

Monthly GK Digest September 2020



Monthly Digest September-2019

Dear readers,

This **Monthly GK Digest** is a **complete docket** of important news and events that occurred in a month of **September 2019**. This file is important for, **Bank** and all exams.

Banking & Financial Awareness

1. The Union Cabinet has approved a capital infusion of Rs 4,557 crore into **IDBI Bank**.

Note: The capital infusion process will be done through recapitalization bonds. The Union government will infuse the capital into the bank and the bank will buy the recapitalization bonds from the government on the same day. The capital infusion is also expected to help IDBI to come out of Prompt Corrective Action framework of the Reserve Bank of India.

2. The **Employees' State Insurance Corporation (ESIC)** and the **State Bank of India (SBI)** have signed a memorandum of understanding (MoU) to provide electronic payment services for beneficiaries of **ESIC**.

Note: As per an agreement, SBI will provide e-payment services directly to bank accounts of all ESIC beneficiaries and payees without any manual intervention as an integrated and automated process. The **e-payment integration** would affect the statutory benefit payments to ESIC beneficiaries as well as other payees on a real-time basis, reducing time lags and delays and at the same time, help eliminate mistakes and errors caused by repetitive and manual data entries.

3. The Union Cabinet has cleared recapitalization of IDBI Bank with a one-time infusion of funds by both the government and **LIC**.

Note: It has approved 9,000 crore capital infusion into IDBI Bank, including 4,557 crores by the government as one-time re-capitalization. This will help both IDBI and LIC, and it shows the government's commitment to take banking to a sound level.

4. British multinational **banking & financial services** company has launched a DigiSmart credit card **Standard Chartered Bank**.

Note: The primary focus of the Bank on the ever-growing segment of millennials. The credit card will

offer instant discounts and benefits across key e-commerce categories of travel, entertainment, fashion, groceries, and food delivery around the year. The new credit card is available for a nominal monthly fee of only Rs 49. However, this fee (49-rupees) will be waived off if the spends of the customer are Rs 5,000 or above in the previous month.

5. As per the release of the Finance Ministry, the GST collection in the month of August stood at **98 thousand 202 crore rupees**.

Note: The total number of **GSTR 3B Returns** filed for the month of July up to **31st of August** is around 76 lakhs. The **Union government** has settled **23 thousand 165 crore rupees** to CGST and 16 thousand **623 crore rupees** to SGST from IGST as a regular settlement. The total revenue earned by the Central Government and the State Governments after regular settlement in the month of August 2019 is 40 thousand 898 crore rupees for CGST and 40 thousand 862 crores for the SGST. 27 thousand 955 crore rupees have been released to the states as GST compensation for the months of June and July this year.

6. **Reserve Bank of India (RBI)** has made **mandatory for banks to link retail and MSME loans** to external interest rate benchmarks.

Note: This new norm will be effective from 1st of October. Under this norm, **banks have to link** all of their new loan products, be it personal, housing or auto to an external benchmark rate. Banks have been allowed to choose any benchmark market interest rate published by the Financial Benchmarks India Private Ltd (FBIL).

7. The **Reserve Bank of India (RBI)** has made it mandatory for banks to link all new floating-rate loans for housing, auto and MSMEs (Micro and Small

Enterprises) to external benchmark like repo from 1st October 2019.

Note: The banks are free to choose one of the several benchmarks indicated in the circular. Industry and retail borrowers have been complaining that banks do not pass on the entire RBI's policy rate (repo rate) reduction to them. In 2019, the Reserve Bank has already reduced the repo or short-term lending rate by 110 basis points, but the banks have reportedly passed on only up to 40 bps to borrowers.

8. **IDBI Bank** will introduce two **Repo Linked Products –Suidha Plus** Home Loan and Suidha Plus Auto Loan from 10th September ____.

Note: The new **Home Loan and Auto Loan** products will be offered to new customers having good credit score and minimum income of Rs. 6 lakh per annum. The **Suidha Plus Home Loan** will be offered for up to **Rs. 75 Lakh** with a tenor of up to 35 years. The **Suidha Plus Auto loan** will be offered for up to Rs. 25 lakhs covering the on-road price with a tenor of up to 7 years.

9. **ECL Finance Limited** has signed a **co-origination agreement** with **State Bank of India** to increase access to credit for micro, small and medium enterprises.

Note: It plans to provide business loans, machinery loans and SME asset-backed loans ranging from Rs 3 lakh to Rs 50 lakh at a blended rate of interest. This is the third co-origination agreement for Edelweiss, after Bank of Baroda and Central Bank of India.

10. **Punjab National Bank (PNB)** has put up for sale nearly a dozen **non-performing assets (NPA)** to recover dues of more than **1,234 crore rupees**.

Note: The lender has invited bids from asset reconstruction companies non-banking financial companies, banks, financial institutions for 11 NPA accounts. The bank has asked the prospective bidders to speed up due diligence. The public lender is set to merge two peer banks 'Oriental Bank of Commerce and United Bank of India' with itself following the government's announcement to consolidate 10 public sector banks into four bigger entities.

11. India and **Asian Development Bank (ADB)** sign USD 200-million loan agreement for upgrading rural roads in **Maharashtra**.

Note: Under the project the roads in rural areas will improve the condition of about 2100 kilo metres of

rural roads to all-weather standards. This will boost links between local resident and economic centres across the state.

12. **IDBI Bank & LIC CSL** will launch a co-branded credit card, which will be marketed to customers, agents, and employees of the corporation and its subsidiaries.

13. **Reserve Bank of India (RBI)** will implement an idea to develop a **mobile application** with an aim to help the visually impaired people to identify **Currency notes**.

Note: For this, RBI has selected Daffodil Software Pvt Ltd. The application should be able to identify the denomination of legal tender banknotes of Mahatma Gandhi Series and Mahatma Gandhi (New) series by capturing the image of the notes that are placed in front of the mobile camera or scrolled across it. The mobile application should be searchable via voice option in all app stores.

14. **India Post Payments Bank (IPPB)** has rolled out of Aadhaar Enabled Payment System Services (AePS).

Note: With the launch of AePS, the India Post Payments Bank (IPPB) has now become single largest platform in India for providing interoperable banking services to customers (of any bank) by leveraging last mile unprecedented reach of Indian Postal network.

15. The 'GST Network' has decided to make **Aadhaar authentication** or physical verification mandatory for new dealers from **January 2020**.

Note: In the first phase, Aadhaar authentication will be mandatory for new dealers. Afterwards, all those enrolled on GSTN would be asked to provide their Aadhaar numbers. As refunding is a big issue, the GSTN decided on complete online refunding from 24th September this year from a single source, either by the Central GST or state GST. Those who do not want to give their Aadhaar numbers would have to undergo physical verification.

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

Note: As per Central Board of Direct Taxes (CBDT) notification, the Union government has waived the three-year lock-in period on investments made by non-residents in infrastructure debt funds (IDFs), to promote funding in the infrastructure sector. Now, any amount of interest received by non-resident or foreign company from investment in such IDFs is charged at a

reduced tax rate of 5%. IDFs are investment vehicles to accelerate the flow of long-term debt to the sector.

17. Airtel Payments Bank has launched savings account services -- **Bharosa**.

Note: Bharosa savings account would offer Rs 5 lakh personal accident insurance on maintaining the balance of Rs 500 along with one debit transaction per month. Customers would also be eligible for cashback, if they decided to receive government subsidies in their Bharosa account or if they made cash deposits in it. Bharosa savings account customers can also withdraw cash, check their balance or access a mini statement of their account at over 6,50,000 AePS (Aadhaar-enabled payment system) enabled outlets across India

18. **The Department of Empowerment of Persons with Disabilities** has developed a **Management Information (MIS)** for stakeholders of Accessible India campaign.

Note: Union Minister for Social Justice and Empowerment Thaawar Chand Gehlot launched the MIS portal in New Delhi. The MIS portal will bring all the nodal ministries and States and Union Territories on a single platform for monitoring the progress being made against each target of Accessible India Campaign. The portal will be useful in maintaining all the function on a digital platform and capture data on a real-time basis.

19. **India Post** has expanded speed post service to six new foreign destinations in Asia, Europe and South America.

Note: The Department of Posts has announced commencing of **International Speed Post (EMS)** Service to Bosnia and Herzegovina, Brazil, Ecuador, Kazakhstan, Lithuania and North Macedonia. **Express Mail Service (EMS)** is a premium service that enables its users to send documents and merchandise faster and with the added facility of being able to track the movement of the item on the internet. The EMS service to these countries will henceforth be available at major Post offices across India.

20. Ministry of Labour and Employment has notified rate of interest on Employees Provident Fund (EPF) for 2018-19 deposits **8.65%**.

Note: The EPFO has been settling EPF withdrawal claims at 8.55% interest rate, approved for 2017-18. The Employees' Provident Fund Organisation

(EPFO), is an organization tasked to assist the Central Board of Trustees, a statutory body formed by the Employees' Provident Fund and Miscellaneous Provisions Act, 1952. It is under the administrative control of the Ministry of Labour and Employment, Government of India.

21. The Union Finance Ministry has proposed to slash the corporate tax rate for **Domestic companies**.

Note: There are six amendments in the Income Tax Act and Finance Bill 2019 which will cost Rs 1.45 lakh crore. The corporate tax rate after surcharge will now be 25.17% inclusive of all cess and surcharges for domestic companies. The corporate tax rate has been brought down from 30% to 22%. The new domestic company incorporated on or after October 1, 2019, to pay income tax at 15%. Domestic company to pay income tax at 22%. Minimum Alternate Tax (MAT) reduced from 18.5% to 15%. The listed companies that announced buyback before July 5, 2019, will not be charged tax on buyback of shares. The enhanced surcharge shall not apply on capital gains arising on sale of any security including derivatives in the hands of foreign portfolio investors.

22. **HDFC Bank** has announced to organise 1,000 Grameen loan melas over the next six months with an aim to expand its retail portfolio.

Note: These Grameen loan melas (or village loan fairs) will be held across more than 300 districts and cover around 6,000 villages across India. Customers can avail of the tractor, auto, two-wheeler and Agri loans or open current or savings accounts, it said. Besides, self-help groups (SHGs) can avail of finance through the bank's Sustainable Livelihood Initiative.

23. **Bank of Baroda** has launched a digital platform '**Baroda Kisan**' to provide solutions for all major agricultural requirements__

Note: The agri-digital platform has been executed by IT Centre of Excellence (ITCoE) of Bank of Baroda in partnership with IBM India. The web-based portal will cater to all the needs of farmers, including weather forecasts, crop conditions, the moisture levels of the soil, information on crop worms, market prices, special crop-related consultation.

24. 'Max Bupa Health Insurance Company Limited' has announced a bancassurance corporate agency agreement with a state-owned bank **Indian Bank**.

Note: Under the agreement, Max Bupa will provide comprehensive health insurance solutions and services to over 40 million customers of Indian Bank spread across 2800 branch network, through a slew of digital touchpoints. As part of the tie-up, Max Bupa's offerings will include both retail and group health insurance products besides Indemnity and Fixed Benefit products.

25. **SBI Life Insurance** has signed a corporate agency agreement with city-based Repco Home Finance Ltd to offer the company's range of products to RHFL customers.

Note: The partnership would see over 148 branches and 27 satellite centres of RHFL spread across the country to offer SBI Life Insurance products to its customers

26. The **Asian Development Bank (ADB)** lowered growth projection for India by **50 basis points**.

Note: Now, the growth rate is expected at 6.5% during the current fiscal 2019-20. This is the second successive lowering of estimates by the regional development bank in three months. This reduction is mainly on account of weaker expansion in the first quarter (April-June) of the current fiscal. It also predicted that India is expected to rebound to 7.2% growth in the FY 2020-21.

27. **Airtel Payments Bank** and **HDFC ERGO General Insurance Company** under the **corporate agency tie-up** launched an innovative -- **Mosquito Diseases Protection Policy (MDPP)**.

Note: The partnership aims to bring together the deep distribution network of **Airtel Payments Bank** and the strong innovation pipeline of **HDFC ERGO** to contribute to financial inclusion in the country. **Mosquito Disease Protection Policy** offers cover against seven common mosquito-borne diseases - Dengue, Malaria, Chikungunya, Japanese Encephalitis, Kala-azar, Lymphatic Filariasis (Elephantiasis) and Zika virus.

28. To celebrate 550th Birth Anniversary of **Guru Nanak Dev** the **Nepal Rastra Bank** has issued commemorative coins of **2500, 1000 and 100 Nepali rupees**. **Note:** Dr. Chiranjibi Nepal (Nepal Rastra Bank Governor) and Manjeev Singh Puri (Indian Ambassador) released commemorative coins. Shiromani Gurudwara Prabandhak Committee President Sardar Gobind Singh Longowal, Jathedar of Akal Takht Giani Harpreet Singh and many other prominent Sikh leaders from Punjab also joined the launching ceremony. On this occasion, a book "Sikh Heritage of Nepal" was also released.

Obituaries

1. The four-time **Emmy Award-winning actress Valerie Harper** passed away after years of fighting cancer.

Note: She also has Golden Globe award for playing the brash New Yorker on "The Mary Tyler Moore Show". **Valerie Harper** began her career as a dancer on Broadway, making her debut in the musical "Take Me Along" in 1959.

2. Noted novelist, play writer **Kiran Nagarkar** passed away in Mumbai.

Note: Nagarkar's epic novel '**Cuckold**' and riotously funny 'Ravan and Eddie' trilogy count among the most celebrated works of fiction by an Indian writer in English. His first novel "Saat Sakkam Techaalis" or 'Seven Sixes Are Forty-Three' published in 1974 just as Indira Gandhi was turning increasingly authoritarian as prime minister.

3. Congress leader and former MP **Sukhdev Singh Libra** passed away after a prolonged illness.

Note: Sukhdev Singh Libra was the member of the 14th (Fatehgarh Sahib) and 15th (Ropar) Lok Sabha and MLA in Punjab in 1985. He was a member of Rajya Sabha from 1998-2004. Libra had also served as a member of Shiromani Gurdwara Parbandhak Committee (SGPC).

4. Former Zimbabwe President **Robert Mugabe** passed away in Singapore.

Note: He was hospitalized in Singapore for months for an undisclosed ailment. Robert Gabriel Mugabe was a Zimbabwean revolutionary and politician who served as Prime Minister of Zimbabwe (from 1980 to 1987) and then as President (from 1987 to 2017). Mugabe was forced to step down by the military in November 2017 following nationwide mass protests.

