

CURRENT AFFAIRS

November 2019



Summary and Multiple Choice Questions



tutorialspoint
SIMPLY EASY LEARNING

www.tutorialspoint.com

Current Affairs – November 2019

This is a guide to provide you a precise summary and a huge collection of Multiple Choice Questions (MCQs) covering national and international current affairs for the month of **November 2019**.

This guide will help you in preparing for Indian competitive examinations like Bank PO, Banking, Railway, IAS, PCS, UPSC, CAT, GATE, CDS, NDA, MCA, MBA, Engineering, IBPS, Clerical Grade and Officer Grade, etc.

Audience

Aspirants who are preparing for different competitive exams like Bank PO, Banking, Railway, IAS, PCS, UPSC, CAT, GATE, CDS, NDA, MCA, MBA, Engineering, IBPS, Clerical Grade, Officer Grade, etc.

Even though you are not preparing for any exams but are willing to have news encapsulated in a roll, which you can walk through within 30 minutes, then we have put all the major points for the whole month in a precise and interesting way.

Copyright and Disclaimer

©Copyright 2019 by Tutorials Point (I) Pvt. Ltd.

All the content and graphics published in this e-book are the property of Tutorials Point (I) Pvt. Ltd. The user of this e-book is prohibited to reuse, retain, copy, distribute or republish any contents or a part of contents of this e-book in any manner without written consent of the publisher.

We strive to update the contents of our website and tutorials as timely and as precisely as possible, however, the contents may contain inaccuracies or errors. Tutorials Point (I) Pvt. Ltd. provides no guarantee regarding the accuracy, timeliness or completeness of our website or its contents including this tutorial. If you discover any errors on our website or in this tutorial, please notify us at contact@tutorialspoint.com

Table of Contents

Current Affairs – November 2019	i
Audience.....	i
Copyright and Disclaimer	i
Table of Contents.....	ii
APPOINTMENTS.....	1
AWARDS	5
BILLS AND ACTS.....	17
BOOKS & AUTHORS.....	20
COMMITTEES.....	23
DEATHS.....	25
DEFENCE	28
ECONOMIC	33
ENVIRONMENT	38
FINANCE.....	40
IMPORTANT DAYS.....	46
INTERNATIONAL.....	53
MISCELLANEOUS.....	62
NATIONAL.....	64
PERSONS IN NEWS.....	85

PLACES IN NEWS.....	87
REGIONAL.....	92
REPORTS.....	104
RESIGNATIONS & RETIREMENTS.....	111
SCIENCE & TECHNOLOGY.....	113
SPORTS.....	119

Appointments

1. IPS Officer Aditya Mishra appointed Chairman of Land Ports Authority of India

The Appointments Committee of the Cabinet has approved the appointment of Senior IPS officer Aditya Mishra as the Chairman of the Land Ports Authority of India (LPAI). Mishra is a 1989 batch IPS officer of Uttar Pradesh cadre. Mishra has been appointed for a period of five years from the date of assumption of the charge.



LPAI develops, sanitises and manages the facilities for cross-border movement of passengers and goods at designated points along the international borders of India.

2. IndusInd Bank may name Sumant Kathpalia as new MD and CEO

IndusInd Bank is set to appoint Sumant Kathpalia as its new MD & CEO. He currently heads the consumer banking division of the bank and will replace Romesh Sobti. Sobti's term ends on March 23, 2020.



Kathpalia is a chartered accountant by qualification and has been with IndusInd Bank since 2008. Before joining IndusInd Bank, he led the consumer banking wing of ABN AMRO. He also worked with Citibank and Bank of America. Kathpalia has been involved in developing new products such as loans against property, personal loans and credit cards.

3. RK Mathur sworn in as LG of UT of Ladakh

Former defence secretary Radha Krishna Mathur was sworn-in as the first Lt. Governor of Union Territory of Ladakh, which came into existence after the bifurcation of Jammu and Kashmir. He was administered the oath of office by Chief Justice of Jammu and Kashmir High Court Gita Mittal. Mathur is a 1977-batch IAS officer from Tripura.



Umang Narula, an IAS officer of 1989 batch, was appointed as advisor to Mathur besides posting S S Khandare as 'Head of Police' in Ladakh.

4. Sanjeev Nandan Sahai assumed charge as Secretary, Ministry of Power

Sanjeev Nandan Sahai has assumed charge as Secretary, Ministry of Power. Prior to this, he was serving as the Special Secretary in the Ministry of Power.

Sanjeev has served as Additional Secretary in the Ministry of Power, DG (Additional Secretary equivalent) and Additional Secretary in the Ministry of Commerce and Industry, Principal Secretary in the Home Department, Chairman and MD of Delhi Transport Corporation, Secretary-cum-Commissioner Transport for Delhi Government, Chairman of the Chandigarh Housing Board, Finance Secretary in the Government of NCT of Delhi, Home Secretary etc.



5. Mohammad Imran appointed Bangladesh High Commissioner to India

Mohammad Imran has been appointed as the new High Commissioner of Bangladesh to India. He is currently Bangladesh's Ambassador to United Arab Emirates. He succeeds Syed Muazzem Ali. The announcement was made by the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Bangladesh.

A career diplomat Muhammad Imran belongs to the 1986 batch of Bangladesh Civil Service (BCS) Foreign Affairs cadre. He has served Bangladesh Missions in different capacities in Kolkata, Berlin, Bonn, Ottawa and Jeddah. He has also been Bangladesh's Ambassador to Uzbekistan.



6. Justice Sanjay Karol sworn in as Chief Justice of Patna High Court

Justice Sanjay Karol was sworn in as the Chief Justice of Patna High Court. Bihar Governor Phagu Chauhan administered the oath of office to Justice Karol at the Raj Bhavan. Prior to this appointment, Justice Karol was posted as Chief Justice of Tripura.

Karol obtained Law degree from Himachal Pradesh University and in 1983 he was enrolled as an advocate, practiced in various courts. He was appointed as an additional judge of the Himachal Pradesh High Court and also served as Acting Chief Justice of the High Court from 25 April 2017.



7. Arvind Singh appointed as AAI Chairman

Arvind Singh, a Maharashtra cadre officer of the prestigious Indian Administrative Service (IAS), was appointed as the Chief of Airports Authority of India (AAI), replacing Anuj Aggarwal, who had earlier been with the additional charge of AAI Chairman.



Prior to this appointment, Singh was the additional chief secretary (Energy) of Maharashtra government. He has experience of working as a Chairman and Managing Director of Maharashtra State Power Generation Company Ltd. and the Maharashtra State Electricity Transmission Company Ltd.

8. Vinaya Shetty appointed as IODA's 1st Indian and Asian General Vice President

Dr. Vinaya Shetty became the first Indian to be elected to the position of General Vice President (GVP), International Organisation Development Association (IODA) since its inception in 1986. She is known for her role in bringing change & transformation of numerous organisations across industries in India and has been contributing in facilitating IODA's efforts since 2009.



IODA is an international network of organization development professionals from 50 countries that are initiating and supporting organizational and societal change processes all over the world.

9. Sanjay Gupta appointed as country manager at Google India

Google India has appointed Sanjay Gupta, former Star and Disney head as its new country manager and Vice President of Sales and Operations for India. He replaced Rajan Anandan, who left Google to join Sequoia Capital India.



Sanjay Gupta has also worked at Hindustan Unilever and Bharti Airtel earlier. He is known for his efforts in extending its traditional television content to digital consumers through video streaming platform Hotstar and expanding Star sports business by acquiring key cricketing properties and launching the Pro Kabaddi League and Indian Super League.

10. ITDC appointed Kamala Vardhana Rao as its new Chairman and MD

India Tourism Development Corporation (ITDC) appointed G Kamala Vardhana Rao as the new Chairman and Managing Director. Prior to this, he has served as Principal Secretary in Kerala government and as the Secretary of Kerala Tourism in 2014-15. He has served various positions including Chairman of Indian Tobacco Board, Director of Fisheries Department, Director, Department of Tourism and Culture, Andhra Pradesh government.



The India Tourism Development Corporation is a hospitality, retail and education company owned by Government of India.

Awards

1. Nawazuddin Siddiqui bagged Golden Dragon Award at 2019 CIFF

Indian actor Nawazuddin Siddiqui bagged the prestigious Golden Dragon Award for his works in Hindi cinema at the Cardiff International Film Festival 2019 held in Wales, United Kingdom. Nawazuddin Siddiqui was recently recognized internationally for his work in Netflix's Sacred Games and BBC UK's McMafia. Legendary Hollywood star-actress Dame Judith Olivia Dench was honoured with the Lifetime Achievement award. Welsh-born West End director Sean Mathias got the award for 'Welsh Contribution To International Cinema And Theatre'.



The Cardiff International Film Festival is an international event which is supported by the Welsh Assembly and Cardiff Council.

2. Pepsico India won US award for saving more than 17 billion litres of water

The United States has named PepsiCo India for the 2019 Secretary of State's Award for Corporate Excellence (ACE) in recognition of its efforts to save more than 17 billion litres of water through community water programs and positively impacting 60,000 community members.



Other recipients of the award are Chambers Federation in the Democratic Republic of the Congo, Procter and Gamble Asia Pacific in Singapore and Agilis Partners in Uganda.

3. Rajinikanth honoured with Icon of Golden Jubilee

In a first, the Government of India has constituted a special award titled 'Icon of Golden Jubilee of IFFI' which was conferred upon S Rajinikanth. Rajinikanth has acted in over 170 films in many languages, including Tamil, Telugu, Kannada, Malayalam, Hindi and Bengali. He also had a starring role in the Hollywood production, Blood Stone (1988).



Rajinikanth has been previously honoured with the Padma Bhushan and the Padma Vibhushan. At the 45th International Film Festival of India (2014), he was conferred with the "Centenary Award for Indian Film Personality of the Year".

4. Eminent writer Anand won coveted Ezhuthachan Award

Eminent writer P. Satchidanandan alias Anand has won the 27th Ezhuthachan Puraskaram for his contributions to the language and its literature. The prize carries a purse of Rs 5 lakh and a citation. Anand has authored over 30 books ranging from novels, short stories, dramas and essays. He is also a recipient of Vayalar Award and Yashpal Award.



Ezhuthachan Puraskaram is a top literary award instituted by the state government in the name of Ezhuthachan, the father of Malayalam language.

5. Documentary on Real Kashmir Football Club bagged BAFTA & Scotland Awards

A documentary on Real Kashmir Football Club has bagged the prestigious British Academy of Film and Television Awards (BAFTA) and Scotland Awards in Glasgow, Scotland. Real Kashmir had a fairytale journey in their debut I-League season in 2017-18 as they finished with 36 points from 19 games.



The documentary narrates the journey of former Rangers ace David Robertson as the coach of Real Kashmir FC, which in its first season finished third in the I-League, which is currently India's second tier football league.

The hour-long film won in the 'Single Documentary' category.

6. Sudarsan Pattnaik won Italian Golden Sand Art Award

Renowned Indian sand artist Sudarsan Pattnaik received the Italian Golden Sand Art Award 2019. Pattnaik created a 10-foot high sand sculpture of Mahatma Gandhi at the International Scorrano Sand Nativity event held in Lecce, Italy.



In 2017, the Odisha-based sand artist won the jury prize gold medal at the Xth World Sand Sculptures Championship in Moscow, Russia. Pattnaik was awarded the Padma Shri by the union government in 2014.

7. Neeraj Sharma won 'Early career researcher of the year 2019' award

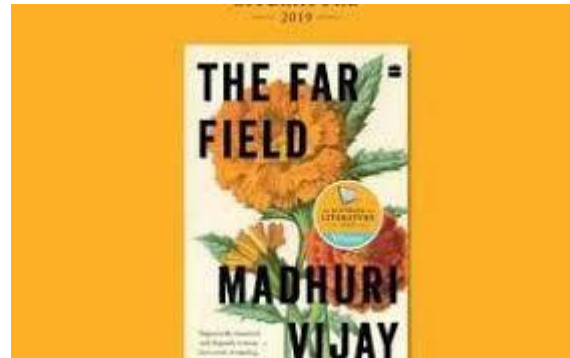
Indian-origin researcher Neeraj Sharma has been given the 'Early Career Researcher of the Year award' by the Australian government for developing next-generation battery systems such as a sodium-ion battery that will leave a minimal environmental impact. He is a professor at the University of South Wales (UNSW)'s School of Chemistry.



Neeraj Sharma is considered one of the global leaders in the use of neutron and X-ray scattering methods. He is exploring inherently safe solid-state batteries, energy-dense lithium-sulfur batteries, dual function solar batteries and methods for recycling.

8. Madhuri Vijay won JCB Prize for Literature 2019

Madhuri Vijay has won the JCB Prize for Literature 2019 for her debut novel, The Far Field. With a cash prize of Rs 25 lakh, the JCB Prize for Literature is the richest literary honour in the country.



The other books shortlisted for this year's JCB Prize for Literature were included Manoranjan Byapari's There's Gunpowder in the Air, Perumal Murugan's twin novels Trial by Silence and Lonely Harvest, Roshan Ali's Ib's Endless Search for Satisfaction, and Hansda Sowvendra Shekhar's My Father's Garden.

9. Union Home Minister's Special Operation Medal for 2019

The Union Home Minister's Special Operation Medal for 2019 was awarded to Delhi Police Special Cell's Deputy Commissioner of Police Pramod Kushwaha, Assistant Commissioner of Police Attar Singh, Inspector Shiv Kumar, ASI Rajesh Sharma and Head Constable Adesh Kumar for arresting two Jammu and Kashmir-based terrorists, Abdul Latif Ganai and Hilal Ahmad in Jan 2019.



Sixteen officials from Indo-Tibetan Border Police were also given the honour for the successful Nanda Devi Search and Rescue Mission that involved the successful retrieval of seven dead bodies near Nanda Devi in Pithoragarh after a 500 hours operation.

10. Mother Teresa Memorial Awards 2019 for Social Justice

The Mother Teresa Memorial Awards for Social Justice (MTMA) 2019 were announced by Harmony Foundation. The theme of the awards this year was 'Combating Contemporary Forms of Slavery' and the major awardees are:



- Kailash Satyarthi: For the fight against child labour and trafficking in India and South East Asia
- Ajeet Singh: For his efforts in creating the first red-light free area from the commercial sexual exploitation of minors in India
- Free A Girl: For uniquely re-integrating former sex-workers into civil society by training them into becoming future advocates
- JEEVIKA: For freeing over 30,000 bonded labourers and earnestly committing to complete eradication of the practice in Karnataka

11. French actor Isabelle Huppert honoured with the Lifetime Achievement Award at IFFI 2019

Legendary French actor Isabelle Anne Madeleine Huppert was conferred with the Lifetime Achievement Award at the Golden Jubilee edition of International Film Festival of India (IFFI) 2019. She is the most nominated actress for the César Award, with 16 nominations and has appeared in more than 120 films since her debut in 1971. She is one of only four women who have twice won Best Actress at the Cannes Film Festival.



50th edition of IFFI showcased fifty films of fifty women directors which reflect the contribution of women in cinema.

12. Ekalabya award 2019 for Odia weightlifter Jhilli Dalabehera

Odia women weightlifter Jhilli Dalabehera, who has brought laurels for both the State and the country in several national and international events was honored with 27th Ekalabya award for year 2019. Jhilli has bagged two gold, three silver and a bronze medal in different international weightlifting events held between April 1, 2017 and March 31, 2019.



Eklabya award, instituted by Indian Metals Public Charitable Trust (IMPACT), honors young sportspersons for their best performance at national and international arena.

13. Enterprises and Ecosystem builders conferred with National Entrepreneurship Awards 2019

Union Minister Dr. Mahendra Nath Pandey conferred the National Entrepreneurship Awards 2019 to Enterprises and Ecosystem builders. Various sectors were selected for the awards, and there were 4 special categories including Women Entrepreneur, Entrepreneur from SC/ST Category, Entrepreneur from People with Disability category, Entrepreneur from difficult areas. The award carried a Trophy, Certificate and a Cash Prize of ₹5 lakh (enterprises/individuals) and ₹10 lakh (organizations/institutes).



The awards aim to recognize and honour the outstanding young First-Generation Entrepreneurs, and Ecosystem builders for their outstanding contribution in entrepreneurship development and providing support to the entrepreneurs.

14. Infosys Prize 2019 for science and research announced

Infosys Science Foundation (ISF) announced the winners of the Infosys Prize 2019 in six categories to honour outstanding achievements of contemporary researchers and scientists.

Category	Winner
Engineering and Computer Science	Sunita Sarawagi (Chair Professor, IIT Bombay)
Humanities	Manu V. Devadevan (Professor, IIT Mandi)
Life Sciences	Manjula Reddy (Chief Scientist, CCMB, Hyderabad)
Mathematical Sciences	Siddhartha Mishra (Professor, ETH Zurich)
Physical Sciences	G. Mugesh (Professor, IISc Bengaluru)
Social Sciences	Anand Pandian (Professor, Johns Hopkins University)

15. Gulab Kothari honored with 2019 Raja Ram Mohan Roy Award

The Press Council of India (PCI) has awarded this year's Raja Ram Mohan Roy National Award for Excellence in Journalism to Rajasthan Patrika group chairman and editor-in-chief Gulab Kothari. The award was presented on November 16 on the occasion of the National Press Day.



Gulab Kothari has also been awarded with Moortidevi Award – 2011, the annual literary award presented by Bharatiya Jnanpith, for his book Mein Hi Radha, Mein Hi Krishna. In 2014, Kothari received Honorary Doctorate of Literature by Amity University, Jaipur.

16. Kumar Mangalam Birla honored with ABLF Global Asian award

Mr. Kumar Mangalam Birla, Chairman of the Aditya Birla Group received the prestigious ABLF Global Asian Award. He was honored for his efforts in contributing to global economy. Previous winners of this award were Late Dhirubhai Ambani, Lakshmi Mittal, H.E Mohamed Ali Alaber- Chairman- Emaar, and H.E Sheikh Ahmed Bin Saeed Al Maktou- Chairman of Emirates.



The ABLF Global Asian Award honors powerful individual whose business footprint and commitment to excellence have engaged international interest and attention. The Asia Business Leadership Forum (ABLF) is backed by the UAE government, and currently runs in three forms- talks, awards, and publications.

17. Tata Literature Live! Lifetime Achievement Award for 2019 conferred to Shanta Gokhale

The prestigious Tata Literature Live! Lifetime Achievement Award for 2019 has been conferred on renowned writer, translator, journalist, film critic, screenwriter and playwright Shanta Gokhale. The Tata Literature Live! Poet Laureate for 2019 is K Satchidanandan. Shanta Gokhale’s scholarship, versatility and felicity of language is legendary. K Satchidanandan is a pioneer of modern poetry in Malayalam and his powerful and perceptive verse has gained him global renown.



The Tata Literature Live! Lifetime Achievement Award recognises and salutes sustained and outstanding contribution to writing and literature in India.

18. RBS Earth Heroes Awards 2019

RBS India announced the winners of the 9th edition of the RBS Earth Heroes Awards (REHA), who have made a significant mark in the space of “Climate Change” – the theme for the 2019 awards.

Category	Winner
Green Warrior	Bholu Abrar Khan (Bharatpur)
Green Warrior	Dimbeshwar das (Assam)
Earth Guardian	Ela Foundation- pune
Save the Species	S.Sathish (Tamil nadu), Aishwarya Maheshwari (U.P.)
Inspire	Jalal ud din baba- kashmir

Lifetime Achievement	Pramila Bisoyi - Odisha
----------------------	-------------------------

RBS has institutionalized the RBS "Earth Heroes" Awards from 2011 which take place annually. The Awards are an attempt to bring recognition and honour to individuals and institutions who work exceptionally hard to preserve and protect our critical ecosystems.

19. Wildlife biologist K. Ullas Karanth awarded George Schaller Lifetime Award

Wildlife biologist K. Ullas Karanth, has been awarded the George Schaller Lifetime Award in Wildlife Conservation Science for his contribution to the field of conservation. He became the first recipient of the award instituted by the Wildlife Conservation Society (WCS), New York. Karanth is known for pioneering the scientific use of camera traps in population density studies of large wild mammals in India. He directed the WCS-I effort to help save Bengal tigers.



The award is instituted in the honour of Dr. George Schaller, who is considered one of the greatest wildlife scientists and conservationists globally.

20. Tobacco Board received 2019 Golden Leaf Award

Tobacco Board of India has been awarded the Golden Leaf Award in the Most Impressive Public Service Initiative category for the year 2019, at Tab Expo 2019 event in Amsterdam for its efforts to initiate various sustainability (green) initiatives in Flue-Cured Virginia (FCV) tobacco cultivation in India. The Board implemented Good Agricultural Practices (GAPs) in tobacco farming for improving yield and quality.



The Golden Leaf Awards were created to recognize professional excellence and dedication in the tobacco industry by Tobacco Reporter, an international magazine in the year 2006.

21. Vice President of India presented 'National Awards for Excellence in Journalism 2019'

Vice President of India M. Venkaiah Naidu presented the 'National Awards for Excellence in Journalism 2019' on the occasion of National Press Day on 16th November. The Vice President also released the Norms of Journalistic Conduct Edition-2019, the Directory of Press Council of India and a souvenir at the award function.



Eminent winners in different categories:

- Raja Ram Mohan Roy Award - Gulab Kothari
- Rural Journalism - Jointly to Sanjay Saini and Raj Chengappa
- Development Reporting - Jointly to Shiva Swaroop Awasthi and Anu Abraham
- Photo Journalism- Single News Picture - P.G. Unnikrishnan
- Photo Journalism - Photo Feature - Sipra Das
- Sports Reporting - Saurabh Duggal

22. Indian Naval Academy awarded with the President's Colour

The President of India, Shri Ram Nath Kovind, presented the President's Colour to the Indian Naval Academy at Ezhimala, Kerala. The award is a recognition of the yeoman service rendered by the institution in training and shaping Indian Naval officers. The President's Colour is the highest honour that is bestowed upon a military unit.



The President's Colour has thus far in the Indian Navy been awarded to Southern Naval Command, Eastern Naval Command, Western Naval Command, Western Fleet, Eastern Fleet and the Submarine Arm.

23. Swachh Survekshan Grameen Awards 2019

The government conferred the Swachh Survekshan Grameen 2019 awards to top ranked states, union territories, and districts in the various categories on the occasion of World Toilet Day. Tamil Nadu was declared the cleanest large state in India, Daman and Diu the cleanest union territory, Peddapelli in Telangana the cleanest district, and Uttar Pradesh the state with the highest participation in the Swachh Bharat Mission.



Cement Manufacturers Association (CMA), Hindustan Unilever Limited and AMUL were felicitated for their contribution under the Swachhata Hi Seva campaign for their efforts towards effective plastic waste management.

24. Rezwana Choudhury Bannya received ICCR Alumni award in Dhaka

Renowned Rabindra Sangeet exponent from Bangladesh Rezwana Choudhury Bannya was conferred the ICCR distinguished alumni award in Dhaka. She is widely recognised as a great exponent of RabindraSangeet. She has established a musical school 'ShurerDhara' in Bangladesh to carry forward the Guru-Shishya tradition as practised in Shantiniketan.



Rezwana Choudhury Bannya is also a recipient of 'Independence Award' which is the highest civilian award of Bangladesh. Distinguished Alumni Award was instituted in 2015 to recognise foreign students who have studied in various Indian Universities under the ICCR sponsored scholarship schemes and made an exemplary contribution in varied fields.

25. Bajrang Punia, Mahant Gaurav Sharma honoured in Dubai

Indian wrestler Bajrang Punia and powerlifting champion Mahant Gaurav Sharma were honoured during the Indo Arab Leaders Summit & Awards 2019 in Dubai. Punia was honored with the Indian Personality of the Year Award (Sports) whereas Mahant Gaurav was honored with Visionary Leaders of the Year (Sports) award.



The Asian Leadership Summit and Awards showcases best practices and honors the winners of the awards that exemplify the best in leadership.

26. Movie “Bhonsle” bagged two awards at 2019 Asian Film Festival Barcelona

India’s Manoj Bajpayee starrer critically acclaimed movie Bhonsle bagged two prestigious awards at 7th edition of Asian Film Festival Barcelona 2019 in the 'Best Screenplay' and 'Best Director' categories. The movie not only raises the struggles of migrants and their battles with the local politicians but also addresses the concerns of various ethnic groups and highlights the issues that they face in order to survive in a city like Mumbai.



The film “Ayka” (2018) by the Kazakh director Sergei Dvortsevov raised curtain with a special session and official opening screened with “Still Human” (2018) by Oliver Chan.

27. Veteran actors Sridevi and Rekha conferred with ANR National Award

Actors Sridevi and Rekha were felicitated with the Akkineni Nageswara Rao National Award for 2018 and 2019 respectively for their best performances in Telugu and Hindi film industry.



The ANR National Award was instituted by the Akkineni International foundation in the honor of Akkineni Nageswara Rao. Akkineni Nageswara Rao, widely known as ANR, was an Indian film actor and producer, known for his work predominantly in Telugu cinema. The award was given annually to recognize people for their lifetime achievements and contributions to the Indian film industry.

28. Sundram Fasteners' Suresh Krishna won India's first 'Quality Ratna' award

Chairman of Sundram Fasteners Ltd. Suresh Krishna was conferred India's first 'Quality Ratna' award by the CII Institute of Quality at its 27th Quality Summit held in Bengaluru. He pioneered the constitution of the TPM Club of India in collaboration with the Japan Institute of Plant Maintenance in 1998 and was its first Chairman.



Suresh Krishna has also been honored with "Padma Shri" in 2006, "JRD Tata Corporate Leadership Award" in 2000, Japan's national award in 2000 and "Entrepreneur of the Year" in 2001 and many more.

29. Naturalist Sir David Attenborough honored with Indira Gandhi peace prize 2019

The Indira Gandhi Prize for Peace, Disarmament and Development for 2019 conferred on renowned naturalist and broadcaster Sir David Attenborough for his tireless work to preserve and protect biodiversity and to live in a sustainable and harmonious way with all life.



Sir David has been honored with various honors such as UNESCO's Kalinga Prize, the Micheal Faraday Prize, the Descartes Prize, a Fellowship of the Royal Society, awards from Royal Geographical Society, and several Emmy and BAFTA awards.

30. Indian cricket captain Virat Kohli named PETA India’s Person of the Year

India captain Virat Kohli was named as People for the Ethical Treatment of Animals (PETA) India's 'Person of the Year for 2019 for his animal advocacy efforts to improve conditions for animals. Recently, Virat wrote a letter on PETA India’s behalf to officials calling for the release of Malti, an elephant used for rides at Amer Fort, who was reportedly violently beaten by eight men.



