournament. |
| The 3rd edition of Khelo India Youth Games 2020 will be held in Guwahati. The Games will see a participation of more than 10,000 athletes and officials. |
| Red Bull's Max Verstappen wins German Grand Prix held in Hockenheim, Germany. |
| Nikoloz Basilashvili wins the German Tennis Championships. |
| Egan Bernal became the 1st Colombian to win the Tour de France which finished in Paris, France. |
| Australia all-rounder Ellyse Perry became the first cricketer of either gender to reach the rare milestone of scoring 1000 runs and taking 100 wickets in the T20 format. |
| Soccer body CONMEBOL suspended Lionel Messi from international matches for three months because of accusations of corruption he made at the latest Copa America. |
Important Days

- August 6 marks the anniversary of the atomic bombing in Hiroshima during World War II.
- India celebrates National Handloom Day every year on 7th August. Bhubaneswar has been chosen as the venue for the celebrations of the day for its rich tradition of Handlooms.
- The Virasat-e-Khalsa Museum in Punjab’s Anandpur Sahib town is all set to find a place in the Asia Book of Records for becoming the most visited museum in the Indian sub-continent in a single day.
- World Biofuel Day is observed every year on 10th of August to create awareness about the importance of non-fossil fuels as an alternative to conventional fossil fuels. The theme for the year 2019: Production of Biodiesel from Used Cooking Oil.
- The International Youth Day 2019 is observed across the world on 12 August with the theme “Transforming education”.
- World Humanitarian Day is observed across the world on August 19 and this year World Humanitarian Day 2019 is set to celebrate Women Humanitarians and their undying contribution in making the world a better place.
- Sadbhavana Diwas is celebrated on 20 August every year to commemorate the birth anniversary of former Prime Minister Rajiv Gandhi. This year will be the 75th Birth Anniversary of Rajiv Gandhi.
- United Nations observes 21 August every year as International Day of Remembrance and Tribute to the Victims of Terrorism.
- United Nations observes 22 August every year as “International Day Commemorating the Victims of Acts of Violence Based on Religion or Belief”.
- World Photography Day is celebrated on 19 August every year.
- United Nations observes 23 August every year as “International Day for the Remembrance of the Slave Trade and its Abolition”.
- United Nations observes 30 July every year as World Day Against Trafficking. In 2013, the General Assembly designated July 30 as the World Day against Trafficking in Persons to raise awareness of the situation of victims of human trafficking and for the promotion and protection of their rights.
- World Health Organization observe 28 July every year as "World Hepatitis Day" to step up national and international efforts on hepatitis. The theme for 2019 is “Invest in eliminating hepatitis”. The host country for World Hepatitis Day 2019 is Pakistan.