5. Legendary **Pakistan leg-spinner Abdul Qadir** passed away after suffering a **cardiac arrest** in Lahore.

- Note:** Qadir, who played in 67 Tests and 104 ODIs had a total 368 wickets in his international career between 1977 and 1993. Abul Qadir also served as Pakistan's chief selector and he picked the World T20-winning squad in 2009.
6. Eminent Supreme Court lawyer and former union minister **Ram Jethmalani** passed away in New Delhi.
Note: Mr. Jethmalani was a senior lawyer in the Supreme Court, a union minister for law and urban development in the Atal Bihari Vajpayee cabinet and the chairman of the Bar Council of India. Jethmalani joined the bar at the age of 17 and earned the distinction of being the youngest advocate allowed to practice law. In 2016, he was elected to the Rajya Sabha on RJD ticket.
 7. Actor and **Kathak dancer Veeru Krishnan** passed away in Mumbai.
Note: He was best known for his work in films like Raja Hindustani, Dulhe Raja, Akele Hum Akele Tum among others. He has trained several film and TV actors like Katrina Kaif, Athiya Shetty, Priyanka Chopra, Karanvir Bohra and others.
 8. Climate **change campaigner** of the **South Pacific** and Prime Minister of Tongan **Akilisi Pohiva** passed away.
Note: Pohiva's **political career** was marked with constant battles against the monarchy of the South Pacific nation. He was awarded the **Defender of Democracy Award** in 2013 by the Parliamentarians for Global Action, the first Pacific Islander to receive the prize.
 9. The renowned Malayalam writer **Sivaraman Cherianad** passed away in Kerala.
Note: Sivaraman started his career as an upper primary school teacher and was a recipient of the National Teachers Award in 1989. He received the Abu Dhabi Sakthi Award in 1988 and the A.P. Kalakkad Award in 2009. He received Kerala Sahithya Akademi scholarship in 1990-91 for his study on the works of writer Parappuram.
 10. Former **Andhra Pradesh Assembly Speaker** and Telugu Desam Party (TDP) leader **Kodela Sivaprasada Rao** passed away in Hyderabad.
Note: Kodela reportedly attempted suicide at his residence in the city. He was six-time MLA from Narsaraopet constituency in Guntur district. In 2014, post-bifurcation of Andhra Pradesh, Mr. Rao was made the first Speaker of the Assembly.
 11. Popular filmmaker from the **Ramsay Brothers** passed away in Mumbai -- **Shyam Ramsay**.
Note: He is one of the seven Ramsay Brothers who were active in Indian cinema throughout the 1970s and the 1980s. They produced the number of horror movies such as Darwaza, Purana Mandir and Veerana
 12. **Tunisia's former President Zine el-Abidine Ben Ali** passed away.
Note: Mr. Ben Ali led Tunisia for 23 years and was credited with delivering stability and some economic prosperity. He came to power in 1987, ousting Habib Bourguiba to become Tunisia's second-ever president. In 2011, he was forced from office following mass street protests.
 13. Former cricketer **Madhav Apte** passed away at the Breach Candy Hospital Mumbai.
Note: He has played 67 first-class matches (46 Ranji Trophy for Bombay and three for Bengal), scored 3336 runs, with six centuries and 16 half-centuries. Madhav Apte was the first Indian opener to aggregate over 400 runs in a Test series (460 runs against West Indies in 1953)
 14. Popular Telugu film comedian **Venu Madhav** passed away at the Yashoda Hospital in Hyderabad.
Note: Venu Madhav (born in Kodad in Suryapet district) wasn't active in cinema for quite a while owing to his ill health. Venu Madhav has acted in around 170 movies in a career spanning over two decades.
 15. Former **French President Jacques Chirac** passed away in Paris, France
Note: Chirac was served as President of France and **ex officio Co-Prince of Andorra** (1995 to 2007) and twice as **Prime Minister of France** (from 1974 to 1976 and from 1986 to 1988). He has won many **National and Foreign honours**, Ig Nobel prize for peace (1996) and State Prize of the Russian Federation (2007).
 16. An **American television producer** 4-time **Emmy Award winner** passed away at his home in Los Angeles -- **J. Michael Mendel**.
Note: He won four Emmys for 'Lisa's Wedding' (in 1995), Homer's Phobia (in 1997), Trash of the Titans (in 1998) and Pickle Rick (in 2018). He joined 'The Simpsons' (in 1989), where he produced shows such as The PJs, The Oblongs, Drawn Together, Sit Down, Shut Up, and Napoleon Dynamite.

17. **Bollywood actor Viju Khote** passed away in **Mumbai** due to multiple organ failure____
Note:Mr. Viju Khote was best known for his role in the blockbuster film 'Sholay' in which he starred as dacoit Kalia. The actor had been working in the film industry (Hindi and Marathi films- over 300) since 1964.
18. Former Foreign Secretary of India **K P S Menon (Jr.)** passed away at his residence in Thiruvananthapuram, Kerala__

Note: Mr. Menon (Indian Foreign Service-officer-1951) had served as the Foreign Secretary of India from 1987 to 1989.KPS Menon (junior) was best known for his services as an ambassador to various countries, including Bangladesh, Egypt, Japan and China.K P S Menon (Junior) was the son of first Foreign Secretary of independent India K P S Menon (senior).

Important Days

- The ten-day long **Ganesh Utsav** festival begins with great devotion.
Note: The festival marks the birth of Lord Ganesh, who is a symbol of wisdom, prosperity and good fortune.
Ganesh Chaturthi is a major attraction in Maharashtra, where people celebrate it with great zeal. On the first day of the festival. Devotees are welcoming the idols of Lord Ganesh to their homes and at public pandals in various parts of the state. In Tamil Nadu, the annual festival of the **famous hill-top Ganesh temple** in Trichy, popularly known as the Malaikottai (Hill Fort).
- The entire month of September will be celebrated as the **Rashtriya Poshan Maah**.
Note: This year the theme is '**Complementary Feeding**'. POSHAN Abhiyaan is a multi- ministerial convergence mission with the vision to address malnutrition with a targeted approach by 2022. Under the **Poshan Abhiyaan**, the Union government has set a target to reduce the stunting rate in children from 35% to 25%.
- ICMR-NIN conducting programmes on occasion of National Nutrition Week till **7th September**.
Note: The Indian Council of Medical Research (ICMR)- National Institute of Nutrition (NIN) is going to implement the effectiveness of diet and lifestyle intervention with respect to lifestyle diseases like hypertension and diabetes. This will be done through information, education and communication through Anganwadi Workers as a centre of knowledge dissemination with respect to these diseases.
- Khadi and Village Industries Commission (KVIC)** launched a first-ever '**Terracotta Grinder**' at Sewapuri in **Varanasi, Uttar Pradesh**.
Note: The **Terracotta Grinder** will grind the wasted and broken **pottery items** for re-using in pottery-making. This Terracotta grinder will make grinding of wasted pottery items faster than the traditional mortar and pestle. This will also create more job opportunities in the villages.
- Teachers' Day** is being celebrated **throughout the country on** the birthday of educationist and former President **Dr. Sarvepalli Radhakrishnan**.
Note: Dr. Radhakrishnan was India's first Vice President and second President. President Ramnath Kovind has given the **National Teachers' Awards** to 46 teachers at a function in **New Delhi**. The awards have been given to **meritorious** teachers, who through their commitment **have not** only improved the quality of school education but also enriched the lives of their students.
- The United States and **10 Southeast Asian countries** kicked off maritime drills at the Sattahip Naval Base in **Thailand**.
Note: As part of a joint exercise extending into the flashpoint the South China Sea with eight warships, four aircraft and more than a thousand personnel. The drills come at a time of stepped-up U.S. engagement in the region and tensions between Beijing and Southeast Asian nations over the South China Sea. The exercise includes **8 warships** and 4 aircraft from **7 countries** and more than **1,000 personnel** from all 11 participants namely Brunei, Cambodia, Indonesia, Laos, Malaysia, Myanmar, the Philippines, Singapore, Thailand, Vietnam, and the US.
- The **International Literacy Day (ILD)** is being observed every year on **8th September**.
Note: It is an opportunity for Governments, civil society and stakeholders to highlight improvements in world literacy rates and reflect on the world's remaining literacy challenges. The Theme of International Literacy Day 2019 is Literacy and Multilingualism. After the 2011 census, literacy rate India 2011 was found to be 74.04%.
- The **World Suicide Prevention Day (WSPD)** is being observed on **10th September**.
Note: The theme of 2019 is "Working Together to Prevent Suicide". The WSPD is organized by the International Association for Suicide Prevention (IASP).
- The **International Day for South-South Cooperation** is being observed every year on **12th September**.

Note: International days are occasions to educate the public on issues of concern, to mobilize political will and resources to address global problems and to celebrate and reinforce the achievements of humanity. The theme for 2019: From Commitment to Action — Follow up to Buenos Aires Plan of Action+40. South-South Cooperation is a term historically used by policymakers and academics to describe the exchange of resources, technology, and knowledge between developing countries.

10. Engineers' Day is celebrated every year in India on **15th September**.

Note: The day commemorate the birthday of one of the greatest engineers in India, Bharat Ratna Sir Mokshagundam Visvesvarayya. Mokshagundam Visvesvaraya was an Indian engineer, scholar, statesman and the Diwan of Mysore from 1912 to 1918. He is a recipient of the Indian's highest honour, the Bharat Ratna (1955). The Telangana state celebrates Engineers day on 11th July on the birthday of Ali Nawaz Jung Bahadur.

11. The **International Day of Democracy** is being observed across the world every year on **15th September**.

Note: The 2019 theme for democracy day was 'participation'. This year's International Day of Democracy is an opportunity to recall that democracy is about people. Democracy is built on inclusion, equal treatment and participation. It is a fundamental building block for peace, sustainable development and human rights.

12. The **International Day for the Preservation of the Ozone Layer** is being observed every year on **16th September**.

Note: The Ozone layer is a fragile shield of gas which protects the Earth from the harmful ultraviolet radiation of the sun and thus helping preserve life on the planet. The theme for this year celebrates over three decades of remarkable international cooperation to protect the ozone layer and the climate under the Montreal Protocol. It reminds us that we must keep up the momentum to ensure healthy people and a healthy planet.

13. **World Bamboo Day** is observed every year on **18th September**.

Note: world's second-largest cultivator of bamboo after China with over 130 species.

14. The **World Water Monitoring Day** is observed every year on **18th September**.

Note: It is an international education and outreach program initiated by America's Clean Water Foundation (ACWF) and now coordinated by Water at Environment Federation (WEF) and the International Water Association (IWA). The day aims to build public

awareness of the importance of protecting water resources around the world by engaging people to conduct basic monitoring of their local water bodies.

15. The **International Day of Peace** is observed around the world **every years on 21st September**.

Note: It is dedicated to **world peace** and **specifically** the absence of war & violence such as might be occasioned by a temporary ceasefire in a combat zone for humanitarian aid access. The theme for 2019 is "**Climate Action for Peace**". The theme draws attention to the **importance of combatting climate change** as a way to protect and promote peace throughout the world

16. World Alzheimer's Day is observed every year on **21st September**.

Note: The day raise awareness about Alzheimer's and dementia. Alzheimer's disease is the most common form of dementia, a group of disorders that impairs mental functioning. Some of the most common signs of Alzheimer's Disease include memory loss, problems with language, difficulty performing familiar tasks, changes in personality and difficulty keeping track of things.

17. **International Day of Sign Languages (IDSL)** is celebrated annually across the world on **23rd September**.

Note: The 2019 Theme of International Day of Sign Languages (IDSL) is 'Sign Language Rights for All!'

18. **President Ramnath Kovind** inaugurates the **6th India Water Week-2019 (IWW-2019)** in **New Delhi**.

Note: The 'IWW-2019' is being organised by the Ministry of Jal-Shakti, Department of Water Resources, River Development and Ganga Rejuvenation, Government of India. The theme of Water Week-2019 is "Water Cooperation - Coping with 21st Century Challenges". The objective of IWW-2019' is to bring new ideas for mutual-cooperation for sustainable water management in the context of changing basin dynamics across administrative boundaries.

19. The World Maritime Day (WMD) 2019 is being observed on **26th September (last Thursday of Sep)**.

Note: 2019 Theme: 'Empowering women in the maritime community'. The National Maritime Day 2019 was observed on 5th April 2019

20. The **International Day for the Total Elimination of Nuclear Weapons** is observed every year on **26th September**.

Note: The objective of the day to provide an occasion for the world community to reaffirm its commitment to global nuclear disarmament as a high priority.

21. The **World Tourism Day (WTD)** is being observed annually on **27th September**.

Note:

- **Andhra Pradesh** has bagged the Best State Award for overall growth in tourism category while Goa and Madhya Pradesh were joint winners in the Adventure Tourism category.
 - **Uttarakhand** was awarded best film promotion friendly state and Telangana for the best state in the innovative use of IT category.
22. Internet search engine '**Google**' celebrated its 21st birthday on **27th September**.
Note: American multinational technology company 'Google' has shown this special occasion of the 20-year journey by making doodles (An old computer is shown in Google's doodle). Google was founded in 1998 by Larry Page and Sergey Brin while they were PhD students at Stanford University in California. Google (operating in 100 languages) is one of the four big technology companies along with Apple, Amazon, Facebook.
23. World Rabies Day is observed every year across the world on **28th September**.
Note: The day also marks the anniversary of French chemist and microbiologist Louis Pasteur's death, who

developed the first rabies vaccine. The World Rabies Day 2019 theme is Rabies: Vaccinate to Eliminate.

- Rabies is a viral disease that causes acute inflammation of the brain in humans and other mammals.

24. **International Translation Day** is celebrated every year on **30th September**.

Note: International Translation Day is meant as an opportunity to pay tribute to the work of language professionals. The celebrations have been promoted by FIT (the International Federation of Translators) ever since it was set up in 1953.

25. **World Heart Day (WHD)** is celebrated every year to **create awareness about heart disease** and stroke prevention **29th September**.

Note: The causes for such diseases are alcohol abuse, tobacco consumption, leading an unhealthy lifestyle with irregular sleep, unhealthy food and sedentary lifestyle. The theme for the World Heart Day 2019 is "My Heart, Your Heart". The World Heart Federation created this global campaign in the hopes of uniting people all around the world to encourage heart-healthy living across the globe.

New Appointments

1. President **Shri Ram Nath Kovind** has approved the appointment of **new Governors of Five states**.
Note: Former **Uttarakhand** Chief Minister **Bhagat Singh Koshiyari** (77-years) has been appointed as the new **Governor of Maharashtra**. Former Union Minister **Arif Mohammed Khan** (68-years) will take the responsibility of **Kerala governor**. Former Union Minister and BJP leader, **Bandaru Dattatraya** (72-years) will be the new Governor of **Himachal Pradesh** in place of **Kalraj Mishra** (78-years) who has been given the charge of Governor of **Rajasthan**. Former Tamil Nadu BJP chief, **Dr Tamilisai Soundararajan** (58-years) is the new Governor of **Telangana**.
2. **Oleksiy Honcharuk** has been appointed as the youngest-ever Prime Minister of **Ukraine**.
Note: The Prime Minister is appointed by the president with the consent of the **Verkhovna Rada**. The Prime Minister of Ukraine is Ukraine's head of government, presiding over the Cabinet of Ministers of Ukraine, which is the highest body of the executive branch of the Ukrainian government.
3. President Donald Trump has nominated Indian American as a judge of the US District Court for the Southern District of California -- **Shireen Mathews**.

Note: Currently, Matthews is a partner at Jones Day, the fifth-largest law firm in the country, in San Diego. Matthews earned her BA, magna cum laude, from Georgetown University and her law degree, cum laude, from Duke University School of Law. Matthews will be the first Asian Pacific American woman and first Indian-American to serve as an Article III federal judge in the Southern District.

4. India's **Chief Election Commissioner Sunil Arora** has assumed Chairmanship of Association of World Election Bodies (AWEB) for the term **2019-21**.

Note: India was unanimously nominated to the Vice-Chair of **AWEB at the last General Assembly** held at Bucharest (in 2017). The AWEB Flag was handed over to the new Chairman, Sunil Arora and it will remain with Election Commission of India for the two-year term till 2021. More than 110 delegates from 45 countries attended the meeting.

5. **Senior diplomat B Bala Bhaskar** has been appointed as the new **Indian Ambassador** to Norway.

