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MONTHLY MAGAZINE FOR TNPSC EXAMS

MAY - 2019



- ✓ World's first women's cricket magazine "CRICZONE" launched
- ✓ Narendra Modi second most followed politician globally on social media
- ✓ Saray Khumalo Becomes 1<sup>st</sup> Black SA Woman To Conquer Mount Everest
- ✓ First woman in the world to cross the Atlantic Ocean solo in a LSA
- ✓ Sasakawa Award 2019
- ✓ MJayshree Vyas appointed as first Independent Woman Director to BSE board
- ✓ World's First Floating Nuclear Power Plant named 'Akademik Lomonosov'
- ✓ Bhawana Kanth: 1<sup>st</sup> Woman IAF Pilot to qualify for Combat missions

**INSIDE**

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# TNPSC

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**My Dear Aspirants,**

Greetings to all of you! “What we think we become” said Gautama Buddha. We all have dreams. To turn dreams into reality it takes a lot of determination, dedication, self discipline and hard work.

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**Wishing You All The Very Best !!**

**M. SHUNMUGAM**  
**DIRECTOR**  
**Vetrii IAS Study Circle.**



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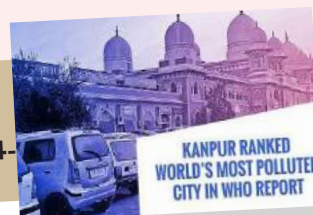


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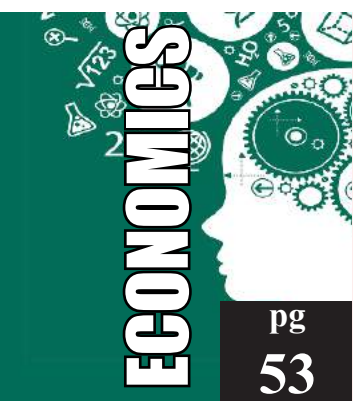
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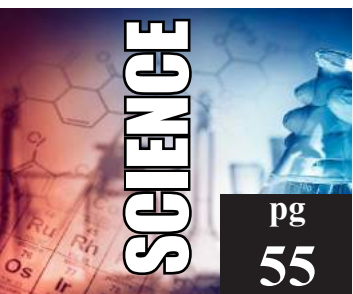
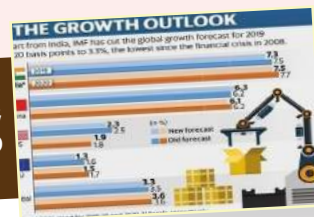
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# 1. History



## 1.1 IMPORTANT DAYS

**Apr 24**

### National Panchayati Raj Day (NPRD)

- The first National Panchayati Raj Day was celebrated on 24<sup>th</sup> April 2010 and it was declared by the former Prime Minister of India Manmohan Singh.
- The Constitution (73<sup>rd</sup> Amendment) Act, 1992 that came into force on 24<sup>th</sup> April 1993 has vested constitutional status on Panchayati Raj institutions.

### About Ministry of Panchayati Raj :

- **Founded:** 27 May 2004
- **Headquarters:** New Delhi
- **Jurisdiction:** India
- **Office holders:** Parshottam Rupala (Minister of State), Narendra Singh Tomar (Minister).

**Apr  
24 - 30**

### The World Immunization Week 2019 observed from 24 - 30<sup>th</sup>

- **Theme “Protected Together: Vaccines Work”**
- To promote the use of vaccines for the protection of people of all age-groups against disease.

**Apr 25**

### Theme “Zero malaria starts with me”

- The world’s first malaria vaccine **RTS, S** also known as **Mosquirix** has launched in Malawi, that can significantly reduce malaria in children up to two years of age.

### International Girls in ICT Day

- Resolution 70 calls for all ITU members to celebrate and commemorate International Girls in ICT Day on the fourth Thursday of April every year. The Girls in ICT Portal available in the six ITU languages, offers key information to help organize your International Girls in ICT Day 2019 event.



**Apr 26****World Intellectual Property Day**

- Theme of **“Reach for Gold: IP and Sports”**.
- The objective is to increase awareness about the role intellectual rights play in encouraging creativity and innovation.

**Apr 27****World Veterinary Day**

- To promote the veterinary profession all over the world.
- The theme for this year is **‘Value of Vaccination’**.

**About World Veterinary Association(WVA):**

- **Established:** 1959 in Madrid, Spain

**About World Organisation for Animal Health:**

- **Founded:** 1924
- **Membership:** 182 member states
- **Headquarters:** Paris, France

**Apr 28****World Day for Safety and Health at Work - 28<sup>th</sup> April**

- To promote safe work, and awareness about work-related accidents and diseases.
- Theme **“Safety and Health and the Future of Work”**.

**Apr 29**

- The theme for this year is **“Dance and Spirituality”**.

1. **Jean Georges Noverre’s** birthday was chosen as the date of World dance day. He is a French dancer and ballet master and a great reformer of dance who born in 1727.

2. This Day was established in **1982** by Dance Committee of the International Theatre Institute (ITI) which is the main partner of the performing arts of UNESCO.

**Apr 30****International Jazz Day**

- To recognize jazz and its diplomatic role in uniting people. The day was designated in **2011** by **UNESCO**.
- Jazz Day is chaired by **Audrey Azoulay**, Director general of the UNESCO along with UNESCO Goodwill Ambassador **Herbert Jeffrey Hancock**.

May 1

### International Labour Day

- The theme of International Labour Day 2019 is **“Uniting Workers for Social and Economic Advancement”**.
- To commemorate the happenings of May 4, 1886, the Haymarket affair (Haymarket Massacre) in the Chicago.

### World Password Day - 1<sup>st</sup> Thursday of May every year

- To promote better password habits for digital protection for online shopping, dating, banking, social media, private work and life communications.
- Mark Burnett encouraged people to have a “password day,” where they updated important passwords in his 2005 book **Perfect Passwords**.

May 2

### World Tuna Day

- To promote more sustainable fishing practices which will help in achieving the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development.
- Food and Agriculture Organisation (FAO) in its latest report in 2018 titled, **“The State of World Fisheries and Aquaculture: Meeting the Sustainable Development Goals”** highlights the tuna fish role in achieving the **2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development and Sustainable Development Goals (SDG) 14** which talks about conservation and sustainable use of oceans, seas and marine resources for sustainable development.

May 3

### World Press Freedom Day

- To raise awareness among the international community that freedom of the press and freedom of expression are fundamental human rights.
- Theme **“Media for Democracy: Journalism and Elections in Times of Disinformation”**.

### National Space Day

- To promote **Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics (STEM)** education in young people and to inspire them to pursue a career in space-related jobs.

May 4

### Coal Miners Day

- To highlight the toughest profession and the people working in coal mines.
- The annual celebration of Coal Miners Day began in 1975.

### International Firefighters' Day

- To recognise and honour the sacrifices that firefighters make to ensure that their communities and environment are as safe as possible.

May 5

### World Laughter Day

- It was first celebrated on May 10, 1998 in Mumbai and arranged by **Dr. Madan Kataria**, founder of the worldwide **Laughter Yoga Movement**. The purpose is to raise awareness about laughter and its many healing benefits.

### International Day of the Midwife

- Theme - **“Midwives: Defenders of Women’s Rights”**.
- First International Day of the Midwife (IDM) was celebrated on 5<sup>th</sup> of May in the year 1991 using the theme “Towards safe birth for all by the year 2000”. It is celebrated as a day to honor the midwives for their big contribution towards the health of the people across the nations.

May 6

### International No Diet Day

- To promote a healthy lifestyle and raise awareness of the dangers and futility of dieting. The day also aims to raise awareness about the various dieting disorders which exist. Disorders such as **anorexia** and **bulimia**. The INDD symbol is a **blue ribbon**.
- 1. The INDD was first created in **1992** by **Mary Evans Young** to help people appreciate their own bodies.
- 2. British feminist Mary was an anorexia patient (an eating disorder). She is the director of the British group “Diet Breakers” among the weight issues.

May 7

### World Athletics Day 2019

- To educate youngsters about the importance of the sports. It is the sport’s annual worldwide festival of youth and one of the busiest programmes of competitions on the athletics calendar.
- The first World Athletics Day was celebrated in **1996**.

