

June 2019

BOLT

Monthly Current Affairs



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Banking

News: Most Important

1. *Second bi-monthly RBI Monetary Policy Highlights: Repo Rate cut by 25 bps.*

Repo rate reduced by 25 bps to 5.75% for third time in a row. Reverse repo rate now stands at 5.50%, marginal standing facility (MSF) rate 6%. RBI cuts GDP growth forecast to 7 % from 7.2 % for FY20.

2. *RBI observed financial literacy week from June 5-9*

RBI observed Financial Literacy Week across the country from 3rd to 7th. The theme 2019 was - '**Farmers and how they benefit by being a part of the formal banking system**'. It is an initiative of RBI to promote awareness on key topics every year through a focused campaign.

3. *RBI sets up panel to develop secondary market for corporate loans*

The Reserve Bank of India constituted a task force on development of secondary market for corporate loans. The six-member task force will have **T. N. Manoharan**, Chairman of Canara Bank, as its chairperson and will submit its report by the end of August 2019.

4. *RBI relaxes norms for no-frills accounts*

As per the new norms of RBI, Banks are free to provide additional value-added services, including the issue of cheque book, beyond the above minimum facilities to basic account holders. However, banks cannot ask the customer to maintain a minimum balance.

5. *RBI revises NPA norms, gives banks 30 days to review stressed loans*

RBI recently stated that the lenders must resolve non-performing assets (NPA) over Rs 2,000 crore within 180 days. Also, stated that in case of a default by a borrower, lenders must undertake a prima facie review of the borrower account within 30 days.

6. *SBI introduces repo-linked home loan product*

State Bank of India has introduced a repo rate-linked home loan product. Home loans under this product will be priced at **2.65%** over the repo rate of **5.75%**. So, the home loan interest rate will work out to 8.40 %.

7. *RBI to set up panel to review ATM fees, charges*

RBI has set up a committee to review ATM charges and fees. It is a move that could impact the charges paid by customers of other banks to use the facility. The panel will be headed by **VG Kannan**, CEO of Indian Banks' Association.

8. *RBI relaxes leverage ratio for banks to boost their lending capacity*

RBI relaxed the leverage ratio (LR) for banks to help them boost their lending activities. The leverage ratio stands reduced to **4%** for Domestic Systemically Important Banks (DSIBs) and **3.5%** for other banks effective from the quarter commencing Oct 1, 2019.

9. *SBI plans to introduce YONO app in Singapore*

State Bank of India is planning to expand its market in Singapore by enhancing its relationship across small and medium enterprises (SMEs) contemplating introducing its YONO SBI app while having opened remittance services to all bank accounts.

10. *ICICI Bank launches centre for MSMEs in Bengaluru*

ICICI Bank launched a centre in Bengaluru to provide business solutions exclusively to start-ups and MSME sector. The services offered include working capital loans up to ₹20 Cr, business loans up to ₹1 Cr, instant overdraft facility of ₹15 lakh etc.

11. *Edelweiss ties up with Bank of Baroda for MSME loans*

Acc. to Edelweiss Financial Services, its unit ECL Finance has signed an agreement with BOB to explore co-lending or co-origination of loans to small businesses. The two will offer loans to MSME, self-employed persons as well as priority sector groups.

12. *India's Forex reserves increase to 421.8 bn*

According to RBI's new data, country's foreign exchange reserves increased by USD 1.875 billion to USD 421.867 billion in the week ending May 31, in which foreign currency assets, being a major component of the overall reserves.

13. *RBI launches CMS for filing online complaints against banks, NBFCs*

RBI launched the Complaint Management System for lodging complaints against banks & NBFCs with a view to improving customer experience in timely redressal of grievances. Also, RBI plans to introduce an IVR system for tracking the status of complaints.

14. *RBI assigns SBI as lead bank in three new districts in Telangana, MP*

RBI has assigned lead bank responsibility to SBI for 2 new dists (Mulugu & Narayanpet) in Telangana & 1 dist (Niwari) in Madhya Pradesh. Lead bank acts as a leader for coordinating the efforts of credit inst. in the allotted districts to increase the flow of credit.

15. *Maruti Suzuki ties up with Bank of Baroda for dealer financing*

Maruti Suzuki has signed an MoU with Bank of Baroda to improve credit for its dealers and customers. The partnership will allow Maruti Suzuki to provide more comprehensive financing opportunities to dealers as well as customers.

16. *SEBI sets up panel to review margins on derivatives*

Securities and Exchange Board of India has set up a working group, headed by NSE Clearing Ltd., to review the current framework of margins in the futures and options segment. It will submit its recommendations to the Secondary Market Advisory Committee.

17. *RBI panel suggests measures to boost MSMEs*

RBI expert committee recommended a government-sponsored Fund of Funds (FoF) of Rs **10,000** crore to support VC or PE firms investing in the MSME sector. It also recommended setting up a distressed asset fund of Rs 5,000 crore to assist units in clusters

18. *Number of wilful defaulters has surged 60% in 5 years*

GoI stated that the number of wilful defaulters has risen 60% in the 5 years up to FY19, but over ₹ 7600 Cr has been recovered from these defaulters. The total number of wilful defaulters stood at 8,582 at the end of FY19, against 5,349 at the end of FY15.

19. *RBI releases report on Benchmarking India's Payment Systems*

RBI released the report on 'Benchmarking India's Payment Systems' which mentions that India is 'strong' in areas like having laws & cash in circulation per capita. It provides a relative position of payment system ecosystem compare to other payment systems

20. *TCS to implement RBI's information and management system for 310 Crore*

IT major TCS will implement RBI's centralised information and management system (CIMS) for seamless data collection and validations at a cost of ₹310.52 crore. The project must be completed within a year of the commencement of the contract with the RBI.

News: Others

1. *Federal Bank raises Rs 300 crore via Basel III compliant bonds*

Federal Bank has raised ₹ **300 Cr** by issuing Basel III-compliant bonds on private placement basis. The bonds with a tenure of 10 years, will bear coupon rate of 9.75% per annum payable annually. Banks in India must comply with Basel III norms by Mar 31, 2020.

2. *BoB plans to raise Rs 11,900 crore via share sale in FY20*

Bank of Baroda plans to raise Rs 11,900 crore during the current fiscal through share sale, including Employee Share Purchase Scheme to shore up capital for meeting business expansion requirement. The bank expects to garner Rs 1,500 crore from Bank of Baroda ESPS.

3. *RBI issues norms for setting up FBAs for fixing efficient benchmarks for financial instruments*

RBI issued guidelines for setting up of FBA for administering "significant benchmarks" in the markets for financial instruments. It means any benchmark notified by the RBI considering, its use, efficiency & relevance in domestic financial markets.

4. *RBI announces forex platform for retail participants*

RBI announced the rollout of a foreign exchange trading platform for retail participants. It aims to provide transparency of pricing & promote competition among market-makers leading to better pricing for all customers. Platform had been developed by Clearing Corporation of India Ltd.

5. *RBI slaps Rs 2 crore fine on Kotak Mahindra Bank for not complying with directions*

The Reserve Bank of India has imposed a monetary penalty of Rs 2 crore on Kotak Mahindra Bank for non-compliance of directions. This action was taken under sections 27(2) and 35A of the Banking Regulation Act, 1949.

6. *Yes Bank, ZipCash face RBI fine for violating PPI norms*

The RBI has imposed a penalty on two prepaid payment instrument issuers Yes Bank and ZipCash Card Services for non-compliance with regulatory norms. A penalty of Rs **11.25 lakh** each has been imposed on the two PPI issuers.

7. *Jammu and Kashmir Bank now under RTI, CVC guidelines*

The J&K Bank will come under the purview of Right to Information Act and Central Vigilance Commission (CVC) guidelines. The decision comes days after Parvez Ahmed was removed as the Chairman of the J&K Bank for alleged corruption, nepotism and favouritism.

8. *Oracle launches money laundering solution for small- and mid-sized banks*

Oracle announced OFSAML Express Edition targeted at small- and mid-sized banks. It provides a unified platform to efficiently detect, investigate & report suspected money laundering & terrorist financing activity to comply with evolving reg. & guidelines.

Policy/Exchange rate & Reserve ratio	Percentage
Repo rate	5.75%
Reverse Repo rate	5.50%
Marginal Standing Facility (MSF) rate	6%
Cash Reserve Ratio (CRR)	4 %
Statutory Liquidity Ratio (SLR)	19.00 %
Bank Rate	6%

Insurance

News: Most Important

1. Max Life launches unique 'My Protection Quotient' tool on second 'Protection Day'

Max Life Insurance Co. Ltd launched a proprietary tool, 'My Protection Quotient' (MyPQ) to ensure financial protection in the country. 'My Protection Quotient' is a smart tool designed to promote importance of term plans in protecting the financial future of families.

2. Third-party insurance premium for two wheelers, cars to go up from June 16

IRDAI has increased the mandatory third-party motor insurance premium by up to 21% for certain categories. It will be applicable from June 16. The new TP insurance for smaller cars (less than 1000 cc) will cost ₹ 2072 or 12% from the existing ₹ 1850.

3. West Bengal launches free crop insurance scheme for farmers

West Bengal government has announced a crop insurance scheme called **Bangla Shashya Bima** in collaboration with the Agriculture Insurance Company of India for the 2019 Kharif season. The scheme is applicable for farmers in 15 districts of the state.

4. IDBI Bank to distribute Max Bupa's health insurance products

IDBI Bank & Max Bupa have signed a Bancassurance corporate agency agreement. Max Bupa will provide the services including pre-authorization of cashless claims within 30 mins & access to 'Point of Care' desks at leading hospital chains across the country.

5. Max Bupa in pact with MobiKwik for health insurance

Max Bupa has partnered with MobiKwik to promote bite-sized group insurance products. It will offer a cancer cover at nominal premium & HospiCash product. Priced at ₹135, HopiCash will offer ₹500/day hospital allowance for max 30 days in a year to customer.

News: Others

1. FundzBazar launched 'Selfiewala KYC' feature for first-time mutual fund investors

Online mutual fund investment platform FundzBazar announced the release of a new feature called 'Selfiewala KYC' for 1st-time mutual fund investors. The feature is hassle free & investors can complete their KYC from the comfort of their home or office.

Others:

2. *IRDAI okays standalone own-damage policy*

The Insurance Regulatory and Development Authority of India (IRDAI) recently allowed insurers, with effect from September 1, to issue standalone annual own damage (OD) cover for cars and two-wheelers, both new and old.

Economy

News: Most Important

1. *India's GDP growth forecast at 7.1% for FY20: FICCI*

According to the FICCI survey, the country's median GDP is forecast at 7.1 per cent for FY20 and 7.2 per cent for FY 21. The minimum and maximum growth estimate stood at 6.8 per cent and 7.3 per cent, respectively for 2019-20.

2. *NPAs plunge to 9.30% in FY'19: CRISIL*

According to the CRISIL report, the NPAs stock has declined to 9.3% as of Mar 2019 after tripling to 11.5% in the 4 fiscals till Mar 2018. The gross NPA ratio of both public & private sector banks showed a half-yearly decline for the first time since Mar 2015.

3. *World Bank retains growth forecast for Indian economy at 7.5%*

As per the Global Economic Prospects report from the World Bank, the forecasted growth rate of India has retained at 7.5% for the current financial year. Also, WB stated that India's growth rate is expected to remain the same for the next two fiscals.

4. *CII launches new Index to measure fiscal performance*

Confederation of Indian Industry has launched a Fiscal Performance Index to assess state and central budgets. The Index will consider expenditure on infrastructure, education, healthcare & other social sectors beneficial for economic growth & tax revenues.