Note: He will replace **Krishan Kumar**, who has been heading the Indian mission in Norway since July 2018. Formerly he served as a Joint Secretary of the WANA division of the MEA that deals with all the matters

- relating to India's trade with WANA region comprising 19 countries.
6. Kingdom of **Saudi Arabia** has appointed Prince **Abdulaziz bin Salman** as its new **Energy minister**.
Note: Earlier, He had served as the Deputy and State Energy Minister for several years. Prince Abdulaziz (son of the King of Saudi Arabia) replaced the long-time oil industry veteran Khalid Al Falih. It is the first time a member of the ruling Al Saud family has held the energy minister post in the world's top oil exporter.
 7. **CoA of BCCI** has appointed a three-member Independent Supervisory Committee to run the cricketing affairs of Bihar Cricket Association (BCA) and conduct fresh elections.
Note: The CoA, chaired by Vinod Rai, took the decision after deliberating on the issue during a meeting in Mumbai. The Committee will have the power to supervise, regulate and suspend the powers, duties and functioning of all post holders in the BCA, appoint or replace electoral officer, ombudsman and ethics officer.
 8. The Chairman of the **country's premier** news agency Press Trust of India (PTI) -- **Vijay Kumar Chopra**.
Note: Vijay Kumar Chopra succeeds N Ravi, publisher and former Editor-in-Chief of the Hindu. Publisher of Times of India, Vineet Jain (MD of Bennett, Coleman and Company Limited) unanimously elected as Vice-Chairman of PTI. The Press Trust of India Ltd. (PTI) is the largest news agency in India.
 9. Justice **Vikram Nath** has been appointed as Chief Justice of **Gujarat High Court**.
Note: He was administered the oath of office by Governor Acharya Devvrat at the Raj Bhavan in Gandhinagar. At present Mr Nath posted as a judge in the Allahabad High Court. The Gujarat High Court is the High Court of the state of Gujarat established under the Bombay State Re-organisation Act, 1960 after the state of Gujarat split from Bombay State.
 10. President **Donald Trump** has fired his National Security Adviser (NSA) -- **John Bolton**.
Note: Deputy National Security Advisor Charles Martin Kupperman (68-years) was made interim United States National Security Advisor for President Donald Trump. NSC serves as the chief in-house advisor to the President of the United States on national security issues. National Security Advisor (NSC) Advisor is a senior aide in the Executive Office of the President, based at the West Wing of the White House.
 11. **Jack Ma** has stepped down as **executive chairman** of Alibaba Group Holding Ltd.
Note: The Chief Executive Officer (CEO) Daniel Zhang succeed him at Asia's most valuable company. Jack will remain on the board until Alibaba's annual meeting of shareholders in 2020. Jack Ma (former English teacher) started Alibaba.com in 1999 as a business-to-business marketplace with 17 co-founders.
 12. Former Union Minister **Bandaru Dattatreya** took oath as the **Governor of Himachal Pradesh**.
Note: The Chief Justice of Himachal Pradesh High Court V. Ramasubramanian administered him, oath of Office and Secrecy at Rajbhavan in Shimla. Dattatreya has replaced Kalraj Mishra who is now taking over as the Governor of Rajasthan.
 13. **Dr. Pramod Kumar Mishra** took charge as principal secretary to the Prime Minister Narendra Modi.
Note: He succeeds Nripendra Misra who stepped down recently. Mr Mishra holds a PhD in Economics / Development Studies from the University of Sussex in England. The United Nations conferred him with the SASAKAWA award in 2019 for his efforts towards disaster risk reduction.
 14. Former Cabinet Secretary **Pradeep Kumar Sinha** has been appointed as the new principal advisor to the Prime Minister Narendra Modi.
Note: P K Sinha served as the Cabinet Secretary from 13th June 2015 to 30th August 2019. He graduated in Economics from St Stephen's college and completed his Post Graduation from Delhi School of Economics.
 15. UN Secretary-General **Antonio Guterres** has appointed veteran **Indian Army official Lieutenant General Abhijit Guha (retired)** as the head of the world body's observer mission in Yemen's port city of Hodeidah.
Note: Mr. Guha has been appointed as the Chair of the Redeployment Coordination Committee (RCC) and head of the UNMHA. Guha succeeds Danish Lieutenant General Michael Lollesgaard, who served in those posts from January 31 to July 31, 2019.
 16. Justice **P. Lakshmana Reddy (Retired)** has been sworn in as the **Lokayukta of Andhra Pradesh** for five years.
Note: Governor Biswabhusan Harichandan administered the oath of office to Justice Reddy at a function in Vijayawada. He is the first Lokayukta to be assuming charge since the state bifurcated in 2014. The

'Lokayukta' is an anti-corruption ombudsman organization in the Indian states.

17. President of the Asia Development Bank (ADB)

Takehiko Nakao has planned to step down from the post on **16th January 2020**.

Note: Mr. Nakao took the **ADB post in 2013** and was re-elected to a second **five-year term** in 2016. The **Asian Development Bank (ADB)** is a regional development bank established on 19th December 1966. As of 23rd March 2019, Asian Development Bank has 68 members (49 members from the Asian and Pacific Region and 19 members from Other Regions).

18. The Navies of Singapore, India and Thailand have begun their first joint maritime exercise 'SITMEX-2019' in Port Blair.

Note: The Singapore's Navy (RSN), Royal Thailand Navy (RTN) and Indian Navy (IN) are conducting the five-day exercise (till 20th September 2019). The objective of the 'SITMEX' exercise is to bolster maritime relationships and contribute significantly to enhancing overall maritime security. This would also strengthen the mutual confidence amongst three navies in terms of interoperability and development of a common understanding of procedures.

19. US President Donald Trump has appointed the National Security Adviser (NSA) of the United States of America --Robert O'Brien.

Note: Robert O'Brien will be replacing John Bolton who was fired by President Trump last week. Currently, Robert C O'Brien serving as the special presidential envoy for Hostage Affairs at the State Department. National Security Advisor (NSA) is a senior aide in the Executive Office of the President, based at the West Wing of the White House.

20. Veteran actor Jagdeep has been given the prestigious Lifetime Achievement honour at International Indian Film Academy (IIFA) awards-2019.

Note: Syed Ishtiaq Ahmed Jafri (known as Jagdeep) is an Indian film actor and comedian who has appeared in more than 400 films. He played Soorma Bhopali in Sholay (1975), Machchar in Purana Mandir (1984), Salman Khan's dad in Andaz Apna Apna (1994) and directed the movie Soorma Bhopali, with his character as the protagonist.

21. Short movie Moti Bagh has been nominated for Oscars.

Note: The film made with the financial assistance from Prasar Bharati is about the life of an 82- years old farmer from Uttarakhand, Vidyadutt Sharma. **Mr Sharma lives in Saanguda** village of Kaljikhil block of Pauri district in Uttarakhand. It has been directed by a three-time national award winner Nirmal Chandra Dandariyal. The 92nd Academy Awards ceremony, presented by the Academy of Motion Picture Arts and Sciences (AMPAS), will honour the best films of 2019 on **9th February 2020** in Los Angeles.

22. Air Marshal RKS Bhadauria has appointed as the new chief of Indian Air Force for two years.

Note: Currently, **Air Marshal Bhadauria** is the vice chief of air staff. He will replace Air Chief Marshal BS Dhanoa, who is going to retire 30th of this month. Chief of the Air Staff is the professional head and the commander of the Indian Air Force.

23. The Union government had increased the strength of its judges (including the Chief Justice of India) from 31 to 34.

Note: Four separate notifications have been issued by the Ministry of Law and Justice on the appointments of four judges in Supreme Court. Justices Krishna Murari (Punjab and Haryana High Court Chief Justice), Justices SR Bhat (Rajasthan High Court Chief), Justices V Ramasubramanian (Himachal Pradesh High Court Chief Justice) and Justices Hrishikesh Roy (Kerala High Court Chief Justice) were appointed as judges of the Supreme Court of India.

24. Royal Bank of Scotland (RBS) has appointed long-serving banker 'Alison Rose' as chief executive.

Note: She has become the first female boss of a major UK lender. Alison Rose will replace Ross McEwan on 1st November. Currently, Rose is deputy head of the group's NatWest Holdings retail business and its commercial and private banking division.

25. Bollywood Actor Govinda will be brand ambassador of Madhya Pradesh.

Note: Govinda is one of the most successful Bollywood stars in the 1990s, had a five-year stint as Congress Lok Sabha MP from Mumbai North constituency (in 2004). The Madhya Pradesh government is planning to set up a film city, as several production units are visiting places like Maheshwar, Mandu and Bhopal to shoot movies.

26. Madhukar Kamath has been elected chairman of the Audit Bureau of Circulations (ABC) for 2019-20.

Note: Currently, Mr. Kamath is the chairman emeritus of DDB Mudra group and mentor of Interbrand India. The Audit Bureau of Circulations (ABC) of India is a non-profit circulation-auditing organisation, founded in 1948.

27. **Godavarthi Venkata Srinivas** has been appointed as the next **Ambassador of India** to the **Republic of Guinea Bissau**, with residence in Dakar.
Note: Currently, **Mar. Srinivas** is the country's Ambassador to the Republic of Senegal. Guinea-Bissau is a tropical country on West Africa's Atlantic coast.
28. Army officer has become the **first woman officer** from Arunachal Pradesh to be elevated to the rank of Lieutenant Colonel in the Indian Army-- **Ponung Doming**.
Note: She was commissioned into the Indian Army as a Lieutenant in 2008. Last month, Wing Commander Shaliza Dhami became the first woman officer of the Indian Air Force to be elevated as the Flight Commander of a flying unit. The lieutenant colonel is a rank of commissioned officer in the armies, above a major and below a colonel.
29. Bulgarian economist **Kristalina Georgieva** has been selected as the new managing director of the International Monetary Fund (IMF) for a five-year term.
Note: She will succeed Christine Lagarde, who is leaving to become head of the European Central Bank (ECB). Ms Georgieva is the first person from an emerging market economy to lead the IMF. The IMF

(Created in 1945) is governed by and accountable to the 189 countries that make up its near-global membership.

30. **Madhuri Dixit** has been chosen as "goodwill ambassador" by the **Chief Electoral Officer (CEO)** in Maharashtra.
Note: Madhuri Dixit will be seen in a video titled 'Let's Vote' speaking about the democratic process and role of voters in the development of the country. Maharashtra State Assembly polls are scheduled for 21st October and results will be declared on 24th October 2019.
31. Army Chief General **Bipin Rawat** will take over as the new Chairman of **Chiefs of Staff Committee (COSC)**.
Note: Mr. Rawat will replace Air Chief BS Dhanoa. The Chairman Chiefs of Staffs Committee is the senior-most officer in the three defence forces. On Independence Day 2019, Prime Minister Narendra Modi announced the government's decision to replace the post of Chairman, COSC with a permanent Chief of the Defence Staff (CDS).
32. **Suresh Chitturi** has been appointed as chairman of the **International Egg Commission (IEC)** for next two years.
Note: He will be the first chair from Asia in the history of the International Egg Commission (IEC). Currently, Mr. Chitturi is the Vice Chairman and Managing Director (MD) of India's leading poultry firm 'Srinivasa Farms'.

Important News – India

1. Vice-President **M Venkaiah Naidu** dedicated the country's longest electrified rail tunnel between **Cherlopalli & Rapuru**.
Note: He also dedicated the **electrified railway line** between Venkatachalam and Obulavaripalli. The length of the rail tunnel is 6.6 kilometre. The **Vice-President** also flagged-off a new inter-city superfast express train between Guduru and Vijayawada. Mr Naidu stressed the need to step up investment to strengthen and modernize infrastructure, be it railways, airways, ports, inland waterways, rural roads, warehouses and cold storage units.
2. Union Minister **Prakash Javadekar** has announced the approval of the new 'Gorewada International Zoo' in **Nagpur district**.
Note: The Zoo will have attractions like Bio Park, Indian Safari, African Safari, Night Safari, Research,

Education and Training, facilities for tourists, etc. The task of construction of Indian Safari and ancillary activities, Water Reservoir and Gorewada Reserve has been given to FDCM Ltd. with Government Grants. The Gorewada International Zoo is likely to be one of the largest captive Zoo Safari in India with over 1914 Hectares of land adjoining the Gorewada Lake.

3. The Union Health Minister **Dr Harsh Vardhan** has launched a **new scheme** of Annual Health Check-up for **CGHS beneficiaries**.
Note: Mr. Harsh Vardhan also inaugurated state-of-the-art CGHS Bhawan in New Delhi. Dr Harsh Vardhan stated that CGHS services should be made available in 100 cities by 2022. The CGHS services which started in 1954 from Delhi expanded to only 25 cities till 2014.

4. Union Minister **Nitin Gadkari** has announced to use tiny earthen pots or '**Kulhad**' for serving tea at around **400 railway stations**.
Note: The government has decided to increase the import duty on incense sticks by 30% to benefit domestic producers. 'Kulhar' is a traditional handle-less clay cup from North India that is typically unpainted and unglazed, and meant to be disposable.
5. Bollywood has taken lead to promote India's plastic-free movement with Varun Dhawan's upcoming movie - **- Coolie No. 1**.
Note: The movie's producer **Deepshikha Deshmukh** announced that the movie is going **plastic-free** and urged her peers to do the same. Actor Varun Dhawan too applauded the move and tweeted that being a plastic-free nation is the need of the hour.
6. The 14th conference of Parties (COP 14) to the UN Convention to Combat Desertification in **Greater Noida**.
Note: The Conference will focus on **desertification** and degradation of land and will go on till 13th September 2019. This Conference will provide a **framework** for countries to restore the land and protect human health. The **main objective of the convention** is to combat desertification and mitigate the effects of drought in countries experiencing serious drought or desertification.
7. Tech giant **Google** has signed a statement of intent with the Ministry of Electronics and IT (MeitY) for rolling out 'Build for Digital India' programme.
Note: The programme will offer a platform for engineering students to develop market-ready, technology-based solutions that address key social problems. Google will also offer mentorship sessions in product design, strategy and technology to the most promising products and prototypes.
8. Prime Minister **Mr. Narendra Modi** has inaugurated the new building of '**Garvi Gujarat Bhavan**' at **Akbar Road, New Delhi**.
Note: The Bhavan is equipped with traditional and modern artefacts and technologies and will serve as a home for Gujaratis in the national capital. The new structure is built on an area of 20,325 square meters and have 19 suits rooms, 59 regular rooms, a restaurant, a public dining hall, a business centre, a souvenir shop, a multi-purpose hall, conference hall, four lounges, a gymnasium, a yoga centre, a terrace garden and a library. This 'Garvi Gujarat Bhavan' building has been built at a cost of around 131 crore rupees by the Gujarat Government.
9. Eight United States-made Apache AH-64E attack helicopters have been inducted into the Indian Air Force (IAF) in a ceremony at the **Pathankot Air Force station**.

Note: The AH-64E Apache is one of the world's most advanced multi-role combat helicopters. The IAF had signed a multi-billion-dollar contract with the US Government and Boeing Ltd in September 2015 for purchase of 22 Apache helicopters. Apache helicopter can deliver a variety of weapons which includes air to ground hellfire missiles, 70 MM Hydra rockets and air to air stinger missiles.

10. India has announced a contribution of **USD 22 million** to the Global Fund for AIDS, TB and Malaria (GFTAM) for the **6th replenishment cycle (2020-22)**.
Note: This is an increase of 10% over the amount contributed by the US in the 5th cycle. The Global Fund is a partnership designed to accelerate the end of AIDS, tuberculosis and malaria. As an international organization, the Global Fund mobilizes and invests more than USD 4 billion a year to support programs run by local experts in more than 100 countries.
11. The Union Minister for Civil Aviation **Hardeep Singh Puri** has inaugurated the new "Aerodrome Control Tower" at **IGI Airport in Delhi**.
Note: This ATC tower is India's tallest (102-metres) and most technologically advanced air traffic control (ATC) tower. It will enhance safety and boost the efficiency of air transport management services. The earth-quake resistant building has been constructed at the cost of approximately Rs 250 crore. This allows for simultaneous landings from the same direction on parallel runways which will further increase the capacity of the airport.
12. **Joint military training, Exercise 'Yudh Abhyas - 2019'** is being conducted at Joint Base Lewis Mc Chord, Washington, the USA.
Note: Yudh Abhyas-2019 will provide an opportunity to the armed forces of both countries to train in an integrated manner at Battalion level with joint planning at Brigade level. It will be the 15th edition of the joint exercise hosted alternately between the two countries. Exercise Yudh Abhyas is one of the largest joint running military training and defence corporation endeavours between India and USA.
13. The Union Minister Shri Prahlad Singh Patel flagged off first-ever Mobile Science Exhibition (SCIENCE EXPLORER) for entire **Ladakh Region**.
Note: The Minister simultaneously launched 25 new Mobile Science Exhibition buses for Aspirational Districts of India. This will help to quickly and effectively transform these districts named as 'Aspirational Districts'. The buses will travel to schools in Aspirational Districts throughout the year except during the vacations and will aim to create scientific awareness among the rural children.

