

The Most Important Current Affairs July 2019

Complete Details of Union Budget 2019-20

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

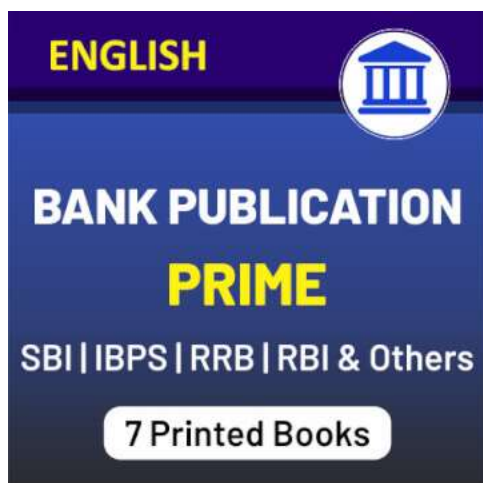
- **Expenditure:** The government proposes to spend **Rs 27,86,349 crore** in 2019.
- **Receipts:** The receipts (other than net borrowings) are expected to increase **by 14.2% to Rs 20,82,589 crore.**
- **GDP growth:** The government has assumed a nominal **GDP growth rate of 12%** (i.e., real growth plus inflation) in 2019-20.
- **Deficits:** Revenue deficit is targeted **at 2.3% of GDP.** Fiscal deficit is targeted at 3.3% of GDP.
- **Ministry allocations:** Among the top 13 ministries with the highest allocations, the highest percentage increase is observed in the Ministry of Agriculture and Farmers' Welfare (82.9%), followed by Ministry of Petroleum and Natural Gas (32.1%) and Ministry of Railways (23.4%).
- **Surcharge on income tax:** Currently, a surcharge of 15% is levied on the income of individuals earning over one crore rupees, and 10% on income of individuals earning between Rs 50 lakh and one crore rupees. In the Union Budget 2019-20, the surcharge on income tax for individuals earning between two crore rupees and five crore rupees has been increased to 25% and for persons earning over five crore rupees has been increased to 37%.
- **Corporation tax:** Currently, companies with annual turnover of less than **Rs 250 crore pay corporate income tax at the rate of 25%.** This threshold has been increased to **Rs 400 crore.**
- **Tax on cash withdrawals:** A TDS of **2%** will be levied by financial companies and post offices on individuals for cash withdrawals exceeding one crore rupees in a year from a bank account.
- **Tax exemption for affordable housing:** An additional tax deduction of up to Rs 1,50,000 will be provided on interest paid on loans for self-occupied house owners. The conditions for availing this deduction are: (i) the loan must be sanctioned in FY 2019-20, (ii) the stamp duty on the house should not exceed Rs 45 lakh rupees, and (iii) the individual should not own another residential house property as of the date of the home loan.
- **Tax exemptions for electric vehicles:** A tax deduction of up to **Rs 1,50,000** will be provided on interest paid on loans to purchase an electric vehicle. This deduction will be applicable for loans sanctioned between FY 2019-20 and FY 2022-23.
- **Road and infrastructure cess:** The Road and Infrastructure Cess on petrol and high-speed diesel has been increased by one rupee per litre. Excise duty has also been increased by one rupee per litre for these products.

- **Customs duty:** The customs duty on gold and precious metals will be increased from **10% to 12.5%.**
- **Banking and Finance:** The government plans to partially guarantee (for first 10% of loss) Public Sector Banks for funds provided in a pooled manner to NBFCs.
- **Government borrowings:** Currently, the gross borrowing programme of the government is funded entirely through domestic borrowings. The government plans to raise a part of its borrowings abroad in foreign currency.
- **Infrastructure:** The central government will invest **Rs 100 lakh crore in infrastructure** over the next five years. Phase II of the Bharatmala project will be launched under which state highways will be developed. Public private partnerships will be leveraged for railways to attract an investment of Rs 50 lakh crore during the period 2018-30. A blue print will be made for developing gas-grids, water-grids, i-ways (communication networks) and regional airports on the lines of the One Nation-One Grid for power. Structural reforms in the power sector (including tariff) will be announced.
- **Industry:** The minimum public shareholding in listed companies will be increased from **25% to 35%.** A new electronic fund raising platform will be created for listing social enterprises and voluntary organisations. The present policy of 51% stake of government in non-financial PSUs will be modified to include stake of government controlled institutions.
- **Investments:** 100% Foreign Direct Investment (FDI) will be permitted for insurance intermediaries. Local sourcing norms will be eased for FDI in the single brand retail sector. Further, relaxing of the FDI norms in aviation, media and insurance sectors will be examined. Statutory limit for Foreign Portfolio Investment will be increased from the current 24% to sectorial limits. Foreign shareholding limits in PSUs will be increased to the maximum permissible sectorial limit.
- **Agriculture and allied activities:** **Pradhan Mantri Matsya Sampada Yojana** has been proposed to address infrastructure gaps in the fisheries sector. 10,000 new Farmer Producer Organisations will be setup over the next five years. The central government will work towards adoption of zero-budget farming.
- **Rural Development:** Under the Pradhan Mantri Gram Sadak Yojana, 1.25 lakh km of road will be upgraded at an estimated cost of Rs 80,250 crore in the next five years. 100 new clusters will be setup under the Scheme of Fund for Upgradation and Regeneration of Traditional Industries (SFURTI). All rural households will be provided with piped water supply by 2024 under the Jal Jeevan Mission. Swachh Bharat Mission will be expanded to undertake solid waste management in every village.

- **Social Justice:** An overdraft of Rs 5,000 will be provided to women self-help group (SHG) members who hold Jan-Dhan accounts. Further, a loan up to one lakh rupees will be provided under the MUDRA scheme to one woman in every SHG.
- **Social Security:** A new pension benefit scheme, namely Pradhan Mantri Karam Yogi Maandhan Scheme, has been announced for traders and small shopkeepers with annual turnover of less than Rs 1.5 crore.
- **Education:** The new National Education Policy will be introduced. The National Research Foundation will be setup to promote funding and coordinate research in the country. A Study in India programme will be launched to encourage foreign students in higher education.

Budget Allocation at a Glance:

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



Economic Survey 2018-19: Important Highlights

Key Highlights of Economic Survey 2018-19

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

The government has estimated gross domestic product growth of **7% for the fiscal year 2019-2020**. The theme of the Economic Survey 2019 is about enabling a **"shifting of gears"** to sustained economic growth for objective of \$5 trillion by 2024-25.

Here are the key highlights from the Economic Survey:

- Survey sees Financial Year **2020 GDP growth at 7%**, higher growth on stables macros.
- India needs to grow at **8% per year to be \$5 trillion economy by Financial Year 2025**.
- The survey suggests diplomatic type privileges, naming roads for top taxpayers.
- Investment the "key driver" of simultaneous growth in demand, jobs, exports, and productivity.
- Green shoots in investment activity seems to taking hold.
- Rural wage growth started increasing since **mid-2018**.
- Political stability should push the animal spirits of the economy.
- Poor enforcement of contracts and dispute resolution is a big hurdle. The faster legal process should be the top priority.
- Savings and growth are positively co-related. Savings must increase more than investment.
- Constant recalibration based on real-time data. Data must be created as a public good "of the people, by the people, for the people."
- Survey argues that nudging behaviour change is the simplest way to solve many social issues.
- Top policymakers must ensure actions are predictable. Policymaking needs: 1. Clear Vision 2. Strategic blueprint 3. Tactical tools for constant recalibration.
- The success of **MGNREGS shows govt.** schemes can make a difference on the ground with skillful use of technology.
- A minimum wage policy for the bottom rung of wage earners to drive up demand and strengthening the middle class.
- Indian MSMEs need to be freed from shackles that convert them into dwarfs. MSMEs need to be seen as a source of innovation, growth and job creation.
- The policy should enable MSMEs to grow, create greater profits for their owners and contribute to job creation and productivity in the economy.

- India needs to increase per capita energy consumption to raise real per capita **GDP by US\$ 5000 and improve its HDI ranking.**
- The Survey is inspired by Gandhiji's Talisman: "...Recall the face of the poorest man [woman], and ask yourself, if the step you contemplate is going to be of any use to him [her]."
- India will enjoy the "demographic dividend" phase in the next two decades but some states will start transitioning to an aging society by the 2030s.
- India moving forward from **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.
- Green shoots in investment seems to be taking hold.
- NBFC stress reason for **Financial Year 2019 slowdown.**
- Decline in **NPA's should push up CAPEX cycle.**
- The general fiscal deficit is seen at **5.8% in Financial Year 2019 Vs. 6.4% in Financial Year 2018.**
- Investment rate seen higher in Financial Year 2020 on improved demand.
- Oil prices are seen declining in Financial Year 2020.
- Accommodative MPC policy to help cut real lending rates.
- From '**Beti Baco Beti Padhao**' to '**BADLAV**' (Beti Aapki Dhan Lakshmi Aur Vijay Lakshmi).
- From '**Give it up**' for the LPG subsidy to '**Think about the Subsidy**'.
- From '**Tax evasion**' to '**Tax compliance**'.

Deposits in Jan Dhan Yojana accounts crosses Rs 1 lakh crore

- Deposits in bank accounts opened under Jan Dhan scheme have crossed the **Rs 1 lakh crore mark.** As per the latest finance ministry data, the total balance in **over 36.06 crore** Pradhan Mantri Jan Dhan Yojana accounts was at **Rs 1,00,495.94 crore as on 03rd July 2019.**
- The PMJDY was launched on **28th August 2014**, with an aim to provide universal access to banking facilities to the people in the country.

Current Status of the Pradhan Mantri Jan - Dhan Yojana (PMJDY) as on 03rd July 2019-

Bank Name / Type (All figures in Crore)	Number of Beneficiaries at rural/semi-urban centre bank branches	Number of Beneficiaries at urban metro centre bank branches	No of Rural-Urban Female Beneficiaries	Number of Total Beneficiaries	Deposits in Accounts (In Crore)	Number of Rupay Debit Cards issued to beneficiaries
Public Sector Banks	15.51	13.14	15.08	28.65	79349.40	23.49
Regional Rural Banks	5.17	1.00	3.44	6.17	18130.05	3.80
Private Sector Banks	0.69	0.56	0.67	1.25	3016.50	1.16
Grand Total	21.37	14.69	19.19	36.06	100495.95	28.45

RBI board finalises 'Utkarsh 2022'

- **The Reserve Bank of India (RBI)** board has finalised a three year roadmap to improve regulation and supervision, among other functions of the central bank. This medium term strategy named **Utkarsh 2022**, is in line with the global central banks' plan to strengthen the regulatory and supervisory mechanism.
- Worldwide, all **central banks strengthen the regulatory and supervisory mechanism, everybody is formulating a long-term plan and a medium-term plan.** So, the RBI has also decided it will formulate a programme to outline what is to be achieved in the next three years. An internal committee was formed, which was anchored by **outgoing Deputy Governor Viral**

Acharya, to identify issues that needed to be addressed over the next three years. While around a dozen areas were identified by the committee, some board members felt that areas could be filtered and lesser number of areas can be identified for implementation in the **next three years.**

19th Commonwealth Foreign Affairs Ministers Meeting in London

- **External Affairs Minister (EAM) S Jaishankar** has Attend the **19th Commonwealth Foreign Affairs Ministers' Meeting in London.** The EAM also meet his **British counterpart Jeremy Hunt** among other foreign ministers during the conference.

Chandrayaan-2, India's second moon mission launched

- Indian Space Research Organisation has launched Chandrayaan- 2 from Satish Dhawan Space Center at Sriharikota. It was launched by GSLV MkIII-M1 Vehicle at 14:43 hours IST on 22nd July. The lander-Vikram will land near South Pole of the moon on 07th September, 2019.
- Important key highlights about the Chandrayaan-2

What was the original date for Chandrayaan launch?	It was scheduled to be lifted off on 15th July 2019
When it was aborted?	It was stopped 56 minutes before the Lift-off
When Chandrayaan-2 is launched now?	It is lift-off on 22nd July
What is the time of launch?	2:43 PM
Weight of the rocket?	3.8 tonnes
Landing on?	7th September (near the south pole)
What is the time on the moon?	14 earth days
Mission life	1 year in lunar orbit
Lander name	Vikram
Where it is launched from?	Satish Dhawan Space Center at Sriharikota

Boris Johnson announced as Britain's next Prime Minister

- Boris Johnson will replace Theresa May as Britain's next Prime Minister. Boris Johnson, who was the face of the 2016 Brexit referendum, won the votes of 92,153 members of the Conservative party. Queen Elizabeth will formally appoint Johnson before he will enter Downing Street.