5. *Govt sets up working group to revise current series of WPI*

Govt has constituted a Working Group for the revision of the current series of Wholesale Price Index. **Ramesh Chand**, a Member of NITI Aayog will be the chairman of the 18-member committee. The DPIIT is the nodal office for the Working Group.

6. *Fitch cuts India's GDP growth forecast to 6.6% for 2019-20*

Fitch lowered India's growth forecast to 6.6% for the current fiscal from 6.8%. In its latest Global Economic Outlook, the global rating agency retained its GDP growth forecast for the next fiscal (2020-21) at 7.1% and 7.0% for 2021-22.

7. DBS bank cuts India's FY20 GDP forecast to 6.8% from 7%

DBS Bank has revised India's GDP growth for fiscal year 2020 downwards to **6.8%** year-on-year (YoY) from **7%** projected earlier, citing headwinds for exports amidst challenging trade outlook.

8. Expert panel suggests ways to achieve \$5-trillion economy target: NITI Aayog

The expert committee for Macroeconomics & Employment came out with suggestion to achieve \$5 Trillion economy target. Improvement of governance in PSU banks, enhancing growth rate of exports & employment generation were some of the key areas identified.

9. FDI flow into India rises 6% to \$42 billion in 2018: UNCTAD

FDI into India increased by 6% to \$42 billion in 2018 with strong inflows in manufacturing, communication, financial services & cross-border merger & acquisition activities making it the sub-region's largest recipient.

10. Government reduces ESI contribution rate to 4 per cent

The government has reduced the contribution under the Employees' State Insurance Act to **4%** from 6.5%. It includes a reduction of 1.5% in employers' contribution to 3.25% from 4.75% and 1% reduction in employees' contribution to 0.75% from 1.75%.

11. Nagaland occupies the top position in the unemployment rate: NSSO Survey

According to the survey, The Periodic Labour Force Survey (PLFS) for 2017-18 by NSSO, Nagaland has the highest unemployment rate (21.4%) followed by Goa (13.9%) & Manipur (11.6%). Meghalaya has the lowest rate at 1.5%. Urban areas witnessed higher unemployment (7.8%) than rural areas (5.3%).

News: Others

1. PF tax-exempt on completion of five years of continuous service

As per Fourth Schedule of the Income-tax Act, the accumulated PF balance due and payable to an employee is exempt from tax, if the employee has rendered continuous service with his employer for a period of 5 years or more.

2. India accounts for 6.3% of global fish production: Fisheries department

India is the second largest fish producing country in the world as it accounts for 6.3% of the global fish production. The fisheries sector in the country is growing at the rate of **7%**, sustaining 14.5 million fishermen.

Quick revision

Organization/Parameters	Rate/Figures
FICCI	7.1% (FY20), 7.2% (FY 21)
World Bank	7.5%
Fitch Ratings	6.6% (FY 20)
DBS Bank	6.8% (FY 20)
FDI flow in 2018 (UNCTAD)	6%
ESI rate	4%

State

News: Most Important

1. World Bank approves \$147 Million Loan to the Government of Jharkhand

GoI, Jharkhand govt & WB signed a **\$147 Mn** Loan Agreement to provide basic urban services to the people of Jharkhand & help improve the management capacity of urban local bodies. The Loan from IBRD has a 7-year grace period, & final maturity of 22.5 years.

2. India signs a Loan Agreement with the World Bank to develop Roads and Highways in Rajasthan

GoI, Govt of Rajasthan & WB signed a \$ 250 Mn loan agreement for the Rajasthan State Highways Development Program II Project to build the State's capacity to better manage its highways and improve traffic flows on selected highways.

3. India signs a Loan Agreement of \$328 Million for Improved Health Services in Andhra Pradesh

GoI, Govt of Andhra Pradesh & the World Bank Executive signed a Loan Agreement of \$328 Million to help improve the quality & responsiveness of public health services in Andhra Pradesh. The loan has a 23.5-year maturity which includes a 6-year grace period.

4. India signed a \$31.58 Million Loan Agreement with the World Bank for Uttarakhand projects

India & World Bank signed a Loan Agreement of **\$31.58 million** for the Uttarakhand Public Financial Management Strengthening Project that will help improve State's ability to manage its Financial Systems & lead to Better Utilization of Development Resources

5. Delhi Metro becomes India's first project to receive power from waste-to-energy

The Delhi Metro has become the first ever project in the country to receive power generated from a waste-to-energy plant. The DMRC has started receiving 2 MW power from a 12 MW capacity waste-to-energy plant set up in Ghazipur.

6. *L&T Financial Services launches 'Digital Sakhi' in TN*

L&T Financial Services launched an educational programme 'Digital Sakhi' in 2 villages of Villupuram dist in TN. It is aimed at digital financial inclusion of rural women. It has identified 500 women from trades such as dairy, poultry and goat-rearing etc.

7. *Odisha CM unveils Flood Hazard Atlas*

Odisha govt unveiled a Flood Hazard Atlas for better preparedness. It will help identify the disaster-prone areas of the state to tackle the situation. It was prepared by National Remote Sensing Centre & Odisha State Disaster Management Authority (OSDMA).

8. *MP Cabinet passes resolution to increase reservation for OBCs to 27 %*

The Madhya Pradesh Cabinet passed a resolution to increase reservation quota for Other Backward Classes (OBC) from existing 14 per cent to 27 per cent. The Cabinet has also increased by three per cent the dearness allowance for employees and pensioners.

9. *WB sign \$287 million loan agreement for the Tamil Nadu Health System Reform Programme*

GOI, TN govt & WB signed a \$287 million loan agreement for the TN Health System Reform Programme. It aims to improve the quality of health care, reduce the burden of non-communicable diseases & fill equity gaps in reproductive & child health services in TN.

10. *The 10th National Science Film Festival of India (NSFFI) will be organised in Tripura*

To raise awareness about science and environment through films, the 10th National Science Film Festival of India (NSFFI) will be organised in Tripura ,in 2020.The film festival would include films from UNICEF, UNESCO & filmmakers from different countries.

11. *Odisha to provide transportation cost to school students*

Odisha government decided to provide transportation cost to students who stay more than a kilometre away from their schools. Only students with an attendance of more than 30% will get the transportation allowance.

12. *Kaleshwaram Lift Irrigation Project dedicated to nation*

A multi-stage, multi-purpose lift irrigation project, Kaleshwaram was dedicated to the nation by Telangana CM K Chandrashekhar Rao. It has become the world's biggest in terms of capacities. It is built across the Godavari river.

13. *WHO award for Rajasthan Health Department*

WHO has selected the Rajasthan government's Medical & Health Department for its award this year in recognition of its achievements in the field of tobacco control. It is the only govt. body in India which will be awarded for its tobacco-free initiatives.

14. *ADB approves Rs 1,650 crores infrastructure projects in Tripura*

The ADB will provide Rs 1,650 crore, out of which 80% will be grant-in-aid & the state will have to repay 20% loan. The ADB has approved a project worth Rs 1,650 crore to develop infrastructure in 7 districts headquarter towns of Tripura.

News: Others

1. *Uttar Pradesh govt hikes old-age pension*

In Uttar Pradesh, State Government has hiked old-age pension in the age group 60 to 79 years by rupees **100** monthly. The old-age pensioners would receive 500 rupees per month from the existing 400 rupees.

2. *Bancha becomes the first solar kitchen only village in India*

Bancha in Betul district of Madhya Pradesh is the first village in India to have zero wooden stoves and almost no use for LPG cylinders with all its 75 houses relying on solar-powered stoves to meet their cooking needs.

3. *Mela Kheer Bhawani Festival celebrated at Kheer Bhawani Temple in Kashmir*

The devotees of the Goddess Mata Kheer Bhawani fast and gather here on the eighth day of the full moon in the month of May/ June. Kheer Bhawani is the Presiding Deity of most of the Kashmiri Brahmans.

National

News: Most Important

1. *I&B Ministry institutes Antarashtriya Yoga Diwas Media Samman*

Ministry of Information and Broadcasting has instituted a new award called **Antarashtriya Yoga Diwas Media Samman from year 2019** to recognise contribution made by media in spreading awareness about Yoga and for promotion and commemoration of International Yoga Day.

2. *India signs USD 400M loan agreement with World Bank to eliminate TB*

India has signed a loan agreement worth 400 million dollars with the WB to help treat & eliminate Tuberculosis from the country. WB supported program will cover 9 States & it will support the government's National Strategic Plan to end TB in India by 2025.

3. *Arjun Munda Launches 'E-Governance Initiatives for ST Welfare Schemes'*

Union Minister for Tribal Affairs launched the e-governance initiatives named **SabkaSaath, SabkaVikas** and **SabkaVishwas** for ST Welfare schemes. These e-governance initiatives will serve their purpose of the betterment of tribal communities across the nation.

4. *Union Cabinet clears NDIAC Bill, 2019*

The Union Cabinet cleared the New Delhi International Arbitration Centre (NDIAC) Bill, 2019. The Bill provides for setting up of an independent and autonomous body for institutional arbitration.

5. *Centre sets target of providing clean drinking water to all by 2024*

In states like UP, Bihar, West Bengal, Chhattisgarh, Jharkhand & Odisha, the clean drinking water is less than 5%. Hence, Centre has set target of providing clean drinking water to all by 2024. Emphasis will also be laid on water conservation.

6. *Hardeep S Puri launched Swachh Survekshan 2020 League*

Hardeep Singh Puri launched Swachh Survekshan 2020 League in New Delhi. The league will be a quarterly cleanliness assessment of cities and towns in India. The objective of the Swachh Survekshan survey is to encourage large scale citizen participation.

7. *PM Modi Reconstitutes NITI Aayog; Shah Appointed Ex-Officio Member*

PM Narendra Modi reconstituted NITI Aayog, renaming Rajiv Kumar as its VC and appointing home minister Amit Shah, Defence minister Rajnath Singh, finance minister Nirmala Sitharaman & agriculture minister Narendra Singh Tomar as its ex-officio members.

8. *Delhi Metro, bus rides to be free for women in Delhi*

Delhi Chief Minister Arvind Kejriwal has announced free Delhi Metro and DTC bus rides for women in the capital city. The expenses of the free ride scheme will be borne by the Aam Aadmi Party (AAP) government in Delhi.

9. *Govt to provide broadband connectivity under BharatNet project to all gram panchayats*

Government plans to provide broadband connectivity under BharatNet Project to all gram panchayats in the country. According to Electronics and IT Minister Ravi Shankar Prasad 128870-gram panchayats have been connected with optical fibre till date.

10. *Govt develops National Strategic Plan to eradicate TB by 2025*

Govt has developed a National Strategic Plan to eradicate Tuberculosis by 2025. India ranks 35th in the world in terms of TB cases per lakh population. As per the Global TB report, the estimated cases of TB are 204 per lakh population for the year 2017.

11. *Flow of raw sewage into Ganga will be stopped by 2022: Shekhawat*

Union Minister for Jal Shakti Gajendra Singh Shekhawat asserted that flow of raw sewage into the river Ganga will be completely stopped by 2022 and the government is working on a Mission Mode to achieve the target.

12. *Kasturirangan committee submits new draft education policy to HRD Ministry*

Former ISRO chief Dr. Kasturirangan led Committee submitted the draft National Educational Policy (NEP) to the HRD Minister. It recommends incorporation of Indian knowledge systems in the curriculum, constituting a National Education Commission.

13. *Indore's Devi Ahilya Bai Holkar airport gets 'international' status*

Indore's Devi Ahilya Bai Holkar airport declared as an international airport, considered as the busiest airport in Central India. It has been bestowed Worlds Standardization Certification by the United Kingdom.

