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1. **SBI, Shanghai becomes 1st Indian bank to link up with China National Advance Payment System**

State Bank of India's Shanghai branch is connected to China's National Advance Payment System (CNAPS) & became the first Indian Bank to operationalize it. The CNAPS is launched to boost international use of the Chinese currency Yuan.

2. **RBI slaps ₹1.5-cr penalty on Bank of India**

RBI has slapped a penalty of ₹ 1.5 Crore on Bank of India for non-compliance with RBI’s direction on frauds’ in Rotomac Group companies. The penalty is required to be paid within 14 days of receipt of RBI’s order.

3. **Karnataka Bank ties up with fintech firm to offer MFs**

Karnataka Bank has tied up with fintech company Finwizard Technology to offer wealth management products and services through the bank’s ‘KBL Mobile Plus’ app. The tie-up allows the bank customers to invest in any mutual fund.

4. **NHB infuses Rs 10,000 crore to increase fund flow in housing sector: Finance Ministry**

National Housing Bank infused an additional Rs 10,000 crore in NBFCs with a view to improving the flow of funds for housing loan. Govt approved the Reserve Bank of India norms for credit guarantee to the non-banking financial institutions (NBFCs).

5. **RBI cuts repo rate by 35 bps to 5.40%**

Based on an assessment of the current and evolving macroeconomic situation, the MPC has reduced the policy repo rate under the LAF by 35 bps from 5.75% to **5.40%** with immediate effect. Reverse repo rate - 5.15%, MSF rate & Bank Rate to 5.65%.

6. **Mastercard launches identity check express to secure online transactions**

Mastercard launched the Identity Check Express, a next-generation, mobile-first authentication solution that aims to redefine e-commerce journey for Indian consumers. It will help eliminate needless friction & enhance the security of online transactions.
7. **RBI allows Bank of China to offer regular banking services in India**
   RBI has allowed Bank of China to offer regular banking services in the country. All commercial banks are in the Second Schedule. Banks falling under this schedule must adhere to the norms of the RBI. Jana SFB has been included in the Second Schedule.

8. **RBI to set up payment registry for monitoring frauds**
   RBI has proposed to set up a central payment fraud registry, which will monitor digital payment frauds in real-time. The move is expected to boost customer confidence in the payments systems.

9. **DBS Bank India ties up with Social Alpha to incubate social entrepreneurs**
   DBS Bank India has tied up with technology business incubator Social Alpha to mentor enterprises that focus on sectors such as inclusion, healthcare, and environment. DBS Bank will also give an annual programme grant of ₹1 crore.

10. **RBL Bank launches India’s first health-focused credit card**
     RBL Bank and digital healthcare platform Practo partnered to launch an industry first co-branded health credit card. This credit card is powered by Mastercard and is available on both Practo and RBL mobile apps and websites.

11. **Yes Bank launches QIP to raise $285 million**
     Yes Bank has embarked on a plan to generate $285 million (Rs 2,000 crore) by selling shares through a qualified institutional placement (QIP) . The bank’s core Tier I capital ratio declined to 8 per cent in June 2019.

12. **RBI ups cap on bank credit to NBFCs**
     RBI has increased the bank credit to NBFCs for on-lending to agriculture, MSEs & HFCs under priority sector lending up to a limit of 5% of bank’s total PSL on an ongoing basis. The limit for (term lending) Agriculture - ₹10 L, MSE - ₹20 L, HFCs - ₹20 L.

13. **Standard Chartered partners with SAP Ariba for financial supply chain solutions**
     Standard Chartered Bank and SAP Ariba announced a strategic collaboration to make the Bank’s financial supply chain solutions easily accessible to businesses in the Asia Pacific region through Ariba Network.
14. **Bandhan Bank launches co-branded credit card with Standard Chartered**
   Bandhan Bank launched a co-branded credit card with Standard Chartered to offer a complete suite of services to customers. Standard Chartered bank will take the credit risk, Bandhan Bank will be responsible for identifying & issuing cards to its customers.

15. **Banks to get upfront capital infusion of ₹ 70000 crore from government**
   Government has decided to inject ₹ 70000 crore budgeted for the recapitalization of public sector banks in the current financial year, on an immediate basis. The move will release liquidity to the tune of ₹ 5 lakh crore into the banking system for lending.

16. **Union Bank links loans to repo rate**
   Union Bank of India has introduced the repo-linked lending rate for new home loan & vehicle loan borrowers to provide better interest rate transmission to customers. Home loans of ₹30 L to ₹75 L will be available at an interest rate of 8.25% for borrower.

17. **BoB raises ₹2,150 cr via bond issue**
   Bank of Baroda approved raising funds aggregating to ₹2,150 crore. The committee approved issuance of Basel III-Compliant Additional Tier I bonds for an aggregate issue size not exceeding ₹1,650 crore. This issuance will comprise a base issue size of ₹500 crore, and a greenshoe option to retain oversubscription up to ₹1,150 crore.

18. **NHB to provide Rs 20,000 crore additional liquidity support to housing finance companies**
   National Housing Bank will provide additional liquidity support of Rs 20,000 crore to housing finance companies to boost credit support for the purchase of houses. It will increase the total liquidity support to Rs 30,000 crore.

19. **RBI to transfer Rs 1.76 lakh cr as dividend**
   RBI has decided to transfer 1.76 lakh crore rupees as dividend & surplus reserve to the govt. It includes over Rs 1,23000 cr of surplus for the year 2018-19 & 52,637 crore rupees of excess provisions identified as per revised Economic Capital Framework. The move is based on the recommendation of Bimal Jalan panel.

20. **IDBI Bank launches repo-linked home, auto loans**
   LIC-owned IDBI is offering home loan for up to ₹75 lakh with a tenor of up to 35 years at an interest rate of 8.30% p.a. It has also introduced bulk deposits linked to the repo rate in select buckets of home and auto loan products.
21. **SBI Raises Up To Rs 3,105 Crore By Issuing Basel-III-Compliant Bonds**
SBI accorded approval to allot 31,048 non-convertible, taxable, perpetual, subordinated, unsecured Basel-III-compliant bonds for inclusion in bank’s additional tier-I capital. Indian banking system implementing Basel-III standards in phases since April 1, 2013.

22. **NPCI revises merchant discount rates for BHIM UPI transactions**
NPCI has rationalised merchant discount rates for BHIM UPI transactions to promote digital payments. As per the latest notification, the Merchant discount rates (MDR) has been revised to 0.30% with a maximum cap of ₹100 per transaction.

23. **ADB signs pact to invest $23 million in NCD of GRIL**
Asian Development Bank (ADB) has signed an agreement to invest $23 million in non-convertible debentures being issued by GR Infraprojects Limited (GRIL) to help the company rapidly scale up its construction of roads and highways in India.

24. **NEFT to function round-the-clock from December: RBI**
RBI announced plans for round-the-clock availability of the National Electronic Funds Transfer system from Dec'19. At present, NEFT is available to customers for retail payments between 8 am & 7 pm on all working days of the week, except bank holidays.

**News: Others**

1. **RBI slaps penalties on 9 banks over delay in reporting of frauds**
Reserve Bank has slapped penalties on nine commercial banks, including SBI, Punjab National Bank & Bank of Baroda, for a host of violations, including delay on the reporting of fraud in the account of Kingfisher Airlines in case of two lenders.

2. **Federal Bank launches instant demat account opening facility**
Federal Bank has launched a digital facility for instant online opening of Demat accounts for its customers. The bank customers can open Demat accounts in the matter of a minute by logging into the Internet banking portal FedNet.
3. **Jana Small Finance Bank gets Scheduled Bank status**  
Jana Small Finance Bank Ltd, which commenced banking operations in March 2018, has got the status of a Scheduled Bank. It has been put in the list of the banks included in the second schedule of RBI Act 1934.

4. **RBI panel moots extended hours for strong forex market**  
Reserve Bank of India panel headed by Usha Thorat has recommended that onshore market hours may be suitably extended to match the flexibility provided by the offshore market. This is aimed at incentivising non-residents to hedge in the onshore market.

5. **PNB Housing raises $75 million in ECB from Sumitomo Mitsui Bank**  
PNB Housing Finance (PNBHFL) has raised $75 million or Rs 522 crore external commercial borrowing (ECB) from Sumitomo Mitsui Banking Corporation (SMBC), Singapore. The ECB is under the RBI’s automatic route of approval.

6. **Government removes Debenture Reserve norm for housing finance companies, NBFCs**  
Corporate affairs ministry removed the requirement for a DRR of 25% of the value of outstanding debentures issued by listed companies, NBFCs & HFCs. In the case of unlisted companies, the Debenture Redemption Reserve (DRR) requirement has been reduced to 10%.

7. **PSU banks to introduce home, auto loans on 'PSB Loans in 59 Minutes' portal**  
PSBs are gearing up to introduce retail products, including housing and auto loans, on 'psbloansin59minutes' portal with a view to expand their retail loan business. Currently, the portal gives loans up to ₹ 1 Cr to MSMEs in just 59 mins/less than 1 hr.

8. **RBI allows e-mandates on cards for recurring transactions**  
RBI permitted processing of e-mandate on credit & debit cards for recurring transactions (merchant payments) with a cap of Rs 2,000. It is applicable for transactions performed using all types of cards - debit, credit & Prepaid Payment Instruments (PPIs), including wallets.

9. **BookMyForex, YES Bank tie up for foreign exchange travel card**  
BookMyForex.com, a marketplace for foreign exchange & remittances, partnered with YES Bank to launch a co-branded multi-currency forex travel card for Indian overseas travellers. It will offer zero margin or exact inter-bank rates 24x7 on forex card sales.
<table>
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<th>Policy/Exchange rate &amp; Reserve ratio</th>
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<tr>
<td>Repo rate</td>
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<tr>
<td>Reverse Repo rate</td>
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<tr>
<td>Marginal Standing Facility (MSF) rate</td>
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<tr>
<td>Cash Reserve Ratio (CRR)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Statutory Liquidity Ratio (SLR)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Bank Rate</td>
<td>5.65%</td>
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</tbody>
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**Insurance**

**News: Most Important**

1. **Indian Bank signs agreement with Cholamandalam MS General Insurance**
   Indian Bank signed a corporate agency agreement with Cholamandalam MS General Insurance Company for distribution of its insurance products to bank customers. Indian Bank has 2,872 branches, across the country.

2. **HDFC Life Insurance included in MSCI index**
   Global provider of capital market indices, Morgan Stanley Capital International (MSCI), has included HDFC Life Insurance Company to its Global Standard Index. However, it excluded **Union Bank** from its India Smallcap Index.

3. **OYO partners Acko General Insurance to launch complimentary insurance cover for guests**
   OYO has partnered ACKO General Insurance to launch insurance cover for guests at booking price for its properties. The guests will get insurance against accidental death, baggage loss & accidental medical expenses for the entire duration of their stay.

4. **Aditya Birla Health Insurance(ABHI) & Axis Bank ink bancassurance pact**
   Aditya Birla Health Insurance has entered into a bancassurance partnership with Axis Bank. Through this partnership, **ABHI** will offer health insurance solutions to the Axis bank’s customers across its 4,094 branches and digital channels.