Obituary

- Veteran Gujarati journalist, author and columnist Kanti Bhatt passed away.
- Cricket commentator Anant Setalvad, who used to draw pictures of the game’s progress on airwaves with his fine command of the English language passed away.
- Former External Affairs Minister Sushma Swaraj passed away. She was the 1st full time woman external affairs minister of India.
- Toni Morrison, the 1993 Nobel laureate in literature passed away. She was the 1st African American woman to win the Nobel in literature.
- Former Tamil Nadu Fisheries Minister S. Jennifer Chandran passed away.
- Former Padma Shri award winner and educationist Rajalakshmi Parthasarathy passed away.
Harley Race, American professional wrestler passed away.
Veteran director J Om Prakash passed away.
Ivory Coast music star DJ Arafat passed away.
Freedom fighter Dayanidhi Nayak passed away. Nayak has struggled against the British Government during the Quit India movement.
Senior advocate and former Additional Solicitor General Amarendra Sharan passed away. Sharan was the Additional Solicitor General in the Supreme Court from 2004 to 2009.
Argentina World Cup-winning team football player Jose Luis Brown has passed away.
Veteran Bollywood actress Vidya Sinha passed away. She was renowned for her role in Basu Chatterjee's film "Rajnigandha".
Former India and Tamil Nadu cricketer V.B. Chandrasekhar passed away. He represented India in 7 ODIs.
Damodar Ganesh Bapat from Chhattisgarh, a noted social worker and Padma Shri award winner, passed away.
Renowned Bangladeshi novelist Rizia Rahman passed away. She had received the Bangla Academy Literary Award in 1978 and was awarded Ekushey Padak in 2019.
Former Bihar Chief Minister Jagannath Mishra passed away. He was 3-time Chief Minister of Bihar.
Doordarshan Anchor and Nari Shakti Award Winner Neelum Sharma passed away.
Veteran music composer Mohammed Zahur Hashmi, popularly known as Khayyam passed away. He was also a recipient of Sangeet Natak Akademi Award and Padma Bhushan.
Punjabi writer and Sahitya Akademi winner Professor Niranjan Singh Tasneem passed away. He was awarded Sahitya Akademi award in 1999 for his novel 'Gawache Arth'.
Former Chief Minister of Madhya Pradesh, Babulal Gaur passed away.
Former Union finance minister and senior BJP leader Arun Jaitley passed away.
Former Andhra Pradesh congress state Minister M. Mukesh Goud passed away.
Former RBI Deputy Governor and Noted economist Subir Vithal Gokarn passed away. He had the distinction of being the youngest RBI Governor at the time.
Former Union Minister and senior Congress leader S. Jaipal Reddy passed away.
Meghalaya Assembly Speaker and former Meghalaya Chief Minister Donkupar Roy passed away.
Former Gujarat MP Vitthal Radadiya passed away.
Former cricketer Malcolm Nash passed away. He was Glamorgan's legendary left-arm bowler who took 993 first-class wickets in a 17-year career and became famous after Garfield Sobers hit him for six sixes in an over.
Veteran actor Russi Taylor, who voiced Disney's Minnie Mouse for more than 30 years, has passed away.

Miscellaneous News
French inventor Franky Zapata is 1st person in history to cross the English Channel on the jet-powered hoverboard.
Isro has set up a Space Situational Awareness Control Centre at Peenya in Bengaluru to protect high valued space assets from space debris close approaches and collisions.
Mohali traffic police have launched 3-D Smart Traffic Signal devised by the students of a Chandigarh university.
The scientists at the University of Leeds, have created the world's thinnest gold measuring 2 atoms thick or million times thinner than a fingernail.
Union Minister of Information & Broadcasting has launched e-Rozgar Samachar. Rozgar Samachar is the corresponding version of Employment News (English).
o The country is celebrating the 100th birth anniversary of scientist and innovator Dr Vikram A Sarabhai. He is considered as the father of India's space program.
o President Ram Nath Kovind gave assent to legislation for bifurcation of Jammu and Kashmir, and two Union Territories, Jammu and Kashmir and Ladakh will come into existence on October 31.
o IIT Kanpur has developed a kit in collaboration with the National Commission for Protection of Child Rights to spread awareness about sexual abuse among children. The
o President Ram Nath Kovind inaugurated underground Bunker Museum at Raj Bhavan, Mumbai. The British-era bunker was discovered in 2016.
o India is the world’s largest emitter of anthropogenic sulphur dioxide. According to an analysis of a National Aeronautics and Space Administration (NASA) data released by environmental NGO Greenpeace.
o Indian Railway’s 2nd double-decker Uday (Utkrisht Double-Decker Air Conditioned Yatri) Express will run between Visakhapatnam and Vijayawada.
o The Ministry of New and Renewable Energy has declared Ocean Energy as renewable energy status.
o Infosys announced the launch of its state-of-the-art Cyber Defence Center in Bucharest, Romania.

o Pakistan has opened a 1,000 year old Hindu temple in eastern city Sialkot for worship for the first time since partition on the demand of the local Hindu community.
o The birth anniversary of a great novelist and celebrated storyteller Munshi Premchand is celebrated on 31 July every year.
o 143rd birth anniversary of freedom fighter Pingali Venkayya is celebrated on 2nd of August. He was a freedom fighter and the designer of the flag on which the Indian national flag was based, was born on this day in 1876 near Machilipatnam in Andhra Pradesh.
o World Breastfeeding Week (WBW) being observed from 1st to 7th August 2019 and his theme is “Empower Parents, Enable Breastfeeding”.