14. *HRD Ministry releases 5-year vision plan on Quality Education*

HRD Ministry has released a 5-year vision plan named Education Quality Upgradation & Inclusion Programme (EQUIP). The report has been prepared by experts from various areas, including promoting excellence, employability & entrepreneurship among others.

15. *Ministry of Statistics and Programme Implementation launches India's SDG dashboard*

Ministry of Statistics and Programme Implementation (MoPSI) in a bid to effectively track the progress on Agenda 2030, launched India's first Sustainable Development Goal (SDG) dashboard. It is a framework with 306 statistical indicators.

16. *Govt aspires for 500 GW renewable capacity by 2030*

India announced an ambitious aim to set up 500 GW of renewable energy capacity by 2030. The plans were revealed by Renewable Energy ministry at the 17th meeting of the International Renewable Energy Agency council in Abu Dhabi

17. *Hardeep Singh Puri inaugurates central command centre for ATFM*

Hardeep Singh Puri inaugurated the Central Command Centre for Air Traffic Flow Management in New Delhi to ensure higher standards of safety. It integrates flight data from subsystems like ATC Automation System, flight updates and flight update messages.

18. *Microsoft launches AI digital labs in India, to train 1.5 lakh students*

Microsoft will launch AI digital labs in India in collaboration with 10 higher educational institutions, including BITS Pilani & ISB. As part of the 3-year programme, Microsoft will support the select institutions with infrastructure, curriculum & content.

19. *Centre sets up committee headed by Kirit Parikh to review LPG marketing*

The Ministry of Petroleum and Natural Gas is looking to review the existing structure of LPG marketing in India, to bring in more private players. For this, the Centre has set up a 5-member committee headed by economist **Kirit Parikh**.

News: Others

1. *PM Modi hikes National Defence Fund scholarship assistance*

PM Modi has approved changes to the PM's Scholarship Scheme for wards of deceased defence personnel under the National Defence Fund . He approved the increase from ₹2,000 to ₹2,500 a month for boys and from ₹2,250 to ₹3,000 a month for girls.

2. *Culture Minister inaugurates the exhibition-'Astitva'*

MoS (I/C) of Culture & Tourism, inaugurated the exhibition titled "Astitva: The Essence of Prabhakar Barwe", at National Gallery of Modern Art in New Delhi. It is the first of its kind that will present his artistic oeuvre in four distinct phases.

3. *Central India gets its first Sikh museum in Raipur*

A museum exhibiting Sikh culture & tradition has opened in Ranchi. Shri Guru Teg Bahadur Sikh Museum, located at Gurudwara Gurusingh Sabha in Guru Nanak Nagar was inaugurated by Chief Minister Bhupesh Baghel on the 'Shahidi Divas' of Sikh's Guru Arjun Dev.

4. *NDMA conducts training programme for CBRN emergencies at Kandla Port*

National Disaster Management Authority conducted a basic training programme at the Deendayal Port Trust in Kandla, Gujarat. The 5-day training programme aimed at increasing the awareness & enhancing the preparedness of Seaport Emergency Handlers to respond to CBRN emergencies at the seaports.

5. *Two-day Elephanta Festival took place in Mumbai*

The two-day Elephanta Festival organised in Mumbai, took place at the Gateway of India. The MTDC organises the festival every year to promote tourism and the culture of Mumbai.

6. *'Halwa' ceremony marks Printing of Budget 2019-20 documents*

Halwa is prepared and served to the entire staff in the Finance ministry who are directly associated with the Budget making and printing process, are required to stay in the ministry till the presentation of the Budget in the Lok Sabha.

7. *Two-day Yoga Mahotsava Inaugurated by Vice Chairman Niti Aayog*

A 2-day Yoga Mahotsava, Int. Day of Yoga 2019 was inaugurated by the VC, NITI AAYOG Rajeev Kumar at New Delhi. MDNIY under Ministry of AYUSH is organising the Yoga Mahotsav-2019 to sensitize the masses for celebration of IDY 2019.

8. *Hero MotoCorp Becomes First Two-Wheeler Manufacturer to Receive BS VI Certification*

Hero MotoCorp has become the 1st company to get BS VI certification for its Hero Splendor iSmart. Hero has received the type approval certificate from ICAT after the Splendor iSmart was successfully tested for BS6 compliance.

International

News: Most Important

1. *Saudi Arabia becomes first Arab country to be granted full membership of FATF*

Saudi Arabia has become the first Arab country to be granted full membership of the Financial Action Task Force. Now, FATF **has 39 full members**, including the permanent members of the UN Security Council and most countries of the G-20.

2. *Luxembourg to be first nation outside Asia to host annual meeting of AIIB*

Luxembourg will host AIIB's annual meeting next month, the first time the gathering has taken place outside of Asia. Luxembourg will also host the second annual Asian Infrastructure Forum, a networking event run by the bank.

3. *Canada to ban single use plastics from 2021*

Canada Prime Minister Justin Trudeau announced that single-use plastics will be banned in the country from 2021 to reduce ocean waste. Less than 10 percent of plastics used in Canada are currently recycled.

4. *Qu Dongyu becomes first Chinese national to head UN food and agriculture agency*

Qu Dongyu became the first Chinese national to be elected to head the UN's Food and Agriculture Organization. He won 108 votes, followed by Catherine Geslain-Laneelle of France with 71 votes and Georgia's Davit Kirvalidze with 12.

5. *Nigeria's UN envoy Tijjani Muhammad-Bande elected UNGA President*

Nigeria's Ambassador to the UN, Tijjani Muhammad-Bande, has been elected as the next President of the General Assembly. He will succeed incumbent Maria Fernanda Espinosa & was elected by acclamation as President of the 74th session of the General Assembly.

6. *FIFA re-elected Gianni Infantino as its President*

Gianni Infantino was re-elected for a second term as president of football's international governing body FIFA. Infantino has been responsible for expanding the 2026 World Cup from 32 to 48 teams.

7. *Saudi Arabia hires i-banks for bond meetings in Europe*

Saudi Arabia has hired Goldman Sachs and Societe Generale (SocGen) to help arrange meetings with fixed income investors shortly, potentially paving the way for the kingdom to launch its first bonds in euros.

8. *Mexico becomes 1st country to ratify 'new NAFTA' trade deal*

Mexico became the first country to ratify the United States-Mexico-Canada Agreement agreed late last year to replace the North American Free Trade Agreement at the behest of U.S. President Donald Trump.

News: Others

1. *China launches rocket from Yellow Sea platform for first time*

China has launched a rocket from a mobile platform at sea for the 1st time, sending 5 commercial satellites and 2 others containing experimental tech. into space. The Long March 11 rocket blasted off from a launch pad onboard a comm. ship in the Yellow Sea.

2. *Russia launched first Arctic train service*

In Russia, the first tourist train traveling through Russia's Arctic region and on to Norway, set off from St. Petersburg. The tourists came from 7 countries including the US, Germany, Norway and Russia. The train is named, **Zarengold**.

3. *IAAF To be Renamed As "World Athletics"*

The 107-year-old IAAF will soon be renamed as "World Athletics". The decision to change the global governing body in athletics and to unveil a new logo arrived during the 217th executive council meeting of the organisation held in Monaco.

India & world

News: Most Important

1. *India, Japan discuss strengthening collaboration in skill development*

India & Japan have discussed strengthening collaboration in the area of skill development & increasing bilateral technical exchanges. Also, they discussed the proposal of speeding up Technical Internship Training Programme.

2. *India, France decide to deepen cooperation in cyber security sector*

India & France have decided to deepen the cooperation in the cybersecurity sector & work towards curbing the use of the Internet for terrorist purposes & online radicalization. The decision was taken at the third Indo-French cyber dialogue in Paris.

3. *India notifies tax info exchange pact with Marshall Islands*

India has notified a tax information exchange agreement with the Marshall Islands, enabling the exchange of information, including banking and ownership information, between the two countries for tax purposes.

4. *IAF inks Rs 300 crore deal to procure SPICE 2000 bombs from Israel*

The IAF has signed a Rs 300 crore deal with an Israeli defence firm to procure a batch of SPICE 2000 guided bombs. The deal was signed with Israel's Rafael Advanced Defense Systems and the bombs are expected to be supplied in the next three months.

5. *India, China Agree to Seek Mutually Acceptable Solution to Boundary Issue*

India & China have agreed to seek a fair, reasonable & mutually acceptable solution to the boundary question through negotiations. They have appointed a Special Representative to explore the framework for a boundary settlement from the political perspective.

6. *India, Indonesia set \$50-billion trade target by 2025: G20 summit*

India & Indonesia have set an ambitious USD 50 bn. target for bilateral trade over the next six years as PM Narendra Modi and President Joko Widodo discussed ways to deepen cooperation in a no. of key areas including economy, defence and maritime security.

7. *India extends \$15 million assistance to Niger for holding AU summit*

India has extended USD 15 million assistance to Niger for organizing the African Union (AU) summit scheduled to be held in Niamey. The AU summit is expected to launch the historic African Continental Free Trade Area (AfCFTA).

8. *India to impose retaliatory tariffs on 29 US products*

India has decided to impose the long pending retaliatory tariffs on 29 US products, after Washington, withdrew duty-free benefits for Indian exporters. This comes ahead of the meeting between the US President & Indian PM at the side-lines of the G20 meeting.

9. *DD India to be available in Bangladesh, South Korea*

India has entered into agreements with Bangladesh and South Korea to make DD India available to viewers in the two countries respectively. Under this agreement, Bangladesh's BTV World and South Korea's KBS World will also be made available on DD Free Dish.

News: Others

1. Japan to invest around Rs 13,000Cr in various projects in India's NE states

The Government of Japan has decided to invest an amount Rs.13,000 Crore in several ongoing as well as new projects in different states of India's North-Eastern region.

2. AIIB made first investment in Nepal, commits \$90m to hydropower project

AIIB has made its 1st investment in Nepal with the provision of up to \$90m loan to help fund a \$650m hydropower project. It has approved the loan for the Upper Trishuli-1 Hydropower Project expected to increase Nepal's power generation by almost 20%.

3. Mrs. Padmaja IFS has been appointed as India's High Commissioner to Tuvalu.

Mrs. Padmaja, IFS officer 1986 batch, is presently posted as India's High Commissioner to the Republic of Nauru has been appointed as India's High Commissioner to Tuvalu.

Quick Revision: Facts

Country	Capital	Head of State / Govt.	Currency
Israel	Jerusalem	Reuven Rivlin	New Shekel
China	Beijing	Xi Jinping	Renminbi
USA	Washington, D.C.	Donald Trump	Dollar
Nepal	Kathmandu	Bidhya Devi Bhandari	Rupee
France	Paris	Emmanuel Macron	Euro
Marshall Islands	Majuro	Hilda Heine	Dollar
Niger	Niamey	Mahamadou Issoufou	CFA Franc
Japan	Tokyo	Shinzo Abe	Yen
Tuvalu	Vaiaku	Enele Sopoaga	Dollar
Bangladesh	Dhaka	Abdul Hamid	Taka
South Korea	Seoul	Moon Jae-in	Won
Indonesia	Jakarta	Joko Widodo	Rupiah

Appointments & Resignations

News: Most Important

1. K Natarajan takes charge as Indian Coast Guard chief

Director General Krishnaswamy Natarajan took over as the 23rd Chief of Indian Coast Guard. He replaced Rajendra Singh, who was the first cadre officer to head the force. Natarajan is a 5th Batch Officer of the Indian Coast Guard.