### About International Amateur Athletic Federation (IAAF) :

- **Headquarters:** Monaco
- **President:** Sebastian Coe
- **Founded:** 17 July 1912, Stockholm, Sweden

### World Asthma Day

#### AIM

- To raise awareness on Asthma. It is supported by the Global Initiative for Asthma (GINA), World Asthma Foundation and National Heart Lung and

Blood Institute(NHLB). The theme of this year is **“STOP for Asthama”**. **STOP** means Symptom evaluation, Test re-

### Key Points :

- The inaugural World Asthma Day was held in 1998 in more than 35 countries.



**May 8**

### World Red Cross Day or Red Crescent Day

- The theme of this year is **“#Love”**.
- To commemorate the birthday of the founder of the International Red Cross and Red Crescent Movement, **Henry Dunant**, who was born on 8th May 1828.

### World Thalassaemia Day

- Theme of **“Universal Access to Quality Thalassaemia Healthcare Services: Building Bridges with and for Patients”**.
- The purpose of this day is to honour all patients of thalassaemia and their wards who never gave up despite all odds and also to support researchers who are striving to create an improved quality of life for people with thalassaemia across the world.



**May 8-9**

### May 8 observed as the Day of Remembrance and Reconciliation and May 9 as 74<sup>th</sup> anniversary of Victory in Second World War

- May 8 observed as the **Day of Remembrance and Reconciliation** for those who had lost their life during Second World War which ended in 1945. May 9, 2019 observed as the **74<sup>th</sup> anniversary of victory** over Nazism in Europe in Second World War. These days were designated by **United Nations General Assembly (UNGA)** in 2004.

### About United Nations General Assembly (UNGA) :

- Headquarter: New York City, US
- President: Maria Fernanda Espinosa

### The 158<sup>th</sup> birth anniversary of Tagore was celebrated today on the 9<sup>th</sup> of May, 2019

- Today, the **158<sup>th</sup> birth anniversary of Rabindra Nath Tagore**, Asia's **first Nobel laureate** and composer of **India's National Anthem**, was

celebrated. This day is also called '**Rabindra Jayanti**' symbolising his birth anniversary.

### Key points :

- Different programmes were organised to pay homage to the legendary poet and streams of people had gotten together at Tagore's birthplace in **Jorasanko Thakurbari**, West Bengal, today.
- The West Bengal Government had organised a special musical programme in Kolkata to pay tributes to him.
- Rabindranath Tagore received Nobel Prize for literature for his acclaimed collection of poems in '**Geetanjali**'.
- Tagore also composed the the national anthem for Bangladesh, '**Amar Sonar Bangla**'.
- Tagore reshaped Bengali literary work, music and also started the **Vishwa Bharati University in Shantiniketan**. The birth anniversary of Tagore is also known as '**Pochishe Boishakh**'.

May  
8-9

### 5<sup>th</sup> United Nations Global Road Safety Week observed from May 6 to 12

- Celebrated once in two years, the **5<sup>th</sup> United Nations Global Road Safety Week** is

being observed from **May 6 to 12, 2019**. It emphasizes that everyone can be a leader for road safety. The theme for this year's weekly event is "**Leadership for road safety**".



### The Indian Army is commemorating '2019' as the 'Year of Next of Kin' to reach out to the next of kin of battle casualties

- The Indian Army is commemorating '2019' as the '**Year of Next of Kin**'.

### Key points :

- As a part of this commemoration, the Army has planned to reach out to the next of kin of battle casualties, ex-servicemen and serving soldiers to resolve their pension related issues and to let them know of their entitled **financial benefits, welfare schemes**.
- **Bipin Rawat, Army Chief General** in January stated that the army will observe 2019 as the year for the next of kin. Last year, stress was laid on the disabled soldiers, while this year its on the next of kin of the deceased soldiers.

May 11

### World Migratory Bird Day

- The theme for this year is “Protect Birds: Be the Solution to Plastic Pollution!”.
- To raise the awareness on the need for protecting the migratory birds and their habitats.

### National Technology Day 2019 - May 11 to mark India's technological advancements

- **National Technology Day** is observed in India to mark India's technological advancements. It also emphasizes the importance of science in our day-to-day life. This day marks the remembrance of the successful launch of **Shakti-I nuclear missile at Pokhran** Test Range in Rajasthan on May 11, 1998. In order to commemorate the technological achievements made by India, the then Prime Minister **Atal Bihari Vajpayee** announced May 11 as the National Technology Day.

May 12

### International Nurses Day

- To commemorate the birth anniversary of Florence Nightingale also known as ‘The Lady with the Lamp’, was famous as manager and trainer of nurses during the Crimean War. The theme for the International Nurses Day 2019 is –**‘Nurses – A Voice to Lead –Health for All’**.

May 15

### International Day of Families

- Theme - “**Families and Climate Action: Focus on SDG 13**”.
- The key SDG (**Sustainable Development Goal**) 13 targets are:
  - **SDG 13 target 13.3:** To enhance education, awareness, human and institutional capacity on curbing climate change and adaptation.
- **SDG 13 target 13.2:** To incorporate climate change measures into national schemes, strategies and planning.
- This particular holiday is represented by a **heart-symbol** extending upwards which becomes the roof of a house. This symbol symbolises the heart and home which are the basics of family life. This is generally drawn in **red** and is either used alone or placed in a **green circle**.



**May 15**

## The second International Day of Light is celebrated globally - 16<sup>th</sup> May, 2019

- **UNESCO** (The United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization) officially observes the International Day of Light so as to continuously appreciate light and for the exemplary role it plays in **science, culture and art, education, sustainable development, medicine, communications, and energy.**

**May 16**

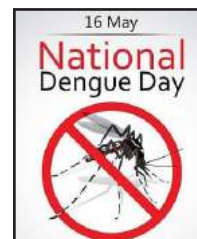
## International Day of Living Together in Peace

- It was declared by the **United Nations General Assembly in its resolution 72/130.**
- To promote peace, tolerance, inclusion, solidarity and understanding across the world.

## National Dengue Day

### AIM

- To raise awareness about the viral disease dengue and its preventive measures.



### How Dengue is caused?

- Dengue is caused due to the dengue virus – **DENV, 1-4 serotype, which is** transmitted by the bite of female **Aedes aegypti** (Linnaeus). This species of mosquitoes is also responsible for spreading Zika, Chikungunya and the yellow fever. It bites only during the daylight hours and symptoms of the disease start showing 3-14 days after the infectious bite which includes fever, headaches, etc.

**May 17**

## WORLD TELECOMMUNICATION AND INFORMATION SOCIETY DAY

- Theme 2019 - **“Bridging the Standardization Gap”.**

### AIM

- To celebrate this day is to help raise awareness of the possibilities that the use of the Internet and other information and communication technologies (ICT) can bring to societies and economies, as well as of ways to bridge the digital divide.

## World Hypertension Day

- To raise awareness about the high blood pressure (HBP). It is a situation where blood pressure in the arteries is persistently raised. The day also works



towards the prevention and control of this silent killer. The theme for WHD 2019 was **“Know Your Numbers”**.

May 18

### International Museum Day

- To create awareness on the importance of museums for the development of society. The theme of International Museum Day 2019 is **“Museums as Cultural Hubs: The future of tradition”**.

### International Day of Vesak

- This day commemorates the birth anniversary of Gautama Buddha (or Lord Buddha). This year this day coincides with **May 18**, which witnessed the **2,563<sup>rd</sup> birth anniversary** of the Lord Buddha. Buddha Purnima also acknowledges the contribution made by Buddhism for humanity.

May 20

### World Metrology Day

- Theme 2019 **“The International System of Units – Fundamentally better”**.

### World Bee Day

- To raise the awareness of the importance of pollinators, the threats they face and their contribution to sustainable development. The theme of this year is **“Save the Bees”**.

May 21

### Anti-Terrorism Day

- **To commemorate the death Anniversary of former Prime Minister Rajiv Gandhi** died in a terrorist attack.
- Anti Terrorism pledge is taken in all the government offices and other public institutions. He served as the prime minister from 1984 to 1989.

### UAE Celebrates World Day For Cultural Diversity

- The **UAE celebrated World Day for Cultural Diversity** for Dialogue and Development to highlight its efforts in promoting tolerance and cultural diversity.
- The event coincides with the country's declaration of **2019 as the Year for Tolerance**.