- 14. Bharat Sanchar Nigam Limited** has launched IPV6 services to bring a new era of the internet in the country.
Note: This service is launched from Bangalore and shall be available to all the customers across the country in next few weeks". IPV6 is having the highest security levels possible which will be very helpful for deploying IoT and other applications with enhanced security features. Now, Customers shall be using multiple devices at home and office, all these devices shall need an exclusive addressing scheme for which IPV6 is the right way forward.
- 15. CBI Director Rishi Kumar Shukla** has inaugurated the **1st National Conference** on Cyber Crime Investigation and Cyber Forensics at **CBI Headquarters, New Delhi**.
Note: The two-day conference covers one of the mandates of CBI which is to investigate crimes with inter-state and international ramifications. According to Mr. Rishi Kumar Shukla, Cybercrimes pose unique challenges to law enforcement officers and such crimes are complex and require certain skills and forensic skills for detection. The conference is aimed at creating the platform and bringing together investigators, lawyers, forensic experts and academia to discuss challenges related to cybercrime and ways to find solutions.
- 16. Central Government** to invest Rs 25,000 crore in 5 years to revamp **Fishery infrastructure**.
Note: With the objective of achieving the real goals of the ambitious Blue Revolution project, The Union Government has lined up Rs 25,000 crore investments in different sectors of fisheries in the next three to five years. As inland fisheries contribute only 50 per cent of the total fish production, the Government intends to outspread its potential by covering reservoirs, wetlands, rivers and streams in different parts of the country. Considering the low contribution of inland water fisheries, the Government looks to increase its production to six million tonnes from three million tonnes in the next three to four years.
- 17. Vice President M Venkaiah Naidu** has released 'Loktantra Ke Swar (Khand 2)' in Hindi and 'The Republican Ethic (Volume 2)' in English in **New Delhi**.
Note: In order to promote and disseminate selected speeches of President Ram Nath Kovind, Publications Division under Ministry of Information & Broadcasting has published 'Loktantra Ke Swar (Khand 2)' and 'The Republican Ethic (Volume 2)'. They are a compilation of 95 speeches delivered by the President during his second year in office (July 2018 to July 2019). The books will be available on Kindle and other e-platforms
- 18. Former President Pranab Mukherjee** has released the book of Deputy Chief Minister Manish Sisodia titled '**Siksha**'.
- Note:** The book 'Siksha' had two parts - 'fixing of foundation of education' and 'using education as foundation for India'.
- 19. Country's first 'Fun Zone' for children at Visakhapatnam railway station.**
Note: In a first of its kind in the Indian Railways, a paid gaming zone has been provided at Visakhapatnam railway station (platform number- 1) in Andhra Pradesh. The gaming zone (400sqft area) is for bonafide passengers/rail users who can utilize this facility with a payment of Rs 50 per game during their visit to the railway station. The project was developed under NINFRIS (New, Innovative Non-Fare Revenue Ideas Scheme) of the ministry of railways.
- 20. The 6th India-China Strategic Economic Dialogue (SED) held in New Delhi.**
Note: The Indian side led by Niti Aayog Vice-Chairman Dr Rajiv Kumar and the Chinese side by Chairman of National Development and Reforms Commission (NDRC). The SED was set up between the erstwhile Planning Commission and National Development and Reform Commission of China during the visit of Chinese Prime Minister Wen Jiabao to India in December 2010. It has served as an effective mechanism for enhancing bilateral practical cooperation.
- 21. Microsoft India** has partnered with **Central Board of Secondary Education (CBSE)** to build AI learning for schools.
Note: They will conduct capacity building programmes for high school teachers with an aim to integrate cloud-powered technology in K12 teaching. The programme is for teachers of grades 8-10 and will be conducted in 10 cities across the country. The programme will provide teachers with better access to the latest Information and Communication Technology (ICT) tools.
- 22. The week-long annual Joint Indo-Lanka maritime fleet exercise** has been started in **SLINEX 2019**.
Note: Sri Lankan Navy has sent two ships to India to participate in the exercise with the Indian Navy. The offshore patrol vessels, SLNS Sindurala and Suranimala left Trincomalee on are scheduled to arrive at the port of Visakhapatnam. The week-long exercise will be attended by 323 Sri Lankan navy personnel including the commanding flag officer of the naval fleet.
- 23. PM Modi** has inaugurated the **first Metro Coach** in Mumbai under the 'Make in India' initiative at **Jio World Centre, Mumbai**.
Note: The coach has been built by **Bharat Earth Movers (BEML)** at its Bengaluru facility in flat 75 days. Maharashtra is pumping in over **Rs 1.2 lakh crore** to build 14 metro corridors stretching 337-km over the next decade. The **prime minister inaugurated AURIC** (Aurangabad Industrial City) business and

- administrative building and dedicated DMIC AURIC City to the nation.
24. The **Union government** will spend **3.5 lakh crore** rupees in the next five years on **Jal Jeevan Mission**.
Note: Jal Jeevan Mission has been launched in order to free women from the trouble of having to toil hard to fetch water. Jal Jeevan Mission involves saving water and delivering water at one's doorstep. Under MUDRA scheme, one woman in every SHG will get a loan of 1 lakh rupees and this will help them start new ventures and grow their business.
25. The **first conference** of Military Medicine for **Shanghai Co-operation Organization (SCO)** Member States held in **New Delhi**.
Note: The conference is the **first Military co-operation** event hosted by India, under the SCO Defence Co-operation Plan 2019-2020, after it became an SCO Member State in 2017. The conference conducted with the aim to share best practices in the field of military medicine, build capacities and overcome common challenges.
26. India's **first-ever helicopter** summit held in **Dehradun**.
Note: 'Helicopter Summit- 2019' was organized jointly by Civil Aviation Ministry, Uttarakhand government and Federation of Indian Chambers of Commerce and Industries (FICCI). The summit was based on the theme of expanding connectivity through helicopters.
27. PM Modi and Nepal's **Prime Minister K.P. Sharma Oli** have jointly inaugurated through video conference **Motihari-Amlekhgunj pipeline**.
Note: This is the first transnational petroleum pipeline from India and first South Asian oil pipeline corridor. The pipeline will ensure smooth, cost-effective and environment-friendly supply of petroleum products to Nepal. The 69 km long pipeline from Motihari in Bihar to Amlekhgunj in Nepal has been constructed by India in just 15 months, half of its 30 months deadline.
28. Member-countries of the **WHO South-East Asia Region** has resolved to eliminate highly infectious childhood killer diseases measles and rubella by **2023**.
Note: A resolution to eliminate the diseases was adopted at the 72nd session of the WHO Regional Committee for South-East Asia in Delhi. Measles elimination and rubella control have been a regional flagship priority since 2014. India continues to grapple with 39,299 cases, ranking fourth among 194 countries in the number of measles cases registered between July 2018 and June 2019.
29. **DRDO** successfully flight tested an **indigenously developed** low weight, fire and forget Man-Portable Antitank Guided Missile (MPATGM) in the ranges of Kurnool, Andhra Pradesh.
- Note:** The missile hit the target in top attack mode and destroyed it with precision. The missile is incorporated with state-of-the-art Infrared Imaging Seeker along with advanced avionics. The test paves the way for the Army to have developed third-generation man-portable Anti-Tank Guided Missile indigenously.
30. **Ministry of Railways** is observing 'Swachhta-Hi-Seva Pakhwada' across its entire network from **11th September to 2nd October 2019**.
Note: Prime Minister of India at an event on **Swachhta Hi Seva (SHS)** offered Shramdaan at Mathura leading and giving a message to the nation on the removal of plastic waste. According to **Shri Piyush Goyal** (Minister of Railways and Commerce & Industry), officers and staff of all departments to be involved in various activities during '**Swachhta-Hi-Seva Pakhwada**'. **Mr Goyal** also directed Zonal Railways to upload selected photographs on **E-Drishti**, Minister's dashboard for monitoring purposes.
31. Prime Minister **Narendra Modi** has launched the '**Pradhan Mantri Kisan Maan Dhan Yojana**' at **Ranchi, Jharkhand**.
Note: The Scheme shall secure the lives of 5 Crore Small and Marginal Farmers by providing a minimum pension of Rs 3000 per month, to those who attain 60 years of age. Prime Minister also launched the National Pension Scheme for the Traders and The Self-Employed. The scheme aims at providing a minimum assured pension of Rs 3000, to small traders and self-employed after attaining the age of 60 Years. Around 3 Crore Small traders would be benefited from the scheme. The Prime Minister also inaugurated the New Vidhan Sabha Building of Jharkhand.
32. Tech giant '**Samsung**' has introduced two mobile applications named -- '**Good Vibes**' and '**Relumino**'.
Note: Good Vibes has been launched for deafblind to enable them to have two-way communication with their caregivers, family and friends. Good Vibes app uses Morse code, which converts vibrations (a combination of dots and dashes that the deafblind can interpret) into text or voice (on the caregiver's app) and vice-versa. 'Relumino' is a visual aid application for people with low vision to help them see images clearer by magnifying and minimizing images, highlighting the image outline, adjusting colour contrast and brightness, and reversing colour. National Association for the Blind (NAB) will use Relumino in classrooms where students with low vision will use these devices to see better, thus, helping them improve their learning abilities.
33. Jal Shakti Minister **Gajendra Singh Shekhawat** flagged off Great Ganga Run-2019 at **Jawaharlal Nehru Stadium, New Delhi**.
Note: Large number of people from all age groups participated in the marathon. Participation of the

- people in the run corroborates the fact that people are not only aware of the importance of water but are active to conserve the important resource. It was organized to create awareness about the river Ganga. Jal Shakti ministry will organise Ganga Expedition from October 9 as well.
34. The Defence Research Development Organization (DRDO) handed over the second Airborne Early Warning and Control (AEWC) aircraft to the Indian Air Force (IAF) '**Netra**'.
- Note:** An Airborne Early Warning and Control (AEWC) aircraft '**Netra**' had played a stellar role during the Balakot airstrikes that had been carried out by the IAF in February 2019. It provided surveillance and radar coverage to the five Mirage jets that bombed terror launch pads in Balakot in Khyber-Pakhtunkhwa province in Pakistan. It has been designed and developed by scientists of the DRDO, with assistance from the Bengaluru-based Centre for Airborne Systems.
35. Ramesh Pokhriyal '**Nishank**' (HRD Minister) has launched a major programme offering 1,000 PhD fellowships to ASEAN students at **IITs in India**.
- Note:** The country's partnership with **South-East Asian nations** has developed **historically** through a shared quest for knowledge. It is only natural that knowledge remains the fundamental driver of people to people ties. Those selected can complete their PhD with Government of India funding at par with Indian counterparts.
36. India's first central police university to come up in **Greater Noida**.
- Note:** The country's first central police university will be set up by the Union home ministry off the Yamuna Expressway in Greater Noida. The university will offer undergraduate and postgraduate courses on policing, internal security, cybercrime and forensic sciences.
37. Union Ministers **Piyush Goel** and **Hardeep Singh Puri** have jointly launched the **Steel Import Monitoring System (SIMS)** in **New Delhi**.
- Note:** In this system, the importers of specified steel products will register in advance on the web portal of SIMS, providing the necessary information. SIMS has been developed, in consultation with the Ministry of Steel, on the pattern of US Steel Import Monitoring and Analysis (SIMA) system. SIMS will provide advance information about steel imports to Government and stakeholders (steel industry (producers), steel consumers(importers)) for effective policy interventions.
38. Union Minister **Prakash Javadekar** flagged off a Jaldoot vehicle a travelling exhibition in **Pune**.
- Note:** The van carrying the '**SAVE WATER**' message will travel to different parts of the state. The Union Government has launched the '**Jalshakti Abhiyan**', a water conservation campaign focusing on 1592 stressed blocks in 256 districts across the country.
39. Union Minister for **Home Affairs Amit Shah** has presided the 5th International Ramayan Festival in **New Delhi**.
- Note:** The three days International **Ramayan Festival** has been organized by the Indian Council for Cultural Relations (ICCR). **Ramayan** is one such scripture of India that has transcended Personal, Religious, Societal, Cultural and National boundaries and reached a global audience. **17 countries** have participated with their artists and rendered their versions of Ramayan. The **ICCR was established** with the vision of propagating Indian culture and its values to the whole world and organizing Ramayan festival is one way to realize this vision.
40. India's first National Antimicrobial Resistance Hub inaugurated in **Kolkata**.
- Note:** The Indian Council of Medical Research (ICMR) Director General (DG) **Balram Bhargava** has inaugurated India's first National Antimicrobial Resistance (AMR) Hub in Kolkata. AMR is the ability of a microbe to **resist** the effects of medication that once could successfully treat the microbe. The Kolkata centre would be the hub for research on antibiotic resistance not only for the country but for entire South Asia.
41. Defence Minister **Rajnath Singh** flew in the **Light Combat Aircraft (LCA)** Tejas at HAL (Hindustan Aeronautical Limited) airport in **Bengaluru**.
- Note:** Tejas is a twin-seater, single-engine, delta wing, multi-role light fighter designed by the Aeronautical Development Agency (ADA). Tejas is produced by Hindustan Aeronautical Limited (HAL) for the Indian Air Force.
42. **ISRO** has inked an MoU with the Defence Research and Development Organisation (DRDO) for development of human-centric systems and technologies for the Human Space Mission Gaganyaan.
- Note:** ISRO is on course to its target of sending Indian astronauts to space by 2022 under the '**Gaganyaan**' project, which entails an investment of Rs. 10,000 crores. On the other hand, DRDO is committed to providing all necessary support including customized technological capabilities to ISRO for the human space flight within the stringent timelines.
43. **Jal Shakti Ministry** has taken an initiative to develop National Water Museum to raise awareness among people on the conservation of the natural resource.
- Note:** According to an **official release**, the Ministry is also organizing **two-day International Workshop** from today which will be attended by experts from India and abroad. The **outcome of the workshop** will be a blueprint for establishing the proposed National Water Museum under the aegis of Jal Shakti Ministry. During

the workshop, possible broad composition, the content of the museum including highlighting importance of water and its current state in different regions of the country, possible solutions, traditional and modern water management practices and localised success stories are proposed to be discussed.

44. President of Mongolia **Khaltmaagiin Battulga** arrived in New Delhi on a five-day state visit.

Note: Mr. Battulga has been accompanied by a high-level official and business delegation. The visiting dignitary will meet President Ram Nath Kovind, Vice President M Venkaiah Naidu and Prime Minister Narendra Modi. Mr Battulga will also participate in an India-Mongolia Business Forum in New Delhi. During his stay, the Mongolian President will visit Agra, Bodh Gaya and Bengaluru.

45. **Pokhriyal 'Nishank'** has launched Waste Management Accelerator for Aspiring Women Entrepreneurs (WAVE-2019) summit.

Note: The schemes will work towards providing students with the best education to keep pace with the rapidly changing world. It will be jointly organized by All India Council for Technical Education (AICTE) and Institute of Waste Management (IIWM) at Jaipur. This initiative stating that it will empower women and encourage entrepreneurship among youngsters. WAVE Summit 2019 is a great initiative for women who have skills in their hands and it will further empower and motivate them

46. Telangana Government has decided to declare 2020 as Year of **Artificial Intelligence(AI)**.

Note: The State Government will be organizing various activities related to emerging technology throughout the year. This comes in the backdrop of emerging talent pool as well as renewed focus by industry and other ecosystem players on AI space in last 4-5 years. Throughout the year 2020, the state government will be running multiple programs, meetings and activities such as hackathons, masterclasses and other activities.

47. Prime Minister Narendra Modi embarked on a 7-day visit to the **United states**.

Note: During his visit, Mr. Modi will address the United Nations General Assembly on 27th of this month. On 22nd September, Prime Minister Modi will address the Indian community at the NRG Stadium in Houston, Texas at 8.30 pm (India Standard Time) and President Donald Trump will also be there. Around 50,000 people are expected to attend the event Howdy, Modi! "Howdy", short for 'How do you do?' is a friendly greeting commonly used in the south-western US.

48. **Ministry of Mines** has allowed **Steel Authority of India Limited (SAIL)** to offload in a year up to a quantity equivalent to maximum 25% of total iron ore production in previous years.