2. *Viral Acharya resigns as RBI Deputy Governor*

Viral Acharya has resigned as a Deputy Governor of the RBI. He served as a member of the advisory council of the RBI Academy & a member of the Academic Council of the National Institute of Securities Markets, SEBI since 2014.

3. *Canara Bank GM Sarada Kumar Hota appointed as National Housing Bank MD*

Canara Bank General Manager Sarada Kumar Hota has been appointed as the managing director of the National Housing Bank. He replaced Sriram Kalyanaraman. He is appointed for a period of 3 years.

4. *PB Acharya sworn in as Manipur Governor*

PB Acharya was sworn-in as Governor of Manipur at Raj Bhawan in Imphal. The senior most judge of the High Court of Manipur Justice Lanushungkum Jamir administered him oath of office.

5. *Arvind Kumar appointed new IB chief, Samant Kumar Goel to head RAW*

IPS officers Arvind Kumar & Samant Kumar Goel were appointed chiefs of the IB & RAW respectively. Arvind Kumar will take the charge of the IB from Rajiv Jain, while Samant Kumar Goel will succeed Anil K Dhasmana as the chief of RAW.

6. *Thawarchand Gehlot appointed leader of Rajya Sabha*

Union Minister of Social Justice and Empowerment Thawarchand Gehlot has been appointed as the leader of Rajya Sabha. He will replace senior BJP leader Arun Jaitley who opted out of the government citing health reasons.

7. *BJP MP Virendra Kumar to be Pro-tem speaker of Lok Sabha*

BJP MP from Madhya Pradesh Virendra Kumar will be the Pro-tem Speaker of the Lok Sabha. As such, he will preside over the 1st sitting of the Lok Sabha, administer the oath of office to the newly elected MPs & oversee the election of the Speaker.

8. *GIFT City appoints Tapan Ray as new MD*

India's first international financial services centre GIFT City has appointed former Corporate Affairs Secretary Tapan Ray as the Managing Director. He was given additional charge as interim Economic Affairs Secretary recently.

9. *Military government chief Prayuth Chan-ocha elected Thai PM*

Thailand's new parliament has elected military government chief Prayuth Chan-ocha as the country's prime minister. He received 500 votes to 244 for Thanathorn Juangroongruangkit of the Future Forward Party.

10. *R K Chibber appointed interim chief of J and K bank*

The Jammu and Kashmir government removed J&K Bank Chairman Parvez Ahmad and appointed its executive president R K Chibber as an interim chairman. Ahmad was appointed in 2016 as the chairman of the bank.

11. *Azim Premji to retire as Executive Chairman of Wipro*

Azim Premji will retire as Executive Chairman of Wipro with effect from 30th July 2019. He led the company for 53 years. He will continue to serve on the board as Non-Executive Director and founder Chairman. He would be replaced by Rishad Premji.

12. *Rabi Mishra named RBI executive director, to supervise new regulatory cadre*

Dr. Rabi N. Mishra has been elevated as executive director in the RBI. Earlier, he was the principal chief general manager. His portfolio now includes non-banking and Co-op bank supervision as well as the College of Supervisors.

13. *Ajit Doval to Be NSA for Another Five Years, Gets Cabinet Rank*

Ajit Doval, who served as the NSA to Prime Minister Narendra Modi in the previous NDA government, will continue in his role for another five years. In addition to reappointing him, for five years, the prime minister has also given him cabinet rank.

14. *RBI approves appointment of Rakesh Makhija as Chairman of Axis Bank*

RBI has approved appointment of Rakesh Makhija as chairman of Axis bank. The board of the bank in March had approved appointment of Makhija as chairman subject to RBI clearance. Previously, he was the CEO and MD of Tata Honeywell Ltd.

15. *SpiceJet chief Ajay Singh elected to IATA board*

SpiceJet's Chairman and MD Ajay Singh was elected to the board of the IATA, after the airline joined the global grouping. The new board of the global airlines' grouping would be chaired by Lufthansa Group Chief Executive Officer Carsten Spohr.

16. *Nayib Bukele sworn in as president of El Salvador*

In the Central American country of El Salvador, Nayib Bukele has been sworn-in as the nation's President. Delegations from 83 countries attended the ceremony. Bukele was elected to succeed Salvador Sanchez Ceren.

17. *Anita Bhatia appointed Deputy Executive Director for UN Women*

Indian-origin Anita Bhatia, a veteran in strategic partnerships, resource mobilisation and management, has been appointed the Deputy Executive Director of the UN Women for Resource Management, Sustainability and Partnerships.

18. *Flipkart co-founder joins Ujjivan Small Finance Bank as Director*

Sachin Bansal, Flipkart ex-CEO and BAC Acquisitions co-founder, has joined Ujjivan Small Finance Bank's board as an independent director. He joined the bank board on June 1. The Small Finance Bank is headquartered in Bangalore, Karnataka.

19. *Admiral Karambir Singh took charge as new Navy Chief*

Admiral Karambir Singh took charge as the 24th Chief of the Naval Staff. He is the 1st helicopter pilot from the Indian Navy to lead the naval armed forces. He has commanded missile corvette INS Vijaydurg, guided-missile destroyers INS Rana & INS Delhi.

20. *CAG Rajiv Mehrishi elected as external auditor of WHO*

CAG of India Rajiv Mehrishi has been elected as external auditor of WHO for four years from 2020 to 2023. Rajiv Mehrishi will take over from the incumbent External Auditor of WHO, the Supreme Audit Institution of Philippines.

21. *'Cyclone man' Mrutyunjay Mohapatra appointed IMD chief*

Renowned scientist and cyclone warning specialist Mrutyunjay Mohapatra was appointed as the chief of IMD, according to a Personnel Ministry order. He has been appointed as DG of Meteorology, IMD, for a period of 5 years. He will assume charge in August.

22. *Aditya Birla Sun Life Insurance CEO Pankaj Razdan resigns*

Pankaj Razdan has resigned as the Deputy chief executive officer of Aditya Birla Sun Life Insurance. He will be replaced by Kamlesh Rao who is the present managing director of the retail arm of Kotak Securities.

23. *Indiabulls Housing Finance appoints Naveen Uppal as chief risk officer*

Indiabulls Housing Finance Ltd has appointed a CRO and complied with norms of National Housing Bank (NHB), the housing finance sector regulator. Naveen Uppal, has been appointed as Chief Risk Officer (CRO) of the company, for a period of three years.

24. *Zuzana Caputova sworn in as president of Slovakia*

In Slovakia, anti-corruption campaigner Zuzana Caputova was sworn in as country's first female president. In her inauguration speech, she pledged to make the justice system work for everyone. She has been nicknamed, "Slovakia's Erin Brockovich".

25. *MN Sarma to be new Secretary General of General Insurance Council*

MN Sarma, the former Chairman & Managing Director of United India Insurance will be the new Secretary General of the General Insurance Council. He will be supported by CR Vijayan, a former director of the GIC Re, who has been selected as the deputy Secretary General of the GI Council.

26. *Vice Admiral Dinesh K Tripathi Assumes Charge as Commandant of Indian Naval Academy*

Vice Admiral Dinesh K Tripathi has taken over as the Commandant of INA. He is an alumnus of the NDA, Khadakvasala. He is a specialist in Communication and Electronic Warfare and has commanded IN Ships Vinash, Kirch and Trishul.

27. *Kassym-Jomart Tokayev is Kazakhstan's new President*

Kazakhstan has elected interim leader Kassym-Jomart Tokayev - the hand-picked successor of long-term former long-time president Nursultan Nazarbayev - as the country's new president. Many people were arrested in rare protests in the country.

28. *Mohamed Ould Ghazouani elected as the president of Mauritania*

Mohamed Ould Ghazouani has won Mauritania's presidential election with an absolute majority. It was the first time Mauritians voted to elect a successor to a democratically elected president in the West African state.

29. *Yes Bank's former interim MD & CEO Ajai Kumar quits board*

A non-executive director of Yes Bank, Ajai Kumar has resigned from the board. He served as the bank's interim Managing Director and Chief Executive for one month after Rana Kapoor's exit. He had led state-run Syndicate Bank earlier.

30. *BharatPe appoints Pratekk Agarwal as Chief Business Officer*

To lead its push into lending, digital payments firm BharatPe, has appointed Pratekk Agarwal as its Chief Business Officer. He has worked across financial services companies like Indostar Capital, Bajaj Capital, and Fullerton India.

31. *Amit Agarwal appointed as IMAI chairman*

Amazon India head Amit Agarwal has been named as the new chairman of the Internet and Mobile Association of India (IAMAI). According to recently launched Mary Meeker report, India accounts for 12% of the world's internet users, behind only to China (21%)

News: Others

1. *Arun Kumar given additional charge of DGCA*

Arun Kumar, a member of the prestigious IAS cadre, has been given the additional charge of DGCA. Kumar, who currently holds the position of an additional secretary at the aviation ministry. He will succeed B S Bhullar.

2. *BAI president Himanta Biswa Sarma Elected as Badminton Asia Council Vice-President*

The BAI president Himanta Biswa Sarma has been elected as the vice-president of Badminton Asia Council. BAC president Anton Subowo also appointed BAI secretary (tournaments) Omar Rashid as the deputy chairman of Badminton Asia's development committee.

3. *Chhattisgarh: Satish Chandra Verma is new Advocate General*

Chhattisgarh government appointed a new advocate general, Satish Chandra Verma with immediate effect, replacing Kanak Tiwari on the post. He previously worked as additional Advocate General.

4. *Federation of Indian Export Organisations (FIEO) elects Sharad Kumar Saraf as new president*

Sharad Kumar Saraf has replaced renowned exporter Ganesh Kumar Gupta, who will hand over the charge to the new president. He will work in further pushing the issues of exporters at different forums and boost the country's exports.

5. *I V Subba Rao to continue as secretary to vice president*

Acc. to Personnel Ministry, I V Subba Rao will continue as secretary to Vice President M Venkaiah Naidu. The appointment is on contract basis in the rank and pay of secretary of GoI. His tenure will be co-terminus with the tenure of the vice president.

6. *Justice Dhirubhai Naranbhai Patel Takes Oath as Chief Justice of Delhi HC.*

Justice Dhirubhai Naranbhai Patel was sworn in as Chief Justice of the Delhi High Court. Lt Governor Anil Baijal administered the oath of office to Justice Patel. Earlier, Justice Patel was posted at the Jharkhand High Court.

7. *HDFC Bank appoints MSKA & Associates, Chartered Accountants as its Statutory Auditors*

HDFC Bank has appointed MSKA & Associates, Chartered Accountants as its Statutory Auditors for a 4-year period from fiscal year 2019-20. The appointment of the new auditors will be subject to approval by the RBI and the shareholders.

8. *Prabhat Kumar appointed new chairman of UPPSC*

UP Governor Ram Naik on the recommendation of UP Chief Minister Yogi Adityanath has given his approval for the appointment of Prabhat Kumar as the chairman of Uttar Pradesh Public Service Commission (UPPSC).

9. *UC Browser appoints Huaiyuan Yang as Vice President*

UC Web Global subsidiary of Alibaba Group has appointed Huaiyuan Yang as its VP to look overseas business of UCWeb, including India and Indonesia. UC ,recently announced updates to UC Browser Mini and UC Browser Turbo.

10. *Bhola Nath Shukla appointed CMD of Mahanadi Coalfield Ltd*

Bhola Nath Shukla was appointed Chairman-cum-Managing Director of Mahanadi Coalfields Ltd, according to a Personnel Ministry order. Shukla is at present the Director (Technical) of Central Mine Planning and Design Institute Limited.