**May 21****International Day of Biological Diversity**

- Theme - **‘Our Biodiversity, Our Food, Our Health’**.

**May 23****International Day to End Obstetric Fistula**

- It promotes action towards treating and preventing obstetric fistula, a condition that affects many girls and women in developing countries. Since 2013, this day is observed and is meant to raise awareness of this issue and mobilize support around the globe.

**world turtle day**

- It is celebrated annually to educate people about the things they can do to protect the habitats of turtle and tortoises. The theme of this year is **“Adopt, Don’t Shop”**.

**May 24****International commonwealth day**

- The theme for this year is **‘A Connected Commonwealth’**.
- Commonwealth Day was earlier known as the **Empire Day**. In **1958**, Harold Macmillan, the then Prime Minister of United Kingdom, announced in Parliament the renaming of Empire Day as Commonwealth Day and since then it is celebrated.

**1.2 DEFENCE****INDIAN NAVY’S WARSHIPS - INS KOLKATA AND INS SHAKTI AT BUSAN**

- INS Kolkata and INS Shakti arrived at Busan, South Korea to participate in ADMM-PLUS (ASEAN Defence Ministers’ Meeting).

**Key Points :**

- Indian Navy’s 2 warships, **INS Kolkata and INS Shakti** had gone to Qingdao in China to participate in the International Fleet Review (IFR), which is an international maritime parade organised off the coast of China. It is celebrated to commemorate the 70th anniversary of the founding of the **Chinese Navy**.

## AFTER 36 YEARS OF SERVICE, INDIAN NAVY'S FRONTLINE MISSILE DESTROYER, INS RANJIT HAS BEEN DECOMMISSIONED

- After **36** years of service, Indian Navy's frontline missile destroyer, **INS Ranjit** has been decommissioned at the naval dockyard in Visakhapatnam.



### Key Points :

- INS Ranjit, commissioned on 15<sup>th</sup> September, **1983** with Captain Vishnu Bhagwat as the chair. INS Ranjit was the **3<sup>rd</sup> of the 5 Kashin-class destroyers** built by the former **USSR** (Union of Soviet Socialist Republics).
- INS Ranjit was deployed during IPKF (Indian Peace Keeping Force) operations and Operation Talwar during Kargil conflict.
- INS Ranjit's motto was '**Sada Rane Jayate**' or 'Ever Victorious in Battle'.
- The ship was constructed as '**Yard 2203**' in the 61 Communards shipyard in the town of Nikolev, Ukraine as was given its Russian name, "**Lovkly**" which means "Agile".
- In 2003, INS Ranjit was deployed to Mozambique to offer security cover to the African Union Summit.
- In 2004, the ship was deployed as part of relief operations post-2004 tsunami and cyclone **Hud-hud**. For this service INS Ranjit was awarded **Unit Citation** in year 2003-04 and 2009-10.

## ICGS AND ASSAM RIFLES SIGNED "AFFILIATION CHARTER" IN SHILLONG

- The Indian Coast Guard Ship (ICGS) "**Shaurya**" and the **3<sup>rd</sup> (Naga Hills) Battalion of the Assam Rifles** has signed an '**Affiliation Charter**' at **Laitkor in Shillong**. The objective is to enhance inter-armed forces cooperation and utilise each other's assets for training and sports. The 'Affiliation Charter' was signed by director generals of Indian Coast Guard and Assam Rifles.



### Additional Information :

- The Assam Rifles is the oldest paramilitary force of India. They have total 46 battalions guarding India. Myanmar border and also countering the insurgency in the north-eastern states.
- The 3<sup>rd</sup> (Naga Hills) Battalion of Assam Rifles is the oldest battalion which was first time raised in 1885 as '**The Cachar Levy**'. They have total 750 personnel under the battalion which comprised of all the ranks for guarding the Eastern Frontier of Assam from Brahmaputra River to the Cachar Hills.

## BORDER ROADS ORGANIZATION (BRO) CELEBRATES ITS 59<sup>TH</sup> RAISING DAY ON MAY 7<sup>TH</sup>

- The **59<sup>th</sup> Raising Day of Border Roads Organization (BRO)** was celebrated on **May 7, 2019**. It is a nodal road construction agency under the Ministry of Defence.



### Key Points:

- It was formed on **7<sup>th</sup> May, 1960**, with the primary role of providing road connectivity in border areas.
- It executes road construction and maintenance works along the Northern and Western frontiers primarily to meet the strategic requirements of the Army and is responsible for over 53,000 km roads.

## AUSTRALIAN FLIGHT CARRIER, QANTAS OPERATED WORLD'S FIRST ZERO-WASTE FLIGHT

- Recently, the Australian flight carrier, **Qantas** has operated world's first zero waste commercial flight named **QF739** from **Sydney to Adelaide** which disposed all waste through compost, reuse or recycle.



### Key Highlights :

- This airline has substituted over 1000 single-use plastic items with more environment friendly items which has helped airline to achieve zero-waste during commercial flight.
- The Australian airline Qantas has planned to eliminate 100 million single-use plastics by the end of 2020 and also to reduce 75% of airline's waste by the end of 2021.

## QANTAS OPERATES WORLD'S FIRST 'ZERO WASTE' COMMERCIAL FLIGHT

- The World's first 'zero waste' commercial flight took to the skies as part of a new initiative from the Australian airline Qantas to cut single-use plastics that end up in landfill.
- Flying from Sydney to Adelaide, the airline stated that all products and packaging aboard QF739 will either be reused, recycled or disposed of as compost.
- The Australian carrier stated that it will cut 100 million single-use plastics by the end of next year and eliminate 75 per cent of the airline's waste by the end of 2021. It Head Quartered in Australia.

## THE 26<sup>TH</sup> EDITION OF SINGAPORE INDIA MARITIME BILATERAL EXERCISE TITLED SIMBEX WERE HELD IN SINGAPORE

- **INS Kolkata** (being designed and built in India, it is an advanced stealth destroyer capable of engaging multiple threats from the air, sea and underwater) **and INS Shakti** (is a fleet support ship that provides **fuel, provisions and munitions to warships at sea**), the **2 warships** of the Indian Navy participated in a **3-day Asia Pacific naval and maritime event** titled the **International Maritime Defence Exhibition Asia (IMDEX Asia-2019)** (it commenced on **May 14, 2019**) held in Changi Exhibition Centre, **Singapore**.



### Key Points :

- Some of India's leading engineering and ship building firms, including **Larsen & Toubro and BrahMos** participated in it.
- **Deputy Chief of Naval Staff, Vice-Admiral M S Pawar**, led the delegation to the Asia Pacific gathering of the event.
- After IMDEX, Indian Naval ships together with an **Indian Navy surveillance aircraft P8I** have participated in the **26<sup>th</sup> edition of Singapore India Maritime Bilateral Exercise (SIMBEX)**.
- SIMBEX scheduled from **16<sup>th</sup> May 2019 to 22<sup>th</sup> May 2019**, is the **longest** uninterrupted naval exercise that India has with any other nation.
- The 25<sup>th</sup> edition SIMBEX took place in the **Andaman Sea and Bay of Bengal** from 11<sup>th</sup> November to 21<sup>st</sup> November, 2018. It was witnessed by **Singapore's Minister of Defence, Dr Ng Eng Hen**.

## INDIAN COAST GUARD SHIP 'VIGRAHA' DECOMMISSIONED AT VISHAKHAPATNAM

- Indian Coast Guard Ship (ICGS) '**Vigraha**' decommissioned at **Vishakhapatnam, Andhra Pradesh**. It is a frontline offshore patrol served for 29 years from 1990 to 2019. It was the seventh offshore patrol vessel built by the **Mazagaon Dock Limited, Mumbai**.
- The offshore patrol vessel Vigraha has participated in major coast guard operations which involves search and rescue, anti-poaching, humanitarian assistance and disaster relief, repatriation and joint exercises etc.



Vigraha played an instrumental role in protecting the east coast of India for 29 years.



## THE INDIAN NAVY'S SERVICE SELECTION BOARD

- The Chief of Naval Staff, **Admiral Sunil Lanba** inaugurated Indian Navy's first full-fledged **Service Selection Board (SSB)** at **Diamond Harbour, near Kolkata**.
- **Vice Admiral Karambir Singh**, the Flag Officer Commanding-in-Chief, Eastern Naval Command, has attended the inauguration.