5. **Indian Bank, Tata AIG General Insurance tie up**
   Indian Bank has joined hands with Tata AIG General Insurance to offer the latter’s diverse range of general insurance policies benefiting the bank’s customers by way of protection, wealth creation and savings.
6. LIC launches Jeevan Amar protection plan
LIC launched a new term-insurance plan called Jeevan Amar. It is a non-linked, without profit, pure protection plan, and is available for sale offline. It offers the flexibility to choose from two death benefit options. Minimum sum assured under the plan is ₹25 L with no max. limit.

7. Acko partners with ZestMoney to offer credit insurance
Acko General Insurance partnered with ZestMoney, a consumer lending fintech, to offer credit insurance. It will help ZestMoney customers cover their monthly EMI payments during times of crisis.

News: Others
1. Moody’s downgrades long-term rating of Indiabulls Housing Finance
Moody’s Investors Service has downgraded Indiabulls Housing Finance’s (IBH) long-term corporate family rating to ‘Ba2’ from ‘Ba1’ in the backdrop of renewed pressure on the cost and availability of funds for some finance companies in India.

2. EPFO board hires HSBC AMC, UTI AMC and SBI Mutual Fund, fund managers
Employees’ Provident Fund Organisation (EPFO) appointed three asset management companies, HSBC AMC, UTI AMC and SBI Mutual Fund, as its fund managers for three years and reiterated its commitment to pay an interest rate of 8.65% for 2018-19.

3. Bharti AXA Life ties up with Akshaya Patra to support mid-day meal programme
Bharti AXA Life Insurance partnered with Akshaya Patra Foundation to support and contribute to the mid-day meal programme for government school children. Akshaya Patra is running a mid-day meal programme to mark its 13th foundation day.

4. Digit Insurance, KVB tie-up for bancassurance
Digit Insurance has entered into a bancassurance tie-up with Karur Vysya Bank. It will help Digit Insurance to reach out to the SMEs and cover business interruption and loss with a fixed benefit beyond the regular coverage available in the market.
Economy News: Most Important

1. **India's GDP growth slows to 5% in April-June 2019**
   The Central Statistics Office (CSO) released the GDP numbers for April-June quarter, which showed India’s GDP expanded 5% in the quarter through June, the slowest pace in six and half years. Indian economy grew 5 percent year-on-year in 1st quarter of FY2020.

2. **NCAER expects India’s GDP to grow at 6.2% in FY20**
   NCAER forecasted India's GDP growth is likely to be 6.2% during the current fiscal, down from 6.8% in 2018-19, on account of flat growth in agriculture sector & Gross Value Added at basic prices at 6% for 2019-20 on a year-on-year (y-o-y) basis.

3. **India's GDP to grow at 6% in April-June: FICCI survey**
   India's economy will grow at a median rate of 6% during the first quarter of the current financial year ended 30 June, as per FICCI report. It pegged the annual median GDP growth forecast for 2019-20 at 6.9% (6.7% and 7.2%).

4. **Moody's cuts India GDP growth forecast to 6.2% for 2019**
   Moody's Investors Service cut India's GDP growth forecast for 2019 calendar year to 6.2% from the previous estimation of 6.8%. For 2020 calendar year, it reduced the estimate by a similar measure to 6.7%.

5. **CRISIL cuts India’s GDP growth to 6.9 per cent**
   CRISIL has cut its estimate of India’s GDP growth by 20 basis points to 6.9% for FY 2019-20, following a triangulation of downside risks. The risks include weak monsoon, slowing global growth & sluggish high-frequency data for the first quarter.

6. **Retail inflation eases marginally to 3.15% in July**
   As per the data released by the Central Statistics Office, Retail inflation eased marginally in July to 3.15% over the previous month despite costlier food items. The retail inflation based on Consumer Price Index was 3.18% in June & 4.17% in July 2018.

7. **Defence Production Target Set at Rs. 90,000 Crore For 2019-20**
   The department of defence production has set itself a target of producing equipment worth ₹ 90,000 Crore in the financial year 2019-20. Exports worth ₹ 15000 crore have been envisaged from the total quantity of equipment produced.
8. **FM Nirmala Sitharaman withdraws tax surcharge on FPIs, domestic investors**
Nirmala Sitharaman announced the abolition of a tax surcharge on foreign portfolio investors & domestic investors. It will be applicable for this fiscal year. Approximate revenue implication for the FPIs & domestic investors will be around **₹ 1400 Cr**.

**News: Others**

1. **RBI extends deadline for PPIs to become full KYC complaint**
The Reserve Bank of India (RBI) extended the timeline for the conversion of minimum detail Prepaid Payment Instruments to KYC-compliant PPIs from **18 months** to **24 months**. Payments Council of India (PCI) welcomed the move.

2. **India’s Fiscal Deficit In July At 77.8% Of 2019-20 Target**
According to data released by the Controller General of Accounts, India’s fiscal deficit in July was at **77.8 percent** of its 2019-20 target. The gap between the government’s revenue and expenditure rose to Rs 5.47 lakh crore at the end of July.

3. **Bimal Jalan panel recommends review of economic capital framework every five years**
The Bimal Jalan panel of the Reserve Bank has recommended that the revised economic capital framework will be reviewed every five years. The RBI, Under the revised framework, decided to transfer **52,637 crore** rupees excess provisions to the government.

4. **India Ratings lowers GDP growth forecast to 6.7% for FY20**
India Ratings & Research has revised downward the country’s gross domestic product (GDP) growth to **6.7%** from an earlier estimate of 7.3% for the current fiscal due to weak consumption demand, monsoon and slowdown in manufacturing growth.

**Quick revision**

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<td>India’s Fiscal Deficit</td>
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<td>Defence Production Target</td>
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<tr>
<td>Retail inflation</td>
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<td>CRISIL</td>
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<tr>
<td>NCAER</td>
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1. **Maharashtra adopts digital fingerprint & iris scanning system to aid police investigations**
   Maharashtra became the 1st state to adopt a digital fingerprint & iris scanning system to aid police investigations. The Automated Multi-modal Biometric Identification System (AMBIS) adopted by the state Police will soon be replicated across the country. AMBIS replaces Automated Fingerprint Identification System/AFIS.

2. **Jharkhand govt launches direct money transfer scheme for small farmers**
   VP Naidu launched the Jharkhand’s 'Mukhya Mantri Krishi Ashirwad Yojana' to transfer money into the bank accounts of farmers. Under the scheme, beneficiaries having farmland of less than 1 acre to 5 acres, will get ₹ 5000 - 25000 in their bank accounts.

3. **Udaipur hosts India’s largest education Brainstorm**
   The third edition of India's largest education brainstorming event, the ScooNews Global Educators Fest (SGEF) was held on August 09 and 10 in Udaipur- the City of Lakes. The theme for this year's fest is 'Education for Sustainability: Moving on from conformity to creativity'.

4. **Gujarat CM launched ‘Vhali Dikri Yojna’**
   Gujarat Chief Minister Vijay Rupani has launched the ‘Vhali Dikri Yojna’. According to the scheme, the State Government will pay Rs. 4K to every girl child at the time of admission to Standard 4th, Rs. 6K at the time of taking admission to Standard IX, Rs. 1-lakh at the time of taking admission for higher education at the age of 18 and another Rs. 1-lakh at the time of marriage.

5. **Bihar gets Centre’s nod for Kosi-Mechi river interlinking**
   The Centre has approved the Rs 4,900 crore project for interlinking of Kosi and Mechi rivers of Bihar. This is the second major river interlinking project in the country to be approved after the Ken-Betwa project in Madhya Pradesh.

6. **J-K to host 3-day global investors summit in Srinagar in October**
   Jammu and Kashmir administration announced a three-day global investors summit to be held in Srinagar from October 12. An MoU was signed by Jammu and Kashmir Trade Promotion Organisation (JKTPO) and CII for organisation and management of the event.
7. **Dindigul lock, Kandangi saree get GI tag**
Dindigul lock & Kandangi saree were given the GI tag by the Geographical Indications Registry in Chennai. The applications were made by Hardware & Steel Furniture Workers Industrial Cooperative Society Limited & Amarar Rajeev Gandhi Handloom Weavers.

8. **Bhubaneswar gets provisional clearance for FIFA U-17 Women’s World Cup India 2020**
Odisha's capital city Bhubaneswar became the first venue to get a provisional clearance for FIFA U-17 Women's World Cup India 2020. Kalinga Stadium in Bhubaneswar will become the first to host a FIFA competition in Odisha.

9. **APICOL signs two MoUs to promote agriculture entrepreneurship**
Agricultural Promotion and Investment Corporation of Odisha Limited (APICOL) signed an agreement with Professional Assistance for Development Action (PRADAN) a national-level NGO, for implementation of agriculture entrepreneurship promotion scheme in tribal selected blocks of the state.

10. **India’s first space museum inaugurated in Hyderabad**
India’s first Space Science Museum has opened in Hyderabad. It exhibits scale models of Launch vehicles GSLV Mark III, GSLV Mark II & PSLV, Chandrayaan-1, Mars Orbiter spacecraft, APPLE, Aryabhata, Bhaskara, Rohini RS-1& a model of the ISS. It is a collaborative effort b/w ISRO & BM Birla Science Centre.

11. **ADB to provide $200 million for all-weather rural road project in Maharashtra**
Asian Development Bank (ADB) approved a USD 200 million loan for improving road infrastructure in 34 districts of Maharashtra to better connect rural areas with markets and services. It will also work with the rural infrastructure agency, the Maharashtra Rural Road Development Association (MRRDA).

**News: Others**

1. **Maharashtra Grants Infrastructure Status to Hyperloop Project**
Maharashtra has granted infrastructure project status for a $10-billion plan to build the world’s first ultra-fast hyperloop project, aiming to link the financial hub of Mumbai with the neighbouring city of Pune. Pods can reach a speed of **750 miles/hr**.
2. **Haryana govt to roll out Mukhya Mantri Parivar Samridhi Yojana**
   Haryana announced the roll-out of ‘Mukhya Mantri Parivar Samridhi Yojana’ to provide social securities to families. Under the scheme, ₹ 6000 per year will be given to each eligible family. Eligibility - Families having an annual income less than ₹ 180000.

3. **Karnataka government launches programme for student entrepreneurs**
   Karnataka government has launched a programme called ‘E-Step’ to empower student start-ups towards entrepreneurship. The programme focuses on boot camps, mentoring & training programs which cover various aspects of entrepreneurship.

4. **National tribal festival 'Aadi Mahotsav' begins in Leh-Ladakh**
   Aadi Mahotsav, the national tribal festival, started at Polo Ground in Leh-Ladakh. The 9-day event was inaugurated by the J & K Governor, Satya Pal Malik. The theme of the festival is - A celebration of the spirit of Tribal Craft, Culture and Commerce.

5. **Nagaland State Police Dept gets first Laboratory-cum-Training Centre**
   Nagaland State Police Department got its first Laboratory-cum-Training Centre for Prevention of Cyber Crime against Women and Children. Police personnel will be trained in specific topics relating to cybercrimes.

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**National News: Most Important**

1. **EPFO to launch e-inspection system to simplify inspection process**
   Sunil Barthwal, Central Provident Fund Commissioner, EPFO proposed to amend the Act to limit enquiry period to a maximum of 2 years in order to curtail harassment. EPFO is looking at alternative authentication viz-a-viz the employee database.