11. *Laxman Narasimhan chosen as Reckitt CEO*

British consumer goods giant Reckitt Benckiser, named PepsiCo executive Laxman Narasimhan to succeed Rakesh Kapoor as CEO. Narasimhan, PepsiCo's global chief commercial officer, will join Reckitt as CEO-designate and be appointed to the board shortly.

12. *PWC Quits as Statutory Auditor of Anil Ambani-led Reliance Capital, Reliance Home Finance*

Auditing firm PWC Chartered Accountants has resigned as one of the statutory auditors of Reliance Capital & Reliance Home Finance, citing an inability by the Anil Ambani-led firms to satisfactorily resolve certain observations/transactions.

13. *Ravinder Singh Dhillon takes over as Director (Projects) at PFC*

Ravinder Singh Dhillon has taken over as the Director (Projects) in Power Finance Corporation. Dhillon has more than 34 years of experience in various areas of the power sector. He is an Electrical Engineer with PG in Power Systems from IIT-Delhi.



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Quick Revision

Appointment/Resignation	Post
Krishnaswamy Natarajan	Indian Coast Guard Chief
Viral Acharya	RBI Deputy Governor
Sarada Kumar Hota	Managing Director, National Housing Board
PB Acharya	Manipur Governor
Arvind Kumar	IB Chief
Samant Kumar Goel	RAW Chief
Thawarchand Gehlot	Rajya Sabha Leader
Virendra Kumar	Pro-tem speaker of Lok Sabha
Tapan Ray	Managing Director, GIFT City
Prayuth Chan-ocha	Prime Minister, Thailand
R K Chibber	Interim Chairman, J and K Bank
Azim Premji (Resignation)	Chairman, Wipro
Rabi N. Mishra	Executive Director, RBI
Ajay Singh	IATA Board
Ajit Doval	NSA to Prime Minister
Rakesh Makhija	Chairman, Axis Bank
Nayib Bukele	President of El Salvador
Anita Bhatia	Deputy Executive Director of UN Women
Sachin Bansal	Director, Ujjivan Small Finance Bank
Karambir Singh	Navy Chief
Rajiv Mehrishi	External Auditor of WHO
Mrutyunjay Mohapatra	IMD Chief
Mohamed Ould Ghazouani	President, Mauritania
Pankaj Razdan (Resignation)	CEO, Aditya Birla Sun Life Insurance
Naveen Uppal	Chief Risk Officer, Indiabulls Housing Finance
Zuzana Caputova	President, Slovakia
MN Sarma	Secretary General of General Insurance Council
Amit Agarwal	Chairman, Internet and Mobile Association of India
Dinesh K Tripathi	Commandant of Indian Naval Academy
Kassym-Jomart Tokayev	President, Kazakhstan
Ajai Kumar (Resignation)	Non-Executive Director, YES Bank
Pratekk Agarwal	Chief Business Officer, BharatPe
Arun Kumar	Additional Charge of DCGA
Himanta Biswa Sarma	Vice-President of Badminton Asia Council
Satish Chandra Verma	New Advocate General, Chhattisgarh
Sharad Kumar Saraf	President, FIEO
I V Subba Rao	Secretary to Vice President
Dhirubhai Naranbhai Patel	Chief Justice of Delhi High Court
Prabhat Kumar	Chairman, Uttar Pradesh Public Service Commission
Huaiyuan Yang	Vice President, UC Browser
Bhola Nath Shukla	Chairman-cum-Managing Director of Mahanadi Coalfields Ltd
Ravinder Singh Dhillon	Director (Projects) in Power Finance Corporation

Ranks & Reports

News: Most Important

1. *India slips to 141 in annual Global Peace Index; Iceland retains top spot*

India has slipped by 4 points in an annual global index on peacefulness this year, finishing at 141 among 163 countries, while Iceland remained at the top position. The Global Peace Index (GPI) takes into account 23 indicators.

2. *Mumbai Most Traffic Congested City in The World, Delhi At Fourth*

As per the Traffic Index-2018, Mumbai is the most traffic-congested city for the 2nd consecutive year with commuters spending an average of 65% extra travel time. Bogota (63%) stands at 2nd place followed by Lima (58%), New Delhi (58%), Moscow (56%).

3. *India Ranks 95 Among 129 Countries in Global Gender Equality Index; Denmark tops*

India ranked 95th out of 129 countries in global gender equality index, looking at aspects such as poverty, health, education, literacy, political representation & equality at workplace. The SDGG Index has been developed by UK-based Equal Measures 2030.

4. *Kerala aced NITI Aayog's health index*

Kerala has topped among large states on overall health performance in NITI Aayog's Health Index followed by Andhra Pradesh and Maharashtra. The report ranks the states & UTs innovatively on their year-on-year incremental change in health outcomes.

5. *ONGC topples IOC to regain most profitable public sector company*

ONGC has toppled Indian Oil Corp to regain crown of being the country's most profitable public sector company. According to earnings statements of the listed companies, ONGC reported a 34% jump in its 2018-19 fiscal net profit to ₹ 26716 Cr.

News: Others

1. *31.4% of Indian children will be stunted by 2022: report*

Almost 1 in 3 Indian children under 5 yrs will still be stunted by 2022 going by current trends & 31.4% of children will still be stunted by the 2022 deadline as per a report by UN World Food Programme in collaboration with MOSPI.

2. *India, projected to surpass China as the world's most populous country around 2027: UN report*

India, projected to surpass China as the world's most populous country around 2027, is expected to add nearly 273 million people between now and 2050. It was published by UN Department of Economic and Social Affairs.

3. *Rajasthan, Andaman, West Bengal house best police stations in India: MHA*

3 best police stations in the country are in Rajasthan, Andaman & Nicobar Islands & West Bengal, as per Home Ministry. **Kalu police station** in Rajasthan's Bikaner district ranked 1 as it had all facilities including women's help desk & Wi-Fi

Important days

News: Most Important

1. *World Milk Day – June 1*

World Milk Day is celebrated every year on 1st June to educate people about the importance of milk in our diet. The theme for World Milk Day 2019 in India is 'Drink Milk: Today & Everyday'. The day was first time celebrated in 2001 across the globe and several countries participated in the event.

2. *June 3 is being celebrated as World Bicycle Day*

The United Nations General Assembly declared 3rd June as World Bicycle Day to recognise the uniqueness, longevity and versatility of the bicycle, which are affordable, environmentally friendly fit sustainable means of transportation.

3. *International Day of Innocent Children Victims of Aggression-June 4*

The main purpose of celebration of the International Day of Innocent Children Victims of Aggression is to spread awareness on the sufferings and pain of children as they are the victims of abuse.

4. *World Environment Day is being observed on June 5*

World Environment Day is observed on June 5 every year. In 2019, China is hosting World Environment Day and the theme is 'Beat air pollution'. In 2018, India hosted the main event centred on combatting pollution caused by plastic.

5. *World Food Safety Day is being celebrated on June 7*

World Food Safety Day is celebrated on 7 June to draw global attention to the consequences of contaminated food and water to the health. It focuses on the way to reduce the risk of food poisoning.

6. *World Oceans Day – June 8*

World Oceans Day is an opportunity to raise global awareness of the challenges faced by the international community in connection with the oceans. The 2019 theme is 'Gender and the Ocean'.

7. *June 12 is being celebrated as World Day Against Child Labour*

The ILO launched the World Day Against Child Labour in 2002 to focus attention on the global extent of child labour and the action and efforts needed to eliminate it. The 2019 theme is: Children shouldn't work in fields, but on dreams!

8. *International Albinism Awareness Day - 13 June*

International Albinism Awareness Day is observed every year on 13 June, with the aim of raising public awareness on albinism and to prevent attacks and discrimination against persons with albinism. Theme for IAAD 2019 was Still Standing Strong.

9. *World Blood Donor Day-14 June*

World Blood Donor Day is observed on 14 June every year. The theme for World Blood Donor Day 2019 is "Safe blood for all". The theme is a call for action to all the gov., healthcare institutions etc. across the globe to meet the adequate demand of blood.

10. *June 17 is being celebrated as World Day to Combat Desertification and Drought*

The United Nation General Assembly in 1994 declared 17 June as the "World Day to Combat Desertification and Drought". The theme for 2019 is "Let's Grow the Future Together". 2019 is the 25th anniversary of the Convention and the WDCD.

11. *International Yoga Day is celebrated on June 21 across the world*

Fifth International Yoga Day is celebrated on June 21 to raise awareness worldwide of the many benefits of practicing yoga. The 2019 theme of the day is 'Yoga for Climate Action'. This year's main event in India was held in Ranchi, Jharkhand.

12. *International MSME Day, celebrated on 27th June*

The Ministry of MSME is organizing an international convention on the theme "Indian MSMEs, Global Aspirations" in New Delhi to observe the International MSME Day. It will be inaugurated by Shri Nitin Gadkari, UM for MSME & Road Transport & Highways.

13. *International Day of Tropics – June 29*

Every year 29 June is observed across the world as International Day of the Tropics, to celebrate extraordinary diversity of tropics while also highlighting unique challenges and opportunities Tropical nations face.

14. *World Asteroid Day – June 30*

The World Asteroid Day is marked in order to raise public awareness about the possible hazardous impacts of asteroids and inform the public about crisis communication actions to be taken at the global level in case of a credible near-Earth object threat.

News: Others

1. *June 2 being celebrated as Telangana Formation day*

June 2 is celebrated each year as Telangana State Formation Day to mark the official formation of India's youngest state in 2014 after its bifurcation from Andhra Pradesh. This year marks the fifth Telangana State Formation Day.

2. *World Hydrography Day – June 21*

World Hydrography Day is celebrated to publicise the work of hydrographers and the importance of hydrography. It also increases awareness about the protection of safe navigation and marine life protection. 2019 theme was 'Hydrographic information driving marine knowledge'.

3. *United Nations Public Service Day: 23 June*

UN Public Service Day celebrates the value and virtue of public service to the community; highlights the contribution of public service in the development process; recognizes the work of public servants, encouraging young people to choose it as career.

4. *National Statistics Day – June 29*

National Statistics Day is celebrated on 29th June every year. This day is celebrated at the national level to honour the significant contribution made by P.C Mahalanobis in the field of economic planning and development of the cultural sector.



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Quick Revision

Date	Day	Theme
June 1	World Milk Day	Drink Milk: Today & Everyday
June 2	Telangana Formation Day	NA
June 3	World Bicycle Day	NA
June 4	International Day of Innocent Children Victims of Aggression	NA
June 5	World Environment Day	Beat Air Pollution
June 7	World Food Safety Day	NA
June 8	World Oceans Day	Gender and the Ocean
June 12	World Day Against Child Labour	Children shouldn't work in fields, but on dreams!
June 13	International Albinism Awareness Day	Still Standing Strong.
June 14	World Blood Donor	Safe blood for all
June 17	World Day to Combat Desertification and Drought	Let's Grow the Future Together
June 21	International Yoga Day	Yoga for Climate Action
June 21	World Hydrography Day	Hydrographic information driving marine knowledge
June 23	UN Public Service Day	NA
June 27	International MSME Day	NA
June 29	International Day of the Tropics	NA
June 29	National Statistics Day	NA
June 30	World Asteroid Day	NA

Sports

News: Most Important

1. Sourav Kothari wins Pacific International Snooker C'ship

Reigning World billiards champion Sourav Kothari lifted the 2019 Pacific International Snooker Championship-The Reventon Classic, in Melbourne. He defeated Tyson Crinis of Australia to bag the crown.