President Ram Nath Kovind appointed New Governors to 10 Indian States

- Madhya Pradesh: Lalji Tandon will replace Anandiben Patel.
- Uttar Pradesh: Anandiben Patel will replace Ram Naik.
- West Bengal: Jagdeep Dhankhar will replace Keshari Nath Tripathi.
- Bihar: Phagu Chuhan will replace Lalji Tandon.
- Nagaland: R.N. Ravi will replace P.B. Acharya.
- Tripura: Ramesh Bais will replace Kaptan Singh Solanki.



- Kalraj Mishra as the Governor of Himachal Pradesh.
- Acharya Devvrat has been transferred from Himachal Pradesh and appointed as the governor of Gujarat.
- Anusuiya Uikey as Governor of Chhattisgarh.
- Biswa Bhusan Harichandan has been named as Governor of Andhra Pradesh.

England claims maiden ICC World Cup title

- The ICC Cricket World Cup is the international championship of One Day International (ODI) cricket (50-over cricket) organised by the International Cricket Council (ICC) every 4 years. The 12th edition of the world's biggest cricketing event, the ICC Men's cricket World Cup 2019, was played in England and Wales.
- England lifted the ICC Cricket World Cup Trophy 2019 at the Lord's cricket stadium in London. England defeated New Zealand with more number of boundaries in the Super Over thriller in the grand finale of ICC Cricket World Cup Trophy 2019.
 - Player of the tournament: Kane Williamson (New Zealand).
 - Player of the Match Award: Ben Stokes (England).
 - Highest run scorer of the tournament: Rohit Sharma (India).
 - Highest wicket taker of the tournament: Mitchell Starc (Australia).

The Sangeet Natak Akademi announces winners for 2018

- The General Council have selected 44 artists from the field of Music, Dance, Theatre, Traditional/Folk/Tribal Music/Dance/Theatre, Puppetry and Overall contribution /scholarship in the Performing Arts for the Sangeet Natak Akademi Awards for the year 2018. Some of the awardees are:

- **Zakhir Hussain, Sonal Mansingh, Jatin Goswami and K Kalyanasundaram Pillai** have been selected in the Akademi Ratna category.
- **Diwan Singh Bajeli and Puru Dadhich** have been selected for the Akademi Award 2018 in the field of Overall Contribution/Scholarship in the Performing Arts. The honour of Akademi Award has been conferred since 1952.
- **The honour of Akademi Fellow carries purse money** of Rs.3,00,000 and Akademi Award carries Rs 1,00,000, besides a Tamrapatra and Angavastram.

Sachin Tendulkar 6th Indian to be inducted into ICC Hall of Fame

- **International Cricket Council** has inducted **India's batting icon Sachin Tendulkar, South African pace legend Allan Donald and two-times World Cup-winning Australian woman cricketer Cathryn Fitzpatrick** into the ICC's Hall of Fame. Other Indians on the list are **Bishan Singh Bedi, Sunil Gavaskar, Kapil Dev, Anil Kumble, Rahul Dravid.**

The Championships, Wimbledon 2019 (133rd)

- The **Championships, Wimbledon**, commonly known as **Wimbledon** is the oldest tennis tournament in the world. It has been held at the All England Club in Wimbledon, London, since 1877 and is played on outdoor grass courts. The Championships, Wimbledon (2019) was the 133rd edition of the tournament.
- **Here is the Complete List of Winners of the Wimbledon 2019 (with their Respective Countries):**

Sl. No.	Category	Winner	Runner Up
1.	Men's Singles	N. Djokovic (Serbia)	R. Federer (Switzerland)
2.	Women's Singles	S. Halep (Romania)	Serena Williams (USA)
3.	Men's Doubles	Juan Sebastian Cabal (Colombia) and Robert Farah (Colombia)	Nicolas Mahut (France) and Edouard Roger Vasselin (France)
4.	Women's Doubles	S W. Hsieh (Taiwan) and B. Strycova (Czech Republic)	G. Dabrowski (Canada) and Y. Xu (China)
5.	Mixed Doubles	I. Dodig (Croatia) and L. Chan (Taiwan)	R. Lindstedt (Sweden) and J. Ostapenko (Latvia)

Banking and Financial Current Affairs

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

- **State Bank of India** has reduced its benchmark **lending rate by 5 bps** across all loan tenures. The lender's one-year marginal cost of funds based lending rate (**MCLR**) will be **8.4% compared with 8.45%.**
- **Internal committee of the RBI** has suggested that the foreign exchange market could **function from 9 am to 9 pm**. At present, the currency market works from **9 am to 5 pm**. The panel suggested call money market timings could be extended till **6 pm instead of the 5 pm now.**
- **The Reserve Bank of India** has **penalised State Bank of India and Union Bank of India** for violating certain regulatory guidelines. **SBI** was fined **Rs 7 crore** for **non-compliance on Income Recognition and Asset Classification norms.**
- Private sector lender **HDFC Bank** has terminated and de-listed its **22 outstanding global depository receipts (GDRs)** from the **Luxembourg Stock Exchange.**
- **HDFC Bank and Common Services Centres** launched a co-branded '**Small Business Money Back Credit Card**' for small traders and **village-level entrepreneurs (VLEs).**
- **Inter-Ministerial Committee** on **legality of cryptocurrencies and blockchain** has submitted its report to the Finance Ministry. The **committee** was set up under the **Chairmanship** of Economic Affairs Secretary **Subhash Chandra Garg** in 2017.

- Reserve Bank of India has assigned deputy governor **B.P. Kanungo** to run the **monetary policy portfolio** and **forecasting department**. After the exit of Viral Acharya, **Kanungo** has become the **6th member of the RBI's Monetary Policy Committee**.
- The **Reserve Bank of India** has relaxed norms for end-use of money raised through external commercial borrowings for corporates as well as liquidity starved **non-banking lenders**.
- The **Reserve Bank of India** has imposed a **penalty on two online payment solutions** providers Mobikwik Systems and Hip Bar for non-compliance of regulatory guidelines. Mobikwik Systems Private Limited has been slapped a fine of **Rs 15 lakh** while **Hip Bar Pvt Ltd** faced a fine of **Rs 10.85 lakh**.

Economy Current Affairs

- 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**.
- **GoI** has waived off basic customs duty (BCD) on products **imported for nuclear plants**. "All goods for use in generation of nuclear power" and "all forms of uranium ores and concentrates for generation of nuclear power" will now have to pay no basic customs duty.
- **Finance Ministry** has **cut the rate of General provident fund (GPF)** by **10 basis points** from **8% to 7.9%**.
- **Asian Development Bank** lowered **India's GDP growth rate** from **7.2% to 7%** for the current fiscal year.
- The **International Monetary Fund** has lowered its annual **growth forecast for India** from **7.3% to 7%** in financial year **2019-20**.



Business Current Affairs

- Online grocery delivery platform **Milkbasket** has acquired Bengaluru-based e-grocery distributor **PSR Supply Chain**.
- **Walmart Labs** has acquired health tech startup **FloCare** and **B2B** wholesale trading platform **BigTrade**. The aim of acquiring is to strengthen its customer service.
- **International Business Machines Corp** acquired a software company **Red Hat Inc** in **\$34 billion** for ramp up its cloud computing business. This is company's biggest acquisition in its more than 100-year.
- **OYO Hotels & Homes** has formally announced its acquisition of co-working venture **Innov8**. OYO will operate the firm **Innov8** as an independent brand, and along side its existing co-working operations.
- **Apple** has announced the acquisition of chip-maker **Intel's smartphone** modem business for **\$1 billion**.
- **Microsoft** has acquired data privacy, governance service firm **BlueTalon**. **BlueTalon** helps enterprises set policies for how their employees can access their data.
- **Infosys** announced the launch of its state-of-the-art **Cyber Defence Center** in **Bucharest, Romania**.

Schemes/Committees by the Union & State Government

- **'One Nation One Ration Card'** scheme will be available across the country from **1st July 2020**. The scheme will allow portability of **food security benefits** according to which the poor migrant workers will be able to buy subsidised rice and wheat from any ration shop in the country as long as their ration cards are linked to **Aadhaar**.
- **University Grants Commission** has approved a **'Scheme for Trans-disciplinary Research for India's Developing Economy' (STRIDE)** to boost research culture in India.
- **Prime minister** has constituted a high powered committee of **chief ministers for transforming Indian agriculture and raising farmers' income**. **Maharashtra chief minister** will be the convenor of the committee. The committee has been asked to submit its report within two months.
- The **Reserve Bank of India** has set up a working group to review the regulatory and supervisory framework for **core investment companies (CIC)**. The group will be headed by **Tapan Ray, non-executive chairman, Central Bank of India**.
- Government of India will provide **10,000 scholarships** for heirs of the liberation war fighters of **Bangladesh** called **'Muktijodhas'** over the next five years under the **Nutan India-Bangladesh Maitree Muktijodha Santan Scholarship Scheme**.

- A new **India-UK bilateral pilot scheme**, the **UKEIRI Mobility Programme: Study in India** was launched by Universities UK International (UUKi) and British Council India. It aims to generate up to 200 opportunities for undergraduate students at UK universities to visit India by March 2021.

States Current Affairs

- **Tamil yeoman (Cirrochroa thais) butterfly** has been declared the state **butterfly of Tamil Nadu**. These butterflies are also known as **Tamil Maravan**, which means warrior, is found mainly in the hilly areas.
- **Ministry of Home Affairs** has extended The **Armed Forces (Special Powers) Act (AFSPA)** for another six months in **Nagaland**. The Act is implemented with effect from **June 30 and will be in force till December end**.
- **Chief Minister of Uttar Pradesh** has launched the IInd phase of **Communicable Disease Control and Dastak Abhiyan 2019**. The campaign is launched to eradicate deadly **Acute Encephalitis Syndrome** and **Japanese Encephalitis disease**.
- The **Hong Kong government** has approved over **\$9 million** for relief and rehabilitation work in cyclone-hit **Odisha**.
- The **GoI** has sanctioned an additional amount of **Rs 358 crore** for the construction of new roads in rural areas of **Tripura**.
- The **Jammu and Kashmir government** approves **Aadhaar-linked payment mode** for pension disbursement. The aim is to distribute pension to the beneficiaries under various central and state sponsored schemes in order to ensure transparency and to **avoid delay**.
- The **annual Bonalu festival** kicked off at the **Jagadamba temple in historic Golconda Fort, Telangana**. Bonalu is celebrated every year in the state during the first month of the monsoon season. **Bonalu is the "state festival" of Telangana**.
- **Assam Tourism Development Corporation** will spend **150 crore rupees** to develop the 316 locations under **Axom Darshan**.
- **Odisha government** has decided to give monthly allowance of **Rs 10,000** to Padma award winners of the state facing financial problems.
- The **West Bengal Government** has decided to construct **8 lakh 30 thousand houses under Bangla Abas Yojana** for the people belonging to **Economically Weaker Section**.
- The **Delhi government** has announced that the **Rajghat thermal power plant** will be officially shut and turned into a solar park. A 5,000 KW of solar power will be produced at the 45 acre plant site.