### Key Points :

- This is the **fifth** SSB- Service Selection Board of the Indian Navy.
- It selects both **Permanent and Short Service Commission officers**.
- The other Boards are located in **Bhopal, Bengaluru, Visakhapatnam and Coimbatore**.

## 1.3 SUMMIT & CONFERENCE

### ABU MEDIA SUMMIT ON CLIMATE ACTION AND DISASTER PREPAREDNESS BEGUN IN KATHMANDU



### 5TH ABU MEDIA SUMMIT ON CLIMATE ACTION AND DISASTER PREPAREDNESS

Media Solutions for Sustainable Future -  
Saving Lives, Building Resilient Communities

25-26 April 2019 | Kathmandu, Nepal

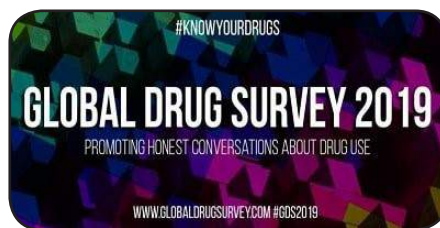
- 5<sup>th</sup> Asia Pacific Broadcasting Union (ABU) Media Summit on Climate Action and Disaster Preparedness has started in Kathmandu, the capital city of Nepal with a theme of **“Media Solutions for Sustainable Future: Saving Lives, Building Resilient Communities”**.
- The aim of this summit is to address the key issue of utilizing media's full potential of accelerating climate action and disaster preparedness and connect different stakeholders to media professionals for collaboration and joint practical projects.

### Key Highlights :

- A two-day event marked the fourth anniversary of the **Gorkha earthquake** in which over 9,000 people were lost their life, around 22,000 people were injured and hundreds of thousands of people became homeless and one-third of the Nepalese economy wiped out.
- This summit was hosted by the Nepal government and organized by Radio Nepal, Nepal TV and ABU, led by Nepal's Communication and Information Technology ministry.

## GLOBAL DRUG SURVEY 2019

- According to **Global Drug Survey 2019**, **Indians** are seeking help more than any other countries to reduce their alcohol intake. The survey was conducted online in between October and December 2018. **Around 1,00,000 respondents from 30 countries** have participated in the online survey. People participated from India are mostly male (age 25 to 34 years).



### Key Highlights :

- Indians are reported drunk on an average of 41 times in the last 1 year which is well behind countries like UK, US, Canada, Australia and Denmark which have an average of 33 times in the last 1 year.
- According to the survey, 51 percent of total respondents from India wanted to reduce their alcohol intake in last 1 year and 41 percent respondents wanted someone's help to reduce alcohol intake which is also highest percentage among other countries.

## INDIA RANKED 117TH IN KIDS RIGHT INDEX

- The annual global index named Kids Right Index has ranked countries on the basis of how much they are involved and equipped to improve child rights. India ranked 117th out of 181 countries.
- **Iceland** topped the ranking followed by Portugal

### About Kids Right Index

- Kids Rights Index is an initiative started by Kids Right Foundation with Erasmus University, Rotterdam.

### The index is prepared on the basis of five indicators :

- Right to Life
- Right to Education
- Right to Health
- Right to Protection
- India scored 0.64 out of 1 in the overall category
- Iceland has scored 0.967 and Portugal has scored 94.8.



## 1.4 EMINENT PERSONS

### 750<sup>TH</sup> BIRTH ANNIVERSARY OF SRI VEDANTA DESIKA

- In order to commemorate the 750<sup>th</sup> birth anniversary of Sri Vedanta Desikan, Vice President, **M. Venkaiah Naidu** unveiled a postage stamp in New Delhi on May 2, 2019. The stamp has been released by Indian postal department.
- The releasing of commemorative postage stamps inspire the younger generation to practice humanism, peace and compassion propagated by the great saint and spiritual icon.



#### About Sri Vedanta Desika :

- Born in 1268 CE, he was Sri Vaishnava philosopher and one of the most brilliant stalwarts of Sri Vaishnavism in the post-Ramanuja period.
- He was an awardee of Vedanta Desika (supreme teacher of the conclusion of all knowledge).
- He also received titles such as '**Kavitarkika-kesari**' and '**Kavitarkika-simham**' (lion amongst poets); and '**Ramanuja-daya-patram**'.
- The most essential feature of his philosophy is the 'aspect of inclusion' which means anyone, irrespective of any caste or creed could join Sri Vaishnava fold.

### MYNTRA APPOINTS VIRATKOHLI, ANUSHKA SHARMA AS FIRST BRAND AMBASSADORS

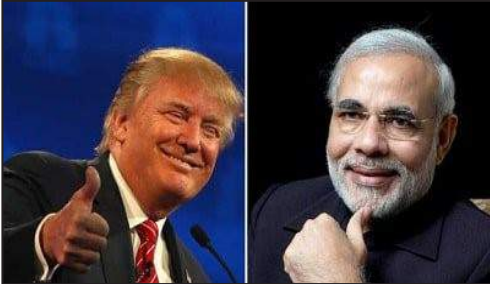
- Flipkart-owned fashion e-commerce platform Myntra has appointed ViratKohli and Anushka Sharma as its first ever official brand ambassadors.
- Myntra has launched an integrated campaign called '**Go Myntra-la-la**' to promote the brand. Advertising agency **McCann Worldgroup** from Bengaluru has created the television campaign.



#### About Myntra:

- **Parent organization:** Flipkart
- **Founded:** 2007
- **Headquarters location:** Bengaluru
- **Founders:** MukeshBansal, VineetSaxena, AshutoshLawania

## NARENDRA MODI SECOND MOST FOLLOWED POLITICIAN GLOBALLY ON SOCIAL MEDIA



- Digital marketing platform **SEMrush** reported that Indian Prime Minister Narendra Modi is the most-followed politician in the world on social media with a total audience of **110.9 million** on platforms including Facebook, Twitter, and Instagram. Former US President **Barack Obama** was ranked first with **182.7 million** followers.

### Key Points :

- US President **Donald Trump**, who has 96 million followers, is the second second-most followed politician on the American online news and social networking service, Twitter.
- Modi has collected over 43 million followers on Facebook, more than 20 million followers on Instagram and 47 million followers on Twitter.
- Congress party President **Rahul Gandhi** has acquired 12 million followers on social media.

## WORLD'S FIRST WOMEN'S CRICKET MAGAZINE "CRICZONE" LAUNCHED

- The world's first exclusive women's cricket magazine "**CRICZONE**" released with Indian women's cricket team vice captain **Smriti Mandhana** featured as the cover story. The publisher of the magazine is **Yash Lahoti**.



### Key Highlights :

- The magazine "**CRICZONE**" was launched on the sidelines of the inaugural women's T20 challenge event which was attended by international cricketers like **Mithali Raj, Smriti Mandhana, Harmanpreet Kaur** and overseas player like Danielle Wyatt and Sophie Davine.
- The objective of this magazine is to empower young aspiring women cricketers to take the sport as a profession and able to make sustainable living.

## KAPIL SHARMA ACKNOWLEDGED AS MOST VIEWED STAND-UP COMEDIAN IN INDIA AND ABROAD



- **Comedian-actor Kapil Sharma** has been acknowledged as the **most viewed stand-up comedian in India and abroad by the World Book of Records London**.
- Having started his career as a stand-up comedian, Kapil initially performed on several comedy shows.

## 1.5 SPORTS & GAMES

### ASIAN ATHLETICS CHAMPIONSHIP 2019

- The 23rd edition of Asian Athletics Championship is held from 21 to 24 April 2019 at the Khalifa International Stadium in **Doha, Qatar**.