2. *French Open: Rafael Nadal lifts Men's Singles title for 12th time*

In Tennis, world no. 2 Rafael Nadal has lifted the French Open Men's Singles title for the 12th time. In the summit clash played at Paris, he defeated **Dominic Thiem**. The 33-year-old became the first player to win 12 Singles titles at the same Grand Slam.

3. *French Open: Ashleigh Barty clinches her first Grand Slam singles title*

In French Open Tennis, Australian Ashleigh Barty won her first Grand Slam singles title by defeating Marketa Vondrousova in the women's final. Men's Double winner - Kevin Krawietz and Andreas Mies.

4. *Sunil Chhetri becomes most capped India player*

Sunil Chhetri became the most capped India player with 108 international matches. He overtook his mentor Bhutia's record of 107 matches when he captained India in the King's Cup opener against Curacao.

5. *ITF men's Futures tennis: Sidharth wins title*

Sidharth Rawat outplayed Rio Noguchi of Japan to clinch his maiden title in the ITF men's Futures tennis tournament. He had a career-best rank of 430. David Haggerty is the President of ITF.

6. *FIFA women's world cup starts in France*

The 8th installment of the FIFA Women's World Cup is underway in France. The United States enter the tournament as the defending champions & the most decorated national team in Women's World Cup history with 3 titles.

7. *Lewis Hamilton wins 7th Canadian Grand Prix*

Lewis Hamilton has won the 2019 Canadian Grand Prix. Sebastian Vettel was penalized for dangerous driving against his rival. Monaco's Charles Leclerc finished third while Valtteri Bottas of Finland took the fourth position.

8. *Novak Djokovic tops ATP rankings*

Serbia's Novak Djokovic has topped in the ATP Rankings followed by Rafael Nadal who won the French Open Men's title for 12th time recently. Austrian Dominic Thiem keeps his fourth place behind Switzerland's Roger Federer.

9. *Virat Kohli becomes fastest batsman to score 20,000 runs*

Virat Kohli became the fastest batsman to reach 20000 international runs. He reached the milestone in only his 417th international innings. He became the 12th batsman & 3rd Indian after Tendulkar & Rahul Dravid to reach 20000 international runs.

10. *Lewis Hamilton cruises to French GP victory*

Lewis Hamilton has won the French Grand Prix title. The five-time champion leads Bottas in 2019 title race by 36 points. Red Bull's Max Verstappen and Sebastian Vettel's Ferrari took fourth and fifth place respectively.

11. *Pankaj Advani clinches men's Asian Snooker Championship*

India's ace cueist Pankaj Advani has clinched the 35th men's Asian Snooker Championship in Doha. He defeated Thanawat Tirapongpaiboon in the final to become the only one to win the Asian and World championships in all formats.

12. *Roger Federer defeats David Goffin to win record 10th Halle Open title*

Roger Federer defeated David Goffin to win the Halle Open title for the 10th time. Federer fired 7 aces and broke Goffin's serve 3 times to down Goffin. He clinched the 102nd tour-level title that moved him to within seven of Jimmy Connors' record.

13. *Gary Woodland wins 119th US Open, his first major title*

American Gary Woodland won the 2019 United States Open Championship at Pebble Beach Golf Links in California. It is his first major career title. Woodland finished 13-under par for the championship and held off world No. 1 Brooks Koepka in the final round.

14. *Joshna Chinappa wins record 17th national squash title*

Joshna Chinappa won a record 17th national squash title after outplaying Tamil Nadu's Sunayna Kuruvilla in the final. She won the match 11-5, 11-4, 7-11, 11-5 and thus broke a 27-year-old record set by Bhuvneshwari Kumari, who had won 16 titles.

15. *India Win FIH Series Finals Gold*

India beat South Africa 5-1 in the summit clash to win the FIH Series Finals hockey tournament. Ranked at world no. 5 remained unbeaten throughout the tournament. Both teams have already qualified for the final round of the Olympic qualifiers.

News: Others

1. *Indian Jr. women's hockey team clinch Cantor Fitzgerald U21*

The Indian junior women's hockey team clinched the Cantor Fitzgerald U21 International 4-Nations title after beating Ireland in the final at Dublin, Ireland. Mumtaz Khan finished as the highest goal scorer of the tournament with three goals in four games.

2. *Youth hockey: Central Railway, Union Bank emerge champions*

In Hockey, the Central Railway beat Western Railway in the women's final of the St Peters Youth Centre Open Hockey Tournament in Mumbai. In the men's final, Union Bank of India prevailed over Coorg eleven to emerge champions.

3. *Girish Koushik is India's 63rd Grandmaster*

22-year-old Girish Koushik from Mysuru became India's 63rd Grandmaster at the 37th Balaton International Chess Festival in Hungary. He duly crossed the 2500 Elo rating after the win

4. *Pranati Nayak wins bronze at Asian Artistic Gymnastic Championship*

In Gymnastics, India's Pranati Nayak clinched a bronze medal in the vault event at the Senior Asian Artistic Championships in Ulaanbaatar, Mongolia. China's Yu Linmin and Japan's Ayaka Sakaguchi won the gold and silver medal at the same event.

5. *In Archery World Championships, Indian men's recurve team bags Silver Medal*

The Indian men's recurve team bagged a silver medal in the Archery World Championships at Den Bosch in The Netherlands. India thus ended their campaign with one silver and two bronze medals won in the women's compound team and individual events.

6. *Indian women's rugby team claims 1st-ever international Rugby 15s victory*

The Indian women's rugby team claimed a historic first-ever international Rugby 15s victory with a 21-19 win over Singapore to finish 3rd. The tournament was one of the qualifying rounds for the 2021 Women's Rugby World Cup to be held in New Zealand.

7. *American Taylor Fritz wins maiden ATP title in Eastbourne*

21-year-old American Taylor Fritz claimed his maiden ATP title in Eastbourne, beating compatriot Sam Querrey 6-3 6-4 in the final. He is son of former top-10 player Kathy May. Karolina Pliskova clinched Eastbourne Women title beating Angelique Kerber.

Awards

News: Most Important

1. *Noted English writer Amitav Ghosh conferred Jnanpith award*

Noted English writer Amitav Ghosh was conferred the 54th Jnanpith award for 2018. It was given for his outstanding contribution in English. Mr Ghosh is the first English writer to get this award. The works of Amitav Ghosh cover a vast range of subjects.

2. *Maldives confers highest civilian award on PM Modi*

PM Modi was conferred with the Maldives' highest civilian award, the Order of the Distinguished Order of Izzudeen. The award is in recognition of services PM Modi has offered to cement the longstanding ties b/w 2 countries & for the magnanimous assistance.

3. *Ex-President Pratibha Patil Awarded, Mexico's Highest Civilian Award*

The ambassador of Mexico to India, Melba Priá, presented "Orden Mexicana del Aguila Azteca" (Order of the Aztec Eagle) to Ms Patil, who had served as the first woman president of the country during 2007-12, at a special ceremony held in MCCIA Bhavan.

4. *Malayalam actor Sheela honoured with J.C. Daniel Award*

Veteran Malayalam actress Sheela was honoured with prestigious J C Daniel Award for her contributions to Malayalam Cinema field. She is only the second woman to win this award after Aranmula Ponnammamma in 2005.

5. *Google's Sundar Pichai and Nasdaq's Friedman to receive 2019 Global Leadership Award*

Google's CEO Sundar Pichai & Nasdaq president Adena Friedman have been chosen for the prestigious Global Leadership Awards 2019 by business advocacy group USIBC in recognition of the two companies' contribution as the leading technology-driven platforms.

6. *Nitesh Kumar Jangir wins Innovation Award in UK*

Nitesh Kumar Jangir has won the 2019 Commonwealth Secretary – General's Innovation for Sustainable Development Award in London. He created Saans as a breathing support device to tackle avoidable deaths of premature babies from respiratory distress syndrome

7. *Priyanka Chopra to be honoured with UNICEF's Humanitarian Award*

UNICEF will honour Indian actress Priyanka Chopra with the Danny Kaye Humanitarian Award at the UNICEF Snowflake Ball. The event will be held in New York. Priyanka is a global Unicef Goodwill Ambassador for Child Rights.

8. *Social activist Makarand Tilloo receives 'Save Water Hero Award'*

Social activist Makarand Tilloo, received the 'Save Water Hero Award' for his efforts towards water conservation. A Laughter Yoga trainer & motivational speaker by profession, he started a campaign to save water by replacing leaking taps with new ones.

9. *Akshaya Patra wins BBC World Service Global Champion Award.*

Akshaya Patra, a non-profit organisation running one of the world's largest school meals project in India, has been awarded the BBC World Service Global Champion Award for the same.

10. *India's automobile major Mahindra wins Gold Award in South Africa*

Mahindra won the Gold Award for fairing on various indicators, including level of satisfaction among its network of dealers. The company has been in South Africa for the past 16 years.

11. *Nirmala Sitharaman and S Jaishankar to be honoured with 'Distinguished Alumni Award'*

Jawaharlal Nehru University (JNU) honoured Finance Minister Nirmala Sitharaman and External Affairs Minister Dr S Jaishankar with 'Distinguished Alumni Award'. They will be the first recipient of this award.

News: Others**1. *Equator Prize 2019 won by Deccan Development Society***

The Women Sangams (groups) of Deccan Development Society (DDS) were honoured with Equator Prize 2019 by United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) for their contribution to ecology and innovations in rainfed millet cultivation.

2. *IIT Kanpur honours India's national badminton coach with honorary doctorate degree*

India's chief national badminton coach Pullela Gopichand was bestowed upon an honorary doctorate by IIT Kanpur on the occasion of their 52nd convocation. The badminton coach received the honour from former ISRO chairman and Chairman of Board of Governors of IIT Kanpur, Prof K Radhakrishnan.

3. *Scribe wins RedInk award for Aadhaar expose*

Rachna Khaira of The Tribune bagged the RedInk Award for 'Journalist of the Year' for her expose during 2018 on the functioning of UIDAI and its Aadhaar data cache. Khaira confirmed that personal data of millions of citizens was at a risk of being hacked.

Quick Revision

Winner	Award
Amitav Ghosh	54 th Jnanpith award
Narendra Modi	The Order of the Distinguished Rule of Izzudeen
Pratibha Patil	"Orden Mexicana del Aguila Azteca
Sheela	J C Daniel Award
Sundar Pichai & Nasdaq president Adena Friedman	Global Leadership Awards
Nitesh Kumar Jangir	Innovation Award in UK
Makarand Tilloo	Save Water Hero Award
Priyanka Chopra	UNICEF's Humanitarian Award
Mahindra & Mahindra	Gold Award
Akshaya Patra	BBC World Service Global Champion Award
Nirmala Sitharaman & Dr S Jai Shankar	'Distinguished Alumni Award'
Women Sangams (groups) of Deccan Development Society	Equator Prize 2019
Pullela Gopichand	Honorary doctorate by IIT Kanpur
Rachna Khaira	RedInk Award for 'Journalist of the Year'

Obituaries

News: Most Important

1. *Dr John: Grammy-winning musician dies at 77*

American singer Malcolm John Rebennack has died at 77, known for music combining blues, pop, jazz, boogie-woogie and rock and roll he was a six-time Grammy winner. He recognized as a solo performer with the release of his album Gris-Gris in 1968.

2. *Industrialist Brij Mohan Khaitan passes away*

Industrialist Brij Mohan Khaitan, 92 who acquired the Indian business of Union Carbide in the 1990s, passed away recently. He was the patriarch of the Williamson Magor Group that deals in dry-cell battery, tea and engineering services.

3. *Uttarakhand finance minister Prakash Pant passes away in the US*

Uttarakhand finance minister Prakash Pant passed away in the USA. He was said to be one of the front runners in the race to be the chief minister of the state in 2017.