Note: It will be subject to clearance from the respective State Governments, where the mines are located, after following due procedure. Around 7 million tonnes of iron ore, produced at its different mines in the States of Jharkhand, Odisha and Chattisgarh, can be offloaded by SAIL to the domestic market after getting necessary clearance from the State Governments. This will enable SAIL to not only fulfil its own requirement but also to partially cater to a shortfall in domestic iron ore requirement.

49. India's **first environment school** named World Environment School, Coorg (WESc) will come up at **Coorg, Karnataka**.

Note: WESc will be open for students of **Grade 6 to 12** from India and **around the world** from the year 2021. It will be the **first school in India** and South Asia to take a leading **role in promoting** and delivering environmental education with sustainability at its core.

50. A new book by award-winning author Paro Anand will mark the 150th anniversary of Mahatma Gandhi -- **Being Gandhi**.

Note: The book 'Being Gandhi, explores not Gandhi the man or his life as a leader, but really the Gandhian way that must remain relevant to us. The story revolves around a boy, Chandrashekhar, who is bored of doing projects on Gandhi.

51. India's largest power **company NTPC Ltd.** has planned to set up **5 gigawatts (GW)** solar park at **Kutch, Gujarat**.

Note: A site has been identified for the project, which is expected to cost as much as Rs. 25,000 crores and begin operations by 2024. The project is part of the **NTPC target** to build 32 gigawatts (GW) of renewable capacity by 2032 in order to reduce the share of fossil fuels in its energy mix to 70% from about 96%.

52. Union Home Minister **Amit Shah** has proposed the **idea of a single multipurpose identity** card for **Indian citizens**.

Note: **Multipurpose identity card** would have all utilities such as Aadhaar, driving license, passport and bank accounts merged into one. Amit Shah laid the foundation stone of Janganana Bhawan or Census Building in New Delhi. According to Home Minister Amit Shah, the 2021 census (8th since Indian independence) will be a "digital census" and the data will be collected through a mobile app. The National Population Register is being prepared for the first time in the 2021 census.

53. The Union Minister **Dr Harsh Vardhan** has launched 'UMMID' initiative to tackle inherited genetic diseases of new-born babies in New Delhi.

Note: The new initiative aims at creating awareness about genetic disorders amongst clinicians and establish molecular diagnostics in hospitals so that the benefits of developments in medical genetics could

- reach patients. According to Mr. Vardhan, congenital and hereditary genetic diseases are becoming a significant health burden and there is a need for adequate and effective genetic testing and counselling services.
- 54. The Central Board of Direct Taxes (CBDT)** has set up a National e-Assessment Centre (NeAC) for assessing tax returns electronically without any personal contact between officials and taxpayers.
Note: The initiative is a part of government efforts to reduce human discretion in assessments and scrutiny, which in turn will eliminate possibilities of corruption, by leveraging new technologies like artificial intelligence, machine learning, video conferencing, telecommunication application software and mobile applications.
- 55. The Union Minister Shri Nitin Gadkari** has inaugurated the **16th Global SME Business Summit-2019 in New Delhi**.
Note: The theme of this year's summit is 'Making Indian MSMEs Globally Competitive'. According to Mr. Gadkari, MSME will soon launch a new E-Commerce website 'Bharat Mart' to enable MSMEs to sell their products in local as well as international markets. This summit is organized by the Ministry of MSME and Confederation of Indian Industries (CII) every year.
- 56. A single emergency number** has been launched for police, fire and ambulance emergency services in Delhi -- **112**.
Note: Now, the citizens of Delhi can avail the facility of all these three emergency services by dialling the number '112'. This call immediately passes to the Control Room for providing immediate assistance to the distress caller.
- 57. A new comic book series 'Professor Ayushman'** conceived by the National Medicinal Plants Board (NMPB) was unveiled by the -- **Ayush ministry**.
Note: This interesting comic book will raise awareness in children about the importance of medicinal plants and their usage. The comic book, conceived by the National Medicinal Plants Board, talks about plants like Aloe Vera, Tulsi, Amla, Giloy, Neem, Ashvagandha and Brahmi.
- 58. Union Govt. has reconstituted the Economic Advisory Council to the Prime Minister (EAC-PM)** for a period of **2 years**.
Note: Dr. Bibek Debroy will continue as Chairman and Mr Ratan P. Watal will continue as the Member Secretary. The reconstituted advisory panel will be effective from 26th September 2019. The strength of the reconstituted EAC-PM has been reduced from five to four (two full-time members and two part-time members).
- 59. Union Minister of State for Tourism and Culture (I/C) Shri Prahlad Singh Patel** inaugurated the exhibition of India Tourism Mart (ITM) 2019 in **New Delhi**.
Note: The Ministry of Tourism and the Federation of Associations in Indian Tourism and Hospitality (FAITH) have jointly organized this Mart. Over 240 international delegates from 51 countries and 160 exhibitors from across the country are taking part in the second edition of ITM. The Mart will provide a platform at the national level for trade and hospitality service providers in the country to interact and conduct business with their counterparts from overseas.
- 60. The Union Government** has approved construction of 1.23 lakh more houses under **Pradhan Mantri Awas Yojana (Urban)**.
Note: The 47th Central Sanctioning and Monitoring Committee approved 630 proposals from participating states for construction of 1.23 lakh houses with an overall investment of 4,988 crore rupees. Pradhan Mantri Awas Yojana (launched in June 2015) is an initiative by Government of India in which affordable housing will be provided to the urban poor with a target of building 20 million affordable houses by 31st March 2022.
- 61. Former president Pranab Mukherjee** has released a book titled -- **Reset: Regaining India's Economic Legacy**.
Note: The book was authored by BJP MP Subramanian Swamy, published by Rupa Publications India. The book tracks the country's economic development over the years and offers solutions for future growth.
- 62. The 5th edition Indian International Science Festival (IISF) in Kolkata.** (5th to 8th November 2019)
Note: The theme for 2019 is "**RISEN India - Research, Innovation, and Science Empowering the Nation**". The **objective of the festival** is to celebrate India's scientific and technological advancements with the participation of students, innovators, scientists, craftsmen and farmers.
- 63. The state govt. has decided to ban the usage of single-use plastic water bottles, glasses, plates from 2nd October 2019.**
Note: The state government wants to promote eco-friendly and re-usable items in the coastal state. Last month, the Goa Legislative Assembly passed a bill banning manufacture, sale and use of single-use plastic items and carry bags, with a penalty ranging from Rs 2,500 to Rs. 3 lakh for violators.
- 64. Union Minister for Health and Family Welfare Dr. Harsh Vardhan** has launched **TB Harega Desh Jeetega Campaign**.
Note: The Union Health Minister also flagged off a van for the **National TB Prevalence Survey**. All **twenty-five vans** will be part of the prevalence survey, which

- shall take 6 months and be carried out across the country.
65. Who will come out with a memoir on death and grief, drawing on a string of personal losses - of his parents and a beloved pet -- **Siddharth Dhanvant Shanghvi**.
Note: In 'Loss', the author will chart the landscape of bereavement as he takes the reader down the dark, winding path to healing. Some of the other books by Goa-based Siddharth are "The Last Song of Dusk", "The Lost Flamingoes of Bombay" and "The Rabbit & the Squirrel".
66. India, the US and Japan began the **trilateral maritime exercise** in the Pacific Ocean -- **Malabar 2019**.
Note: 'MALABAR 2019' would endeavour to further strengthen India - Japan - US Naval cooperation and enhance interoperability, based on shared values and principles. Two front lines indigenously designed and built Indian Naval Ships, the Multipurpose Guided Missile Frigate Sahyadri and ASW Corvette Kiltan, will participate in the Exercise.
67. 2nd edition of 'Singapore - India Hackathon' has been organized at **IIT Madras, Chennai**.
Note: India-Singapore Hackathon is the first of its kind joint International hackathon between India and Singapore during which the selected bright students from India and Singapore. They will work in collaboration to develop an innovative and out-of-the-box solution for some of the daunting problems faced by our societies.
- This year, the hackathon is focused on quality education, Good Health and clean energy.
68. Union Defence Minister Rajnath Singh commissioned into the Indian Navy -- **INS Khanderi**.
Note: On the same occasion, the Defence Minister also inducted P-17 Shivalik-class frigate Nilgiri and the aircraft carrier drydock into the Indian Navy.
69. The **International Astronomical Union (IAU)** has named a minor planet after Indian classical singer -- **Pandit Jasraj**.
Note: The asteroid (located between Mars and Jupiter) was discovered on 11th November 2006, by the Catalina Sky Survey, whose telescopes are based in Arizona in the United States.
70. Smt. **Renuka Singh** (Minister of State for Tribal Affairs) has inaugurated the **11-day 'Aadi Mahotsav' at Noida (UP)**.

Important News – State

1. The **Haryana Chief Minister** Manohar Lal Khattar has announced a 4,750 crore rupees waiver on interest and penalty on **Crop loans**.
Note: The farmers who have borrowed from Primary Agriculture Cooperative Societies (PACS), District Cooperative Central Banks, Land Mortgage Bank and Haryana Land Reforms and Development Bank will benefit from this decision. This will benefit around 10 lakh farmers of the state. Around 85,000 farmers had taken loans worth 3,000 crore rupees from the District Cooperative Central Banks.
2. Uttar Pradesh Police has launched a mobile application '**C-Plan app**' to keep a tab on anti-social elements prevailing across the state.
Note: it will verify the received information and counter these **criminal activities** in time. The department has identified 10 people in every village, known as Sambhrant-10, across the state who will inform about anti-social elements, simmering communal tensions or land disputes taking place in their respective villages through the app. This initiative will help the state to have better community policing and bringing down the crime rate by improving the police-public partnership with the help of technology.
3. Gujarat Government and the **Delaware State of America** have signed Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) for **Sister state**.
Note: MoU was signed in Gandhinagar when a delegation of Delaware State of America called on Gujarat Chief Minister Delaware's Vijay Rupani. According to official sources, cooperation in the field of services and investment opportunities in GIFT IFSC have also been discussed during the meeting. Sectors like Biotechnology University, biosciences, financial services, animal husbandry and dairy, port services have been shortlisted for future cooperation.
4. The **Delhi state Cabinet** has decided to include other backward class (OBC) and general category students in its **Jai Bheem Mukhyamantri Yojana**.
Note: The government also enhance financial assistance from Rs. 40,000 to Rs. one lakh for coaching for various competitive exams. Earlier, the scheme was only for the scheduled caste category students under which financial assistance of up to Rs. 40,000 would be provided.
5. **OSDMA (Odisha State Disaster Management Authority)** has won the **IT Excellence Award, 2019** for its innovative conception by using information technology in the field of disaster management.
Note: The "SATARK" (System for Assessing, Tracking and Alerting Disaster Risk Information based on Dynamic

- Risk Knowledge) application has been chosen for the award. This app has been developed to provide real-time watch, alert and warning information for different natural disasters and hazards such as heatwave, lightning, agriculture risk, flood, tsunami, earthquake, cyclone or storm, road accident and snakebite.
6. Union Home Minister **Amit Shah** chaired the 68th Plenary session of the **North Eastern Council (NEC)** in **Guwahati, Assam**.
Note: Governors and Chief Ministers of **North Eastern states** (Arunachal Pradesh, Assam, Manipur, Meghalaya, Mizoram, Nagaland, Tripura and Sikkim) have attended the 2-day event. There will be presentations from various ministries and state governments on various developmental issues which are critical to the North East.
 7. The most popular annual **harvest festival** is being celebrated in Kerala -- **Onam**.
Note: It is a 10-day long festival from Atham to Thiruvonam. Onam celebrations include Onasadya, Onakodi, Pookkalam, Vallam Kali, Pulikali etc. The festival is celebrated to commemorate King Mahabali, whose spirit is said to visit Kerala at the time of Onam.
 8. **Kerala** will set up India's first **international women's trade centre (iWTC)**, in consonance with the **United Nations**.
Note: This will not only help women to develop and expand their ventures and build relationships but also be a platform for their creative expression. It is envisaged as a safe space away from home for women to harness their entrepreneurial capabilities, set up or expand their businesses and get their products marketed globally. The first phase of iWTC, being executed under the gender park's "Vision 2020", is scheduled to be completed by 2021.
 9. Odd-even rule to **combat pollution** will be applicable in **Delhi** between **4 to 15th November 2019**.
Note: Under the odd-even scheme, cars with licence plates ending in an odd number (1,3,5,7,9) & even number (0,2,4,6,8) allowed to ply on alternate days, except weekends. Earlier, exemptions were granted to women, VIPs and two-wheelers. This is the third time odd-even rule will be rolled out in Delhi. Delhi government will also distribute N-95 masks to people in November.
 10. The **Madhya Pradesh government** has decided to launch an **online service to adopt** a cow and provide sheds to them at across the State.
Note: The **Madhya Pradesh government** has decided to launch an online service for those wanting to adopt a cow and provide sheds to them at gaushalas (cow shelters) across the State. While paying for a cow's feed for **15 days** would cost **Rs. 1,100**, one could take care of its diet for 10 years for Rs. 3 lakhs. While a lifetime adoption costs **Rs 3 lakh**, those willing to adopt a bovine for a year will have to pay **Rs 21,000**.
 11. **Chief Minister** of Haryana **Manohar Lal Khattar** has launched two insurance schemes **Mukhyamantri Vyapari Samuhik Niji Durghatna Beema Yojana** and **'Mukhyamantri Vyapari Kshatipurti Beema Yojana'** for **traders of the state**.
Note: 'Mukhyamantri Vyapari Samuhik Niji Durghatna Beema Yojana' (Around 3.75 lakh beneficiaries): The benefit of insurance would be admissible in case of accidental death, permanent disability and damage to two body organs, or eyes or one organ or one eye. 'Mukhyamantri Vyapari Kshatipurti Beema Yojana' (Around 3.13 lakh beneficiaries) It is an insurance cover scheme ranging from Rs 5 lakhs to Rs 25 lakhs would be provided.
 12. The three-day-long traditional **Neermahal Jal Utsav** concluded with eye-catching **boat race** and swimming competitions at **Rudrasagar lake**.
Note: Chief Minister of **Tripura** **Biplab Kumar Deb** flagged off the **boat race**. Neermahal is a water palace built at the middle of **Rudrasagar lake** by Maharaja Bir Bikram Kishore Manikya in 1930 as his summer resort being inspired by the Mughal style of architecture.
 13. **Arunachal Pradesh Chief Minister Pema Khandu** dedicates **Dikshi Hydroelectric Project** to people of the state.
Note: The 24 Mega Watt Hydroelectric Project has been installed at Dikshi Village in West Kameng District in Arunachal Pradesh. It is a Run-of-the-River project constructed on the river Phudung by Devi Energies Private Limited.
 14. **Karnataka Chief Minister B S Yediyurappa** has announced that the **Hyderabad-Karnataka region** has been renamed as **Kalyana Karnataka**.
Note: The Hyderabad Karnataka region comprises six north-eastern districts of Karnataka Bidar, Kalaburagi, Koppal, Ballari, Yadgir and Raichur. A separate secretariat would be set up for the development of Kalyana Karnataka, through which funds would be released for developmental work.
 15. **Himachal Pradesh Chief Minister Jai Ram Thakur** has launched **Mukhya Mantri Service Resolution Helpline** number **1100** for the speedy and time-bound redressal of public grievances.
Note: The helpline number will make use of the latest technologies to help people register their complaints online, making the whole procedure paperless and lessen the footfall in government offices. Now, Himachal Pradesh has become the fourth state (after Uttarakhand, Madhya Pradesh and Uttar Pradesh) in the country to have such a helpline. Mantri Service Resolution Helpline will function 6 days a week (Monday-Saturday) from 7