Past recipients of PETA India’s Person of the Year award include Congress leader Shashi Tharoor, former Supreme Court Justice KS Panicker Radhakrishnan, and actors Anushka Sharma, Hema Malini, R Madhavan, and Jacqueline Fernandez.

31. Greta Thunberg awarded international children’s peace prize

Divina Maloum (14) from Cameroon and Greta Thunberg (16) from Sweden both received the International Children's Peace Prize 2019. Swedish teenager and activist Greta Thunberg received the honor for her contribution against climate change which helped the issue to be resonated with schoolchildren across the world. Cameroonian peace activist Divina Maloum received the award for her 'peaceful struggle' against Boko Haram jihadist group.



Winners receive a grant worth € 100,000, which is invested in the projects linked to the winners' causes.

32. ‘Particles’ won the Golden Peacock Award at IFFI 2019

'Particles', the French-Swiss film directed by Blaise Harrison and produced by Estelle Fialon won the Golden Peacock Award at the 50th International Film Festival of India. Particles (Les Particules) is about the mysteries of being a teenager.

Other awardees were:

Category	Winner
Best Director	Lijo Jose Pellissery
Best Actor	Seu Jorge
Best Actress	UshaJadhav
The ICFT -UNESCO Gandhi Meda	Italian film Rwanda
Best Debut Feature film of a director	Amin SidiBoumediene and Marius Olteanu

33. Indian journalist Neha Dixit honored with International Press Freedom Award 2019

Indian journalist Neha Dixit was awarded the 2019 International Press Freedom Award by the Committee to Protect Journalists (CPJ) for her groundbreaking and bold reports on serious issues of the society. Committee to Protect Journalists (CPJ), a non-profit organization honors journalists who aim to work without the fear of reprisal.



Other awardees include Patricia Mello, a Brazilian journalist, Lucia Ubau and Miguel Mora of Nicaraguan broadcaster 100% Noticias and Maxence Mubyazi, co-founder of an online Tanzanian discussion platform.

Bills and Acts

1. Parliament passed the Jallianwala Bagh National Memorial (Amendment) Bill, 2019

The Parliament has passed the Jallianwala Bagh National Memorial (Amendment) Bill, 2019. The Bill seeks to amend the Jallianwala Bagh National Memorial Act, 1951. It has a provision to remove the President of the Congress party as a trustee and clarifies that when there is no Leader of the Opposition in the Lok Sabha, the leader of the single largest Opposition party will be the trustee.



The Bill also allows the Central government to terminate the term of a nominated trustee before the expiry of the period of his term, without assigning any reason.

2. Cabinet approved Taxation Laws (Amendment) Bill, 2019

The Union Cabinet has approved the proposal for introducing the Taxation Laws (Amendment) Bill, 2019 in order to replace the Ordinance. The government had passed the Taxation Laws (Amendment) Ordinance 2019 (the Ordinance) in September, 2019 in order to provide stimulus to the economy through certain amendments in the corporate tax rule.



The major amendments made were:

- existing domestic company may opt to pay tax at 22% plus surcharge at 10% and cess at 4%, if it does not claim any incentive/deduction.
- domestic manufacturing company set up on or after 1st October, 2019 and which commences manufacturing by 31st March, 2023, may opt to pay tax at 15% plus surcharge at 10% and cess at 4% if it does not claim any incentive/deduction.

3. Cabinet approved proposal for recycling of ships Bill

The Union Cabinet has approved the proposal for enactment of Recycling of Ships Bill, 2019 and accession to the Hong Kong International Convention for Safe and Environmentally Sound Recycling of Ships, 2009.

The proposed bill will restrict and prohibit the use or installation of hazardous material, which applies irrespective of whether a ship is meant for recycling or not. For new ships, such restriction or prohibition on use of hazardous material will be immediate, that is, from the date the legislation comes into force, while existing ships shall have a period of five years for compliance.



4. Cabinet approved financial services centres authority Bill 2019 in Lok Sabha

The Union Cabinet approved for withdrawing of the International Financial Services Centres Authority, 2019 Bill which was introduced in the Rajya Sabha on 12th February, 2019 and pending in the Rajya Sabha and introducing it in the Lok Sabha. The Lok Sabha Secretariat had conveyed that this is a Finance Bill under Article 117(1) of the Constitution and that it should be introduced in Lok Sabha accordingly.



The government will set up a unified regulator for International Financial Services Centres. Currently, the banking, capital markets and insurance sectors in IFSC are regulated by multiple regulators—the RBI, SEBI and IRDAI.

5. Cabinet approved the Industrial Relations Code Bill, 2019

The Union Cabinet has given its approval for introduction of the Industrial Relations Code Bill, 2019 in the Parliament. The Bill proposes to amalgamate The Trade Unions Act, 1926, The Industrial Employment (Standing Orders) Act, 1946, and The Industrial Disputes Act, 1947.

The Bill presents the legal framework for ushering in the concept of 'fixed-term employment' through contract workers on a pan-India basis. Companies will be able to hire workers directly under a fixed-term contract. The threshold required for government permission for retrenchment has been kept unchanged at 100 employees.



6. Cabinet approved bill to grant ownership rights to residents of Delhi's unauthorised colonies

The Union Cabinet has approved a bill which provides for a legal framework to grant ownership rights to nearly 40 lakh people living in unauthorised colonies in Delhi.



The National Capital Territory of Delhi (Recognition of Property Rights of Residents in Unauthorised Colonies) Bill, 2019 will allow registration of properties and provide certain relief to the residents of 1731 unauthorised colonies in the city from registration charges and stamp duty. The proposed bill also aims at recognising GPA, Will, Agreement to Sell, Purchase and Possession Documents, which will be a one-time relaxation for this purpose.

7. Lok Sabha passed the Dadra and Nagar Haveli and Daman and Diu Bill, 2019

Lok Sabha passed the Dadra and Nagar Haveli and Daman and Diu (Merger of Union Territories) Bill, 2019. This would bring about administrative convenience, speedy development and effective implementation of central and state government schemes. The merged entity would be governed under the jurisdiction of the Bombay High Court.

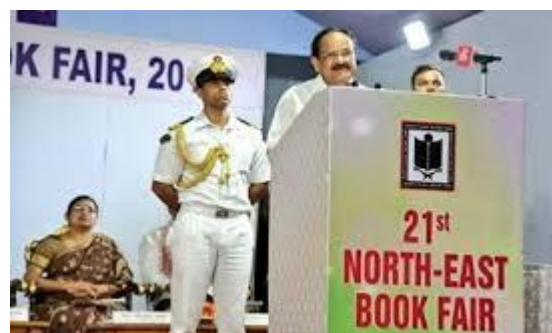


The Bill provided for better delivery of services to the citizens of both Union territories by improving efficiency and reduction in paper work; reduction in administrative expenditure; bringing uniformity in policies and schemes.

Books & Authors

1. Vice President Venkaiah Naidu inaugurated 21st North East Book Fair in Guwahati

Vice President M. Venkaiah Naidu inaugurated the 21st North East Book Fair in Guwahati in presence of Assam Governor Prof. Jagdish Mukhi and Chief Minister Sarbananda Sonowal. The book fair was organized by the All Assam Publishers and Booksellers Association (AAPBA).



There were as many as 217 bookstalls including one from Bangladesh. It witnessed the participation of around 76 publishers.

2. Rural Development Ministry released 5th edition of Wastelands Atlas - 2019

Agriculture Minister Narendra Singh Tomar released the fifth edition of Wastelands Atlas - 2019. The Atlas, published jointly by Department of Land Resources and National Remote Sensing Centre, provides robust geospatial information on wasteland. It is helpful in rolling back the wastelands for productive use through various land development programmes and schemes.



Wastelands Atlas-2019 also provides State and district wise distribution of different categories of wastelands area in the country and will be helpful in addressing land degradation.

3. CJI Ranjan Gogoi released Assamese version of book 'Courts of India: Past to Present'

Chief Justice of India Justice Ranjan Gogoi released the Assamese version of the book 'Courts of India: Past to Present' in Guwahati. The book is published by the Publication Division.



Courts of India: Past to Present written by eminent judges, advocates and legal luminaries among others under the expert guidance of an Editorial Board constituted by the Supreme Court is an attempt to trace the historical evolution of courts in India.

4. HRD Minister and Harsimrat Kaur Badal launched 3 books on Guru Nanak Dev Ji

Union Human Resource Development Minister Shri Ramesh Pokhriyal 'Nishank' and Minister for Food Processing Industries Smt. Harsimrat Kaur Badal launched three books on Guru Nanak Dev Ji on the occasion of 550th Birth Anniversary of Guru Nanak Dev Ji. The National Book Trust, India has published three titles – Guru Nanak Bani, Nanak Bani, and Sakhian Guru Nanak Dev – to spread the message of Guru Nanak Dev's writings amongst readers.



National Book Trust, India will publish Gurbani in different Indian languages. UNESCO will publish Guru Nanak Dev's writings in major world languages.

5. BBC's announced 100 'Novels That Shaped Our World' list

The British Broadcasting Corporation announced a list of '100 Novels That Shaped Our World', to mark the 300th anniversary of the publication of Daniel Defoe's novel 'Robinson Crusoe'. The list of 100 novels included Indian author Arundhati Roy's 'The God of Small Things', Salman Rushdie's 'The Moor's Last Sigh', Vikram Seth's 'A Suitable Boy', S. Naipaul's 'A House for Mr Biswas' and R K Narayan's 'Swami and Friends'.



Some of the other novels chosen include A Game of Thrones by George R.R. Martin, Harper Lee's To Kill a Mocking bird and Frankenstein by Mary Shelley.

6. Special issue of Global Trade and Customs Journal launched

A special issue of the Global Trade and Customs Journal was launched at the India Islamic Cultural Centre, New Delhi. The special issue was edited by Dr. James J. Nedumpara, Head and Professor of the Centre for Trade and Investment Law, Indian Institute of Foreign Trade and published by Wolters Kluwer, Netherlands.



The Special Issue of Global Trade and Customs Journal has compiled articles pertaining to India and its involvement in the international trading system. The Journal launch was followed by panel discussions on the theme "India in the International Economic Order: Issues and Perspectives".

7. UNICEF released a booklet named 'From Uttapam to Sprouted Dal Parantha'

UNICEF releases booklet titled as "From uttapam to sprouted dal parantha", on how to tackle problems of underweight, obesity and anaemia among children. The booklet is based on results of the overall National Nutrition Survey 2016-18, that stated 35% of children under the age of five were stunted (low height for age), 17% were wasted (low weight for height) and 33% were underweight.



The booklet details about freshly prepared lists out recipes, cost of preparation, calorie count, nutrition content. It tells people about what is nutritious and in what amount.

8. Union HRD Minister Shri Ramesh Pokhriyal 'Nishank' launched three books

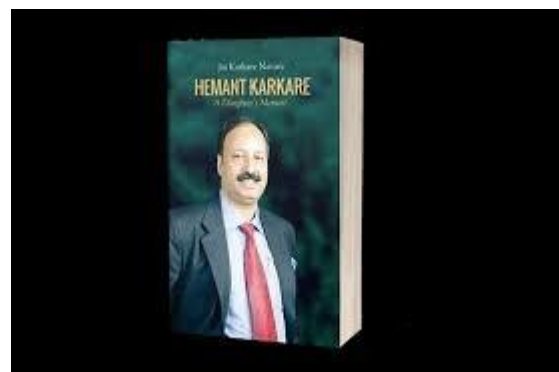
Union HRD Minister Shri Ramesh Pokhriyal 'Nishank' launched three books which are a collection of stories for children namely Kumbh, GaramPahad and Dilliki Bulbul (Sindhi edition) in New Delhi. 'Kumbh' is the first Children's storybook on Kumbh published by National Book Trust. 'GaramPahad' (Green Stories) is collection of 3 stories on Environment.



Authored by popular writer of children's books and travelogues Dr. Anita Bhatnagar Jain, the three books are a collection of stories for children and have brought out environmental issues and topics like socio-cultural unity and cultural heritage in a very simple and interesting manner.

9. Jui Karkare Navare's book "Hemant Karkare -A Daughter's Memoir" released

A book titled "Hemant Karkare - A Daughter's Memoir" by his daughter Jui Karkare Navare was released in Mumbai, Maharashtra. It is published by "The Write Place". The book motivates a new generation of readers to be as professional, impartial and diligent as her father.



MP Pragya Singh Thakur, who Hemant Karkare had arrested in the 2008 Malegaon blasts case, had alleged in the media that the officer was a 'traitor to the nation'. The book written by his daughter Jui is an answer to those trying to discredit her father. Hemant Karkare was gunned down by Pakistani ISI-backed terrorists.

Committees

1. J&K's Dal Lake to be declared Eco-Sensitive Zone

The Jammu and Kashmir government has set up a 10-member committee to declare Srinagar's famous Dal Lake and its surrounding areas as a "eco-sensitive zone". The 10-member committee will be headed by the Chief Conservator of Forests, Kashmir.



Pollution and encroachments have resulted in the Dal Lake shrinking from its original area of 22 sq kms to 10 sq kms. The committee shall finalise the draft notification within a period of one month. The J&K Lakes and Waterways Development Authority, which looks after the

Dal Lake, has banned construction within 200 metres from the water body.

2. Company Law Committee-2019 submits its report to Finance Minister

The Company Law Committee which was constituted by the Ministry of Corporate Affairs in September 2019, submitted its report to the Union Minister of Finance and Corporate Affairs, Smt. Nirmala Sitharaman. Shri Injeti Srinivas, Secretary, Ministry of Corporate Affairs was the Chairman of the committee.



The committee has recommended for changes with regards to 46 penal provisions under the existing company law. The report is focused to take more measures to provide further Ease of Living for Corporates in the country.

3. Committee formed to speed up Gas Infrastructure

A "high-level committee" has been set up by the Petroleum and Natural Gas Regulatory board (PNGRB) on City Gas Distribution (CGD) to frame a national policy. National policy will be framed to speed up development of infrastructure for supply of piped natural gas to households and industrial units. The policy will boost industrial development to attract more investments.



The committee is result of obligations faced in getting approvals for new City Gas Distribution (CGD) at state level.

4. Sports Ministry constituted committee to review Draft National Sports Code

Sports Ministry has constituted a 13-member expert committee to review the Draft National Sports Code. The expert committee will be headed by former Supreme Court judge Justice Mukundakam Sharma. Gagan Narang, Bhaichung Bhutia, Anju Bobby George and Pulella Gopichand are part of the panel. Boxing Federation president Ajay Singh, Kho Kho Federation president Sudhanshu Mittal, Athletics Federation president Adille Sumariwala and Weightlifting Federation president B P Baishya have been included in the committee.



Panel will suggest measures to make the Sports Code and strike a balance between the autonomy of National Sports Federations vis-a-vis need for transparency and autonomy.

Deaths

1. Veteran Telugu Actress Geetanjali passed away

Veteran Telugu actress Geetanjali Ramakrishna passed away at age of 72 years. She worked in more than hundred films and had a career spanning of nearly six decades in Tollywood. She made her debut with a bollywood movie named as Parasmani. She was known for her movies such as Seetharama Kalyanam, Deivathin Deivam, Swapnangal, Parasmani, Gudachari 116 and Bobbili Yuddham.



One of her popular role was from movie Tamannaah's "That Is Mahalakshmi", which is an official remake of Hindi flick, Queen.

2. Film producer Champak Jain passed away

Film producer Champak Jain passed away at the age of 52 years. He was one of the owners of Venus Records and Tapes which produced hit films like the 1994 blockbuster 'Main Khiladi Tu Anari' starring Saif Ali Khan and Akshay Kumar.

Mr Jain had produced films like Khiladi (1992), Baazigar (1993), Main Khiladi Tu Anari (1994), Josh (2000), Humraaz (2002), Hulchul (2004) and more.



3. French Resistance and Nazi concentration camp survivor Yvette Lundy passed away

French Resistance and Nazi concentration camp survivor Yvette Lundy passed away at the age of 103 years. She was made a Grand Officer of the Legion d'Honneur — France's highest honour in 2017. She also released a book, "The thread of the spider", to retrace her incredible journey.



She also inspired a character in the 2009 French film Korkoro. Ms Lundy supplied fake papers to Jewish families, men fleeing forced labour, and escaped prisoners of war during the Nazi occupation of France.

4. Former FICCI President K K Modi passed away

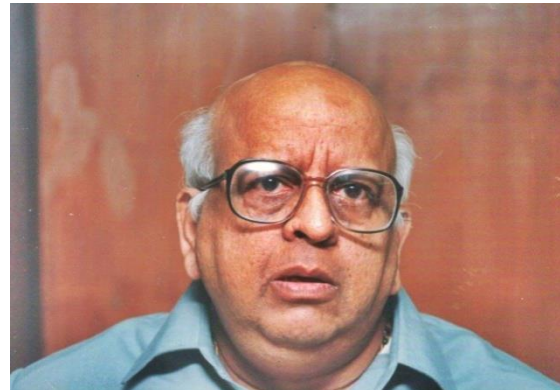
Former President of FICCI and Chairman of Modi Enterprises K K Modi passed away at the age of 79 years. He is the eldest son of late Rai Bahadur Gujarmal Modi (founder of the city of Modinagar).



Modi Enterprises includes companies like Godfrey Phillips, Indofil Industries and Modicare. Modi led FICCI in 1997 and was also the president of Confederation of Asia-Pacific Chambers of Commerce and Industry from 2002 to 2006. KK Modi's elder son is the controversial Lalit Modi, the flamboyant cricket administrator famous for creating the Indian Premier League.

5. Former CEC TN Seshan passed away

Former Chief Election Commissioner TN Seshan passed away at the age of 86 years. A 1955 batch IAS officer of the Tamil Nadu cadre, Seshan had led the Election Commission from 1990 to 1996. He held various key posts in the government including that of Defence Secretary and Cabinet Secretary.



Mr Seshan was known for his no-nonsense attitude and was credited with ushering in major electoral reforms during his tenure as the CEC.

6. Sahitya Akademi awardee writer Nabaneeta Dev Sen passed away

Noted writer and academic, Nabaneeta Dev Sen, passed away at the age of 81 years. Some of her popular works include Bama Bodhini, Srestho Kobita, Sita Theke Shuru, Icchamati, among several others. She was known for her bold writings of fiction, poetry, travelogues, children's literature, satire and humour, besides essays and works of non-fiction. She received Padma Shri in 2000 and Sahitya Akademi award in 1999 for her book 'Naba-Nita'.



Dev Sen served as a member on the advisory board of the Bengali Sahitya Akademi and was the founder and president of the West Bengal Women Writers' Association.

7. Padma Shri Dhrupad vocalist Ramakant Gundecha passed away

Padma

shri awardee Dhrupad maestro Ramakant Gundecha passed away at the age of 56 years. He was awarded the Padma Shri for 2012 in the field of Art – Indian Classical Music – Vocal along with his brother Umakant Gundecha. He was known for Dhrupad – one of the oldest classical Hindustani musical forms in the world.

Pandit Ramakant Gundecha paved the way for broadening the horizon of dhrupad by bringing in rich literary oeuvres of Hindi.



8. Veteran actor Shaukat Kaifi passed away

Veteran actor Shaukat Kaifi passed away due to age-related illness at the age of 93. Her acting credits include 'Bazaar', 'Umrao Jaan' and Mira Nair's Oscar-nominated film 'Salaam Bombay'. Her last film was Shaadi Ali's 'Saathiya'.

Shaukat and her husband were leading lights of the Indian People's Theatre Association (IPTA) and the Progressive Writers Association (IWA), which were the cultural platforms of the Communist Party of India. She also wrote an autobiography, 'Kaifi and I'.



9. Renowned cartoonist Sudhir Dar passed away

Award-winning cartoonist Sudhir Dar whose works graced several newspapers in a career spanning 58 years, passed away due to cardiac arrest. He started his career with The Statesman in 1961 after which he moved to Hindustan Times. His cartoons have also appeared in The Independent, The Pioneer, Delhi Times, New York Times, Washington Post and Saturday Review among others.

Sudhir was among the second generation editorial cartoonists who were active from the 1960s to 2000. He worked on assignments for the World Bank, Microsoft and Ministries of Tourism, External Affairs, and Jammu and Kashmir.



1. India-Uzbekistan Joint military Exercise - Dustlik-2019

The first Indo-Uzbek Joint Exercise named 'Dustlik-2019' was held in Tashkent from November 4 to November 13. The exercise focused on counter-terrorism.

The exercise will enable sharing of best practices and experiences between the Armed Forces of the two countries and will lead to greater operational effectiveness. India and Uzbekistan have signed three Memoranda of Understanding in the fields of Military Medicine and Military Education.



2. Defence innovations conference showcasing accomplishments of iDEX held

Defence Ministry organised Def-Connect in New Delhi to showcase the accomplishments of the Innovations for Defence Excellence (iDEX) initiative and construct a strong outreach towards the potential future entrepreneurs of the defence sector.



The objective of the conference was to bring together all stakeholders of the iDEX ecosystem, Ministry of defence, iDEX selected startups, Partner Incubators, Defence Innovation Organisation, Nodal agencies (Indian Army, Navy, Airforce), Defence Research and Development Organisation and Defence Public Sector Undertakings and Indian Ordnance Factories.

3. Indian Navy – Indonesian Navy Bilateral Maritime Exercise ‘Samudra Shakti’

The Indian Navy participated in a Bilateral Exercise named 'Samudra Shakti' along with Indonesian Navy. The joint exercises included manoeuvres, Surface Warfare exercises, Air Defence exercises, Weapon firing drills, Helicopter Operations and Boarding Operations. The exercise started with Harbour Phase followed by Sea Phase.



It was the second edition of Ex 'Samudra Shakti'. The exercise aimed to strengthen bilateral relations, expand maritime co-operation, enhance interoperability and exchange best practices.

4. MPC for MILAN 2020 Concludes at Visakhapatnam

The Mid Planning Conference (MPC) for MILAN exercise concluded at HQENC Visakhapatnam. The three-day conference was attended by 29 delegates from 17 friendly Foreign Navies. MILAN 2020 is scheduled to be conducted at Visakhapatnam in March 2020.



MILAN series of biennial a multilateral naval exercise which commenced in 1995, was conducted at Andaman and Nicobar Command (ANC) until last year. MILAN 2020 is aimed to enhance professional interaction between friendly foreign navies and learn from each other's strengths and best practices in the maritime domain.

5. Curtain Raiser - HADR Exercise TIGER TRIUMPH held at Visakhapatnam

The maiden India US joint Tri services Humanitarian Assistance and Disaster Relief (HADR) Exercise named 'TIGER TRIUMPH' was conducted at Visakhapatnam from 13-21 Nov, 2019. The Exercise is aimed to developing interoperability for conducting HADR operations.



At the HADR Exercise Area, a Joint Command and Control Centre was established jointly by the Indian Army and US Marines. The IAFRAMT (Indian Air Force Rapid Action Medical Team) and the US Navy Medical Team established a Medical Facility Camp for providing medical aid to victims, who would have been previously evacuated by road and air to the Camp.

6. GRSE delivered fast patrol vessel, 'Annie Besant' to Indian Coast Guard

Garden Reach Shipbuilders and Engineers Ltd (GRSE) delivered Fast Patrol Vessel (FPV) ICGS Annie Besant to Indian Coast Guard (ICGS) in Kolkata, West Bengal. Second in the series of five Fast Patrol Vessel to the Indian Coast Guard, Annie Besant is a medium-range vessel with a length of 50 metres, width of 7.5 metres and displacement of around 308 tonnes with powerful, fuel-efficient platforms to perform multipurpose operations like patrolling, anti-smuggling, anti-poaching and rescue operations.



GRSE has responded to the RFPs for two Pollution Control Vessels (PCVs) and eight Fast Patrol Vessels (FPVs) for Indian Coast Guard.

7. Indian Coast Guard conducted Exercise ReSAREX-2019

The Indian Coast Guard (ICG) conducted the 'Regional Level Search and Rescue Workshop and Exercise 2019': ReSAREX- 19 off Goa coast. Coast Guard District Headquarters - 11 (Goa) organized the exercise to check the preparedness and response measures for search and rescue at sea in a coordinated manner. ReSAREX - 19 tested the efficiency of operations of various SAR agencies in Goa.



The workshop cum exercise was witnessed by 5 ICG Ships, Dornier aircraft, two Chetak helicopters, Captain of port, State Marine Police, Indian Mission Control Centre (INMCC) Bangaluru, Goa state administration and Marmugao Port Trust.

8. 35th Infantry Commanders Conference held in Madhya Pradesh

35th Infantry Commanders' Conference was held in Mhow, Madhya Pradesh. The conference was a biennial event aimed at taking a holistic review of operational, training and management aspects of the Infantry which are crucial to retaining, maintaining and enhancing its role.



The conference provided an appropriate platform for eminent speakers and professionals to share their thoughts and gave an opportunity to introspect the matters related to Infantry in a fresh prospective.

9. Indian Army conducted HIM VIJAY Military Exercise

The Indian Army conducted HIM VIJAY Military Exercise to validate operational capabilities of combat formations and meet the requirements of modern warfare keeping the military progress of the enemy threats in mind. The exercise was an all Arms exercise and approximately a Division strength participated.



The exercise involved company level mechanised forces, including infantry combat vehicles, fighter jets and warships. The exercise is to test mobility, communication and coordination of such huge body of fast-moving troops in difficult terrain.

10. Government gives in-principle nod to create Chief of Defence Staff post

The Government has granted in-principle approval for the creation of the post of Chief of Defence Staff (CDS). An Implementation Committee was also approved and constituted to further determine and finalize the exact responsibilities, an enabling framework for this new post and all other issues involved to ensure smooth operationalization.



The high-level committee headed by National Security Advisor (NSA) Ajit Doval submitted its report to the Cabinet Committee on Security (CCS). As per recommendations of the committee, the CDS would be given age limit of 64 years.

11. Indian Army conducted 'Sindhu Sudarshan' exercise in Rajasthan

The Sudarshan Chakra Corps of the Indian Army conducted the Sindhu Sudarshan exercise in Rajasthan's Barmer to undertake large scale offensive manoeuvres as part of an integrated air-land battle.



Around 40,000 jawans of the Indian Army, 700 x A Vehicles, and 300 x Guns of Sudarshan Chakra Corps of Southern Command participated in the exercise and witnessed the mechanized battle groups in a network-enabled environment using multiple force multipliers.