2. **Amazon launches military veteran’s employment programme in India**
   Amazon India announced the launch of a Military Veterans Employment programme to create opportunities for military veterans/their spouses across Amazon India's Fulfillment Centres, Sort Centres and Delivery Centres in the country.
3. **Boeing delivers 11th C-17 Globemaster to India**
   American aerospace major Boeing delivered the 11th C-17 Globemaster III transport aircraft to the Indian Air Force, which is a long-haul aircraft that can carry large combat equipment, troops and humanitarian aid across long distances in all weather conditions.

4. **Lok Sabha passes amendments to bankruptcy code**
   LS passed the Bankruptcy Code (Amendment) Bill, 2019 that sets **330-day** deadline for rescuing companies in distress to fast track cleaning up of bad assets. It aimed at ensuring timely resolution and at bringing more clarity on various provisions.

5. **BIS to set up Pashmina testing centre in Leh**
   Bureau of Indian Standards would set up a Pashmina testing centre in Leh, in partnership with the lab of Ladakh Autonomous Hill Development Council. 'Drive for Pashmina', a Motor bike expedition to create awareness & promote Pashmina was flagged off.

6. **Army launched 'Mission Reach Out' in Jammu**
   Army launched "Mission Reach Out" in Jammu to ensure basic necessities & essential services are available in the region post the abrogation of the provisions of Article 370 & reorganisation of J&K.

7. **Fin Min plans 16-point 'KRA' to push PSBs**
   Finance Ministry plans to kickstart an elaborate exercise whereby it will closely monitor their achievements on 16 key performance indicators at the branch, region, State & national level. The banks will then be benchmarked against the 18 PSBs’ average.

8. **Inter-State Council reconstituted with PM Modi as chairman**
   Govt has reconstituted Inter-State Council & Standing Committee of the Inter-State Council. Modi is the Chairman of the Council. CMs of all States & 6 Union Ministers including **Rajnath Singh, Amit Shah & Nirmala Sitharaman** are the members of the Council.

9. **Jal Shakti Minister launches second edition of Swaccha Survakshan Grameen**
   The centre launched the country's largest sanitation survey Swachh Survekshan Grameen-2019. The aim of this survey is to engage rural communities in improvement of the sanitation status of their districts and states through an intensive campaign.

10. **India's first underwater train to be launched in Kolkata soon**
    Union Railways minister announced that India could soon have its first underwater train in Kolkata. It will get started under the Hubli river. The 16.6-km long Kolkata East West Metro project, to be completed by 2021, will have the county’s first underwater tunnel.
11. **CVC sets up panel to examine bank fraud above Rs 50 cr**
   The Central Vigilance Commission has constituted Advisory Board for Banking Frauds headed by former Vigilance Commissioner T M Bhasin to examine bank fraud over Rs 50 crore and recommend action.

12. **PM Modi announced to celebrate September as a month of nutrition**
   PM Modi has announced to celebrate September as a month of nutrition to create awareness to fight malnutrition among children, particularly the girl child. In 2018, Gujarat launched a project, **Poshan Abhiyan** to eradicate malnutrition among children.

13. **Govt Proposes New Guidelines for Safe Use of Nanotechnology in Agriculture**
   Government has proposed a set of guidelines to regulate & maintain quality and safety of the products & processes. Regulations will oversee the use and spread of hundreds of NAIP & NAP to prevent nanoparticle toxicity in humans & the environment. Dept of biotechnology (Min of Science &Tech) unveiled the Draft.

14. **BHEL bags Rs. 2,500 cr orders for emission control systems from NTPC**
   Bharat Heavy Electricals Limited (BHEL) has bagged two orders of Rs 2500 crore from NTPC for emission control equipment for thermal power plants. The orders involve supply and installation of flue gas desulphurisation (FGD) systems.

15. **NTPC Sets Up Subsidiary To Foray Into Commercial Coal Mining**
   NTPC Ltd. announced incorporation of a subsidiary, **NTPC Mining Ltd.**, paving the way for its foray into commercial coal mining. The state-run power firm also has plans to list the coal subsidiary on the stock exchanges.

16. **Housing and Urban Affairs Ministry launches fifth edition of Swachh Survekshan 2020**
   MoHUA launched the 5th edition of Swachh Survekshan 2020, which will be conducted in Jan 2020. Water PLUS Protocol was launched to provide a guideline for cities & towns to ensure that no untreated wastewater is released into the environment.

17. **Govt panel recommends automatic CCI approval for cases under insolvency law**
   Govt constituted high-level panel has recommended a green channel route for automatic approval of certain combinations. Under the Competition Act, combinations (mergers and acquisitions) beyond a certain threshold require clearance from the CCI.
18. **Govt panel recommends corporate tax cut to 25% for all companies**
   A government panel headed by Akhilesh Ranjan has recommended cutting the corporate tax rate to 25% from 30% for all companies & scrapping surcharges on tax payments. India has one of the highest corporate tax rates in the world with annual sales of up to Rs 400 crore.

19. **Tax task force recommends 5 slabs for individuals**
   Direct Tax Code task force, headed by CBDT member Akilesh Ranjan recommended five tax brackets of 5%, 10%, 20%, 30% and 35%, against the prevailing structure of 5%, 20% and 30%. Tax bracket of 35% for the super-rich is also argued for.

20. **NGT panel suggests unique ID numbers for water bodies to prevent encroachments**
   A committee led by a former high court judge Justice S P Garg has put forward to a bench headed by NGT Chairperson that the water bodies should be secured by constructing boundary walls and relevant entries in the revenue records.

21. **Feroz Shah Kotla stadium to be renamed after Arun Jaitley**
   Delhi and District Cricket Association decided to rename Delhi’s iconic Feroz Shah Kotla, the second-oldest cricket stadium in India, as Arun Jaitley Stadium in tribute to the former Union finance minister who passed away recently. Jaitley, was president of the DDCA from 1999 to 2013.

22. **ISRO To build Centre to Protect High-Value Assets from Space Debris**
   ISRO laid the foundation stone for a centre to monitor & protect high-value space assets from space. It would facilitate the activities foreseen for Space Situational Awareness & Management to increase debris population & operational space assets.

23. **NFDC announces Funding for Film Production in various Indian languages**
   National Film Development Corporation Limited - NFDC announced that it will start accepting applications for funding of feature films under the Central Government scheme, ‘Production of films in various Indian languages.

24. **Rajya Sabha Passes The Code on Wages Bill, 2019**
   Rajya Sabha passed The Code on Wages Bill, 2019 after due consideration & discussion. Lok Sabha has already passed the bill on July 30. It will be the first Code to become an Act out of the 4 Codes formulated by Ministry of Labour and Employment.
News: Others

1. **Govt sanctions over 5,500 electric buses under FAME Phase II**
   The Department of Heavy Industry approved the sanction of 5,595 electric buses to 64 cities, state government entities, and state transport undertakings for intra-city and inter-city operation under FAME India scheme Phase II to push for clean mobility. In 2019 Budget, Rs 10,000 crore allocation for FAME II scheme.

2. **Air India Becomes 1st Indian Airline to Fly over Zero Degree North Pole**
   Air India became 1st in the world to operate flights over the Pacific Ocean, the Atlantic Ocean as well as the Polar region. With the new route, the distance between New Delhi & San Francisco has come down from 12,000 km to 8,000 km.

3. **Government Partners With Tata Trust For Rs 300 Crore Skill Development Centre**
   Skill development ministry announced an association with the Tata Trust to build a Rs 300 crore modern training and skill development centre at Sion in Central Mumbai. Govt. will provide four acres in National Skill Training Institute located there.

4. **ONGC to invest ₹83,000 crore in 25 projects**
   Oil and Natural Gas Corp (ONGC) is investing around ₹83,000 crore in 25 major projects to boost oil and gas production. The firm produced 24.23 million tonnes of crude oil in 2018-19 and 25.81 billion cubic metres of natural gas from its domestic fields.

5. **Committee formed to review Defence Procurement Procedure**
   Defence Minister Rajnath Singh has constituted a Committee under the Chairmanship of Director General (Acquisition) to review the Defence Procurement Procedure (DPP) 2016 and Defence Procurement Manual (DPM) 2009.

6. **Govt forms committee to rationalise additional taxes on Aviation Turbine Fuel**
   Aviation Ministry has formed a committee to rationalise additional taxes that airlines have to pay while uplifting Air Turbine Fuel (ATF) at airports across India. Currently, they have to pay charges such as 'throughput charges' & 'into plane charges'.

7. **Railways takes ISRO help in monitoring 700 trains real-time**
   Control Office Application (COA) system designed by ISRO has begun real-time monitoring of over 700 trains, fitted with GPS (Global Positioning System). The system will help track movement of trains even between two stations.
8. **Centre releases over Rs 47,000 cr to increase green cover in states**
Prakash Javadekar has handed over Rs 47,000 crore from Compensatory Afforestation Fund to various states, to be utilised for the compensatory afforestation, catchment area treatment, wildlife management, & improvement of wildlife habitat among others.

9. **President Kovind gives assent to National Medical Commission Bill**
President Ram Nath Kovind has given his assent to the National Medical Commission Bill, 2019, which was passed by both Houses of Parliament. The NMC will be an overarching body, which will frame policies and coordinate activities of four autonomous boards. The NMC Act will repeal the Indian Medical Council Act 1956.

### International News: Most Important

1. **India bags four medals in Worldskills Kazan competition**
The Indian team created history by winning one gold, one silver and two bronze medals at the 45th WorldSkills Kazan 2019 competition, in Russia. It has been the country’s best performance since it first participated at the event in 2007. S Aswatha Narayana won the gold medal in water technology.

2. **AIIB becomes member of the Ethics Network of Multilateral Organizations**
During Ethics Network of Multilateral Organizations (ENMO’s) 2019 Annual Conference held in Munich, Germany. ENMO approved the Asian Infrastructure Investment Bank (AIIB) application for membership.

3. **Serbia officially joins AIIB**
Serbia became a non-regional member of the Asian Infrastructure Investment Bank. Serbia adopted the Law on Confirmation of the Founding Act of the AIIB, deposited the instrument of accession & paid the 1st instalment of its share in the bank’s capital.

4. **Sri Lanka secures 160 million USD loan from ADB to modernize railway system**
Sri Lankan government has secured a loan from the Asian Development Bank (ADB) amounting to 160 million U.S. dollars to modernize local railway operations and improve the efficiency of services provided by Sri Lanka Railways.
5. **India contributes $1 million to UN fund**
   India has contributed $1 mn to the UN Special Purpose Trust Fund for the **Resident Coordinator System**. The SPTF established to receive, consolidate, manage & account for all financial transactions of the new Resident Coordinator system in an effective way.

**News: Others**

1. **Russia Sends ‘Fedor’ Its First Humanoid Robot into space**
   Russia launched an unmanned rocket carrying a life-size humanoid robot named Fedor (**Final Experimental Demonstration Object Research**) that will spend 10 days learning to assist astronauts on the International Space Station. It is first-ever sent by Russia.

2. **Israel, South Korea conclude talks on Free Trade Agreement**
   Israel & South Korea concluded three years of negotiations on a free trade agreement. It will provide a competitive advantage & ease activity for Israeli exporters in the South Korean market, thus strengthening Israeli exports & increasing economic growth.