- am to 10 pm. Every complaint will be resolved within a period of 7-14 days.
16. Delhi **Lieutenant Governor Anil Baijal** has launched a newly **integrated one-touch** mobile app '**Tatpar**'.
Note: 'Tatpar' app (developed by the Delhi Police) is a one-stop destination for access to over 50 citizen-centric services. With the help of this app, people can navigate to their nearest police station, traffic pit and prepaid taxi booth. The app amalgamates all the websites and mobile applications of the Delhi Police. 'Tatpar' app is another step from Delhi Police to provide its services to the citizens of Delhi in a convenient online mode on 24x7 basis.
17. The **Indian Air Force (IAF)** has been inaugurated a resurfaced Advance Landing Ground (ALG) at **Vijaynagar, Arunachal Pradesh**.
Note: It will enable operations by military transport aircraft at the base near the China border. The Indian Air Force has made eight advanced landing grounds (Vijaynagar, Ziro, Aalo, Pasighat, Tawang, Mechuka, Walong and Tuting) in the country till date with a cost of 720 crores.
18. **Kerala Govt.** has inked an MoU with the **Maldives** to strengthen **cancer care**.
Note: Maldives has also sought RCC's support to create a cancer registry in that country. The MOU was signed between Abdulla Ameen (Maldivian Minister) and K K Shylaja (Kerala Health Minister) in the presence of the state Chief Minister Pinarayi Vijayan.
19. The first-ever "**Jammu International Film Festival**" will be held in **Jammu**.
Note: **37 short films** and documentaries from 11 countries will be screened at the inaugural edition of Jammu International Film Festival. The festival will also present an annual 'Inspiring Icon Award', which will be **given to a person**, who hails from the region and has made it big in the **film industry**.
20. Assembly **elections in Maharashtra** (288 seats) and **Haryana** (90 seats) will be held on **21st October 2019**.
Note: Notification will be issued on 27th of this month and the last date for filing nominations will be 4th October. The scrutiny will be held on 5th October and the last date for withdrawal of the nomination will be 7th of October. The counting of votes will take place on 24th October this year.
21. The **Uttar Pradesh Govt.** has celebrated the first anniversary of PM Jan Arogya Yojna, as **Ayushman Bharat Day**.
Note: Chief Minister Yogi Aditya Nath has felicitated the beneficiaries and volunteers called 'Ayushman Mitra' in a function in Lucknow. The state is celebrating Ayushman Bharat fortnight from 15th September to 2nd October.
- Under the scheme, more than 36 lakh golden cards have been issued in the last year in the state.
22. Who will be hosting the **2nd flower festival** of the year during the North-East Monsoon__ **Udhagamandalam-Ooty**.
Note:
 ➤ Preparatory works for the elaborate exhibition of colourful and fragrant flowers have started in the famous Botanical Gardens in Udhagamandalam.
 ➤ More than eighty-five exotic varieties, including predominantly English flowers like Dahlia, Merigold, Calendula and Daisy will be exhibited during the festival.
23. Tickets will be issued to **women passengers** under the **Delhi government's scheme** for free travel in DTC and cluster buses -- **Pink tickets**.
Note: The scheme has been approved till March 2020 and it will be rolled out on Bhai Dooj on 29th October 2019. Women travelling in DTC and cluster buses will be given pink tickets having a face value of Rs 10 each.
24. Assam Finance Minister **Himanta Biswa Sarma** has launched a **housing loan** subsidy scheme to provide financial assistance on purchase or construction of the first house for a family -- **Aponar Apon Ghar**.
Note: Subsidy up to 2 lakh 50 thousand rupees will be provided for loan amounts from five lakh to 40 lakh rupees. This scheme is meant for the loan sanctioned in this financial year.
25. The Union Agriculture and Farmer Welfare Minister **Narendra Singh Tomar** has launched two agriculture-related Mobile Applications -- **CHC Farm Machinery and Krishi Kisan**.
Note: The Custom Hiring Service Centers (CHC App) will allow farmers to avail the custom hiring services of CHCs located in the radius of 50 Kilometres.
26. President **Ram Nath Kovind** has inaugurated Gandhi Katha by Pujya Morari Bapu in **New Delhi**.
Note: The life of Gandhiji is like an epic and millions of people across the world are listening to his life story and getting inspiration from it.
27. Defence Minister **Rajnath Singh** commissioned the Indian Coast Guard Ship at a special function held at Chennai Port -- **ICGS Varaha**.
Note: The ship is the fourth in the series of seven offshore patrol vessels of the Coast Guard. It is equipped with 30 milli-metre gun and has an integrated bridge system, platform management systems, automated power management system and high-power external fire-fighting system.
28. Madhya Pradesh **Chief Minister Kamal Nath** announced that Bhopal Metro will be known as **Bhoj Metro**.

Note: A target has been set to complete the metro rail project in Bhopal by 2023. The total system consists of 2 corridors covering a distance of 27.87 kilometres, cost approximately USD 1.2 billion.

29. Uttar Pradesh **Chief Minister Yogi Adityanath** announced an annual support to the victims of **triple talaq** till their rehabilitation -- **Rs. 6,000**.
Note: The victims of triple talaq came under the Pradhan Mantri Jan Vikas Karyakram (PMJVK). The state govt also gives rights over waqf properties and also called for

several welfare measures that should be undertaken for their rehabilitation.

30. **Jharkhand government** has named **Jamtara districts** Karmatand block as **Ishwar Chandra Vidyasagar block**.
Note: Now the block will be known as **Ishwar Chandra Vidyasagar prakhand**. Ishwar Chandra Vidyasagar spent 18-years of his life at Karmatand. Jamtara's Karmatand prakhand (block) was the 'karma bhumi' (workplace) of social reformer and a strong supporter of women's education Ishwar Chandra Vidyasagar.

Important News - World

1. Prime Minister **Narendra Modi** visited Russia to take part in the 5th **Eastern Economic Forum (EEF) summit**.
Note: PM Modi has also attended the 20th annual summit between **Russia** and India. According to Foreign Secretary Vijay Gokhale, both India and Russia want to move beyond the conventional cooperation in defence and nuclear civil cooperation to the new areas of the economy. **Eastern Economic Forum (EEF)** is an international forum held each year in Vladivostok, Russia, for the purpose of encouraging foreign investment in the Russian Far East.
2. Japan will launch a special police unit equipped with submachine guns and helicopters to patrol disputed isles in the **East China Sea**.
Note: According to the National Police Agency, it had put in a budget request for an additional 159 officers to head off illegal landings on remote islands by armed groups. It was the first-time police had stepped up patrols near the disputed islands. The Japanese Government has long complained about China's routine dispatch of coastguard ships to waters surrounding the islands.
3. Asia's first 5th Generation Virtual Reality based Advanced Driver Training Simulator Centre was launched at the **AASI, Chennai**.
Note: Under 'Safe Drivers Campaign', AASI (Automobile Association of Southern India Centre) will train 200 Ambulance drivers in the first six months, free of cost. The patented simulator was ideated, designed and developed by Chennai based Red Chariots Technologies Pvt Ltd. The training session is a combination of level-based practical learning modules coupled with self-learning theory modules through an interactive e-learning quiz app built in-house.
4. India-Russia Annual Summit 2019 held in **Vladivostok, Russia**.
Note: Mr Modi also participated as the Chief Guest at the 5th Eastern Economic Forum. India also announced a line of credit worth USD 1 Billion for the development
- of the Far East region of Russia. Indian PM further launched Indo-Russian Innovation Bridge, an online platform to bridge the gap between Indian and Russian startup ecosystems and promote joint innovations.
5. **UAE** hosted the **24th edition** of the World Energy Congress.
Note: The **24th World Energy Congress** will commence in Abu Dhabi under the patronage of **Sheikh Khalifa bin Zayed Al Nahyan**, President of the United Arab Emirates (9-12 September 2019). The four-day World Energy Congress aims to bring together international energy stakeholders, including governments, private and state corporations, academia and media. The theme of this World Energy Congress is Energy for Prosperity which also represents the ambitious and dynamic energy transition of the country.
6. The **U.K.** has decided to re-introduce the **two-year post-study Visa** for International students.
Note: It will boost the opportunities for talented students to build successful careers thereafter their education. According to the British High Commission, the new 'graduate' route will be open to all international students, who have valid U.K. immigration status as a student. The move comes after intense debate and demand by the universities in the U.K. that feared losing talent to other countries.
7. President **Ram Nath Kovind** embarked on an official nine-day visit to **Iceland, Switzerland and Slovenia**.
8. **Vietnam** has inaugurated Southeast Asia's largest solar power farm which has the capacity to produce 688 million kWh of electricity per year.
Note: The Dau Tieng Solar Power Complex is a joint venture with the Thai industrial group B.Grimm Power Public Company and has an investment of more than USD 391 million. It is expected to generate 10% of the country's solar energy to guarantee supply to 320,000 homes. It will also prevent the emission of 595,000 tons of carbon dioxide into the atmosphere every year.

9. The **Nepal Infrastructure Summit 2019** (3rd) was held in **Kathmandu, Nepal**.
Note: It deliberates on issues that shape incentives for investment and enable the private sector to partner for sustainable prosperity. The theme of the two-day summit is "Resilient Infrastructure for Sustainable Development".
10. Joint Military Exercise between India and Thailand will be conducted at Foreign Training Node, Umroi (Meghalaya) -- **MAITREE-2019**.
Note: Indian and Royal Thailand Army (RTA) comprising 50 soldiers each will participate in the exercise with an aim to share experience gained during various counter-terrorism operations in their respective countries. The joint military exercise will enhance the level of defence co-operation between Indian Army (IA) and Royal Thailand Army (RTA) which in turn will further foster defence cooperation and bilateral relations between the two nations. Exercise MAITREE is an annual training event which is being conducted alternatively in Thailand and India (since 2006).
11. **Saint Vincent & the Grenadines** became the **79th country** to join the International Solar Alliance (ISA).
Note: The International Solar Alliance is a group of 121 solar resource-rich countries with headquarters in Gurugram, India. The organization aims to deploy over 1,000 gigawatts of solar energy and mobilise more than USD 1,000 billion into solar power by 2030.
12. **President Ram Nath Kovind** has inaugurated a bronze bust of Mahatma Gandhi in **Villeneuve, Switzerland**.
Note: The bust was unveiled to mark the visit of Mahatma to Villeneuve in 1931. The idol sculpted by Ram Vanaji Sutar is placed on a high pedestal made of sandstone extracted from Switzerland.
13. **Sri Lanka** has unveiled **South Asia's tallest tower** called 'Lotus Tower' in **Colombo**.
Note: The Lotus Tower (17-storey) is spread over an area of 30,600 sq. metres, with a height of 350-metre and overall cost, is above USD 100 million. The Lotus Tower will function as a TV tower, a hotel, a shopping mall and a conference centre. In 2012, Sri Lanka and China signed the Lotus Tower agreement to build the tower, with China National Electronics Import and Export Corporation being the general contractor.
14. **India** is the leading country of origin of **international migrants** in 2019 with a 17.5 million-strong diaspora.
Note: The International Migrant Stock 2019, a dataset released by the Population Division of the UN Department of Economic and Social Affairs provides the latest estimates of the number of international migrants by age, sex and origin for all countries and areas of the world. The report says that India hosted 5.1 million international migrants in 2019, less than 5.2 million in 2015. After India, Migrants from Mexico makes the second-largest diaspora (11.8 million), followed by China (10.7 million), Russia (10.5 million), Syria (8.2 million), Bangladesh (7.8 million), Pakistan (6.3 million).
15. The 55th **Indian Technical and Economic Cooperation (ITEC)** Day was celebrated at the High Commission of India in **Dhaka, Bangladesh**.
Note: Around 300 ITEC alumni from all walks of life, attended the programme. Over 4,000 young Bangladeshi professionals have undergone specialized short and medium-term courses in India under the ITEC programme since 2007. ITEC offers opportunities to participants to avail of short- and medium-term courses in premier institutions like IITs and IISCs in India.
16. The 38th edition of the Sharjah International Book Fair (SIBF) will be organized from **30th Oct to 9th Nov 2019**.
Note: The book fair will be held at the 'Expo Center' in Sharjah, with the participation of selected **writers, novelists and artists** from around the world. Authors, publishers, **intellectuals** and artists worldwide will bring their **experiences** and expertise to this prominent event and **partake** in a vibrant cultural programme. **UNESCO** has named Sharjah as the World Book **Capital City** for the year 2019 in recognition of the city's continuous efforts in promoting books and literacy.
17. **North African country** will hold the **Presidential election** on 12th December this year -- **Algeria**.
Note: Abdelkader Bensalah has resigned in April following mass protests. The announcement comes after Army chief General Ahmed Gaid Salah insisted that polls be held by the end of this year, despite ongoing protests demanding the creation of new institutions ahead of any elections.
18. PM **Narendra Modi** addressed 74th session of United Nations General Assembly (UNGA) in **New York**.
Note: PM Modi also inaugurated Gandhi Solar Park at the UN headquarters and Gandhi Peace Garden later in the day. Prime Minister Narendra Modi also participated in UN Secretary General's Summit on Climate Change.
19. The Southern Railways has announced a special schedule for the Heritage Hill Railway from **Udhagamandalam to Mettupalayam**.
Note: **Special trips of the mountain train** on the picturesque route, hugging the verdant Western Ghats, will be run on all weekends from October 5th to November 29th. This coincides with the second flower season in the world-renowned hill station. The **Southern Railways** announced in Mettupalayam wherefrom the train starts that the day-time service

will have halts at Kallar, Hill Grove, Aruvankadu, Wellington and Coonoor.

20. The 2019 UN Climate Action Summit was held in **New York, United States**.

Note: UN 2019 Climate Summit theme was 'Climate Action Summit 2019: A Race We Can Win. A Race We Must Win'. Purpose of UN Climate Action Summit 2019 is to increase the commitments of government, business and civil society to achieve the goals of the Paris Agreement and work to reduce greenhouse gas emissions by at least 45 percent by 2030, and a target of achieving net-zero carbon emissions by 2050.

21. PM Modi along with other world leaders have inaugurated the **Gandhi Solar Park** (50 kilowatts) at the UN headquarters in **New York**.

Note: They also released a commemorative stamp issued by the UN on Gandhi's 150th birth anniversary. UN Secretary-General António Guterres and number of heads of state were present on the occasion.

22. Japan launched an unmanned H-2B rocket towards the International Space Station from the Japan Aerospace

Exploration Agency's **Tanegashima Space Center, Japan**.

Note: This Rocket is considered as the world's biggest transport spaceship.

23. The 7th annual World Hindu Economic Forum (WHEF) 2019 held in **Mumbai, Maharashtra**.

Note: The theme of (WHEF) 2019 was "Prosperous Society: Stronger Society". The World Hindu Economic Forum (WHEF) describes itself as an independent international organization committed to making Hindu society prosperous through the creation and sharing of surplus wealth.

24. India's rank in world digital competitiveness rankings 2019_ 44th.

Note: The US was ranked as the world's most digitally competitive economy, followed by Singapore (2nd) and Sweden (3rd). India's biggest improvement in 2019 was in the technology sub-factor level, where it held the first position in telecommunications investment.

Honor & Awards

1. Narendra Modi will be honored with the prestigious **2019 Global Goalkeeper Award**.

Note: Mr. Modi will be felicitated by the Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation, owned by Microsoft founder Bill Gates and his wife Melinda Gates. The award is a "special recognition" that celebrates the commitment of a political leader towards the Global Goals, demonstrated through impactful work in their country and/or globally. The annual awards, in five categories, are presented to leaders and individuals for their efforts in achieving the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs). The categories are Progress, Changemaker, Campaign, Goalkeepers Voice and the Global Goalkeeper.

2. Prof Muhammad Yunus conferred 'Lamp of Peace of Saint Francis' award by **Vatican**.

Note: Nobel Laureate from Bangladesh Professor Muhammad Yunus was conferred the 'Lamp of Peace of Saint Francis' award by the Vatican for his contribution towards establishing peace and harmony. The award is a recognition for distinguished work by an individual for promoting peace and dialogue among people. The Lamp of Peace award was first given to the Polish trade union leader Lech Walesa in 1981.

3. Vaishno Devi Shrine has been adjudged as the **Best Swachh Iconic** place in the country in the 'Swachh Iconic Places'.