12. Raksha Mantri Shri Rajnath Singh inaugurated Air Force Commanders' Conference

Second bi-annual IAF Commanders' Conference was inaugurated by the Hon'ble Raksha Mantri. Raksha Mantri addressed the Commanders on strengthening defence capability through increased domestic production and reduced dependence on import of military hardware. The Commanders' Conference emphasised the need for enhanced joint training with the Indian Army as well as the Indian Navy for fostering jointmanship and ensuring national security.



During the conference, discussions took place on joint operations, anti-drone operations, countering asymmetric warfare and further strengthening our precision targeting, cyber and information warfare capability.

13. US cleared sale of \$1 billion worth of Naval Guns to India

The US State Department cleared the sale of sophisticated MK-45 naval guns worth \$1 billion to India. The MK-45 Gun System will provide the capability to conduct anti-surface. The sale will support the foreign policy and national security of the United States by improving the security of a strategic regional partner and improve India's capability to meet current and future threats from enemy weapon systems.



BAE Systems Land designed MK-45 Gun System will provide the capability to conduct anti-surface warfare and anti-air defense missions while enhancing interoperability with US and other allied forces.

14. Mine Counter Measure Exercise-first time held between India and Japan

The Mine Countermeasure Exercise (MINEX) is an annual exercise between India and Japan. This maiden exercise was conducted in Kerala between Indian Naval Forces and the Japanese Maritime Self Defense Force. This is the first time an explosive ordnance disposal and mine countermeasure exercise was held by Indian and Japanese forces for increasing maritime cooperation.



Other exercise between both the nations include JIMEX, Exercise Malabar Sahayog-Kaijin and Exercise DHARMA GUARDIAN.

1. Siemens signed MoUs on decarbonization

Siemens Limited signed a Memorandum of Understanding with NTPC Limited, India's largest power utility, to identify, evaluate and set up reference use cases of hydrogen sector-coupling for various upstream and downstream applications. The collaboration is aimed at developing innovative technologies, solutions and techniques to reduce the dependence on Hydrocarbons in India.



Siemens Limited signed a separate MoU with TERI for collaboration on technologies to support the energy transition in India including sector-coupling.

2. ADB to give \$451 mn for Chennai-Kanyakumari Industrial Corridor power links

The Asian Development Bank will provide a \$451 million (about Rs 3,200 crore) loan to strengthen power connectivity between the southern and northern parts of the Chennai-Kanyakumari Industrial Corridor (CKIC) in Tamil Nadu. The total cost of the project is \$653.5 million, of which the government will provide \$202.5 million.



The project is estimated to be completed by the end of 2024. CKIC covers 23 of the state's 32 districts and 70% of the state population.

3. Coal India to produce one billion tonne of coal by 2024

Coal India Limited (CIL) has set a target to produce 750 million tonnes of coal by the Financial Year 2020-21 and would further produce one billion tonne of coal in the financial year 2023-24. The CIL is currently given the target to produce 660 million tonnes of coal amounting to 82% of the country's coal output.



CIL today is the single largest coal producer in the world. Operating through 82 mining areas CIL is an apex body with 7 wholly owned coal producing subsidiaries and 1 mine planning and consultancy company spread over 8 provincial states of India.

4. OECD expects slower growth in India, Southeast Asia, China

According to the OECD's (Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development) economic outlook presented at the Association of Southeast Asian Nations (ASEAN) summit, the regional GDP growth of the economies of India, Southeast Asia and China is expected at 5.7% over 2020-24, down from 6.7% in 2013-17.



OECD has projected India's growth over the next five years at 6.6%, compared to 7.4% in 2013-17. For Southeast Asia, it forecast a growth of 4.9% over 2020-24 while China's growth was projected at 5.6%.

5. IOCL gets environmental clearance to set up 2G ethanol plant in Panipat

Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change has given environment clearance to Indian Oil Corporation Limited to set up new 2G Ethanol plant at Panipat in Haryana. The estimated investment in setting up the plant is Rs 766 crore.



The IOCL had submitted a proposal seeking environment clearance for its proposed 100 KLPD Ligno-Cellulosic 2G ethanol plant. Ethanol produced will be used for blending in transportation fuel.

6. Khadi India's flagship store in CP records high sales of Rs 3.44 core

Khadi India's flagship store at Connaught Place in New Delhi has recorded higher sales of 3.44 crore rupees. The store belongs to Khadi and Village Industries Commission, KVIC. The sale from April to October 2019 has recorded 36.47 crores rupees as compared to 33.03 crores rupees during the same period in 2018.



On October 2nd 2019, the store registered highest ever sale of Rs. 1.28 Crores in a single day beating previous record of Rs. 1.25 Crore on 13th Oct 2018.

7. Government allocated unique HS code for Khadi

In order to give impetus to the export of Khadi, the government has allocated a separate Harmonized System (HS) code for this fabric. According to Khadi and Village Industries Commission (KVIC) Chairman Vinai Kumar Saxena, allocation of HS code to the khadi will help the government to plan the export strategies effectively.



Earlier, Khadi did not have exclusive HS code and all the export data regarding this fabric used to come under the normal fabric head.

8. Tech Mahindra acquired New York-based BORN Group for \$95 million

Tech Mahindra Ltd (Tech M) acquired BORN Group, a New York-based digital content and production agency, for \$95 million to bolster creative capacity. Of this \$95 million enterprise value, \$25 million will be linked to the achievement of financial targets for the year ending December 31, 2019. Tech Mahindra will acquire the Indian subsidiary of Born Group - Born Commerce Private Ltd.



The deal will help Tech Mahindra Ltd utilize BORN's services such as consulting, content creation, maintenance and hosting services, digital and social marketing, among others.

9. Moody's changed India's economic outlook to "negative" from "Stable"

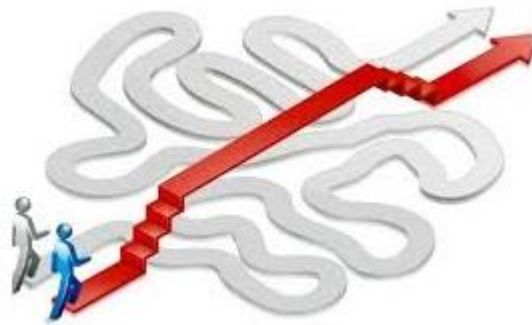
Moody's Investors Service changed the outlook on the Government of India's ratings to negative from stable and affirmed the Baa2 foreign-currency and local-currency long-term issuer ratings. Moody's affirmed India's Baa2 local-currency senior unsecured rating and its P-2 other short-term local-currency rating. The Baa2 rating balances the country's credit strengths including its large and diverse economy and stable domestic financing base for government debt, against its principal challenges including high government debt, weak social and infrastructure and a fragile financial sector.



Moody's decision to change the outlook reflects increasing risks that economic growth will remain materially lower than in the past.

10. NCAER Survey: Business Confidence fell by 15%

110th Round of the Business Expectations Survey (BES) carried out by NCAER, said the National Council of Applied Economic Research unveiled that business confidence across the industry declined in the September quarter by 15% due to an all-pervasive worsening of business sentiment. It stood at 103.1 in the second quarter of 2019-20. Other component of present capacity utilisation dropped 86.2% to an all-time low since July 2009.



BCI of all five sectors i.e. consumer non-durables, consumer durables, intermediate goods, capital goods and services, showed a deterioration of business sentiment.

11. Retail inflation jumps to 4.62% in October

Retail inflation surged to 4.62% in October 2019 mainly on account of higher food prices. According to government data released, the inflation in the food basket spiked to 7.89% in October 2019 as against 5.11% in September 2019.



The inflation based on the Consumer Price Index (CPI) was 3.99% in September and 3.38% in October 2018. The Reserve Bank mainly factors in the CPI-based inflation to arrive at its bi-monthly monetary policy. The RBI has been asked to keep the retail inflation at around 4%.

12. Wholesale inflation eases to 0.16% in October

Wholesale prices based inflation eased further to 0.16% in October, as against 0.33% in September. Government data showed subdued prices of non-food articles and fall in prices of manufactured items.



Annual inflation, based on monthly wholesale price index (WPI), was at 5.54% in October last year. For manufactured products, the wholesale inflation was at -0.84% in October 2019. However, retail inflation for the month hit a 16-month high of 4.62% due to soaring prices of food articles, including fruits and vegetables.

13. NCAER forecasts India's GDP growth at 4.9% for FY20

National Council of Applied Economic Research predicted India's gross domestic product (GDP) growth for 2019-20 at 4.9% as against 6.8 % in 2018 (or FY-19) due to fall in consumption demand. Cargo movement across rail, ports and airways has also shown a substantial fall.

Real private consumption expenditure growth has fallen from 9.8% in Q2FY19 to 3.1% in Q1FY20, while real government fixed capital formation growth has gone from 11.7% in Q3FY19 to 4% in Q1FY20.



14. SBI's economic research team revised India's FY20 GDP forecast to 5%

SBI's economic research team in its report 'Ecowrap' revised India's FY20 GDP forecast to 5% from its earlier estimate of 6.1% for the Fiscal Year 2020 (FY20) due to low automobile sales, deceleration in air traffic movements, low consumption demand, flattening of core sector growth and declining investment in construction and infrastructure.

Real private consumption expenditure growth has fallen from 9.8% in Q2FY19 to 3.1% in Q1FY20. The report predicted pick-up of growth rate pace in 2020-21 to 6.2%.



15. MELPL Indo-French collaboration became largest FDI project of Indian Railways

Indian Railways has entered into Procurement cum Maintenance Agreement with Madhepura Electric Locomotive Pvt. Ltd. (MELPL), a joint venture of Indian Railways and M/s Alstom. As part of largest Foreign Direct Investment project of Indian Railways, Ministry of Railways and Alstom came together in 2015 to transform the heavy freight transportation landscape of the country. A landmark agreement worth 3.5 billion Euro was signed to manufacture 800 electric locomotives for freight service and its associated maintenance.



Alstom has redesigned the complete locomotive including bogies. This is the first time such High Horse Power locomotive is being tested on Broad Gauge network in the World by any Railways.

1. Madrid to host UN Climate Change Conference (COP 25)

Madrid will host the 25th United Nations Climate Change summit (COP25) from December 2 to 13 after Chile's resignation due to the ongoing street protests in the South American country. COP25 was due to take place in Santiago.

The annual Conference of the Parties (COP) summit is a key event which allows representatives from around 200 nations to monitor and discuss the current situation of the world's warming climate.



2. Over 11,000 scientists from 153 countries declare global climate emergency

A new report by 11,258 scientists in 153 countries declared a #ClimateEmergency. The paper was published in BioScience by William J. Ripple and Christopher Wolf of Oregon State University. It provided graphs of vital signs highlighting key climate change indicators and factors over the last 40 years.

The scientists join a growing international Climate Emergency Movement, led in part by The Climate Mobilization, which has expanded from a few organizations and approximately 230 global governments and jurisdictions in January to now over 1,178 governments in 23 countries that have declared a Climate Emergency.



3. Marengo Sachintendulkar: Newly discovered spider species named after cricketer

Dhruv Prajapati, a junior researcher with the Gujarat Ecological Education & Research (GEER) Foundation discovered two new species of spiders. One of the two species is named as Marengo sachintendulkar. It is named after legendary cricketer Sachin Tendulkar.

Other species is named after Saint Kuriakose Elias Chavara, who played a key role in creating awareness on education in Kerala. The two newly discovered species of the arthropod are a part of the Indomarengo and Marengo genus of Asian jumping spiders.



4. New signal fish discovered off Kerala coast

The new signal fish named as *Pteropsaron indicum* was discovered by scientists in Lakshadweep sea off Kerala coast, which is the home for unusual species like fish with a unique color. The *Pteropsaron indicum* species was collected by trawlers at a depth of 70 metres during a marine biodiversity survey.



Pteropsaron indicum has a special feature to communicate with others of the same species by flipping its highly specialised dorsal fins. Signal fishes are tiny and fragile and are often found in waters below 50 metres.

5. Oxford Dictionary named 'Climate Emergency' its 2019 Word of the Year

Oxford Dictionaries has named "climate emergency" as its 2019 Word of the Year. According to the dictionary's data, usage of "climate emergency" soared 10,796%. In 2019, "climate" became the most common word associated with "emergency", three times more than "health emergency" in second.



The word is selected because it shows the increase in usage since 2018 and became "one of the most prominent – and prominently debated – terms of 2019. The Word of the Year citation is intended to highlight "a word or expression shown through usage evidence to reflect mood of the passing year.

1. MSTC tied up with Allahabad Bank to develop e-auction platform

MSTC Ltd has signed an agreement with Allahabad Bank for the development of a dedicated e-Auction platform directly linked with the Indian Banking Association's portal (<https://ibapi.net>) for sale of non-performing assets (NPAs) through the SARFAESI (Securitisation and Reconstruction of Financial Assets and Enforcement of Securities Interest) Act.



The e-Auction platform will be a one-of-a-kind solution, where a bidder once registered, will be able to participate in auctions for all banks. MSTC is a Kolkata-headquartered Central Government of India company engaged in domestic and international trading.

2. RBI issued compensation norms for foreign, private banks

The Reserve Bank of India issued compensation guidelines for whole-time directors and chief executives of foreign, private, small finance, payments banks and local area banks, mandating the cash component of variable pay at 67%. If the variable pay is up to 200% of the fixed pay, at least 50% of it should be in non-cash. If the variable pay is above 200%, 67% of it should be paid via non-cash instruments.



In a notification, the RBI announced that banks should continue to formulate and adopt a comprehensive compensation policy covering all their employees and conduct annual reviews.

3. Overseas investors remain net buyers as FPIs invest over Rs 12,000 cr in November

Overseas investors remained net buyers in the domestic capital markets with an investment of over 12,000 crore rupees in November so far as market sentiments improved following economic reforms by the government.



The latest depositories data showed that Foreign Portfolio Investors (FPI) infused around 6,434 crore rupees in equities and 5,674 crore rupees in debt segment. In October, FPIs invested around 16,465 crore rupees while in September they had put in 6,558 crore rupees.

4. RBI increased household income limits for borrowers of NBFCs and MFIs

Reserve Bank has increased the household income limits for borrowers of Non-Banking Financial Companies (NBFCs) and microfinance institutions (MFIs) from 1 lakh to 1.25 lakh rupees. Similarly, the limit has been increased from 1.6 lakh for urban or semi-urban areas to 2 lakh rupees.



The limit has been increased after taking into consideration the important role played by microfinance institutions in delivering credit to those at the bottom of the economic pyramid and to enable them to play their assigned role in a growing economy.

5. RBI imposed Rs 5 lakh fine on Oxigen Services

The Reserve Bank has imposed a fine of Rs 5 lakh on prepaid payment instrument Oxigen Services in exercise of powers vested under Section 30 of the Payment and Settlement Systems Act, 2007.



Reserve Bank of India has imposed monetary penalty on the Prepaid Payment Instrument (PPI) issuer Oxigen Services (India) Private Limited for non-compliance of regulatory guidelines. Oxigen Services facilitates payment processing and money transfer services.

6. Bajaj Allianz General Insurance launched 'Farmitra' mobile app for farmers

Bajaj Allianz General Insurance has launched a new mobile app called 'Farmitra' for farmers to help them in optimizing their farming practices. Farmers can get solution to their queries, get insurance solutions and information. App will analyze weather forecast specific to their area, advisories customized as per the selected crops and act as a locator for seed/soil testing labs, fertilizer dealers, Cold Storage around the area.



The application is currently implemented in 6 states, namely Rajasthan, Madhya Pradesh, Uttar Pradesh, Karnataka, Maharashtra and Haryana.

7. Indian Bank signed MoU with Muthoot Microfin

Muthoot Microfin has signed a memorandum of understanding with public sector Indian Bank to serve micro, small and medium enterprises. As per the memorandum of understanding, Muthoot Microfin and the bank will jointly lend to the MSME borrowers. Indian Bank general manager-MSME Sudhakar Rao exchanged documents with Muthoot Microfin deputy CFO Praveen T in the presence of the bank's managing director and CEO Padmaja Chunduru.



Muthoot Microfin, the microfinance arm of Muthoot Pappachan group (MPG) provides financial support to low-income earning women entrepreneurs.

8. Exim Bank granted \$30 million line of credit to Ghana

Exim Bank extended two lines of credit of USD 30 Million and USD 150 Million to The Government of the Republic Of Ghana for the purpose of financing rehabilitation and up-gradation of portable water system of Yendi Water Systems.



Under the agreement, out of the total credit by Exim Bank, works and services of the value of at least 75% of the contract price shall be supplied by the seller from India and the remaining 25% of goods and services may be procured by the seller for the purpose of eligible contract from outside India.

9. ADB, India sign \$91 Million Loan for Comprehensive Water Management in Karnataka

The Asian Development Bank (ADB) and the Government of India signed a \$91 million loan as a part of second project loan for the Karnataka Integrated and Sustainable Water Resources Management Investment Program (IWRM). The first project is helping the modernization of the Gondi irrigation system.



The amount towards the loan will be utilized to modernize the Vijayanagara Channel irrigation systems and prepare river basin management plans in the Krishna river basin that will help improve irrigation water use efficiency and contribute to improving sustainable water security in Karnataka.

10. New rules framed under IBC for rescue of non-bank lenders

The Government of India issued fresh rules under the Insolvency and Bankruptcy Code (IBC) to govern the rescue of non-bank lenders to help out distressed shadow banks and housing financiers, which have been battling a liquidity crunch for a year such as Dewan Housing Finance Corp. Ltd (DHFL).



According to new rules:

- A regulator is allowed to refer a non-bank lender or housing financier to a bankruptcy tribunal.
- The registration or the licence of the financial services provider will not be suspended or cancelled during the bankruptcy resolution process.

11. FICCI signed MoU with Singapore Fintech Association

Federation of Indian Chambers of Commerce and Industry (Ficci) signed a memorandum of understanding with Singapore Fintech Association at the opening ceremony of the first ever Singapore Pavilion at the Singapore FinTech Festival 2019, the largest FinTech event in the world. It was signed for the development of the FinTech industry in both countries.



With the rapid rise of new age Fintechs in the Indian market and cutting edge work being done in Singapore, FICCI will facilitate new collaborations between Fintechs and Financial Institutions in the two markets.

12. World Bank's 300 million USD plan to develop Kolkata

World Bank submitted 300 million USD master plan to develop logistics infrastructure of Kolkata metropolitan area. The infrastructure spending will be used for review of industrial parks, logistics hubs and SEZs encompassing West Bengal with the aim of improving logistics competitiveness, employment generation and ease of doing business.



West Bengal government has increased spending on infrastructure every year, from Rs 1,758 crore in 2011 to Rs 9,553 crore in 2018. West Bengal government is expected to generate employment for around 1.26 lakh people by investing in logistics infrastructure in the state.

13. AIIB to invest 100 million USD in solar and wind projects in India

The Asian Infrastructure Investment Bank (AIIB) which is headquartered at Beijing expects an annual private investment of 100 million USD for solar and wind projects in India. Private investments validate business models of infrastructure and ensure it is economically sustainable. AIIB has already invested \$2.844 billion in Indian projects.



AIIB's other investments in India include \$500 million in Mumbai Urban Transport Project 3, \$455 million in Andhra Pradesh Rural Roads Project and \$450 million in AP Urban Water Supply Project.

14. RBI constituted 3-member panel for DHFL

The Reserve Bank of India constituted a three-member panel to advise the Administrator of Dewan Housing Finance Corporation Limited, DHFL, ahead of formally moving for resolution of the troubled mortgage lender under the insolvency law. RBI superseded DHFL's board and placed the company under an administrator in the wake of governance issues and severe liquidity crisis which had led to a string of defaults.



The panel includes IDFC First Bank's Non-Executive Chairman Rajiv Lall, ICICI Prudential Life Insurance's Managing Director and Chief Executive N S Kannan and Mutual Funds' Association AMFI's Chief Executive N S Venkatesh.

15. RBI enhanced scope of Non-Resident Rupee Accounts

In order to promote the usage of INR products by persons resident outside India, the Reserve Bank in consultation with Indian government, enhanced the scope of 'Special Non-resident Rupee' (SNRR) by allowing persons residing outside India to open such accounts for purposes like external commercial borrowing, trade invoicing in INR and trade credit in INR.



Special Non-Resident Rupee Account is opened by any person resident outside India, having a business interest in India for the purpose of putting through bona fide transactions in rupees.

16. ADB, India signed \$451 Million Loan to strengthen Power Connectivity in Tamil Nadu

The Asian Development Bank (ADB) and the Government of India signed a \$451 million loan to strengthen power connectivity between the southern and northern parts of the Chennai–Kanyakumari Industrial Corridor (CKIC), which is part of the East Coast Economic Corridor (ECEC), in Tamil Nadu.



The project will help Government of Tamil Nadu meet the increasing demand for power supply from industry and commercial enterprises in the State, provide an impetus to the industrial development of CKIC and help establish extra-high-voltage transmission link between Virudhunagar and Coimbatore.

17. IBBI amended the Insolvency and Bankruptcy Board of India Regulations, 2016

The Insolvency and Bankruptcy Board of India (IBBI) notified the Insolvency and Bankruptcy Board of India (Insolvency Resolution Process for Corporate Persons) (Third Amendment) Regulations, 2019. The Insolvency and Bankruptcy Code, 2016 (Code) envisages corporate insolvency resolution process (CIRP) for reorganisation and insolvency resolution of corporate debtors. An insolvency professional conducts the CIRP and manages its operations during the CIRP.



An IP shall be liable to action permissible under the Code, including refusal to issue or renew Authorisation for Assignment, for failure to file a Form or for inaccurate or delayed filing.

Important Days

1. International Day to End Impunity for Crimes against Journalists

The International Day to End Impunity for Crimes against Journalists is observed annually on 2 November. The day draws attention to the low global conviction rate for violent crimes against journalists and media workers, estimated at only one in every ten cases.

The United Nations General Assembly adopted Resolution A/RES/68/163 (link is external) at its 68th session in 2013 which proclaimed 2 November as the 'International Day to End Impunity for Crimes against Journalists' (IDEI).



2. World Tsunami Awareness Day

The 'World Tsunami Awareness' is observed every year on 5th November. At its fourth edition, the 2019 World Tsunami Awareness Day promotes Target (d) of the "Sendai Seven Campaign" which focuses on reducing disaster damage to critical infrastructure and disruption of basic services.

The Intergovernmental Oceanographic Commission (IOC) of UNESCO works to coordinate national and regional tsunami early warning services as well as raising global awareness about effective actions, policies and practices to reduce exposure to disaster risk.



3. Public Service Broadcasting Day celebrated

The Public Service Broadcasting Day is celebrated every year on 12th November to commemorate the first and last visit of the Father of the Nation, Mahatma Gandhi to the studio of All India Radio, Delhi in 1947. The Father of the Nation addressed the displaced people, who had temporarily settled at Kurukshetra in Haryana after partition.

The day was declared as Public Service Broadcasting Day or (Jan Prasaran Diwas) in 2000, after it was conceptualised by Suhas Borker, Convenor, Jan Prasar.



4. National Education Day observed across country

The National Education Day is observed every year on 11th November in India to commemorate the Birth Anniversary of Maulana Abul Kalam Azad, the first Education Minister of independent India. He established the University Grants Commission (UGC) after India's independence. He also established higher educational institutions and worked for free education in the country.



On the occasion of the day and to take education to every doorstep of India, the Union HRD Ministry launched SWAYAM 2.0. SWAYAM is a programme initiated by the government to provide the best teaching-learning resources to all.

5. International Day for Preventing the Exploitation of the Environment in War and Armed Conflict

The International Day for Preventing the Exploitation of the Environment in War and Armed Conflict is an international day observed annually on November 6. Nearly 1.5 billion people, over 20 per cent of the world's population, live in conflict-affected areas and fragile states.



The International Day for Preventing the Exploitation of the Environment in War and Armed Conflict was established on November 5, 2001 during Kofi Annan's tenure as Secretary-General, the United Nations General Assembly.

6. National Cancer Awareness Day 2019 observed on November 7

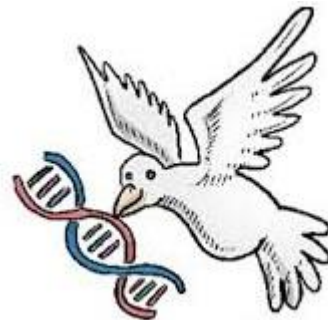
Union Health Minister Harsh Vardhan announced in 2014 to observe National Cancer Awareness Day across India on November 7 every year. The day coincides with the birth anniversary of scientist Marie Curie (Marie Skłodowska Curie), winner of the 1903 Nobel Prize in Physics.



Union Health Minister Harsh Vardhan upgraded Regional Cancer Centre into the State Cancer Institute where two-thirds of cancer cases are diagnosed at an advanced stage, reducing patients' chances of survival.

7. World Science Day for Peace and Development: 10 November

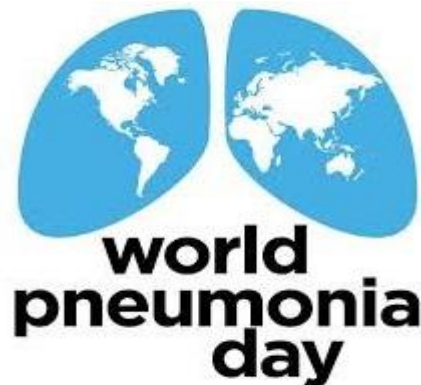
World Science Day for Peace and Development is celebrated every year on November 10. The World Science Day for Peace and Development 2019 was devoted to the theme of "Open Science, leaving no one behind". The theme highlighted the important role of science in society and the need to engage the wider public in debates on emerging scientific issues. It also underlines the importance and relevance of science in our daily lives.



World Science Day for Peace and Development aims to ensure that citizens are kept informed of developments in science.

8. World Pneumonia day observed on November 12

World Pneumonia Day is annually held on November 12 to raise awareness of pneumonia, promote prevention and treatment, and generate action to fight the disease. Pneumonia is one of the leading causes of deaths in children under five years old despite being easily preventable and treatable. This day was first hosted in 2009 when over 100 organisations joined to form the Global Coalition against Child Pneumonia.



This day raises awareness about pneumonia, the world's leading infectious killer of children under the age of 5.

9. Africa Industrialization Day observed on 20 November

Africa Industrialization Day is celebrated on November 20 each year. It is a time when governments and other organizations in many African countries examine ways to stimulate Africa's industrialization process. Within the framework of the Second Industrial Development Decade for Africa (1991-2000), the United Nations General Assembly, in 1989, proclaimed 20 November "Africa Industrialization Day".