- **Highlights of the state budget presented by Madhya Pradesh government:**
 - Allocation of **Rs 8,000 crore** has been made to waive loans of 20 lakh farmers of the state.
 - The grants for the Madhya Pradesh Waqf Board and the Haj committee have been hiked.
 - A grant of **Rs 132 crore** has been proposed for the welfare of cows.
- **Chief Minister of West Bengal Mamata Banerjee** and eminent persons of different fields, School students took part in a Padayatra in Kolkata to spread the message of water conservation.
- **Meghalaya** became the **first state** in India to ensure the **conservation of water** and have **own water policy** following a nod given by the State Cabinet.
- **World Bank** offers a loan of **\$250 million** to the **Kerala Government** for the **Resilient Kerala project**, aimed at enhancing the state's resilience against the impacts of natural disasters and climate change.
- **Google India** and **Tata Trusts** initiative is aimed at facilitating **digital literacy among women in rural India** named **"Internet Saathi"**. This initiative will be **expanded to villages in Punjab and Odisha**.
- **Maharashtra government** increased **financial aid to families of jawans** martyred in war or war-like situations or conflict related to national security from **Rs 25 lakh to Rs 1 crore**. Personnel **wounded in conflict** will get **monetary compensation** ranging from **Rs 20 lakh to Rs 60 lakh each**, depending on the severity of their injury.
- **Uttarakhand** will host the first ever **Himalayan states conclave** here on **July 28** where the **prime focus** will be on **sustainable development**.
- The **Cabinet Committee on Economic Affairs** gave the approval to the **2,880 megawatts Dibang hydropower project** in **Arunachal Pradesh**, approving a **Rs 1,600 crore pre-investment and clearance expenditure** for the **Rs 28,080.35 crore strategic project**.
- **Raksha Mantri** inaugurated the **1 kilometre long Ujh bridge** in **Kathua district** and **617.40 Metre long Basantarbridge** in **Samba district of Jammu & Kashmir**. **1 Km long Ujh bridge is the longest bridge** constructed by **Border Roads Organisation (BRO)**.
- **Telangana Government** and the **World Economic Forum's Centre** for the **4th Industrial Revolution Network** announced that they are set to launch an **innovative project** to deliver **emergency medical supplies** such as blood and vaccines via drones. This pilot project, called **Medicine from the Sky**, will run in partnership with the State Government and HealthNet Global Limited.
- The number of **districts in Tamil Nadu** will go up to **35** as the government has carved out **Tenkasi district from Tirunelveli district** and **Chengalpet district from Kancheepuram district**.

- Researchers discovered **Dracaena cambodiana**, a **dragon-tree species** which has been reported for the **first time in India**, in the Dongka Sarpo area of West Karbi Anglong district in **Assam**.
- **Chief Minister of Odisha Naveen Patnaik** has launched the **revamped website of Odisha Tourism**, **odishatourism.gov.in**, for **promoting state brands Boyanika and Utkalika**.
- **Gujarat** ranks on top in the installation of **rooftop solar projects** with an installed capacity of **261.97 megawatts**.
- **Chief Minister of Arunachal Pradesh** launched the statewide tree plantation programme '**Clean-Green Arunachal Campaign 2019**' in **Itanagar**.
- **Chandrakant Kavlekar** to be the **new Deputy Chief Minister of Goa**. He will **replace Vijai Sardesai** as the deputy chief minister of Goa.
- **Odisha Chief Minister** announced in the **State Assembly** that the **Sachivalaya or Secretariat** building in Bhubaneswar will now be called '**Lok Seva Bhavan**'. The Odisha Secretariat building was inaugurated on **November 12, 1959**.
- The **rasagola**, a popular dessert of **Odisha**, has received the geographical indication tag from the Registrar of **Geographical Indication**. The GI number 612 has been registered in favour of the **Odisha Small Industries Corporation Limited**.
- **Jammu and Kashmir, District Administration Udhampur** has launched a helpline, "**Jeene Do**". The objective is 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.

Appointments/Resignations (National & International)

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

- **B Harideesh Kumar** has been appointed as **director of Institute of Banking Personnel Selection** for a period of **three years**. Earlier, he was the **Executive Director of Canara Bank**.
- **Nalin Shinghal** has been appointed as the **chairman and managing director of Bharat Heavy Electricals Limited**. He will replace **Atul Sobti** as the chairman and managing director of **BHEL**.
- **BCCI** has formally appointed **Rahul Dravid** as the **National Cricket Academy's Head of Cricket**.
- **Lieutenant General Shailesh Tinaikar** of India assumes charge as **Force Commander of United Nations Mission in South Sudan**.
- **Arun Kumar** has been appointed as the **Director General of aviation regulator Directorate General of Civil Aviation**. He will replace **BS Bhullar**.
- **LinkedIn** has appointed **Ashutosh Gupta** as the new country **manager for India operations**. Gupta will replace **Mahesh Narayanan**, who was the country manager for India for period from January-June 2019.
- The **Central government** appointed **M Nageswar Rao**, as the **Director General of Fire Services, Civil Defence and Home Guard**. Rao will replace former **CBI Chief Alok Verma**.
- The **Appointments Committee of the Cabinet** has approved the appointment of **Shri Vikas Swarup**, High Commissioner in **Ottawa** as **Secretary (Consular, Passport, Visa and Overseas Indian affairs)** in the Ministry of External Affairs with effect from **01.08.2019**.
- The **World Bank Group** announced that **SBI's Anshula Kant**, an Indian national, has been appointed **Managing Director and Chief Financial Officer**. Ms. Kant will be the **first woman CFO of the Bank**.
- Former **India wicket keeper-batsman Kiran More** will take charge as the **interim coach of the senior USA cricket team**. He will replace the head coach **Pubudu Dassanayake**.
- **Ursula von der Leyen** has been confirmed as the **European commission's first female President** and the first German in the job for more than 50 years.

HINDI

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- Global beverages major **Coco-Cola** announced top level changes in its india and southwest asia unit with the appointment of **Sarvita Sethi** as **Vice president**, M&A and New Ventures and **Harsh Bhutani** as **Vice-president finance(CFO)**.
- Former Supreme Court judge, **Justice AK Sikri**, has been appointed as an **international judge of the Singapore International Commercial court (SICC)**.
- **The Supreme Court of India** has constituted a high powered committee to **urgently frame and implement an emergency response plan** for the protection of two Indian birds- **Great Indian Bustard** and the **Lesser Florican**. The 3 member panel **constitutes Dr Deepak Apte, Dr Asad R Rahmani and Dr Dhananjai Mohan**.
- **International Monetary Fund** chief **Christine Lagarde** has submitted her resignation as **IMF chief**. She had served as the IMF chief since 2011. **David Lipton** will remain the **IMF Acting Managing Director** in the interim period.
- IFS officer **Upender Singh Rawat** has been appointed as **India's next Ambassador to Panama**. He will succeed **Ravi Thapar**.
- Senior diplomat **Sanjeev Kumar Singla** has been appointed as the next **Indian Ambassador to Israel**. He will replace Pavan Kapoor, who assumed charge as the Ambassador to Israel in 2016.
- Indian Foreign Service officer **Vivek Kumar** was appointed as **private secretary to Prime Minister Narendra Modi**.
- **Sri Lanka** has signed an agreement with **India** to **upgrade tracks in a key railway segment** connecting the north and south at a cost of \$ **91.26 million**.
- The Appointments Committee of the Cabinet approved the appointment of **Ajay Bhadoo** as **Joint Secretary to President Ram Nath Kovind**. Bhadoo, a Gujarat batch IAS officer is currently serving as the Vadodara Municipal Commissioner.
- **Boris Johnson** will replace Theresa May as **Britain's next Prime Minister**.
- **Lalji Tandon** will replace Anandiben Patel as **governor of Madhya Pradesh**.
- **Anandiben Patel** will replace Ram Naik as **governor of Uttar Pradesh**.
- **Jagdeep Dhankhar** will replace Keshari Nath Tripathi as **governor of West Bengal**.
- **Phagu Chuhan** will replace Lalji Tandon as **governor of Bihar**.
- **R.N. Ravi** will replace P.B. Acharya as **governor of Nagaland**.
- **Ramesh Bais** will replace Kaptan Singh Solanki as **governor of Tripura**.
- Lieutenant-General **M.M. Naravane**, has been appointed as the **next Vice-Chief of the Army Staff**. He will replace Lt. Gen. D. Anbu. He is currently serving as General Officer Commanding-in-Chief, Eastern Army Command.
- Pakistan Cricket Board's chairman **Ehsan Mani** has been appointed as the **head of the ICC's influential Finance and Commercial Affairs committee**.
- The U.S. Senate confirmed former soldier **Mark Esper** as **Secretary of Defence**, filling America's longest-ever **Pentagon leadership** vacuum as Washington faces mounting tensions with Iran.
- The Table Tennis Federation of India (**TTFI**) has appointed the **Canadian Dejan Papic** as the **head coach of the Indian table tennis team**.
- **Priti Patel** has been appointed as **Britain's Home Secretary** in the newly-unveiled Boris Johnson Cabinet and has all become the Britain's **first Indian-origin Home Secretary**.
- **Ajay Kumar Bhalla** has been appointed **Officer on Special Duty (OSD)** to the Ministry of Home Affairs.
- **Sunil Kumar** has been given additional charge of chairman and managing director of the **Mahanagar Telephone Nigam Limited (MTNL)**.
- The leader of the Congress party in Lok Sabha, **Adhir Ranjan Chowdhury** was appointed as the **Chairman of the Public Accounts Committee (PAC)**.
- **Cricket Advisory Committee (CAC)** led by **World Cup-winning former captain Kapil Dev** entrusted with the responsibility of **selecting India's new coach**.
- **IPS officer V.K. Johri** has been appointed as the **next Director General (DG)** of the country's largest border guarding force, **Border Security Force (BSF)**.
- **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**.
- **Girish Bapat** has been appointed the chairman of the **"Estimates Committee"** of the parliament. Lok Sabha Speaker Om Birla made the appointment.



Sports Current Affairs

- **Red Bull's Max Verstappen** won the **Austrian Grand Prix** for the second year in a row while champion Mercedes lost for the first time in this season.
- **Indian pro boxer Vaibhav Yadav** has become the **WBC Asia Silver Welterweight Champion**. He defeated **Thailand's Fahpetch Singmanassak** in Thailand.
- The Indian team **lost to Pakistan** in the final of the **IBSF Snooker World Cup in Doha**.
- Indian batsman **Ambati Rayudu** has announced his retirement from **international cricket**.
- **Aparna Kumar** becomes first IPS officer to complete Seven Summit challenge by scaling Mt Denali. Mt Denali is the tallest mountain in **North America**.
- **Hima Das**, the under-20 World champion has won the gold medal in women's **200m in the Poznan Athletics Grand Prix**. **Poznan Athletics Grand Prix is taking place in Poznan, Poland**.
- **Dutch winger Arjen Robben** has announced his retirement from football at the age of 35 after a 10-year spell with **German giants Bayern Munich**.
- **Ten-man Brazil** held on to win the **Copa America** on home soil despite Gabriel Jesus's dismissal with a **3-1 victory over Peru**.
- **Li Shi Feng** has won the **men's singles title of Canada Open Badminton**. He defeated **India's Parupalli Kashyap** in the title clash.
- **Indian athletes have won 4 gold medals in the Kutno Athletics Meet held in Poland**.
Following is the list of winners in the different categories:
 - **Hima Das** won the gold while **V.K. Vismaya** bagged the silver in the women's 200m race.
 - **Muhammed Anas** won the gold in men's 200 m race.
 - **MP Jabir** won the gold while **Jithin Paul** bagged the bronze medal in the men's 400m hurdles.
 - **P Saritaben (gold), Sonia Baishya (silver) and R Vithya (bronze)** won the women's 400 m race.
- **Rohit Sharma** has set a world record of maximum **hundreds in the single World Cup**. He has become the **first batsman** in the world to score five hundreds in a single World Cup and break the record of **Former Sri Lankan skipper Kumar Sangakarra**.
- **United States wins 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.
- **Arinjeeta Dey**, a 10-year-old girl, has won a **silver medal** in the World Youth Cup held in **Umag, Croatia**.
- **Wrestler Vinesh Phogat** has won a gold medal in the 53kg category, while **Divya Kakran** has won the gold medal in the **68kg** category at the Grand Prix of Spain.