4. *'Godfather' Actor Carmine Caridi Dies at 85*

Carmine Caridi, the actor best-known for portraying Carmine Rosato in "The Godfather: Part II," has died. He was 85. He also starred in TV shows including Phyllis, Starsky and Hutch, Taxi, NYPD Blue and Fame.

5. *Former UEFA president Johansson dies aged 89*

Long-serving former UEFA president and Champions League 'architect' Lennart Johansson has died. He was 89. He worked as president of the Swedish Football Association between 1984 and 1991.

6. *Former Puducherry CM R V Janakiraman passed away*

Former Puducherry Chief Minister and senior Dravida Munnetra Kazhagam leader R V Janakiraman died recently. He was the Chief Minister between 1996 and 2000, heading the coalition government of DMK and the Tamil Maanila Congress.

7. *Veteran actor Girish Karnad passes away in Bengaluru*

Noted actor & Jnanpith awardee Girish Karnad passed away in Bengaluru. He served as Director of the Film & Television Institute of India & National Academy of Performing Arts. He was also conferred the Padma Shri, Padma Bhushan & Rajyotsava Award.

8. *Freedom fighter Mohammed Baji passes away*

Eminent freedom fighter Mohammed Baji died in Nabarangpur District of Odisha. He was 103. He had joined the Indian National Congress in 1936. He was the chairman of Utkal Gandhi Smarak Nidhi and a close associate of Utkal Sarvodaya Mandal.

9. *Noted Telugu writer Abburi Chaya Devi passes away at 86*

Famous Telugu writer Abburi Chaya Devi has died. She was 86. She received the Kendra Sahitya Akademi Award in 2005 for her book 'Thana Margam.' Her works were translated into English and other languages.

10. *Freedom fighter Mohan Ranade dies*

Veteran freedom fighter Mohan Ranade, who participated in the Goa liberation movement, died at the age of 90 years. He was arrested by Portuguese police in 1955 and incarcerated at the Fort of Caxias near Lisbon in Portugal for 6 years.

11. *Rajasthan BJP Chief Madan Lal Saini Passes Away*

President of the BJP's Rajasthan unit Madan Lal Saini has passed away at the age of 75. He was a Rajya Sabha MP. He was a former MLA and RSS volunteer. Also, he held various posts in the Bhartiya Kisan Morcha.

12. *Ex-MP Rajnath Singh 'Surya' passes away*

Veteran journalist and former member of Rajya Sabha, Rajnath Singh 'Surya', passed away. He had worked with dailies like Aaj, Dainik Jagran and was even editor Swatantra Bharat. He started his career from the 'Hindustan Samachar'

News: Others

1. *Pazhavila Ramesan passes away*

Poet and lyricist Pazhavila Ramesan passed away. He had received the 2017 Kerala Sahitya Akademi award for overall contributions. A native of Perinad, Kollam, he was co-editor of K. Balakrishnan's Kaumudi Weekly in the sixties.

2. *Celebrated chef and culinary revivalist Jaspal Inder Singh Kalra passed away*

Celebrated chef and culinary revivalist Jaspal Inder Singh Kalra passed away, aged 71. Mr. Kalra held titles like the "Czar of Indian Cuisine" and "Taste maker to the Nation", conferred upon him by eminent writer Khushwant Singh.

3. *Veteran actor Dinyar Contractor passed away*

Veteran actor and theatre legend Dinyar Contractor, who appeared in films such as Baadshah and Khiladi, passed away. He was 79. The actor was best known for his comic roles in films and was awarded a Padma Shri in 2019.

4. *Actor-Singer Ruma Guha Thakurta Passes Away at 84*

She is known for her work in Ganga, Abhijaan, Palatak, Antony Firingee, 80 Te Asio Na, Balika Badhu, Dadar Kirti, 36 Chowringhee Lane, Amrita Kumbher Sandhane, Bhalobasa and Wheelchair.

5. *Former Doordarshan, All India Radio News Editor Laldingliana Sailo passes away*

Former Doordarshan and AIR News Editor Laldingliana Sailo passed away. He was inducted as Field Publicity Officer under the MIB in the year 1972. He retired as Director in the Directorate of Field Publicity for Kohima Region.

6. *Crazy Mohan, Humourist & Playwright, Passes Away in Chennai*

A humourist Crazy Mohan has died in Chennai. He was 67. He had written for films including ten of Kamal Haasan's films starting with Apoorva Sagodharargal. His latest was Devi 2 which was released recently.

Quick Revision

Obituary (Name)	Related Field
Malcolm John	Musician
Brij Mohan Khaitan	Industrialist
Prakash Pant	Uttarakhand Finance Minister
Carmine Caridi	Actor
Lennart Johansson	Former UEFA President
R V Janakiraman	Former Puducherry Chief Minister
Girish Karnad	Actor
Mohammed Baji	Freedom Fighter
Abhuri Chaya Devi	Telugu Writer
Mohan Ranade	Freedom Fighter
Lal Saini	Rajasthan BJP Chief
Rajnath Singh `Surya'	Journalist & Former MP of Rajya Sabha
Pazhavila Ramesan	Poet & Lyricist
Jaspal Inder Singh Kalra	Chef and culinary revivalist
Dinyar Contractor	Actor
Ruma Guha Thakurta	Actor & Singer
Laldingliana Sailo	Former Doordarshan and AIR news editor
Crazy Mohan	Humourist

Schemes

News: Most Important

1. *Go Tribal campaign launched in New Delhi*

The government launched the Go Tribal Campaign by Tribes India in New Delhi to promote the use of tribal handicrafts and natural products. Tribes India and Amazon Global Marketing will launch TRIBES India products globally through the Amazon platform.

2. *Self Defence Training for Girls in Schools under Samagra Shiksha*

HRD Ministry has launched Integrated Scheme for School Education, Samagra Shiksha for giving Self Defence training to girls of class VI-XII belonging to Govt Schools. Funds for this purpose are provided for three months (₹ 3000/- per school per month).

3. *NHA, ICICI Foundation to skill 15,000 personnel to implement Ayushman Bharat scheme*

National Health Authority & ICICI Foundation have signed an agreement to train 15,000 state & district personnel & Arogya Mitras to streamline delivery of health services under AB –PM JAY. Arogya Mitras serves as the first-point contact for beneficiaries.

4. *Haryana government launches Krishi Kiosk*

Haryana govt launched 'Krishi kiosk' at Panchkula which would give farmers info about govt schemes & help them file claims under the PM Fasal Bima Yojana. The kiosk comes under 'Digital Kisan Suvidha' plan which aims to bring services for farmers online.

News: Others

1. *1,103 railways stations developed under 'Adarsh Station' scheme: Piyush Goyal*

Railway Minister stated that 1,253 stations have been identified for development under Adarsh Station Scheme out of which 1,103 railway stations have been developed and the remaining stations are planned to be developed by 2019-20.

2. *HCL to roll out 'Tech Bee' soon*

HCL will roll out "Tech Bee", a company initiative under which it trains & hires students who have completed Plus Two, across several states. Students who join this should have scored at least 60 % in their 12th exams with maths as a compulsory subject.

Person in News

News: Most Important

1. *Yuvraj Singh Announces Retirement from International Cricket*

Yuvraj Singh has announced his retirement from International Cricket. He played 400 games for India. He came into the India ODI fold in October 2000 in the ICC knockout tournament in Nairobi. He became a part of the Indian T20 International squad in 2007.

2. *Chandrani Murmu aged 25 became the youngest MP in India's history*

25-Year Old Chandrani Murmu, the candidate of Biju Janata Dal from the Keonjhar seat in Odisha became the youngest MP in India's history. She defeated the two-time BJP MP Ananta Nayak and claimed the Keonjhar constituency.

3. *Mohana Singh becomes first woman fighter pilot to fly Hawk jet*

Flight Lieutenant Mohana Singh has become the first woman fighter pilot to fly by day a Hawk advanced jet aircraft, a defence release has said. She achieved the feat at the Kalaikunda Air Force Station in West Bengal.

News: Others

1. *Marcus Trescothick announced retirement from professional cricket*

The 43-year-old opening batsman, who played 76 Tests and 123 one-day internationals, has scored a total of 26,234 first-class runs since making his debut for Somerset in 1993.

2. *India-born Priya Serrao crowned Miss Universe Australia*

India born Priya Serrao has won the Miss Universe Australia title for 2019. She will now represent Australia in the Miss Universe competition later this year. She contested for the coveted title along with 26 other women from across the country in Melbourne.

3. *Malaysia Badminton Legend Lee Chong Wei Announces Retirement*

Cancer-hit badminton star Lee Chong Wei announced his retirement, ending a brilliant career in which, he collected many honours. Lee spent a total of 348 weeks as world number one.

4. *Casio India announces Tiger Shroff as the G-Shock India brand ambassador*

Casio India has roped in Bollywood actor Tiger Shroff as the brand ambassador for its popular range of G-Shock watches. Casio will launch the campaign #ChallengeTheLimits across different touch points including television, digital and social media.

Summits & Conference

News: Most Important

1. *G-20 summit concludes in Osaka*

G-20 summit concluded in Osaka, Japan. The theme of the summit is Human-centred future society. PM Modi held a trilateral meeting with US President Donald Trump and Japanese premier Shinzo Abe in Osaka ahead of the formal opening of the G-20 Summit.

2. *Seed Testing Association to hold 32nd Congress in Hyderabad*

The ISTA will hold its 32nd Congress in Hyderabad. The Ministry of Agriculture and Farmers' Welfare and the Telangana gov. are jointly hosting the 8-day conference, to be attended by stakeholders from across the globe.

3. *Thaawarchand Gehlot participates in 2nd Global Disability Summit*

Thaawarchand Gehlot attended 2nd Global Disability Summit in Buenos Aires in Argentina. The objective of 3-day summit is to deliberate on issues across the world concerning empowerment and inclusion of Persons with Disabilities.

4. *16th Asia Media Summit concludes in Cambodia*

The 16th edition of Asia Media Summit 2019 was organised in Cambodia to deliberate on many issues pertaining to media & broadcasting industry. The 15th Asia Media Summit was hosted by India. The two-day summit was held under topic of Media Digitalization Focusing on Developing Markets.

5. Piyush Goyal attends G-20 ministerial meet on Trade & digital economy in Japan

Commerce and Industry Minister Piyush Goyal attended the G-20 ministerial meeting on Trade and digital economy in Japan. They agreed to find a common method to tax technology giants whose digital business models have grown faster than systems to tax them.

6. 10th Regional GRIHA Summit held in Nagpur

The 10th edition of regional Green Rating for Integrated Habitat Assessment Summit was held in Nagpur, Maharashtra. The theme of the Summit was 'Transformation Strategies for Built Environment'.

News: Others

1. The 5th CICA Summit, held in Dushanbe, Tajikistan

5th CICA Summit was held in Dushanbe, the capital of Tajikistan. The theme of the 5th Summit is "Shared Vision for a Secure and More Prosperous CICA Region". The Summit will adopt a Declaration covering issues of cooperation within CICA.

2. Outreach session of the G7 summit to be attended by India

PM Modi has accepted an invitation from French President Emmanuel Macron to attend the outreach session of the G7 Summit in Biarritz as a special invitee. The 45th summit of the G7 group of countries will take place in Biarritz, France.

3. The 14th Organisation of Islamic Cooperation (OIC) summit was held in Mecca

The 14th summit of the OIC was held in Mecca, Saudi Arabia and hosted by Saudi King Salman bin Abdul Aziz Al Saud. The official purpose of meeting was to address 'current issues in Muslim world' and 'recent developments in a number of OIC member states'.