Rank	Nation	Gold	Silver	Bronze	Total
1	Bahrain (BHR)	11	7	4	22
2	China (CHN)	9	13	7	29
3	Japan (JPN)	5	4	9	18
4	India (IND)	3	7	7	17
5	Uzbekistan (UZB)	3	0	2	5

### Medal's Won by Indian Athlete's

GOLD		
S. No	Event	Athlete Name
1.	Men's shot put	Tejinder Pal Singh Toor
2.	Women's 800metres	Gomathi Marimuthu- PB (2:02.70s)
3.	Women's 1500m race	PU Chitra

### SAURABH CHAUDHARY, MANU BHAKER WIN INDIA'S 2ND GOLD AT ISSF BEIJING WORLD CUP 2019

- Indian shooters **Saurabh Chaudhary**, 16 year old, and **Manu Bhaker**, 17 year old, clinched the 10m Air Pistol Mixed gold by beating Jiang Ranxin and Pang Wei of China 16-6 in the final at the **International Shooting Sport Federation (ISSF) World Cup 2019** in **Beijing, China**.

1. Prior to this, Saurabh Chaudhary and Manu Bhaker had already won a gold in the same category in the **New Delhi** edition of the shooting World Cup in February 2019.
2. The two teammates scored 482 points at the fifth spot.
3. **Anjum Moudgil and Divyansh Singh Panwar** bagged a gold medal in the 10m Air Rifle Mixed Team event by defeating China in the same tournament.



### About ISSF World Cup :

- **Introduced in** : 1986
- There are four competitions per year in each event. 2019 venues are:
  - Venue 1 : New Delhi, India
  - Venue 2 : Beijing, China
  - Venue 3 : Munich, Germany
  - Venue 4 : Rio de Janeiro, Brazil

## PANKAJ ADVANI, THE 21-TIME INDIA'S CUEIST WINS INAUGURAL ASIAN SNOOKER TOUR TITLE

- Pankaj Advani, the 21-time India's cueist defeated **Ehsan Heydari Nezhad** of Iran 6-4 to clinch the first Asian Snooker Tour title.
- He had previously bagged the 2nd leg of the Tour in China and was leading the ranking before the final leg of the Tour in **Bengaluru**.



## AJINKYA RAHANE BECOMES 1ST INDIAN CRICKETER TO JOIN HAMPSHIRE

- Indian cricketer, Ajinkya Madhukar Rahane became the first overseas player from India to represent Hampshire and he will replace **Aiden Kyle Markram**, who will join the national team for the World Cup.
- 30-year-old Indian will feature in eight Specsavers County Championship fixtures throughout May, June and start of July, subject to visa clearance.

## INDIA'S NITENDRA SINGH RAWAT FINISHES 27<sup>TH</sup> IN VIRGIN MONEY LONDON MARATHON 2019

- Indian marathon runner, Nitendra Singh Rawat finished 27<sup>th</sup> in 2 hours 15 minutes and 59 seconds in the men's Elite race of prestigious Virgin Money London Marathon 2019 at London, UK which was won by **Eliud Kipchoge** of Kenya for record fourth time.
  1. This was the fourth fastest in his career and his second fastest time in this season.
  2. The 32-year-old Rawat has qualified for the World Championships to be held in Doha in September-October.



## ISSF RIFLE/PISTOL WORLD CUP 2019

- The 2019 ISSF Rifle/Pistol World Cup was held in **Beijing, China** from 21<sup>st</sup> to 29<sup>th</sup> April.

### Medals won by Indian Shooters

S.No.	Event	Name	Medal
1.	10m Air Rifle Mixed	Anjum Moudgil Divyansh Singh Panwar	Gold
2.	10m Air Pistol Mixed	Manu Bhaker Saurabh Chaudhary	Gold
3.	10m Air Pistol	Abhishek Verma	Gold
4.	10m Air Rifle	Divyansh Singh Panwar	Silver



## ASIAN BOXING CHAMPIONSHIP 2019

- It was held in Huamark Indoor Stadium in **Bangkok, Thailand**. This was the first time women and men boxing championship was held together.

S. No.	Category	Name	Medal
1.	52-kg	Amit Panghal	Gold
2.	81-kg	Pooja Rani	Gold
3.	64-kg	Simranjit Kaur	Silver
4.	56-kg	Kavinder Singh Bisht	Silver
5.	49-kg	Deepak Singh	Silver
6.	75-kg	Ashish Chaudhary	Silver
7.	51-kg	Nikhat Zareen	Bronze
8.	54-kg	Manisha Moun	Bronze
9.	57-kg	Sonia Chahal	Bronze
10.	60-kg	Sarita Devi	Bronze
11.	60-kg	Shiva Thapa	Bronze
12.	69-kg	Ashish	Bronze
13.	+91-kg	Satish Kumar	Bronze

## APURVI CHANDELA ACHIEVES WORLD NO. 1 ISSF RANKINGS IN 10M AIR RIFLE



- According to the latest rankings released by International Shooting Sport Federation (ISSF), world cup gold medallist, **Apurvi Chandela** became the world number one in **women's 10m Air Rifle** category with **1,926 rating points**. The 26-year old Apurvi Chandela is among the five Indian shooters who have earned the Olympic quota for the Tokyo 2020.

## BAJRANG PUNIA WON GOLD AT ALI ALIEV TOURNAMENT 2019



- A 25-year old, Bajrang Punia won gold medal at **Ali Aliev Tournament in Dagestan, Russia**. He defeated Russian wrestler **Viktor Rassadin** in 65-kg category by 13-8. This was his second gold medal in last 10 days. Last week, Punia won gold medal in 65-kg category at the **Asian Championship in Xi'an, China**.
- Bajrang Punia won a prize money of around USD 7,700.

### About Russia :

- Capital: Moscow
- Currency: Russian Ruble

## LIVERPOOL'S VIRGIL VAN DIJK WON PFA PLAYERS' PLAYER OF THE YEAR AWARD

- The 27-year old Liverpool defender and captain of the Netherland National team, **Virgil Van Dijk** won the Professional Footballers' Association (PFA) Players' Player of the Year Award for 2018-19 after a sterling Premier League campaign. Van Dijk had joined Liverpool from Southampton in January 2018 for a fee of £75million (Euro 75 million).
- This award marks the second season straight that any Liverpool player has won the prestigious Professional Footballers' Association (PFA) Players' Player of the Year Award. Last year Mohamed Salah of Liverpool won this award.

### About Professional Footballers' Association (PFA) :

- PFA is one of the oldest sports Trade Union for the professional association footballers in England and Wales. Currently it has around 4,000 members.
- **Chairman:** Ben Purkiss

## SAURAV AND JOSHNA WON INDIVIDUAL TITLES IN ASIAN SQUASH CHAMPIONSHIP 2019

- **Saurav Ghosal** and **Joshna Chinappa** won **men's** and **women's** title respectively in the **Asian Individual Squash Championship** held at National Squash Centre in **Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia** from May 1 to 5, 2019. The event is organised by **Asian Squash Federation**. This is the first time India won both men's and women's titles. Previously, Asian Individual Squash Championship was held in **Chennai** in 2017.



### Key Highlights :

- A 32-year old, **Saurav Ghosal** the top seed defeated fourth seed **Leo Au Chun Ming** of **Hong Kong** by 11-9, 11-2, 11-8.
- A 32-year old, **Joshna Chinappa**, the second seed defeated top seed **Annie Au** of **Hong Kong** by 11-5, 8-11, 11-6, 11-6.

## SARAY KHUMALO BECOMES 1ST BLACK SA WOMAN TO CONQUER MOUNT EVEREST

- **South African Saray Khumalo** has reached the **highest point on the planet** becoming the first **black African woman to scale Mount Everest**.
- This was her fourth attempt at climbing Mount Everest. In a previous attempt in May 2017, Khumalo had to be rescued from Mount Everest by helicopter.



## IAAF WORLD RELAYS 2019

- The **International Association of Athletics Federations (IAAF) World Relays 2019** was held in **Yokohama, Japan** from May 11 to 12, 2019. Total 43 nations participated in the two day event. The event was organised by **International Association of Athletics Federation (IAAF)**.
- The top 10 finishers in the IAAF World Relays 2019 in men's and women's 4×400 m relays event and top 12 finishers in mixed 4×400 m relays event have qualified for the **IAAF World Athletics Championship** which is going to be held in **Doha, Qatar** from September 28 to October 6, 2019.
  - This year in 2019, two new events were added in mixed event category:
  - 2 x 2 x 400 m mixed relay
  - Shuttle hurdles mixed relay
  - The 2 x 2 x 400 m mixed relay event has replaced 4 x 800 m relay which featured in the previous events.