**India & world**

**News: Most Important**

1. **India, Bangladesh to set up committee for optimum utilisation of water resources**
   India and Bangladesh have agreed to set up a Joint Technical committee for optimum utilisation of Ganges water as being received by Bangladesh under the Ganga Water Sharing Treaty 1996. The **Ganges-Brahmaputra-Meghna mega-basin** is the second largest hydraulic region in the world.

2. **India-UK project to find affordable solutions to cancer**
   The government’s Department of Biotechnology has joined hands with British charity, Cancer Research UK, to launch a research challenge for affordable approaches to cancer. The initiative will fund research projects totalling 10 million pounds over the next. It will be managed by DBT/Wellcome Trust India Alliance.

3. **India, Australia & France to jointly create inclusive Indo-Pacific**
   India, France and Australia, in a major strategic move, plans trilaterals that will help to rebalance China in the Indo-Pacific in the backdrop of growing Indo-French & Indo-Australia & Australia-France partnership across the vast region.
4. **India, US agree on collaboration in defence sector**
Indian and US officials have agreed to pursue a policy environment conducive to collaboration between the defence industry and start-ups in both countries. The DPG is the apex official-level meeting mechanism b/w India & US on defence issues.

5. **India, Israel explore new areas of cooperation to boost financial ties**
Israel and India are exploring to open new vistas of partnership in the world of finance, including collaboration between market regulators and allowing Israeli investment in corporate bonds, taking advantage of a favourable climate in both countries.

6. **India, Bangladesh to set up committee for optimum utilisation of water resources**
India and Bangladesh have agreed to set up a Joint Technical committee for optimum utilization of Ganges water. Both the countries also agreed to prepare a framework for interim water-sharing agreement for 8 rivers including Feni, Gumti & Teesta.

7. **India, China agree to further strengthen people-to-people ties**
India & China signed four agreements to strengthen the cultural & people-to-people ties between the two neighbours & ancient civilisations. The two countries signed 4 agreements on cultural exchanges, healthcare, sports & cooperation in museum management.

8. **India, Russia to boost ties to achieve $30 billion bilateral trade by 2025**
India & Russia have called for diversifying & deepening of economic ties in priority sectors to meet the bilateral trade target of $30 bn by 2025. MoUs were signed b/w regions of the Russian Far East & 5 states of India to expand and strengthen cooperation.

9. **India and Bhutan resolve to expand bilateral cooperation**
Prime Minister Narendra Modi returned home after a successful two-day visit to Bhutan. The two countries signed various MoUs to diversify the friendship. The sectors include, space, education, science, technology and legal education.

10. **India, France Sign Agreements on Maritime Awareness, Skill Development**
India and France signed an agreement on behalf of the Indian Space Research Organisation & Paris-based National Centre for Space Studies for the establishment of a joint maritime domain awareness mission to detect and tackle threats emanating from the sea.
11. India, Bahrain sign four agreements after delegation-level talks
   India & Bahrain have signed four agreements in the fields of Culture, Space, Solar alliance & the roll-out of RuPay card. Both countries have economic & trade relations for several centuries. Bahrain's investment in India amounts to **173 bn dollars** via FDI.

News: Others

1. **PM Modi launched Rupay cards in UAE, Bahrain**
   Rupay cards was launched in UAE & Bahrain with the signing of MoUs during PM Modi’s visit to the two Gulf countries. He recently launched the card in Bhutan to strengthen India’s relationship in digital payments, trade & tourism with its neighbours.

2. **V Prez embarks on three-nation visit to Lithuania, Latvia & Estonia**
   Vice Prez accompanied by a high-level delegation to visit the first ever high-level visit to the three Baltic countries. The visit takes place in the context of increasing political engagement, as well as intensified trade and commercial ties.

3. **UP extends bilateral cooperation MoU with Netherlands**
   UP govt & Netherlands have extended the existing bilateral agreement of cooperation in several fields by another 5 yrs. MOU is in cooperation/exchange of the knowledge & techniques in the fields of solid waste management, spatial planning, water management.

4. **India contributes USD 5 million to UN Palestine refugee agency**
   India contributed USD 5 mn to the UN Palestine refugee agency (United Nations Relief & Works Agency) & called for ensuring sustained fiscal support for the organization’s work. India increased its financial assistance to UNRWA from USD 1.25 mn to USD 5 mn.

5. **President Kovind honoured with National order of Merit, highest award of Republic of Guinea**
   President Ram Nath Kovind has been awarded the National Order of Merit by the President of Guinea for his exceptional contribution to the advancement of overall relations and development of mutual cooperation between India and Guinea.
### Quick Revision: Facts

<table>
<thead>
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Appointments & Resignations

News: Most Important

1. **Siddhartha Mohanty takes over as MD, CEO of LIC HFL**
   Siddhartha Mohanty has assumed charge as Managing Director and Chief Executive Officer of the LIC Housing Finance (LIC HFL). Prior to this, Mohanty was the company's COO. He served as the Executive Director - Legal of Life Insurance Corporation of India.

2. **Sudha Rani Relangi appointed as Director of Prosecution in CBI**
   Sudha Rani Relangi has been appointed Director of Prosecution in the Central Bureau of Investigation. She will serve for a period of two years with effect from the date of assumption of the charge of the post or until, whichever is earlier.

3. **Anurag Adlakha appointed Yes Bank CFO**
   Private lender YES Bank announced appointment of Anurag Adlakha as the group’s chief financial officer (CFO) following approval from the board of directors. Adlakha will take over from Raj Ahuja, who will now take over as group chief strategy officer.

4. **Ravi Shastri reappointed head coach of Indian team**
   Incumbent Ravi Shastri re-appointed head coach of the Indian men's team by the Kapil Dev-led Cricket Advisory Committee, a decision that was expected. He has been reappointed for a two-year period, ending with the 2021 T20 World Cup in India.

5. **Jaishankar R. Padmanabhan selected for appointment as NHB Executive Director**
   National Housing Bank has selected Jaishankar R. Padmanabhan for appointment to the post of Executive Director. He is currently Chief General Manager at India Infrastructure Finance Co Ltd (IIFCL).

6. **Ajay Kumar Bhalla appointed as new Home Secretary**
   Government-appointed Ajay Kumar Bhalla as new Home Secretary. He is currently serving as Officer on Special Duty in Home Ministry. He succeeds Rajiv Gauba who will move out as Cabinet Secretary. Earlier, he served as the Secretary in the Ministry of Power.

7. **Vikram Rathour to replace Sanjay Bangar as India's new batting coach**
   Former opener Vikram Rathour will replace Sanjay Bangar as India's new batting coach while Bharath Arun and R. Sridhar were retained as bowling and fielding coaches. Till 2016, he was a senior national selector under Sandeep Patil's chairmanship.
8. **HSBC CEO John Flint steps down, Noel Quinn named interim CEO**

HSBC announced the surprise departure of its Chief Executive Officer John Flint, 51 saying the bank needed a change at the top to address “a challenging global environment”. Noel Quinn, 57, the head of its Global Commercial Banking unit will hold the role of interim CEO.

9. **Kandikuppa Sreekant becomes Power Grid CMD**

Power Grid Corporation’s Director (Finance) Kandikuppa Sreekant has taken over as the company’s Chairman and Managing Director. His tenure will be till December 31, 2023, the date of his superannuation, or until further orders, whichever is earlier.

10. **DHFL appoints KK Mankeshwar & Co. as new auditor**

Dewan Housing Finance Corporation (DHFL) has appointed KK Mankeshwar Co. as its new statutory auditor. its other auditor – Mumbai-based Chaturvedi and Shah LLP – also resigned. The company will be holding its annual general meeting on September 28.

11. **Sandeep Sinha named CEO of TAFE**

Tractors and Farm Equipment Ltd. (TAFE) has appointed a new chief executive officer- Sandeep Sinha, former MD, Cummins India while CEO S. Chandramohan has been elevated as group president (finance and investment strategy).

12. **Conservative Giammattei elected Guatemala president**

Conservative Alejandro Giammatei was elected as Guatemala’s president. He defeated the former first lady Sandra Torres. He will succeed corruption-tainted outgoing President Jimmy Morales. He had polled almost 58.5 percent with a lead of 550,000 votes.

13. **Pramod Agarwal to succeed Coal India chairman AK Jha**

Public Enterprises Selection Board (PESB) has selected Pramod Agarwal, a 1991 batch IAS from Madhya Pradesh cadre as the next chairman of Coal India. He will take over after the present chairman A K Jha retires in January 2020.

14. **IRDAI nominate Sanjay Verma as single point of contact for regulatory sandbox**

IRDAI nominated Sanjay Verma, DGM (Distn Dev) as the "Single Point of Contact on regulatory sandbox matters. Wherein financial technology firms can seek permission to experiment with innovative approaches for the growth of the sector.

15. **IndiGo appoints Aditya Pande as its new CFO**

InterGlobe Aviation Ltd. has appointed GE-Healthcare official Aditya Pande as its chief financial officer. He replaces Rohit Philip. He is a qualified chartered accountant & has over 27 years of finance leadership experience.
16. **Manoj Mukund Naravane takes charge as VC of Army staff**
   Lieutenant General Manoj Mukund Naravane took charge of Vice Chief of the Army. He who was earlier heading the Eastern Command of the Indian Army, succeeds Lieutenant General Devraj Anbu whose term ended recently.

17. **HDFC Bank appoints Srinivasan Vaidyanathan as CFO**
   HDFC Bank has promoted Srinivasan Vaidyanathan as Chief Financial Officer with immediate effect. He earlier held the position of Group Head (Finance) in the bank. He would replace Sashidhar Jagdishan who would continue to head the Finance function.

18. **Five Indian States get new Governors appointed**
   Bhagat Singh Koshyari has been appointed as the new Governor of Maharashtra while former Union Minister Arif Mohammed Khan takes the responsibility of Kerala governor. Bandaru Dattatraya will be the new Governor of Himachal Pradesh.

**News: Others**

1. **Lenovo names Ashok Nair as Director for India Service Operations**
   Lenovo India announced the appointment of Ashok Nair as the Director for India Service Operations. Service is a strategic focus area for Lenovo and with this appointment, Lenovo aims to become a true customer centric brand, while driving growth.

2. **Chandrima Shaha elected INSA’s first woman president**
   Former director of the National Institute of Immunology Chandrima Shaha has been elected as the first woman president of the reputed Indian National Science Academy. She will head INSA from 2020. She would focus on popularising science among the masses.

3. **P. T. Usha appointed member of AAA’s Athletes Commission**
   P.T. Usha has been appointed as a member of the Asian Athletics Association’s Athletes Commission. She will be one of the 6 members of the AAA Athletes Commission, to be headed by Andrey Abduvaliyev of Uzbekistan.

4. **Govt appoints VG Somani as new Drug Controller General**
   Govt appointed VG Somani as Drug Controller General of India. DCGI heads the Indian drug regulatory body CDSCO, whose functions include ensuring the quality of drugs and cosmetics sold in the country, approval of new drugs and regulating clinical trials.

5. **Paytm promotes CFO Madhur Deora as President**
   Paytm announced the promotion of its Chief Financial Officer Madhur Deora as the company's President. Deora served as Managing Director in Citigroup's investment banking business in New York, London and Mumbai. He joined Paytm in October 2016.
6. **Ravinder Takkar appointed Vodafone Idea CEO; Balesh Sharma steps down**
   Vodafone Idea CEO Balesh Sharma has stepped down. He was the representative of Vodafone in the JV b/w Vodafone & Idea. Ravinder Takkar has been appointed as his successor with immediate effect.