Books and Authors
o Home Minister Amit Shah released a Vice President M Venkaiah Naidu’s book titled “Listening, Learning & Leading”
o The book, titled 'Sridevi: Girl Woman Superstar’ will be launched on Sridevi’s 56th birth anniversary. The book is written by author-screenwriter Satyarth Nayak.
o Culture Minister will launch the book “The Diary of Manu Gandhi”. The book has been brought out by National Archives of India, on the occasion of 150th anniversary of Mahatma Gandhi in collaboration with Oxford University Press.

Static Takeaways
o Human Resources Development Minister: Ramesh Pokhriyal Nishank.
o Capital of Thailand: Bangkok, Currency of Thailand: Baht.
o Governor of RBI: Shaktikant Das; Headquarters: Mumbai; Founded: 1 April 1935, Kolkata.
- Union Culture and Tourism Minister: Prahlad Singh Patel.
- ICC Chairman: Shashank Manohar; Headquarters: Dubai, United Arab Emirates.
- Administrator of NASA: Jim Bridenstine; Headquarter of NASA: Washington DC, US.
- Union Minister of Information & Broadcasting Ministry: Prakash Javadekar.
- Chief Minister of Bihar: Nitish Kumar; Governor: Phagu Chauhan.
- Union Minister of Information & Broadcasting: Prakash Javadekar.
- Minister of State (In. Charge) of the Ministry of Power: Raj Kumar Singh.
- CM of Rajasthan: Ashok Gehlot; Governor of Rajasthan: Kalyan Singh.
- CM of Maharashtra: Devendra Fadnavis; Governor: CH Vidyasagar Rao.
- Chief Minister of Arunachal Pradesh: Pema Khandu; Governor of Arunachal Pradesh: B. D. Mishra.
- CM of Odisha: Naveen Patnaik; Governor of Odisha: Ganeshi Lal.
- Chief Minister of UP: Yogi Adityanath; Governor: Anandiben Patel.
- President and Chief Executive Officer of Mastercard: Ajay Banga.
- CM of Rajasthan: Ashok Gehlot; Governor of Rajasthan: Kalyan Singh.
- CM of Andhra Pradesh: YS Jaganmohan Reddy.
- Union Environment Minister: Prakash Javadekar.
- Chief Executive Officer of Microsoft: Satya Nadella.
- Chairman of Reliance Industries Limited: Mukesh Ambani.
- Managing Director & CEO of RBL Bank: Vishwavir Ahuja; Headquarter: Mumbai.
- CM of Chattisgarh: Bhupesh Baghel; Governor of Chattisgarh: Anusuiya Uikey.
- Jharkhand Capital: Ranchi; CM: Raghubar Das; Governor: Draupadi Murmu.
- Capital of Japan: Tokyo; Currency: Japanese yen; PM: Shinzo Abe.
- Capital of South Korea: Seoul; Currency: South Korean won.
- Union Minister for Youth Affairs & Sports (I/C): Kiren Rijiju.
- Capital of Congo: Brazzaville; Currency of Congo: Congolese franc.
- MD & CEO of NPCI: Dilip Asbe.
- Union Information and Broadcasting Minister: Prakash Javadekar.
- ICC Chairman: Shashank Manohar; Headquarters: Dubai, United Arab Emirates.
- CEO of Ola: Bhavish Aggarwal; Headquarters: Bengaluru.
- Chief Minister of Rajasthan: Ashok Gehlot; Governor of Rajasthan: Kalyan Singh; Capital of Rajasthan: Jaipur.
- President of France: Emmanuel Macron; Capital: Paris; Currency: Euro, CFP Franc.
- Chief of the Naval Staff: Admiral Karambir Singh.
- Minister of Railways: Piyush Goyal.
- President of France: Emmanuel Macron; Capital: Paris; Currency: Euro, CFP Franc.
- Managing Director & CEO of RBL Bank: Vishwavir Ahuja; Headquarter: Mumbai.