Note: The list was released by the **Ministry of Jal Shakti**, Department of Drinking Water and Sanitation. The President has conferred the prestigious award during the 'Swachh Mahotsav' on 6th September 2019. The Shrine was in direct competition with dozen other iconic places including Chhatrapati Shivaji Terminus (Maharashtra), Taj Mahal (Uttar Pradesh), Tirupati Temple (Andhra Pradesh) Golden Temple (Punjab) Manikarnika Ghat (Varanasi), Ajmer Sharif Dargah (Rajasthan) among others. In 2018, the Shrine was also declared as the cleanest religious place by the IndiaToday Group.

4. India's vice-captain is going to help **build awareness** for the need to conserve the Greater One-Horned Rhinoceros -- **Rohit Sharma**.

Note: Rohit Sharma is launching **Rohit4Rhinos campaign**, in partnership with WWF India and Animal Planet, on World Rhino Day (on 22nd September), where Rohit pledges to do his bit to save the "vulnerable" species from extinction. Rohit Sharma joined WWF India as its Brand Ambassador for Rhino Conservation in 2018. Animal Planet will run a series of path-breaking programmes during 'Rhino Week' to sensitize people about these gentle giants.

5. President's Secretariat has announced recipients of Visitor's Awards 2019 for **research**.

Note: The Awards will be presented for Research in Humanities, Arts and Social Sciences, Physical Sciences,

- Biological Sciences and for Technology Development. **Professor Sibnath Deb** will be awarded for his research in the field of child protection, especially his focus on child abuse and neglect, student's mental health and HIV/AIDS. **Professor Sanjay Puri** will be awarded for his research in the field of non-equilibrium statistical physics and nonlinear dynamics. **Professor Asad Ullah Khan** will be awarded for identifying Antimicrobial resistance (AMR) problem in India: mechanism of spread and control of AMR. **Dr Partima** will be awarded for her research on nano biosensors and nano-bio interactions especially early-stage cancer diagnosis using nanomaterials bases biosensing platform. **Dr Shaon Ray Chaudhuri** will be awarded for Technology Development, for developing microbial biofilm reactor for conversion of dairy wastewater into biofertilizer.
6. **Priyavrata** (16-years) has become the youngest person to clear **Tenali Pariksha**.
Note: The **Tenali examination** having 14 levels is taken twice a year by the students studying the "Shastras". **Tenali Pariksha** is conducted under Shri Kanchi Veda Vedanta Shastra Sabha. Priyavrata studies all Vyakarana Maha Granthas from Sri Mohana Sharma.
 7. Noted Odia writer **Pradeep Dash** will receive the prestigious 'Sarala Puraskar-2019' for his poetry work 'Charu Chibar O Charjya'.
Note: Sarala Puraskar will receive a cash award of Rs. 5 lakhs along with a citation at a special function scheduled to be held on 26th October 2019. It has been continuously awarded by Indian Metals Public Charitable Trust (IMPACT). The 'Sarala Puraskar' was instituted by eminent Odia industrialist late Dr Bansidhar Panda and late Ila Panda in 1979 & awarded by the Indian Metals Public Charitable Trust (IMPACT).
 8. **Dr Yusuf Hamied** has been inducted as an **honorary fellow** of the Royal Society.
Note: **Dr Yusuf Hamied** (Chairman of Cipla) was elected as an honorary fellow of the Royal Society for his service to the cause of science. A total of 51 new Fellows and 10 foreign members were elected to the Royal Society in 2019. Royal Society is the independent scientific academy of the UK and the Commonwealth which is dedicated to promoting excellence in science.
 9. **Pawan Munjal** will be inducted into the **2019 Asia Pacific Golf Hall of Fame** for his support to the sport in India and around the world.
Note: With the honour, he will join the **legendary players** such as Jack Nicklaus, Gary Player and other leading personalities such as David Chu who were bestowed with the highest honour in the Asia Pacific golf industry. The induction ceremony will be held on 6th November at the 2019 Asian Golf Awards Gala Banquet at DLF Golf & Country Club in Gurugram.
 10. India's envoy to United Arab Emirates **Navdeep Singh Suri** has been honoured with the First-Class Order of Zayed II award by Sheikh Abdullah bin Zayed Al Nahyan.
Note: Mr Suri was given the honour in recognition of his efforts during his tenure and his contribution to the development and strengthening of relations between the UAE and India. Suri has been heading the Indian mission in the UAE since October 2016.
 11. **Geoffrey Boycott & Andrew Strauss** honoured with 'Knighthoods' by Theresa May in her resignation honours list.
Note: Both former cricketers have received the honour for their services to sport after outstanding careers for England. Geoffrey Boycott played 108 tests between 1964 and 1982 for England and scored 8,114 Test runs at an average of 47.72. Andrew Strauss played 100 tests for England from 2004-12, scoring more than 7,000 runs at an average of 40.91.
 12. Veteran **music director Usha Khanna** has been conferred the "**Lata Mangeshkar Award**" for the year 2019-20.
Note: The award presented by the Maharashtra government, the Lata Mangeshkar Award for Lifetime Achievement, consisted of cash reward of Rs 5,00,000, a citation, a trophy and a shawl. Usha Khanna first composed super hit songs for the Asha Parekh debut film "Dil Deke Dekho" (1959). Some of her famous songs are "Chhodo Kal Ki Baatein", "Hum tumse juda hoke, mar jayenge ro roke" "Jiske liye sabko chhoda".
 13. **Sheikh Hasina** has received the **Dr Kalam Smriti International Excellence Award 2019** in Dhaka for her contribution in fostering cooperation between India and Bangladesh.
Note: Chief Adviser of the **Dr Kalam Smriti International Advisory Council** and former Ambassador **T.P. Sreenivasan** handed over the award to **Bangladesh Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina**. The award citation lauded **Prime Minister Hasina** for her vision of a peaceful and prosperous South Asia, free of tension, conflicts and terrorism.
 14. Bangladesh's **bamboo-made school** wins Aga Khan Award for **Architecture**.
Note: Bangladesh's bamboo-made school built by Arcadia Education Project at South Kanarchor in Keraniganj has won the 2019 Aga Khan Award for Architecture. The award was given away in Kajan, the republic of Tatarstan for the Arcadia Education Project in South Kanarchor of Bangladesh. The winners that include five other structures in Bahrain, Palestine, Russia, Senegal and the United Arab Emirates will share USD 1 million between them.

- 15. Wing Commander Anjali Singh** has become India's first **female military diplomat** to be posted in any of the Indian missions abroad.
Note: She has joined the Indian Embassy in Russia as the Deputy Air Attache. Until now, only male officers from the three services (Indian Air Force, Navy and Army) were appointed as military attaches in overseas Indian missions. Anjali Singh (hails from Bihar) is from the aeronautical engineering branch of the Indian Air Force (IAF) with 17 years of service, trained on MiG-29 aircraft.
- 16. Meghalaya's Right to Information (RTI) activist** has been awarded the **11th International Hrant Dink Award** in Istanbul -- **Agnes Kharshiing**.
Note: Kharshiing, who was assaulted by a group of 40 people for complaining against illegal mining and transport of coal in the East Jaintia Hills district. The Hrant Dink Award is an annual award presented by the Hrant Dink Foundation on the birth anniversary of Turkish journalist Hrant Dink.
- 17. Bollywood actor Neena Gupta** has registered a **double victory** at **Indian International Film Festival** of Boston.
Note: The 'Badhaai Ho' actor won Best Actress award while her film 'The Last Color' emerged victorious in Best Feature Film category. The directorial debut of world-renowned chef Vikas Khanna 'The Last Color' deals with taboo surrounding widows in Vrindavan and Varanasi in India. The film's first look was unveiled at the Cannes Film Festival and has since travelled around the world to various film festivals including New York Indian Film Festival 2019 and Indie Meme Film Festival among others.
- 18. Noted Indian photographer Raghu Rai** has been chosen as the **first recipient** of international photography award.
Note: The award is in honour of the celebrated American-born French photographer and filmmaker William Klein, best known for his unusual photography techniques. As a consecration award, the prize is intended to reward a photographer for their entire career and commitment to photography.
- 19. Noted mathematician Anand Kumar** has been felicitated in the US with a **prestigious Education Excellence Award 2019**.
Note: The Foundation For Excellence (FFE) awarded him on the occasion of the organisation's 25th anniversary gala in San Jose, California. Anand has been running a highly innovative Super 30 programme for the last 18 years to mentor 30 student free of cost through year-long residential coaching for India's premier IIT-JEE.
- 20. Kerala Tourism** has won three prestigious **PATA Gold awards**.
Note: Pacific Asia Travel Association (PATA) **Gold awards** include one for an ethnic food restaurant run by women at Kumarakom under its Responsible Tourism Mission. The awards presented at a glittering function at Nur-Sultan (Astana) in Kazakhstan were received by state Tourism Minister Kadakampally Surendran and Tourism Director P Bala Kiran.
- 21. Indian playback singer** has been honoured with '**Magnificent Performing Arts Award**' at the 21st Century Icon Awards in London, United Kingdom (UK) - **-Sonu Nigam**.
Note: These annual awards are the brainchild of UK-based Indian-origin entrepreneurs Preeti Rana and Tarun Gulati (co-founders of Squared Watermelon Ltd). The 2019 edition of awards attracted more than 700 nominations which were narrowed down to 44 finalists.
- 22. Argentine footballer** won the FIFA's best male player of the year award 2019 -- **Lionel Messi**.
Note: Messi beats Virgil van Dijk and Cristiano Ronaldo to win the Best Men's Player award.
 ➤ American footballer Megan Rapinoe has won the Best FIFA Football Women's Player award 2019.
 ➤ Rapinoe beat Alex Morgan and Lucy Bronze to win The Best Women's Player award.
 ➤ Jurgen Klopp (Germany) has won the best FIFA men's coach award.
 ➤ Daniel Zsori (Hungarian-Romanian) received FIFA's Puskas award.
- 23. Senior journalist Ravish Kumar** has received the **first Gauri Lankesh National Award** for Journalism .
Note: Ravish Kumar was chosen for the award for sharp news analysis and uncompromising secular stance by the Gauri Lankesh Memorial Trust. The award was presented to him by freedom fighter H.S. Doreswamy. Indian journalist-turned-activist Gauri Lankesh was shot to death by assailants outside her home in Rajarajeshwari Nagar, Bangalore.
- 24. Shondol dance** has created history by entering into the The **royal dance of Ladakh 'Shondol dance'** as the largest Ladakhi dance.
Note: 'Shondol' is a famous dance, which artistes used to perform for the king of Ladakh. As many as 408 women attired in traditional dresses and beautiful headgears performed the dance. It was held on the concluding day of the ongoing Buddhist carnival Naropa festival near the Hemis Monastery.
- 25. Bollywood's megastar Amitabh Bachchan** has been selected for the **Dada Saheb Phalke award** (for the year 2018) .
Note: The award consists of a golden lotus (Swarn Kamal), a cash prize of Rs. 10 lakhs and a shawl. He first

gained popularity in the early 1970s for films such as 'Zanjeer', 'Deewaar' and 'Sholay'. The 'Dadasaheb Phalke Award' is India's highest award in cinema.

26. **PM Narendra Modi** has been awarded with "**Global Goalkeeper**" award by the **Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation** for the Swachh Bharat Abhiyan launched by his government.
Note: Mr Modi dedicated the award to those Indians who transformed the Swachh Bharat campaign into a "people's movement" and accorded topmost priority to cleanliness in their day-to-day lives.
27. International Association of Athletic Federations (IAAF) honoured the Indian track and field legend with a Veteran Pin -- **PT Usha**.
Note: IAAF chief **Sebastian Coe** presented her the Veteran Pin during the 52nd IAAF Congress in Doha, Qatar. Usha's most memorable performance came in the 1984 Los Angeles Olympics where she became the first Indian to reach the finals of the 400m hurdles but lost the bronze by one-hundredth of a second.
28. The **SASTRA Ramanujan Prize for 2019** will be awarded to mathematician -- **Adam Harper**.
Note:
29. **Payal Jangid** has become the first Indian to receive the 'Changemaker Award 2019'.

Note: The Award was presented by the **Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation** at a ceremony held in New York, United States. She awarded for her work towards the abolition of child marriage in her village (Hinsla village- Rajasthan) and other neighboring areas.

30. As per the 8th IIFL (India Infoline Finance Limited) **Wealth-Hurun India Rich List 2019**, who has once again emerged as the richest man in India -- **Mukesh Ambani**.
Note: Chairman of Reliance Industries Ltd Mukesh Ambani emerged as the richest man of India with a total net worth of Rs 3.8 lakh crores. The number of Indians in the 2019 edition of the list has grown from 831 (in 2018) to 953
31. As per the annual Airport Service Quality survey (conducted by the ACI), Airport Council International has recognized the best airport in terms of services offered to passengers **Cochin International Airport Limited (CIAL)**.
Note: CIAL was ranked amongst the best airports in the 5-15 million categories in the Asia Pacific region for the year 2018. The award was presented to the authorities of Cochin International Airport at the second Annual ACI Customer Experience Global Summit held at Bali, Indonesia.

Sports News

1. **India** lifted **SAFF Under-15 Championship** title in Kolkata.
Note: India defeated Nepal 7-0 in the final of the 2019 SAFF (South Asian Football Federation) U-15 Championship at the Kalyani Stadium, Kolkata, West Bengal. Five teams (Bangladesh, Bhutan, India (Host), Nepal and Sri Lanka) from the region has taken part in this tournament.
2. Indian **Shot putter Tejinderpal Singh Toor** clinched **silver medal** at an athletic meet at Deci in the Czech Republic.
Note: The Asian Games gold medalist came up with the best throw of 20.09m in his last attempt at the event. Tajinder has been awarded the Arjuna Award this year. Toor has already qualified for World championship being the Area champion following his gold-winning feat at Asian Athletics Championships in April next year
3. **Charles Leclerc** won the **F1 Belgian Grand Prix** 2019.
Note: Lewis Hamilton (United Kingdom) was on second while Valtteri Bottas (Finland) finished third. The Belgian Grand Prix is an automobile race, part of the Formula One World Championship.
4. **Jaspri Bumrah** has become the third Indian to claim a hat-trick in Test cricket.
Note: Bumrah got the wickets of Darren Bravo, Shamarh Brooks and Roston Chase off successive deliveries to achieve the feat. Bumrah is also the 44th player to achieve the feat in the longest format of the game. Harbhajan Singh was the first Indian to pick up a Test hat-trick (vs Australia in Kolkata in 2001).
5. India's most successful Test skipper -- **Virat Kohli**.
Note: It came after the Indian team recorded its 28th win under Kohli's leadership in the second and final test against the West Indies at Kingston. M S Dhoni led India to 27 wins from 60 Test matches during his tenure. Overall, Graeme Smith (former South Africa skipper) remains the most successful skipper in the world with 53 Test wins, followed by Ricky Ponting (ex-Australia captain) who recorded 48 Test wins in his captaincy tenure.
6. Indian Shooter **Yashaswini Singh 'Deswal'** has won the gold medal in the women's 10meter Air Pistol event at the ISSF World Cup at Rio de Janeiro in Brazil.
Note: This is India's 9th quota in shooting for 2020 Tokyo Games. Yashaswini Singh Deswal has also secured an Olympic quota for India. The 2019 ISSF