7. **Ajay Kumar new Defence Secretary, Rajiv Gauba made Cabinet Secretary**
   Appointments Committee of the Cabinet has approved, Home Secretary Rajiv Gauba as Cabinet Secretary for two years. Ajay Kumar as Secretary, Defence who will replace Sanjay Mitra. Brij Kumar Agarwal has been appointed Secretary, Lokpal.
## Quick Revision

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<td>Interim CEO, HSBC Holdings Plc</td>
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<td>VG Somani</td>
<td>Drug Controller General of India</td>
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<td>Ravi Shastri</td>
<td>Head coach of Indian Men Cricket team</td>
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<td>Jaishankar R. Padmanabhan</td>
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<td>Madhur Deora</td>
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<td>Ravinder Takkar</td>
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<td>Ajay Kumar</td>
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<td>Rajiv Gauba</td>
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<td>Ajay Kumar Bhalla</td>
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<td>Vikram Rathour</td>
<td>New batting coach, India</td>
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<td>Manoj Mukund Naravane</td>
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<td>Srinivasan Vaidyanathan</td>
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Ranks & Reports

News: Most Important

1. **India slips to 7th largest economy in 2018: World Bank**
   According to the data by World Bank, India has been pushed to the 7th place in the global GDP rankings in 2018 with a GDP of $2.7 trillion. USA remains the top economy with a GDP of $20.5 trillion followed by China, Japan. UK & France placed at 5th & 6th place.

2. **Karnataka emerges as best state for roof top solar in India**
   Acc. to the State Rooftop Solar Attractiveness Index—SARAL released by Min of New & Renewable Energy, Karnataka has emerged as the best state for setting up a rooftop solar project. Telangana, Gujarat, Andhra Pradesh come next in the rankings. Jammu and Kashmir has been ranked last in the rankings.

3. **Mumbai has been ranked as the 45th safest city**
   Mumbai was ranked as 45th safest city on the Safe Cities Index (SCI), Delhi stood at the 52nd position, as per a report by Economist Intelligence Unit. Tokyo came at top while Singapore & Osaka were place 2nd & 3rd respectively.

4. **India largest SO₂ emitter in world: Greenpeace**
   India is the world's largest emitter of anthropogenic sulphur dioxide. Acc. to NASA data released by Greenpeace, India has more than 15% of all anthropogenic sulphur dioxide hotspots in the world detected by the OMI (Ozone Monitoring Instrument) satellite. SO₂ emission hotspots: Singrauli (MP), Neyveli &Chennai (TN), etc.

5. **Manipur tops the Breastfeeding and Infant and Young Child Feeding Practices in the country**
   Manipur topped the rankings in Breastfeeding and Infant and Young Child Feeding Practices in the country. Health and Family Welfare Minister Dr Harsh Vardhan released a report on Breastfeeding. Uttar Pradesh, Rajasthan and Bihar are at the bottom positions of the report card.

News: Others

1. **UPI transactions overtake debit card payments in 2018-19**
   No. of transactions via real-time payments system, the Unified Payments Interface (UPI), were 1.2 times higher than number of debit card transactions in 2018-19, as per RBI report. 5.35 bn UPI-based transactions, seen compared to 4.41 bn debit card uses.
2. **Indians spend 7% of their day in office commute: Travel Time Report**
   As per the 'Travel Time Report released by MoveInSync Technology Solutions, for 6 key cities of India namely, Bengaluru, Hyderabad, Chennai, Pune, Mumbai & Delhi-NCR, an avg. Indian spends 7% of their day in commuting to office averaging less than 3 min/Km.

3. **Banking fraud amount rises by over 70%: RBI**
   RBI data shows that in FY19, banking sector reported 6,801 frauds involving a total Rs 71,542.93 crore as against 5,916 cases involving Rs 41,167.04 crore reported in 2017-18, up by a whopping 73.8%.

4. **ANZ slashes forecast for India's GDP growth in FY20 to 6.2%**
   The Australia and New Zealand Banking Group (ANZ) slashed its forecast for India's economic growth to 6.2% in the financial year ending next March from a previous estimate of 6.5%, warning it would be tough for authorities to engineer a turnaround.

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**Important days**

**News: Most Important**

1. **International Youth Day observed around the world: 12 August**
   12 August was designated International Youth Day by UN General Assembly in 1999, serving as an annual celebration of the role of young women & men as essential partners in change & an opportunity to raise awareness of challenges & problems faced by youths. 2019 Theme: “Transforming education”.

2. **World Humanitarian Day observed on 19 August**
   World Humanitarian Day (WHD) is held every year on 19 August to pay tribute to aid workers who risk their lives in humanitarian service, and to rally support for people affected by crises around the world.

3. **International Day Commemorating the Victims of Acts of Violence Based on Religion or Belief observed on 22 August**
   UN General Assembly (UNGA) adopted the day in order to strongly condemn continuing violence and acts of terrorism targeting individuals, including persons belonging to religious minorities, on the basis of or in the name of religion or belief.
4. **International Day of the Victims of Enforced Disappearances: 30 August**  
   It’s purpose is to raise awareness of the wide range of enforced or involuntary disappearances that occur to people all over the world, including “arrest, detention, abduction or any other form of deprivation of liberty by agents of the State or by persons or groups of persons acting with the authorisation.

5. **5th National Handloom Day- August 7**  
The 5th National Handloom Day will be celebrated across the country. Union Minister of Textiles and Women and Child Development, SmritiZubinIrani, presided over a function at VigyanBhawan in New Delhi to mark the occasion.

6. **World Biofuel Day observed on 10th August 2019**  
   World Biofuel Day is observed every year on 10th of August to create awareness about the importance of non-fossil fuels as an alternative to conventional fossil fuels and highlight the various efforts made by Government in the biofuel sector. This year the theme of the World Biofuel Day was “Production of Biodiesel from Used Cooking Oil (UCO)”.

7. **World Elephant Day (WED) celebrated every year on 12th August**  
The World Elephant Day (WED) is observed every year on 12th of August to raise awareness of the worsening plight of Asian and African elephants. It bring the world together to help protect & honour elephants and to spread awareness about the critical threats they are facing.

8. **National Sports Day 2019: 29 August**  
   PM Modi launched a nation-wide Fit India Movement on the occasion of National Sports Day. To commemorate the birth anniversary of hockey legend Major Dhyan Chand, National Sports Day is celebrated across the country.

**News: Others**

1. **International Day of Remembrance and Tribute to the Victims of Terrorism, 21 August**  
   The day focus on the resilience of victims and their families- how they have coped and what they have done to transform their experiences to aid healing and recovery as well as become stronger and more united against terrorism.
2. *International Day for the Remembrance of the Slave Trade and its Abolition*

This International Day is intended to inscribe the tragedy of the slave trade in the memory of all peoples. In accordance with the goals of the intercultural project “The Slave Route”. It was first celebrated in Haiti (23 August 1998).

3. *International Day Against Nuclear Tests : 29 August*

In 2009, United Nations General Assembly declared 29 August the International Day against Nuclear Tests. It calls for increasing awareness and education about the effects of nuclear weapon test explosions or any other nuclear explosions and the need for their cessation as one of the means of achieving the goal of a nuclear-weapon-free world.

**Quick Revision**

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<tr>
<td>30 August</td>
<td>International Day of the Victims of Enforced Disappearances</td>
<td>NA</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
1. **Women’s cricket to be part of Birmingham 2022 Commonwealth Games**
   The Commonwealth Games Federation announced that women's T20 Cricket has been confirmed for inclusion at the Birmingham Commonwealth Games in 2022. 8 teams will compete across 8 match days. 2022 Commonwealth Games will take place in England.

2. **Mumbai to Host Prestigious World Youth Chess Championship in October**
   World Youth Chess Championship will be held in Mumbai in October. Over 400 young players from Russia, USA, France, Italy & Azerbaijan will participate in the event. India has won several gold, silver and bronze medals since it was introduced in 2004.

3. **Archery: In World Youth Championships, India won bronze medal**
   In Archery, the Indian team of Sukhbeer Singh, Sangampreet Singh Bisla and Tushar Phadtare clinched a bronze medal in the junior compound men's team event in the World Youth Championships in Madrid. Indians defeated Colombians in the final.

4. **Gokulam Kerala FC wins Durand Cup**
   In football, Gokulam Kerala FC won the 129th Durand Cup, defeating heavyweights Mohun Bagan 2-1 at the Salt Lake Stadium in Kolkata. Gokulam Kerala became the first club from the state in 22 years to clinch the tournament.

5. **Washington Open: Nick Kyrgios beats Daniil Medvedev to win sixth ATP title**
   Nick Kyrgios, 24, overcame back spasms and a poor opening set to beat third seed Daniil Medvedev 7-6 (8-6) 7-6 (7-4). He hit 18 aces and never faced a break point against the Russian and will now move back into the world's top 30.

6. **India's junior women boxers win 4 gold medals at Serbian tourney**
   India's junior women boxers clinched 12 medals at the third Nation's Cup in Vrbas, Serbia. The team won 4 gold, 4 silver & 4 bronze medals and claimed the runners-up trophy. Tamanna clinched gold in 48 Kg category along with Ambeshori Devi in 57 Kg.

7. **Indian junior shuttlers win 6 medals at Bulgarian Open**
   Indian junior shuttlers won 6 medals at the Bulgarian Junior Inter‘nl Championships which concluded in Pazardzhik, Bulgaria. Gold medals were won by Samiya Imad Faruqui in women's singles, the duo of Edvin Joy and Shruti Mishra in Mixed Doubles.
8. **Satwiksairaj, Chirag 1st Indian doubles pair to win Thailand Open’s Super 500 title**
Satwiksairaj Rankireddy and Chirag Shetty became the first Indian pair to win a BWF Super 500 badminton tournament. They beat World champions Li Jun Hui and Liu Yu Chen of China in the summit clash of Thailand Open at Bangkok. Taiwan shuttler Chou Tien-Chen - Men’s singles winner.

**News: Others**

1. **Chennai Lions Beat Dabang Delhi to Lift Ultimate Table Tennis league 2019**
Chennai Lions Beat Dabang Delhi 8-1 to claim the 2019 Ultimate Table Tennis league title held at Jawaharlal Nehru Stadium in New Delhi. The Ultimate Table Tennis (UTT) is a professional level table tennis league in India launched in 2017.

2. **Shot putter Tejinderpal Singh Toor clinches silver in Athletic meet**
Shot putter Tejinderpal Singh Toor clinched a silver medal during an athletic meet at Decin in the Czech Republic. The Asian Games gold medallist came up with the best throw of 20.09m.

3. **Paytm retains BCCI title sponsorship rights till 2023 for Rs 326.8 crore**
Paytm, the e-commerce payment system and digital wallet company, will continue as the title sponsor of the Indian cricket board’s domestic and international matches for the next five years. Rs 326.80 crore was the winning bid.

**Awards**

**News: Most Important**

1. **National Urban Livelihoods Mission conferred SKOCH Governance Gold Award**
   **DAY-NULM**, a flagship mission under the Ministry of Housing and Urban Affairs has been conferred the prestigious SKOCH Governance Gold Award for its Portal for Affordable Credit & Interest Subvention Access (PAiSA) in a function held at Delhi.