## India's Performance in IAAF World Relays 2019

- Indian Athlete's have competed in all three category of 4x 400 m for men, women and mixed event. The same athletes which have participated in the Asian Athletics Championship 2019 held in Doha were part of this event too.
- Indian men's 4 x 400 m relay and women's 4 x 400 m relay teams finished at 17<sup>th</sup>.
- The Indian mixed 4 x 400 m relay team finished at 15<sup>th</sup>.

## Winners of IAAF World Relays 2019

S. No.	Category	Winners	Runner-up
1	Men's 4×100 m relay	Brazil	US
2	Men's 4×200 m relay	US	South Africa
3	Men's 4×400 m relay	Trinidad and Tobago	Jamaica
4	Women's 4×100m relay	US	Jamaica
5	Women's 4×200 m relay	France	China
6	Women's 4×400 m relay	Poland	US
7	Mixed 4×400 m relay	US	Canada
8	Mixed 2x2x400 m relay	US	Australia
9	Mixed Shuttle Hurdles relay	US	Japan

**About International Association of Athletics Federation (IAAF) :**

- **Headquarter:** Monaco
- **President:** Sebastian Coe



## INDIA'S GS LAKSHMI BECAME THE FIRST WOMAN FEMALE ICC MATCH REFEREE

- A 51-year old former Indian cricketer **GS Lakshmi** became the first ever, female match referee, to be included into the **International Cricket Council (ICC)**'s **International Panel of Match Referees**. Earlier, **Claire Polosak** had become the first ever woman umpire to stand in a men's ODI.



### Key Highlights :

- Previously in 2008-2009, she officiated her first match in women's domestic cricket and has also supervised 3 women's One Day International (ODI) and 3 T20 International matches.

### About ICC

- **Headquarter** : Dubai, UAE

## NEPALI SHERPA KAMI RITA CLIMBS MT. EVEREST FOR THE 23<sup>RD</sup> TIME; BROKE HIS OWN RECORD

- 49 year old Nepali sherpa **Kami Rita** climbed Mt. Everest for the **23<sup>rd</sup> time** and broke his own record for most summits on Mt. Everest. He successfully climbed the mountain from the Nepal side.



### Key Points :

- Rita resides in Thame village of Solukhumbu district.
- For the first time, he had scaled the mountain in the year **1994**.
- In 2017, he became the third person to climb the highest peak for 21 times along with the record held by Apa Sherpa and Phurba Tashi Sherpa.
- Rita has also climbed other world's highest peaks including K-2, Cho-Oyu, Manaslu and Lhotse.

## OMAN AUTHOR JOKHA ALHARTHI WINS BOOKER INTERNATIONAL PRIZE

- **An author from Oman, Jokha Alharthi** has won the **prestigious Man Booker International Prize** for **"Celestial Bodies"**, the story of three sisters of a desert country confronting its slave-owning past and a complex modern world.
- Jokha Alharthi, the first Arabic-language writer to take the prize, will split the 50,000 pounds or 64,000 US dollar purse with her **UK-based translator, Marilyn Booth**.



## FIRST WOMAN IN THE WORLD TO CROSS THE ATLANTIC OCEAN SOLO IN A LSA

- A 23-year-old pilot from Mumbai, **Captain Aaroahi Pandit**, became first woman in the world to cross the **Atlantic Ocean solo in a Light Sports Aircraft (LSA)**.



### Key Points :

- She had started her journey from **Wick, Scotland** (United Kingdom) and landed her aircraft at **Iqaluit Airport, Canada**, post a **3,000 km** long flight, under extremely bad weather conditions, with short stopovers in Greenland and Iceland.
- This mission is a part of her ongoing **1-year-long global circumnavigation flight** launched with her friend **Keithair Misquitta**.
- Aaroahi Pandit will return to India by July 30, 2019.

## NSG COMMANDOS SUMMIT MOUNT EVEREST IN FIRST ATTEMPT

- A counter terror force **National Security Guards(NSG)** commandos have created the history by scaling the **Mount Everest** in the first attempt. **Lt. Col J P Kumar** led 7-member team of the NSG and successfully unfurled the Indian flag at the Mount Everest which is 8,848 metre tall. The 7 member team has adopted the south-eastern approach via **south Col in Solukhumbu** region of Nepal.



### About National Security Guards (NSG) :

- It is India's counter terrorism force and also known as "**black cats**", founded in 1984 following the **Operation Blue Star** and the assassination of then Prime Minister Indira Gandhi. NSG comes under the authority of **Ministry of Home Affairs**. The objective of the NSG is to combat terrorist activities with a view to protect states against internal disturbance.

### About NSG

- **Headquarter:** New Delhi
- **Director General:** Sudeep Lakhtakia
- **Motto:** Omnipresent Omnipotent Security

## AMUL TO SPONSOR AFGHANISTAN IN CRICKET WORLD CUP 2019



- **Amul** has announced to sponsor **Afghanistan team** in upcoming World Cup 2019 which will be held in **England and Wales** from May 30, 2019. Amul's logo will be visible on the leading arm of jerseys of the Afghanistan players in international match and also in training kit throughout the world cup.
- Earlier in only two instances, Amul had sponsored any cricket team in World Cup tournament. These two countries are New.

## LEWIS HAMILTON GRABS SPANISH GRAND PRIX

- Lewis Hamilton won the Spanish Grand Prix in Barcelona. He celebrated the 76<sup>th</sup> win of his Formula 1 career, third victory of 2019 and fourth in Spain following victories in 2014, 2017 and 2018.
- 1. This win took him back to the **top spot of the world championship ranking** with 112 points, ahead of Valtteri Bottas who is on 105 points.
- 2. Valtteri Bottas (Mercedes) stood at the second spot while Max Verstappen (Red Bull) was third.



### About Spain :

- **Capital** : Madrid
- **Currency** : Euro

## 1.6 BOOKS & AUTHORS

### POLITICS OF JUGAAD: THE COALITION HANDBOOK

- Journalist Saba Naqvi has composed a book named **"Politics of Jugaad: The Coalition Handbook"** in which she examines the possibility of coalition government after the 2019 Lok Sabha polls.



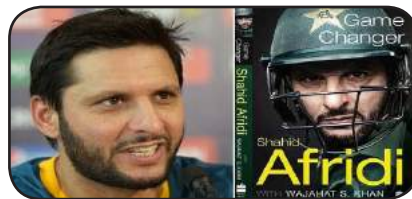
1. The book **examines** and puts forth **interrogative stands** on whether coalitions are unavoidable even after being proved unstable or they would be responsible for India's greater democratization.
2. It also elaborates if coalition formation is possible in various states and if such step could lead to success or failure in itself.

## CHEQUERED BRILLIANCE: THE MANY LIVES OF V K KRISHNA MENON

- A biography of Indian nationalist, diplomat, and politician V K Krishna Menon, titled "Chequered Brilliance: The Many Lives of V K Krishna Menon" has been written by Former union minister and writer **Jairam Ramesh**. This book will be released in the first quarter of 2020.
- This book will be published by Penguin Random House India.

## GAME CHANGER

- **Shahid Afridi**, former captain of the **'Pakistan national cricket team'** has written his autobiography titled, **'Game Changer'** which will unveil answers to the much-contemplated questions about him.
- Afridi is popularly known as **'Boom Boom'** and holds the world record for the **fastest ODI (One Day International) century in 37 deliveries**.



## 1.7 AWARDS & HONOURS

### DAWN JOURNALIST CYRIL ALMEIDA NAMED IPI'S 71<sup>ST</sup> WORLD PRESS FREEDOM HERO IN 2019

- Dawn editor and Columnist Cyril Almeida from Pakistan has won the IPI's (International Press Institute) **World Press Freedom Hero award in 2019** for his "critical" and "tenacious coverage" of the civil-military relations in Pakistan. And also MadaMasr, an Egyptian news site, has won Free Media Pioneer Award 2019 of the IPI and International Media Support (IMS). Both awards will be presented in IPI's annual World Congress and General Assembly function to be held in Geneva, **Switzerland** on 5<sup>th</sup> June, World Intellectual Property Day 2019.