- **4 gold medals for India in Commonwealth Senior Weightlifting Championships**. Following is the list of winners in the different categories:
 - **Mirabai Chanu** wins gold in the senior women's 49 kg event.
 - **Jhilli Dalabehra** wins gold in the senior women's 45 kg event.
 - **Soroikhaibam Bindyarani Devi** wins gold while **Matsa Santoshi** wins the silver medal in the senior women's 55kg event.
 - **Rishikanta Singh** grabbed the gold in the senior men's 55kg event.
- **Magnus Carlsen won the 2019 Croatia Grand Chess Tour title**. He scored 8 points. Wesley So finished second with 7 points. India's Viswanathan Anand ended up with 4.5 points and finished 11th.
- **Dutee Chand from Odisha** has won the gold medal in the **women's 100 metre sprint** at the 30th Summer University Games in **Naples, Italy**.
- **The full list of AIFF awards:**
 - Best Grassroots Development Programme: **Jammu & Kashmir Football Association**.
 - Best Referee: **R. Venkatesh (Tamil Nadu)**.
 - Best Assistant Referee: **Joseph Tony (Karnataka)**.
 - Emerging Women's Footballer 2018-19: **Dangmei Grace (Manipur)**.
 - Emerging Men's Footballer of the Year: **Abdul Sahal (Kerala)**.
 - Women's Footballer of the Year: **Ashalata Devi**.
 - Men's Footballer of the Year: **Sunil Chhetri**.
- **Rakhi Halder and Davinder Kaur** has won a gold medal each in the **senior women's section of weightlifting in the Commonwealth Championships**.
- **Mexico defeated USA** to claim their eighth **CONCACAF Gold Cup title**. Jonathan Dos Santos scored the winning goal in 73rd min for Mexico in the thrilling final.
- **India have won 4 gold medals** in Commonwealth Weightlifting Championships held in **Apia, Samoa**. **The Indian medalists are:**
 - Men (Elite and junior): **Achinta Sheuli** has won 2 gold medals in 73kg event.
 - Junior: **Gulam Navi** has won gold medal in 67kg event.
 - Junior and youth: **L. Sadananda Singh** has won Bronze & Gold medals in 73kg event.
 - Women (Elite): **Manpreet Kaur** has won silver medal in 76kg event.
 - Junior: **R. Arockiya Alish** has won silver medal in 76kg event.
- **The Independent Atlantic League** became the first American professional baseball league to let a **computer call balls and strikes**.
- A total number of **two thousand 437** sporting talents have been identified under the **Khelo India Scheme**. Sports Minister Kiren Rijiju informed.

- In Table Tennis, Indian pair **G. Sathiyam** and **Anthony Amalraj** won the bronze at the World Tour Platinum Australian Open. They defeat Korean pair of Jeoung Youngsik and Lee Sangsu.
- **Boxer Vijender Singh** remained an unstoppable force, clinching a **Technical Knockout** over **Mike Snider** on his debut in the **US professional circuit** at **Newark** in the US.
- **Lewis Hamilton** made a thrilling victory in the **Silverstone circuit** to win his **sixth British Grand Prix**, his seventh victory in ten races in 2019 and the 80th win of his career.
- India wrestler **Vinesh Phogat** has won her second consecutive **gold in 53kg**, at **Yasar Dogu International in Istanbul**.
- **M. Sreeshankar** has won the **long jump gold** at the **Tatyana Kolpakova International athletics**. The tournament was held in **Bishkek (Kyrgyzstan)**.
- **International Shooting Sport Federation** approved **India's** application to host the **ISSF World Cup stages**. World Cup will be **held in New Delhi** from March 15 to 26, 2020. The last edition of **ISSF World Cup** was held in **Munich, Germany**.
- Olympic silver medallist **Amir Khan** clinched the **WBC international welterweight title**.
- India bagged two **Gold medals** in the **Women's 10-meter Air Rifle** event at the **International Shooting Sport Federation Junior World Cup** in **Suhl, Germany**.
- **Odisha Governor** inaugurated the **21st edition of Commonwealth Table Tennis Championship** at the **Jawaharlal Indoor Stadium** in **Cuttack, Odisha**.
- **Vijayveer Sidhu** picked up his third **gold medal** of the ongoing **ISSF Junior World Cup** in **Suhl, Germany**, combining with **Rajkanwar Singh Sandhu** and **Adarsh Singh** to clinch the **men's 25m pistol**.
- **Shooter Anish Bhanwala** claimed **gold in 25m rapid fire pistol** competition to continue India's dominance in the tournament in **Suhl, Germany**.
- **Star Indian sprinter Hima Das** clinched **gold** in a **200m race** in 23.25 seconds creditable timing in the **Tabor Athletics Meet** in **Czech Republic**.
- **India** has made a record by **winning gold** in both **men's** and **women's** category of the **21st Commonwealth Table Tennis Championship** taking place in **Odisha**.
- The **Indian men's team** won the final match **defeating England 3-2**. The **Indian women's team** defeated **England 3-0** in final match to win the gold for the first time in the history of the commonwealth games.
- **North Korea** wins the **2nd edition of Intercontinental Cup football tournament**. **North Korea** beats **Tajikistan** in the finals held in **Ahmedabad**.
- **Sports Minister** has launched the **All India Football Federation's Golden Baby Leagues** handbook 2019-20. The launch marked the **renaming of the 'AIFF Baby Leagues' to 'AIFF Golden Baby Leagues'**, with emphasis being laid for ages under 6 to under 12 both for girls and boys.
- **India** is in line to get the **Asian Games gold in 4x400 mixed relay event** held in **Jakarta 2018**, as **Kemi Adekoya of Bahrain** was handed a **4 year ban** by the Athletics Integrity Unit (AIU) for failing a **dope test**. Kemi Adekoya had also won the 400m hurdles gold at the Asian Games with India's Anu Raghavan finishing fourth. Hence, **Anu Raghavan is in line for the bronze medal**.
- **International Cricket Council** has inducted **India's batting icon Sachin Tendulkar**, **South African** pace legend **Allan Donald** and two-times World Cup-winning Australian woman cricketer **Cathryn Fitzpatrick** into the **ICC's Hall of Fame**. Other Indians on the list are **Bishan Singh Bedi**, **Sunil Gavaskar**, **Kapil Dev**, **Anil Kumble**, **Rahul Dravid**.
- **ISSF Junior World Cup**, **Sarabjot Singh** shot a 239.6 to bag the **men's 10 metres air pistol gold**. This is India's ninth yellow metal at the event in **Suhl, Germany**.
- **International Cricket Council** has suspended **Zimbabwe** for failing to ensure there is no government interference in its running of the sport.
- The Britain swimmer **Adam Peaty** has break the world record in the **men's 100 metre breaststroke** at the **World Championships in Gwangju**, **South Korea**. He smashed the previous record of 57.10 seconds that was set by him at last year's European Championships, after winning the semi finals in 56.88 seconds.
- Indian sprinter **Hima Das** extended her sensational run by claiming her **fifth gold** of the month as she returned to her pet **400m competition** with a season-best time of 52.09 seconds in **Nove Mesto, Czech Republic**.
- **Shiva Thapa** became **India's first gold-medallist** in the newly-introduced Olympic **category of 63kg** at the **President's Cup** boxing tournament after getting a walkover in the finals in **Astana, Kazakhstan**.
- Indian bodybuilder **Ravinder Kumar Malik** has clinched **Mr. South Asia** title. He has crowned the overall champion at 12th South Asian Bodybuilding and Physique Sports Championship in **Kathmandu**.



- **Shooting Junior World Cup**, Aishwarya Pratap Singh Tomar clinched **gold** with a junior world record in the final of **rifle 3-position event** in Suhl Germany.
- **Japan's Akane Yamaguchi** wins **Indonesia Open BWF Tour Super 1000 tournament** held in Jakarta, **Indonesia**. She defeated **India's P.V. Sindhu** in the title clash by 21-15, 21-16
- Filipino legend **Manny Pacquiao** claimed the **WBA welterweight championship** after scoring a split-decision win against **Keith Thurman**. He ended the American Keith Thurman's undefeated run at the MGM Grand
- Irishman **Shane Lowry** wins **British Open** to claim his 1st major golfing title at Royal Portrush.
- American tennis player **John Isner** wins **Hall of Fame Tennis Championships** title in **Newport, Rhode Island**.
- **Abhay Singh** of **Tamil Nadu** and **Tanvi Khanna** clinched the **men's and women's titles** respectively in the 6th **Bengal Open squash tournament**.
- **Virat Kohli** maintains **number one spot** in **ICC Test Rankings**.
- **Kristof Milak** shattered **Michael Phelps'** long-standing world record in the **200 metres butterfly** at the **World Aquatics Championships in Gwangju**.
- The **BCCI** has approved the **Indian Cricketers Association (ICA)** which is only open to former men and women cricketers.
- **Caeleb Dressel** destroyed **Michael Phelps's** World record in the **100 metres butterfly** at the **World Aquatics Championships 2019 in Gwangju, South Korea**.
- **Chandigarh** received affiliation from the **Board of Control for Cricket in India (BCCI)** after nearly four decades.
- **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.
- **Tamil Nadu girl Jerlin Anika** has won the gold medal in the **World Deaf Youth Badminton Championships held in Taipei**.
- **American Collin Morikawa** has won the **US PGA title** at the **Barracuda Championship**.
- Former France and Manchester United defender **Patrice Evra** has announced his retirement.
- **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 named **Michael Gough** of England and Joel Wilson of the West Indies in the Emirates **ICC Elite Panel of Umpires for 2019-20 season**.

- 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. He defeated second placed **Sebastian Vettel of Ferrari**.
- **Nikoloz Basilashvili** wins the **German Tennis Championships**. He defeated **Andrey Rublev** to successfully defend his title at the **German Tennis Championships**.
- **Egan Bernal** became the 1st Colombian to win the **Tour de France** which finished in Paris, France. He beat the defending champion **Geraint Thomas** of Britain by 1 minute 11 seconds.
- 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**. It can also be inferred as the **'World Cup' of red-ball cricket**.

Summits And Conferences

- **Odisha** will host the **21st Commonwealth Table Tennis Championship** in Cuttack, from July 17 to 22.
- The **2nd India-Russia Strategic Economic Dialogue** held in New Delhi. It was held under the chairmanship of **NITI Aayog Vice Chairman Rajiv Kumar** and Deputy Minister of the Economic Development of **Russia, Timur Maksimov**.
- **India** will host the **14th conference of the parties from September 02 to 13 in Greater Noida**. 197 countries are expected to participate in the conference.
- **4th Director General level talks between Narcotics Control Bureau (India) and Central Committee for Drug Abuse Control (Myanmar)** was held in **New Delhi**.
- The **Ministry of Skill Development & Entrepreneurship** organised the **36th meeting** of the **Central Apprenticeship Council (CAC)** in **New Delhi**.

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- **Fergus Kavanagh** has been roped in to conduct a 7 day camp with Indian defenders at the **Sports Authority of India Centre in Bengaluru**.
- **The US India Strategic and Partnership Forum 2nd annual leadership summit held in Washington. "US India Bilateral Trade Report" was released on the occasion. Some findings of the report are:**
 - US India bilateral trade could reach **USD 238 billion by 2025**.
 - Sectors such as defence trade, **commercial aircrafts, oil and LNG, coal, machinery and electronics are areas of potential growth**.
 - **The US-India trade balance has grown 3.8 per cent on an average in favour of India.**
- **The first Global Conference for Media Freedom** co-hosted by the UK and Canada **in London**.
- **Kochi to host India's largest women startup summit in August 2019.** The meet will be open for all women professionals, aspiring entrepreneurs, corporate leaders and startup founders.
- **2nd formal discussion** on holy **Gurdwara of Kartarpur Sahib** between **India and Pakistan** was held in **Wagah**.
- **43rd session of the World Heritage Committee of UNESCO** was held in **Baku, Republic of Azerbaijan** from 30 June to 10 July 2019. In the meeting, **UNESCO** named **29 new World Heritage sites** for 2019.
- **13th meeting of the India-UK Joint Economic and Trade Committee (JETCO)** was held in **London**. Union Minister of Commerce & Industry and Railways and Secretary of State for International Trade of the UK participated in the meeting.
- The **8th meeting of India-Uzbekistan Joint Working Group on Counter-Terrorism** was held in **New Delhi**. The Joint Working Group reviewed threats posed by terrorist groups worldwide and in their respective regions including cross border terrorism.
- **Lucknow** will host the **11th biennial edition of DefExpo** from February 5 to 8, 2020. The focus of the Expo will be on "Digital transformation of defence". The **main theme** of DefExpo India-2020 will be **"India: the emerging defence manufacturing hub"**.
- The **International Police Expo 2019** was held at Pragati Maidan, in **New Delhi**. It focused on everything related to police forces, their welfare and fitness, also showcases the latest equipment required for safety and protection of society.
- **The 22nd National Conference on e-Governance** will be held in **Shillong, Meghalaya**. The theme of the conference is **'Digital India: Success to Excellence'**.
- Prime Minister of Nepal inaugurated India-Nepal Logistics Summit between India and **Nepal in Kathmandu**. The theme of the summit was **"Transforming Logistics Landscape"**.
- The **5th international Dharma-Dhamma** conference was inaugurated by Union Minister of State Kiren Rijiju in **Rajgir, Bihar**.

National News

- **The Minister of State for Tribal Affairs** launched the following campaigns for the Tribes of India in New Delhi:
 - **'Go Tribal Campaign'** of Tribes India launched to promote the use of tribal handicrafts, handicrafts and natural products.
 - **'Tribes India'** launched globally through Amazon Global Selling to step up Exports of Tribal Products.
- **Union Jal Shakti Minister** has launched a water conservation campaign **'Jal Shakti Abhiyan'**, with an emphasis on 1592 stressed blocks in 256 districts. The campaign will run through citizen participation during the monsoon **1st July-15th September**. An additional phase II will run from **1st October-30th November** for states receiving the northeast retreating monsoons.
- **Lord Jagannath Rath Yatra** begins in **Puri, Odisha**. The Rath Yatra marks the journey of Lord Jagannath along with his siblings Lord Balabhadra and Devi Subhadra from Jagannath temple to Gundicha temple. This journey covers a distance of around **17 km in Puri**.
- **The Supreme Court of India** has directed the **Meghalaya government to deposit the Rs 100 crore fine**. The fine was imposed by the NGT for failing to curb illegal coal mining with the Central Pollution Control Board.
- **United Arab Emirates Foreign Minister Sheikh Abdullah bin Zayed Al Nahyan** arrived in India. He held talks with his Indian counterpart **S Jaishankar** to boost cooperation in key sectors such as trade and energy.
- **The Prime Minister unveiled the statue of former Prime Minister Sh. Lal Bahadur Shastri** at the Lal Bahadur Shastri International Airport in **Varanasi**. It is built by Northern Coalfields, a subsidiary of **Coal India**.
- **RPF launched "Operation Thirst"** to crack down selling of **unauthorised Packaged Drinking Water in the railway premises**. During the operation, 1371 persons were arrested for selling of packaged drinking water of unauthorised brands.
- **The Institute of Company Secretaries of India** has rolled out an initiative a **Unique Document Identification Number** to pursue heightened sense of self-governance and strengthen the practising side of company secretaries.
- **India handed over 250 pre-fabricated houses to Myanmar in Maung Daw** for use of displaced returnees from Bangladesh. The Indian government had taken up the project under its Rakhine State Development Programme for **\$ 25M for a period of five years**.
- **India lifted 271 million people** out of poverty between 2006 and 2016, recording the fastest reductions in the **multidimensional poverty index** values during the period.

- **Union Environment Ministry** has selected **12 beaches in India** to vie for a **'Blue Flag'** certification, an **international recognition** conferred on beaches that meet certain criteria of **cleanliness** and **environmental propriety**.
- Pakistan Punjab's chief minister laid the foundation stone of **Baba Guru Nanak University** at **Nanakana Sahib**. The University was dedicated to Guru Nanak Dev at his birth place. This university would be spread over 10 acres.
- **Union Health Minister** released **National Digital Health Blueprint**, bringing in the **National Digital Health Eco-system** that can ensure the availability of healthcare services on a wider scale.
- The **Rajya Sabha** passed the **Central Universities (Amendment) Bill, 2019**. The Bill aims the establishment of a **Central University** and **Tribal University in Andhra Pradesh**.
- **Ministry of Health and Family Welfare** will launch a **Jan Jagrukta Abhiyaan in Delhi** to accelerate measures for prevention and control of Vector Borne Diseases like **Malaria, Dengue and Chikungunya**.
- **GoI** plan to increase the **total production of coal** in the country to **1 billion tone by 2022-23**. Coal minister said that the gap between demand and supply of coal cannot be bridged completely as there is insufficient domestic availability of coking coal.
- **The Union Cabinet** has approved **National Medical Commission Bill, 2019**. The bill provides for setting up of a **National Medical Commission** in place of **Medical Council of India** and repeal the **Indian Medical Council Act 1956**.
- **Culture Minister** has inaugurated the **architectural illumination** of the historic **Safdarjung Tomb in New Delhi**. Archaeological Survey of India has taken up the project to illuminate the important monuments of Delhi to highlight the archaeological magnificence of historical monuments.
- **INS Sagardhwani** embarked on a two-month-long **Sagar Maitri Mission-2** from **Southern Naval Command in Kochi**. **INS Sagardhwani** is an oceanographic research vessel of the Defence Research and Development Organisation (DRDO).
- **Union Minister of Human Resource Development** released **UGC Guide** to Student Induction Programme **"Deeksharambh"** in New Delhi.
- The **Lok Sabha** has passed the **Finance Bill, 2019** that will give effect to the proposals of the Central Government for the year 2019-20. The Finance Bill contains tax proposals for the current fiscal. The proposed amendments **will promote 'Make in India' and Startups**.
- **Indian Space Research Organisation** launched **Chandrayaan 2** from Satish Dhawan Space Center at **Sriharikota**. It was launched by **GSLV MkIII-M1 Vehicle** at 14:43 hours IST. The **lander-Vikram** will land near **South Pole** of the moon on Sep 7, 2019. Chandrayaan 2 is **India's 2nd moon mission**.
- Government of India will provide **10,000 scholarships** for heirs of the liberation war fighters of **Bangladesh** called **'Muktijodhas'** over the next five years under the **Nutan India-Bangladesh Maitree Muktijodha Sontan Scholarship Scheme**.
- A new **India-UK bilateral pilot scheme**, the **UKEIRI Mobility Programme: Study in India** was launched by Universities UK International (UUKi) and British Council India. It aims to generate up to 200 opportunities for undergraduate students at UK universities to visit India by March 2021.
- The **government** has set a target for the installation of **Rooftop Solar projects of 40,000 MegaWatt by 2022** in the country.
- **GoI** has **reconstituted** the Group of Ministers (GoM) looking after the issues of how to **prevent sexual harassment at workplace** and strengthen legal frameworks. The GoM will be **lead by Home Minister Amit Shah**. The other members of the reconstituted GoM are: Finance Minister **Nirmala Sitharaman**, HRD Minister **Ramesh Pokhriyal 'Nishank'**, and Women and Child Development Minister **Smriti Irani**.
- The **Digital Communications Commission (DCC)** approved the cumulative penalty of **Rs 3,050 crore** on **Bharti Airtel** and **Vodafone Idea**.
- **Asian Development Bank** has sanctioned **Rs 1925 Cr** project for up-gradation of power generation and distribution in **Tripura** for upgrading capacity of **Rokhia Project** and **Gumti Hydro Electric Project**.
- The **Western Railway General Stores Depot (GSD)** has become the **first in Indian Railways** to opened a **heritage gallery of the printing and allied machines**.
- **Kaiga Atomic Energy station (Karnataka)** sets a **World Record in continuous operation of 962 days** by **Unit-1 of Kaiga Generating Station (KGS-1)**.
- **Kargil veteran Lt Col Dr Samir Rawat** has been invited as an eminent keynote speaker at the **32nd International Congress of Psychology 2020 (ICP)** in **Prague**.



- **Union Minister of Health and Family Welfare Dr Harsh Vardhan** celebrated the **110th annual day celebrations of National Centre for Disease Control (NCDC)**. Minister has also inaugurated the laboratory complex (Lab-3) at NCDC and the new building of National Vector Borne Disease Control Programme (NVBDCP).
- **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.
- **Atal Innovation Mission (AIM)**, is an initiative of NITI Aayog is all set to launch a new program for community innovation in New Delhi.
- **Indian Railways 'Northeast Frontier Railway zone'** has started a unique initiative to earmark a special portion of the **SLR coach with pink colour**. This is done to specially help the women passengers with better safety and security.

International Current Affairs

- **New Zealand** has officially banned single-use plastic shopping bags. **Under the new rules, thin plastic single-use shopping bags can no longer be supplied**, but reusable carriers are allowed.
- **The IMF has approved a USD 6 billion loan** over a period of 3 years for cash strapped **Pakistan**. The USD 6 billion financial aid includes an immediate disbursement of **USD 1 billion to help Pakistan address its balance of payment crisis**.
- **UNESCO's World Heritage Committee** has listed **Iraq's Babylon** as a World Heritage Site.
- **Indian Haj mission in Saudi Arabia** adopts **Digital India, equality of women**. It aims to reach out to a large number of pilgrims as part of the **Government of India's initiative of Digital India**.
- **Kyriakos Mitsotakis** was sworn in as the **Prime Minister of Greece**.
- **Sri Lanka** has inaugurated first model village built with Indian assistance. **The village is a part of housing project meant for war affected people**.
- **Sharjah's first Golden Card visa** was issued to an Indian expat **businessman Lalu Samuel**.
- **Sri Lanka** has become **fifth country** in the World Health Organisation (**WHO**) Southeast Asia region to eliminate measles. The other countries in the region which have achieved this feat are **Bhutan, Maldives, DPR Korea and Timor-Leste**.
- **France** will impose **green tax** up to €18 on plane tickets from **2020**. The move aims to fund less-polluting transportation projects.
- **Russia** successfully launched **Soyuz-2.1a carrier rocket with a hydrometeorological satellite** and 32 small satellites.
- **Ukraine** has inaugurated the **world's largest movable metal dome** encasing the destroyed reactor at the infamous Chernobyl plant. It is a 108-meter high dome which weighs **36,000 tonnes**.

- **North Korea** has revised its constitution to make **Kim Jong Un** as official head of state, a promotion that could help normalise the isolated country's diplomatic relations with the rest of the world.
- **In the United States, Tropical Storm Barry** began hitting Louisiana. **President Donald Trump** has declared a state of emergency in Louisiana.
- The **French government** marked the **national day on July 14th**. The day is also known as **Bastille Day**. This is the 230th anniversary of the storming of the Bastille prison which took place in Paris on 14 July 1789.
- **U.S.'s Federal Trade Commission** have approved a **\$5 billion** penalty to be levied on **Facebook**.
- **U.S. celebrates the Apollo 11 mission's 50th year anniversary** on 16th July 2019. In the celebrations, **new statues of Astronaut Neil Armstrong** were unveiled and an **education centre** was dedicated to him in **Ohio, US**.
- **China** has gifted warship '**P625**' to **Sri Lanka**. As a new member of the Lankan Navy, the '**P625**' frigate will be mainly used for **offshore patrol, environment monitoring and anti-piracy combats**.
- **European Union** has fined **US based chipmaker Qualcomm \$271 million**, accusing it of "predatory pricing" to drive a competitor out of the market.
- **Andhra Pradesh** has become the **first state in the country** to reserve **75% private jobs for locals**. The Andhra Pradesh Assembly passed the Andhra Pradesh Employment of Local Candidates in **Industries/Factories Act, 2019**.
- **Scientists in Bangladesh** have developed a method to **convert Jute fibre into low cost bio-degradable cellulose sheets** named "**Sonali**".
- The **Non Aligned movement** ministerial meeting was held in **Caracas, Venezuela**. **India's Permanent Representative to the UN Ambassador Syed Akbaruddin** represented India in the meeting.
- **The U.S. Embassy in Nepal** has organized a South Asia Air Quality Tech Camp in **Kathmandu**.
- **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.

HINDI

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Defence Current Affairs

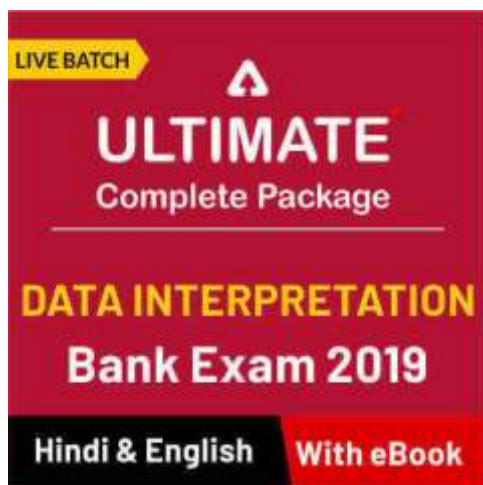
- The International Security Alliance's first Joint Exercise **ISALEX19** started in **Abu Dhabi**. The exercise is hosted by the **UAE Ministry of Interior (MoI)**.
- The **Indian and French Air Force** has started **Garuda VI** exercise at **Mont de Marsan in France**.
- **Indian Space Research Organisation** has signed a contract with **Russia's Glavkosmos** for selection support, medical examination and space training of Indian astronauts. **ISRO has planned to send two unmanned missions before the mission 'Gaganyaan-1'**.
- **BSF** has launched the operation '**Sudarshan**' to fortify the '**anti-infiltration grid**' along the **Pakistan** border in **Punjab and Jammu**. It was launched on July 1 and will cover the entire **1,000-kms length** of the India-Pakistan International Border.
- **DRDO** successfully tested Nag missiles in **Pokhran ranges**. The system includes a third generation Anti-Tank Guided Missile, the **NAG**, along with the **Missile Carrier Vehicle (NAMICA)**.
- **India** has successfully tested the vertical steep dive version of the **Brahmos supersonic cruise missile**. Made in India '**Brahmos Aerospace**' is also ready with a longer 500 km range version of the Brahmos missile that can be fired from **Sukhoi 30 fighter jets**.
- **Indian Naval Ship Tarkash** arrived at **Tangier, Morocco**. The visit is part of an ongoing Overseas Deployment by the **Indian Navy to the Mediterranean Sea, Africa and Europe**.
- **India and Russia** bilateral co-operation to the next level in the field of space, including assistance in **India's maiden human space flight mission 'Gaganyaan'**. National Security Advisor **Ajit Doval** and **Dmitry Rogozin**, Director General of Russia's space agency (ROSCOSMOS) led the two sides in the meeting.
- **India and China** will carry out a **major military exercise** called '**Hand-in-Hand**' in December, 2019. The exercise will take place at **Umroi, Meghalaya**. It will be based on **counter-terrorism, humanitarian assistance and disaster relief operations**.
- The **Indian Navy** commissioned its new **Dornier Aircraft Squadron** in **Chennai**. This is Indian Navy's **5th Dornier Aircraft squadron**.
- The **Indian armed forces** are all set to conduct the country's first-ever simulated space warfare exercise "**IndSpaceEx**".
- **Defence Minister** launched **dashboard of Department Defence Production (DDP)**, Ministry of Defence to keep track of the major components of **Defence Production**, including **defence exports**, defence offsets, Intellectual Property Rights and **Mission Raksha Gyan Shakti**.
- The **Central Industrial Security Force (CISF)** launched an online encyclopedia called **Securitypedia** and also launched customised video interface for its personnel called **CISFTube**.

- **Indian Navy Ship LCU L-56**, the sixth of the **Landing Craft Utility (LCU) MK IV** class ships, was commissioned into the **Indian Navy** by **Vice-Admiral Atul Kumar Jain**, Flag Officer Commanding-in-Chief, Eastern Naval Command, at **Naval Dockyard**.
- **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**, **strengthen maritime security** by joint surveillance and capacity building, medical co-operation, pollution response and for developing new infrastructure.
- 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**.

Ranks and Reports

- According to the **Swiss National Bank (SNB)**, **India** has moved down one place to **74th rank** in terms of money parked by its citizens and enterprises with Swiss banks. **U.K. has retained its top position**.
- **Maharashtra** achieves first rank in **NITI Aayog** launched "**Agricultural Marketing and Farmer Friendly Reforms Index (AMFFRI)**".
- The **Henley Passport Index 2019** has ranked the Indian passport on the **86th position** with a mobility score of 58. The score points out that Indian passport holders can access **58 countries** around the world without a prior visa. **Japan and Singapore** holds the top spot with a score of 189.
- **Tata Steel Kalinganagar** has been included in **World Economic Forum's Global Lighthouse Network**. **TSK in Odisha's Jajpur district** is the first and the only Indian manufacturing plant to be included in the **WEF's Lighthouse Network**.
- According to property consultant **CBRE**, **New Delhi's Connaught Place (CP)** is the **9th most expensive office location** in the world. **Hong Kong's Central district** retained the **top spot** as the world's most expensive market for prime office rents. **Mumbai's Bandra Kurla Complex and Nariman Point CBD** slipped to **27th and 40th position**. Global Prime Office Occupancy Costs survey, **CBRE** tracks the cost of leasing prime office space globally.
- **Singer Taylor Swift** has topped the **Forbes' Celebrity 100 list** and emerged as the highest-paid celebrity with her 2019 estimated earnings of over **USD 185 million**. **Taylor Swift replaced Kylie Jenner**. Jenner is now 2nd in the list. **India's Akshay kumar** is placed **33rd** in the list.

- **UN Development Programme (UNDP)** has released the **2019 global Multidimensional Poverty Index**. **Highlights of the reports are:**
 - India's MPI value reduced from **0.283 in 2005-06 to 0.123 in 2015-16**.
 - **India has lifted 271 million people** out of poverty between 2006 and 2016, recording the fastest reductions in the multidimensional poverty index.
 - India and Cambodia has reduced their MPI values the fastest among the 10 selected countries for which changes over time were analyzed.
 - Gains for India according to the report:
 - Deprivation in nutrition from 44.3% in 2005-06 to 21.2% in 2015-16.
 - **child mortality dropped from 4.5% to 2.2%.**
 - people deprived of cooking fuel reduced from 52.9% to 26.2%.
 - **deprivation in sanitation from 50.4% to 24.6%.**
 - people deprived of drinking water reduced from 16.6% to 6.2%.
- A **UN report** has said, more than **821 million** people suffered from **hunger worldwide** last year. It is the third year in a row that the number has risen.
- **Commerce and Industry Minister** will launch the **Global Innovation Index (GII)** on 24th July 2019 in **New Delhi**. The launch of GI will reveal the innovation rankings of economies. **Theme for 2019:** Evaluating the Medical Innovation Scenario of the Next Decade.
- **Bimal Jalan** led six-member panel on **Economic Capital Framework (ECF)**, formed by RBI has finalised its report on **surplus RBI reserves**. The panel has recommended that **surplus reserves held by the central bank** should be **transferred to the government in tranches over three to five years**.
- **Reliance Industries Ltd** has replaced Indian Oil Corporation to become the **highest-ranking Indian firm on the Fortune Global 500 list**.



Important Days

- United Nations observes **30 July every year as World Day Against Trafficking**.
- 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 United Nations observe **30 June as International Asteroid Day**.
- The United Nations observe **30 June as the International Day of Parliamentarism**.
- **India observe 1st July as the National Doctors' Day**. National Doctor's Day is also celebrated to honour the legendary physician **Dr. Bidhan Chandra Roy**.
- India celebrated **1st July as the "Goods & Services Tax Day"**.
- The United Nations observes **first Saturday of July every year as International Day of Cooperatives**. **Theme for 2019: COOPS 4 DECENT WORK**.
- The United Nations observes **11 July every year as World Population Day**. This year's World Population Day calls for global attention to the unfinished business of the **1994 International Conference on Population and Development**.
- **World Day for International Justice** is observed all around the world on **17th July**. The aim of the day is to promote international criminal justice and as a way of supporting the work of the ICC.
- The **United Nations** observes **18 July every year as Nelson Mandela International Day**.
- **India celebrates 23 July every year as the "National Broadcasting day"**.
- The Central Board of Direct Taxes (CBDT) celebrating the **159th Income Tax Day (AaykarDiwas)** on 24th July.
- **India** remembers its brave hearts on **26 July** which is celebrated as **Kargil Vijay Diwas**. This year nation is celebrating the 20 years of victory in Kargil war.

Agreement Signed/ MoU Approved

- **The State Bank of India** has signed a memorandum of understanding with **National Investment and Infrastructure Fund** to boost availability of capital for infrastructure projects.
- **ICICI Bank** has tied up with **NBFC IndoStar Capital** for vehicle financing for small and medium fleet owners to buy new as well as old commercial vehicles.
- **Delhi Police** has signed a pact with **Solar Energy Corporation of India**. Under this, the SECI will support the implementation of grid-connected rooftop solar photovoltaic systems on the establishments of Delhi police.
- **The Ministries of AYUSH and Electronics and Information Technology** have signed a MoU to collaborate on the digitization of the AYUSH sector.

- An MoU has been signed between **CSIR-Centre for Cellular and Molecular Biology (CCMB)** and Centre for DNA Fingerprinting and Diagnostics (CDFD). **The aim of the MoU is to enable better ways of diagnosis and treatment of genetic disorders.**
- The Union Cabinet has approved the pact signed between **India and Maldives** to start passenger and cargo services via sea route.
- **To develop a sustainable workforce** for disruptive technologies, IT industry's apex body **Nasscom** announced that it is organising 'WorldSkills India's International Cloud Computing Challenge 2019' in partnership with the **National Skill Development Corporation (NSDC)**.
- **Reliance Jio** ties up with Facebook for digital literacy initiative 'Digital Udaan'. The initiative will have audio-visual training in **10 regional languages**.
- **National Highways Authority of India (NHAI)** and **National Investment and Infrastructure Fund (NIIF)** signed an MoU for funding highway projects.
- **Vihaan Networks Ltd (VNL)** has inked a pact with **Vietnam to develop digital villages**. Vihaan Networks Ltd will offer solutions for advancing rural connectivity by developing digital villages in Vietnam's underserved areas through solar-based **cellular and broadband solution**.
- **Prasar Bharati and IIT Kanpur** signed an MoU for research collaboration in **newly emerging technologies and broadcasting-related** areas in New Delhi.
- **Defence Ministry** has signed an MOU with the **Intellectual Property Facilitation Cell and National Research Development Corporation** in connection to the mission Raksha Gyan Shakti.
- **Bharat Chamber of Commerce and the BRICS Chamber of Commerce and Industry**, New Delhi, signed an MoU for promoting trade and investments between the BRICS countries and the eastern part of India.
- A joint venture of a **Kalyani group** firm and **Israel's Rafael Advanced Systems** has secured a **\$100 million** contract for manufacturing **1,000 Barak-8 MRSAM** missile kits.
- **India and Italy** have decided to set up a **fast track mechanism** to facilitate investors and companies.
- The **Department of Telecom (DoT)** and the **Indian Council for Research on International Economic Relations (ICRIER)** signed a MoU to develop a **Broadband Readiness Index (BRI)** for **Indian States and Union Territories (UT)**. The first estimate will be made in 2019 and subsequently every year until 2022.
- **Israel Aerospace** signs **\$50 million** follow-up deal with **Indian navy**. Under the deal, Israel Aerospace Industries will provide complementary missile systems to the Indian navy and India's MDL Shipyard.
- **Palau**, an archipelago of over 500 islands in Oceania, became the **76th signatory country** to join the **International Solar Alliance**.
- **US company, Ebix** has announced the acquisition of travel portal **Yatra Online** for **\$337.8 million**. Now, Yatra has become the part of Ebix's EbixCash travel portfolio, forming India's one of the "largest and most profitable" travel services companies.
- **Larsen & Toubro Infotech Ltd** acquires **AI firm Lymbyc** for **Rs 38 crore**.
- **Government eMarketplace** and **Steel Authority of India** has signed an MoU to set up **GeM Organizational Transformation Team - Project Management Unit (GOTT-PMU)**.
- **BSE** has inked a pact with **Haryana government** to encourage and support **state's micro, small and medium enterprises (MSMEs)** to raise capital.
- **Union Health Ministry** has signed an MoU with **Ministries of Ayush, Defence and Railways** to strengthen the efforts towards a **TB-Free India by 2025**.
- **National Stock Exchange** has signed a pact with the **Haryana government** to help boost the growth of micro, small and medium enterprises sector in the state.
- **Life Insurance Corporation** of India has agreed to offer **Rs 1.25 trillion Line of Credit** by **2024**, to fund highway projects under **Bharatmala project**.
- **L&T Technology Services** has been selected as a strategic partner by **United Technologies Corporation** for **Collins Aerospace**, a subsidiary of UTC.
- **National Payments Corporation of India (NPCI)** and **JCB International** have launched **RuPay JCB Global Cards**.
- The **Indian Council of Medical Research (ICMR)** and **National Institute for Medical Statistics (NIMS)**, in partnership with global nonprofit organisation Population Council, launched the **National Data Quality Forum (NDQF)**.
- The **Board of Control for Cricket in India (BCCI)** has announced that Bengaluru-based education and learning **app Byju's**, as the official Team India sponsor.
- **India has signed a deal worth around Rs 1,500 crore** to acquire **R-27 air-to-air missiles** from Russia to be equipped on the **Su-30MKI combat aircraft**.
- **India, 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.
- **Whats App** has partnered with **NITI Aayog**, under the Women Entrepreneurship Platform (**WEP**) to announce its plan to support and promote women entrepreneurs in India.
- **India and Benin signed four MoUs** on education, health and e-visa facilities. The signing of the agreement on mutual exemption of visa requirement for holders of diplomatic and official passports and agreement on the fresh line of credit of **100 million US dollars by India to finance development projects in Benin**.

Awards & Recognition

- **Sports Journalists Federation of India 2019 Awards:**
 - SJFI Medal (Highest Honour): **Prakash Padukone (Badminton)**.
 - Sportsperson of the Year Award: **Pankaj Advani (Billiards and Snooker)** and **Bajrang Punia (Wrestling)**.
 - Emerging Talent of the Year Award: **Saurabh Choudhary (Shooting)**.
 - Team of the Year Award: **Vidarbha Cricket Team**.
- **National Aluminium Company Limited** has been selected for President's award for utilisation of Corporate **Social Responsibility fund in social development**. NALCO started a scheme "Aliali Jhia" in 2015 to promote the education of Girls of BPL families. NALCO is an Odisha based Navaratna Company.
- **The US-India Strategic Partnership Forum** has announced that Mastercard CEO and President **Ajay Banga** and Wipro Chairman **Azim Premji** will receive the 2019 Global Excellence Awards. This is the Second Annual Leadership Summit of USISPF.
- **Filmmaker Zoya Akhtar's** directorial 'Gully Boy' has won the Network for the Promotion of Asian Cinema (NETPAC) Award at the 23rd Bucheon International Fantastic Film Festival (BIFAN) in South Korea.
- **Northeast Frontier Railway** has won the 'Best Innovation Award' for unique strategy adopted to keep wild elephants away from train tracks. The cash prize awarded of Rs 3 lakh. The NEFR, in a bid to tackle the problem, came up with 'Plan Bee' in 2017.
- Director **Kaushik Ganguly's** Bengali film 'Nagarkirtan', has won 4 awards in SAARC film festival. The movie was honoured with 'Best Feature Film', 'Best Director', 'Best Actor' and 'Best Original Score' awards.
- **Sharath Kamal** was voted the Sportsperson of the Year in the annual Indian Oil Sports Conclave.
- **Anahat** won the girls' U13 title while **Joshi** won the boys' U17 title. Two Indian players managed to win the titles on the final day of the Dutch Junior Open squash tournament in Amsterdam (Netherlands).
- **Sports and Youth Affairs Minister** conferred Arjuna Awards to tennis player **Rohan Bopanna** and Women cricketer **Smriti Mandhana**.
- The "Find the Incredible You" campaign of the Tourism Ministry, has won the Pacific Asia Travel Association (PATA) Gold Award, 2019.
- Former Olympic track and field athlete **P T Usha** has been nominated for the International Association of Athletics Federations Veteran Pin for her 'long and meritorious service to the cause of World Athletics'.
- Vocalist **S. Sowmya** has been chosen for the Sangita Kalanidhi award of the Music Academy. The Sangita Kalanidhi and other music awards will be conferred on the awardees at the Sadas of Music festival, on January 1, 2020.

- **Mohan Bagan club** to confer awards in Various Disciplines. The Awardees are: **Mohan Bagan Ratan: Keshav Dutt (Hockey) & Prasun Banerjee (Football)**, **Lifetime Achievement award: Ashok Chatterjee (Football)**, **Best Football Player for the season 2018-19: Arijit Bagui (Football)**.
- Kerala Minister of Tourism presented the inaugural **Nishagandhi Sangeetha Puraskaram** to musicians **Parassala B. Ponnammal** and **T V. Gopalakrishnan** in the Nishagandhi Monsoon Ragas Music Festival.
- **3rd Edition of the CSR Journal Excellence Awards** honoured 6 firms for the best practices in Corporate Social Responsibility. The theme of the event was 'India First'.
- **Vidisha Baliyan**, a 21 year old girl from Uttar Pradesh's Muzaffarnagar city, was crowned the Miss Deaf World 2019 title. The international beauty pageant was held in Mbombela, South Africa.
- **Veteran star Meryl Streep will be honoured Tribute Actor** award at the 2019 in 44th Toronto International Film Festival.
- **Padma Awardee Sudarsan Pattnaik** has won the People's Choice Award at a prestigious sand sculpting festival in the U.S.
- **Eminent fashionista, social entrepreneur and philanthropist Priya Priyadarshini Jain** has been felicitated with the prestigious 'Indian Woman of Influence' award at the House of Lords, the United Kingdom Parliament, London.

Science and Technology

- **Beijing-based** startup "Interstellar Glory Space Technology" also known as iSpace successfully launched the china's first commercial rocket. The 20 m (66-foot) rocket designed by iSpace named Hyperbola-1 reached an altitude of 300 kilometres (186 miles). The rocket is capable of carrying satellites into orbit.
- **Pakistan** announced that it will send its first astronaut to space in 2022. It will be using close ally China's satellite launching facilities to execute the mission.

BANK & INSURANCE
2019

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- **Russia launched** a space telescope from the **cosmodrome in Baikonur, Kazakhstan**. It was a joint project with Germany. The Russian space agency, showed a Proton-M rocket carrying the Spektr-RG taking off from the launch pad.

Books & Authors

- **The Vice President of India, Shri M. Venkaiah Naidu** has released the book '**Vivekadeepini**' in **ten languages**. It is a concise book of aphorisms that contains glimpses of India's wisdom. The book will be published by Vedanta Bharati.
- "**Kargil: Untold stories from the War**", the book published by Penguin Random House, is authored by **Rachna Bisht Rawat**.
- The coffee table book titled '**Fire and Fury Corps - Saga of Valour, Fortitude and Sacrifice**', was released by Northern Army Commander Lieutenant General Ranbir Singh.
- PM Narendra Modi releases book "**Chandra Shekhar - The Last Icon of Ideological Politics**" is written by Deputy Chairman in the Rajya Sabha, **Harivansh** and **Ravi Dutt Bajpai**.

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 **Rs. 460 crore**.
- **India's** first Design Development Center '**Fashionova**' was launched in the **Textile city Surat**.
- **Union Minister for Chemicals and Fertilizers** launched the **Phase-II of the Direct Benefit Transfer of Fertilizer Subsidy**.
- A **News bulletin** of the National Museum of **Indian Cinema**, brought out by the Films Division, was launched.

- **Indian girl, Isha Kanth** is one of the two persons in the world to have bagged an **internship programme at the International Court of Justice**.
- **Film Divisions will launch documentary film club "KSHITIJ" in Mumbai**. The club will be launched by Films Division, Ministry of Information & Broadcasting, Government of India, in association with Indian Documentary Producer's Association (IDPA).
- **YouTube is bringing a new education feature "Learning Playlists"** with dedicated landing pages for educational videos on topics like math, science, music and language.
- **Agri-Business Incubation Centre** has started in **Chhattisgarh**. The centre is set up by the Union Agriculture Ministry in the **Indira Gandhi Agriculture University of Raipur**.
- The **Golden Jubilee Edition of International Film Festival of India**, will be held from 20th Nov till 28th November 2019 in **Panaji, Goa**.
- **Union Minister of Information and Broadcasting** inaugurated the **10th Jagran Film Festival** in an event held at **Siri Fort Auditorium in New Delhi**.
- **JATAN: Virtual Museum software** has been developed by **Human Centres Design and Computing Group, C-DAC, Pune, Maharashtra** for the **Digitization of Archaeological Museum**.
- Union Cabinet has approved the merger of **National Institute of Miners' Health** with **Indian Council of Medical Research** and **National Institute of Occupational Health**.
- '**CARE4U**' the **android-based app** which will connect the caregiver to the elderly person. The app has been built by an interdisciplinary team of the institute of **IIT Kharagpur**.
- **The birth anniversary** of a great novelist and celebrated storyteller **Munshi Premchand** is celebrated on **31 July** every year.
- **The Government of India** begins the **7th Economic Census from Tripura**. **Ministry of Statistics and Programme Implementation (MoSPI)** will conduct the census. It will be conducted after a gap of 5 years.



Obituaries

- Professional motorcycle racer, **Carlin Dunne** passes away. He was also known as **"The King of the Mountain"**.
- **Birla Group** patriarch and an ace of the Indian industry **Basant Kumar Birla** passed away in Mumbai.
- Automobile industry legend from **USA Lee Iacocca** passed away. He was known for creating the iconic **Ford Mustang** and saving **Chrysler** from bankruptcy.
- Former India football **goalkeeper** from **Tamil Nadu A. U. Celestine** passed away.
- The legendary **Brazilian musician and songwriter Joao Gilberto** passed away. He was the pioneer of the lilting, melodious and famous music known as **Bossa Nova**.
- Former **Bengal and Railway leg-spinner Soumendranath Kundu** passed away. Kundu was conferred the **CAB Kartick Bose life- time Achievement Award 2014**.
- Former **Billiards and Snooker Federation of India secretary C.Kapur** passed away.
- **Bangladesh's** former military dictator **H.M. Ershad** passed away. He became the president of Bangladesh in December 1983 and ruled the country till 1990.
- Former **olympic boxing gold medallist** and four weight World champion **"Pernell whitaker"** passed away.
- Retired Lt Gen **Joginder Singh Gharaya**, who was awarded the **Maha Vir Chakra** in the **1971 Indo-Pak war** and **Kirti Chakra** in the **1947 Hyderabad operations**, passed away.
- **American** computer scientist **Fernando Corbato** passed away.
- **Raja Dhale**, one of the founders of the radical outfit **Dalit Panther** passed away.
- **Three-time Delhi Chief Minister** and senior Congress leader **Shiela Dixit** passed away in New Delhi. **She served as Delhi's chief minister for 15 years**.
- Lok Janshakti Party MP from **Bihar's Samastipur Ram Chandra Paswan** passed away. Ramchandra was a four-time MP and was first time elected to the Lok Sabha in 1999 from Bihar's Rosera (SC) constituency.
- Australian **tennis champion Peter McNamara** passed away.
- **International Atomic Energy Agency** chief **Yukiya Amano** who oversaw Iran deal passes away.
- Former **Chinese premier** and chairman of the National People's Congress Standing Committee, **Li Peng** passed away.
- Dutch film actor **Rutger Hauer**, who specialized in menacing roles including a memorable turn as a murderous android in 'Blade Runner', **passed away**.
- **Tunisia's** President **Beji Caid Essebsi**, the first democratically elected leader of the North African country passed away. He was the **world's oldest sitting president**.