2019 theme was "Positioning African Industry to Supply the AfCFTA Market" to raise awareness in the international community on the challenges and opportunities for Africa's industrialization within the framework of the newly created African Continental Free Trade Area.

10. World Toilet Day observed on 19 November

World Toilet Day is celebrated on 19th November every year to tackle the global sanitation crisis and help achieve Sustainable Development Goal 6 (SDG 6), which promises sanitation for all by 2030. World Toilet Day (WTD) is an official United Nations international observance day.



The theme for 2019 was 'Leaving No One Behind' as 4.2 billion people still live without safely managed sanitation and 673 million people still practise open defecation worldwide. World Toilet Day 2019 attracted attention to those people being left behind without sanitation.

11. World Day of Remembrance for Road Traffic Victims observed 17 November

The World Day of Remembrance for Road Traffic Victims is commemorated on the third Sunday of November each year. 2019 World Day of Remembrance for Road Traffic Victims was observed 17 November for drawing attention to the scale of emotional and economic devastation caused by road crashes. This day is an opportunity to reflect on how we can save millions of lives.



The theme of the 2019 World Day of Remembrance was "Life is not a car part". The theme was based on Pillar 3 of the Global Plan for the Decade of Action for Road Safety – Safer vehicles.

12. World Diabetes Day observed on 14 November

On 14 November, millions of people around the world unite to mark World Diabetes Day, the global awareness campaign of the diabetes. World Diabetes Day 2019 theme was **Family and Diabetes**. The theme was based on raising awareness of the impact that diabetes has on the family and support network of those affected, and promoting the role of the family in the management, care, prevention and education of diabetes.



The WDD 2019 had three main focus areas i.e. to discover diabetes, prevent type 2 diabetes and manage diabetes.

13. Children's Day observed on 14th November

November 14 is celebrated as the Children's Day every year in India. It's also the birthday of first prime minister of India, Pandit Jawaharlal Nehru. Children's Day is celebrated across India to increase awareness of the rights, care and education of children.



Fondly known as Chacha Nehru among children, had great affection for children and he advocated for children to have fulfilled education. Children's Day signifies the importance of increasing awareness of the rights, care and education of children.

14. World Television Day observed on 21 November

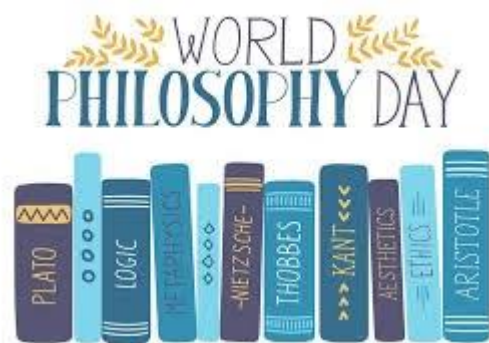
World Television Day is observed on 21 November to highlight the daily value of television that it plays in communication and globalisation. Television was thus acknowledged as a major tool in informing, channelling and affecting public opinion.



In recognition of the increasing impact television has on decision-making by bringing world attention to conflicts and threats to peace and security and its potential role in sharpening the focus on other major issues, including economic and social issues, the United Nations General Assembly proclaimed 21 November as World Television Day (through resolution 51/205 of 17 December 1996).

15. World Philosophy Day observed on 21st November

World Philosophy Day is an international day proclaimed by UNESCO to be celebrated every 3rd Thursday of November to highlight the value of philosophy for the development of human thought, for each culture and individual. The 2019 edition observed on 21st November aimed to highlight the importance of philosophy in different regional contexts. The goal was to obtain regional contributions to global debates on contemporary challenges that support social transformations.



World Philosophy Day was introduced in 2002 by UNESCO to appraise the state of philosophy teaching throughout the world.

16. World Children’s Day observed on 20 November

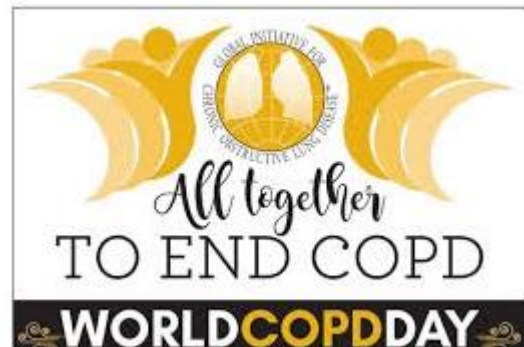
On November 20th, Universal Children’s Day is celebrated to promote international togetherness, awareness among children worldwide, and improving children’s welfare. 2019 marked 30th anniversary of the Convention on the Rights of the Child. November 20th is a special date because on this date in 1959, the UN General Assembly adopted the Declaration of the Rights of the Child.



The day offers an entry-point to advocate, promote and celebrate children's rights, translating into dialogues and actions that will build a better world for children.

17. World Chronic Obstructive Pulmonary Disease (COPD) Day observed worldwide

World Chronic Obstructive Pulmonary Disease Day (COPD) is celebrated on the third Wednesday of November every year, in collaboration with health experts and patients with COPD. COPD is not one single disease but an umbrella term used to describe chronic lung diseases that cause limitations in lung airflow.



Theme of 2019 was 'All Together to End COPD'. The WHO (World Health Organization) and Global Initiative for Chronic Obstructive Lung Disease (GOLD) organize World COPD (Chronic Obstructive Pulmonary Disease) Day on the third Wednesday of November every year.

18. International Day for the Elimination of Violence against Women observed on 25 November

The International Day for the Elimination of Violence against Women is observed across the world on 25 November annually. The theme of 2019 was "Orange the World: Generation Equality Stands Against Rape" to prevent and end violence against women at the global, regional and national levels.



Women's rights activists have observed 25 November as a day against gender-based violence since 1981. On 20 December 1993, the General Assembly adopts the Declaration on the Elimination of Violence against Women through resolution 48/104.

19. Constitution day observed on November 26

The Constitution Day, also known as Samvidhan Divas, is celebrated in India on 26 November every year. The day commemorates the adoption of Constitution of India. On this day in 1949, the Constituent Assembly of India adopted the Constitution of India, and it came into effect on 26 January 1950.

The Government of India declared 26 November as Constitution Day on 19 November 2015 by a gazette notification.



1. Russia's Nuclear Submarine test fired Ballistic Missile

Russia has successfully test-fired an intercontinental ballistic missile from its most advanced new nuclear-powered Knyaz Vladimir, or Prince Vladimir submarine. The Bulava missile was launched from an underwater position in the White Sea.



Launched in 2017, The Knyaz Vladimir submarine is the first upgraded 955A model of Russia's Borei class of ballistic missile submarines. Borei class submarines can carry up to 16 Bulava missiles, which are designed for use on these submarines.

2. 35th ASEAN Summit begins in Bangkok

The 35th ASEAN Summit was held in Bangkok, Thailand based on theme 'Advancing Partnership for sustainability'. The summit discussed security, cyber crime, comprehensive and sustainable ASEAN economic development and negotiations related to the Regional Comprehensive Economic Partnership (RCEP) including market opening. The RCEP is a proposed free trade agreement (FTA) between the ten members state of ASEAN and its partner countries.



Apart from leaders of 10 ASEAN countries head of Eight dialogue partner countries including India, USA, China, Japan, Republic of Korea , Australia and New Zealand also participated in the summit.

3. World's first blockchain-based carbon trading exchange in Singapore

Singapore-based AirCarbon Pte launched the worlds' first blockchain-based carbon trading exchange. It will be known as world's first digital exchange platform for airlines to trade carbon credits. AirCarbon Pte will provide a marketplace for airlines and other corporate buyers to trade securitised carbon emissions. It is approved by the International Civil Aviation Organisation.



AirCarbon has applied for recognised market operator (RMO) licence from the Monetary Authority of Singapore. The exchange is expected to be fully operational in 2020.

4. Guyana to be fastest growing country in the world next year at 86%

According to the International Monetary Fund (IMF), Guyana's GDP is expected to grow at 86% in 2020 expanding 4.4% in 2019. The new growth will be driven by Exxon Mobil Corp.'s discovery of oil. Guyana is projecting \$300 million in petroleum revenue in 2020.



Exxon has partnered with Hess Corp. and China's CNOOC Ltd. to develop one of the world's biggest new deepwater oil discoveries off the country's coast.

5. Biennial Commonwealth Law Ministers' Conference held in Colombo

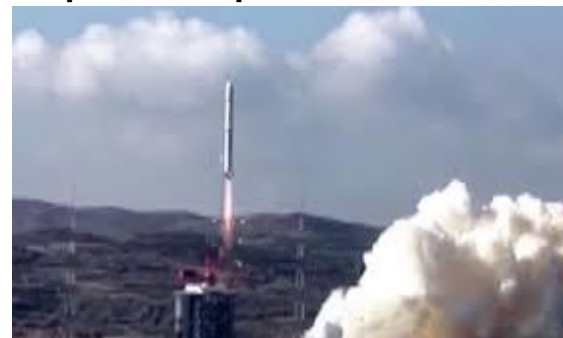
The biennial Commonwealth Law Ministers' Conference was held in Colombo, Sri Lanka. The theme of the conference was "Equal Access to Justice and the Rule of Law". Union Minister for Law and Justice Ravi Shankar Prasad represented India at the conference.



The four-day conference participated by Law Ministers and Attorney Generals from Commonwealth countries addressed challenges faced by millions of people seeking to resolve legal problems or disputes.

6. Sudan launched its first ever satellite in partnership with China

Sudan launched its first satellite, the Sudan Remote Sensing Satellite (SRSS)-1, in partnership with China. The satellite was launched in the Long March 4B satellite launch vehicle from the Taiyuan Satellite Launch Centre in China's northern Shanxi Province.



The SRSS-1 was developed and built by Chinese satellite manufacturer Shenzhen Aerospace Oriental Red Sea Satellite Co. on behalf of the Sudanese government. It will be used for both civil and national security Earth observation missions.

7. Biggest US-Bangladesh Navy exercise held in Chattogram

The second phase of the biggest US-Bangladesh Navy exercise named 'Cooperation Afloat Readiness and Training (CARAT)- 2019' was held in Chattogram. The second phase of the exercise was conducted from 4 to 7 November.



The exercise provided an opportunity to gain a better understanding of the operational activities of the Navies of two countries and to get acquainted with advanced technology through various theoretical and practical trainings. CARAT is one of the U.S. Navy's longest continually running exercises in South Asia and Southeast Asia.

8. India-ASEAN Summit, 2019

The 16th ASEAN-India Summit was held in Bangkok, Thailand on November 3, 2019. The summit was attended by Indian Prime Minister Narendra Modi. India has allocated 1 billion USD as line of credit to improve physical and digital connectivity. Indian Prime Minister and ASEAN leaders vowed to combat terrorism in the Indo-Pacific region.



ASEAN is a regional intergovernmental organization that comprises ten southeast Asian countries as member nations - Singapore, Malaysia, Philippines, Indonesia, Thailand, Cambodia, Brunei, Myanmar, Lao PDR and Vietnam.

9. US formally notified UN about its withdrawal from Paris Climate Accord

The US formally notified the United Nations that it was withdrawing from the Paris climate accord. The agreement had imposed an unfair economic burden on the US. The notification begins a one-year process of exiting the global climate change accord, culminating the day after the 2020 US election.



The agreement brought together 188 nations to combat climate change. It committed them to keeping rising global temperatures below 2 Celsius above pre-industrial levels and attempting to limit them even more, to a 1.5 Celsius rise. The US contributes about 15% of global emissions of carbon.

10. South Asia moving towards becoming center of global growth

A latest research titled "Is South Asia Ready for take Off? A sustainable and inclusive growth agenda", by the International Monetary Fund revealed that South Asia, led by India, is moving towards becoming center of global growth and could contribute about one-third of the world's growth by 2040.



Notably, under the IMF's geographical division of the world, South Asia does not include Afghanistan and Pakistan. For IMF, South Asia includes India, Bangladesh, Nepal, Sri Lanka, Bhutan and Maldives. More than 150 million people in the region are expected to

enter the labour market by 2030.

11. 11th BRICS summit held at Brasilia

The 11th BRICS summit was held at Brasilia in Brazil. The theme of the BRICS summit this year was "Economic Growth for an Innovative Future." Prime Minister Narendra Modi participated in BRICS summit for the sixth time.



The BRICS 2019 focussed on strengthening of the cooperation in science, technology and innovation, enhancement of the cooperation on digital economy, invigoration of the cooperation on the fight against transnational crime, especially against organized crime, money laundering, and drug trafficking, and encouragement to the rapprochement between the New Development Bank (NDB) and the BRICS Business Council.

12. Bolivian President Evo Morales resigned amid turmoil

The President of Bolivia, Evo Morales, has resigned amid turmoil following his disputed re-election in October 2019. He has been in power for nearly 14 years. He left the post after losing the support of the army and the police.



The Vice-President, Alvaro Garcia Linera and Senate President Adriana Salvatierra, also resigned. Bolivia has been rattled by weeks of anti-government protests following the reports of election fraud.

13. Mexico offered asylum to former Bolivian President Evo Morales

Mexico has offered asylum to former Bolivian President Evo Morales after he resigned following weeks of protest over a disputed election. Mexico offered the asylum for "humanitarian reasons" after a request from Mr. Morales. Morales, 60, had been in power since 2006.



Mr Morales, Bolivia's first indigenous leader, stepped down after the head of the army publicly called on him to leave his post. Bolivia has been rattled by weeks of anti-government protests following the reports of election fraud.

14. Governing Socialist Workers' Party won election in Spain

Spain's governing Socialist Workers' Party (PSOE) has won the most seats in election, but fell short of a majority. The conservative Popular Party (PP) came in second and far-right Vox became the country's third most-powerful party.



Socialists failed to form a coalition government in the previous vote six months ago which ended with no clear majority. This time, the Socialist Party won 120 out of a total of 350 seats - three fewer seats than in April's vote. The PP with 88 seats, gained 22 from the previous poll, while Vox has 52, up from just 24 in April.

15. Dhaka Lit Fest concluded

The ninth edition of the Dhaka Lit Fest, the biggest international literary festival in Bangladesh, was held at the Bangla Academy in Dhaka. Over 200 local and international literary figures, performers and intellectuals from five continents participated in the three-day fest.



The special focus of this year's lit-fest was on Indigenous Languages as the UNESCO has marked 2019 as the year of Indigenous Language Protection. On the first day of the event, West Bengal-based writer Abhisek Sarkar and Bangladeshi poet Rofiquzzaman Rony were given the Gemcon Young Literature Award and Gemcon Young Poetry Award.

16. Iran says enriching uranium to 5%

Iran said that it is now enriching uranium to 5%, after stepping back from its commitments under the troubled 2015 accord with significant powers. The deal four years ago set a 3.67% limit for uranium enrichment, but Tehran announced it would no longer respect it after the United States unilaterally abandoned the agreement last year and reimposed crippling sanctions.



The current 5% level exceeds the limit set by the accord but is less than the 20% Iran had previously operated and far less than the 90% -level required for a warhead.

17. Pravind Jugnauth re-elected as Prime Minister of Mauritius

Incumbent Prime Minister Pravind Jugnauth was re-elected as the new Prime Minister in Mauritius with his Militant Socialist Movement (MSM) won 35 of the 62 seats while the Labour Party and the Mauritian Militant Movement (MMM), garnered 15 and 10 seats respectively.



Jugnauth, the current prime minister, assumed the country's leadership from his father, Sir Anerood Jugnauth, who resigned from the post in 2017. Mauritius is one of Africa's most stable and prosperous nation and is the biggest channel of FDI inflows into India. More than 75% of the population is of Indian origin.

18. Sheikh Khalifa bin Zayed Al Nahyan re-elected as President of UAE

The UAE Supreme Council has re-elected His Highness Shaikh Khalifa Bin Zayed Al Nahyan as President of the UAE for a fourth five-year term. He was first elected President in 2004 following the death of his father Shaikh Zayed Bin Sultan Al Nahyan.



Referred to as Sheikh Khalifa, he is the Emir of Abu Dhabi, the Supreme Commander of the Union Defence Force and the Chairman of the Supreme Petroleum Council.

19. China approved drug to cure Alzheimer's disease

Authorities in China have approved a drug for the treatment of Alzheimer's disease, the first new medicine with the potential to treat the disease. Alzheimer's drug called GV-971 (sodium oligo-mannurate) is a drug manufactured from an oligosaccharide extracted from marine algae and is the first novel drug approved for AD globally since 2003.



The drug is developed by Shanghai Institute of Materia Medica (SIMM) under the Chinese Academy of Sciences. It can improve cognitive function among people with Alzheimer's in as little as four weeks.

20. 15th Governing Council of SACEP 2019 held in Dhaka, Bangladesh

15th Governing Council of South Asia Cooperative Environment Programme 2019 (SACEP) was held in Dhaka, Bangladesh. Union Minister Prakash Javadekar participated in the meeting.



The meeting addressed the daunting environmental challenges of today and adopted SACEPs' and SASP work programmes for the year 2020-2021 and SACEP Strategy for the year 2020-2030. The meeting also adopted a declaration on Sustainable Public Procurement, Marine and Coastal Biodiversity Strategy for South Asia, and the Regional Marine Litter Action Plan for the Region.

21. 2nd 'No money for terror conference 2019' held in Australia

The 2nd 'No Money for Terror' 2019 conference was held in Melbourne, Australia. India will host the 'No Money For Terror' conference to be held in 2020. Union Minister of State for Home Affairs, G. Kishan Reddy participated with a five-member delegation in conference. "No Money For Terror" conference was organised by Financial Intelligence Units (FIUs) of over 100 countries, jointly called The Egmont Group.



The conference discussed ability to prevent and detect money-laundering and the application of intelligence and investigative techniques.

22. Mahinda Rajapaksa sworn in as new PM of Sri Lanka

Mahinda Rajapaksa has been sworn in as the new Prime Minister of Sri Lanka. He is the country's 23rd premier. Mahinda Rajapaksa is credited with a military victory ending a 26-year separatist civil war with ethnic Tamil rebels during his presidency from 2005 to 2015.



Former Prime Minister Ranil Wickremesinghe officially stepped down to make way for Rajapaksa's regime. This is the third time Mahinda Rajapaksa has been appointed Prime Minister of Sri Lanka.

23. New Zealand tightens foreign investment rules

New Zealand has tightened the foreign investment rules in strategic assets. Foreign investors hoping to buy strategic assets will now have to convince the government that it is in the national interest.



The new rules will for the first time give the government the power to reject overseas investments in sensitive areas. He said the rules would apply to crucial infrastructure including ports and airports, telecommunications and electricity networks, as well as firms developing military technology or supplying intelligence agencies.

24. Gotabaya Rajapaksa sworn-in as new President of Sri Lanka

Gotabaya Rajapaksa was sworn in as the new President of Sri Lanka. He is the first retired military officer to assume the top office. Rajapaksa defeated the ruling United National Party (UNP) candidate Sajith Premadasa with 52.25% votes while Premadasa bagged 41.99%.



Mahinda Rajapaksa will succeed President Maithripala Sirisena for a five-year term and is the seventh President of Sri Lanka. He is the younger brother of former President Mahinda Rajapaksa.

25. Dhaka International Folk Festival held

The 5th edition of the Dhaka International Folk Festival was held in Dhaka. More than 200 artistes from 6 countries performed in the largest folk festival of Asia. A large number of popular and renowned artistes from Bangladesh, India, Pakistan, Russia and other countries performed in the three-day festival between November 14-16.



Initiated by Sun Foundation, 'Dhaka International Folk Fest 2019' has been organised by Sun Communications Ltd. The folk festival has been taking place annually since 2015.

26. Iran discovered new oil field with 53 Bn barrels of reserves

Iran discovered a new oilfield containing 53 billion barrels of oil in the southwest of the country. Out of the amount at the site, only a tenth - 2.2 billion barrels can be extracted due to technological limitations. This new oil field would increase Iran's proven reserves by about a third. It will add 22.2 billion barrels to the country's estimated crude reserves.



The oil layer with 3.1 km depth and with an average thickness of 80 metres was discovered in a span of 2,400 square km.

27. NVIDIA announced world's largest GPU-accelerated cloud-based supercomputer

NVIDIA announced the availability of world's largest GPU-accelerated cloud-based supercomputer in the cloud on Microsoft Azure to handle demanding AI and high-performance computing applications, using up to 800 NVIDIA V100 Tensor Core GPUs interconnected on a single network named as 'Mellanox InfiniBand backend network'.



World's largest GPU-accelerated cloud-based supercomputer allows customers to rent an AI supercomputer on-demand from their desk, and match the capabilities of large-scale on-premises supercomputers.

Miscellaneous

1. Union Minister of State (Independent Charge) for AYUSH Shri Shripad Yesso Naik inaugurated National Research Institute of Unani Medicine for Skin Disorders (NRIUMSD) upgraded from Central Research Institute of Unani Medicine (CRIUM).
2. Pooja Gehlot won India's second silver medal in wrestling in the 53kg category in the United World Wrestling (UWW) Under-23 World Championships in Budapest.
3. Union Minister for Housing and Urban Affairs has inaugurated a new Guru Nanak Chair by the support of Indian government, at the University of Birmingham to enable research around the teachings of the founder of the Sikh religion.
4. Punjab Chief Minister Captain Amarinder Singh said that the state government has launched first of its kind Punjab job helpline number, 76260-76260, for the job seekers.
5. The people over 80 years of age and Persons with Disability can now cast their votes through postal ballot.
6. Former Parliamentarian and veteran CPI leader Gurudas Dasgupta passed away.
7. India's Lakshya Sen won the SaarLorLux Open badminton tournament at Saarbrücken in Germany. He defeated Sen Weng Hong Yang of China.
8. The Union Cabinet has approved the Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) between India and Maldives on Training and Capacity-Building Programme for Maldivian Judicial Officers in India.
9. The Union Cabinet has given ex-post facto approval for the MoU between India and Bangladesh on withdrawal of 1.82 cusec of water from Feni River by India for drinking water supply scheme for Sabroom town Tripura, India.
10. The Union Cabinet has approved the Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) between India and Brazil in the field of Health and Medicine.
11. Petroleum Minister Dharmendra Pradhan visited United Arab Emirates to attend the inaugural Ministerial session of Abu Dhabi International Petroleum Exhibition and Conference.
12. The Sanskrit Bharati Vishwa Sammelan was held in New Delhi.
13. Former Maharashtra minister and senior Congress party leader Babasaheb Dhabekar passed away.
14. The Ministry of external affairs (MEA) announced Anjani Kumar as the next ambassador of India to the Republic of Mali.
15. The Karnataka Gramin Bank (KGB) has launched 'mobile ATMs' in Kalaburagi, among several other districts in the Karnataka.
16. Union HRD Minister Shri Ramesh Pokhriyal 'Nishank' addressed education ministers/representatives of nearly 190 countries at the 40th UNESCO General Conference in Paris.
17. India and Uzbekistan have signed a pact for further strengthening of cooperation in the fields of counter-terrorism and organised crime.
18. Maharashtra Governor Bhagat Singh Koshiyari imposed President's rule in the state after a political impasse of 19 days post state legislative assembly elections.
19. Hollywood veteran and double Oscar winner Robert De Niro will receive the SAG-AFTRA's highest tribute: the SAG Life Achievement Award.
20. The International Association of Athletics Federations (IAAF) has officially changed its name and will now be known as "World Athletics".
21. The Competition Commission of India (CCI) approves the merger of the BNP Paribas (BNPP) Mutual Fund and the Baroda (BOB) Mutual Fund, under Section 31(1) of the Competition Act, 2002.

22. Prakash Javadekar took charge as the Union Minister of Heavy Industries and Public Enterprises.
23. Former Peru Football Federation Manuel Burga and Argentinian officials Eduardo Deluca and Jose Luis Meiszner were banned for life in connection with a corruption scandal.
24. The India-ASEAN (Association of Southeast Asian Nations) Business Summit 2019 was held in New Delhi based on theme "Today, Tomorrow, Together" to strengthen trade & investment flows with ASEAN Economies.
25. The 27th Conference of Central and State Statistical Organizations (COCSSO) was held at Kolkata, West Bengal.
26. Union ministry of health and family welfare signed memorandum of cooperation (MoC) with Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation (BMGF).
27. India ASEAN InnoTech Summit 2019, a three-day Technology & Innovation Summit, exhibition, B2B and B2G meetings was held in Davao, Philippines with the theme 'India ASEAN InnoTech Summit: Accelerating towards innovative development'.
28. India will be the host of Council of Heads of Government (Prime Ministers) of SCO Member States in 2020, which will approve the Draft SCO Roadmap on cooperation between research institutions of SCO Member States for the period 2021-2023.
29. The Survey of India, India's central engineering agency in charge of mapping and surveying has released an updated map of India with Amaravati as the capital of Andhra Pradesh (AP).
30. The Government of India is planning to launch a new scheme to test defense products manufactured by MSMEs at the cost of Rs 400 crores.
31. Union Government will launch India's first fixed income Exchange Traded Fund (ETF) comprising debt securities of large central public sector enterprises (PSUs) by mid-December 2019.
32. Floating school project in Bangladesh wins Aga Khan Architecture Award.
33. Haryana's Sangram Dahiya and Varsha Varman of Madhya Pradesh clinched double trap titles, winning gold at the 63rd National Shotgun Shooting Championship in New Delhi.
34. India's Lakshya Sen has won the Scottish Open men's single title, defeating Brazilian Ygor Coelho to seal his fourth title.
35. Ambassador of Japan, Mr Satoshi Suzuki and Ambassador of the Republic of Slovenia, DrMarjanCencen, presented their credentials to the President of India, Shri Ram NathKovind.
36. Aditya Birla Finance on Thursday became the first company to list its commercial papers borrowing of Rs 100 crore on the bourses.
37. ISRO has transferred its indigenous technology to produce space-grade Li-Ion cells to Bharat Heavy Electricals Limited (BHEL).
38. World-renowned rock climber Brad Gobright passed away in Mexico fall.
39. Noted writer from Rajasthan, Manisha Kulshreshtha, was awarded the 28th Bihari Puraskar for 2018 for her novel 'Swapnapash'.
40. Reliance Industries Limited (RIL) is the first Indian company to cross Rs.9.5 lakh in market capitalization (m-cap).
41. The Asian Development Bank has approved the 2nd tranche of USD 150 million (about Rs 1,065 crore) for West Bengal to boost capital investment and infrastructure in the state.

1. India to adopt Brazil model of human milk bank

The Centre has set a target of ensuring at least 70% infants to have access to breast milk by the year 2025. The Target will subsequently be increased to 100%. India has taken inspiration from Brazil's success in the field of human milk bank and decided to adopt a similar model in creating a wide network of human milk banks.