### NEXT GENERATION LEADERS 2019

- 19 year old Indian YouTuber, **Ajeay Nagar** is named among the **Top 10 'Next Generation Leaders 2019'** by **Time Magazine**. He is the most followed YouTuber in India. The 'Next Generation Leaders' is a list of 10 young people around the world who create new paths in politics, music and other spheres.



### Key Points :

- Ajeay Nagar runs a youtube channel named **CarryMinati** which has 6,827,342 subscribers. He had uploaded the first video when he was 10 years old and found his niche in 2016 by producing diss tracks.



## RANA DASGUPTA BAGS RABINDRANATH TAGORE LITERARY PRIZE 2019



- British Indian novelist **Rana Dasgupta** has been awarded the second edition of **Rabindranath Tagore Literary Prize 2019** for his 2010 novel **“Solo”**, deals with a tale of estrangement and the ultimate failure of material existence. The Award included a Tagore statue, a certificate for contribution to literature and a cash prize of \$10,000 each.

### Key points :

- World Health Organization Goodwill Ambassador Yohei Sasakawa has been awarded the **Rabindranath Tagore Literary Prize 2019** for social achievement 2019 for his incredible efforts to uproot leprosy and great contribution to world peace.
- Taiwan president Tsai Ing-wen the Taiwanese people were awarded Rabindranath Tagore Literary Prize for Social Achievement as **“a beacon of democracy”**.
- Rana was awarded Ryszard Kapuscinski Award in 2016 for the novel **“Capital: The Eruption of Delhi”**. Besides, He also received **Commonwealth Writers’ prize in 2010 for “Solo”**.

### About Rabindranath Tagore Literary Prize:

- The Rabindranath Tagore Literary Prize is awarded in the honor of Indian author Rabindranath Tagore.
- It was established in 2018.
- Tagore is the first non-European winner of the Nobel Prize for Literature.

## ARTICLE ON COALGATE WON ASIAN COLLEGE OF JOURNALISM’S AWARD FOR INVESTIGATIVE JOURNALISM, 2018

- The article titled ‘Coalgate 2.0’ written by **Nileena M S** has won the **Asian College of Journalism’s Award for Investigative Journalism, 2018**. The article was published in **“The Caravan Magazine”** in March 2018. The final jury which includes Gopalkrishna Gandhi, Nilita Vachani and Dr. A R Venkatachalapathy unanimously approved Nileena’s work as the winner.

### Key Highlights:

- The Award comprised of a trophy, a citation and **Rs.2 lakh cash prize**. The award was presented by **John Micklethwait, Editor-in-Chief of Bloomberg News**, who was also the chief guest at the journalism school’s annual convocation ceremony.

## BHANDARKAR, HELEN GET DEENANATH MANGESHKAR AWARD 2019



- The prestigious **Master Deenanath Mangeshkar Award 2019** was awarded to National Award-winning filmmaker **Madhur Bhandarkar**, popular scriptwriter Salim Khan and dancing diva Helen. The Award which is organized by Master **Deenanath Mangeshkar Smruti Pratishthan** charitable trust, Pune, aims to encourage legends from the fields of music, drama, art and social work. The awards were given away by **Rashtriya Swayamsewak Sangh (RSS)** chief Mohan Bhagwat while Directorate General of CRPF Vijay Kumar presided over the function.

## NEPAL'S 18 YEAR OLD GIRL, BANDANA SETS GUINNESS WORLD RECORDS FOR LONGEST DANCING

- Nepali teenager, **Bandana** danced continuously for 126 hours to set a Guinness World Records on "Longest Dancing Marathon by an Individual".

## KNIGHT OF THE LEGION OF HONOUR' AWARD

- Former Indian Space Research Organisation (ISRO) has been conferred France's highest civilian award "**Knight of the Legion of Honour**". This award is for his **invaluable contribution to the development of the India-France space cooperation**. The award has presented by Ambassador of France to India, Alexandre Ziegler, on the behalf of President of the French Republic.



### About Indian Space Research Organisation (ISRO) :

- Headquarter: Bengaluru
- Director: K. Sivan



### Key Points :

- Bandana surpassed the record set by **Kalamandalam Hemalatha**, an Indian, who danced for 123 hours and 15 minutes in 2011.
- She danced continuously for Nepali music.

## 2 INDIANS AMONG 115 UN PERSONNEL STAFF HONOURED FOR LAYING DOWN THEIR LIVES IN UN PEACE-SERVICE



- The Secretary of United Nations, **General Antonio Guterres**, accompanied with top **UN officials and Peacekeeping personnel** paid homage to **115 peacekeepers from 43 different countries** who laid down their lives in the service of peace. Among the 115 peacekeepers, **2 Indians** were also paid tribute. They were honoured for their sacrifice in the line of duty.

### Key Points:

The 2 Indians are:

- **Jitender Kumar:** He was an Indian police officer deployed to the UN Organisation Stabilisation Mission in the Democratic Republic of the Congo (**MONUSCO**).
- **Shikha Garg:** She was a consultant who had worked in the UN development programme. She was killed in the Nairobi-bound Ethiopian Airlines plane crash. They sacrificed their lives in peace-service between January 2018 and March 2019.

## PC CHANDRA PURASHKAAR 2019 CONFERRED TO PADMA BHUSHAN DR. DEVI PRASAD SHETTY

- India's most reputed cardiac surgeon and humanitarian, **Dr Devi Prasad Shetty** was awarded **27<sup>th</sup> P.C. Chandra Puraskaar**, the annual national award from the P.C. Chandra Group at Biswa Bangla Convention Centre. General Secretary of Ramakrishna Mission, Belur Math, Swami Suviranandaji Maharaj graced the occasion as the Chief Guest and gave away the award.

1. He is also known as **'The Man with Divine Hands'**.
2. In 2003, He has won Padma Shri and Padma Bhushan for medicine in 2013.

### About P.C. Chandra Puraskaar:

- This award ceremony was introduced in 1993 as a tribute to late Shri Purna Chandra.
- The award has recognized people from various field and paths of life achieving great success in their respective fields.

### About Ramakrishna Mission:

- Founder: Swami Vivekananda
- Founded: 1897
- Headquarters: Belur Math, West Bengal, India
- Purposes: Education, Philanthropy, Religious studies, Spirituality



## COUNCIL OF EUROPEAN CHAMBERS OF COMMERCE(CEUCC) TO HONOUR ANIL KAPOOR

- As a part of Europe Day celebrations, the **Council of European Chambers of Commerce(CEUCC)** in India and **European Union(EU) delegation** will felicitate Indian actor **Anil Kapoor** for promoting Children's Rights and his effort to protect the rights of girls in collaboration with Plan India and the European Union.



### Key Points :

- Mr. Kapoor will be the Chief Guest for the celebrations. He will be accompanied by the **EU Ambassador to India Tomasz Kozlowski**, EU Member states Consuls and senior representatives from the European and Indian corporate world.
- The event will also demonstrate the emergence of Europe as the most favored destination for Indian filmmakers.

## 19<sup>TH</sup> NEW YORK INDIAN FILM FESTIVAL

- Child actor, **Sunny Pawar** aged 11, won the **Best Child Actor Award** for his performance in '**Chippa**' at the **19<sup>th</sup> New York Indian Film Festival**. He hails from a slum in Kunchi Kurve Nagar in Mumbai, Maharashtra.



### Key Points :

- Film '**Chippa**' is directed by **Safdar Rahman**.

## SASAKAWA AWARD 2019

- United Nations Office for Disaster Risk Reduction (**UNDRR**) granted the prestigious **Sasakawa Award 2019** for **Disaster Risk Reduction** to **Additional Principal Secretary** to Prime Minister of India, **Dr. Pramod Kumar Mishra**, during the ongoing **6<sup>th</sup> Session of Global Platform for Disaster Risk Reduction (GPDRR) 2019** at **Geneva, Switzerland**.



### Key Points :

- GPDRR is a **biennial multi-stakeholder forum** that was established by the (United nations) **UN General Assembly** to evaluate progress, share knowledge and discuss the recent developments in **decreasing disaster risk**.
- The Indian delegation was led by **Dr. P K Mishra**.
- In the area of Disaster Risk Management, the United Nations Sasakawa Award is the **most prestigious** international award.
- The theme of the 2019 Sasakawa award was titled "**Building Inclusive and Resilient Societies**".