- Former **Gujarat MP Vitthal Radadiya** passed away. He was one of the Saurashtra's most prominent politicians and was former **Member of Parliament from Porbandar in Gujarat**.
- Meghalaya Assembly Speaker and former Meghalaya **Chief Minister Donkumar Roy** passed away. He was head of the **United Democratic Party (UDP)**.
- Former Union Minister and senior Congress leader **S. Jaipal Reddy** 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**.

Countries| Capital| Currencies| PM| President

- Thailand Capital: Bangkok, Currency: Baht.
- New Zealand Capital: Wellington, Currency: New Zealand dollar.
- Palestine Capital: Ramallah & East Jerusalem.
- Prime Minister of Pakistan: Imran Khan; Capital: Islamabad.
- Capital of Croatia: Zagreb; Currency of Croatia: Croatian kuna.
- President of the UAE: Khalifa bin Zayed Al Nahyan; Capital: Abu Dhabi, Currency: Dirham.
- Saudi Arabia Capital: Riyadh, Currency: Saudi Riyal.
- Capitals of Sri Lanka: Colombo, Sri Jayawardenepura Kotte, Currency: Sri Lankan Rupee.
- Capital of Greece: Athens, Currency: Euro.
- Capital of Spain: Madrid; Currency of Spain: Euro.
- President of France: Emmanuel Macron; Capital: Paris; Currency: Euro, CFP Franc.
- Capital of South Korea: Seoul; Currency of South Korean: South Korea won.
- President of Russia: Vladimir Putin; Capital of Russia: Moscow, Currency of Russia: Ruble.
- Capital of Kyrgyzstan: Bishkek; Currency of Kyrgyzstan: Kyrgyzstani Som.
- Pakistan Capital: Islamabad; PM: Imran Khan; President: Arif Alvi.
- President of France: Emmanuel Macron; Capital of France: Paris, Currency of France: Euro, CFP Franc.
- Capital of Netherlands: Amsterdam; Currency of Netherlands: Euro.
- Capital of Israel: Jerusalem; Currency: Israeli new shekel.
- Capital of Palau: Ngerulmud; Currency of Palau: U.S. Dollar.
- Currency of Singapore: Singapore dollar, President of Singapore: Halimah Yacob.
- China Capital: Beijing; Currency: Renminbi.
- Sri Lanka Capitals: Colombo, Sri Jayawardenepura Kotte; Currency: Sri Lankan rupee.

- President of Czech Republic: Milos Zeman.
- Capital of Czech Republic: Prague; Currency of Czech Republic: Czech koruna.
- Vietnam Capital: Hanoi; Currency: Vietnamese dong.
- President of Russia: Vladimir Putin; Capital of Russia: Moscow, Currency of Russia: Ruble.
- Capital of Ukraine: Kyiv; Currency of Ukraine: Ukrainian Hryvnia.
- Capital of Myanmar: Naypyitaw; Currency of Myanmar: Burmese Kyat.
- President of United States: Donald Trump; Capital: Washington, DC.
- North Korea Capital: Pyongyang; Currency: North Korean won.
- Capital of Canada: Ottawa; Currency of Canada: Canadian dollar.
- Capital of Israel: Jerusalem; Currency of Israel : Israeli New Shekel.
- Capital of Myanmar: Naypyitaw; Currency of Myanmar: Burmese Kyat.
- UK Capital: London; Currency: Pound sterling.
- Capital of Mexico: Mexico City; Currency of Mexico: Mexican peso.
- North Korea Capital: Pyongyang; Currency: North Korean won.
- PM of Nepal: K P Sharma Oli; Capital: Kathmandu;
- President of Nepal: Bidhya Devi Bhandari; Currency of Nepal: Nepalese rupee
- PM of Kazakhstan: Askar Mamin; Capital of Kazakhstan: Nur-Sultan
- Currency of Kazakhstan: Kazakhstani Tenge
- ISRO Director: K. Sivan; Headquarters: Bengaluru; Established in: 1969.
- PM of Bangladesh: Sheikh Hasina; Capital of Bangladesh : Dhaka; Currency of Bangladesh: Taka.
- President of USA: Donald Trump; Capital of the USA: Washington DC.

International or Indian Organizations/Companies in News

- United Nations Headquarters in New York, USA. It was founded on 24th October 1945.
- Mr Antonio Guterres is the Secretary General of the United Nations.
- CEO of NPCI: Dilip Asbe; Established in: 2008.
- CEO of JCB International: Takao Kawanishi; Established in: 1961.
- Founder of Reliance Industries Ltd (RIL): Dhirubhai Ambani; CEO of RIL: Mukesh Ambani.
- President of Table Tennis Federation of India: Dushyant Chautala.
- Chief of the Army Staff: General Bipin Rawat.
- CEO of Larsen & Toubro Infotech Ltd: Sanjay Jalona.
- Chairman of LIC: M R Kumar.
- Headquarters of NASA: Washington DC USA; Founded: 29 July 1958; Administrator of NASA: Jim Bridenstine.

- SBI Chairperson: Rajnish Kumar, Headquarters: Mumbai, Founded: 1 July 1955.
- MD & CEO of National Investment and Infrastructure Fund: Sujoy Bose.
- Chairman cum Managing Director of NALCO: T.K. Chand.
- Headquarters of International Security Alliance: Abu Dhabi, UAE, Founded: February 2017.
- CEO of Ola Electric: Bhavish Aggarwal.
- CEO of Softbank Corp.: Ken Miyauchi, Chairman: Masayoshi Son.
- Air Chief Marshal BS Dhanoa is the present Chief of the Air Staff of IAF.
- Chief Executive Officer of MFIN: Harsh Shrivastava; Founded: December, 2009.
- NITI Aayog CEO: Amitabh Kant; Vice Chairman: Rajiv Kumar.
- Chairman of IBPS: Rajkiran Rai G.
- DRDO Chairman: G Satheesh Reddy, Established: 1958, Headquarters: New Delhi.
- ISRO Director: K Sivan, Headquarters: Bengaluru, Established: 1969.
- CEO of BrahMos Aerospace: Sudhir Mishra.
- RBI 25th Governor: Shaktikant Das; Headquarters: Mumbai; Founded: 1 April 1935, Kolkata.
- National Museum of Indian Cinema HQ: Mumbai
- Chief of the Naval Staff: Admiral Karambir Singh.
- Chairperson of SBI: Rajnish Kumar; Headquarters: Mumbai; Founded: 1 July 1955.
- HQ of DGCA: New Delhi; Established in: January 1978.
- President of Wrestling federation of India: Brijbhushan Sharan Singh.
- European Union Headquarters: Brussels, Belgium.
- Director General of UNESCO: Audrey Azoulay; Headquarters: Paris, France.
- CEO of OYO: Ritesh Agarwal; Founder of Innov8: Ritesh Malik.
- MD of HDFC Bank: Aditya Puri; Headquarters: Mumbai, Maharashtra.
- CEO of Luxembourg Stock Exchange: Robert Scharfe.
- Present Administrator of NASA : James Frederick Bridenstine, HQ of NASA: Washington, D.C.
- Facebook Headquarters: California, US; CEO: Mark Zuckerberg.
- Acting MD of IMF: David Lipton; Headquarters: Washington DC, USA.
- CEO of Larsen & Toubro Infotech Ltd: Sanjay Jalona.
- CEO of Lymbyc: Satyakam Mohanty.
- Headquarters International Court of Justice (ICJ): The Hague (Netherlands);
- Established of ICJ: June 1945, President: Judge Abdulqawi Ahmed Yusuf (Somalia).
- BRICS Headquarters: Shanghai, China; President of BRICS: K V Kamath.
- The International Criminal Police Organization (INTERPOL): Lyon, France
- Chairman of CDBT: Pramod Chandra Mody.
- Director General of Archaeological Survey of India: Usha Sharma.

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

- Union Minister for Consumer Affairs, Food and Public Distribution: Ram Vilas Paswan.
- Minister of State for Tribal Affairs: Renuka Singh.
- President of Asian Development Bank : Takehiko Nakao; Headquarters: Manila, Philippines.
- Union Minister of Home Affairs: Amit Shah.
- Capital of Assam: Dispur; CM of Assam: Sarbananda Sonowal; Governor of Assam: Jagdish Mukhi.
- CM of Kerala: Pinarayi Vijayan; Governor of Kerala: P. Sathasivam.
- Minister of State (IC) of the Ministry of New and Renewable Energy: Raj Kumar Singh.
- Union Information and Broadcasting Minister: Prakash Javadekar.
- CM of Andhra Pradesh (AP): Y S Jaganmohan Reddy; Governor of AP: Biswabhusan Harichandan.
- Union Minister of Road Transport and Highways: Nitin Jairam Gadkari.
- Tamil Nadu Capital: Chennai, CM: Edappadi K. Palaniswami, Governor: Banwarilal Purohit.
- Chief Minister of Maharashtra : Devendra Fadnavis.
- Union Jal Shakti Minister of India: Gajendra Singh Shekhawat.
- Union Minister of Communications and Electronics & Information Technology: Ravi Shankar Prasad.
- Minister of State (Independent charge) of AYUSH Ministry: Shripad Yesso Naik.
- Minister of Communications and Information Technology: Ravi Shankar Prasad.
- Agriculture Minister: Narendra Singh Tomar.
- Minister for Railways: Piyush Goyal.
- Chief Minister of Uttar Pradesh: Yogi Adityanath; Governor: Anandiben Patel.
- CM of Odisha: Naveen Patnaik, Governor: Ganeshi Lal
- Meghalaya Capital: Shillong; Chief Minister: Conrad Sangma; Governor: Tathagata Roy.
- CM of Telangana: K Chandrashekhara Rao; Capital: Hyderabad, Governor: ESL Narasimhan.
- Assam Capital: Dispur; CM: Sarbananda Sonowal; Governor: Jagdish Mukhi.
- Governor of Jammu & Kashmir: Satya Pal Malik.
- Defence Minister of India: Rajnath Singh
- CM of Tamil Nadu: E.K. Palaniswami; Governor: Banwarilal Purohit; Capital of Tamil Nadu: Chennai.
- Union Labour and Employment Minister: Santosh Kumar Gangwar.
- Capital of Meghalaya: Shillong, Governor of Meghalaya: Tathagata Roy.
- Chief Minister of Goa: Pramod Sawant; Governor: Mridula Sinha.

- Minister of road and highway: Nitin Jairam Gadkari.
- Union Railway Minister: Piyush Goyal
- Minister for Information and Broadcasting: Prakash Javadekar.
- Union HRD Minister of India: Ramesh Pokhriyal..
- Sports and Youth Affairs Minister: Kiren Rijiju.
- CM of Chhattisgarh: Bhupesh Baghel.
- Union Minister of Health and Family Welfare: Dr Harsh Vardhan.
- Union Minister of Commerce & Industry and Railways: Piyush Goyal.
- CM of Uttarakhand: Trivendra Singh Rawat.
- Governor of Uttarakhand: Baby Rani Maurya.
- Capital of Uttarakhand: Dehradun
- Chief Minister of Delhi: Arvind Kejriwal; Lieutenant Governor of Delhi: Anil Baijal.
- Union Minister of Corporate Affairs: Nirmala Sitharaman.
- Minister of Skill development and Entrepreneurship: Mahendra Nath Pandey.
- Union Defence Minister of India: Rajnath Singh.

Other Static General Awareness Current Affairs

- The RTGS system is meant for large value instantaneous fund transfers and the NEFT system is used for fund transfers of up to Rs 2 lakh.
- Brand Ambassador of Tribes India: MC Mary Kom.
- GST was launched on 1st July 2017 in New Delhi.
- Chairperson of GST Council: Union Finance Minister of India.
- The 13th edition of ICC Cricket World Cup will be held in India from February 9 to March 26, 2023.
- Venue of ICC World Cup 2019: England and Wales.
- CEO of Prasar Bharati: Shashi Shekhar Vempati; HQ: New Delhi, Established on: 23rd Nov'1997.
- Members of the BRICS: Brazil, Russia, India, China and South Africa.