Quick Revision

Summit/Conference	Venue
G-20 summit	Osaka, Japan
32nd International Seed Testing Association (ISTA) Congress	Hyderabad, Telangana
2nd Global Disability Summit	Buenos Aires, Argentina
16th edition of Asia Media Summit 2019	Cambodia
G-20 ministerial meeting on Trade and digital economy	Japan
10 th edition of regional Green Rating for Integrated Habitat Assessment Summit	Nagpur
5th CICA Summit	Dushanbe, Tajikistan
14th summit of the OIC	Mecca, Saudi Arabia

Defence

News: Most Important

1. Navy launches executes Operation Sankalp

Indian Navy launched Operation Sankalp in the Gulf of Oman to re-assure Indian Flagged Vessels operating via Persian Gulf & Gulf of Oman. INS Chennai and INS Sunayna have deployed to undertake maritime operations.

2. Indigenously developed nuclear-capable missile Prithvi-II test fired successfully

India test-fired indigenously developed nuclear-capable missile Prithvi-II as part of a user trial by the Army from a test range off the Odisha coast. The missile can carry 500 to 1000 kg of warheads and is powered by liquid propulsion twin engines.

3. India successfully launched indigenously developed HSTDV in Odisha

India conducted a successful first test flight of the indigenously developed HSTDV from a base off the Odisha coast. It's uses include missiles of the future, and energy-efficient, low cost and reusable satellite-launch vehicle. It was test-fired by the Defence Research and Development Organisation.

4. Army's training exercise, "Kharga Prahar" held in Punjab

The exercise "Kharga Prahar", was undertaken in the plains of Punjab by various units and formations of Army's Kharga Corps. The components of the Indian Air Force also participated in the exercise.

5. India Test Fires Brahmos Supersonic Cruise Missile from Chandipur in Odisha

Described as the world's fastest supersonic cruise missile with high rate of precision and accuracy, BrahMos can be fired from land, sea and air. BrahMos is a joint venture between the DRDO and the NPOM(a Russian military technology firm) of Russia.

6. ISRO to launch Chandrayaan-2 in July

The Indian Space Research Organisation has found a suitable window to launch India's second spacecraft to the moon, 'Chandrayaan-2'. ISRO sources have confirmed that GSLV Mark-III will launch Chandrayaan-2 from Sriharikota during the favoured window time.

News: Others

1. *Indian Scientist Dipankar Banerjee to be Co-I for NASA's PUNCH mission*

Dipankar Banerjee, solar physicist from Indian Institute of Astrophysics appointed one of the Co-Investigator of the PUNCH mission. NASA has selected Texas-based Southwest Research Institute to lead its PUNCH mission which will image the Sun.

2. *NASA plans to send equipment to Moon from 2020*

For the first time since the 1970s, NASA is planning to send equipment to the surface of the Moon in 2020 and 2021, in anticipation of a crewed lunar mission in 2024. The landers will deliver up to 23 small payloads of equipment provided by NASA.

Agreements

News: Most Important

1. *V.O.C Port inks MoU with Central Warehousing Corporation*

A memorandum of understanding was signed between the V.O. Chidambaranar Port Trust and the Central Warehousing Corporation (CWC) to facilitate direct port entry (DPE) of cargo, which would help cut down on dwell time and costs.

2. *SEBI, government sign data sharing deal to keep tabs on fraud*

To tackle rising instances of fraud, corporate sector regulators SEBI and the ministry of corporate affairs (MCA) will sign a memorandum of understanding (MoU) for seamless sharing of data from corporates.

3. *Flipkart ties up with banks, NBFCs to offer quick loans*

Flipkart has roped in banks, NBFCs to offer seller-partners working capital loans within 2 days under 'Growth Capital' programme. It has tied up with SBI, BOB, Axis Bank, Aditya Birla Fin, Tata Capital, Flexiloans, SIDBI, LendingKart, Indifi & Happy Loans.

News: Others

1. *ADB, MIGA to Expand Development Finance in Asia and Pacific*

Asian Development Bank & the Multilateral Investment Guarantee Agency (MIGA), agreed to cooperate more closely to increase the flow of private sector investment into emerging economies in Asia & the Pacific, in line with the 2030 development goal.

2. *Manchester United sign Aaron Wan-Bissaka in £50m deal*

Manchester United signed England Under-21 right-back Aaron Wan-Bissaka from Crystal Palace in a £50m deal. He made his first-team debut for Palace last year & has agreed a five-year contract that will earn him up to £80,000 a week.

Books & Authors

News: Most Important

1. *Ashish Ray pens down India's journey in WCs in new book*

Celebrated cricket broadcaster Ashish Ray has come out with a new book titled "Cricket World Cup the Indian Challenge", where he has penned down the journey of Indian cricket at the World Cups since the inaugural edition in 1975.

2. *Vinit Goenka pens new book titled "Data Sovereignty - The Pursuit of Supremacy"*

The book, "Function of Data Sovereignty - The Pursuit of Supremacy" is written by Vinit Goenka. The book focuses on steps and concrete actions required to build highly capable data centers to ensure data security.

3. *Meenakshi Lekhi pens debut novel*

BJP MP Meenakshi Lekhi has written her debut novel named 'The New Delhi Conspiracy', which talks of undercurrents of Delhi's political landscape. It is co-authored with Krishna Kumar and published by HarperCollins India.

4. *Sushil Kumar authored a book titled "A Prime Minister to Remember," released*

Former Navy Chief Admiral Sushil Kumar authored a book named "A Prime Minister to Remember- Memories of a Military Chief" got released. The book explains about a distinguished career in the Indian navy.

News: Others

1. *Yoga guru Ramdev pens autobiography*

Yoga guru Baba Ramdev has unveiled the book, **My Life, My Mission**, co-authored with senior journalist Uday Mahurkar. The book addresses the major controversies, turning points and achievements of the yoga exponent's life.

Books	Authored By/Launched By/Published By
Cricket World Cup the Indian Challenge	Ashish Ray
Function of Data Sovereignty - The Pursuit of Supremacy	Vinit Goenka
The New Delhi Conspiracy	Meenakshi Lekhi
My Life, My Mission	Baba Ramdev

Science & Technology

News: Most Important

1. *India's first solar-powered cruise boat to be rolled out in December*

Kerala is gearing up for the launch of India's 1st solar-powered cruise boat by Dec. It will be rolled out in Alappuzha. The hybrid vessel will be powered by a motor that can source energy from solar panels. Its battery will have 80 KWh power backup.

2. *Sri Lanka successfully launches its first satellite 'Ravana-1' into orbit*

Sri Lanka's first satellite 'Ravana-1', designed and developed by two local engineers, was successfully launched into orbit this week from the International Space Station (ISS) along with two other BIRDS 3 satellites from Japan and Nepal

News: Others

1. *MG Motors to manufacture electric vehicle EZS in India*

Automobile major MG Motors India plans to manufacture electric vehicle EZS at its facility in Gujarat, ahead of the vehicle's India launch in December. Acc. To the company, the EV will offer a full-sized boot and room for five in the form of a compact SUV.

2. *Indian astronomers find evidence of supernova remnants*

A team of Indian astronomers led by V. S. Veena of Indian Institute of Space science and Technology (IIST), Thiruvananthapuram has found an evidence of a supernova explosion in a star-forming region called G351.7-1.2. The evidence is in the form of a high velocity jet of atomic hydrogen.

Environment

News: Most Important

1. *IMD issues red-code warning to Delhi owing to rising temperatures*

Heat wave conditions continued unabated in Delhi even as the MeT department issued a "red-colour" warning to it. Red colour warning denotes extreme weather situations. The MeT department recorded a high of 46.8 degree Celsius, the highest in five years.

2. *US Virgin Islands approves bill to ban toxic sunscreen*

Lawmakers in the US Virgin Islands have passed a bill banning the retail use of sunscreens and 10 personal-care products that contain toxic chemicals harmful for marine environment and ecosystems. The bill prohibits the sale, import and distribution of sunscreen and 10 personal-care products containing oxybenzone or octinoxate.

News: Others

1. *Forbidden Planet-NGTS-4b discovered*

Astronomers have discovered an exoplanet with its own atmosphere in the Neptunian Desert, NGTS-4b, nick-named 'The Forbidden Planet'. It is about three times the size of Earth. It has a mass of 20 Earth masses and temperature of 1000 degrees Celsius.

2. *About 100 world cities used 70% of electricity from renewable sources in 2018: Report*

According to REN21's Renewables 2019 Global Status Report .Cities, at the forefront of energy transition, are increasingly adopting renewable options. At least 100 cities across the world reportedly generated 70 per cent or more of their electricity from renewable energy sources in 2018.

Apps & Portals

News: Most Important

1. *Assam Transport Minister launches State Transport Corporation's Chalo app*

Assam Transport Minister Chandra Mohan Patowary launched the State Transport Corporation's Chalo app for Guwahati. The app will help commuters to know about the live arrival time of their bus so they can plan their travel accordingly.

2. *WHO launches tool for safer use of antibiotics, curb resistance*

World Health Organization has launched an online tool known as 'AWaRe', aimed at guiding policymakers & health workers to use antibiotics safely & more effectively. 'AWaRe' classifies antibiotics into three groups named Access, Watch & Reserve.

News: Others

1. *UAE launches UN-developed anti-money laundering platform*

The UAE has become the first country in the Gulf to launch a new reporting platform named 'goAML' developed by the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime. It is a one-step solution launched to crack down on organised financial crimes.

Quick Revision

App/Portal/Platform	Launched By
Chalo	Assam
AWaRe	WHO
goAML	UAE

Acquisitions & Mergers

News: Most Important

1. *IndusInd Bank-Bharat Financial merger to be effective from July 4*

The merger of IndusInd Bank and Bharat Financial Inclusion Ltd (BFIL) will be effective from July 4. Recently, the National Company Law Tribunal approved the Scheme of Arrangement among BFIL, IndusInd Bank and IndusInd Financial Inclusion and their respective shareholders and creditors.

2. *Mahindra Fin and Manulife form asset management joint venture*

Mahindra Asset Management Company has entered into a joint venture (51:49) with **Canada-based** global financial services group, Manulife to expand the depth and breadth of fund offerings and retail fund penetration in the country.

3. *Indiabulls Housing Finance and Lakshmi Vilas Bank merger gets CCI nod*

The Competition Commission of India (CCI) has approved the merger between Indiabulls Housing Finance and Lakshmi Vilas Bank. The scheme of amalgamation is subject to approvals from other regulators and authorities.

4. *Sundaram Finance to acquire stakes of BNP Paribas held in 2 JVs*

Sundaram Finance has entered into an agreement with its partner BNP Paribas for acquiring stakes held by the two joint venture companies called Sundaram BNP Paribas Home Finance Limited and Sundaram BNP Paribas Fund Services for a total consideration of around Rs. 1,000 Crore.

News: Others

1. *Adani Power to acquire GMR Chhattisgarh Energy*

Adani Power will acquire GCEL as the consortium of lenders has approved its resolution plan. The consortium of lenders, led by Axis Bank, to GCEL, has approved Adani Power's resolution plan to acquire controlling equity stake & restructure debt in GCEL.

2. *Tata Steel completes acquisition of Bhushan Energy for Rs 800 crore*

Tata Steel BSL Ltd has successfully completed the acquisition of Bhushan Energy Limited (BEL) for Rs800 cr. in accordance with the Approved Resolution Plan under the Corporate Insolvency Resolution Process of the Insolvency and Bankruptcy Code, 2016.

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