- World Cup is the annual edition of the ISSF World Cup in the Olympic shooting events, governed by the International Shooting Sport Federation (ISSF).
7. Indian women's **cricket ODI** (One Day International) Captain **Mithali Raj** has announced her retirement from **T20 Internationals**.
Note: She wants to focus on her **ODI career**, keeping in mind the **2021 World Cup** in New Zealand. Mithali ended her **T20 career** with 2,364 runs from 89 matches at an average of 37.5 and the highest score of 97 not out. In 203 ODIs, she scored **6,720 runs** at an average of 51.29, with seven hundred.
 8. Zimbabwe captain **Hamilton Masakadza** has announced to retire from international cricket after conclusion of **Bangladesh & Afghanistan T20I Tri-series**.
Note: He is a **right-handed batsman** and occasional **right-arm medium-pace** bowler. Hamilton Masakadza has represented Zimbabwe in 38 Tests (2223 runs), 209 ODIs (5658 runs) and 62 T20Is (1529-run). In his overall **international career**, he scored 9,410 international runs including 10 international tons and 42 half-centuries.
 9. The Indian boy team has settled for a silver medal at the Asian Junior and Cadet Table Tennis Championships at **Ulaanbaatar, Mongoli**.
Note: The second place helped Indian boys qualify for the World Junior Championships to be held at Korat, Thailand (Nov 2019).
 10. Afghanistan players **Rashid Khan** has become the youngest skipper ever in Test cricket.
Note: Afghanistan Spin sensation Rashid Khan (20 years and 350 days old) has become the youngest ever Test skipper at the Zahur Ahmed Chowdhury Stadium in Chittagong. Rashid beat the previous record held by former Zimbabwe captain Tatenda Taibu (20 years and 358 days) by a mere 8 days. India's Mansur Ali Khan Pataudi rounds up the top-3 in this regard, having made his captaincy debut against West Indies at the age of 21 years and 77 days on March 23, 1962
 11. Former captain **Misbah-ul-Haq** has been appointed as head coach and chief selector of Pakistan's cricket team.
Note: Former fast bowler Waqar Younis will join him as the team's new bowling coach. Misbah-ul-Haq scored over 10,300 international runs, played 75 Tests, 162 ODIs and 39 T20Is matches for Pakistan in a career which ended on 14th May 2017.
 12. **Steve Smith** has become the second Australian player after Allan Border to score 500 and more runs in the consecutive Ashes series in England.
Note: **Steven Smith** reached this milestone after he added **122 runs** in the ongoing fourth Ashes Test. In 2015 Ashes which took place in England, **Smith scored 508 runs** while this time in his **third match** he crossed the 500 runs mark. Before Smith only Border had amassed the **500 plus runs** consecutively in the Ashes in England. The **Ashes is a Test cricket series** played between England and Australia at least once every two years.
 13. Indian **woman athlete Anupama Swain** has won **bronze medal** in the World Martial Arts Mastership Jiu-Jitsu 2019_
Note: Now she qualified for 2022 Asian Games. she was the only Indian to participate in the championship. Jiu-Jitsu is a form of martial art and combat sport and it puts the entire focus on grappling with particular emphasis on ground fighting.
 14. **Rafael Nadal** has won **2019 US Open men's singles** title.
Note: Spain's Rafael Nadal (34-years) defeated Russian Daniil Medvedev 7-5, 6-3, 5-7, 4-6, 6-4 to claim US Open Men's tennis tournament - 2019 (139th edition) in New York (USA). It was Rafael Nadal fourth US Open title and 19th Grand Slam title
 15. Canadian **tennis player Bianca Andreescu** has lifted the Women's singles title of US Open 2019.
Note: She won the Grand Slam defeating Serena Williams of US in straight sets 6-3, 7-5. It was the first time a Canadian tennis player claimed the Grand Slam singles title.
 16. **India Red** has won the **Duleep Trophy 2019-20** at M. Chinnaswamy Stadium, Bangalore.
Note: **India Red** thrashed **India Green** by an innings and 38 runs in the final to win the Duleep Trophy 2019-20. Right-arm off-spinner **Akshay Wakhare** picked up a brilliant five-wicket haul to hand India Red the Duleep Trophy title. Abhimanyu Easwaran was the leading run-scorer for India Red adjudged the Player of the Match.
 17. Sri Lanka's **fast bowler Lasith Malinga** has become the first **T20I bowler** to take 100 wickets.
Note: Malinga surpassed Pakistan spinner Shahid Afridi's tally of 97 scalps to become the leading T20 wicket-taker. He also took a hat-trick, dismissing 4 batsmen (Hamish Rutherford, Colin de Grandhomme, Ross Taylor and Munro) in 4 consecutive deliveries and became the first-ever bowler to pick up 2 hat-tricks in T20I cricket. Till now Lasith Malinga has claimed 5 hat-tricks in his international career.
 18. **Kieron Pollard** has been named as West Indies' new **one-day international (ODI)** and **Twenty20 International (T20I)** captain.
Note: Kieron Pollard is a medium-pace bowler and big-hitting batsman in the middle-order. Jason Holder remains the West Indies Test captain. Pollard was part of the West Indies squad that won the 2012 ICC Men's

- T20 World Cup Pollard was part of the West Indies squad that won the 2012 ICC Men's T20 World Cup
19. **Charles Leclerc** has won the **Italian Grand Prix 2019** at the Autodromo Nazionale Monza track, Italy.
Note: Valtteri Bottas and Lewis Hamilton of Mercedes finished the race at 2nd and 3rd position respectively. Ferrari's last win at Monza came in 2010 through Fernando Alonso. The Italian Grand Prix is the fifth oldest national Grand Prix (after the French Grand Prix, the American Grand Prize, the Spanish Grand Prix and the Russian Grand Prix), having been held since 1921.
 20. The 8th edition of Ladakh Marathon was held in **Leh**.
Note: It claims to be the highest marathon in the world, held at a height of 11,500 to 17,618 feet (3,505 to 5,370 m). Over 6000 runners from 25 countries participated in the four categories of Ladakh Marathon. The 9th Edition will be held in 2020 will be a qualifying race for the Abbot World Marathon Majors. The Ladakh Marathon is organised by India's Rimo Expeditions with the support of the Ladakh Autonomous Hill Development Council (LAHDC).
 21. **Ronaldo Laitonjam** has won his fourth gold medal on the concluding day of Track Asia Cup Cycling competition in New Delhi.
Note: India emerged **overall champions** as its players picked up **three medals in the day**, two gold and one bronze. Overall, India topped the medals tally (10 gold, 8 silver and 7 bronze) as the tournament came to an end at the IGI Sports Complex. Uzbekistan finished second, with 4 gold and 3 silver and Malaysia secured third place, with 4 gold and 1 silver.
 22. **Pankaj Advani** clinched record **22nd world titles** by winning a **4th straight final** in the 150-up format at the **IBSF World Billiards** Championship in Myanmar.
Note: In a repeat of **last year's final** against local favourite Nay Oo, Pankaj re-enacted the one-sided match with the same eventual outcome as well as identical scoreline of 6-2. **Pankaj Advani** has brought home a world trophy every year ever since returning from a professional stint in the UK in 2014. In the short format of billiards, this is **Advani's fifth title** in the last six years.
 23. **Sourabh Verma** has won **Vietnam Open Super 100** title 2019.
Note: India's **Sourabh Verma** (Madhya Pradesh) recovered from a mid-game slump to beat **Sun 21-12, 17-2, 21-14** at the Ho Chi Minh City. The 2019 Vietnam Open is the seventh Super 100 tournament of the 2019 BWF World Tour and also part of the Vietnam Open championships. This tournament is organized by the Ho Chi Minh City Badminton Association and sanctioned by the BWF.
 24. Indian shuttler **Kaushal Dharmamer** clinched the **Myanmar** International Series.
Note: Kaushal Dharmamer had won the Hatzor International in October last year, recovered after dropping the opening game to outwit Karono 18-21, 21-14, 21-11 in a match that lasted an hour.
 25. Indian **shuttler Lakshya Sen** clinched **men's singles title** of Belgian International Challenge.
Note: Lakshya Sen stunned second seed Victor Svendsen (Denmark) in straight games to clinch men's singles title at the Belgian International Challenge. The Belgian international is an international Badminton open tournament, held since 1958 but in irregular periods.
 26. **India** clinched the **Under-19 Asia Cup title** (eight editions) at R. Premadasa Stadium, Colombo.
Note: Defending a paltry total of 106, India dismissed Bangladesh for 101 in 33 overs. The 2019 Under-19 Asia Cup cricket tournament was held in Sri Lanka from 5th September to 15th September 2019. 8 teams participated in the tournament, including 5 full members (India, Pakistan, Bangladesh, Sri Lanka and Afghanistan) and three qualifiers (Kuwait, Nepal and United Arab Emirates).
 27. **Australian batsman Steve Smith** has become the **highest run-scorer** in a Test series of this century.
Note: Steve Smith finished the Ashes series 2019 with 774 runs from the 4 matches at an average of over 110 with 3 centuries and 3 half-centuries. Earlier, Smith went past his own record of scoring 769 runs against India during the 2014-15 season.
 28. **Spain** won the Basketball World Cup in Beijing, China.
Note: France went on to win the bronze medal for the second consecutive time after defeating Australia. With 32 teams, this was the biggest Basketball World Cup ever. The 2019 FIBA Basketball World Cup was the 18th tournament of the FIBA Basketball World Cup for men's national basketball teams. The next world cup will be held in 2023 in Japan, Indonesia and the Philippines.
 29. Former **Indian Cricket all-rounder Dinesh Mongia** has announced his retirement from all forms of cricket.
Note: Mongia went on to play 57 ODI for India where he scored 1230 runs at an average of 27.95 but never played a Test cricket match. Dinesh Mongia was last seen on a cricket field (in 2007) playing for Punjab, before being banned by the BCCI for joining the Indian Cricket League (ICL)
 30. **American swimmer Sarah Thomas** has become the first person to swim across the **English Channel four times** non-stop in a 54-hour feat of endurance.
Note: Ms Thomas swam from England to France and back - twice - in just over 54 hours. It should have been a total distance of about 80 miles (129 km) but the

- tidal pulls in the Channel increased the distance by more than 60%, meaning she ended up swimming nearly 130 miles (209 km). Sarah Thomas completed treatment for breast cancer a year ago. The English Channel is the body of water that separates southern England from northern France and links the southern part of the North Sea to the Atlantic Ocean.
31. A smiling panda (Bing Dwen Dwen) and walking Chinese lantern (Shuey Rhon Rhon) were revealed as the **Beijing 2022 Winter and Paralympic Games**.
Note: The mascots were revealed at a ceremony at the Shougang Ice Hockey Arena in Beijing, China. In Mandarin, "bing" means ice and "dwen dwen" means robust and lively. The panda is wearing a suit which resembles ice. The newly launched Olympic mascot resembles an astronaut, embracing new technologies for a future with infinite possibilities.
32. India's Vinesh Phogat becomes first Indian wrestler to qualify for **2020 Tokyo Olympics**.
Note: Vinesh Phogat scored an impressive 8-2 win over the world championship silver medalist to secure her place at the Tokyo Games. Vinesh will wrestle in the bronze-medal bout against Maria Prevolaraki of Greece. Earlier, she had stormed to a 5-0 win over Ukraine's Yuliya Khalvadzhy in the first round of repechage in the 53kg category to remain in contention for an Olympic quota and a bronze medal.
33. The **International Cricket Council (ICC)** has banned Sri Lankan player from bowling in international matches for 12 months -- **Akila Dananjaya**.
Note: He will be entitled to approach the ICC for a re-assessment of his bowling action after the expiry of this one-year period. Akila Dananjaya's bowling action came under the scanner during a Test between Sri Lanka and New Zealand in Galle in August 2019.
34. The **FIFA U-17 Women's World Cup** (7th edition) will be held from **2nd to 21st November 2020** in **India**.
Note: It will mark the first time that India has hosted a FIFA women's football tournament. The FIFA U-17 Women's World Cup is an international association football tournament for female players under the age of 17.
It is organized by the Federation International de Football Association (FIFA).
35. **Kento Momota** has won the China Open men's Badminton Title 2019.
36. Who has won the China Open women's Badminton Title 2019 -- **Carolina Marina**.
Note: The 2019 China Open badminton tournament took place at Olympic Sports Center Xincheng Gymnasium in Changzhou, Jiangsu, China (17 to 22 September 2019).
- This tournament was organized by Chinese Badminton Association and sanctioned by the BWF.
37. German **racing driver** has won the **Formula One Singapore Grand Prix 2019** -- **Sebastian Vettel (Ferrari)**.
Note:
➤ **Charles Leclerc** (Ferrari) remained on the second position while Max Verstappen (Red Bull Racing-Honda) was third.
➤ The 2019 Singapore Grand Prix was a Formula One motor race held at the Marina Bay Street Circuit in Marina Bay, Singapore.
38. Indian boxer settled for a silver medal at the **AIBA Men's World Boxing Championships** at Ekaterinburg in Russia -- **Amit Panghal**.
Note:
➤ He lost to Shakhobidin Zoirov (Uzbekistan) in flyweight (48-52 kg) category, by a unanimous decision from the judges.
➤ The past Indian medal-winners at the world meet are **Vijender Singh** (2009), **Vikas Krishan** (2011), **Shiva Thapa** (2015) and **Gaurav Bidhuri** (2017).
39. **Indian wrestler** has won a bronze medal in men's 61-kilogram freestyle category at the **World Championship** in Nur-Sultan, Kazakhstan -- **Rahul Aware**.
Note: Rahul beat 17th seeded Tyler Lee Graff (America) 11-4 to ensure he finished on the podium. It was India's fifth medal at this edition of the World Championships with a total haul of 1 silver and 4 bronzes. The 2019 World Wrestling Championships were held in Nur-Sultan, Kazakhstan (14th to 22nd September 2019).
40. Indo-Slovakian got past Italian pair of Matteo Berrettini and Simone Bolelli 6-3 3-6 10-8 in a tiebreaker in the hard-fought summit clash -- **Divij Sharan and Igor Zelenay**.
41. India's **National women's badminton coach** has resigned from her post -- **Kim Ji-Hyun**.
Note: As a result, she is unlikely to be with the Indian team ahead of the 2020 Tokyo Olympics. She has played a vital role in helping P.V. Sindhu win the 2019 badminton World Championship gold.
42. Who has won two golds in the Asian Age Group swimming championship at the Padukone-Dravid Center for Sports Excellence in Bengaluru -- India's **Kushagra Rawat**.
Note: Mr Rawat has already achieved the B-mark Olympic Standard Time in 800m freestyle, set a new meet record by clocking 8:10.05s. Elsewhere, Srihari Nataraj (in 25.30s) and Maana Patel (finished in 29.92)

- claimed golds in the men's and women's 50m backstroke events.
- 43. India's chess grandmaster won the Fide World Grand Prix 2019 title in Skolkovo, Russia -- Koneru Hampi.**
Note: The FIDE Women's Grand Prix 2019-20 is a series of four chess tournaments (exclusively for women), which will determine two players to play in the Women's Candidates Chess Championship in 2021.
- 44. Manipur has won the Senior Women's National Football Championship 2019-20 held in Pasighat, Arunachal Pradesh.**
Note: India international Bala Devi (Manipur) emerged as the highest scorer of the tournament, with 21 goals from 6 matches. Panthoi Chanu (Manipur) was named the best goalkeeper.
- 45. The Indian duo of Pankaj Advani and Aditya Mehta has won the IBSF World Snooker Team title at -- Mandalay, Myanmar.**
Note: The Indian pair beat Thailand's team comprising C. Pongsakorn and D. Poramin 5-2 in the final. This takes Advani's world title tally to a phenomenal 23rd while Aditya claimed his maiden title. He had also won the world billiards event at Mandalay last week.
- 46. Who becomes 1st Indian cricketer to bowl 3 maidens in T20Is -- Deepti Sharma.**
Note: Deepti Sharma gave away runs only off the 19th ball that she bowled in the India Women vs South Africa Women match. She ended with figures of 4/8 with three of the four overs to lead India to victory. This is the first time that an Indian has bowled as many maidens in a T20I match.
- 47. Indian tennis player Sumit Nagal has won the men's singles title of ATP Challenger Tournament at Buenos Aires in Argentina.**
Note: He defeated local favourite Facundo Bognis in straight-sets 6-4, 6-2 to claim the \$54,160 US dollars prize money. Last month, Nagal grabbed headlines after he made his Grand Slam debut and produced a spirited fight against the legendary Roger Federer in the first round of the US Open.
- 48. British racing driver has won the Russian Grand Prix 2019 -- Lewis Hamilton (for Mercedes).**
Note: This was Hamilton's 9th win of the season. Finland's Valtteri Bottas (for Ferrari) was in second, with Monaco's Charles Leclerc (Ferrari) was third. The 2019 Russian Grand Prix was a Formula One motor race held at the Sochi Autodrom in Sochi, Russia.



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