A human milk bank or breast milk bank is a service which collects, screens, processes, and dispenses by prescription human milk donated by nursing mothers who are not biologically related to the recipient infant.

2. Air India paints 'Ek Onkar' symbol on aircraft to commemorate 550th Gurupurab

Air India has painted the Sikh religious symbol 'Ik Onkar' on the tail of its Boeing 787 Dreamliner aircraft in a unique gesture to mark Sikhism founder Guru Nanak Dev's 550th birth anniversary celebrations. The aircraft flew from Amritsar to London.



'Ik Onkar' symbol is a central tenet of Sikh religious philosophy. The national carrier in a tribute to Mahatma Gandhi on his 150th birth anniversary had painted an image of the Father of the Nation on the tail of one of its Airbus A320 aircraft flying on the Delhi-Mumbai route.

3. Union Health Minister launched Intensified Mission Indradhanush (IMI) 2.0

In a bid to achieve the target of full immunization, the Ministry of Health and Family Welfare has launched Intensified Mission Indradhanush (IMI) 2.0 from December 2019 to March 2020.



The IMI 2.0 portal has been designed to capture information on the blockwise target of children and pregnant women to be vaccinated during the IMI drive and also the coverage data during the rounds of activity. The IMI2.0 is a rechristened version of mission Indradhanush-Universal Immunization Programme (UIP) that aims to achieve 100% immunization.

4. Government released maps of newly formed Union Territories (UTs) of Jammu-Kashmir and Ladakh

Government has released the maps of newly created union territories of Jammu-Kashmir and Ladakh and the map of India depicting these union territories. The new map shows 28 states and nine union territories after the bifurcation of Jammu and Kashmir.

MAP OF UT OF JAMMU & KASHMIR AND UT OF LADAKH



The new union territories of Ladakh consist of two districts of Kargil and Leh and the rest of the districts of the erstwhile state of Jammu and Kashmir are in the newly created union territory of Jammu and Kashmir.

5. First ever movement of container cargo on Brahmaputra

The first ever containerised cargo consignment sailed from Haldia Dock Complex (HDC) to the Inland Waterways Authority of India (IWAI) terminal at Pandu in Guwahati. The vessel MV Maheshwari, carrying 53 containers of petrochemicals, edible oil and beverage will take 12-15 days to reach the IWAI terminal.



The vessel will sail through national waterway-1 (river Ganga), NW-97 (Sunderbans), Indo-Bangladesh protocol route and NW-2 (river Brahmaputra). Two more vessels with 1200 tonne of coal will also sail to Assam.

6. Finance Minister launched IT initiatives ICEDASH, ATITHI for improved customs clearance

Finance Minister Nirmala Sitharaman unveiled two new IT Initiatives - ICEDASH and ATITHI for improved monitoring and pace of customs clearance of imported goods and facilitating arriving international passengers. ICEDASH is an Ease of Doing Business monitoring dashboard of the Indian Customs helping the public see the daily Customs clearance times of import cargo at various ports and airports.



The ATITHI app will facilitate hassle-free and faster clearance by Customs at the airports and enhance the experience of international tourists and other visitors at the airports.

7. MSDE launched Skills Build platform in collaboration with IBM

The Ministry of Skill Development & Entrepreneurship (MSDE) launched SkillsBuild platform in collaboration with IBM. As part of the programme, a two-year advanced diploma in IT, networking and cloud computing, co-created and designed by IBM, will be offered at the Industrial Training Institutes (ITIs) & National Skill Training Institutes (NSTIs).

The platform will be extended to train ITI & NSTI faculty on building skills in Artificial Intelligence (AI). SkillsBuild offers digital learning content from IBM and partners such as CodeDoor, Coopacademy and Skillssoft.



सत्यमेव जयते

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF SKILL DEVELOPMENT
& ENTREPRENEURSHIP

8. Amit Shah inaugurated SCO Joint Exercise on Urban Earthquake Search & Rescue (SCOJtEx)-2019

The Union Minister for Home Affairs, Amit Shah inaugurated the Shanghai Cooperation Organization (SCO) Joint Exercise on Urban Earthquake Search & Rescue (SCOJtEx)-2019 in New Delhi. The exercise was organized by the National Disaster Response Force (NDRF) from November 4-7, 2019 to rehearse disaster response mechanisms and share knowledge, experience, and technology.



The main focus of the joint exercise was to test the region's preparedness to activate intergovernmental interaction for an immediate response.

9. Union Minister of State for Defence inaugurated DRDO's Igniter Complex at HEMRL, Pune

Union Minister of State for Defence Shripad Naik inaugurated the Defence Research & Development Organisation (DRDO) Igniter Complex at High Energy Materials Research Laboratory (HEMRL) in Pune. HEMRL is a premier laboratory of DRDO and primarily engages in developing Rocket and Gun Propellants, Pyrotechnic Devices, High Explosive Systems and synthesis of high energy molecules.



HEMRL has developed several ignition systems to ensure reliable initiation of rocket motors of various tactical as well as strategic missiles.

10. Union Minister Dr Harsh Vardhan inaugurated global Mega Science Exhibition 'Vigyan Samagam'

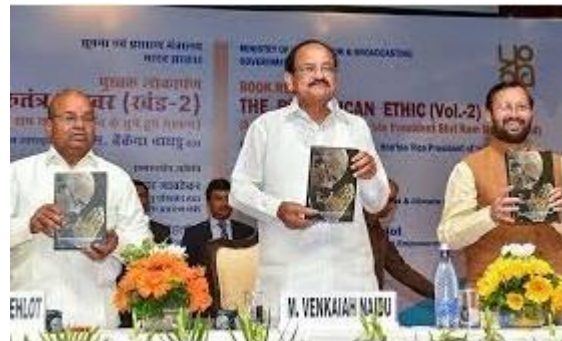
Union Minister Dr Harsh Vardhan inaugurated India's first-ever global Mega-Science exhibition, 'Vigyan Samagam', in Kolkata. Vigyan Samagam will be in Kolkata till December 31, 2019.



The Exhibition will highlight India's contribution to the world's science, technology and innovation, and researches in the areas of high energy physics, nuclear physics, astronomy and astrophysics, nuclear energy etc. After Kolkata, Vigyan Samagam will commence its final leg in New Delhi. It will remain as a permanent exhibition at New Delhi and will be taken care-off by National Council of Science Museums (NCSM).

11. M Venkaiah Naidu released monograph of 'Musical Excellence of Mridangam' in Chennai

Vice President M. Venkaiah Naidu released a monograph, 'Musical Excellence of Mridangam', a rare fusion of art and science of an ancient South Indian instrument on the CSIR-Central Leather Research Institute (CLRI) campus in Chennai. The book was authored by mridangam maestro and Padma Vibhushan awardee Umayalpuram K. Sivaraman and former scientists T. Ramasami and M.D. Naresh.



The monograph traces the various methods and materials used in the making of the instrument and analyses them.

12. India and Germany sign 17 MoUs

India and Germany signed 17 MoUs and exchanged five joint declarations of intent during German Chancellor Angela Merkel's two-day visit to India. Some of the key MoUs signed are:



- Implementing Arrangement for Exchange of Personnel between ISRO and German Aerospace Centre
- MoU in the field of Occupational Diseases, Re-habilitation and vocational training of Insured Persons & workers with disabilities
- MoU for Cooperation in Inland, Coastal and Maritime Technology
- MoU on Establishment of an Academic Collaboration in Ayurveda, Yoga and Meditation
- MoU on the Extension of Indo-German Partnership in Higher Education

13. India to host Shanghai Summit's Heads of Government Council meet in 2020

India will host the 19th council of heads of government of the Shanghai Cooperation Organisation in 2020 at New Delhi. India will host a meeting of the heads of the government for the first time.



The SCO is a China-led eight-member economic and security bloc in which India and Pakistan were admitted as full members in 2017. Its founding members included China, Russia, Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Tajikistan and Uzbekistan.

14. Safdarjung Hospital becomes first government hospital to have Robotic surgery facility

Union Minister Dr Harsh Vardhan inaugurated robotic surgery facility in the Safdarjung Hospital (SJH) New Delhi. SJH thus became the first Central Government hospital in India to start this latest Robot Surgery facility for all poor patients for free.



Safdarjung Hospital is one of the biggest tertiary care referral centre of India, under Ministry of Health and Family Welfare catering to all poor patients of uro-oncological cancers like prostate, kidney, bladder cancers and kidney failures, from different parts of country.

15. 8th Indo German Energy Forum (IGEF) 2019 meet in Delhi

The 8th meeting of the Indo – German Energy Forum concluded in New Delhi. The Forum took note of the ongoing cooperation in - Flexibilization in Thermal Power Plants, Renewable Energies, Demand side energy efficiency and low carbon growth strategies and Green Energy Corridors.



The forum also finalised the roadmap for future collaboration in promoting niche markets for solar energy, promotion of energy efficiency in buildings through ECBC, building materials and credit lines for financing corresponding measures and RE evacuation through state-of-the-art intra-state and inter-state transmission grid infrastructure.

16. Government to set up anti-human trafficking units in all districts using Nirbhaya Fund

The Union Government will set up anti-human trafficking units in all districts with the help of the Nirbhaya Fund. The government also plans to set up women help desks in all police stations across the country using this fund. The government will spend Rs 100 crore each.

Nirbhaya Fund was announced by the Centre in 2013 to support the initiatives of the government and the NGOs working towards the safety of women.



17. India-Uzbekistan signed 3 MoUs in the field of Military Medicine and Military Education

India and Uzbekistan inked three Memorandum of Understanding in the field of Military Medicine and Military Education to further strengthen Defence cooperation between both the countries.

The first MoU was signed on cooperation in the field of Military Medicine between the Armed Forces of the two countries. Two Institution-to-Institution MoUs on training and capacity building between institutes of higher military learning of the two countries were also signed. The MoU is a byproduct of interactions emanating from the MoU on Military Education signed between the two countries in October 2018.



18. Government sets up Rs. 25,000 crore fund to revive stalled housing projects

The Union Cabinet at a meeting has decided to set up Rs 25000 crore fund to revive stalled housing projects. According to Finance Minister Nirmala Sitharaman, the government will put in Rs 10,000 crore in the Alternative Investment Fund (AIF) while State Bank of India and Life Insurance Corporation will provide Rs 15,000 crore taking the total size to Rs 25000 crore.

It will finance over 1,600 stalled housing projects comprising about 4.58 lakh housing units across the country.



19. Agriculture Minister released 5th edition of Wastelands Atlas - 2019

Agriculture Minister Narendra Singh Tomar released the fifth edition of Wastelands Atlas - 2019. The Atlas, published jointly by Department of Land Resources and National Remote Sensing Centre, provides robust geospatial information on wasteland. It is helpful in rolling back the wastelands for productive use through various land development programmes and schemes.



Wastelands Atlas-2019 also provides State and district wise distribution of different categories of wastelands area in the country and will be helpful in addressing land degradation.

20. India opted out of RCEP agreement

India decided not to join the Regional Comprehensive Economic Partnership (RCEP) deal as negotiations failed to address New Delhi's outstanding issues and concerns. The present form of the agreement does not fully reflect the basic spirit and the agreed guiding principles and did not satisfactorily address India's outstanding issues and concerns.



RCEP agreement with China and ASEAN countries does not reflect its original intent, and the outcome is not balanced. Leaders have hailed the Central government's decision of not joining the RCEP.

21. 48th CSMC Sanctions 2.32 lakh Houses under PMAY (U)

The 48th Meeting of the Central Sanctioning and Monitoring Committee (CSMC) Under Pradhan Mantri Awas Yojana (Urban) has approved 371 proposals from participating states/UT for the construction of 2,31,532 houses with an overall investment of Rs 7,322 Cr involving central assistance of Rs 3,473 Cr.



प्रधानमंत्री
आवास योजना

PMAY(U) Mission has achieved milestone of sanctioning more than 93 Lakh houses under PMAY(U) against the validated demand of 1.12 crore houses. A total of 55 Lakh houses are grounded for construction of which construction of more than 28 Lakh houses is complete.

22. Shri Santosh Gangwar launched Uan Registration, E-Inspection and DIGI Locker

Shri Santosh Kumar Gangwar, Minister of State (I/C) for Labour and Employment launched 3 Apps: uan registration, e-inspection and digi locker, developed by Employees' Provident Fund Organization (EPFO) at its 67th Foundation Day. Apps will immensely enhance the Ease of Doing Business and promote transparency in the working in the EPFO.



EPFO integrates with DigiLocker of NeGD to create depository of electronic PPOs which is accessible to individual pensioners. The E-Inspection Form enables employer to inform either closure of business or unpaid dues with proposal for payment.

23. Cabinet approved MoUs between India and German Agency in the field of Occupational Diseases

The Union Cabinet has given ex-post facto approval for the MoUs between India and Germany for collaboration in the field of occupational diseases, re-habilitation and vocational training of insured persons with disabilities. Exchange of information and collaboration will enable capacity building and social re-habilitation of Insured Persons with disabilities, besides prevention, detection and treatment of occupational diseases.



The MoUs will help broadly in:-

- Exchanging information and promoting activities in the area of rehabilitation related to medical, occupational and social re-habilitation of Insured Persons with disabilities, and
- Prevention, detection and treatment of occupational diseases:

24. Cabinet approved MoU between India and Paraguay in the field of Tourism

The Union Cabinet has given ex-post facto approval to the Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) between India and Paraguay for strengthening cooperation in the field of tourism, participation in travel fairs/exhibitions in each other's country and promoting safe, honourable and sustainable tourism.



The MoU will help India in increasing foreign tourist arrivals from Paraguay, which in turn, will result in economic development and employment generation and create favourable conditions for long-term tourism cooperation. The MoU will explore to incorporate the best practices.

25. Cabinet approved protocol amending the Convention between India and Brazil for the avoidance of double taxation

The Union Cabinet approved the signing of the Protocol amending the Convention between the Government of the Republic of India and the Government of the Federative Republic of Brazil for the avoidance of double taxation and the prevention of fiscal evasion with respect to taxes on income.



The protocol will facilitate elimination of double taxation, clear allocation of taxing rights between Contracting States through DTAC and provide tax certainty to investors & businesses of both countries. It will augment the flow of investment through lowering of tax rates in source State.

26. Cabinet approved MoU with Switzerland on Technical Cooperation in the field of Climate Change and Environment

The Union Cabinet has given ex-post facto approval to the Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) between India and Switzerland on Technical Cooperation in the field of Climate Change and Environment.



The MoU will enable establishment of closer and long-term cooperation between the two countries in the field of environmental protection and management of natural resources on the basis of equity, reciprocity and mutual benefits, taking into account the applicable laws and legal provisions in each country.

27. Cabinet approved MoU signed between India and Guinea in the field of Renewable Energy

The Union Cabinet has given approval for the MoU between India and Guinea in the field of Renewable Energy.



The objective of the MoU is:

- To establish the basis for a cooperative institutional relationship
- To encourage and promote bilateral technical cooperation in the field of renewable energy on the basis of mutual benefit, equality and reciprocity between the Parties.
- Areas of cooperation include Solar Energy, Wind Energy, Bio-energy, and Waste to energy, Small Hydro Storage and Capacity Build.

28. Minister of State for HRD Shri Sanjay Dhotre launched Shaala Darpan portal for Navodaya Vidyalaya Samiti

Minister of State for Human Resource Development, Shri Sanjay Dhotre launched Shaala Darpan portal, an E-Governance school automation and management system for Navodaya Vidyalaya Samiti (NVS) in New Delhi. This single integrated platform has been developed for information sharing and knowledge dissemination for the 22000 employees and over 2 lakh students across schools and offices.



ShalaDarpan, will not only make different processes of Navodaya Vidyalayas very smooth, but it will also bring transparency. It has Budget & Finance management system, Inventory & Store management system and Employee ERP to manage the day to day activities of all employees.

29. Italian movie 'Despite the Fog' to open at 50th IFFI

Italian movie 'Despite the Fog' (Nonostante La Nebbia) was the opening film at the International Film Festival of India (IFFI) 2019. The film is directed by Europe's noted filmmaker Goran Paskaljevic. The 50th edition of IFFI, held in GOA, witnessed the screening of over 200 best films from 76 countries.



Goran Paskaljevic is one of Europe's most respected independent directors. He has made 30 documentaries and 18 feature films. In 2001, Variety International Film Guide marked him as one of the world's top five directors of the year.

30. Government should explore Israel, Brazil models for onion storage: FICCI

FICCI study on rise in retail price of onion stated that India should explore low-cost modern technology models from countries like Israel and Brazil for storing the commodity. In Israel, onions are stored in open ventilated warehouses with continuous forced air-ventilation whereas low-cost ventilated silos system and refrigerated storage room is being used at farm level in Brazil.



FICCI also pointed out that ad-hocism in export bans had serious repercussions and there was a need to remove onion from the purview of the Essential Commodities Act.

31. India's first interactive online repository, called IndAIR launched

The Council of Scientific and Industrial Research-National Environmental Engineering Research Institute (CSIR-NEERI) has launched the India's first interactive online repository, called IndAIR or Indian Air quality Interactive Repository. The aim of the project is to make air quality research available to everyone. NEERI has been working to develop a web repository of all the research that has been done in the country.



IndAIR has archived approximately 700 scanned documents from 1950-1999, 1,215 research articles, 170 reports and case studies, 100 cases and over 2,000 statutes to provide the history of air pollution research and legislation in the country.

32. Ministry of Steel released Steel Scrap Recycling Policy

Ministry of Steel issued the Steel Scrap Recycling Policy. The objective of policy is-

- To promote circular economy in the steel sector.
- Processing and recycling of products in an organized manner
- To produce high quality ferrous scrap for quality steel production thus minimizing the dependency on imports.
- To create a mechanism for treating waste streams and residues.
- To promote 6Rs principles of Reduce, Reuse, Recycle, Recover, Redesign and Remanufacture through scientific handling.
- To decongest the Indian cities from ELVs and reuse of ferrous scrap.



33. CSIR-IMTECH signed MOU with IIT Bombay for collaborative research

CSIR-Institute of Microbial Technology (IMTECH), Chandigarh signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) with Indian Institute of Technology (IIT) Bombay to promote collaborative research. The MoU facilitated exchange of ideas, development of new knowledge and enhance high quality research acumen between the researchers and faculty of both the institutes.



The objective of this collaboration was to carry out state of the art research in areas of healthcare especially in projects and mission where both the institutes can significantly complement each other.

34. Union Minister Nitin Gadkari inaugurated the 39th India International Trade Fair

Union Minister of Road Transport & Highways and MSME Mr Nitin Gadkari, inaugurated the 39th India International Trade Fair(IITF).The theme for this edition of the Fair was "Ease of Doing Business" inspired by the unique achievement of India of rising up to the 63rd rank on the World Bank's Ease of Doing Business Index from 142nd rank in year 2014.



Afghanistan was accorded the status of Partner Country while South Korea was the focus country. Several countries, including Australia, Iran, UK, Vietnam, Bahrain, Bangladesh, Bhutan, China, Egypt, Hong Kong and Indonesia, participated in the 14-day trade fair.

35. India hosted the 8th International Conference on Agricultural Statistics in New Delhi

The 8th International Conference on Agricultural Statistics (ICAS-VIII) was organized by the Ministry of Agriculture in New Delhi based on theme 'Statistics for Transformation of Agriculture to Achieve the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs)'.



The conference was held with an aim to address various challenges faced in producing data to report on the SDGs and various leading research and also to deliberate and finalize the best practises in the field of agriculture statistics. The agenda for this conference covered domains of food and agricultural statistics, related methodologies, technologies and processes.

36. Union HRD Minister 'Nishank' launched UNESCO MGIEP Digital Learning draft Guidelines

On the occasion of the 40th UNESCO General Conference, Shri Ramesh Pokhriyal 'Nishank', Union Minister, Ministry of Human Resource Development launched the first of its kind 'Industry Guidelines on Digital Learning (discussion draft)' at the Ministerial Roundtable on 'Media and Information Literacy and Games in the Digital World'.



The Draft Guidelines were developed by UNESCO MGIEP, based in New Delhi, responding to the Vizag Declaration on Digital Learning adopted at TECH 2018, an international conference. The main objective was to encourage the development of critical thinking in the field of media, information and literacy.

37. Shri Amit Shah inaugurated the National Tribal Festival 'Aadi Mahotsav'

Union Minister for Home Affairs, Shri Amit Shah inaugurated the National Tribal Festival 'Aadi Mahotsav', in New Delhi. Over a thousand tribal artisans from 27 states participated in the event. The festival served as a platform to help the tribal artisans showcase their handicrafts, culture, traditions and food in front of the world.



The government has planned to develop 'Van Dhan Vikas Kendras', to accelerate the development of tribal people across the country. Tribal people reside in 40% of its area and constitute 8% of India's population.

38. Government launched Bharatiya Poshan Krishi Kosh

The Union Government has launched Bharatiya Poshan Krishi Kosh with the aim of reducing malnutrition in India. The kosh was launched by WCD Minister Smriti Irani along with Bill Gates.



The Bharatiya Poshan Krishi Kosh is a repository of diverse crops across 128 agro-climatic zones to help enable better nutritional outcomes. The Union Ministry of Women and Child Development has partnered with Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation for the Bharatiya Poshan Krishi Kosh project.

39. IRCTC signed an MoU with KSTDC to run the Golden Chariot Train

Indian Railway Catering & Tourism Corporation Limited (IRCTC) has signed a MoU with Karnataka State Tourism Development Corporation (KSTDC) to market and operate the Golden Chariot Train. IRCTC is expected to carry out internal refurbishment of the train and commence operations from March 2020.



Karnataka State Tourism Development Corporation (KSTDC) will soon hand over the reins of the train to IRCTC. IRCTC is planning a revamp of the train itineraries also to add different flavours that Karnataka has to offer.

40. Census 2021 to be conducted in 16 languages at a cost of over Rs. 8750 crore

The Expenditure Finance Committee (EFC) has recommended an amount of Rs. 8754.23 crore for conducting Census 2021 in 16 languages. It will be conducted in two phases, viz., House-listing & Housing Census during April to September, 2020 and Population Enumeration during February 09-28, 2021.



The 2021 census will be conducted through a mobile phone application, moving away from the traditional pen and paper to give Digital India a boost. The reference date for the census will be 1 March, 2021, but for Jammu and Kashmir, Himachal Pradesh and Uttarakhand it will be 1 October 2020.

41. Indian Steel Association organised ISA – Steel Conclave 2019

The Indian Steel Association supported by the Ministry of Steel, Government of India organised the second Edition of "ISA – Steel Conclave 2019" on 21st – 22nd November, 2019 in New Delhi. The conclave deliberated on Indian and Global Perspectives of the Steel Industry.



Steel Industry Overview

- World's 2nd largest producer of crude steel (106 MT) in calendar year 2018
- Largest producer of Direct Reduced Iron (DRI) or Sponge Iron(30.36MT) in the world
- 3rd largest consumer of finished steel in 2018 [96MT] in the world
- The steel sector contributes around 2% of the country's GDP
- 4th largest Iron ore producer in the world

42. Cabinet approve MoU with Finland for strengthening cooperation in the field of Tourism

The Union Cabinet has approved the MoU signed between Indian and Finland for strengthening cooperation in the field of Tourism. The main objectives of the MoU are:

- Establish the basis for a cooperative relationship to encourage and promote successful bilateral cooperation in the field of tourism
- Sharing data; knowledge, expertise etc. related to tourism
- Sharing experiences in making policies, regulation and standards in planning, implementation and development of tourism policy
- Exchanging best practices through workshops and study visits for experts



43. Cabinet approved establishment of the NISR at Leh

The Union Cabinet approved the establishment of the National Institute for Sowa-Rigpa in Leh as an autonomous organization under the Ministry of AYUSH. The government aims to promote native culture of Ladakh and Sowa-Rigpa system of medicine through NISR. The estimated cost of the project is Rs.47.25 crore.

Sowa-Rigpa is a Traditional Medical system of the Himalayan belt in India. The setting up of the NISR would provide an impetus for the revival of Sowa-Rigpa in the Indian Sub-continent. The Institute will also provide opportunities for students of Sowa-Rigpa not only in India but also from other countries.



44. Cabinet approved the Patent Prosecution Highway programme

The Union Cabinet has approved the proposal for adoption of Patent Prosecution Highway (PPH) programme by the Indian Patent Office (IPO) with patent offices of various other interest countries or regions. The said programme will initially commence between Japan Patent Office (JPO) and Indian Patent Office on pilot basis for a period of three years only.

PPH programme would lead to the following benefits for the Indian IP office:

- Reduction in time to dispose patent applications
- Reduction in pendency of patent applications
- Improvement in quality of search and examination of patent applications



45. Cabinet approved MoU between India and Comoros

The Union Cabinet approved the proposal ex-post-facto on the Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) between India and Comoros on cooperation in the field of Health and Medicine. The MoU covers the following areas of cooperation:



- Training and Capacity Building
- Exchanges of experiences
- Institutional strengthening of Hospitals; Hospital management
- Medical care in Oncology and Palliative care;
- Communicable and Non-communicable Diseases;
- Acquisition of pharmaceutical products, materials and biomedical products
- Support for the opening of three units of blood transfusion
- Support for the opening of a public health laboratory
- Support for the implementation of telemedicine

46. MoU between India and Switzerland for technical cooperation in Rail Sector

Memorandum of Understanding has been signed between Ministry of Railways of the Republic of India and Federal Department of the Environment, Transport and Communications of the Swiss Confederation on August 31, 2017 for technical cooperation in Rail sector with following areas of cooperation:



- Traction Rolling stock
- EMU and Train sets
- Traction Propulsion Equipments
- Freight and Passenger Cars
- Tilting Trains
- Railway Electrification Equipments
- Train scheduling and operation improvement
- Railway Station modernization
- Multimodal transport
- Tunneling technology
- Any other area jointly identified by the participating countries

47. Two lakh Gram Panchayats to be connected with internet, broadband by March 2020

Centre has set a target to provide internet and broadband connectivity to two lakh Gram Panchayats by March 2020. A total of over 1,28,000 Gram Panchayats have been made Service Ready till 7th of November.



BharatNet project is being implemented in a phased manner to provide broadband and internet connectivity to all 2,50,000 Gram Panchayats in the country. Wi-Fi hotspots have been installed in around 45,000 Gram Panchayats and services are being provided in over 16,000 Gram Panchayats.