2. **Conservationist Vivek Menon wins Clark Bavin Award**
Conservationist Vivek Menon, head of Delhi-based conservation non-profit, Wildlife Trust of India awarded the prestigious Clark R Bavin Wildlife Law Enforcement Award for the year 2019. He co-founded TRAFFIC India with his mentor the late Ashok Kumar.
3. **IIT Delhi Startup's Multisensory Kit Wins National Disability Award**

Ankita Gulati has won the NCPEDP-Mphasis Universal Design Award 2019 for developing a multisensory kit which narrates the content in the raised picture when a visually impaired person touches it.

4. **66th National Film Awards: Sriram Raghavan's AndhaDhun Wins Best Hindi Film**


5. **Ravish Kumar Wins Magsaysay Award for His Journalism**

NDTV’s Ravish Kumar has been named for the prestigious Ramon Magsaysay Award for ‘harnessing journalism to give voice to the voiceless’ and his ‘unfaltering commitment to professional, ethical journalism of the highest standards’.

6. **ISRO Chairman K. Sivan Conferred TN Govt's Abdul Kalam Award**

K. Sivan, chairman of the Indian Space Research Organisation (ISRO), was awarded the Tamil Nadu government’s Dr. A.P.J. Abdul Kalam Award. Kalpana Chawla Award for Courage and Daring Enterprise to P. Ramyalakshmi was also handed.

**News: Others**

1. **Wing Commander Abhinandan Varthaman be conferred with the Vir Chakra**

Wing Commander Abhinandan Varthaman, who had shot down a Pakistani F-16 near the Line of Control (LoC) in February resulting in his capture and subsequent release by Islamabad, will be conferred with the Vir Chakra.

2. **Prabhakar Singh given the 'Eminent Engineer Award- 2019**

Prabhakar Singh ,Director General, Central Public Works Department has been chosen for the ‘Eminent Engineer Award for the Year 2019’ by the Institution of Engineers (India) for his distinguished and exemplary Service in the field of Engineering & Tech.

3. **Kirti Chakra will be conferred on soldier Prakash Jadhav (posthumously)**

The Kirti Chakra, the third highest military honour awarded during peacetime, conferred on soldier Prakash Jadhav, who died in a gunfight with terrorists in Jammu and Kashmir in 2018.
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<td>TN Govt's Abdul Kalam Award</td>
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<td>Kalpana Chawla Award</td>
<td>P. Ramyalakshmi</td>
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</tbody>
</table>
1. **Veteran Gujarati journalist Kanti Bhatt dies at 88**
   Veteran Gujarati journalist and columnist Kanti Bhatt died in Mumbai at the age of 88. He was the founding editor of Gujarati magazines, Abhiyan, which he launched with his wife Sheela, also a veteran journalist and member of the Editors Guild of India.

2. **Freedom fighter Dayanidhi Nayak passes away at 95**
   Noted freedom fighter Dayanidhi Nayak, who struggled against the British Government during the Quit India movement, has died. He was 95. He was the youngest freedom fighter from Panimora. He was jailed for 9 months during Quit India Movement.

3. **Former cricketer VB Chandrasekhar passes away**
   Former India opener and national selector VB Chandrasekhar passed away in Chennai on following a massive cardiac arrest. Chandrasekhar played 7 ODIs between 1988 and 1990, scoring only 88 runs.

4. **Veteran actor Vidya Sinha passes away at 71**
   Veteran Bollywood actress Vidya Sinha, known for her role in Basu Chatterjee's film "Rajnigandha" (1974), passed away after a brief lung-cum-heart ailment. She was born in Mumbai on November 15, 1947, to film producer Rana Pratap Singh.

5. **Veteran music director-composer Khayyam passes away**
   Veteran music director-composer Mohammed Zahur Khayyam Hashmi, best known for his music in classic films such as 'Umrao Jaan' & 'Kabhi', passed away in Mumbai. He was 92. He won Sangeet Natak Akademi Award in 2007, 3 Filmfare Awards for Best Music.

6. **Former Madhya Pradesh CM Babulal Gaur passes away**
   Former Madhya Pradesh Chief Minister and senior BJP leader, Babulal Gaur passed away in Bhopal. He was 89. He served as Madhya Pradesh Chief Minister between 2004 and 2005 and represented Govindpura Assembly seat for 10 times.

7. **Arun Jaitley dies at 66**
   Former finance minister and a stalwart of the BJP, Arun Jaitley, passed away in New Delhi. He was 66. He was also served on the Atal Bihari Vajpayee cabinet. He served as the Leader of the Opposition in the Rajya Sabha between 2009 and 2014.
8. **V.G. Siddhartha, boss of Coffee Day, found dead**
V.G. Siddhartha, an Indian entrepreneur’s body was fished out of the Netravati River on July 31st. Café Coffee Day, the chain Mr Siddhartha founded in 1996, has 1,700 outlets in India—ten times the number of Starbucks shops in the country.

9. **Cricket commentator Anant Setalvad passed away**
Anant Setalvad, whose pleasant baritone voice distinguished him from other cricket commentators from the mid-1960s through to the 1980s, passed away at the age of 84. He was commentator for AIR in Ranji Trophy and other BCCI tournaments and also for Test matches.

10. **Professional wrestler Harley Race passed away at 76**
Former professional wrestler Harley Race died at age 76. Harley Race captured the NWA World Heavyweight Championship eight times. He joined the WWE full-time during the company’s national expansion in 1986 and was finally inducted into its Hall of Fame in 2004.

11. **India’s first woman DGP Kanchan Chaudhary Bhattacharya passes away**
Kanchan Chaudhary Bhattacharya, the country’s first woman Director General of Police (DGP) passed away. She was 72. Born in Himachal Pradesh, Chaudhary was the country’s second woman IPS officer after Kiran Bedi. She led the Uttarakhand Police force as DGP from 2004 to 2007.

**News: Others**

1. **Argentina World Cup winner Jose Luis Brown dies at 62**
Football player José Luis Brown has died at 62. He scored Argentina's opening goal in their win against West Germany in the 1986 World Cup final. He played 36 times for Argentina's football team.

2. **Former Additional Solicitor General Amarendra Sharan dies at 70**
Former Additional Solicitor General Amarendra Sharan has died at the age of 70. He represented the Centre as the additional solicitor general from 2004 to 2009. He won the award for outstanding contribution to the development of scientific jurisprudence.

4. **First African-American woman Nobel laureate Toni Morrison passed away**
First African-American woman to win the Nobel Prize in literature, in 1993, Toni Morrison passed away in Bronx( US). She was 88. In 1988, she won the Pulitzer Prize and the American Book Award for Beloved(1987).
5. **Former External Affairs Minister Sushma Swaraj passes away in New Delhi**

Former External Affairs Minister Sushma Swaraj (2014-19) passed away after suffering a massive cardiac arrest. She was the 2\textsuperscript{nd} woman to hold the foreign ministry office. She had won from Vidisha constituency in Madhya Pradesh for a 2\textsuperscript{nd} term in 2014. She served as 5\textsuperscript{th} CM of Delhi from 13 Oct 1998 to 3 Dec 1998.

6. **Oscar-winning documentary maker DA Pennebaker dies at 94**

DA Pennebaker, the Oscar-winning documentary maker whose historic contributions included immortalising a young Bob Dylan in Don’t Look Back & capturing the spin behind Bill Clinton’s 1992 presidential campaign in The War Room, has died. He was 94.

7. **Former cricketer Malcolm Nash passes away**

The Glamorgan bowler, Malcolm Nash has died at the age of 74. He became famous after Garfield Sobers hit him for six sixers in an over. He took 993 first-class wickets in a 17-year career b/w 1966 and 1983 & also scoring 7,129 runs & holding 148 catches.

**Quick Revision**

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News: Most Important

1. **One Nation-one Ration Card scheme implemented on pilot basis in four States**
   
   Govt launched One Nation-One Ration Card scheme on a pilot basis in **Telangana, Andhra Pradesh, Maharashtra & Gujarat** to boost national food security. Families who have food security cards can buy subsidized rice & wheat from any ration shop in these states.

2. **Jharkhand govt launches direct money transfer scheme for small farmers**
   
   VP Naidu launched the Jharkhand’s *Mukhya Mantri Krishi Ashirwad Yojana* to transfer money into the bank accounts of farmers. Under the scheme, beneficiaries having farmland of less than 1 acre to 5 acres, will get ₹ 5000 - 25000 in their bank accounts.

3. **Mamata scheme for PVTG women in Odisha extended for five years**
   
   The Odisha state women and child development department has extended benefits of the Direct Cash Benefit "Mamata" scheme to the **Particularly Vulnerable Tribal Groups** (PVTG) in the state for another five years. Mamata was launched by the state government in September, 2011.

4. **Gujarat CM launches ‘Vhali Dikri Yojana’**
   
   Gujarat CM Vijay Rupani has launched the ‘Vhali Dikri Yojana’. Under the scheme, govt will pay ₹ 4000 to every girl child at the time of admission to Standard 4th, ₹ 6000 at IX standard admission, ₹ 1 Lakh at higher education admission at the age of 18.

News: Others

1. **‘Samagra Shiksha-Jal Suraksha’ Drive for School Students launched**
   
   Union HRD Minister Ramesh Pokhriyal ‘Nishank’ and Union Minister for Jal Shakti Gajendra Singh Shekhawat launched ‘Samagra Shiksha-Jal Suraksha’ to promote water conservation activities among school students.
2. **Haryana govt to roll out Mukhya Mantri Parivar Samridhi Yojana**
   Haryana announced the roll-out of ‘Mukhya Mantri Parivar Samridhi Yojana’ to provide social securities to families. Under the scheme, ₹ 6000 per year will be given to each eligible family. Eligibility - Families having an annual income less than ₹ 180000.

3. **Pradhan Mantri Kisan Maan Dhan Yojana launched by Agri Minister**
   Agri Minister Narendra Singh Tomar announced the launching of Pradhan Mantri Kisan Maan Dhan Yojana , a pension scheme for small and marginal farmers in which the farmers would get a monthly pension of ₹ 3,000 once he or she would attain age of 60.

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**Person in News**

**News: Most Important**

1. **Aishwary wins gold at Sardar Sajjan Singh Sethi memorial shooting**
   In Shooting, Aishwary Pratap Singh Tomar clinched a gold medal in Men's Rifle 3 Positions (3P) at 12th Sardar Sajjan Singh Sethi Memorial Masters competition in New Delhi. Tinjit Dhanota & Esha Singh won the Men's &Women's 10 metres Air Pistol gold medals.

2. **Vinayak S Hiremath youngest doctor to be felicitated with 'Pride of Nation Award'**
   Dr Vinayak S Hiremat has been felicitated with 'Pride of the Nation Award' for his exemplary work in the field of medicine. He is the youngest doctor of Gulbarga. He offers free insulin consultation & treatment to gestational (pregnancy) diabetic mothers.

3. **Vinesh Phogat wins third successive gold in 53kg**
   Vinesh Phogat has bagged gold in women's 53kg category of the Poland Open wrestling tournament in Warsaw. She defeated Roksana in the final of the competition. It was her third consecutive gold in the same category.

4. **Lewis Hamilton overtakes Max Verstappen to win Hungarian Grand Prix**
   Lewis Hamilton (Mercedes) has passed Max Verstappen (Red Bull) to win the Hungarian Grand Prix. It is Hamilton’s 81st career win is also his seventh at the Hungarian GP. Sebastian Vettel (Ferrari) took third place followed by Charles Leclerc (Ferrari).

5. **Bajrang Punia wins gold at Tbilisi Grand Prix**
   Bajrang Punia has won the gold medal at Tbilisi Grand Prix. He, who had won a gold at the same event last year as well, prevailed 2-0 over Iran's Peiman Bibyani in the 65 Kg category final of the men's free style competition in the capital city of Georgia.
6. **Sourabh Verma wins BWF Hyderabad Open**
   Sourabh Verma clinched the Hyderabad Open BWF Tour Super-100 Tournament at Gachibowli Stadium, Hyderabad. He defeated Loh Kean Yew of Singapore 21-13, 14-21, 21-16 in the final clash. Yeo Jia Min of Singapore clinched women's singles.

7. **Aishwarya Pissay becomes first Indian to claim a world title in motorsports**
   Aishwarya Pissay became the 1st Indian to claim a world title in motorsports, annexing the FIM World Cup in the women's category at Varpalota in Hungary. She was placed 2nd in the junior category with 46 points, behind Tomas de Gavardo (60) of Chile.

8. **Virat Kohli, first batsman to score 20,000 international runs in a decade**
   Indian captain Virat Kohli has become the first batsman to score 20,000 international runs in a single decade, the incredible stat providing another reflection of his greatness. He has scored 20,018 in the ongoing decade.

9. **Bajrang Punia and Deepa Malik to get Rajiv Gandhi Khel Ratna Award**
   Wrestler Bajrang Punia and Deepa Malik got nominated for the country's highest sporting honour — the Rajiv Gandhi Khel Ratna award. Their name was finalised panel comprising likes of Bhaichung Bhutia & M C Mary Kom among others.

10. **Spain's Alex Rins wins British Grand Prix at Silverstone**
    Suzuki Ecstar rider Alex Rins has won the British Grand Prix by defeating the world champion Marc Marquez (Honda rider). He won the race for the first time since 2014. Maverick Vinales took the third position followed by Valentino Rossi.

11. **Satendra Singh Lohia become the first Asian swimmer to cross the Catalina Channel of America**
    Divyang Satendra Singh Lohia from Madhya Pradesh has become the first Asian swimmer to cross the Catalina Channel of America. Satendra holds the Asian record of crossing both the English and Catalina channels.

12. **Ajantha Mendis retires from all forms of cricket**
    Sri Lankan mystery spinner Ajantha Mendis announced his retirement from all forms of the game. The 34-year old, last played in international cricket in 2015, took 288 wickets for his country across the three formats.
13. **PV Sindhu only Indian among Forbes list of world’s highest-paid female athletes**
As per Forbes released list of World’s Highest Paid Female Athletes badminton star P V Sindhu with total earnings of 5.5 million dollars is the only athlete from the country to be named among the achievers.

14. **Cancer researcher becomes first woman to win 4,000km cycling race**
A German cancer researcher Fiona Kolbinger has become the 1st woman to win 4000 km cycling race. She took 10 days, 2 hours & 48 mins to complete the challenge & started from Burgas in Bulgaria to Brest in France. She was one of 40 women to start the race.

15. **Adarsh Singh wins double gold in shooting meet**
In Shooting, Adarsh Singh won the gold medal in both the men & junior 25 m rapid fire pistol event at the Sardar Sajjan Singh Sethi Memorial Masters competition in New Delhi. In the junior event, Vijayveer Sidhu of Chandigarh was defeated by Adarsh Singh.

**News: Others**

1. **Vinod Dham backs computer vision startup Orbo**
   Vinod Dham, developer of Intel's Pentium micro-processor and technology mentor, has taken part in a Rs 11.4 crore ($1.6 million) funding round in Orbo, a maker of artificial intelligence-based image enhancement software.

2. **Hima Das, Mohammad Anas win gold at Athleticky Mitink Reiter event**
   Top Indian sprinters Hima Das and Mohammad Anas won a gold each in 300m races at the Athleticky Mitink Reiter event in Czech Republic. This was Hima's sixth gold in 2019 in European races since last month.

3. **Vishnu P R selected to participate in first Youth Climate Summit at UN**
   Vishnu P R from Thiruvananthapuram is selected to participate in the first-ever Youth Climate Summit. It is a platform for young leaders to showcase their solutions for climate change on a global stage. He is one of the 100 participants in the summit.

4. **Former Uruguay Captain Diego Forlan Announces Retirement From Football**
   Former Uruguay captain and English Premier League winner with Manchester United, Diego Forlan has announced his official retirement at the age of 40. He was named the best player at the 2010 World Cup in South Africa where Uruguay finished fourth.
5. **Rafael Nadal cruises past Daniil Medvedev to win fifth Rogers Cup title**
   Rafael Nadal added a fifth Rogers Cup title, defeating Daniil Medvedev in the men's final, 6-3, 6-0 at IGA Stadium in just 70 minutes. Nadal, 33, won last year's Rogers Cup in Toronto, where he also triumphed in 2008.

6. **PV Sindhu becomes first Indian shuttler to win World Championships gold**
   PV Sindhu became the 1st Indian to win badminton World Championships gold by beating Nozomi Okuhara of Japan in Basel. It was Sindhu's 5th World Championships medal. She won a silver in 2016 Rio Olympic Games, a silver at Gold Coast Commonwealth Games.

7. **Komalika Bari becomes recurve cadet world champion; India wins 2 gold, 1 bronze**
   Komalika Bari became recurve cadet world champion at the World Archery Youth Championships in Madrid. She defeated Sonoda Waka of Japan in the final. Bari is the 2nd recurve cadet world champion (U-18) after Deepika Kumari who won the title in 2009.

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**Summits & Conference**

**News: Most Important**

1. **7th Community Radio Sammelan to be held in Delhi**
   7th Community Radio Sammelan to be held at New Delhi. The Sammelan, being organized by Ministry of I&B will have Union Minister Shri Prakash Javadekar presenting awards to Community Radio Stations for their achievements in broadcasting development. Theme of 2019 Sammelan: ‘Community Radio for SDGs’.

2. **Smriti Irani lays foundation stone of Integrated Textiles Tourism Complex**
   Union Minister of Textiles Smriti Zubin Irani today laid the foundation stone of the Integrated Textiles Tourism Complex at Nongpoh, Ri Bhoi district. Under the ‘Samarth’ scheme, the government plans to skill 30,000 citizens

3. **PM Modi attend G7 summit in France**
   PM Narendra Modi attended the 45th edition of G7 Summit in Biarritz, France. He will address sessions on environment, climate, oceans & digital transformation. The summit will focus on fighting income and gender inequality & protecting biodiversity.
4. **Foreign Ministers from South East Asia attend 52nd ASEAN summit**
Foreign Ministers from South East Asia attended the 52nd ASEAN summit in Bangkok. The annual meeting opened with a call from the host Thailand for deeper integration to expand trade and bolster prosperity in the region amid rising global challenges.

5. **WorldSkills International Competition 2019 held in Kazan, Russia**
More than 1,500 competitors from 60 countries competed in 55 skill competitions at this mega event. India participated in 44 skills including mobile robotics, prototype modelling, hairdressing, baking, confectionary & patisserie, welding, brick laying, car painting, floristry among others.

6. **4th South Asian Speaker’s Summit to be held in Maldives**
The 4th South Asian Speaker’s Summit will be held in Male, Maldives on September 01 and 02, 2019. The theme of the event is “Achieving Sustainable Development Goals”. A parliamentary delegation led by Lok Sabha Speaker Om Birla will represent India.

7. **President of India inaugurates the First World Youth Conference on Kindness**
President Kovind inaugurated the first World Youth Conference on Kindness in New Delhi. It is organized with an aim to impart critical competencies in global youth & enable them to transform themselves & build long-lasting peace in their communities.

8. **5th Meeting of India-Nepal Joint Commission held in Kathmandu**
The 5th Meeting of India-Nepal Joint Commission held in Kathmandu on 21-22 August. It reviewed the overall state of bilateral relations and various areas of cooperation such as connectivity, economic partnership, trade & transit etc. S Jaishankar participated in the meeting.

9. **Department of Atomic Energy organises 2-day exhibition**
Dept of Atomic Energy organized a 2-day exhibition on DAE spin-off technologies for non-power applications at New Delhi. Event exhibited DAE techs in the field of health, agriculture, water, food security and environment.

10. **Arjun Ram Meghwal addresses 3rd International Electric Vehicle Conclave**
The 3rd International Electric Vehicle Conclave at the International Centre for Automotive Technology in Manesar, Gurugram. The Conclave was held to create a knowledge-sharing platform to ensure flow of information at all levels in the automotive sector.
11. **India Participates in 8th RCEP Inter-Sessional Ministerial Meeting**
Commerce Secretary Dr. Anup Wadhawan led a delegation to the 8th RCEP Inter-sessional Ministerial meeting held in Beijing on 2-3 August 2019. During the meeting he highlighted India’s contribution in shaping the RCEP negotiations till date.

**News: Others**

1. **12th India Security Summit held in Delhi**
12th India Security Summit on the theme **Towards New National Cyber Security Strategy** was held where many issues were discussed such as protection of critical national infrastructure, emerging cyber threats: incidents, challenges and response.

2. **Rajnath Singh inaugurated Vigyan Mela in Ladakh**
Defence Minister Rajnath Singh inaugurated Vigyan Mela science fair being organised at the Defence Institute of High-Altitude Research (DIHAR). It showcased agricultural products developed by the Defence Research Development Organization.

3. **HRD Minister inaugurates 2-day intern’l conference on teacher education**
Ramesh Pokhriyal ‘Nishank’ inaugurated an international conference on teacher education in New Delhi. Event is being organized by the National Council of Teacher Education as part of silver jubilee celebration of its establishment in 1995.

4. **IIM Kozhikode to host Women Economic Forum for entrepreneurs**
The first Kerala edition of Women Economic Forum (WEF) will be held at the Indian Institute of Management (IIM) Kozhikode. It will be organized by All Ladies League. WEF will include sessions focusing on learning, networking and business development.
## Quick Revision

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Defence

**News: Most Important**

1. **India test-fires Quick Reaction Surface-to-Air Missile**
   India test-fired a sophisticated all-weather & all-terrain Quick Reaction Surface-to-Air Missile (QRSAM) from a test range in Odisha. The state-of-the-art missile has been developed by the Defence Research and Development Organisation (DRDO) for the Army.

2. **US approves $3.3 bn sale of anti-ballistic missiles to Japan**
   United States approved the USD 3.3 billion sale of anti-ballistic missiles to Japan. Japan will buy up to 73 of the Raytheon-made SM-3 Block IIA missiles, which are designed to be fired by the shipboard Aegis system to intercept incoming ballistic missile.

**News: Others**

1. **Coast Guards of India & Sri Lanka agree to strengthen co-operation in addressing maritime issues**
   Indian & Sri Lankan Coast Guards agreed to strengthen co-operation in addressing a spectrum of maritime issues concerning safety & security. They agreed to continue the capacity building of Sri Lankan Coast Guard &mutual co-operation in multilateral forums.

2. **Iran unveils new missile defence system Bavar-373**
   Iranian President Hassan Rouhani has inducted a locally built air-defence system into the country's missile defence network named 'Bavar-373’. It is the country’s first domestically produced long-range missile defence system.