- Tamil Nadu Capital: Chennai; CM: Edappadi K. Palaniswami; Governor: Banwarilal Purohit.
- Union Minister of Human Resource Development: Ramesh Pokhriyal 'Nishank'.
- Prime Minister of Iceland: Katrin Jakobsdottir; Capital: Reykjavík.
- Chief Minister of Arunachal Pradesh: Pema Khandu.
- Governor of Arunachal Pradesh: B. D. Mishra.
- Chief Minister of Odisha: Naveen Patnaik; Governor of Odisha: Ganeshi Lal.
- Prime Minister of Iceland: Katrin Jakobsdottir; Capital: Reykjavík.
- Governor of Manipur: Padmanabha Balkrishna Acharya.
- Capital of the UAE: Abu Dhabi; Currency: Dirham.
Nepal Prime Minister: K P Sharma Oli; Capital: Kathmandu.
External Affairs Minister of India: S. Jaishankar.
WHO Headquarters: Geneva, Switzerland, Director-General: Tedros Adhanom Ghebreyesus.
ICC Chairman: Shashank Manohar; Headquarters: Dubai, United Arab Emirates.
Pakistan Capital: Islamabad; PM: Imran Khan; President: Arif Alvi.
Currency of Sri Lanka: Sri Lankan Rupee; Prime Minister: Ranil Wickremesinghe; President: Maithripala Sirisena.
Capital of Karnataka: Bengaluru; CM: BS Yediyurappa; Governor: Vajubhai Vala.
Paytm Founder: Vijay Shekhar Sharma; Parent Organization: One97 Communications.
Administrator of NASA: Jim Bridenstine; Headquarters of NASA: Washington DC, US.
Rajiv Ratna Gandhi was the 6th Prime Minister of India, serving from 1984 to 1989. He was assassinated on 21 May 1991.
Chief Minister of Punjab: Amarinder Singh; Governor of Punjab: VP Singh Badnore.
Chief Executive Officer and Managing Director of Wipro: Abidali Z. Neemuchwala.
Headquarters of International Solar Alliance: Gurugram, Haryana.
President of USA: Donald Trump; Capital of the USA: Washington, DC.
Union Minister of Defence: Raj Nath Singh.
Chairman of DRDO: Dr G Satheesh Reddy.
Union Ministry of Youth Affairs and Sports: Kiren Rijiju.
Union Railway Minister: Piyush Goyal.
President of Russia: Vladimir Putin; Capital city of Russia: Moscow.
Secretary General of the United Nations: António Guterres.
Headquarters of the UN: New York, USA; Founded: 24 October 1945; Secretary General of the United Nations: Antonio Guterres.

President of Taiwan: Tsai Ing-wen; Currency of Taiwan: Taiwanese Dollar.

Chief of the Army Staff: General Bipin Rawat.

Prime Minister of Nepal: K P Sharma Oli; Capital of Nepal: Kathmandu; President of Nepal: Bidhya Devi Bhandari; Currency of Nepal: Nepalese rupee.

President of Myanmar: Win Myint; Capital of Myanmar: Naypyidaw.

President of Benin: Patrice Talon; Capital of Benin: Porto-Novo; Currency of Benin: West African CFA franc.

Governor of RBI: Shaktikant Das; Headquarters: Mumbai; Founded: 1 April 1935, Kolkata.


Chief Minister of Odisha: Naveen Patnaik; Governor of Odisha: Ganeshi Lal.

CM of Odisha: Naveen Patnaik; Governor of Odisha: Ganeshi Lal.

Chief of the Naval Staff: Admiral Karambir Singh.

Capital of Pakistan: Islamabad; PM of Pakistan: Imran Khan; President of Pakistan: Arif Alvi.

Chief Executive Officer and Managing Director of Infosys: Salil Parekh.

The 13th edition of ICC Cricket World Cup will be held in India from February 9 to March 26, 2023.