48. CBI sets up 'Specialised Unit' to counter growing menace of child porn

The Central Bureau of Investigation has set up an online Child Sexual Abuse and Exploitation (OCSAE) Prevention/Investigation Unit at its headquarter to counter the growing menace of child porn on the Internet.



The perpetrators will be booked under relevant provisions of the Indian Penal Code, the Protection of Children from Sexual Offences (POCSO) Act, 2012, and the Information Technology Act, 2000. The new "specialised unit" will collect intelligence on both who are allegedly creating and transmitting such material on the Internet and also who are browsing and downloading such material.

49. Home Ministry launched campaign to end violence against Women

The Ministry of Home Affairs, in association with the UN Women, flagged off an awareness campaign to end violence against women. As per the campaign named as 'OrangeTheWorld global campaign', people would be made aware about India's single emergency helpline 112, an internationally recognised emergency number used in several countries.



With the help of this number, distressed people can provide his/her location to IT-based response system of first responders (police, fire, ambulance, etc.). The 112 India App services are available in 27 States/UTs.

50. India contributed \$13.5 mn for UN development activities for 2020

India has pledged to contribute USD 13.5 million for various operational activities of development across the UN agencies for the year 2020. India's pledges at the UN General Assembly Pledging Conference were announced by Anjani Kumar, counsellor at India's Permanent Mission to the UN.



India's contribution include USD 5 million to the UN Relief and Works Agency, USD 4.5 million to the UN Development Programme, \$14mn for community development projects in the CARICOM, 1.92mn\$ for World Food Programme, USD 900,000 to the UN Children's Fund etc. Around USD 50 billion are channelised every year through the UN System.

51. Health ministry launched SAANS campaign in Gujarat

Union Minister for Health and Family Welfare launched 'SAANS' "Social Awareness and Action to Neutralise Pneumonia Successfully" campaign in Gujarat at 6th National Summit on Good, Replicable Practices and Innovations in Public Health Care Systems. Under the SAANS campaign, new interventions have been included like a child suffering from Pneumonia will be treated with pre-referral dose of Amoxicillin by ASHA.



SAANS aims to create mass awareness about the most effective solutions for pneumonia prevention like breast feeding, age appropriate complementary feeding, immunization, good quality air etc.

52. 8th International Conference on Agricultural Statistics held in India

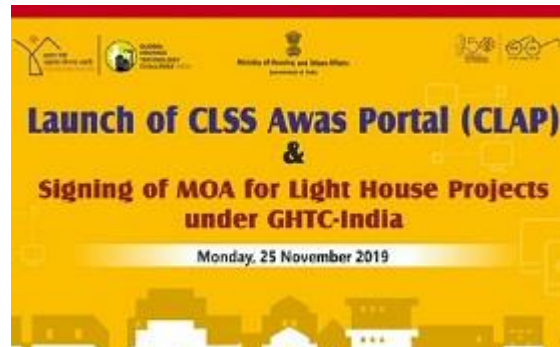
The Eighth International Conference on Agricultural Statistics was organized by ICAR-Indian Agricultural Statistics Research in Delhi. The theme of conference was 'Statistics for Transformation of Agriculture to Achieve the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs)'. It was a learning opportunity for the statisticians, young scientists and decision makers in India to adopt modern practises in agriculture such as Big Data analysis, AI, precision farming etc.



Around 600 delegates from 108 countries participated in the conference. The conference is conducted every three years based on overarching need for agricultural data worldwide.

53. Minister of State for Housing and Urban Affairs launched the CLSS Awas Portal

Shri. Hardeep S Puri, Minister of State (I/C) for Housing and Urban Affairs launched the CLSS Awas Portal (CLAP). Separately, Memorandum of Agreements (MoAs) for Light House Projects under GHTC-India were also exchanged between MoHUA and State Government of 6 states viz; Gujarat, Jharkhand, Madhya Pradesh, Tamil Nadu, Tripura and Uttar Pradesh at the event. CLAP will address the grievance of the beneficiaries in a much comprehensive, organised and transparent manner.



Ministry has developed a web based real time monitoring system called CLAP in which all stakeholders such as MoHUA, CNAs, PLIs and Beneficiaries are integrated.

54. Government approved setting up of six plastic parks

The government has approved setting up of six plastic parks in different parts of the country. These parks will have an ecosystem with state of the art infrastructure building and enabling the common facility to consolidate and synergize the capacities of the domestic downstream plastic processing industry.



Under the scheme, the government provides grant funding up to 50% of the project cost. The remaining project cost is to be funded by State Government beneficiary industries and by a loan from financial institutions.

55. Centre released Rs 836.64 crore under PMDP for vital health projects in J&K

In Jammu and Kashmir, Union Government has released an amount of 836.64 crore rupees against the sanctioned amount of 900 crore rupees under Prime Minister's Development Programme (PMDP) for vital health projects.



Out of total 144 ongoing and new health projects approved under this financial assistance programme, 48 projects have been completed while rest of 96 projects have been targeted for completion during the current and financial year.

56. Jal Shakti Minister released short documentary film named ‘SHIKHAR SE PUKAR’

The Union Minister of Jal Shakti, Shri Gajendra Singh Shekhawat released the short documentary "Shikhar se Pukar", based on the Mt. Everest journey, by author Shri Ravindra Kumar, District Magistrate Bulandshahr. Shri Kumar has climbed Mt. Everest twice, - first in 2013 and again on May 23, 2019. The mountaineer named his expedition as "Swachh Ganga Swachh Bharat Everest Abhiyaan 2019" and carried 'Ganga Jal' and offered the holy water at the highest peak of the world.



The film "Shikhar se Pukar" aims to promote "Jalshakti Abhiyan" and create awareness about water conservation "Jal Sanrakshan Abhiyan".

57. Microsoft rolled out the K12 Education Transformation Framework in India

Microsoft rolled out its K12 Education Transformation Framework more widely to schools across India at the second edition of the Microsoft Education Days in Gurgaon. The Microsoft K-12 Education Transformation Framework provides framework to facilitate a comprehensive digital transformation of schools. It comprises of four pillars-Leadership and Policy; Modern Teaching and Learning; Intelligent Environments and Technology Blueprint.



K-12 Education framework is a platform based on the latest research and input from hundreds of academics and policy makers to help plan their learning strategies in partnership with Microsoft.

58. Cabinet approved MoUs signed between India and Saudi Arabia

The Union Cabinet approved MoUs between India and Saudi Arabia in the field of combating illicit trafficking and smuggling of Narcotic Drugs, Psychotropic Substances and Chemical Precursors. MoU will

- Facilitate and enhance the cooperation between the two countries in combating illicit trafficking and smuggling of narcotic drugs.
- Under the MoU, there is a provision for the exchange of relevant information.

The MoU also provides for exchange of chemical reports/analysis of narcotic drug seized within the territory of either party and data/information about illegal laboratories of narcotic drugs.



59. Cabinet approved MoU signed between India and Myanmar

The Union Cabinet approved MoU between India and Myanmar on bilateral cooperation for Prevention of Trafficking in Persons; Rescue, Recovery, Repatriation and Re-integration of victims of Trafficking.

The MoU aims:

- To strengthen cooperation to prevent all forms of human trafficking.
- Ensure speedy investigation and prosecution of traffickers.
- Setting up Working Groups/ Task Force to make efforts to prevent human trafficking.
- Capacity building programmes for the agencies concerned of both countries.
- Develop and share database on traffickers and victims of trafficking.



60. Cabinet approved Agreement and Protocol between India and Chile

The Union Cabinet approved the signing of the Double Taxation Avoidance Agreement (DTAA) and Protocol between the Republic of India and the Republic of Chile for the elimination of double taxation and the prevention of fiscal evasion and avoidance with respect to taxes on income.



The DTAA will facilitate elimination of double taxation. Clear allocation of taxing rights between Contracting States through the Agreement will provide tax certainty to investors & businesses of both countries. The Agreement and Protocol implements minimum standards and other recommendations of G-20 OECD Base Erosion Profit Shifting (BEPS) Project.

61. Cabinet approved extension of the term of the Fifteenth Finance Commission

The Union Cabinet approved the Fifteenth Finance Commission to submit first report for the first fiscal year viz. 2020-21 and to extend the tenure of XV-FC to provide for the presentation of the final report covering FYs 2021-22 to 2025-26 by 30th October, 2020. The extension of the term will enable the Commission to examine various comparable estimates for financial projections in view of reforms and the new realities to finalise its recommendations for the period 2020-2026.



The proposed increase in coverage of the period will help medium-term resource planning for the State Governments and the Central Government.

Persons in News

1. Serbia's Sara Damjanovic won "Miss Asia Global title 2019"

Sara Damjanovic of Serbia has won the 'Miss Asia Global 2019'. The 5th Edition of 'Miss Asia Global Title 2019' was organized at Gokulam Convention centre in Kochi, Kerala. Nguyen Thi Yen Trang from Vietnam was awarded the Miss Asia title given to the winner from the rest of the world.



Samiksha Singh from India won the sub-title of 'Miss Beautiful Face' Title. The Next 'Miss Asia Global Title 2020' will be held in Malaysia.

2. India's Ravi Prakash won BRICS-Young Innovator Prize

India's Ravi Prakash has won the 25,000 US Dollar BRICS-Young Innovator Prize for inventing an affordable indigenous milk chilling unit for smaller and marginal rural dairy farmers. Prakash, PhD scholar of ICAR-National Dairy Research Institute (NDRI), Bengaluru, was a part of 21-member delegation sent to Brazil by the Department of Science and Technology for the 4th BRICS-Young Scientist Forum (YSF), 2019.



The technology can be used for chilling milk from the point of production by bringing down the temperature of raw milk from 37°C to 7°C within 30 minutes. It uses nano-fluid based phase change materials.

3. Jair Bolsonaro to be chief guest at Republic Day 2020

Brazilian President Jair Bolsonaro accepted Prime Minister Narendra Modi's invitation to be the chief guest at Republic Day 2020 celebrations. Mr. Bolsonaro on the sidelines of the meeting accepted the invitation.

The Brazilian President expressed his readiness about his participation in the Republic day event along with a large business delegation to accompany him to India. Jair Messias Bolsonaro is 38th president of Brazil since 1 January 2019.



4. Nita Ambani joined board of Metropolitan Museum of Art

Chairperson of the Reliance Foundation, Nita Ambani was named an honorary trustee of "The Metropolitan Museum of Art" in New York. She became first Indian in 150 years to receive such as honour. She has supported on the Museum's ability to study and display art from every corner of the world.



The Metropolitan Museum of Art is one of the world's largest and finest art museums. Its collection includes more than two million works of art.

5. Bodybuilder Chitahresh Natesan crowned Mr Universe (Pro) 2019

33yr old former hockey player turned bodybuilder Chitahresh Natesan became the first Indian to win 'Mr. Universe (Pro) 2019' in 90kg category at the 11th World Bodybuilding and Physique Sports Championship(WBPF) in South Korea. He is popularly known as the 'Indian Monster' in bodybuilding circles. India secured the second position in the team championship category at the same event.



Prior to this, Chitahresh has also been recipient of Mr. Asia, 2017 (Overall Category) four times, Mr. Delhi four times for the years 2015-2018 and Mr. India Champion for the years 2015-2018.

6. Royal Aeronautical Society honoured DRDO chief G Satheesh Reddy

Royal Aeronautical Society (RAeS) London has conferred the Honorary Fellowship of the Society for the year 2019 to Defence Research and Development Organisation chairman G Satheesh Reddy. This fellowship is considered as Nobel Prize in the aerospace. He became first Indian recipient of this prestigious award in over 100 years.



Reddy was honored for his pioneering technological efforts and work over the past three decades which has enabled India to realise frontline military systems and world class missile technologies.

Places in News

1. Kolkata International Film Festival held

The Kolkata International Film Festival was held from Nov. 8 to Nov. 15. Satyajit Ray directed Gupi Gayen, Bhagha Bayen was the inaugural film of this festival. The Focus Country of the festival was Germany.

The winners in different categories are:

- 'Hiralal Sen Memorial Award' for Best Film: Mai Ghat
- 'Hiralal Sen Memorial Award' Award for Best Director: Indrasis Acharya for his film Parcel
- Special Jury Award: Run Kalyani
- NETPAC Award: Devi and Hero



2. Mumbai and Hyderabad join the UNESCO Network of Creative Cities

UNESCO has announced that the cities of Mumbai and Hyderabad are joining the UNESCO network of Creative Cities. Mumbai has been designated a Creative city of film and Hyderabad a Creative city of gastronomy. They join Chennai and Varanasi, UNESCO Cities of music, and Jaipur, UNESCO City of crafts and folk arts.



By joining the UNESCO Creative Cities Network (UCCN), cities commit to sharing their best practices and developing partnerships. The network covers seven creative fields: Crafts and Folk Arts, Media Arts, Film, Design, Gastronomy, Literature and Music.

3. PM Modi inaugurated India International Science Festival 2019 in Kolkata

Prime Minister Narendra Modi inaugurated the 5th edition of India International Science Festival (IISF) 2019 through video conferencing in Kolkata. The four-day science festival was organized from November 5-8. The festival aimed to build a strategy for inclusive advancement of Science and Technology.



The Theme for this year's festival was "RISEN India – Research, Innovation, and Science Empowering the Nation. The India International Science Festival (IISF) was launched in 2015 to promote Science and Technology.

4. Vigyanika-International Science Literature Festival held in Kolkata

Vigyanika-International Science Literature Festival was organised as part of the 5th India International Science Festival (IISF) 2019 at the Biswa Bangla Convention Centre in Kolkata. It is being coordinated by the CSIR-National Institute of Science Communication and Information Resources (CSIR-NISCAIR), Vigyan Prasar and Vigyan Bharati.



The Vigyanika-International Science Literature Festival also featured a Science Book Fair where more than thirty publishers displayed their scientific publications. The International Science Literature Festival was inaugurated on 5th November 2019. It is an annual event organised jointly by the Ministry of Science & Technology and Earth Sciences and Vijnana Bharati (Vibha).

5. Kolkata students create Guinness World Records with largest astrophysics assemble

The Guinness World Records for the largest astrophysics lesson (45 minutes) and assembly of spectroscopes was successfully achieved at the Science City, Kolkata on the first day of India International Science Festival (IISF) 2019 with the participation of over 1,598 students.



Astronomers use spectroscopes to know details like temperature, chemical composition, etc. of celestial objects hundreds or millions of light years away from us. A small personal model of advanced spectroscopes can easily be made by anyone using a box made of cardboard that has a very narrow window used to channel light into the spectroscope.

6. 11th edition of BalSangam held in Delhi

The Eleventh edition of Bal Sangam organised by the National School of Drama, NSD, was held in New Delhi. It was a confluence of folk and traditional art forms performed by children. The four-day festival showcased enthralling folk and traditional performing arts and folk theatre dedicated to children.



Twelve States including Assam, Odisha, Punjab, Rajasthan and Gujarat participated in the event. Around 12 folk presentations and three folk theatres programme such as folk dance, martial arts, street play performances and magic shows were displayed.

7. 2-day BIMSTEC Conclave was held in Visakhapatnam

The two-day BIMSTEC (Bay of Bengal Initiative Multi-Sector Technical and Economic Cooperation) Conclave was held at Visakhapatnam. Vizag port trust hosted the conclave first time ever since the formation of BIMSTEC in 1997. Seven-member countries that include Bangladesh, India, Myanmar, Sri Lanka, Thailand, Nepal and Bhutan participated in the conference.



Conclave discussed investment opportunities, development of free trade zones, development of tourism and measures required for safety and security, ease of doing business, sharing of expertise, and emulation of best practices.

8. 5th edition of GES held from Nov 26-28 in Bengaluru

The fifth edition of Global Exhibition on Services, GES 2019 was held from November 26 to 28 at Bengaluru in Karnataka. The Global Exhibition on Services is an annual event which aims to engage industry and governments across the world and to promote greater exchange of trade in services between India and the rest of the world.



GES 2019 was an attempt towards escalating the Indian services bar in the global arena, encompassing participation from 100 countries and hosting sector-specific knowledge sessions.

9. 10th Asian Conference of Emergency Medicine held in New Delhi

Vice President M Venkaiah Naidu inaugurated the 10th Asian Conference of Emergency Medicine in New Delhi. The biennial conference was held for the first time in India from 7-10 November 2019.



The objective of the conference was to aim at lectures, discussions and talks on affordable emergency care for all sections of the society. The conference was organized by Asian Society for Emergency Medicine (ASEM) and Society for Emergency Medicine India (SEMI) in support of other organizations to build strategies for emergency care across Asia.

10. Lucknow railway station gets 'Health ATM'

Indian Railways has installed two 'Health ATMs' at the Charbagh railway station in Lucknow to achieve the objectives of the Fit India programme. The kiosks of YOLO Health ATM will provide 16 health checkups categorized as 9-minutes checkup which costs Rs 100, and 6-minutes checkup which costs Rs 50. Any passenger at railway station having complaint of high fever or any other problem can visit ATM and check for continuing journey or not.



Health ATMs can be defined as private, walk-in medical kiosks that offer checkups such as body mass index, blood pressure, body fat, hemoglobin, pulse etc.

11. Air Chief inaugurated ISAM Conference in Bengaluru

Chief of the Air Staff, Air Chief Marshal RKS Bhadauria inaugurated 58th Annual #ISAM Conference at Institute of Aerospace Medicine (ISAM), Bengaluru to address contemporary issues and applications in the subject of aerospace medicine. He addressed role played by Aviation Medicine Specialists in promoting good health and fitness amongst aircrew in the IAF.



The theme of 2019 conference was 'Changing Paradigms in Aerospace Healthcare'. Various speakers discussed aeromedical issues and advances made in the field of aviation medicine worldwide by giving podium presentations and poster presentations.

12. World's biggest Islamic Congregation organized in Bhopal

The four-day Aalimi Tablighi Ijtima, world's biggest Islamic Congregation was organized in Bhopal. More than one million people from 54 countries attended the congregation. One of the most prominent features of Alami Tablighi Ijtima is that it has no political affiliation. It is a forum for delivering some important religious-spiritual messages to Muslims around the world.



The first Alami Tablighi Ijtima took place in Bhopal in 1944 and only 14 people attended it then. Thousands of people from various countries such as Russia, France, Indonesia, Malaysia, Iraq and Saudi Arabia participated.

13. First International Conference on “Landslides Risk Reduction and Resilience-2019 held

The Union Minister of State for Home Affairs, Shri G. Kishan Reddy inaugurated the 1st International Conference on “Landslides Risk Reduction and Resilience” in Delhi for developing technology to anticipate disasters like landslides and develop infrastructure to quickly respond to minimise the damage. The Minister called for making extensive collaborative programs involving international community and all the stakeholders at national, state and regional levels to tackle the problem.



Apart from this, the scientist, engineer, technologists, planners, developers, administrators, policy and decision makers from different States participated.

14. 47th All India Police Science Congress held in Lucknow

The 47th All India Police Science Congress (AIPSC) was organized in Lucknow. Police officials from every state of the country participated in the Police Science Congress. Uttar Pradesh Police in association with the Home Ministry and the Bureau of Police Research and Development organized the event.



Addressing the Valedictory Session of 47th All India Police Science Congress, Union Home Minister Amit Shah called for major changes in Criminal Procedure Code and Indian Penal Code, along with Arms Act and Narcotics Acts. He praised the Police Jawans.

Regional

1. Kerala Governor inaugurated Ayurveda summit

Kerala Governor Arif Mohammed Khan inaugurated the 3rd edition of Global Ayurveda Summit 2019 in Kochi. Around 400 industry leaders and delegates from SAARC, GCC and African countries witnessed the 2 day summit. It was organized by Confederation of Indian Industry based on theme "Mainstreaming Ayurveda through Startups, Innovation and Branding".



Global Ayurveda Summit 2019 discussed the importance of Ayurveda that has still not gained recognition as a legal healthcare system in many parts of the world. The demand for Ayurveda known as ancient medicine treatment is increasing worldwide.

2. Punjab Cabinet passed unanimous resolution to institute Sri Guru Nanak Dev Ji Award

Punjab State Cabinet passed a unanimous resolution to institute Sri Guru Nanak Dev Ji Award for Promotion of Peace and Interfaith Understanding, in commemoration of the 550th Prakash Purb of Sri Guru Nanak Dev Ji. The award would carry a citation and a cash prize of 11 lakh rupees.



This coveted award would be given each year and would be adjudicated by a jury to be notified by the State Government.

3. Union Territory of Ladakh gets Regional Centre of Institute to study Himalayan Ecology

Union Minister for Environment, Forest and Climate Change, Mr Prakash Javadekar approved the proposal of setting-up of a New Regional Centre of the GB Pant Institute of Himalayan Environment & Development (GBPIHED) at Ladakh. GBPIHED has five existing centres at Himachal Pradesh, Uttarakhand, Arunachal Pradesh, Sikkim and New Delhi.



GBPIHED caters to environment management, conservation of natural resources and policies for sustainable development of communities in the Indian Himalayan Region. The new centre in Ladakh will promote alternative and innovative livelihoods for climate change vulnerable cold-desert communities.

4. Odisha tagged with Maharashtra under Ek Bharat Shreshtha Bharat

Odisha has been tagged with Maharashtra under the Ek Bharat, Shreshtha Bharat initiative of Government of India to organize different programmes to promote art, culture and tourism of their respective states. Accordingly, a large contingent of Maharashtra will be hosted by Bhubaneswar (Odisha capital) to showcase the culture and art of Maharashtra.



Ek Bharat, Shreshtha Bharat is an initiative of Government of India to pay tribute to Sardar Patel. This programme is giving a boost to the existing cultural connect between different parts of the country and enhancing interaction between people living in different states.

5. Madhya Pradesh athletes playing at national level to get insurance cover

The Madhya Pradesh sports department has decided to extend insurance cover to all players representing the state at the national level. Madhya Pradesh is the first state to provide insurance cover to its players.



At present, 822 student players are covered under medical, accident and life insurance policy. This will benefit the players who, due to poor financial conditions, fail to get proper treatment in case of injuries during competitions or practice sessions. The sports department will provide 2 lakh rupees medical cover and 5 lakh rupees for life and accidental insurance.

6. Gujarat government gave nod for world's first CNG port terminal at Bhavnagar

The Government of Gujarat has given its nod to the world's first CNG port terminal at Bhavnagar. U.K. based Foresight group and Mumbai based Padmanabh Mafatlal group joint venture will invest Rs.1900 crore to set up a CNG port terminal at Bhavnagar port. Gujarat Infrastructure Development Board- GIDB has also approved this proposal.



The proposed CNG port terminal will have annual capacity of 6 million metric tonne, which will increase the total handling capacity of the port to 9 million metric tonnes.

7. Rising Himachal: Global Investor's Meet 2019 in Dharamshala

The State Government of Himachal Pradesh organized Rising Himachal 2019: Global Investors meet in Dharamshala. The event showcased the policy and regulatory environment, investment opportunities in eight focus sectors to boost manufacturing and employment generation in the State. PM Narendra Modi inaugurated the event.



The eight focus sectors were agri-business and post-harvest technology, manufacturing and pharmaceuticals, tourism and hospitality, civil aviation, hydro and renewable energy, wellness, healthcare and AYUSH, housing and urban development, IT-ITeS and electronics, education and skill development.

8. Odisha government signed pact with Tech Mahindra for skill upgradation

Tech Mahindra Ltd. has signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) with College of Engineering and Technology (CET), Bhubaneswar to set up a Center of Excellence (CoE) within the college campus to train young graduates in the field of Artificial Intelligence.



The collaboration outlines the Government's objective to upskill young students by familiarising them with new-age technologies like AI and equipping them with the knowledge of applying these technologies in everyday life. The initiative is aimed at fostering a growth ecosystem that will positively impact the economy and lives of people in Odisha.

9. Mysuru, Karnataka organised International Conference on Yoga

Ministry of AYUSH organised the International Conference on Yoga at Mysuru, Karnataka. The theme of the conference was 'Yoga for Heart Care'. More than 700 national and international delegates participated in the conference. The Pre-conference events included Yoga walk, mass Yoga demonstration, CME program meet to project the health benefits of Yoga and healthy lifestyle.



This conference was the fifth in the series to commemorate the unanimous adoption of Resolution by the United Nations General Assembly during its 69th Session for observing 21st June as International Day of Yoga.

10. DSEJ launched special enrollment drive under 'Aao School Chalein'

The Directorate of School Education (DSEJ) in Jammu has launched a special enrollment drive under the banner 'Aao School Chalein' for increasing the enrollment in government schools. The special enrollment drive would be conducted across all the villages and catchment areas of the government schools, under the supervision of chief education officers of all the districts of Jammu Division.



Apart from enrollment, the drive is also focussed to strengthen pre-schooling of children in the age group of 3 to 5 years.

11. Assam government to start Arundhati gold scheme by January 2020

The Assam government will start Arundhati gold scheme by January 2020 for the registered newly married couples. Under the scheme, an amount of Rs 30,000 will be given to the bride to purchase gold. The scheme is aimed to promote marriage registrations and prevent under-age marriages in the state.



The annual income of the bride and her father should not be more than 5 lakh rupees per year to get the benefit. The minimum age of the bride and groom should be above 18 and 21 years to avail the benefit under the scheme.

12. J&K: Administration launched second phase of 'Back to Village programme'

The Jammu and Kashmir administration launched the second phase of 'Back to Village Programme' from 25th to 30th November. The flagship programme was aimed at empowerment and development of Panchayats. Under the programme's second phase Rs 5 crore has been released to each district.



The B2V ensures the functionality of Panchayats in terms of manpower, 100% coverage of beneficiary oriented schemes and doubling of income of rural people by giving the impetus to the rural economy. The first phase of B2V programme was launched in June.

13. National Health Mission Jammu & Kashmir launched BMEWMP programme in J&K, Ladakh

National Health Mission Jammu & Kashmir has launched the Bio-Medical Equipment Waste Management Programme (BMEWMP) in Jammu & Kashmir and Ladakh. The program is designed in a way that the equipments in the district level health care facility will have an uptime of 95%, in sub-district hospital 90% and in PHC 80%.



The program is valid for 5 years. The service provider is responsible for mapping the entire inventory of equipment in healthcare facilities and has to repair the faulty equipment in all the health care institutes of J&K and Ladakh within 4 months.

14. Yediyurappa inaugurated three-day Bengaluru Tech Summit

Karnataka Chief Minister B.S.Yediyurappa inaugurated the three-day Bengaluru Tech Summit. The tech summit is being organised for the last two decades to showcase the prowess and skill in the field of information technology. The summit witnessed more than 250 exhibitors, 3,500 delegates, 200 speakers, 34-panel discussions and 12,000 visitors.



The IT event mainly focussed on Artificial Intelligence, Cyber- Security, Space and Drone Revolutions, Electric vehicles, 5G, Genomics, Trends in Agriculture.

15. UP government launched e-Ganna app, web portal

Uttar Pradesh government has launched a dedicated web portal and a mobile application, e-Ganna App, for sugarcane farmers of the state. Cane supply slip will now be issued to the farmers by sugar mills online.



The web portal and e-Ganna App will help in eradicating cane mafia and middleman and strengthen cane development societies. The portal and the App will ensure transparency in the process of getting slips, and facilitate sugarcane supply by farmers to mills and check irregularities.

16. Assam launched Sishu Suraksha APP

The Assam State Commission for Protection of Child Rights has launched a mobile app Sishu Suraksha on the occasion of Children's Day. The Assam State Commission for Protection of Child Rights exercised the powers and functions mandated under the Commission for protection of Child Rights Act 2005 (CPCR Act, 2005)



The purpose of the app is to empower citizens to take moral responsibility of protecting children. The app can be used by anyone in the state to lodge a complaint which will be directly registered at Commission.

17. Uttarakhand launched a virtual classroom project

Uttarakhand Chief Minister Trivendra Singh Rawat launched a virtual classroom project that will connect 500 secondary schools to virtual classrooms and these virtual classes will be attended through video conferences. This will not only help to the schools facing a shortage of teachers but also to the students who can meet the teacher on a real-time basis and ask questions.



Around 1.90 lakh students of 500 government-run secondary schools in the state will benefit from the project.

18. International cherry blossom festival 2019 celebrated in Shillong, Meghalaya

Shillong's 4th India International Cherry Blossom Festival 2019 was celebrated in Shillong, Meghalaya. It is to celebrate unique autumn flowering of Himalayan Cherry Blossoms. Republic of Korea was partner country and several events were organised in festival such as K-Pop concert and K-cuisine stall that exhibits on opportunities on Education in South Korea, in collaboration with the Korean Cultural Centre India.



Visitors witnessed fashion shows, rock concerts, a beauty pageant, Golf Tournament and stalls showcasing the region's food, wine and crafts.

19. Andhra Pradesh government launched 'Nadu-Nedu' scheme

In order to transform the government schools in the state into vibrant and competitive institutions, Andhra Pradesh Chief Minister YS Jagan Mohan Reddy launched the 'Nadu-Nedu' programme to introduce English medium from classes 1 to 6 in state-run schools.



Scheme will be implemented in 2 phases, costing a total budget of Rs 12,000 crores. Rs 3,500 crores will be spent for infrastructure development in initial phase. Scheme will be implemented in 15,715 schools in the first phase.

20. Suranga Bawadi selected for World Monument Watch list 2020

Karnataka's Suranga Bawadi was selected under the "Ancient Water System of the Deccan Plateau" category of World Monument Watch List for 2020, by the New York-based non-governmental organisation. Suranga Bawadi is an integral part of the ancient Karez system of supplying water through subterranean tunnels built during Adil Shahi era in Vijayapura. Suranga Bawadi has been receiving funds for restoration process.



World Monuments Fund is an NGO that monitors restoration of ancient monuments across the globe.

21. "Bali Yatra" festival organised in Cuttack, Odisha

The festival 'Bali Yatra' which is organised every year in memory of the rich maritime history of the state, was inaugurated in Cuttack, Odisha. It is organised at the bank of Mahanadi River every year to mark the day when ancient mariners from the state would set sail to the distant land of Bali, Sumatra, Java (Jawa) in Indonesia, Borneo and Sri Lanka, for the expansion of trade and Culture.



Various traditional items, household craft, food items from the state and outside the state were showcased at the event.

22. Kolkata became first city to install 'Third Umpire' RT-PCR Machines

In a major step towards upholding public health, the Kolkata Municipal Corporation (KMC) has installed first of its kind high-end reverse transcription polymerase chain reaction (RT-PCR) machines in India for quick detection of diseases like dengue and tuberculosis .



These machines will act as 'third umpire' in situations when medical reports and blood tests reveal contradictory results. Four machines have been installed in the initial stages in North Kolkata and through these machines, tests will be conducted free of cost.

23. International Lavi fair organised in Himachal Pradesh

Himachal Pradesh Governor Bandaru Dattatraya inaugurated the four-day long International Lavi fair at Rampur town, on the banks of River Satluj for preserving the rich cultural heritage of state. Internationally recognized 400 years old Lavi fair has been an important trade fair between India and Tibet for centuries.



A three-day horse trade-cum-exhibition was organized and various folk artists performed at the event. The main attraction during the fair every year is the sale and purchase of Chamurthi horses — an endangered species known as the 'ship of the cold desert'.

24. Sanskrit World Conference organised in New Delhi

The first ever Sanskrit Bharati Vishwa Sammelan or Sanskrit World Conference was organised in New Delhi. Thousands of Sanskrit lovers from 17 countries attended Sanskrit Bharati Vishwa Sammelan, the three-day mega event. The first-of-its-kind global conference to promote Sanskrit language was organised by Rashtriya Swayamsevak Sangh (RSS) joint general secretary Suresh Soni.



Sanskrit is a language of ancient India with a 3,500-year history. Sanskrit is the classical language of Indian and the liturgical language of Hinduism.

25. GeM signed MoU With Government of NCT Delhi

Government e Marketplace (GeM) has entered into an MoU, with the Government of National Capital Territory (NCT) of Delhi, in order to facilitate buyer organisations of Delhi towards a market-based procurement. The MoU will further expedite the harmonisation of the procurement guidelines of the two entities and integration of the systems, enabling seamless procuring experience.



GeM is a state-of-the-art public procurement platform that provides tools for direct purchase, bidding and reverse auction for ensuring transparent and efficient procurement.

26. 8th International Tourism Mart held at Imphal, Manipur

The Ministry of Tourism, Government of India, in association with the North Eastern States is organised the "International Tourism Mart" (ITM) at Imphal, Manipur with the objective of highlighting the tourism potential of the region in the domestic and international markets. The theme of the tourism mart was "Sustainable Tourism an engine for Economic Growth and Employment". Various exhibitions were organized and beautiful handicrafts and handlooms were displayed.



The International Tourism Marts are organised in the North Eastern States on rotation basis. Manipur is hosting this mart for the second time.

27. 50th annual Conference of Governors held in Delhi

Prime Minister addressed the inaugural session of the 50th Conference of Governors in Delhi. Conference provided an opportunity for Governors and Lt. Governors to exchange views and learn from each other's experiences as well as to adopt international best practices best suited to each state and union territory's distinct and diverse needs and requirements.



Prime Minister urged the Governors to work towards upliftment of the under privileged sections of the population, including the scheduled tribes, minority communities and utilizing the existing schemes and initiatives.

28. 'Destination North East' festival organised in Varanasi

4-day 'Destination North East' festival was organised by the Union Ministry of Development of North Eastern Region in Varanasi to offer an opportunity for the fusion of the two rich cultures of Ganga and Brahmaputra, represented by Varanasi and North East respectively.



All the eight North Eastern States participated in the event along with their respective handicrafts, handloom, organic products and cultural troupes. North East culture was showcased on the banks of Ganga. The festival provided an opportunity to create awareness and the people learnt about the rich culture of North East.

29. India's first largest biotechnology conference held in Delhi

India's first largest biotechnology conference the Global Bio-India (GBI) Summit, 2019 was organized in Delhi. The three-day event was organized by the Department of Biotechnology, Ministry of Science and Biotechnology Industry Research Assistance Council.



The Summit provided an opportunity to showcase the potential of India's biotech sector to the international community, identify, create opportunities and deliberate on the key challenges in the areas of Bio-pharma, Bio-Agri, Bio-Industrial, Bio-Energy and Bio-Services and allied sectors. Biotechnology is recognized as the sunrise sector- a key driver for contributing to India's USD 5 Trillion economy target by 2025.

30. Kerala banned manufacturing, sale & storage of single-use plastic from January 1 2020

In Kerala, the manufacture, sale and storage of one-time-use plastic items will be banned from 1st of January 2020. Plastic carry bags, plastic sheets, cooling films, plastic plates, cups, thermocol and Styrofoam-based items and others will be covered under the ban.



A fine of 10,000 rupees will be slapped on manufacturers, wholesalers and small traders who defy the ban. If the ban is violated for the second time, the fine will be 25,000 rupees. A third violation will invite closure and a fine of 50,000 rupees.

31. Assam government released the new Land Policy 2019 after 30 years

Assam Chief Minister Sarbananda Sonowal released the new Land Policy 2019 in Guwahati. The Land Policy was approved by Cabinet and it has been prepared by the Revenue and Disaster Management Department after 30 years. It was last prepared in 1989.



The state government has given a lot of emphasis in preparing the Policy to safeguard the interest of the indigenous people. The Policy would remove complications regarding land allotments and settlements.

32. NIA hosted the first-ever counter-terrorism (CT) exercise in Delhi

The National Investigation Agency (NIA) hosted the first-ever counter-terrorism (CT) exercise for the Quad countries in New Delhi. The Quad countries included the United States (US), India, Australia, and Japan. CT (counter-terrorism) officials and security experts of the Quad countries attended the exercise to understand much better the response systems to terror incidents that exist in other member countries.



The 'CT-TTX' (counter-terrorism table-top exercise) is first such engagement among the Quad countries on regional and global issues of common interest and also in the domain of counter-terrorism and cooperation.

33. Sangai Festival 2019 celebrated in Manipur

Every year the State of Manipur celebrates the "Manipur Sangai Festival" from 21st to 30th November. The 'Festival' is named after the State animal, Sangai, the brow-antlered deer found only in Manipur.



The festival displayed the tourism potential of the state in the field of Arts & Culture, Handloom, Handicrafts, Indigenous Sports, Cuisine, Music and Adventure sports of the state etc. The formal inaugural function of the festival was held at Hapta Kangjeibung at Imphal. It was organized by the State Tourism Department.

34. Nitin Gadkari inaugurated NuGen Mobility Summit-2019

Union Minister of Road Transport Nitin Gadkari inaugurated NuGen Mobility Summit-2019 at International Center of Automotive Technology (ICAT), Manesar in Haryana. The three-day conference was the largest automotive technology event. Automotive technology experts from 15 countries including India presented more than 120 technical research papers in this event. It had live test demonstrations, training sessions, panel discussion and test track demonstrations.



During the conference, future vehicle technologies such as connected mobility, autonomous vehicles, electric mobility, alternative fuels, intelligent transportation systems, hydrogen fuel cells, hydrogen IC engines, vehicle dynamics, advanced materials and laboratories were displayed.

35. Uddhav Thackeray took oath as Maharashtra CM

Shiv Sena president Uddhav Thackeray was sworn in as 19th chief minister of Maharashtra, heading an unlikely alliance with the Congress and NCP. Uddhav became the third Sena leader and first from the Thackeray family to occupy the post.

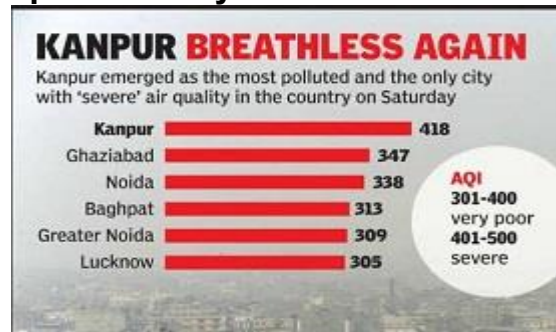


The Shiv Sena, NCP and Congress formed the government after the Thackeray-led party fell out with pre-poll ally BJP over sharing the chief minister post. The BJP had won 105 seat while Shiv Sena, NCP and Congress had won 56, 54 and 44 seats respectively.

1. Kanpur recorded as the world's most polluted city

Kanpur has held the title for the world's most polluted city in the latest edition of Guinness World Records. The book, 'Guinness World Records 2020', lists thousands of new record titles and holders that will educate curious readers of all age groups. It is released annually by publisher Penguin Random House.

Analysis of a World Health Organization report showed that the most polluted city in the world is Kanpur in northern India, with an average PM2.5 level of 173 micrograms per m³ for 2016, over 17 times higher than the WHO recommended maximum of 10 micrograms per m³.



2. India ranks 5th in "Global Microscope 2019: The enabling environment for financial inclusion" report

According to a report titled the 2019 Global Microscope on Financial Inclusion released by the Economist Intelligence Unit (EIU), India has the fifth most conducive environment among emerging countries for inclusive finance.

The Global Microscope for Financial Inclusion, now in its 12th year, is a benchmarking index that assesses the enabling environment for financial access in 55 countries. The EIU's analysis takes four basic parameters into account: (1) Whether non-banks can issue e-money, (2) the presence of financial service agents, (3) proportionate customer due diligence and (4) effective financial consumer protection.



3. Pakistan rated among worst 10 countries in world for internet, digital media freedom

The Freedom House, an international internet rights group, released its 'Freedom on the Net' (FoTN) report titled as 'The Crisis of Social Media' for the year 2019. Pakistan was rated among the worst 10 countries in the world for internet and digital media freedom. An overall decline was observed in global internet freedom between June 2018 and May 2019.



Since June 2018, 33 of the 65 countries assessed in FoTN, experienced deterioration in internet freedom. Pakistan emerged as the third worst country after Vietnam and China.

4. MMR of India declines by eight points in one year

Maternal Mortality Ratio, MMR, of India has declined by eight points in one year as per the latest special bulletin on MMR released by the Registrar General of India. It translates to over 2,000 more pregnant women saved annually.



The MMR has declined from 130 per lakh live births in 2014-16 to 122 per lakh live births in 2015-17 which is a decline of 6.2%. India is on track to achieving the Sustainable Development Goal (SDG) set for reducing the MMR by 2025 which is five years ahead of the fixed time-line of 2030.

5. India Justice Report 2019 topped by Maharashtra

India Justice Report 2019' published by Tata Trusts was topped by Maharashtra state in delivering justice to its citizens. This report, the first of its kind, ranks states according to the level to which they have capacitated themselves to deliver justice to all.



The list included Kerala, Tamil Nadu, Punjab and Haryana in the top five ranking. Jharkhand, Bihar and Uttar Pradesh were among the bottom in the list. Report provided us a holistic understanding of the key actors in the Indian justice system—the police, prisons, legal aid, and judiciary.

6. NCRB Report shows decline in Accidental and Suicidal Deaths in India

The National Crime Records Bureau of India in its latest Accidental Death and Suicide report unveiled that 11,379 farmers committed suicide in India in 2016 and there were 948 farmer suicides every month, or 31 suicides every day.



Key Findings –

-Maharashtra witnessed a 20% dip from the previous year, it continued to be the top state with 2,550 of the 6,270 farmers' suicides documented nationwide.

-While farmer suicides have dipped by about 21%, those by farm labourers have risen by 10%.

-Majority of farmers who died by suicide in India were men.

7. Nasscom' report on 'Indian Tech Start-Up Ecosystem: Leading Tech in the 20s' released

India retained its position as world's third-largest startup hub in the 5th edition of 'The Nasscom' report on 'Indian Tech Start-Up Ecosystem: Leading Tech in the 20s'.



Key Finding

- Investment in startups were steady with USD 4.4bn in Jan to Sep 2019 across 450 startups.
- Fintech, enterprise and retail tech are the most mature sectors.
- Indian startup ecosystem has potential to grow 4x by 2025.
- The trend witnessed over the year was that start-ups are driving focus more towards the B2B space.
- The startups have created an estimated 60,000 direct jobs and 1.3-1.8 lakh indirect jobs.

8. India ranked at 34th position in Travel & Tourism competitiveness Index

India has moved up six places to rank 34th on the World Economic Forum's (WEF) latest Travel and Tourism Competitiveness Report (TTCR), driven by rich natural and cultural resources and strong price competitiveness. The GoI had launched two flagship programs: Swadesh Darshan and PRASHAD- Pilgrimage Rejuvenation and Spiritual, Heritage Augmentation Drive for promotion of tourism in the country.



WEF ranked 140 countries on their relative strengths in global tourism and travel in the report. Spain held on to the top spot in the index. France, Germany, Japan and United States formed the other top five countries in the list.

9. NITI Aayog released Report on Building a 21st Century Health System for India

NITI Aayog released the report on 'Health Systems for a New India: Building Blocks—Potential Pathways to Reforms'. The report charts a clear roadmap for the complete transformation of India's health system.



The report identified 5 focus areas of future health system, deliver on unfinished Public health agenda, change health financing away from out of pocket so spend into large insurers, integrate service delivery vertically and horizontally, empower citizens to become better buyers of health, harness the power of digital health.

10. Ministry of Road Transport and Highways released ‘Road Accidents in India-2018’

Ministry of Road Transport and Highways has released the ‘Road Accidents in India, 2018’. It is an annual publication which reports on accidents, related deaths and injuries, calendar year-wise. The major findings of the Report are as follows:



Road accidents in the country have increased marginally by 0.46 % during 2018

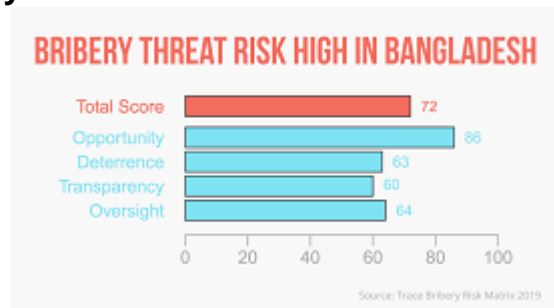
The fatalities increased by 2.37% in 2018

State of Tamil Nadu recorded the highest number of road accidents in 2018

the number of persons killed in road accident was the highest in Uttar Pradesh in 2018

11. Bangladesh topped business bribery risk in South Asia

According to the Trace Bribery Matrix, Bangladesh has the highest business bribery risk among South Asian nations at 178th position. The annual report ranks 200 countries under four parameters which are business interaction with the government, anti-bribery deterrence, transparency and civil society oversight.



Bhutan, at 52, has the lowest risk of bribery on the index in South Asia. Somalia, South Sudan, North Korea, Yemen and Venezuela presented the highest risk of bribe demands. New Zealand, Norway, Denmark, Sweden and Finland presented the lowest bribery risk. India stands on 78th rank.

12. Mumbai topped, Delhi at bottom of tap water quality ranking

Mumbai has topped the quality of tap water ranking released by the Bureau of Indian Standards (BIS). Delhi is at the bottom, with all 11 samples failing on 19 parameters. The samples of drinking water were taken from capitals of 20 states across the country. In Hyderabad, Bhubaneswar, Ranchi, Raipur, Amravati, and Shimla, one or more samples did not comply with the requirements.



None of the samples drawn from Chandigarh, Thiruvananthapuram, Patna, Bhopal, Guwahati, Bengaluru, Gandhinagar, Lucknow, Jammu, Jaipur, Dehradun, Chennai, Kolkata complied with the requirements.

13. IMD World Talent Ranking Report released of year 2019

Switzerland topped the International Institute of Management Development's (IMD) World Talent Ranking (WTR) report 2019. Switzerland topped the ranking in the effective implementation of apprenticeships and health infrastructure. Denmark ranked second in the overall ranking, but remains at the top of the Investment and Development factor.



Other countries that remained in the top six were Sweden (3rd), Austria (4th), Luxembourg (5th) and Norway (6th). India stood at 59th rank in annual list of 63 countries due to low quality of life and expenditure on education. IMD World Talent Ranking evaluates three factors: Investment & Development, Appeal, and Readiness.

14. International Energy Agency released World Energy Outlook, 2019

International Energy Agency released World Energy Outlook, 2019 report. World Energy Outlook 2019 highlighted deep disparities in the global energy system such as dissonance between well-supplied oil markets and growing geopolitical tensions and uncertainties. The report described a pathway that enables the world to meet climate, energy access and air quality goals while maintaining a strong focus on the reliability and affordability of energy for a growing global population.



As per the World Energy Outlook 2019, the installed capacity of solar energy will increase from 495 GW to 3142 GW by the year 2040.

15. UNICEF Report stated India as second largest in Pneumonia deaths

United Nations' new report on Pneumonia stated that India has the second largest deaths of children under the age of five due to pneumonia. According to new study by UNICEF, Pneumonia claimed the lives of more than 800,000 children under the age of five last year, or one child every 39 seconds. Pneumonia is caused by bacteria, viruses or fungi, and leaves children fighting for breath as their lungs fill with pus and fluid.



Five countries were responsible for more than half of child pneumonia deaths: Nigeria (162,000), India (127,000), Pakistan (58,000), Congo (40,000) and Ethiopia (32,000).

16. LANCET report on Health and Climate Change 2019 released

2019 report of the Lancet Countdown on health and climate change was released representing the findings & consensus of 35 leading academic institutions & UN agencies with a view to ensuring that the health of a child born today is not defined by a changing climate.



The 2019 report presented an annual update of 41 indicators across 5 key domains: climate change impacts, vulnerability; adaptation, planning, and resilience for health; mitigation actions and health co-benefits; economics and finance; and public and political engagement.

17. Microsoft CEO Satya Nadella topped Fortune’s Businessperson of the Year 2019 list

Microsoft’s India-born Chief Executive Officer Satya Nadella occupied the top spot in Fortune’s Businessperson of the Year 2019 list followed by CEO of Perth-based Fortescue Metals Group Elizabeth Gaines at 2nd spot.



Fortune’s annual Business Person of the Year list included 20 business leaders who tackled audacious goals, overcame impossible odds, found creative solutions. The list also featured Mastercard CEO Ajay Banga (8th), Puma CEO Bjorn Gulden(5th), JPMorgan Chase CEO Jamie Dimon(10th), Accenture CEO Julie Sweet(15th) and Arista head Jayshree Ullal(18th).

18. National Statistical Office released report on disability

The National Statistical Office (NSO), Ministry of Statistics and Programme Implementation had conducted a Survey of Persons with Disabilities as a part of 76th round of National Sample Survey (NSS). The report is based on the central sample data of the Survey of Persons with Disabilities.



- In India, percentage of persons with disability in the population was 2.2% with 2.3% in rural and 2.0% in urban areas.
- Among males, prevalence of disability was 2.4% while it was 1.9% among females.
- Number of persons with onset of disability was 86 per 1,00,000 persons.

19. India ranked 8th by WHO study on physical activity

The World Health Organization published its study about physical activity of adolescents aged between 11 and 17 years. The study was about the level of physical activity in children. India ranked eighth with overall prevalence of insufficient physical activity in adolescents at 73.9%. Bangladesh topped the list with most active teenagers.



Philippines ranked to be the most inactive country among boys. South Korea had the least active girl adolescents. The study was conducted across 146 countries with the help of data from 298 school-based surveys.

Resignations & Retirements

1. T. Latha, MD and CEO of Dhanlaxmi Bank resigned

Managing Director (MD) and Chief Executive Officer (CEO) of Dhanlaxmi Bank, T. Latha, has resigned due to personal reasons. Ms Latha was appointed as MD and CEO of Dhanlaxmi Bank in July 2018 for three years following retirement of G Sreeram.



Ms Latha was issued vigilance charge sheet in an internal investigation for her previous job as general manager (GM) at Punjab National Bank (PNB) during the infamous Nirav Modi scam.

2. Women's boxing icon Nicola Adams announced retirement

Two-time Olympic boxing champion Nicola Adams announced her retirement from the sport on medical advice because of fears of irreparable damage and permanent vision loss.



Adams became the first female boxer to win an Olympic gold medal at London 2012, and the first female boxer to become a double Olympic champion after winning a second gold medal at Rio 2016, both in the flyweight division. Adams has been honored with honorary Doctor of Laws degree by the University of Leeds.

3. Senior journalist Rajat Sharma resignation as DDCA President put on hold

Senior journalist Rajat Sharma has been asked to continue in his role as DDCA President by the cricket body's ombudsman Justice (Retd) Badar Durrez Ahmed. Sharma had resigned from the post of President of Delhi and Districts Cricket Association (DDCA). He was appointed as DDCA President in July 2018.



The ombudsman also stopped the reinstatement of suspended general secretary Vinod Tihara. Sharma had joined the cricket administration after receiving active backing from the former finance minister late Arun Jaitley.

4. Spain's striker David Villa announced his retirement from football

Spanish striker David Villa announced his retirement from football. Villa scored 59 goals in 98 appearances for Spain from 2004-17, including five goals at the 2010 World Cup as his nation won the title for the first time. He won the European Championships in 2008 and scored four goals for Spain. He scored 80 goals in 124 MLS appearances.

David was honored with UEFA Euro 2008 Golden boot and gold medal of the 'Royal order of Sporting Merit' in 2011.



1. IIT Delhi to set up space technology cell in collaboration with ISRO

The Indian Institute of Technology, Delhi will set up a space technology cell in collaboration with the Indian Space Research Organization. It is also proposed that IIT, Delhi as an Institute becomes academic partner of ISRO in research areas like Artificial Intelligence, nano-technology, functional textiles and smart manufacturing.



IIT Delhi will join the league of other premiere institutions like IISc Bangalore, IIT Bombay, IIT Kanpur, IIT Kharagpur, IIT Madras, IIT Guwahati and IIT Roorkee where the Space Technology Cells (STCs) have been set up.

2. IFFCO introduced India's first nanotechnology-based products for on-field trials

The Indian Farmers Fertiliser Cooperative Limited (IFFCO) announced the introduction of its nanotechnology-based product range by introducing Nano Nitrogen, Nano Zinc, Nano Copper for on-field trials. These products have been researched and developed indigenously at the IFFCO Nano Biotechnology Research Centre (NBRC).



These nanostructured formulations effectively deliver nutrients to the plants. Other benefits of these Nano-products include reduction in the requirement of conventional chemical fertilizer by 50%; upto 15-30% increase in crop production; improvement in soil health; reduction in the emission of greenhouse gases.

3. IIIT Hyderabad researchers create first ever Indian Brain atlas

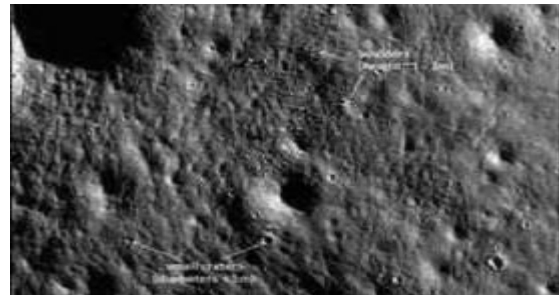
Researchers at the IIIT Hyderabad have created the first ever Indian Brain Atlas (IBA). The average brain size of an Indian was smaller in height, width and volume in comparison to people of the Caucasian and eastern races. The overall 'IBA 100 is more' comparable to the Chinese & Korean atlases.



The immediate implication of this finding can be seen in treatment outcomes of neurological problems or brain related ailments - like dementia, Alzheimer's disease, Parkinson's disease etc.

4. Chandrayaan-2 finds Argon-40 in the lunar exosphere

According to ISRO, the Chandra's Atmospheric Composition Explorer-2 (CHACE-2) payload aboard the Chandrayaan-2 orbiter, has detected Argon-40 in the lunar exosphere. Argon-40 also known as ^{40}Ar is an isotope of the noble gas Argon. Argon is third most abundant gas in the Earth's Atmosphere.



^{40}Ar is a condensable gas and reacts differently at various temperatures and pressures. It condenses during lunar night and after lunar dawn, the gas then again starts getting released to the lunar exosphere.

5. US University to collaborate with AIIMS, Kasturba Medical College for genetic testing in India

University of Michigan of USA will expand genetic testing in India in partnership with the All India Institute of Medical Sciences in Delhi and the Kasturba Medical College in Manipal. A 2.3 million US dollar grant from the National Institute of Health over five years will help the University of Michigan and Indian geneticists identify and confirm genetic changes that are the basis of developmental disorders.



7 out of 10 children with developmental disorders in India do not receive genetic testing. The children with disorders of genetic origin will be more likely to receive a molecularly confirmed diagnosis.

6. IIT-Madras launched affordable standing wheelchair

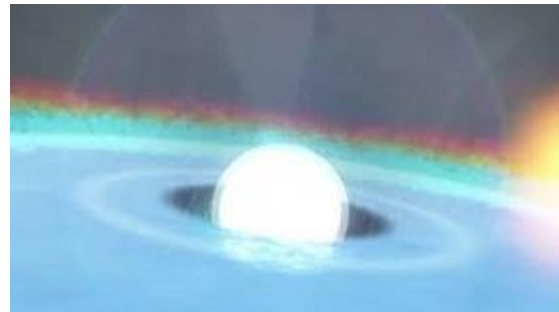
Indian Institute of Technology-Madras, in collaboration with Phoenix Medical Systems, launched the country's first indigenously-designed standing wheelchair named as 'Arise'. A person using this wheelchair can shift from sitting to standing or vice versa.



TTK Center for Rehabilitation Research and Device Development (R2D2) at IIT Madras, headed by Sujatha Srinivasan in the Department of Mechanical Engineering, IIT Madras has designed and developed this chair. It is made available at the cost of Rs 15000.

7. NASA detected a Huge X-Ray burst from outer space

NASA has detected a massive thermonuclear explosion coming from outer space, caused by a massive thermonuclear flash on the surface of a pulsar -- the crushed remains of a star that long ago exploded as a supernova. NASA's Neutron Star Interior Composition Explorer telescope on the International Space Station (ISS) detected a sudden spike of X-rays.



The X-ray burst, the brightest seen by NICER so far, came from an object named "J1808". The detail NICER captured on this record-setting eruption will help astronomers fine-tune their understanding of the physical processes driving the thermonuclear flare-ups of it and other bursting pulsars.

8. NASA unveiled its first electric plane

NASA unveiled its first all-electric aircraft named as X-57 "Maxwell" to cut emissions of carbon dioxide from planes to tackle climate change. The US space agency showcased the X-57 Maxwell in California. X-57 has seven propellers on each wing, based on a 4 seater plane. NASA has developed small lithium-ion batteries specially for propellers that run by electric motors.



According to International Civil Aviation Organization, such electric aircraft can hold the total amount of global warming emissions from planes below 2020 levels.

9. Voyager 2: NASA's Solar System Explorer reached interstellar space

NASA's Voyager 2 became only the second spacecraft in history to leave the heliosphere - the protective bubble of particles and magnetic fields created by our Sun. At a distance of about 11 billion miles (18 billion kilometers) from Earth - well beyond the orbit of Pluto - Voyager 2 had entered interstellar space between stars.



The Voyager probes will show us how our Sun interacts with the stuff that fills most of the space between stars in the Milky Way galaxy.

10. Pakistan became 1st country to introduce new vaccine to combat typhoid

Pakistan became the first country in the world to introduce World Health Organisation-recommended typhoid conjugate vaccine (TCV) in its national immunisation program. India's Hyderabad-based Bharat Biotech had supplied around 1.2 crore doses of the India-made vaccine Typhar TCV to Pakistan for this initiative. At present, Sindh province of Pakistan is highly affected by typhoid.



Global Alliance for Vaccine Initiative (GAVI) will fund the initiative for vaccine introduction through two-week vaccination campaign targeting one crore children.

11. NASA renamed Ultimathule to Arrokoth after Nazi controversy

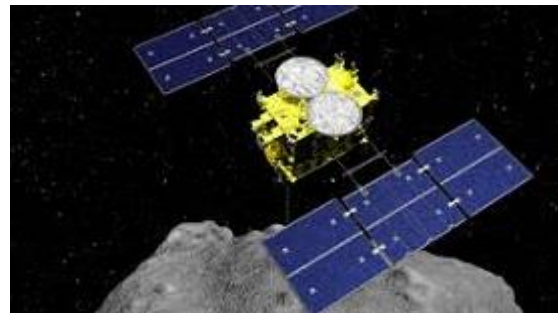
National Aeronautics and Space Administration renamed a controversial 'Nazi Dwarf Planet' Ultima Thule after a public outcry. The distant space rock Ultima Thule was renamed as Arrokoth. It is the farthest cosmic body ever visited by a spacecraft, Arrokoth or "sky" is a name of the Native American Powhatan language following a significant backlash over the old name's Nazi connotations.



The name "Arrokoth" reflects the inspiration of looking to the skies and wondering about the stars. Arrokoth is the most distant object ever explored by humanity and has the scientific name 2014 MU69.

12. Japanese spacecraft started year-long journey from asteroid

After departing from a distant asteroid, Japan's Hayabusa2 spacecraft started its year-long journey home after successfully completing its mission to bring back soil samples and data that could provide clues to the origins of the solar system. The spacecraft left its orbit around the asteroid Ryugu, about 300 million kilometres from Earth.



Hayabusa2 made two touchdowns on the asteroid and successfully collected data and samples during its 1½-year mission since arriving there in June 2018. The spacecraft is expected to return to Earth in late 2020 and drop a capsule containing the precious samples in the Australian desert.

13. Chandrayaan 3: India's 2nd attempt to land on Moon by November 2020

The Indian Space Research Organisation (ISRO) has announced their intention to send a second mission 'Chandrayaan 3' to soft-land on the Moon by November 2020. Chandrayaan 3, would only include a lander and a rover because India already has a working orbiter at the moon — Chandrayaan 2.



Chandrayaan 2 attempted to deploy a lander called Vikram on Sept. 6, but lander and rover are thought to have been destroyed in a crash landing but the mission is still survived by the Orbiter. Chandrayaan 2 orbiter has captured its first three-dimensional map of a structure on the moon.

14. Researcher found Earth's most uninhabitable place

Researchers found an aquatic environment in hyperacid ponds of Dallol Geothermal Field in Ethiopia with complete absence of any form of microbial life. The findings were released in journal Nature Ecology and Evolution. Dallol Geothermal Field daily temperatures in winter exceeds 45 degrees Celsius.



The study unveiled that great diversity of primitive salt-loving microorganisms exist in desert but not in the hyper acid and hyper saline pools, nor in the Black and Yellow lakes of Dallol which are rich in magnesium.

15. Potential Diarrhea vaccine ETVAX developed in Sweden

The researchers of the University of Gothenburg in Sweden have developed a potential Diarrhea vaccine called as ETVAX. Science journal, The Lancet, unveiled that ETVAX has been proved safe and effective in an early-stage clinical trial in Bangladesh.



80% to 100% of the children aged two to five years and 50 to 80 per cent of infants aged six to eleven months, selected for the study responded to all key immunity generating components of the vaccine. There was no vaccine yet for use for children.

16. PSLV-C47 successfully launched Cartosat-3 and 13 Commercial nanosatellites

India's Polar Satellite Launch Vehicle, in its forty ninth flight (PSLV-C47), successfully launched Cartosat-3 along with 13 Nanosatellites of USA from Satish Dhawan Space Centre (SDSC) SHAR, Sriharikota. Cartosat-3 was successfully injected into a sun synchronous orbit of 509 km. Subsequently, the 13 nanosatellites were injected into their intended orbits.



Cartosat-3 will address the increased user's demands for large scale urban planning, rural resource and infrastructure development, coastal land use and land cover, etc. PSLV-C47 was the 74th launch vehicle mission from SDSC SHAR, Sriharikota and 9th satellite of Cartosat series.

1. India to play first day-night Test with Bangladesh at Eden Gardens

The iconic Eden Gardens in Kolkata made history on November 22 by hosting the first-ever day-night pink ball Test match to be played on Indian soil. The pink balls for the Test are made by Sanspareils Greenlands (SG) of Meerut.



The idea of hosting day-night test match is credited to former captain and BCCI Chief Sourav Ganguly. The main aim of the idea is to attract spectators. First division leagues have been using Eden Gardens in their finals for the past three seasons.

2. Mary Kom named in IOC's 2020 Olympics athlete ambassadors group

Indian Olympic boxer Mangte Chungneijang Mary Kom has been included in 10-member athlete ambassadors group to represent boxers in the build-up to 2020 Tokyo Olympics by the IOC's Task Force for the sport. The group has 10 boxers from five regions. Mary Kom will represent the Asian bloc in the group. Other players included in this group are Ukrainian legend Vasyl La and 2016 Olympic gold-winner Julio Cesar La Cruz.



The brand ambassadors will help the Boxing Task Force take into account the athletes' voice for the qualification events and the boxing tournament at the Olympic Games Tokyo 2020.

3. Maisnam Meiraba Luwang won Korea Junior Open Badminton

Maisnam Meiraba Luwang of Manipur, India won the boys' singles U-19 title at the Woncheon Yonex Korea Junior Open International Challenge 2019 in Miryang, Korea. He defeated Lee Hak Joo of Korea. Sathish Kumar Karunakaran of India won the bronze in the same category at this tournament.



Luwang currently holds the No. 9 spot in the World Junior Rankings. It was his third international title this year following his triumphs at the Russian Junior White Nights 2019 and India Junior International 2019.

4. Novak Djokovic won fifth Paris Masters title

Novak Djokovic won his 34th ATP Masters 1000 title after he defeated Canadian Denis Shapovalov 6-3, 6-4 at the Rolex Paris Masters. It was his 5th Paris Masters title. Djokovic is now one Masters title shy of Nadal's all-time record.



Djokovic is looking to emulate Pete Sampras by grabbing the year-end No. 1 ranking for a sixth time. He is currently tied in second place with Federer and Jimmy Connors. If Nadal takes the top spot, it'll be his fifth time.

5. Lakshya Sen won SaarLorLux Open badminton tournament

India's Lakshya Sen has won the SaarLorLux Open badminton tournament at Saarbrücken in Germany. He defeated Sen Weng Hong Yang of China. He had clinched the Belgian International challenge and Dutch Open Super Tour 100 in his last two outings. He had also reached the Polish Open final this year.



The win has helped Lakshya earn 5,500 points and propell into the top-50 of the BWF world rankings. He has progressed to 42nd position.

6. South Africa won third Rugby World Cup Title

South Africa won its third Rugby World Cup championship after it defeated England 32-12. South Africa also won the title in 1995 and 2007. The name of the captain of South African team was Siya Kolisi.



The South African team also equaled New Zealand's record of winning the World Cup three times. The South African team is known by the name "The Springboks". It WC final was played at International Yokohama Stadium in Yokohama, Japan and the name of the cup was "Webb Ellis Cup".

7. Official Emblem of the FIFA U-17 Women's World Cup India 2020 unveiled

The official emblem for the FIFA U-17 Women's World Cup India 2020 was unveiled at the iconic Gateway of India in Mumbai. The FIFA U-17 Women's World Cup India 2020™ will take place from 2 to 21 November.



The design combines exciting and colourful elements from both the natural world and Indian culture. The bright blue waves of the base reach up along the form of the trophy toward the paisley flourish crowning the design. The droplet frames a ball made from a marigold flower.

8. Rafael Nadal secured No 1 spot for eighth time in his career

Rafael Nadal is back to the world No. 1 for the eighth time in his career in the latest ATP rankings. The Spaniard goes up one place to overtake Novak Djokovic even though Novak sealed his fifth Paris Masters title with a 6-3, 6-4 victory over Canadian Denis Shapovalov.



Nadal withdrew from his semifinal against Shapovalov in Paris. Djokovic slipped down the rankings because he lost the points that he won a year ago in London when Nadal was absent.

9. Javelin thrower Sundar Singh won gold in World Para Athletics Championships

Javelin thrower Sundar Singh Gurjar won second Gold for India defending his World Para Athletics Championships title in the men's F46 javelin throw event in Dubai. With this, India has secured three Tokyo Paralympic Games quota, along with the bronze winner Ajeet Singh and Rinku.



Gurjar came up with his season's best effort of 61.22m to claim the top spot. Singh sent the spear to a distance of 59.46m to clinch the bronze while Rinku finished fourth. India finished with two gold, two silver and five bronze in the Championship.

10. Shafali Verma becomes the youngest Indian to score international fifty

Shafali Verma, at the age of 15 years and 286 days, became the youngest player to score an international half-century for India. She scored a 49-ball 73 in the first T20 International against West Indies. The record while held previously by batting legend Sachin Tendulkar.



Tendulkar had notched up his maiden Test fifty at 16 years and 214 days. Shafali had earlier set a record on debut to become the youngest player to play a Twenty20 International (T20I) match for India.

11. Kento Momota successfully defended Fuzhou China Open 2019

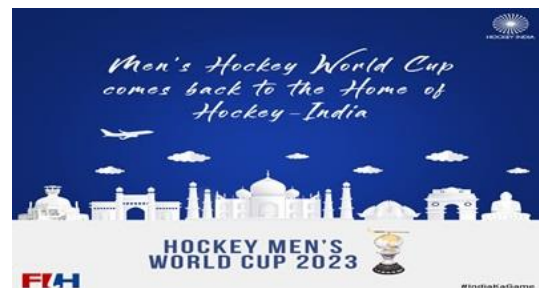
Kento Momota of Japan defeated Chou Tien-chen of Taiwan to retain his Fuzhou China Open badminton crown. This was the 10th title of the year for the world number one Momota.



Chen Yufei of China also successfully defended the women's title with a victory over Japan's Nozomi Okuhara. Indonesia's world number one men's doubles pair of Marcus Fernaldi Gideon and Kevin Sanjaya Sukamuljo won their fourth straight Fuzhou China Open title with a win over Japan's Takeshi Kamura and Keigo Sonoda.

12. India to host 2023 Men's Hockey World Cup

The International Hockey Federation (FIH) has announced that India will host the 2023 Men's Hockey World Cup from 13th to 29th of January. Spain and the Netherlands have been named as the co-hosts of the 2022 Women's World Cup scheduled to be held from 1st to 22nd of July.



India will, thus, become the first country to stage four men's Hockey World Cups after having hosted the showpiece in 1982 (Mumbai), 2010 (New Delhi) and 2018 (Bhubaneswar). The Netherlands' had hosted three men's tournaments.

13. The Matildas, Australia women's football team, in landmark pay deal

The Australian women's football team, the Matildas, have struck a historic deal which will see them earn equal pay and entitlements as the men's team. It is being hailed as a landmark for gender equality in sports. The Matildas are currently ranked 8th in the world while men's team, the Socceroos, come in 44th.



According to Football Federation Australia (FFA), Matildas stars such as Sam Kerr and Ellie Carpenter will be paid an equal amount as big-names of men's team like Aaron Mooy and Mat Ryan. They will also be afforded business class flights to international fixtures and tournaments.

14. Rohit Sharma becomes 1st Indian male cricketer to play 100 T20I

Rohit Sharma became the first Indian man and second in world cricket to complete 100 T-20 Internationals. He reached the milestone in the second match against Bangladesh at the Saurashtra Cricket Association Stadium. Shoaib Malik with 111 games from Pakistan is the only player to have played more than 100 T20 Internationals.



Rohit is currently the top-scorer in this format with 2452 runs with skipper Virat Kohli second in the list with 2450 runs.

15. Manu Bhaker bagged gold medal in Asian Shooting Championships 2019

Manu Bhaker won gold in women's 10m air pistol event while Vivaan Kapoor and Manisha Keer won the yellow metal in junior trap mixed event at the Asian Shooting Championships. Manu and any other Indian shooter were ineligible to win an Olympic quota as the country has already exhausted them in earlier competitions.



Manu put up a dominant showing, shooting 584 in qualification and 244.3 in the final to take gold. Chinese Asian Games champion Wang Qian took the silver.

16. Indian women clinched five gold medals in Asian Youth Boxing Championship

India won five Gold medals at the Asian Youth Boxing Championship as all five women finalists - Naorem Chanu (51kg), Vinka (64kg) Sanamacha Chanu (75kg), Poonam (54kg) and Sushma (81kg) won gold in their respective categories. Among the men, Selay Soy (49kg) and Ankit Narwal (60kg) won silver medal in their respective summit clashes.



India signed off with 12 medals in the event with bronze coming from Arundhati Choudhury (69kg), Komalpreet Kaur (+81kg), Jaismine (57kg), Satender Singh (91kg) and Aman (+91kg).

17. Stefanos Tsitsipas beats Dominic Thiem to win ATP Finals title

Greek tennis player Stefanos Tsitsipas defeated Austria's Dominic Thiem to win the ATP Finals. Tsitsipas had qualified for the finals after defeating six-time champion Roger Federer in the semi-finals.



French duo Nicolas Mahut and Pierre-Hugues Herbert won the doubles title by beating Raven Klaasen of South Africa and Michael Venus of New Zealand. The 2019 ATP Finals was a men's tennis tournament

played at the O2 Arena in London. It was the season-ending event for the highest-ranked singles players and doubles teams on the 2019 ATP Tour.

18. Sarita Devi elected as member of AIBA athletes commission

India's Laishram Sarita Devi of Manipur was elected unopposed as a member of the AIBA Athletes Commission. She was among the six boxers from 5 continents who were elected as members of the commission. The election of the Athletes Commission members was organized during AIBA Men and Women World Boxing Championships 2019 in Russia.



Boxers from all over the world voted for new members - one per continent, except Europe which has two representatives.

19. FIFA named Arsene Wenger as Chief of Global Football Development

FIFA has named Arsene Wenger new Chief of Global Football Development. Wenger will be chiefly responsible for overseeing and driving the growth and development of the sport for both men and women around the world.



Known as Le Professeur for his meticulously studious approach to the game, Wenger has spent his whole career in football. He won three Premier League titles while as Manager with Arsenal along with 7 FA Cups and made the Gunners one of the strongest sides in Europe.

20. World Para Athletics Championship 2019

India has recorded the best-ever nine medals haul at the World Para Athletics Championship in Dubai with two gold, two silver and five bronze medals. India secured 13 qualifying spots at the Tokyo 2020 Paralympics.

Javelin throwers Sandeep Chaudhary and Sundar Singh Gurjar won Gold for the country in F64 and F4 category respectively. China topped the medals tally with 25 gold medals. Brazil with 14, Great Britain with 13, USA with 12 and Ukraine with 11 Gold medals completed the top five list.



21. Sudhir Mital elected President of Gymnastics Federation of India

Former Competition Commission of India Chairman Sudhir Mital and Shantikumar Singh were elected as President and General Secretary respectively of Gymnastics Federation of India. Prior to this, Sudhir served as Chairman of Competition Commission of India in 2018 and also a former President and worked as GFI Chief from 2003 to 2007.



Manipur's former gymnast Shantikumar Singh served as GFI Treasurer from 2011 to 2015 and then got elected as Secretary in the 2015 elections.

22. Brazil won U-17 World Cup title

The Brazilian football team defeated the football team of Mexico in the finals for 2-1, to win the 18th edition of the FIFA under 17 World Cup trophy held in Brasilia, Brazil. The victory added to Brazil's successes in 1997, 1999 and 2003 as it moved within one of Nigeria's record of five championships.



Brazil completed the comeback deep into stoppage time when Lazaro volleyed home the last-gasp winner. France was placed third with three goals from Kalimundo-Muinga.

23. Shooter Shreyasi Singh won gold at 63rd National Shooting Championship

Shreyasi Singh won the women's Trap crown at the ongoing 63rd National Shooting Championship for shotgun events. Shreyasi, representing Bihar, got the better of Rajeshwari Kumari of Punjab in the top final. She shot 42 out of 50 birds to claim the medal. This was Shreyasi's fourth individual career National title but her first in Women's Trap.



Pragati Dubey of Madhya Pradesh won bronze with a finals score of 31. Varda Sharma of Delhi won the Junior Women's Trap competition. The Punjab team totaled 319 to leave Rajasthan way behind with 311 and the silver medal.

24. Harmeet Desai claimed Indonesia Open TT Championship

Indian paddler Harmeet Desai won men's singles title at International Table Tennis Federation (ITTF) Challenge Indonesia Open 2019 Table Tennis tournament held at Batam, Indonesia. He staved off a strong challenge from compatriot Amalraj Anthony by 11-9. This was Harmeet's second International title of the year, after the Commonwealth championship in July in Cuttack.



The 2019 ITTF Challenge Series was third season of the International Table Tennis Federation's secondary professional table tennis tour.

25. Red Bull's Max Verstappen won F1 Brazilian Grand Prix

Red Bull's Max Verstappen won the F1 Brazilian Grand Prix at Interlagos in São Paulo, Brazil. The win was the eighth of his career, third of the season but first from pole. Verstappen was followed by Pierre Gasly (France) and Carlos Sainz Vázquez de Castro (Spain) in the second and third place respectively.



In the Drivers' Championship standings after the race, Lewis Hamilton was atop with 387 points followed by Valtteri Bottas with 314 points. Mercedes was leading the Constructors' Championship standings with 701 points followed by Ferrari with 479 points.

26. India set to host World Kabaddi cup 2019 in Punjab

The 2019 circle Kabaddi World Cup will be organised by the Punjab government to be held from December 1 to 9, 2019 tournament will be dedicated to the 550th birth anniversary of Sikh guru, Guru Nanak Dev ji. Shaheed Bhagat Singh Sports Stadium in Dera Baba Nanak will host the closing ceremony of the tournament. Teams of around 9 countries will participate in the tournament, however Pakistan and Canada are yet to get clearance from the Indian government.



The competition has been previously contested in 2004, 2007 and 2016. All the tournaments have been won by India.

27. Sri Lanka became 1st South Asian country to call match fixing a crime

Sri Lanka became the first South Asian nation to bring match-fixing cases to the category of crime as its parliament passed a bill related to 'Prevention of Offences Related to Sports'.



According to new bill 'Prevention of Offences Related to Sports', if a person is found guilty of committing an offence related to corruption in sports, he/she will be jailed for a term up to 10 years and will also be required to pay various fines. The bill includes failure to report corrupt approaches.

28. Indian wrestlers win eight gold medals at Chinese Taipei

In wrestling, Indians grapplers continued their golden rush at the Under-15 Asian Wrestling Championships in Taichung, Chinese Taipei, clinching six gold medals. Akash defeated Daiki Ogawa of Japan in the 48kg category, Ankit Gulia defeated Korganov of Kazakhstan to win the gold in the 68kg while Chirag Dhalia clinched a gold by winning both his bouts in 75kg.



Three Indian girls - Saloni in 33kg, Babli in 36kg and Komal in 39kg won gold medals. The Indian contingent tallied a total of eight gold medals.

29. Rafael Nadal clinched sixth Davis Cup title

Rafael Nadal clinched sixth Davis Cup title for Spain after beating Denis Shapovalov of Canada in Madrid. Nadal defeated Shapovalov 6-3, 7-6 (9-7) to clinch Spain's 2-0 win against Canada.



The world number one Nadal has won all eight of his rubbers to help Spain to a first title since 2011. In 2019, Nadal had an extraordinary year as he won the French Open and the US Open, made the Australian Open final and also reached the Wimbledon semifinals.

30. India bagged 28 medals in U-15 Asian Wrestling Championships

In wrestling, India concluded its campaign at the Under-15 Asian Championships with 28 medals, including 13 gold, 14 silver and a bronze. Led by 2019 Cadet World Championships bronze medallist Deepak Chahal, the freestyle grapplers captured four gold while one gold came in the Greco-Roman category. Chahal won the gold in 75kg, Vishal in 62kg, Sagar Jaglan in 68kg and Jatin in 85kg were the others who finished on the top podium.



For the first time, India finished on top of the team rankings in freestyle category with 225 points. Kazakhstan finished second while Japan was third.

31. Marathon man Kipchoge, hurdle heroine Muhammad won Athlete of the Year

Eliud Kipchoge, the first man to run a marathon in less than two hours, and 400 metres hurdles world champion Dalilah Muhammad won the World Athlete of the Year awards. Kipchoge, 35, claimed governing body World Athletics' year-ending prize in Monaco when he ran the marathon distance of 42.195 kilometres (26.219 miles) in 1hr 59min 40.2sec.



American Muhammad won her award owing to a world record of 52.20 seconds at the US Trials in Iowa in July.

32. Angad Bajwa unofficially created world record score in skeet final

Angad Vir Singh Bajwa unofficially created a world record score in the men's skeet final at the 63rd National Shooting Championships for Shotgun events in New Delhi. Angad defeated his senior and fellow Tokyo 2020 quota winner Mairaj Ahmad Khan of Uttar Pradesh, shooting a clean 60. Mairaj scored 58. Angad also equalled a record he jointly holds with skeet legend Vincent Hancock and two others.



Saniya Sheikh bagged her third national title-winning the women's skeet event defeating state-mate Areeba Khan 10-8. Abhay Singh Sekhon and Parnaaz Dhaliwal of Punjab won the junior men's and women's skeet golds.

33. Australian Steve Smith became fastest Cricketer to reach 7,000 Test runs

Australia's Steve Smith became the fastest batsman to reach 7000 Test runs in Australia vs Pakistan 2nd Test. He achieved the feat on day two of the ongoing pink-ball Test at the Adelaide Oval against Pakistan. Steve Smith achieved the milestone in just his 126th innings, whereas two other Indian cricketers Virender Sehwag and Sachin Tendulkar had reached the milestone in their 134th and 136th innings respectively.



Steve broke a record that had stood since 1946, while moving past Donald Bradman to become Australia's 11th highest scorer.