**Agreements**

**News: Most Important**

1. **IFC and MIGA to support wind farm in Egypt**
   IFC and MIGA, members of the World Bank Group, have signed an agreement to support the development of a 252-megawatt wind farm by Lekela in Egypt’s Red Sea governorate. IFC will provide $84m financing while MIGA will offer $122m in financial guarantees.

2. **Discovery, WWF tie up to preserve Sundarbans**
   Discovery & WWF India have partnered with Govt of West Bengal to help save the world’s only mangrove tiger habitat. Project CAT will solve several issues faced in the region. It includes building datasets on impacts of climate change on estuarine ecosystem.
3. **MoU between Indian Navy and IMD**
   MoU b/w Indian Navy (IN) & India Meteorological Department was signed at Naval Base, Kochi for the handing over of Cyclone Detection Radar (CDR) building by IMD to enable them to utilise within naval premises at Kochi for meteorological purposes.

4. **MeitY and Google tie up to Build for Digital India**
   Ministry of Electronics and Information Technology (MeitY) and Google signed a statement of intent to roll-out 'Build for Digital India', a programme that will give engineering students a platform to develop market-ready, technology-based solutions.

5. **Wipro expands its partnership with Google Cloud**
   Wipro said it has expanded its strategic partnership with Google Cloud to accelerate cloud adoption and digital transformation for global enterprises. The software services exporter said it has a dedicated practice focused on Google Cloud Platform (GCP).

6. **Flipkart partners NSDC to train supply chain workforce of 20,000**
   Flipkart has partnered with National Skill Development Corporation's Logistics Sector Skill Council to train 20000 of its delivery executives. The trained supply chain workforce will be certified in all aspects of product delivery & customer experience.

**News: Others**

1. **Reliance Jio, Microsoft announce alliance to accelerate digital transformation in India**
   Reliance Jio & Microsoft announced long-term strategic relationship to accelerate digital transformation of the Indian economy & society. This 10-year commitment combines the world-class capabilities of both companies to offer a detailed set of solutions.

2. **Wipro, IISc to jointly innovate in robotics, 5G**
   Wipro tied-up with the IISc for advanced research & innovation in autonomous systems, robotics & 5G. It will focus on R & D in artificial intelligence, machine learning, visual computing, human-computer interaction and vehicle-to-everything communication.

3. **Samsung India ties up with Mastercard, RBL Bank for mobile payments**
   Mastercard, RBL Bank & Samsung India have announced the launch of Samsung Pay for RBL Bank’s credit card holders. It allows RBL Bank Mastercard credit card holders to make contactless mobile payments using their Samsung Pay-enabled phones.
4. **BSE ties up with SUFI for steel futures**

Steel Users Federation of India (SUFI) has signed a MoU with the BSE to help the later launch futures trading in steel. They will work towards enlisting steel futures in both long and flat steel to help industry players hedge the risk on the exchange platform.

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**Books & Authors**

**News: Most Important**

1. **Sridevi: Girl Woman Superstar’ book to be launched in October**
   The book, titled 'Sridevi: Girl Woman Superstar", is written by author-screenwriter Satyarth Nayak. It recounts the life and times of the iconic actor who changed how women stars were perceived in the male-dominated film industry.

2. **‘Listening, Learning and Leading’ book launched**
   A book titled “Listening, Learning and Leading” chronicling Venkaiah Naidu's 2 years in office as Vice President was released by Home Minister Amit Shah in an event organised by Ministry of Information & Broadcasting.

**News: Others**

1. **e-Rozgar Samachar launched to spread awareness about job opportunities**
   The e-version of Rozgar Samachar was launched by Union Minister of Information & Broadcasting Shri Prakash Javadekar. It has been launched with a view to make aspirants aware of job opportunities in government sector including public sector enterprises.

2. **Culture Minister Prahlad Patel launches book titled- the Diary of Manu Gandhi’**
   Prahlad Singh Patel launched the book titled- ‘the Diary of Manu Gandhi’ in New Delhi. English translation of the book will help the entire world to understand the life of Mahatma Gandhi. The book has been edited and translated by Dr. Tridip Suhrud.

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<td>Prahlad Patel</td>
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Science & Technology

News: Most Important

1. **MIT scientists built biggest-ever carbon nanotube computer chip**
   Scientists at the Massachusetts Institute of Technology (MIT) have developed the biggest-ever computer chip using carbon nanotubes (CNT), instead of silicon. The RV16XNano is a 16-bit processor that contains 14,000 transistors — electronic.

2. **IIT Guwahati researchers develop membranes that can separate oil and water**
   Researchers at IIT Guwahati have developed two distinct and special membranes that can separate oil and water, even under harsh conditions. These membranes are super-water repellent in air and super oil-repellent in water.

3. **IIT Kharagpur Researchers Develop Low-Cost Blood Test Device**
   IIT Kharagpur researchers have developed a low-cost diagnostic device to perform pathological tests by using blood. The device requires a paper strip-based kit integrated with a smartphone to enable analytics & readout functions & an LED light for imaging.

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News: Others

1. **IIT Hyderabad researchers develop sensor device to detect heart diseases**
   Researchers at IIT Hyderabad are collaborating with research institutions across the world to develop a device to detect heart diseases with high speed, sensitivity and reliability. The device can also be extended to the detection of other diseases.

2. **FDA approves new oral three-drug regimen for extensively drug-resistant TB**
   The US Food and Drug Administration (FDA) has approved new oral three-drug regimen for the extensively-drug resistant tuberculosis (XDR-TB), estimated to have a mortality rate of 60 per cent. Tuberculosis caused about 1.6 million deaths globally in 2017.
Environment

News: Most Important

1. **Army Launches E Car to Combat Pollution**
   Indian Army has launched an ecological initiative with employing E Cars in partnership with EESL. It plans to operate a batch of 10 E-Cars as a pilot project and increase the number of E Cars in Delhi to ensure economy, efficiency and minimal emissions.

2. **July was the hottest month ever recorded on Earth: NOAA**
   According to National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA), global land and sea temperature recordings from 2019’s 7th month compared with its 140-year data set, stretching back to 1880, it was the Hottest Month Ever Recorded on Earth.

3. **ICFRE-ICIMOD’s REDD+ Himalayan programme extended till 2020**
   Reducing Emissions from Deforestation & Forest Degradation (REDD+) programme being carried out in the himalayan states jointly by Indian Council of Forestry Research and Education (ICFRE) and International Centre for Integrated Mountain Development (ICIMOD) has been extended till July 2020.

News: Others

1. **Centre for avian ecotoxicology inaugurated in Coimbatore**
   A National Centre for Avian Ecotoxicology was inaugurated in Coimbatore. The centre would study the movement of environmental contaminants such as pesticides, polycyclic aromatic hydrocarbons, etc & drugs via food chain & their harmful effects on birds.

2. **Ocean energy declared as green energy: Power Ministry**
   The power ministry has approved a proposal to declare ocean energy as renewable energy. Energy produced using tidal, wave and ocean thermal energy conversion will be considered as Renewable Energy. The decision would boost ocean energy in India.

Apps & Portals

News: Most Important

1. **New mobile app Meghdoot launched to assist farmers**
   The Ministries of Earth Sciences and Agriculture have launched a mobile application named **Meghdoot**, that will provide the location, and crop and livestock-specific weather-based agro advisories to farmers in local languages. App has been integrated with WhatsApp & Facebook to help farmers.
2. **Railway Protection Force (RPF) Launches “Operation Number Plate” across Indian Railways**
Railway Protection Force (RPF) of Indian Railways launched a Special Drive with a Code Name – Operation “Number Plate” to identify and verify all vehicles parked in Railway premises, circulating area, parkings and even in the ‘No Parking’ areas for longer duration.

3. **HRD Ministry launches NISHTHA to train teachers across the country**
Min. of HRD launched **National Initiative for School Heads’ & Teachers’ Holistic Advancements (NISHTHA)**. It is aimed at training over 42 L teachers in India. He launched its website, training modules, primer booklet & mobile app built for the purpose.

4. **CAIT launches initiative to accelerate acceptance of digital payments among merchants**
Traders body CAIT launched an initiative, **Digi Vyapari-Safal Vyapari**, to accelerate acceptance of digital payments among merchants across the country. It has partnered with HDFC Bank, Mastercard, Common Service Centres (CSCs) of Ministry of Electronics and Information Technology (Meity) and Global Linkers for the initiative.

**News: Others**

1. **Campaign Angikaar & E-Course on Vulnerability Atlas Launched**
MoS Hardeep S Puri launched **Angikaar**- a campaign for change management & e-Course on Vulnerability Atlas of India. e-course on Vulnerability Atlas is offered in collaboration of School of Planning & Architecture & Building Materials Tech Promotion Council. Angikaar has been launched for social behaviour change.

2. **Smriti Irani launches sustainable fashion project**
Union Minister Smriti Zubin Irani has launched a project named **SU.RE (sustainable resolution)** to move towards sustainable fashion that contributes to a clean environment. It involves 16 leading retail fashion brands, reflects the thought of Mahatma Gandhi.

3. **Government to launch an e-commerce portal to help SMEs: Nitin Gadkari**
Government is planning to launch an e-commerce project called **'Bharatcraft'** for micro small & medium enterprises, on the lines of platforms such as Alibaba. The proposed platform could generate a turnover of ₹ 10 trillion over the next few years.
Quick Revision

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<tr>
<td>Digi Vyapari-Safal Vyapari</td>
<td>Traders body CAIT</td>
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Acquisitions & Mergers

**News: Most Important**

1. **Government to Merge Ten Public Sector Banks Into Four**
   FM announced following merger- Punjab National Bank, Oriental Bank of Commerce & United Bank together (2nd Largest); Canara Bank and Syndicate Bank (4th Largest) ; Union Bank will be merged with Andhra Bank and Corporation Bank(5th Largest). Indian Bank will be merged with Allahabad Bank (7th Largest).

2. **Axis Bank ex-chief Dharmesh Mehta and investors buy IDFC Securities**
   Former Axis Bank chief Dharmesh Mehta along with clutch of investors have acquired 100 per cent equity stake of IDFC Securities Ltd from **IDFC FHCL**. It came after the previous buyer TCG Group and IDFC decided to call off their pact to sell IDFC Securities.

**News: Others**

1. **Mahindra to acquire 55% stake in Meru cabs**
   Mahindra & Mahindra is acquiring 55% stake in ride hailing & radio taxi operator Meru Travel Solutions for a cash consideration of up to ₹201.5 crore. M&M will make a primary investment of an amount not exceeding ₹103.5 cr for a stake of up to 55% in Meru.

2. **Saudi Aramco to take 20% stake in RIL’s refinery**
   Saudi oil giant Aramco has agreed to take a 20% stake in his flagship Reliance Industries’ oil refinery & chemical business at an enterprise value of USD 75 bn (app. Rs 5,32,466 cr). It will supply 5 lac barrels/day or 25 mn tonnes per annum for Jamnagar.
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<td>Arjun Munda</td>
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<td>Dr Harsh Vardhan</td>
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<td>Arvind Ganpat Sawant</td>
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<td>Ministry of Animal Husbandry, dairying and fisheries</td>
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<td>Gajendra Singh Shekhawat</td>
<td>Ministry of jal Shakti</td>
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