## LARGEST LAUNDRY LESSON

- India achieved a **Guinness World Records of 'largest laundry lesson'** with the participation of **400 young Indian men**. The event was a part of **#sharetheload campaign**. It was done to share the responsibility of cleaning clothes at home along with the female members of the family.



### Key Points :

- The event was initiated by **Ariel India**. It was hosted by Mandira Bedi and Indian Actor Anil Kapoor also joined the function.
- Earlier, the largest laundry lesson was achieved by Lion NANOX Team (Japan) at Lion Hirai Research Laboratory in Edogawa, Tokyo, Japan on November 29, 2017. It had 318 people.

### About Guinness World Records:

- **Originally Published:** 1955
- **Subject:** World Records
- **Publisher:** Jim Pattison Group
- **Genre:** Reference work
- **Authors:** Craig Glenday, Norris McWhirter

## IPS OFFICER WHO OVERSAW NIRBHAYA RAPE CASE RECEIVES MCCAIN INSTITUTE AWARD 2019

- IPS officer **Chhaya Sharma**, who headed the investigation team of the infamous Nirbhaya gang-rape and murder case, has been conferred with the 2019 McCain Institute Award for Courage and Leadership.

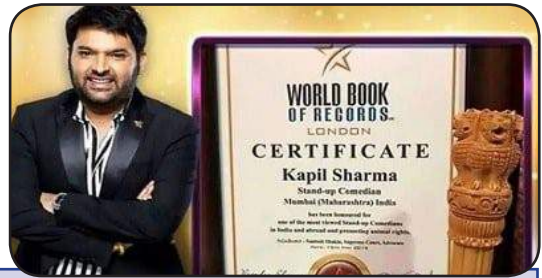
### About McCain Institute :

- **Founded :** 2012
- **Leader :** Kurt Volker
- **Location :** Washington, D.C.

1. She has guided teams in the detection and investigation of sensitive criminal cases and protection of human rights.
2. In 2017, **Chhaya** has performed a crucial role in drafting Standard Operating Procedures and Guidelines to Combat Trafficking of Persons in India.
3. The award is granted to those who manifest courage on behalf of human rights, humanitarian compassion, justice, freedom, and human dignity.
4. Other famous awardees are **-MalalaYousafzai (2015) and DikembeMutombo (2016).**

## MOST VIEWED STAND-UP COMEDIAN IN INDIA AND ABROAD

- The King of Comedy, **Kapil Sharma**, has been named as most viewed stand-up comedian in India and abroad by **World Book of Records London**.



### Additional Points :

- He had started his career as a stand-up comedian from different comedy shows and got fame from “Comedy Nights with Kapil”.
- He had made his Bollywood debut in movie Kis Kisko Pyaar Karoon and his second movie was Firangi.

## MAN BOOKER INTERNATIONAL PRIZE : JOKHA ALHARTHI WINNER

- Jokha Alharthi, an author from Oman won the prestigious Man Booker International Prize for her Arabic novel “**Celestial Bodies**”.

### About Jokha Alharthi

- The Omani author won Man Booker International Prize for her Arabic novel titled “Celestial Bodies”. It is a story of three sisters of a desert country confronting its slave-owning past and complex modern world.
- She became the first Arabic language writer to win this award.
- Alharthi will share her prize money with her UK-based translator named **Marilyn Booth**.

### About Man Booker International Prize

- It is an international literary award sponsored by the ‘Man Group’, which is the same organisation that gives Man Booker Prize for fiction. It is counterpart to **Man Booker Prize for English-language novels**.

## CHANCY CHITETE CONFERRED WITH THE UNS HIGHEST PEACEKEEPING AWARD

- The **Malawian soldier Chancy Chitete** will be honoured with the United Nation’s (UN) highest peacekeeping award, dubbed as “**Captain Mbaye Diagne Medal for Exceptional Courage**”. He will be awarded posthumously during the **Peacekeepers’ Day commemorations** at UN Headquarters in New York, the US on May 24, 2019.
- Despite the nomination of several peacekeepers for exceptional service over the past four years, the awarding of the Medal to **Private Chitete** will mark the first time the actions of a UN peacekeeper have been found to meet the standard set by Captain Diagne.

## 1.11 CULTURAL PANORAMA

### BRAHMAKA-LASHOTHSAVA FESTIVAL 2019

- The Brahmakalashotsava festival 2019 has started in Karnataka. This is a 6-day festival celebrated annually in the ancient **Chandkuru Sri Durga Parameshwari Temple** situated in **Polali, Dakshina Kannada** district in **Karnataka**.

#### Key Highlights :

- **Shri Rajarajeshwari** is the presiding deity of the temple. Other two idols Bhadrakali on the left and Lord Subrahmanya and Ganesha are on the right side of the presiding deity Rajarajeshwari.
- This temple is recently in news because Dalits and other backward classes (OBCs) from Chandkuru and other surrounding villages in Belthangady taluk have boycotted the Brahmakalashotsava festival. The reason for this boycott is because of separate seating arrangement had been made for the people belonging to upper caste.

## 1.12 INDIA & ITS NEIGHBOURS

### INDIA DELIVERED 2 MI-24 HELICOPTERS TO AFGHANISTAN

- Indian Ambassador to Afghanistan, **Vinay Kumar** made the hand-over of the **first pair of replacement Mi-24 attack helicopters** to Afghanistan Defence Minister, **Asadullah Khalid** at the **Kabul Air Force base** with the main objective of **strengthening the Afghan air force** as it battles **Taliban insurgency** against the fact of US' lookout for exiting the Afghanistan after a **17-year stay**.



#### Key Points :

- The choppers were purchased from Belarus.
- In December 2015, India had first delivered the Mi-24 Helicopters to Afghanistan.
- The Mi-24 is a large helicopter gunship and can be used for assault and transport missions.
- The Mi-24 can ferry up to 8 people.
- India has been 1 of the **largest donors** of Mi-24 helicopters to Afghanistan and, since 2001, has contributed around **3\$ billion** as help to Afghanistan.



## PAKISTAN SUCCESSFULLY TEST-FIRES BALLISTIC MISSILE SHAHEEN-II

- Pakistan successfully test-fired surface-to-surface ballistic missile Shaheen-II, capable of hitting targets as far as 1,500 kilometers away, bringing major Indian cities under its range.
- “Shaheen-II Missile is capable of carrying both conventional and nuclear warheads upto a range of 1,500 km. Shaheen-II is a highly capable missile which fully meets Pakistan’s strategic needs towards maintenance of desired deterrence stability in the region”.

### 1.13 APPOINTMENTS

#### M JAYSHREE VYAS APPOINTED AS FIRST INDEPENDENT WOMAN DIRECTOR TO BSE BOARD

- Bombay Stock Exchange (BSE) has appointed chartered accountant **M Jayshree Vyas** as its first independent woman director to the board. However, BSE has missed the deadline of April 1 which was given to all top 500 listed companies based on their market capitalisation to appoint an independent woman director on their board.



#### FORMER SC JUDGE KS RADHAKRISHNAN APPOINTED MEMBER OF COMMONWEALTH SECRETARIAT ARBITRAL TRIBUNAL

- Former Supreme Court judge, **KS Radhakrishnan** has been appointed as a member of Commonwealth Secretariat Arbitral Tribunal (CSAT) for a term of 4 year. Headquarter of the CSAT is in **London**. He had earlier served as a Supreme Court judge from November 2009 to May 2014. He has also served as the Chief Justice of the High Courts of Gujarat and J&K.





# 3. Geography



## 3.1 POLICY ON ENVIRONMENT AND ECOLOGY

### INDIA'S SMALLEST ORCHIDS "LECANORCHIS TAIWANIANA" DISCOVERED IN ASSAM

- India's Smallest Orchids named "**Lecanorchis Taiwaniana**", a parasitic bloom, was discovered in **Assam** by a forest officer **Jatindra Sarma** who is a Member Secretary of State Medicinal plants Board. It is small in terms of size as well as its tenure of bloom.

#### Key Points :

- It is a parasitic plant that has deserted the process of photosynthesis.
- The discovery was published in a Japanese Journal named **Journal of Botany**.
- For the first time, this small variant of Japanese Orchid is found in India. It was earlier discovered in Japan, Taiwan and Laos.

#### About Assam:

- **Capital** : Dispur
- **Chief Minister** : