

September 2019

BOLT

Monthly Current Affairs



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Banking

News: Most Important

1. RBI proposes Rs 200 crore minimum capital for small banks under 'on tap' licence regime

The Reserve Bank of India proposed a minimum equity capital of **Rs 200 crore** to set up a small finance bank (SFB) under the 'on tap' licence regime to expand the banking services through high technology-low cost operations.

2. RBI reduces risk weight for consumer credit, including personal loans, to 100%

Reserve Bank of India (RBI) reduced the risk weight requirement for consumer loans to 100 per cent, a move that will reduce cost of such loans. Currently, the risk weight requirement for such loans is **125 per cent**.

3. RBI panel recommends self-regulatory agency for secondary markets

Task force headed by Canara Bank chairman **T.N. Manoharan** recommended setting up of a self-regulatory body (SRB), to oversee the proposed secondary market. SRB's role will be to standardize loan process, ensure standardization of practices & promote growth.

4. RBI makes repo-linked interest rates mandatory

RBI has made it mandatory for banks to link all of their new loan products- personal, housing or auto to an external benchmark like the policy repo rate w.e.f 1st October 2019. Banks may choose any benchmark market interest rate published by Financial Benchmark India Private Ltd (FBIL).

5. NPCI rationalises MDR for RuPay debit card deals

NPCI rationalised the merchant discount rate (MDR) for RuPay debit card transactions across Point-of-Sale (PoS), eCom, & BharatQR Code-based merchant transactions. MDR has been revised to 0.60 per cent for transactions above ₹2K, with a maximum cap of ₹150.

For Bharat QR the MDR has also been reduced to 0.50 per cent.

6. RBI panel suggests new intermediary under NHB

6-member RBI committee, under the chairmanship of **Harsh Vardhan** has recommended that an intermediary be set up under the National Housing Bank (NHB), wherein the government will have a 51% ownership.

7. Govt announces fresh incentives to boost exports and housing sector

FM Nirmala Sitharaman announced a set of measures worth around **₹ 70000 Cr** to boost exports & housing sector. FM also announced that the Export Credit Guarantee Corporation (ECGC) will expand the scope of export credit insurance service (ECIS).

8. *RBI expands scope of Bharat Bill Payment System*

RBI has expanded the scope of the Bharat Bill Payment System (BBPS) by adding other categories of recurring payments through the portal. Now, other recurring payments such as school fees, municipal taxes, insurance premiums can also be paid via BBPS.

9. *HDFC Bank & IOC launched co-branded fuel credit card*

HDFC Bank in partnership with Indian Oil launched a co-branded fuel card for users from non-metro cities and town. It will be available on both RuPay and Visa platforms.

10. *Bank of Maharashtra & Paisalo Digital Limited sign Co-Origination of Loan Agreement*

Paisalo Digital Limited signed its co-origination loan agreement with the Bank of Maharashtra. This is Company's second Co-origination Agreement with any Bank. PAISALO has already signed a co-origination loan agreement with SBI in April 2019.

11. *SBI to link floating rate retail & MSME loans to repo rate*

SBI decided to link all the floating rate retail loans and loans to MSME to the RBI's repo rate, with effect from October 1. According to this, every time when there is a change in repo rate, interest rates will change automatically.

12. *Pine Labs ties up with Federal Bank to offer debit card EMIs*

Pine Labs, a merchant-focused company, has entered into a strategic alliance with Federal Bank, to offer equated monthly installments (EMIs) on debit card-based offline transactions to the bank's customers.

13. *Hyundai, Bank of Baroda tie up for vehicle finance*

Hyundai Motor India Ltd (HMIL) has signed an agreement with Bank of Baroda to be the preferred financier for its dealers and consumers. Under the agreement, the bank will provide detailed financing structure for Hyundai's consumers.

14. *Govt to provide Rs 10,000 crore incentive for Housing sector*

Finance Minister announced that government will provide Rs 10,000 crore special window with an aim to help complete ongoing affordable & middle-income housing projects.

The special window has been limited to Non-NPA & Non-NCLT projects.

15. *RBI panel suggests measures to boost credit to farm sector*

Reserve Bank of India panel headed by MK Jain has recommended suitable measures, including the setting up of a credit guarantee scheme jointly by the Centre and States, upping the target for banks to lend to small and marginal farmers, & avoiding loan waivers.

16. *IFC collaborates with FIDC for training NBFCs*

The International Finance Corporation (IFC), has signed a MoU with the Finance Industry Development Council (FIDC), a representative body of asset and loan Financing NBFCs, to collaborate on training of NBFCs in the country.

17. *StanChart launches DigiSmart card*

Standard Chartered Bank launched a DigiSmart credit card that would be available for a monthly fee of ₹49, which will, however, be waived off if the customer spends more than ₹5,000 in the previous month.

18. *Axis Bank launches Express FD*

Axis Bank announced the launch of a digital fixed-deposit product called 'Express FD'. Customer can open an Express FD account in three minutes through the digital mode without opening a savings account with the bank. Express FD offers attractive interest rates & zero issuance fees

19. *UPI transactions overtake debit card payments in 2018-19*

As per RBI report 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. 5.35 bn UPI-based transactions, seen compared to 4.41 bn debit card uses.

20. *Airtel Payments Bank launches 'Bharosa' savings account*

Airtel Payments Bank launched **Bharosa** savings account services, designed for deepening the financial inclusion in India. SB account would offer ₹ 5 L personal accident insurance on maintaining balance of ₹ 500 along with one debit transaction per month.

21. *SEBI sets up expert panel to suggest norms for social stock exchanges*

SEBI set up a 15-member expert panel to make recommendations on setting up so-called social stock exchanges in the country. These exchanges allow companies operating in sectors such as health, environment and transportation to raise risk capital.

22. *RBI sets timelines for reversal of failed electronic transactions*

RBI released a framework for TAT for failed transactions & compensation for customers. The bank will have to pro-actively reverse failed transactions within a max of **T + 5** days of failed transaction & compensation will be paying ₹100/day to the a/c holder.

23. *SBI becomes first Indian bank to have office in Australia's Victoria*

SBI opened its office in Melbourne & became the first Indian bank to have a branch in the Australian state of Victoria. Victoria already has the presence of leading Indian businesses-including Cipla, Cyient, HCL, Infosys, Ramco, Zomato etc.

24. *HDFC Bank launches three-month-long discount campaign on its platform*

HDFC Bank launched three-month-long discount campaign on its platform offering best deals on transactions through its debit/credit cards. For this the bank has tied up with more than 1,000 major brands such as Reliance Digital, Samsung, Apple etc.

News: Others

1. *Bank of Baroda approves ₹2,000-cr loan for Bundelkhand Expressway project*

Bank of Baroda has sanctioned a loan of Rs 2,000 crore for the ambitious Bundelkhand Expressway project. Bundelkhand Expressway is a 296 km long expressway with origin at Bharatkoop in Chitrakoot district.

2. *Equitas Holding proposes new scheme to list Equitas Small Finance Bank*

EHL has proposed to capitalise free reserves of Equitas Small Finance Bank issuing shares of the subsidiary to its shareholders without cash consideration. As per RBI regulations, ESFB was to be listed on capital markets on or before September 4, 2019.

3. *SBI to offer MUDRA loans to Kerala broiler farmers*

SBI has entered into a tie-up with Kudumbashree Broiler Farmers Producers Company for financing poultry farmers under the Kudumbashree project, which is the State's Poverty Eradication Mission that doubles up as a campaign for women empowerment.

4. *Bank of Baroda plans to raise capital up to Rs 3,000 cr via tier-II bonds*

Bank of Baroda has planned to raise capital up to Rs 3,000 crore through tier-II bonds for meeting capital adequacy norms for the merged entity (**Vijaya & Dena Bank with BoB**). India Ratings has assigned "AAA" stable rating to proposed bond offering by BoB.

5. *RBI bars Equitas Small Finance Bank from opening new branches*

RBI has taken strict action against Equitas Small Finance Bank (ESFB) for not getting its shares listed on time. As per the RBI order, Equitas Small Finance Bank can no longer open new branches, and RBI has also frozen the salary of the bank CEO.

6. *American Express introduces SmartEarn Credit Card for millennials*

American Express, the world's largest card issuer by purchase volume, has launched the SmartEarn Credit Card for millennials in India. It carries an annual fee of ₹495, along with ₹500 cashback in the first year in the form of statement credit.

7. *Wipro secures deal worth \$300 mn from ICICI Bank*

Wipro Ltd secured a strategic 7-yr deal valued at \$300 mn from ICICI Bank to provide a suite of digital services & to further strengthen our endeavor to provide differentiated technology & digital capabilities to financial services industry.

8. *RBI puts curbs on PMC Bank*

RBI put severe curbs on Punjab and Maharashtra Co-operative (PMC) Bank . Cash withdrawals were capped at **₹1,000** per account for six months. PMC Bank has also been barred from making fresh loans and taking deposits. Restrictions are under Section 35A of the Banking Regulation Act.

9. *Edelweiss and SBI team up for co-origination of loans to MSMEs*

ECL Finance Ltd of Edelweiss & State Bank of India have signed a co-origination agreement to increase access to credit for Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises. It involves sharing of risks & rewards b/w Banks & NBFCs, MSMEs, creating a lending environment.

10. *ECL Finance Ltd, a subsidiary of Edelweiss & Central Bank of India tie up*

ECL Finance Ltd, a subsidiary of Edelweiss Financial Services, and Central Bank of India have signed an agreement for priority sector lending to Micro, Small and Medium Enterprise (MSME) customers.

11. *IPPB rolls out of Aadhaar-enabled payment services (AePS)*

India Post Payments Bank has rolled out Aadhaar enabled payment system (AePS) services. IPPB has now become the single largest platform in the country for providing interoperable banking services to the customers of any bank.

12. *RBI increases withdrawal limit for PMC Bank customers to Rs 10,000*

In a relief for Punjab & Maharashtra Cooperative Bank customers, the RBI increased the withdrawal limit from Rs **1,000 to Rs 10,000**. With the above relaxation, more than 60% of the depositors will be able to withdraw their entire account balance.

13. *RBI places Lakshmi Vilas Bank under prompt corrective action*

RBI placed Lakshmi Vilas Bank under PCA .The action has been taken owing to high level of bad loans, insufficient capital adequacy ratio, negative return on assets (RoA) for 2 consecutive years and high leverage. For FY19, the bank's net NPA stood at 7.49%.United Bank, IOB, CBI,IDBI & UCO Bank are currently under PCA.

14. *NSDL Payments Bank set to start operations*

NSDL Payments Bank Ltd (NPBL), the wholly-owned subsidiary of National Securities Depository Ltd (NSDL), is set to start its commercial operations shortly. The depository received approval from the RBI to commence operations in October 2018.

Policy/Exchange rate & Reserve ratio	Percentage
Repo rate	5.15%
Reverse Repo rate	4.90%
Marginal Standing Facility (MSF) rate	5.40%
Cash Reserve Ratio (CRR)	4%
Statutory Liquidity Ratio (SLR)	18.75%
Bank Rate	5.40%

Insurance

News: Most Important

1. Airtel, Bharti AXA Life tie up to offer pre-paid plan with term cover

Airtel has tied up with Bharti AXA Life Insurance to offer pre-paid plan with insurance protection cover for its customers. The product combines Airtel's deep distribution reach with Bharti AXA Life's expertise in insurance.

2. IRDAI working group to revisit norms on trade credit insurance

Insurance Regulatory IRDAI formed a 9-member working group to look into current regulatory framework, need for changes, risk management, claims handling, pricing, reserving working group on revisiting guidelines on trade credit insurance.

3. SBI Life signs corporate agency pact with Repco Home Finance

SBI Life Insurance has signed a corporate agency agreement with city-based Repco Home Finance Ltd to offer the company's range of products to RHFL customers. This tie-up will enable every RHFL customer to meet their diverse insurance needs.

4. IDBI to launch co-branded credit card with LIC

IDBI Bank seeking a huge potential customer base in LIC's 29 crore policyholders, 11.80 lakh agents, and 1.12 lakh employees to cross-sell, among others, credit cards and home loans has planned to launch a co-branded credit card with LIC CSL.

5. Can Fin Homes, Bajaj Allianz tie up

Bajaj Allianz General Insurance & Can Fin Homes Limited announced a corporate agency agreement for the distribution of the general insurer's products. Bajaj will offer personal lines of insurance products, such as **health, personal accident, travel** etc.

6. Centre to infuse ₹12,000 crore in state general insurance firms

Public sector insurance companies -- **National Insurance, Oriental Insurance** and **United India Insurance**, are set to be infused with funds worth ₹12,000 crore to boost their capital base and meet regulatory norms.

7. *NHA, IRDAI recommend measures to check frauds, data standardisation*

National Health Authority and Insurance Regulatory and Development Authority of India have launched a report recommending best practices, common standards, collaborative measures and IT framework for data standardization and to check frauds.

News: Others

1. *ESIC inks pact with SBI for payments to ESIC Beneficiaries*

Employees' State Insurance Corporation signed MoU with SBI to provide e-payment services directly to the bank accounts of all ESIC beneficiaries and payees without any manual intervention as an integrated and automated process.

2. *LIC assets rise to ₹31.11 lakh crore*

According to LIC said its assets have grown to over ₹31.11 lakh crore. With the increased business, the market share of the insurer rose to **73.1%** at the end of July 2019. It started with an initial capital of ₹5 crore in 1956.

3. *Max Bupa & Indian Bank ink bancassurance tie-up to offer health insurance solutions*

Max Bupa has announced a bancassurance corporate agency agreement with Indian Bank. As part of the tie-up, Max Bupa's offerings will include both retail and group health insurance products besides Indemnity and Fixed Benefit products.

Economy

News: Most Important

1. *Corporate tax slashed to 25.17% for domestic companies'*

Govt slashed effective corporate tax to 25.17% for domestic companies' subject to the condition that they will not avail any other incentive or exemptions. In effect, the corporate tax will be **22%** for domestic companies if they do not avail any concession.

2. *ADB predicts India's GDP growth forecast to 6.5% for FY20*

Asian Development Bank sharply cut India's growth forecast to **6.5 %** for the fiscal year 2020. According to the Asian Development Outlook (ADO) report, economic growth was slowed to 5% in the first April-June quarter.

3. *DBS revises India's GDP growth to 6.2% for FY20*

DBS has revised India's real GDP growth forecast downwards for FY 2019-20 to **6.2%** from 6.8% projected earlier. Real GDP slowed to 5% year-on-year in first quarter of FY20 from the first quarter's 5.8% prediction earlier.

4. *Govt to infuse Rs 9,000 crore in IDBI as bailout money*

IDBI Bank is set to get a fresh lifeline of Rs 9,000 crore from the Government. LIC, which is the majority owner of IDBI Bank, would infuse close to Rs 4,500 crore as its share, the government is expected to chip in with a matching contribution.

5. *Govt waives three-year lock-in period on investments made by NRIs in IDFs*

Govt has waived 3-year lock-in period on investments made by non-residents in infrastructure debt funds, to promote funding in the infrastructure sector. The amendments in the tax laws were made to provide an exemption from income tax to IDFs in 2011.

6. *India Ratings cuts NBFC growth forecast to 10-12 per cent in FY20*

India Ratings revised its outlook for the NBFCs to negative from stable maintaining its negative outlook on large ticket housing finance companies (HFCs). Growth forecast for NBFCs for FY-20 revised to 10-12% from the earlier estimate of 15%.

7. *Govt notifies 8.65% interest rate for EPFO members*

Ministry of Labour and Employment has notified 8.65% rate of interest on EPF deposits for its over 6 crore subscribers. EPFO has been settling EPF withdrawal claims at 8.55% interest rate, approved for 2017-18.

8. *Government announces ₹50,000 crore overhaul of export tax refund scheme*

Finance minister Nirmala Sitharaman announced a new scheme to refund the duties and taxes on exports that will replace all existing schemes in a bid to stimulate exports & economy, with a revenue projection of ₹50,000 crores.

9. *GSTN makes Aadhaar mandatory for new dealers w.e.f Jan 2020*

GST Network has decided to make Aadhaar authentication or physical verification mandatory for new dealers from January 2020 to check malpractices in GST. Those not wishing Aadhaar authentication, physical verification to be carried out in 3 days.

News: Others

1. *WPI inflation dips to 1.08% in August*

Wholesale price index (WPI)-based inflation for August came in at 1.08 per cent, much lower than 4.62 per cent recorded in the same month last year. The disinflation in core-WPI in August 2019 has further reinforced expectation of a rate cut in the October.

2. *IIP growth rises to 4.3% in July, August retail inflation up at 3.2%*

India's factory output accelerated to 4.3% in July from a downward revised 1.2% a month ago while retail inflation quickened to 3.21% in August from 3.15% in the previous month.

3. *Indian bonds attract \$1.69-bn worth investments in August*

India & South Korean bonds secured most of the regional inflows thanks to their high returns. Overseas investors purchased \$1.69 billion worth of Indian bonds in August. Last month, Asian bonds received a combined total inflow of \$1.79 billion.

4. *GST collection up 4.51% in August at ₹98,202 crore*

According to Finance Ministry, Gross Goods and Services Tax (GST) collection in August 2019 rose 4.51% year-on-year to ₹98,202 crore but remained below ₹1 trillion mark, which was collected in July this year. About **7.6 million** GST returns were filed in August.

5. *Date for filing ITRs, Tax Audit Reports extended till October 31*

The Central Board of Direct Taxes has extended the due date for filing of income tax returns & Tax Audit Reports from September 30th to 31st Oct 2019. The CBDT said that a formal notification for the same will be issued soon.

Quick revision

Organization/Parameters	Rate/Figures
Corporate tax (Domestic companies)	25.17%
Asian Development Bank	6.5% (FY20)
DBS	6.2% (FY20)
India Ratings (NBFC)	10-12% (FY 20)
EPF interest rates	8.65%
Wholesale price index	1.08% (Aug)
GST collection	₹98,202 crore (August)



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State

News: Most Important

1. Delhi flagged off 'Prakhar' vans to control street crimes

Minister of State for Home Affairs flagged off 'Prakhar' vans to control street crimes in Delhi. He also launched the single emergency helpline number 112 for immediate assistance. Prakhar vans are conceptualised under 'Safe City Project'.

2. Chennai police to launch "Thozhi"

Chennai police will soon launch a special wing - 'Thozhi' (friend), comprising women police personnel to support and protect victims of POCSO cases and their parents, and guide them through legal procedures.

3. 2020 to be 'Year of AI' in Telangana

Telangana govt has decided to declare 2020 as Artificial Intelligence year. NASSCOM is setting up a Centre of Excellence in Data Sciences & AI, which is expected to start its activities in 2020.

4. Maharashtra to set up Swachh Bharat World University

Maharashtra government has decided to set up 'Swachh Bharat World University' in Wardha to mark Mahatma Gandhi's 150th birth anniversary. The University will focus on research studies in sanitation, cleanliness and environment.

5. New Development Bank to lend Rs 6,000 crore to Andhra Pradesh

New Development Bank (NDB) has decided to lend Rs 6,000 crores to Andhra Pradesh Government for various projects. The amount will be used for social infrastructure projects and will be repaid in 32 years.

6. ABB, NITTTR set up digital simulation lab in Chandigarh

Swiss power major ABB India and National Institute of Technical Teachers Training and Research have set up a digital simulation lab in Chandigarh, a first-of-its-kind multi-physics 'Simulation Centre of Excellence' to enhance skill development in country.

7. Tata Power Renewable commissions 150 MW solar capacity in Rajasthan

Tata Power Renewable Energy Ltd (TPREL) has commissioned a 150 MW solar capacity in Pokharan, Rajasthan. With this TPREL has increased its renewable capacity to 2,628 MW. Tata Power is developing 500 MW of renewable capacity across the country.

8. Kerala to set up India's first trade centre for women

Kerala will set up India's first international women's trade centre in consonance with the United Nations sustainable development goals in **Kozhikode**. It is envisaged as a safe space away from home for women to harness their entrepreneurial capabilities.

9. *Mukhya Mantri Seva Sankalp Helpline '1100' launched in Himachal Pradesh*

Himachal Pradesh Chief Minister Jai Ram Thakur launched Mukhya Mantri Seva Sankalp Helpline '1100' (Chief Minister's Service Resolution Helpline) for speedy and time-bound redressal of public grievances using modern technology.

10. *Renuka Singh inaugurates Aadi Mahotsav in Noida*

Renuka Singh inaugurated National Tribal Festival "Aadi Mahotsav" being organised by Ministry of Tribal Affairs at India Expo Centre, Noida. Scheme of the festival: A celebration of the spirit of Tribal Culture, Craft, Cuisine & Commerce.

11. *Future Group becomes market access partner of Kerala Startup Mission*

As per MoU b/w Future Group & Kerala Startup Mission **KSUM**, it will shortlist 20 companies in a year which will be prospective clients for Future Group. KSUM would provide a platform to Future Group twice every year to speak about their business.

News: Others

1. *Centre sets up 3-member panel to oversee bifurcation of J&K into two UTs*

Government has set up a 3-member panel to oversee the bifurcation of Jammu and Kashmir into two Union Territories, which will come into existence on 31st of October 2019. The committee is headed by Former Defence Secretary **Sanjay Mitra**.

2. *Haryana govt waives ₹4,750 cr interest, penalty on crop loans*

Haryana government announced ₹4,750-crore interest & penalty waiver on crop loans taken from cooperative banks, benefitting around 10 lakh farmers in state. 5% penalty imposed on farmers who failed to repay loans taken from PACS, to be completely waived.

3. *Chhatrapati Shivaji Maharaj Terminus adjudged as best 'Swachh Iconic Place'*

Mumbai's Chhatrapati Shivaji Maharaj Terminus (CST) has been adjudged as the best 'Swachh Iconic Place' under the Swachh Bharat Mission. Award will be received by the Ministry of Railways jointly along with BMC and CSR partner.

4. *Traditional Neermahal Jal Utsav concludes in Tripura*

In Tripura, the 3-day long traditional Neermahal Jal Utsav concluded with eye-catching boat race & swimming competitions at Rudrasagar lake. Neermahal is a water palace built at the middle of Rudrasagar lake by Maharaja Bir Bikram Kishore Manikya in 1930.

5. *India's fuel demand rose 2.8% YoY in August*

India's fuel demand rose 2.8 percent in August compared with the same month last year. According to data from the Petroleum Planning and Analysis Cell (PPAC) of the oil ministry Consumption of fuel, a proxy for oil demand, totalled 17.04 million tonnes.

National

News: Most Important

1. *September month to be celebrated as 'Rashtriya Poshan Maah'*

Entire month of September is to be celebrated as the Rashtriya Poshan Maah. 2019 theme is **Complementary Feeding**. PM's Overreaching Scheme for Holistic Nourishment - POSHAN Abhiyaan is a multi- ministerial convergence addressing malnutrition.

2. *DSCI, MeitY and Google India join hands for 'Digital Payment Abhiyan'*

Nasscom's Data Security Council of India has collaborated with MeitY & Google India to launch a nationwide awareness campaign 'Digital Payment Abhiyan'. The campaign will educate end-users on the benefits of making digital payments.

3. *Narendra Modi to gift 'Gandhi Solar Park' to UN in New York*

Prime Minister Narendra Modi will gift 'Gandhi Solar Park' to the United Nations at the Climate Action Summit 2019 in New York. The 50-kilowatt hour roof-top solar park comprises of **193 solar panels**—each representing a member of the multilateral body.

4. *NRIs can now apply for Aadhaar on arrival without 182-day wait*

NRIs with Indian passport can now apply for biometric ID on arrival without the 182-day waiting period. In case NRI's passport does not have Indian address, he shall be allowed to submit any of the other UIDAI-approved documents as proof of address.

5. *World Bank to sanction Rs 3,000 cr for mega food parks across the country*

World Bank has agreed to sanction ₹ 3000 Cr for the Ministry of Food Processing for financing mini & mega food parks across the country. The budget allocation for the ministry should be raised from the current level of ₹ 1400 Cr to boost the sector.

6. *Great Ganga Run-2019 flagged off in Delhi*

Union Ministers Gajendra Singh Shekhawat & Kiren Rijiju flagged off the 'Great Ganga Run' from the Jawaharlal Nehru Stadium in New Delhi, organised to create awareness about River Ganga.

7. *Govt forms IT Standing Committee, names Shashi Tharoor as head*

Govt. formed a Standing Committee for Information Technology comprising of 31 Members of Parliament (MP) from LS & RS with Shashi Tharoor as Chairperson . Committee may be asked to look into the Data Protection Bill whenever it is tabled in the parliament.

8. *Prime Minister Narendra Modi launched Swachhata Hi Seva (SHS) 2019*

PM Narendra Modi launched Swachhata Hi Seva (SHS) 2019, a massive countrywide awareness and mobilization campaign on Swachhata at Mathura, UP. It is specially focused on 'plastic waste awareness and management'.

9. *MoS HRD launched Curriculum for Life Skills (Jeevan Kaushal) designed by University Grants Commission*

UM of state HRD, Sanjay Dhotre launched the Curriculum for Life Skills (JeevanKaushal) designed by University Grants Commission (UGC), in New Delhi. It will lead to improvement in the collective efficiency of country's young population.

10. *PM inaugurates India's 2nd Multi Modal Terminal on Ganga at Sahibganj*

PM Modi dedicated to the nation India's 2nd riverine Multi Modal terminal built at Sahibganj in Jharkhand. Built at a cost of Rs 290 crores, it is the 2nd of the 3 Multi Modal Terminals being constructed on river Ganga under Jal Marg Vikas Project.

11. *Govt. launches campaign to promote 'eat right movement'*

Health Minister Harsh Vardhan kick-started POSHAN Maah 2019 with a year-long social & mass media campaign on the Eat Right India movement. He also launched Eat Right India logo representing healthy plate & online course for frontline health workers.

12. *Vice President inaugurates India's longest electrified rail tunnel*

Vice President M. Venkaiah Naidu inaugurated the country's longest electrified rail tunnel between Cherlopalli & Rapuru at **6.7 kms**. Tunnel is built at a cost of ₹437 crore, has 44 trolley refuges and 14 cross-passages in a horseshoe design.

13. *Tourism Minister flags off 1st Mobile Science Exhibition in Leh*

Union Minister Prahlad Singh Patel flagged off the first Mobile Science Exhibition at Leh Palace, in Leh. The Mobile Science Exhibition specially designed in a bus will be moving to various schools in the Leh district.

14. *Tata Group to invest ₹300 crore to set up Indian Institute of Skills*

Ministry of skills development and entrepreneurship has joined hands with Tata Group to set up an Indian Institute of Skills (IIS) in Mumbai, with an invest around ₹300 cr. IIS will be developed on a public-private-partnership (PPP) model.

15. CoA of BCCI appoints committee to run Bihar Cricket body

Committee of Administrators (CoA) of BCCI, chaired by **Vinod Rai** has appointed a 3-member Independent Supervisory Committee chaired by Alok Kumar to run the cricketing affairs of Bihar Cricket Association (BCA) and also conduct fresh elections.

16. Govt launches 10 Year Rural Sanitation Strategy

The Department of Drinking Water and Sanitation, Ministry of Jal Shakti, GoI launched the 10 Year Rural Sanitation Strategy (2019-2029), to focus on sustaining the sanitation behaviour change that has been achieved under the Swachh Bharat Mission Grameen.

News: Others

1. Centre approves Gorewada International Zoo in Nagpur

Union Minister Prakash Javadekar announced the approval for the new Gorewada International Zoo to be inaugurated in Nagpur, Maharashtra. The zoo will be established on 1914 hectares of Forest Land through Forest Development Corporation of Maharashtra Limited (FDCML).

2. India Pavilion inaugurated at 44th Toronto Intern'l Film Festival

High Commissioner of India to Canada Vikas Swarup inaugurated India Pavilion at the 44th Toronto International Film Festival 2019, which will provide a platform to showcase Indian Cinema in the overseas market facilitating new business opportunities.

3. NIDM organizes Workshop on Post Disaster Needs Assessment (PDNA)

National Institute of Disaster Management (NIDM) organized one day National workshop on Post Disaster Needs Assessment (PDNA). The assessment was made under the National Cyclone Risk Mitigation Project (NCRMP).

4. Ujjwala Yojana achieves target of 8 crore LPG connections

Government achieved the target of giving 8 cr free cooking gas (LPG) connections to the poor 7 months ahead of schedule. PM Modi handed over the 8 croreth connection under PMUY at an event organised in Sendra, Aurangabad, Maharashtra.

5. Fin min sets up task force to identify infra projects worth ₹100 trillion

Fin. ministry has set up task force headed by the finance ministry's economic affairs secretary. It will draw up plan for the 'national infrastructure pipeline' from 2019-20 to 2024-25. Task force will submit the report on the plan for 2019-20 by October.

6. NITI Aayog gets Rs 7,000 cr for artificial intelligence project

Finance ministry has approved the expenditure of Rs 7,000 crore for NITI Aayog's artificial intelligence (AI) programme. 9 priority areas have been identified for the AI project & a plan to establish National Artificial Intelligence Portal.

7. *KVIC launches 'Terracotta Grinder' at Varanasi to Re-use wasted pottery*

Khadi & Village Industries Commission launched a first ever '**Terracotta Grinder**' at Sewapuri in Varanasi. The machine grinds the wasted pottery items for re-using in pottery-making. KVIC Chairman distributed 200 Electric Potter Wheels among villagers.

8. *PM Modi launches National Animal Disease Control Programme*

PM Modi launched National Animal Disease Control Programme for eradicating Foot & Mouth Disease/Brucellosis in the livestock from Mathura, UP, aimed at vaccinating over 500 Mn Livestock including cattle, buffalo, sheep, etc. against the disease.

9. *ICMR set to launch dengue vaccine in 2020*

An indigenous dengue vaccine designed to counter the outbreak of the vector-borne virus could be launched by the Indian Council of Medical Research in 2020. Dengue has been a 'common thread' on a research platform of south Asian countries with WHO as a partner.

10. *Govt allots Rs 7.87 cr for Khelo India athletes*

This year Sports Ministry sanctioned Rs 7.87 crore as out-of-pocket allowance for 2625 Khelo India athletes training in 99 Khelo India academies and other centres across the country. The sanction is for the period between October to December. Each athlete will be paid sum of Rs **10,000** a month.

11. *PAN-Aadhaar linking date extended to 31 December*

According to CBDT, The deadline to link the Permanent Account Number (PAN) with Aadhaar has been extended till December 31. This is the seventh time that the government has extended the deadline for individuals to link their PAN with Aadhaar. Earlier, the deadline was September 30.

12. *Govt to launch enterprise development centres for MSMEs in all districts*

Union Micro, small & medium enterprises sector minister Nitin Gadkari will launch enterprise development centres (EDCs) similar to incubators for start-ups to help new and existing businesses develop by providing services like management training etc.

International

News: Most Important

1. *Documentary Film on Life of Uttarakhand Farmer Nominated for Oscars*

Moti Bagh, a documentary film directed by **Nirmal Chander Dandriyal**, based on the struggle of a farmer in a remote Himalayan village, has been nominated for the Oscars, announced by Uttarakhand CM Trivendra Singh Rawat.

2. *Zoya Akhtar's 'Gully Boy' is India's official entry for the Oscars*

As per Film Federation of India (FFI), Zoya Akhtar's Gully Boy, with protagonist Ranveer Singh as an aspiring rapper, has been selected as India's official entry in the International Feature Film category at the Oscars.

3. *Qatar unveils 2022 FIFA World Cup logo*

Qatar unveiled the logo for the 2022 World Cup which will be hosted by the Gulf emirate, displaying it in public spaces in Doha and cities around the world. It was inspired by traditional woollen shawls worn during the winter months in Qatar.

4. *Petronet to invest \$2.5 bn in Tellurian's Louisiana project*

Tellurian Inc. has signed a \$7.5 billion agreement for India's Petronet LNG Ltd to buy a stake in its proposed liquefied natural gas (LNG) terminal in Louisiana. Petronet will spend \$2.5 bn. for an 18% equity stake in the \$28 billion Driftwood LNG terminal.

5. *AIIB to invest 1.09 bln USD in ASEAN countries to boost interconnectivity*

Asian Infrastructure Investment Bank will invest in 6 projects with 1.09 billion U.S.D in countries of the Association of Southeast Asian Nations (ASEAN). In the past 4 years, AIIB has invested a total of 1 bn. dollars in 10 projects in 6 ASEAN countries.

6. *Chinese navy launches its first amphibious assault ship*

China has launched its first amphibious assault ship, which would enable ground forces to carry out attacks on enemy territory from sea. The ship was launched in Shanghai.

News: Others

1. *Unilever achieves 100% renewable electricity use target across five continents*

Global consumer goods firm Unilever achieved 100% renewable electricity usage at its offices, factories and other facilities across five continents in line with its target to become a carbon neutral company by 2030.

2. *Reliance Power with Japan's JERA to set up power plant in Bangladesh*

Reliance Power signed a deal with JERA for jointly setting up 750 Mw gas-based combined cycle power project (Phase-1) in Meghnaghat, Bangladesh. RPower will hold 51% stake while JERA will have 49% in the joint venture company.

3. *WHO South-East Asia Region sets 2023 target to eliminate measles, rubella*

The member countries of WHO South-East Asia Region resolved to eliminate measles and rubella by 2023 to prevent deaths and disabilities caused by the highly infectious childhood killer diseases.

India & world

News: Most Important

1. *India, Mongolia sign MoUs in areas including space, disaster management & culture*

India and Mongolia have exchanged documents in areas including space, disaster management and culture. The exchanges also include Cultural Exchange Protocol and a Comprehensive Work Plan between Ministry of Fisheries, Animal Husbandry and Dairying.

2. *India extends \$1 billion line of credit to Russia*

For the development of Russian Far East, India has decided to give line of credit worth \$1 bn under the govt's Act East policy in the 20th Indo-Russia annual summit. India is a very attractive source of manpower exports to the Far East

3. *MCX, Zhengzhou Exchange sign MoU for exchange of information*

Multi Commodity Exchange of India & Zhengzhou Commodity Exchange of China have signed MoU for co-operation and the exchange of information. MCX offers commodity futures contracts in bullion, base metal, energy & agricultural commodities.

4. *India, Russia sign deal to overhaul, modernise Delhi-class warships*

Defence Ministry signed contract with JSC Rosoboronexport, Russian Federation for modernisation of "Air Defence Complex Kashmir and Radar Fregat MAE" on P-15 (Delhi class) of ships.

5. *Indo-Thailand Joint Military Exercise Maitree – 2019*

Joint Military Exercise MAITREE-2019 between India & Thailand took place at Foreign Training Node, **Umroi (Meghalaya)** from 16-29 Sep 2019. Its scope covers company level joint training on counter terrorism operations in jungle and urban scenario. The First Exercise MAITREE took place in 2006.

6. *India, Singapore, Thailand naval exercise – SITMEX 2019*

The trilateral naval exercise 'SITMEX' b/w India, Singapore & Thailand commenced at Port Blair. It is aimed at bolstering the maritime inter-relationships between the countries & contributing to enhancing the overall maritime security in the region.

7. *Exercise Yudh Abhyas 2019 took place in USA*

As part of the ongoing Indo-US defence cooperation, 15th edition of the joint military training, Exercise Yudh Abhyas - 2019 took place at Joint Base Lewis Mc Chord, Washington, USA.

8. *PIB publishes curtain raiser for KAZINAD-2019*

Joint Military Exercise KAZINAD-2019 between India and Kazakhstan will be conducted at Pithoragarh from 02 to 15 October 2019. The exercise will comprise of nearly 100 soldiers from both Indian and Kazakhstan Army according to the PIB press release.

News: Others

1. *Exchange of programmes between Akashvani Maitree & Betar begins from December*

The Director-General of All India Radio, Fayyaz Shehryar announced that exchange of programmes between Akashvani Maitree and Bangladesh Betar will begin from 1st of December 2019. A MOU was signed between India and Bangladesh on 2016.

operations who has served in the position on two separate occasions since 2013.

2. *SJVN to invest ₹7,000 crore in commissioning Nepal's Bhakra Dam*

Sutlej Jal Vidyut Nigam (SJVN) is investing about ₹7,000 crore in power generation and transmission in Nepal. It is the highest ever invested so far in Nepal by any company in the world. SJVN is a joint venture of the Central government & Himachal Pradesh. SJVN is executing the Arun-3 hydroelectric project (HEP).

3. *Saudi Arabia to invest \$100 billion in India*

Saudi Arabia is eyeing investments in India potentially worth \$100 bn in areas of energy, refining, petrochemicals, infrastructure, agriculture, minerals & mining. Vision 2030 of Saudi Arabia to result in significant expansion of trade between 2 nations.

Quick Revision: Facts

Country	Capital	Head of State / Govt.	Currency
Mongolia	Ulaanbaatar	Ukhnaagiin Khürelsükh	Togrog
Russia	Moscow	Vladimir Putin	Ruble
China	Beijing	Xi Jinping	Chinese Yuan
Thailand	Bangkok	Prayut Chan-o-cha	Baht
Singapore	Singapore City	Halimah Yacob	Singapore Dollar
Ukraine	Kiev	Volodymyr Zelensky	Ukrainian Hryvnia
USA	Washington D.C	Donald Trump	Dollar
Kazakhstan	Nur-Sultan	Askar Mamin	Tenge
Bangladesh	Dhaka	Sheikh Hasina	Taka
Nepal	Kathmandu	Khadga Prasad Oli	Nepalese Rupee
Saudi Arabia	Riyadh	Mohammad Bin Salman (Crown Prince)	Saudi Riyal
Maldives	Male	Ibrahim Mohamed Solih	Maldivian rufiyaa

Appointments & Resignations

News: Most Important

1. RBI approves reappointment of Shyam Srinivasan as Federal Bank CEO

Reserve Bank of India has approved the re-appointment of Shyam Srinivasan as the Managing Director and CEO of Federal Bank for another year, giving him a full decade as the head of the private sector lender.

2. Asian Development Bank President Takehiko Nakao resigns

Asian Development Bank President, Takehiko Nakao has announced his resignation which will be effective from January 16 next year. During his tenure, he expanded the operations of the funding agency from USD 14 bn in 2013 to USD 22 bn in 2018.

3. Kapil Dev appointed 1st chancellor of Haryana Sports University

Kapil Dev is set to be the first Chancellor of Haryana Sports University at Rai, Sonapat. Sports University, Haryana will be 3rd sports university established by a state government in the country after Gujarat & Tamil Nadu, to provide training for sports.

4. CEC Sunil Arora assumes charge as AWEB Chairman

Chief Election Commissioner Sunil Arora assumed Chairmanship of Association of World Election Bodies for the term 2019-21 as India takes over the Chair from Romania. India was nominated to be Vice-Chair, AWEB at the General Assembly held in 2017.

5. *RKS Bhadauria appointed as new Indian Air Force chief*

Government has appointed Air Marshal RKS Bhadauria as the new chief of Indian Air Force to serve for a 3-year term or till the age of 62. He is the current Vice-chief of Air Staff & takes over the post from his predecessor BS Dhanoa.

6. *Ramkumar Ramamoorthy appointed CMD Cognizant India*

Cognizant Technology Solutions has appointed Ramkumar Ramamoorthy as chairman and managing director of Cognizant India and head of India Operations. He has played a leading role in developing many of their India-based portfolios.

7. *Sunil Paliwal takes charge as Chairman & MD of Kamarajar Port*

Sunil Paliwal, a 1993 batch Tamil Nadu Cadre IAS Officer, took charge as Chairman-cum-Managing Director of Kamarajar Port Ltd. Before this, he was Tamil Nadu Labour and Employment Secretary.

8. *PK Mishra appointed principal secretary to PM Modi*

P.K. Mishra, currently serving as the additional principal secretary to Narendra Modi, has been appointed as principal secretary to the Prime Minister. **P.K. Sinha**, officer on special duty in the PM's office, has been appointed principal adviser to the PM.

9. *MD & CEO of Karnataka Bank inducted to the managing committee of Indian Banks' Association*

Mahabaleshwara MS, Managing Director and Chief Executive Officer of Karnataka Bank, has been inducted to the **managing committee of Indian Banks' Association (IBA)**. He was elected unopposed from the private sector member banks' category.

10. *Rajiv Kumar appointed as Microsoft India (R&D) Managing director*

Microsoft has named Rajiv Kumar as managing director of Microsoft India (R&D) who has worked as corporate VP of Microsoft's Experiences & Devices (E+D) Group, Kumar is taking on this added responsibility from Anil Bhansali.

11. *Justice Vikram Nath Appointed as Chief Justice of Gujarat High Court*

President of India has appointed Justice Vikram Nath as Chief Justice of Gujarat High Court upon Collegium's recommendation, which had previously recommended Justice Nath as Chief Justice of Andhra Pradesh High Court.

12. *Paytm Money elevates Pravin Jadhav as MD and CEO*

Paytm Money, the wholly-owned subsidiary of One97 Communications that owns and operates Paytm has elevated Pravin Jadhav as Managing Director & Chief Executive Officer, and also plans to invest Rs 250 crore over the next 18-24 months.

13. *Manoj Mukund Naravane takes charge as VC of Army staff*

Lieutenant General Manoj Mukund Naravane took charge of Vice Chief of the Army Staff. Naravane, who was earlier heading the Eastern Command of the Indian Army, succeeds Lieutenant General Devraj Anbu whose term ended recently.

14. *Alison Rose to become first female RBS chief executive*

Royal Bank of Scotland named Alison Rose as its new chief executive. She will be the 1st woman to lead the bank. Currently, she is the deputy head of RBS group's Natwest Holdings retail & commercial banking division. She will replace Ross McEwan on Nov 1.

15. *IDBI Bank appoints Samuel Joseph as Deputy Managing Director*

IDBI Bank's Board of Directors has approved the appointment of Samuel Joseph Jebaraj as Deputy MD for a period of **3 years**. It is the 1st major appointment on the Bank's Board after the acquisition with LIC. He replaced KP Nair who superannuated in May 2019.

16. *IndiGo board appoints advocate Pallavi Shardul Shroff as independent director*

IndiGo has approved the appointment of advocate Pallavi Shardul Shroff as an independent woman director in the company. She is currently also a director on the boards of Indian listed companies like Apollo Tyres Ltd., Trident Ltd. and Asian Paints Ltd.

17. *Kristalina Georgieva named as IMF chief*

The International Monetary Fund formally selected Kristalina Georgieva of Bulgaria as the IMF MD. She will succeed **Christine Lagarde**. Kristalina was previously the CEO of World Bank. She is the second woman ever to lead the IMF.

18. *Nilesh Shah has been appointed as the AMFI Chairman*

Nilesh Shah, MD of Kotak Mahindra Asset Management, has been appointed as the Chairman of the Association of Mutual Funds in India (AMFI). He will be succeeding Nimesh Shah, MD and CEO of ICICI Prudential AMC.

19. *Karnataka Bank chairman to head SIBSTC governing board*

The Chairman of Karnataka Bank Ltd, P Jayarama Bhat, has been elected as the Chairman of the governing board of Southern India Banks' Staff Training College, Bengaluru. He will hold the post for a period of three years from 2019-2022.

20. *Bipin Rawat to be the new Chairman of Chiefs of Staff Committee*

Army chief Gen Bipin Rawat will take over as the new Chairman of the Chiefs of Staff Committee. The Chiefs of Staff Committee (COSC) comprises chiefs of the Army, the Navy and the Air Force and the senior most member is appointed as COSC chairperson. He will succeed Air Chief Marshal B.S. Dhanoa.

21. *K S Dhatwalia appointed as PIB's Principal DG*

K S Dhatwalia, has been appointed as the Principal Director General of Press Information Bureau. He will succeed Sitanshu Kar. Dhatwalia will continue to hold the additional charge of Director General, Indian Institute of Mass Communication.

News: Others

1. *Titan MD Bhaskar Bhat to retire*

Bhaskar Bhat, managing director (MD) at Titan is slated to retire at the end of September, 2019, after spending 36 years in the Titan's administration. Titan is headquartered in the city of Bengaluru.

2. *Nissan India Appoints Rakesh Srivastava As Managing Director*

Nissan announced the appointment of Rakesh Srivastava as Managing Director, Nissan Motor India and would report to **Sinan Ozkok**, President of Nissan India Operations. He worked as Director in charge of electric vehicle development, JSW Group.

3. *Lt Gen Anil Chauhan assumes charge as Eastern Army Commander*

Lieutenant General Anil Chauhan assumed the charge of Eastern Command with a solemn wreath-laying ceremony at the Eastern Command War Memorial, after the post was vacated by Lt Gen MM Naravane, who assumed charge of Vice Chief of the Army Staff.

4. *Rajiv Kumar Vyas takes charge as GM of Rail Wheel Factory*

Rajiv Kumar Vyas took charge as General Manager, Rail Wheel Factory. Prior to this, he was holding the post of Adviser - Railway Stores Railway Board. He is also founder member of Indian Railway Institute of Logistics and Material Management (IRILMM).

5. *Abhijit Guha appointed Head of Hodeidah Mission in Yemen: UN*

UN Secretary-General appointed Lieutenant General (retired) Abhijit Guha as the head of the world body's observer mission in Yemen's port city of Hodeidah. He will chair the Redeployment Coordination Committee and will also head UNMHA. He will succeed Lieutenant General Michael Lollesgaard.

6. *Government appoints Sanjay Tyagi as Director General of Health Services*

The government announced the appointment of Dr Sanjay Tyagi as Director General of Health Services (DGHS). He will hold the position of DGHS till he attains 62 years of age. He is Director of GB Pant Institute.

7. *Anurag Katriar, appointed new president of National Restaurant Association*

Anurag Katriar, CEO of deGustibus Hospitality that runs Indigo Deli chain has been appointed the new president of the National Restaurant Association of India. He will be replacing Rahul Singh. Kabir Suri, was appointed vice president.

8. *Vijay Kumar Chopra, Vineet Jain elected PTI chairman & vice-chairman*

Vijay Kumar Chopra and Vineet Jain were elected Chairman and Vice-Chairman respectively of Press Trust of India. Vijay is the Chief editor of the Punjabi Kesari Group of newspapers and Vineet is the MD of Bennett, Coleman and Company Ltd.

9. *Vaijinath M. Gavarshetty appointed CEO of DHFL*

The board of directors of Dewan Housing Finance Corporation Ltd (DHFL) approved the appointment of Vaijinath M. Gavarshetty as the Chief Executive Officer and key managerial personnel of the company with effect from October 1, 2019. He is a former Chief General Manager of State Bank of India.

10. *ECI approves appointment of Sushil Kumar Lohani as Chief Electoral Officer of Odisha*

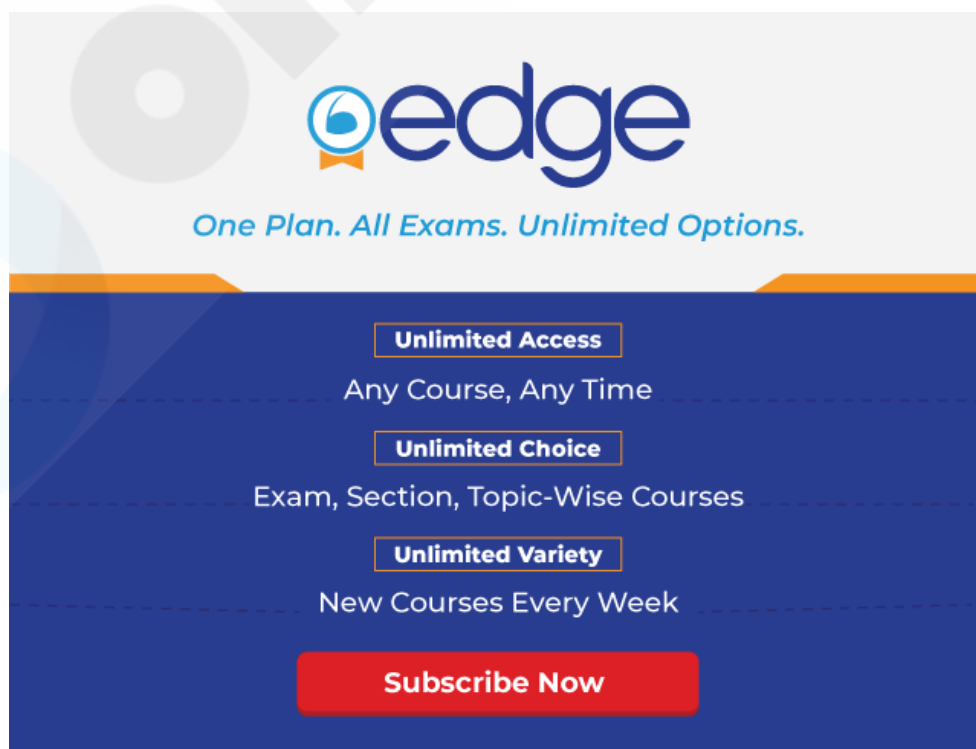
The Election Commission of India (ECI) has approved appointment of senior IAS officer Sushil Kumar Lohani as chief Electoral Officer of Odisha. He is currently serving as state excise secretary & will be replacing Surendra Kumar.

11. *Oleksiy Honcharuk appointed youngest-ever Prime Minister of Ukraine*

Oleksiy Honcharuk has been appointed new prime minister of Ukraine supported by 290 out of 424 lawmakers. He was predominantly supported by President Volodymyr Zelensky's Servant of the People party faction, which consists of 254 lawmakers.

12. *RBI appoints Jai Bhagwan Bhorla as administrator for PMC Bank*

The RBI has superseded the Board of Punjab and Maharashtra Cooperative Bank Limited, Mumbai and appointed Jai Bhagwan Bhorla as the bank's administrator with all powers of the board. The RBI's directives will remain in force for a period of six months.



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Quick Revision

Appointment/Resignation	Post
Shyam Srinivasan	Federal Bank CEO
Takehiko Nakao	President ,Asian Development Bank
Kapil Dev	Chancellor, Haryana Sports University
Sunil Arora	Chairman, Association of World Election Bodies
RKS Bhadauria	Chief, Indian Air Force
Ramkumar Ramamoorthy	CMD Cognizant India
Sunil Paliwal	Chairman & MD of Kamarajar Port
P.K. Mishra	Principal secretary, PM Modi
Rajiv Kumar	Managing director ,Microsoft India (R&D)
Justice Vikram Nath	Chief Justice, Gujarat High Court
Pravin Jadhav	MD and CEO, Paytm Money
Manoj Mukund Naravane	Vice Chief, Army Staff
Alison Rose	CEO, Royal Bank of Scotland
Samuel Joseph Jebaraj	Deputy MD, IDBI Bank
Pallavi Shardul Shroff	Independent director, IndiGo board
Kristalina Georgieva	MD ,IMF
Nilesh Shah	Chairman, Association of Mutual Funds in India (AMFI)
P Jayarama Bhat	Head, SIBSTC governing board
Bipin Rawat	Chairman, Chiefs of Staff Committee
Bhaskar Bhat (retire)	MD, Titan
Rakesh Srivastava	Managing Director, Nissan India
Lieutenant General Anil Chauhan	Eastern Army Commander
Rajiv Kumar Vyas	General Manager, Rail Wheel Factory
Abhijit Guha	Head, Hodeidah Mission in Yemen
Dr Sanjay Tyagi	Director General of Health Services
Anurag Katriar	President, National Restaurant Association of India
Vijay Kumar Chopra	Chairman, Press Trust of India
Vineet Jain	Vice Chairman ,Press Trust of India
Sushil Kumar Lohani	Chief Electoral Officer, Odisha
Vaijinath M. Gavarshetty	CEO,DHFL
Oleksiy Honcharuk	PM, Ukraine
K S Dhatwalia	Principal DG, PIB
Jai Bhagwan Bhorla	Administrator, PMC Bank

Ranks & Reports

News: Most Important

1. *Travel & Tourism Competitiveness index: India ranked 34th*

India's ranking improved from 40th to 34th, over 2017 on world travel and tourism competitiveness index by WEF. Spain held on to the top spot in the report which ranked 140 countries on their relative strengths in global tourism and travel.

2. *Mumbai at 5th position in Asia Pacific Co-living Index*

Mumbai occupied 5th position in a report titled- Insights on Co-living – An Asia-Pacific Perspective, which covered 20 major Asia-Pacific cities. New Delhi is ranked 11th and Bengaluru 19th. Beijing, Tokyo, Shanghai & Hong Kong occupy top 4 slots.

3. *Indian MFs: UAE tops in investments by non-residents*

As per the RBI's data, UAE, UK & US were the largest investors together accounting for one-third of the MF units held by non-residents. UAE (16%) is in the 1st spot in the investments by non-residents in MF units followed by the USA (9.6%).

4. *India slips to 104th spot in latest FIFA ranking*

The Indian football team slipped a place to 104th position in the latest FIFA rankings. Belgium holds the top position, while France have surpassed Brazil to reach the second spot. Oman gained three places to 84th spot, following their 2-1 win over India.

5. *HDFC Bank emerges as India's most valuable brand*

HDFC Bank has emerged as the most valued Indian brand by the 'WPP and Kantar Millward Brown's BrandZ 75 Most Valuable Indian Brands' ranking. Insurance brand LIC comes in at the second spot while Tata Consultancy Services ranked third.

News: Others

1. *India lost 31% of grasslands b/w 2005-2015: COP14*

India lost 31% or 5.65 mha of grassland area in a decade, data shown by Union government during the ongoing 14th Conference of Parties (COP). The total area under grasslands reduced to 12.3 mha from 18 mha between 2005 & 2015.

2. *17 Indian firms in Forbes World's Best Regarded Companies list*

As many as 17 Indian companies, including Infosys, TCS have been named in the list of World's Best Regarded Companies compiled by Forbes. Infosys has been ranked third in the list. Visa and Ferrari are on the first and second position, respectively.

3. *India sees improvement in overall life expectancy at birth to 69 years*

India registered improvement in overall life expectancy at birth to **69** years, with women expected to live for 70.4 years & men for 67.8 years, as per Sample Registration Survey (SRS) for 2013-17.

4. *India is the top source of immigrants across the globe*

As per the data from Union Nations Dept of Economic & Social Affairs, India has emerged as the leading country of origin for immigrants followed by Mexico. European region (82 mn) hosted the highest number of immigrants, followed by North America (59 mn).

Important days

News: Most Important

1. *International Day of Charity: 5 September*

In recognition Mother Teresa's role of charity in alleviating humanitarian crises & human suffering within & among nation, UN designated September 5, as International Day of Charity to mark the day she expired.

2. *World Suicide Prevention Day: September 10*

World Suicide Prevention Day, on 10 September, is organized by the International Association for Suicide Prevention (IASP) with WHO as a co-sponsor of the day with a purpose to raise awareness around the globe that suicide can be prevented.

3. *Hindi Diwas, observed all over India : September 14*

Hindi Diwas, is celebrated every year on September 14, marking the significance of the day when India's Constituent Assembly adopted Hindi as the official language of India. Hindi is one of the two official languages of the Union Government.

4. *International Day of Democracy: 15 September*

2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development addresses democracy in SDG 16. This year's theme: Participation, is an opportunity to recall that democracy is about people & built on inclusion, equal treatment and participation.

5. *World Ozone Day – September 16*

World Ozone Day is observed on September 16 every year to spread awareness among people about the depletion of the Ozone layer and search possible solutions to preserve it. The theme of World Ozone Day is '**32 years and Healing**'.

6. *World Water Monitoring Day – September 18*

Every year, the World Water Monitoring Day is celebrated on Sep 18. It was first instituted in the year 2003 to build public awareness and involvement in protecting water resources around the world. It aims to empower the citizens to conduct basic checking of their local water bodies.

7. *International Day of Peace – September 21*

International Day of Peace is celebrated on September 21 to encourage people about worldwide peace which can be achieved by focusing and understanding the factors of climate change. The theme is '**Climate Action for Peace**'.

8. *International Day of Sign Languages: 23 September*

The day recognizes the importance of sign languages. It offers an opportunity to support and protect the linguistic identity and cultural diversity of all sign language users. The over-arching theme of IDSL 2019 is "Sign Language Rights for All!". The first IDSL was observed on 23rd September **2018**.

9. *International Day for the Total Elimination of Nuclear Weapons :26 September*

September 26 was made into the International day for the Total Elimination of Nuclear weapons by UNGA resolution in 2013. In 1959, the General Assembly endorsed the objective of general and complete disarmament.

10. *World Maritime Day : 26 September*

2019 Theme: Empowering women in the maritime community

This year's theme provides an opportunity to raise awareness of the importance of gender equality, in line with the United Nations' Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), and to highlight the important - yet under-utilized - contribution of women within the maritime sector.

11. *UNWTO celebrates World Tourism day*

United Nations World Tourism Organization celebrates World Tourism Day on September 27. The theme of 2019 tourism day is "Tourism and jobs: a better future for all". UNWTO chooses India as host country to celebrate World Tourism Day 2019.

UNWTO started to celebrate tourism day since 1980.

News: Others

1. *International Day for South-South Cooperation - 12 September*

The day celebrates on September 12 the economic, social and political developments made in recent years by regions and countries in the South. The Theme for 2019 was "From Commitment to Action — Follow up to Buenos Aires Plan of Action+40".

2. *World Bamboo Day – September 18*

The Bamboo Forum of India celebrated World Bamboo Day on September 18 under the theme 'Bamboo for sustainable development goals. It is observed every year to increase awareness of bamboo globally to protect natural resources & the environment.

3. *World Alzheimer's Day – September 21*

World Alzheimer's Day is celebrated every year on 21 September. The 2019 theme is raising awareness and challenging stigma. The day's focus is on stigma and how to break stereotypes and myths that surround the diagnosis of dementia.

4. *International Day for Universal Access to Information : September 28*

Since 2016 UNESCO marks 28 September as the "International Day for Universal Access to Information" (IDUAI). The theme of this year's celebration is "Leaving No One Behind!", a mission in which digital technology is an invaluable resource.

5. *World Rabies Day : September 28*

It is celebrated annually to raise awareness about rabies prevention and to highlight progress in defeating this horrifying disease. It also marks the anniversary of **Louis Pasteur's** death, the French chemist and microbiologist, who developed the first rabies vaccine.

6. *International Translation Day : 30 September*

International Translation Day is meant as an opportunity to pay tribute to the work of language professionals, which plays an important role in bringing nations together, facilitating dialogue, understanding and cooperation, contributing to development and strengthening world peace and security.



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Quick Revision

Date	Day	Theme
September 5	International Day of Charity	NA
September 10	World Suicide Prevention Day	"Working Together To Prevent Suicide"
September 12	International Day for South-South Cooperation	From Commitment to Action — Follow up to Buenos Aires Plan of Action+40.
September 14	Hindi Diwas	NA
September 15	International Day of Democracy	Participation, is an opportunity to recall that democracy is about people & built on inclusion, equal treatment and participation
September 16	World Ozone Day	'32 years and Healing'
September 18	World Water Monitoring Day	NA
September 18	World Bamboo Day	Bamboo for sustainable development goals'
September 21	International Day of Peace	'Climate Action for Peace'
September 21	World Alzheimer's Day	Raising awareness and challenging stigma
September 23	International Day of Sign Languages	Sign Language Rights for All!
September 26	International day for the Total Elimination of Nuclear weapons	NA
September 26	World Maritime Day	Empowering women in the maritime community
September 27	World Tourism Day	Tourism and jobs: a better future for all
September 28	International Day for Universal Access to Information	Leaving No One Behind
September 28	World Rabies Day	NA
September 30	International Translation Day	Translation and Indigenous Languages

Sports

News: Most Important

1. *Vinesh Phogat wins bronze at Wrestling World Championships*

Vinesh Phogat defeated 2-time world bronze medallist Maria Prevolaraki of Greece by fall in the bronze medal bout of 53 kg freestyle event. She is only the fourth Indian female wrestler to win a medal at the tournament held in Nur-Sultan, Kazakhstan.

2. *Pankaj Advani-Aditya Mehta pair wins World Team Snooker title*

The Indian duo of Pankaj Advani and Aditya Mehta clinched IBSF World Snooker Team title at Mandalay, Myanmar. The Indian pair beat Thailand's team comprising C.Pongsakorn and D.Poramin.

3. *Manipur clinched 25th Senior Women's National Football Championship*

Manipur have clinched the title of the 25th Senior Women's National Football Championship for the 20th time. Manipur defeated Railways in 1-0. Bala Devi is the highest scorer in the tournament with 20 goals.

4. *India won 5 medals at the World Wrestling Championship 2019*

India won 5 medals that included 1 silver and 4 bronze medals in the World Wrestling Championships 2019. India's Rahul Aware won medal by winning bronze in the 61kg event while Dipak Punia settle for silver.

5. *Lionel Messi wins best FIFA player of the year for record sixth time*

Argentinian- Lionel Messi beat Liverpool defender **Virgil van Dijk** and five-time winner Cristiano Ronaldo to win the best FIFA player of the year award for a record sixth time. U.S. co-captain **Megan Rapinoe** won the women's top award.

6. *Carolina Marin and Kento Momota claim top honours In China Open 2019*

Carolina Marin & Kento Momota claimed top honours at BWF China Open. Marin defeat Taiwan's second seed Tai Tzu-Ying in the Chinese city of Changzhou. Japanese Kento Momota clinched men's title with a win over Indonesia's Anthony Sinisuka Ginting.

7. *World Wrestling Championships 2019: Bajrang Punia, Ravi Kumar seal bronze medals*

Bajrang Punia defeated Mongolia's Tulga Ochir in the bronze medal match of 65kg freestyle category at Wrestling World Championships in Nur-Sultan. Ravi Kumar Dahiya defeated Reza Atrinagharchi of Iran to win a bronze medal in the 57kg freestyle.

8. *Yashaswini Deswal wins gold at ISSF World Cup*

Yashaswini Singh Deswal won gold in the women's 10-meter Air Pistol event at the ISSF World Cup at in Rio de Janeiro in Brazil securing an Olympic quota for India. World no.1 Olena Kostevych of Ukraine claimed the silver.

9. *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.

10. *US Open final: Bianca Andreescu beats Serena Williams*

19-yr old Canadian Bianca Andreescu upset Serena Williams 6-3, 7-5 in the U.S. Open final for her first Grand Slam title. This is 2nd year in a row that Williams has lost in the U.S. Open final. Andreescu is 1st woman to win the U.S. Open in US Open debut.

11. *US Open: Nadal earns 19th Grand Slam title*

Rafael Nadal survived a heroic Daniil Medvedev fightback in the US Open finals to claim an epic 7-5 6-3 5-7 4-6 6-4 win and a fourth U.S. Open title, moving within one Grand Slam crown of matching Roger Federer's all-time record of 20.

12. *Charles Leclerc wins Italian Grand Prix*

Ferrari's 21-yr old Charles Leclerc won a nail-biting, incident-filled Italian Grand Prix. Leclerc's victory was his 2nd in a row, following his maiden win in Belgium, & Ferrari's 1st at their home race since Fernando Alonso triumphed in 2010.

13. *Ferrari's Charles Leclerc wins Belgian Grand Prix*

Charles Leclerc just held off Lewis Hamilton to win the Belgian Grand Prix from pole position, securing the 1st victory of his Formula One career. Mercedes teammate Valtteri Bottas was third, finishing ahead of Ferrari's Sebastian Vettel.

14. *Lakshya Sen clinches men's singles title in Belgium*

Indian shuttler Lakshya Sen stunned second seed **Victor Svendsen** of Denmark in straight games to clinch men's singles title at the Belgian International Challenge 2019 held in Brussels.

15. *Pankaj Advani clinches record 22nd world title*

Pankaj Advani has clinched a record 22nd world titles by winning a fourth straight final in the 150-up format at the IBSF World Billiards Championship in Myanmar. He defeated Nay Thway of Myanmar. It is his fifth title in the last six years.

16. *Sourabh Verma clinches Vietnam Open Men's Singles title*

In Badminton, Sourabh Verma clinched the Vietnam Open Super 100 title. He defeated China's **Sun Fei Xiang** in Men's Singles at the Ho Chi Minh City. He had won the Hyderabad Open and Slovenian International in 2019.

17. *India Thrash Nepal 7-0 to Win U-15 SAFF Championship*

India U-15 team thrashed Nepal 7-0 to lift the SAFF U-15 title at the Kalyani Stadium, West Bengal. Striker Sridarth Nongmeikapam scored a hat-trick while Maheson Singh, Amandeep, Sibajit Singh and Himanshu Jangra scored one goal apiece.

18. *India Red clinch Duleep Trophy*

India Red clinched the Duleep Trophy title. They defeated India Green by an innings and 38 runs in the final at the Chinnaswamy Stadium. Abhimanyu Easwaran scored 153 to setup victory for India Red.

News: Others

1. *Tsonga Triumphs at Moselle Open In Metz*

Jo-Wilfried Tsonga became the first man to claim four titles at the Moselle Open in Metz. He fought past Aljaz Bedene of Slovenia, who was aiming to capture his maiden title on the ATP Tour. He lifted his 10th of his 18 ATP career trophies on home soil.

2. *Rujuta Khade emerges as country's fastest female swimmer in 50m freestyle*

Rujuta Khade emerged as country's fastest female swimmer, taking the 50m freestyle title at 73rd Glenmark National senior aquatics championships in Bhopal & Virdhawal Khade won the Men's 50m freestyle title gaining the title of Country's fastest couple.

3. *Track Asia Cup Cycling: Ronaldo Laitonjam Wins Fourth Gold*

Ronaldo Laitonjam won his fourth gold of the meet at the Track Asia Cup cycling competition. He emerged overall champions at New Delhi. India topped the medal tally with 10 gold, 8 silver and 7 bronze medals followed by Uzbekistan and Malaysia.

4. *India lifts SAFF U-18 Championship title for 1st time*

India defeated Bangladesh by 2-1 in the final of SAFF Under-18 Championship 2019 to lift the title in Kathmandu. India's Ninthoinganba Meetei was declared Most Valuable Player of the championship. Host Nepal had lifted earlier 2 editions of the C'ship

5. *Indian junior boys win bronze in Serbia Junior & Cadet Open*

In Table Tennis, Indian junior boys Raegan Albuquerque and Yashansh Malik paired with the Netherlands' Lode Hulshof won the bronze medal at the Serbia Junior and Cadet Open in Zrenjanin, Serbia.

Awards

News: Most Important

1. *Pralhad Joshi confers the National Geoscience Awards*

National Geoscience Awards 2018 for outstanding contributions across 10 fields including geosciences, mining and allied areas were presented to 22 scientists from across the country by Minister of Parliamentary Affairs, Coal and Mines, Pralhad Joshi.

2. *Greta Thunberg wins Amnesty's highest human rights award*

Swedish environmental activist Greta Thunberg and the Fridays for Future youth movement received Amnesty International's 'Ambassadors of Conscience' award for their work highlighting the need for urgent action to avert climate disaster.

3. *Tom Hanks to get lifetime achievement award at Golden Globes*

Tom Hanks is set to be honoured with a lifetime achievement award at next year's Golden Globe awards. He will receive the **2020 Cecil B DeMille award** at the event in January, 2020. Award is given annually to an actor, director or producer.

4. *Amitabh Bachchan to be honoured with Dadasaheb Phalke Award*

Bollywood megastar Amitabh Bachchan will be honoured with India's highest award in cinema, Dadasaheb Phalke Award. IB Minister Prakash Javadekar made the announcement. He made his Bollywood debut with the film Saat Hindustani. The first recipient of the award was actress Devika Rani.

5. *PM Modi receives Global Goalkeeper Award*

PM Narendra Modi received the 2019 Global Goalkeeper Award for Swachh Bharat Mission from **Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation**. The award ceremony took place on the side-lines of the United Nations General Assembly (UNGA) session.

6. *Music Director Usha Khanna to be Honoured with 'Lata Mangeshkar Award'*

Veteran music director Usha Khanna has been conferred with the Maharashtra government's 'Lata Mangeshkar Award' for the year 2019-20. The award was instituted in 1993 by the state government.

7. *Odia writer Pradeep Dash to get Sarala Award*

Noted Odia writer Pradeep Dash will get the 40th edition of prestigious Sarala Puraskar for his poetry work 'Charu Chibar O Charjya'. Pandit Harmohan Khuntia will be awarded 'Ila Panda Sangeet Samman', Lalat Mohan Patnaik will receive 'Ila Panda Chitrakala Samman'.

8. *20th International Indian Film Academy (IIFA) Awards*

Best Picture award – Raazi

Best Director - Sriram Raghavan (AndhaDhun)

Best Actor (Female) - Alia Bhatt (Raazi)

Best Actor (Male) - Ranveer Singh (Padmaavat)

9. *Scientist Thanu Padmanabhan gets MP Birla Memorial Award*

Physicist Thanu Padmanabhan received the M P Birla Memorial Award 2019 for his contributions to the world of cosmology. The Award comprises a citation, trophy and a cheque for Rs **2,51,000**.

News: Others

1. *Union HRD Minister presented CBSE Teacher Awards - 2018*

Union Human Resource Development Minister presented CBSE Teacher Awards - 2018 to 34 teachers of the country. He also launched CBSE's portal 'Vidyadhan' on Diksha App, a Digital Infrastructure for Knowledge Sharing's.

2. *Prez Kovind to confer National Awards to teachers*

President Ram Nath Kovind conferred the National Award to Teachers-2018 in New Delhi & "**Prerna App**" was launched by Chief Minister Yogi Adityanath to mark the occasion of birth anniversary of former President Dr Sarvepalli Radhakrishnan on September 5.

3. *Prof Muhammad Yunus conferred 'Lamp of Peace of Saint Francis ' award*

Nobel Laureate from Bangladesh Professor Muhammad Yunus was conferred the 'Lamp of Peace of Saint Francis ' award by the Vatican for his contribution towards establishing peace & harmony at the historical Papal Basilica of Assisi in Italy.

4. *Raghu Rai chosen as first recipient of newly instated international photography award*

Renowned Indian photographer Raghu Rai has been chosen as the first recipient of the inaugural edition of the Acadmie des beaux-arts Photography Award - William Klein. The prize is intended to reward a photographer for their entire career and commitment to photography.

5. *CIAL bags global award for passenger satisfaction*

Cochin International Airport has been selected as the best airport in terms of services offered to passengers, based on a survey conducted by Airport Council International. Airport Service Quality (ASQ)survey is the world-renowned airport service quality benchmarking programme.

6. Vice President conferred the National tourism awards

On the occasion of world tourism day, Venkaiah Naidu conferred the National tourism awards. **Andhra Pradesh** bagged the Best State award for overall growth in tourism category. Goa and Madhya Pradesh were joint winners in Adventure Tourism category.

7. Rajasthan awarded for water use practices

Rajasthan awarded for water conservation and efficient use practices by the National Water Mission of the Government of India under Category 2-Promotion of citizen and state action for water conservation, augmentation and preservation-of awards.

Quick Revision

Winner	Award
Greta Thunberg	Amnesty International's 'Ambassadors of Conscience' award
Tom Hanks	2020 Cecil B DeMille award
Amitabh Bachchan	Dadasaheb Phalke Award
PM Narendra Modi	2019 Global Goalkeeper Award
Usha Khanna	Lata Mangeshkar Award
Pradeep Dash	Sarala Puraskar
Best Picture award (IIFA)	Raazi
Best Director(IIFA)	Sriram Raghavan (AndhaDhun)
Best Actor (Female) (IIFA)	Alia Bhatt (Raazi)
Best Actor (Male) (IIFA)	Ranveer Singh (Padmaavat)
Raghu Rai	Acadmie des beaux-arts Photography Award
Cochin International Airport	Global award for passenger satisfaction
Rajasthan	Award for Water use practices
Thanu Padmanabhan	MP Birla Memorial Award



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Obituaries

News: Most Important

1. *Microsoft CEO Satya Nadella's Father BN Yugandhar passes away*

Microsoft Chief Executive Officer Satya Nadella's father and former IAS officer BN Yugandhar ,80 passed away after brief illness. He was the top bureaucrat in the Rural Development Ministry when PV Narasimha Rao was the Prime Minister. He served in the PM's Office and the Planning Commission.

2. *Noted jurist Ram Jethmalani passes away at 95*

Currently a Member of the Rajya Sabha, Lawyer & former Union Minister Ram Jethmalani passed away at his residence in New Delhi at the age of 95. Born in Sindh, Pakistan in 1923, he had obtained a law degree when he was just 17.

3. *Emmy Award-winning actress Valerie Harper,80 passed away*

Actress Valerie Harper, the star of "The Mary Tyler Moore Show" and spin-off series "Rhoda" passed away. She was 80. She began her career as a dancer on Broadway, making her debut in the musical "Take Me Along" in 1959.

4. *Cokie Roberts, famed journalist and political commentator, dies at 75*

Cokie Roberts has died at the age of 75. She worked in radio and at CBS News and PBS before joining ABC News in 1988. She was a congressional reporter and analyst who co-anchored the Sunday political show This Week with Sam Donaldson from 1996 to 2002.

5. *Former Pakistan legspinner Abdul Qadir dies aged 63*

Former Pakistan spinner Abdul Qadir, credited for reviving the art of leg-spin bowling in the 1970s and 80s, died of a heart attack. He took 132 wickets in 104 one-day internationals, playing the last of his international matches in 1993.

6. *Zimbabwe's Former President Robert Mugabe Passes Away at 95*

Robert Mugabe, the bush war guerrilla leader who led Zimbabwe to independence in 1980 and crushed his foes during nearly four decades of rule as his country descended into poverty, hyperinflation and unrest, died. He was 95.

7. *LaShawn Daniels Grammy Award-winning songwriter dies at 41*

LaShawn Daniels, a Grammy Award-winning songwriter who penned songs for Beyoncé, Whitney Houston and Lady Gaga has died. He was 41. He earned a Grammy in 2001 for his songwriting work on Destiny Child's 'Say My Name.'

8. *Tunisia's former president dies at 83*

Tunisia's former president Zine El Abidine Ben Ali died at the age of 83. He ruled Tunisia b/w 1987 & 2011. He started his career in the Tunisian army & oversaw Tunisia's military security for 10 yrs. He was appointed as prime minister in 1987.

9. *Fernando Ricksen, former Netherlands and Rangers footballer, dies aged 43*

The former Rangers and Netherlands player Fernando Ricksen has died at the age of 43. He spent six trophy-laden seasons at Ibrox having initially joined several other Dutch players under manager Dick Advocaat in the summer of 2000.

10. *Film editor Sanjib Kumar Datta passes away*

Film editor Sanjib Kumar Datta passed away aged 54. He has movies like Iqbal, Ek Hasina Thi and Mardaani to his credit. He collaborated with Nagesh Kukunoor on most of the director's films including Aashayein, 3 Deewarein, 8×10 Tasveer, Mod & Bombay to Bangkok.

11. *Climate change campaigner Tongan PM dies in New Zealand*

Tongan Prime Minister 'Akilisi Pohiva, a pro-democracy and climate change campaigner in the South Pacific, died in New Zealand. He was 78. He was known as a champion for democracy & was charged with sedition in wake of pro-democracy riots in the capital Nuku'alofa in 2006.

12. *Renowned writer of Kerala Sivaraman Cheriyanad passes away*

Noted writer Sivaraman Cheriyanad passed away. He received the Abu Dhabi Sakthi Award in 1988 and the A.P. Kalakkad Award in 2009. He bagged Kerala Sahithya Akademi scholarship in 1990-91 for his study on the works of writer Parappuram. He received National Teachers Award in 1989.

13. *Jacques Chirac: Former French president dies aged 86*

Former French President Jacques Chirac passed away at the age of 86. Chirac served two terms as president and twice as PM and took France into the single European currency.

14. *Actor-Kathak guru Veeru Krishnan dies in Mumbai*

Actor and dance trainer Veeru Krishnan, best known for his role in Aamir Khan's 1996 film Raja Hindustani, died in Mumbai. He trained several actresses in dance over the years including Priyanka Chopra, Katrina Kaif and Athiya Shetty, to name a few.

15. *Ramsay 'Brother' Shyam Ramsay Dies in Mumbai*

Shyam Ramsay, one of the 7 Ramsay Brothers known for cult horror films such as "Puraani Haveli" and "Tahkhaana", died. He was 67. He made the country's first horror series "The Zee Horror Show". He also made "Ghutan" (2007), a comedy horror film, "Bachao" (2010) & "Neighbours" (2014).

16. *Former AP speaker Kodela Sivaprasada Rao passes away*

Kodela Sivaprasada Rao, former speaker of the Andhra Pradesh Legislative Assembly, passed away. He was 72. He was a Six-time MLA from Narsaraopet constituency in Guntur district. He joined the TDP in 1983. In 2014, he was made the first Speaker of the Assembly.

News: Others

1. *Former Indian cricketer Madhav Apte dies aged 86*

Veteran cricketer Madhav Apte died after suffering a cardiac arrest at the age of 86. He was the first Indian opener to aggregate over 400 runs in a Test series. His highest first-class score was 165 not out.

2. *Congress leader Sukhdev Singh Libra passes away at 87*

Congress leader and former MP Sukhdev Singh Libra passed away after a prolonged illness,

He was 87. He was the member of the 14th and 15th Lok Sabhas. He was also a Punjab MLA in 1985. He was a member of Rajya Sabha from 1998-2004.

3. *Veteran Malayalam actor Sathar passes away at 67*

Veteran Kerala actor Sathar passed away at the age of 67. He has acted in more than 300 films including Tamil and Telugu films. He made his debut in the Malayalam movie Bharyaye Aavashyamundu directed by M. Krishnan Nair in 1975.

4. *Veteran actor Viju Khote passes away at 77*

Veteran Hindi & Marathi film-theatre actor Viju Khote passed away on due to multiple organ failure. He was 77. The actor was most famous for playing the dacoit Kalia in Sholay & Robert in Andaz Apna.

5. *Kirti Chakra awardee Commander Noel Kelman passed away*

Naval war hero and Kirti Chakra awardee, Commander Noel Kelman, passed away at the age of 92 in Porvorim . He was awarded the Kirti Chakra for valour during the liberation of Goa in 1961. He was involved in an operation to flush out the Portuguese from the Anjadip Island.

6. *Noted author Rizia Rahman dies at 80*

The Ekushey Padak-winning novelist Rizia Rahman passed away at the age of 80. She received the Bangla Academy Literary Award in 1978. Born in Kolkata's Bhabanipur in 1939, Rizia migrated to then East Bengal after the Partition with her family.

7. *DD news anchor Neelum Sharma passes away*

News anchor Neelum Sharma, who was associated with India's public service broadcaster Doordarshan News for over 20 years passed away. She was honoured with Nari Shakti Puraskar by President Ram Nath Kovind earlier this year.

8. *Sahitya Akademi Award winner NS Tasneem passes away at 91*

Eminent Punjabi writer and Sahitya Akademi winner Professor Niranjana Singh Tasneem passed away. He was 91. He was awarded Punjab's highest literary honor – Punjabi Sahit Rattan – in 2015. He was awarded Sahitya Akademi award for his novel 'Gawache Arth' (The Lost Meaning) in 1999.

9. *Veteran director J Om Prakash dies at 93*

Veteran director and actor Hrithik Roshan's grandfather, J Om Prakash, passed away on Wednesday. He was 93. His last film as director was 2001's "Afsana Dilwalon Ka", starring Rahul Roy in the lead.

10. *Silver Jews' David Berman passes away at 52*

David Berman, the singer-songwriter best known for leading the long-running, critically acclaimed indie band Silver Jews, passed away at the age of 52. He formed Silver Jews in 1989 with Stephen Malkmus and another future Pavement member, Bob Nastanovich.

Quick Revision

Obituary (Name)	Related Field
BN Yugandhar	Former bureaucrat
Ram Jethmalani	Jurist
Valerie Harper	Actor
Cokie Roberts	Journalism
Abdul Qadir	Cricket
Robert Mugabe	Zimbabwe's Former President
LaShawn Daniels	Songwriter
Zine El Abidine Ben Ali	Tunisia's former president
Fernando Ricksen	Football
Sanjib Kumar Datta	Editor
Akilisi Pohiva	Climate change campaigner
Jacques Chirac	Former French president
Madhav Apte	Cricketer
Sukhdev Singh	Politician
Veeru Krishnan	Actor and dance trainer
Shyam Ramsay	Film Maker
Kodala Sivaprasada Rao	Former AP speaker
Viju Khote	Actor
David Berman	Singer-Songwriter
J Om Prakash	Director
NS Tasneem	Writer
Neelum Sharma	News Anchor
Noel Kelman	Naval war Hero
Rizia Rahman	Author

Schemes

News: Most Important

1. Prime Minister Launched Pradhan Mantri Kisan Maan Dhan Yojana

Prime Minister Narendra Modi launched the Pradhan Mantri Kisan Maan Dhan Yojana at Ranchi. The Scheme will secure the lives of 5 Crore Small and Marginal Farmers by providing a minimum pension of Rs 3000 per month, to those who attain 60 years of age.

2. ECGC launches 'Nirvik' scheme to enhance loan availability of exporters and MSMEs

Export Guarantee Corporation of India (ECGC) has launched a new scheme called 'Nirvik' under which up to 90% of the principal and interest will be covered under insurance. Both pre and post shipment credit will also be covered under the new scheme.

3. Govt launches 'UMMID' initiative for new-born babies

Science and Technology and Health Minister Dr Harsh Vardhan launched '**Unique Methods of Management and treatment of Inherited Disorders** (UMMID)' initiative to tackle inherited genetic diseases of new-born babies. He also inaugurated National Inherited Diseases Administration (NIDAN) Kendras.

4. Delhi CM launches 'Champions campaign' against dengue

Delhi CM launched 'Champions campaign' in the fight against dengue & urged people to encourage their friends to inspect their homes to clean stagnant water. The drive will ensure the citizens are encouraged to take responsibility for their fellow citizens.

News: Others

1. PMJAY to offer teleconsultation to boost scheme coverage

The Pradhan Mantri Jan Arogya Yojana (PMJAY) health insurance scheme is set to offer teleconsultation services to its patients. It is due to the centre's plans to widen the coverage of the scheme and thus reduce health expenditures. Ayushman Bharat will offer teleconsultation by 2022.

2. Assam launched Abhinandan Scheme for education loan subsidy

Assam launched Abhinandan scheme to give **Rs. 50,000** as subsidy to people and students who have taken out education loans previously and or will choose to take it in the years to come. This has been done to encourage students to pursue higher education.

3. *Kerala CM launches capacity development programme for women entrepreneurs*

Kerala CM Pinarayi Vijayan launched the Kerala edition of WING-Women Rise Together, an initiative by Startup India, DPIIT for capacity development of women entrepreneurs in the country at the second edition of Huddle Kerala 2019.

4. *Trade apprentices to get minimum monthly stipend ranging from Rs 5000-9000*

Government has issued a notification regarding minimum stipend payable to trade apprentices. Addressing State Ministers' Conference on Skill Development in New Delhi, Mahendra Nath Pandey said that minimum stipend will range from 5000-9000.

Person in News

News: Most Important

1. *Dinesh Mongia announces retirement from all forms of cricket*

Former India all-rounder Dinesh Mongia announced his retirement from all forms of cricket. He is best known for being chosen over VVS Laxman in the team that finished runner-up in ICC World Cup 2003 in South Africa. He made his U-19 debut for Punjab (1995).

2. *Mithali Raj announces retirement from T20 Int'l cricket*

ODI captain Mithali Raj announced her retirement from T20 Internationals intending to focus on her ODI career, keeping in mind the 2021 World Cup. Her T20 career has 2,364 runs from 89 matches at an avg of 37.5, highest score of 97 not out.

3. *Mukesh Ambani topped in the Hurun India Rich List*

Reliance Industries' Chairman Mukesh Ambani has topped the list of richest Indians according to the latest IIFL Wealth Hurun India Rich List. SP Hinduja & family is in the second position. Azim Premji is at the third place.

4. *Wing Commander Anjali Singh becomes India's first female military diplomat*

Wing Commander Anjali Singh has become India's first female military diplomat to be posted in any of the Indian missions abroad. She has joined the Indian Embassy in Russia as the Deputy Air Attache.

5. *Rajnath Singh becomes first defence minister to fly in light combat aircraft Tejas*

Rajnath Singh has become the 1st defence minister to fly in the indigenously built light combat aircraft. He flew in the Tejas fighter aircraft from HAL airport, Bengaluru. He was accompanied by Air Vice Marshal N Tiwari, Project Director, ADA in Bengaluru.

6. *Kaushal Dharmamer clinches men's singles title at Maldives International Challenge*

Indian shuttler Kaushal Dharmamer clinched the badminton men's singles title at the Maldives International Challenge with a straight game win over Siril Verma. In the women's doubles event, the duo of Ashwini Ponnappa and Sikki Reddy ended as runners-up.

News: Others

1. *Zimbabwe captain Hamilton Masakadza to retire from international cricket*

Zimbabwe captain Hamilton Masakadza has announced that he would retire from all forms of international cricket. He has made 38 Test, 209 ODI and 62 T20I appearances for Zimbabwe since making his international debut against West Indies in 2001.

2. *PT Usha honoured with IAAF Veteran Pin*

International Association of Athletic Federations, honoured the Indian track and field legend PT Usha with a Veteran Pin in recognition of her contribution to the growth of the sport. IAAF chief **Sebastian Coe** presented her the Veteran Pin.

3. *Wrestler Deepak Punia named world No.1 in 86 kg category*

In the latest rankings issued by the International Wrestling Federation, World Championship silver medallist Deepak Punia has jumped to world number one position in 86 kg.

4. *Minor planet named after Pandit Jasraj, 1st Indian musician to receive the honour*

International Astronomical Union has named minor planet 2006 VP32 (number - 300128), discovered in 2006, as 'Panditjasraj', becoming the 1st Indian musician to join the galaxy of immortal composers like Mozart, Beethoven & Tenor Luciano Pavarotti

Summits & Conference

News: Most Important

1. President inaugurated the National Youth Summit

President Ram Nath Kovind, inaugurated the National Youth Summit in New Delhi, organised by the Youth Awakening. Speaking on the occasion, President said that today's India is full of youth power having immense talent and energy.

2. Dr Harsh Vardhan addresses WHO Regional Committee for South-East Asia

Dr Harsh Vardhan was unanimously elected as Chair of the 72nd Session of the WHO Regional Committee for South-East Asia. 8 Ministers of Health from 11 countries of WHO South East Asia Region were part of event.

3. 6th India-China Strategic Economic Dialogue concludes

NITI Aayog Vice-Chairman, Dr. Rajiv Kumar & He Lifeng, Chairman, NDRC China, held in-depth discussions to review trade and investment climate, and harness synergies for future engagement in New Delhi.

4. COP26: Glasgow to host UN climate change summit in 2020

UK has won the bid to host the 26th Conference of the Parties, known as COP26, following a partnership with Italy in which up to 30,000 delegates are expected to attend the event at Glasgow's Scottish Events Campus (SEC).

5. India plays host to UNCCD COP14 Event

12-day 14th Conference of Parties-14 to UN Convention to Combat Desertification is held at Expo Centre & Mart, Greater Noida. 122 countries have agreed to make the Sustainable Development Goal of achieving land degradation neutrality a national target.

6. 24th World Energy Congress held in Abu Dhabi

The 24th World Energy Congress was held in Abu Dhabi. The 2019 theme was '**Energy for Prosperity**'. This theme also represents ambitious and dynamic energy transition of UAE. The World Energy Congress is a triennial event and has been running since 1924.

7. First-ever helicopter summit held in Uttarakhand

The Aviation Ministry organised India's first helicopter summit in Uttarakhand's Dehradun. The issues are related to enhancing connectivity through helicopters.

8. Modi attends the annual Eastern Economic Forum in Russia

PM Narendra Modi attended the 5th annual Eastern Economic Forum in Russia. India set up its own pavilion called India Lounge which will serve as a platform to demonstrate investment opportunities in the Far East, promote Indian investments in the region.

9. *India Tourism Mart exhibition inaugurated*

Culture and Tourism Minister Prahlad Singh Patel inaugurated the exhibition of India Tourism Mart (ITM), 2019 in New Delhi. The Ministry of Tourism and the Federation of Associations in Indian Tourism and Hospitality have jointly organized this Mart.

News: Others

1. *First National Conference on Cyber Crime Investigation and Cyber Forensic held*

CBI Director **Rishi Kumar Shukla** inaugurated the 1st National Conference on Cyber Crime Investigation and Cyber Forensics at CBI Headquarters in New Delhi. The two-day conference covered one of the mandates of CBI which is to investigate crimes with inter-state and international ramifications.

2. *9th India-China Financial Dialogue held in New Delhi*

9th India-China Financial Dialogue was held in New Delhi. The India-China Financial Dialogue is a mechanism between the two countries with an aim to promote cooperation in the financial sector. The next round is to be held in China.

3. *68th Plenary session of NEC held in Guwahati*

68th Plenary session of the North Eastern Council (NEC) held in Guwahati. Union Home Minister Amit Shah Chaired the 2-day event. Governors & Chief Ministers of North Eastern states attended the event.

4. *India hosts first conference on military medicine for SCO member nations*

India hosted the 1st conference on military medicine for member nations of the Shanghai Co-operation Organisation in New Delhi. It aimed to share practices in the field of military medicine. It was the first military co-operation event under the SCO after it joined the organisation in 2017.

5. *Ramesh Pokhriyal launches waste management summit for women entrepreneurs*

Union HRD Minister launched several initiatives of AICTE in New Delhi. It includes facilitation through Margadarshan and Margadarshak, Model Curriculum for diploma courses, Waste Management Accelerator for Aspiring Women Entrepreneur & 360-degree feedback of faculty.

6. *2nd Singapore - India Hackathon to be organised at IIT Madras*

To promote innovation, 2nd edition of Singapore - India Hackathon will be organised at IIT Madras, Chennai from Sep 28 to 29. Selected students from India and Singapore will work in collaboration to develop innovative and out-of-the-box solutions.

7. *5th International Ramayan Festival organized in New Delhi*

The 5th International Ramayan Festival organized by Indian Council for Cultural Relations by Indian Council for Cultural Relations (ICCR) was held in New Delhi. The ICCR was established with the vision of propagating Indian culture and its values to the whole world.

Quick Revision

Summit/Conference	Venue
National Youth Summit	New Delhi
WHO Regional Committee for South-East Asia	New Delhi
6 th India-China Strategic Economic Dialogue	New Delhi
UN climate change summit in 2020	Glasgow
UNCCD COP14 Event	India
24th World Energy Congress	Abu Dhabi
Helicopter summit	Uttarakhand
5 th Annual Eastern Economic Forum	Russia
National Conference on Cyber Crime Investigation and Cyber Forensic	CBI Headquarters, New Delhi
9 th India-China Financial Dialogue	New Delhi
68 th Plenary session of the North Eastern Council (NEC)	Guwahati
1 st conference on military medicine for SCO	New Delhi
Waste management summit for women entrepreneurs	New Delhi
2 nd edition of Singapore - India Hackathon	IIT Madras, Chennai
India Tourism Mart exhibition	New Delhi
5th International Ramayan Festival	New Delhi

Defence

News: Most Important

1. *Rajnath Singh commissions newly built submarine INS Khanderi*

Defence Minister Rajnath Singh commissioned the newly built Scorpene-class submarine INS Khanderi. The submarine was handed over to the Navy by Mazgaon Dockyard Ltd. It is the 2nd of the project 75 submarine built at MDL.

2. *India to achieve 26 bn dollars Defence Industry by 2025: Rajnath Singh*

Defence minister Rajnath Singh stated that India will achieve 26 Billion dollars Defence Industry by 2025. Defence sector has been identified as one of the most prominent sectors under Make in India initiative to realize 5 trillion-dollar Economy by 2024

3. *Indian successfully flight-tested indigenous air-to-air missile Astra*

Indian Air Force has flight-tested air-to-air missile Astra off the coast of Odisha. It was launched from a **Sukhoi Su-30 MKI** combat aircraft as a part of User trials. It was tracked using radars, electro-optical tracking sensors & struck its target.

4. *DRDO successfully flight-tests indigenously developed MPATGM*

Defence Research and Development Organisation (DRDO) successfully flight tested indigenously developed low weight, fire and forget Man Portable Antitank Guided Missile (MPATGM) in the ranges of Kurnool, Andhra Pradesh.

5. *Mazagon Dock Shipbuilders delivers 2nd Scorpene submarine "KHANDERI"*

Mazagon Dock Shipbuilders Ltd delivered 2nd Scorpene submarine 'KHANDERI' to Indian Navy at an event held in Mumbai. It is named after the wide snouted Saw fish, a deadly sea predator of the Indian Ocean. 1st Khanderi was commissioned into Navy in 1968.

6. *India to receive first of 36 Rafale fighter jets from France on Oct 8*

India is set to receive the first of 36 Rafale fighter jets in Paris on October 8 (foundation day of IAF). India signed an inter-governmental agreement with France in 2016 for procurement of 36 Rafale fighter jets at a cost of around Rs 58,000 crore.

7. *ISRO, DRDO sign MoUs for Gaganyaan mission*

ISRO inked MoUs with DRDO for development of human-centric systems for the Gaganyaan project. Space food, space crew health monitoring & emergency survival kit, radiation measurement & protection, parachutes for safe recovery are to be provided by DRDO.

News: Others

1. *HAL to receive ₹45,000 crore orders for 83 LCA fighters*

IAF to place orders worth around ₹45,000 crore with Hindustan Aeronautics Limited to acquire 83 Light Combat Aircraft Tejas fighters. LCAs have been designed and developed completely by the Defence Research and Development Organisation (DRDO).

2. *IAF inducts 8 Apache helicopters*

Indian Air Force added 8 Apache helicopters at the Pathankot Air Force Station in Punjab. 125 Helicopter Squadron, known as the '**Gladiators**', will have 22 Boeing-built Apaches, which will be stationed at Pathankot & in Jorhat Air Force Station in Assam.

3. *IAF completes 1st level of astronaut selection for Gaganyaan mission*

IAF announced the completion of the Level-1 selection of Indian astronauts for mission Gaganyaan, which country's first human mission to space, aimed to be launched by 2021, a 3-member crew will spend a minimum of seven days in the space.

4. *India extends \$1 mn aid to Bahamas*

India government announced its decision to extend a relief of \$1 million to the Bahamas, which is facing the wrath of Hurricane Dorian, a category 5 hurricane with winds reaching 295 km/h.

5. *DRDO hands over second 'Netra' early warning system to IAF*

The Defence Research Development Organization handed over the second airborne warning plane, Netra, to the Indian Air Force. The **Netra**, an Airborne Early Warning and Control aircraft, had played a stellar role during the Balakot air strikes that had been carried out by the IAF in Feb 2019.

6. *Defence Minister Rajnath Singh launches Navy's first new stealth frigate, INS 'Nilgiri'*

DM Rajnath Singh launched INS 'Nilgiri', the first of the Navy's seven new stealth frigates, at Mazagon Dock Shipbuilders Limited in Mumbai. These frigates are being built using integrated construction methodology.

Agreements

News: Most Important

1. *Kerala govt inks MoU with Maldives on cancer care*

Kerala has inked a memorandum of understanding with the Maldives to strengthen cancer care in the island nation. The state health department and RCC would also provide support in setting up cancer care centres in the Maldives.

2. *Ola drivers to get health benefits under Ayushman Bharat scheme*

Ayushman Bharat – PMJAY has partnered with Ola to extend the welfare to its drivers. The partnership will provide comprehensive health insurance for secondary & tertiary care to the drivers working with the cab aggregator and their families. The pilot project of OLA & AB-PMJAY will be conducted in **NCR**.

3. *Indian Railways signs an MoU with Odisha to set up a Multi-Modal Transport Hub*

Ministry of Railways signed a Memorandum of Understanding with Government of Odisha for development of Bhubaneswar station as Multi-Model Transport Hub in New Delhi. The multi-modal Hub expected to be completed in three years.

4. *NTPC, in collaboration with IOCL, commissioned its first EV charging station*

NTPC Ltd. has announced the commissioning of its first electric vehicle (EV) charging station along with the Indian Oil Corporation (IOCL). The charging station has been installed at an IOCL petrol pump in **Greater Noida**.

5. *Gujarat govt signs Sister State MoU with American State Delaware*

Gujarat Government & Delaware State of America signed MoU for sister state. Cooperation in the field of services and investment opportunities in GIFT IFSC were discussed during the meeting b/w delegation of Delaware state of America & CM Vijay Rupani.

6. *Wipro Infrastructure and BEML sign MoU*

Defence PSU BEML Ltd and Wipro Infrastructure Engineering (WIN) have signed an MoU to work together in the areas of aerospace, industrial automation, 3-D printing, artificial intelligence and hydraulic system engineering.

7. *Visa, BillDesk partner to roll out interface for recurring payments*

Visa, a global leader in payments technology, and BillDesk, leader in the Indian payments business, have partnered to roll out of SI-Hub, a seamless and secure way to make recurring payments using cards with a one-time enrollment.

8. *DRDO, MoD and Central University of Jammu sign MoU*

DRDO, Ministry of Defence and Central University of Jammu (CUJ) have entered into a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) for the establishment of Kalam Centre for Science and Technology (KCST) at the university to increase research scholars in these areas.

News: Others

1. *DMI Fin & Mswipe in tie-up to offer credit solutions*

Mswipe has tied up with DMI Finance and launched **DMI emi Mcard** for millennials. The card will enable millennials get instant pre-approved credit of up to ₹1 lakh, which can be repaid in equated monthly instalments.

2. *Skill India, IBM to Train ITI Teachers In Artificial Intelligence*

Ministry of Skill Development has signed an agreement with IBM where the latter will carry out a nationwide Train-the-Trainer in Basic Artificial Intelligence Skills. IBM aims to train 10,000 faculty members from ITIs across the country over a period of 1 year.

3. *ZestMoney partners with PayU for cardless EMI payment*

ZestMoney has partnered with PayU to offer the convenience of the Cardless EMI payment option to consumers & increase overall conversions. The lender aims to provide loans of amount starting at ₹ **1000** & going up to ₹ 5 Lakh as per the need of the customer.

4. *Tamil Nadu signed MOU with BEL*

Tamil Nadu signed a MOU to revive the Tamil Nadu Industrial Explosives Limited in Katpadi by joining hands with Bharat Electronics Limited at an investment of ₹50 crore. It also signed an MOU to expand Infosys Private Limited at an investment of ₹336 crore.

Books & Authors

News: Most Important

1. Pranab Mukherjee releases Manish Sisodia's book 'Siksha'

Former President Pranab Mukherjee released the book of Deputy Chief Minister Manish Sisodia titled 'Siksha-His experiments as Education Minister'. The book is a story of reformation and his experiments in transforming the public education system in the national capital.

2. Handbook on Fisheries Statistics – 2018 released

The Union Minister of Fisheries, Animal Husbandry & Dairying Giriraj Singh released Handbook on Fisheries Statistics – 2018 .The book is published by the Department of Fisheries of Ministry of Fisheries, Animal Husbandry & Dairying, Government of India.

News: Others

1. VP releases 2nd volume of 'Loktantra Ke Swar', 'The Republician Ethic'

The Publications division under the Ministry of Information and Broadcasting has published 'Loktantra Ke Swar' and the Republicial Ethic. The books released by VP Venkaiah Naidu are a compilation of 95 speeches delivered by the President Ram Nath Kovind.

2. 'Turbulence & Triumph: The Modi Years' book set to release

Book titled Turbulence and Triumph: The Modi Years authored by Rahul Agarwal and Bharathi S Pradhan is set to release on October 2019. It depicts the journey of Prime Minister Narendra Modi from his young days to becoming 14th prime minister of India.

Books	Authored By/Launched By/Published By
Siksha-His experiments as Education Minister'	Former President Pranab Mukherjee
2 nd volume of 'Loktantra Ke Swar', 'The Republician Ethic'	Vice President of India
'Turbulence & Triumph: The Modi Years'	Rahul Agarwal and Bharathi S Pradhan
Handbook on Fisheries Statistics – 2018 released	Giriraj Singh

Science & Technology

News: Most Important

1. IIT Kharagpur researchers generate electricity with clothes

Researchers from IIT Kharagpur have developed an approach of generating electricity from drying clothes in the natural ambiance by utilizing tiny channels in the cellulose-based fabric network woven traditionally.

2. IIT Roorkee & Microsoft join hands to teach students quantum computing

Microsoft partnered with IIT Roorkee to conduct lectures on quantum computing for a full semester. IITs, BTech and MTech students can now choose the course as a pool elective. It will provide the students access to "Q# Programming Language".

News: Others

1. 5G VR-based driver training simulator centre opens in Chennai

Asia's first fifth-generation, virtual reality-based advanced driver training simulator centre inaugurated in Chennai. AASI will train 200 ambulance drivers free of cost, under the 'Safe Drivers Campaign'.

2. Samsung India launches Samsung Finance+

Samsung launched Samsung Finance+, an offline digital lending platform with instant offers on Galaxy smartphones. This lending platform will provide financing to prospective consumers to buy Galaxy smartphones.

Environment

News: Most Important

1. IIT Madras finds an eco-friendly way to degrade plastics

The researchers used a magnetic stirrer coated with **Teflon** to continuously stir for several days the water mixed with glucose in a glass beaker containing a gold foil, found tiny fragments with bright red luminescence floating on the surface.

2. Plastic ban: Andhra Pradesh to impose green tax

Andhra Pradesh government decided to impose a green tax besides banning single-use plastic. To keep a check on pollution by industrial houses, the state will collect the green tax. CM Y. S. Jagan Mohan Reddy announced the decisions.

News: Others

1. *One tea bag can release 11.6 billion microplastics into our cup: McGill University*

The study, by researchers from McGill University in Montreal, showed that a single plastic teabag can release harmful particles into your cup —11.6 billion microplastics and 3.1 billion nanoplastics. Microplastics are those plastics less than 5 mm in size.

2. *IPCC Meet on Climate Change begins in New Delhi*

India is hosting 2nd Lead Author Meeting of Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC) Working Group III 6th Assessment Report at New Delhi. The Report would examine topics such as the link between consumption-behaviour & greenhouse gas emissions & role of innovation, technology. It began on 30 September & will conclude on October 4th.

Apps & Portals

News: Most Important

1. *SBI launched digital banking app YONO in UK*

State Bank of India (SBI) has launched its digital banking app YONO in the UK, marking its global launch. SBI Chairman Rajnish Kumar unveiled the app at an exclusive event hosted in coordination with the UK India Business Council.

2. *Rajasthan launches 'Jan Soochna Portal'*

Rajasthan government launched the 'Jan Soochna Portal' for quick access to information on government departments. Rajasthan becomes the first state in the country to provide information about a dozen departments on a single platform.

3. *Delhi High Court launches its own official smartphone app*

The Delhi High Court launched an official mobile application called "Delhi High Court" for providing digital access of its services to everyone. The app can be used to view the Display Board of the High Court as well as the Supreme Court.

4. *Delhi Police launches app 'Tatpar' for citizens*

Delhi Police has launched a newly integrated one-touch mobile app 'Tatpar' to provide safety & a convenient online mode on 24x7 basis to its citizen. With this app, people can share information to police about a suspicious vehicle or person or of a crime

News: Others

1. *Bank of Baroda launches agri digital platform*

Bank of Baroda launched its agri digital platform . It can be accessed on mobiles by farmers. The portal will cater to the services including weather forecasts, crop conditions, the moisture levels of the soil, information on crop worms etc.

2. *Uttar Pradesh Launches "C-Plan" App to Aid Community Policing*

Uttar Pradesh Police has launched a 'C-Plan' smartphone application that will help them keep a tab on anti-social elements to counter their nefarious designs in time. The app will help police be informed of the simmering communal tensions and help them verify the received information.

Quick Revision

App/Portal/Platform	Launched By
YONO in UK	SBI
Jan Soochna Portal	Rajasthan
C-Plan	Uttar Pradesh Police
Delhi High Court (app)	Delhi High Court
Baroda Kisan	Bank of Baroda

Acquisitions & Mergers

News: Most Important

1. *Reliance Jio-backed Haptik acquires conversational commerce platform Buzzo.ai*

AI chatbot company Haptik, a subsidiary of Mukesh Ambani-led Reliance Industries Ltd, acquired Buzzo.ai, a Mumbai-based conversational commerce start-up. It is a platform to create an expert advisor-like conversational shopping experience in retail or e-commerce.

2. *Facebook Inc bought New York-based CTRL-labs*

Facebook Inc bought New York-based CTRL-labs in a deal valued around **\$1 billion**. CTRL-labs is a start-up that is exploring ways for people to communicate with computers using brain signals. It will join in the Facebook Reality Labs team.

3. *Reliance Capital completes 21.5% stake sale in Japan's Nippon Life*

Reliance Capital Ltd completed sale of its 21.54% stake in Reliance Nippon Life Asset Management Ltd (RNL) to Nippon Life Insurance of Japan for ₹3,030 crore. It will further monetise its balance 4.28% stake in RNL.

News: Others

1. *IDBI Bank to divest stake in insurance joint venture*

IDBI Bank announced the plan to sell its stake in its insurance joint venture IDBI Federal Life Insurance Co, while JP Morgan India has been mandated to manage the process for the same. IDBI Bank owns 48% of the insurance company.

2. *APTEL approves acquisition of Prayagraj power project by Tata Power JV*

According to Tata Power, apex power tribunal APTEL has approved acquisition of 75 per cent stake in stressed 1,980 MW Prayagraj power project by its joint venture's arm Renascent Power Ventures.

3. *NCLT approves JSW Steel's Rs 19,700 crore bid for Bhushan Power & Steel*

Principal Bench of the National Company Law Tribunal approved JSW Steel's Rs 19,700 cr bid for Bhushan Power & Steel. Bhushan Power owes close to Rs 50000 cr to a consortium of lenders led by Punjab National Bank.

Important Static and Current info-

State	Capital	Chief Minister	Governor
Andhra Pradesh	Amaravati	Y. S. Jaganmohan Reddy	Biswa Bhushan Harichandan
Arunachal Pradesh	Itanagar	Pema Khandu	Brigadier BD Mishra (retd)
Assam	Dispur	Sarabananda Sonowal	Jagdish Mukhi
Bihar	Patna	Nitish Kumar	Phagu Chauhan
Chhattisgarh	Raipur	Bhupesh Baghel	Anusuiya Uikey
Goa	Panaji	Pramod Sawant	Mridula Sinha
Gujarat	Gandhi Nagar	Vijaybhai R. Rupani	Acharya Devvrat
Haryana	Chandigarh	Manohar Lal Khattar	Satyadev Narayan Arya
Himachal Pradesh	Shimla	Jai Ram Thakur	Bandaru Dattatraya
Jammu and Kashmir	Srinagar	Government Rule	Satya Pal Malik
Jharkhand	Ranchi	Raghubar Das	Draupadi Murmu
Karnataka	Bengaluru	B S Yediyurappa	Vajubhai Rudabhai Vala
Kerala	Thiruvananthapuram	Pinarayi Vijayan	Arif Mohammed Khan
Madhya Pradesh	Bhopal	Kamal Nath	Lalji Tandon
Maharashtra	Mumbai	Devendra Fadnavis	Bhagat Singh Koshyari
Manipur	Imphal	N Biren Singh	Padmanabha Balkrishna Acharya (Add. Charge)
Meghalaya	Shillong	Conrad Sangma	Tathagata Roy
Mizoram	Aizawl	Pu Zoramthanga	Jagdish Mukhi
Nagaland	Kohima	Neiphiu Rio	RN Ravi
Odisha	Bhubaneswar	Naveen Patnaik	Ganeshi Lal
Punjab	Chandigarh	Amarinder Singh	V P Singh Badnore
Rajasthan	Jaipur	Ashok Gehlot	Kalraj Mishra
Sikkim	Gangtok	Prem Singh Tamang(PS Golay)	Ganga Prasad
Tamil Nadu	Chennai	Edappadi K. Palaniswami	Banwarilal Purohit
Telangana	Hyderabad	K. Chandrasekhar Rao	Tamilisai Soundararajan
Tripura	Agartala	Biplab Kumar Deb	Ramesh Bais
Uttar Pradesh	Lucknow	Yogi Adityanath	Anandiben Patel
Uttarakhand	Dehradun	Trivendra Singh Rawat	Baby Rani Maurya
West Bengal	Kolkata	Mamata Banerjee	Jagdeep Dhankhar

Complete List of Union Ministers

Union Minister	Portfolio	Constituency
Narendra Modi	Ministry of personnel, public grievances and pensions	Varanasi, UP
Rajnath Singh	Ministry of Defence	Lucknow, UP
Amit Shah	Ministry of Home Affairs	Gandhinagar, Gujarat
Nitin Gadkari	Ministry of Road Transport and Highways & Ministry of Micro, Small and Medium enterprises	Nagpur, Maharashtra
DV Sadananda Gowda	Ministry of Chemical and Fertilizers	Bangalore North, Karnataka
Nirmala Sitharaman	Ministry of Finance & Ministry of Corporate Affairs	Rajya Sabha
Ram Vilas Paswan	Ministry of Consumer affairs, food and public distribution	NA
Narendra Singh Tomar	Ministry of agriculture and farmers welfare, Ministry of Rural Development & Ministry of Panchayati Raj	Morena, M.P
Ravi Shankar Prasad	Ministry of Law and Justice, Ministry of communications & Ministry of Electronics and Information Technology	Patna Sahib, Bihar
Harsimrat Kaur Badal	Ministry of Food Processing Industries	Bathinda, Punjab
Thaawar Chand Gehlot	Ministry of Social justice and empowerment	Rajya Sabha(M.P)
Dr Subrahmanyam Jaishankar	Ministry of External Affairs	Rajya Sabha (Gujarat)
Ramesh Pokhriyal 'Nishank'	Ministry of Human Resource Development	Haridwar, Uttarakhand
Arjun Munda	Ministry of Tribal Affairs	Khunti, Jharkhand
Smriti Zubin Irani	Ministry of Women and child Development & Ministry of Textiles	Amethi, UP
Dr Harsh Vardhan	Ministry of Health and Family Welfare, Ministry of Science and Technology & Ministry of Earth Sciences	Chandni Chowk, Delhi
Prakash Javadekar	Ministry of environment, forest and climate change & Ministry of Information and Broadcasting	Rajya Sabha(M.P)
Piyush Goyal	Ministry of Railways & Ministry of Commerce and Industry	Rajya Sabha(Maharashtra)
Dharmendra Pradhan	Ministry of Petroleum and Natural Gas & Ministry of Steel	Rajya Sabha(M.P)
Mukhtar Abbas Naqvi	Ministry of Minority Affairs	Rajya Sabha(Jharkhand)
Pralhad Joshi	Ministry of Parliamentary Affairs, Ministry of coal & Ministry of Mines	Dharwad, Karnataka
Dr Mahendra Nath Pandey	Ministry of Skill Development and Entrepreneurship	Chandauli, UP
Arvind Ganpat Sawant	Ministry of Heavy Industries and Public Enterprise	Mumbai South, Maharashtra
Giriraj Singh	Ministry of Animal Husbandry, dairying and fisheries	Begusarai, Bihar
Gajendra Singh Shekhawat	Ministry of jal Shakti	Jodhpur, Rajasthan

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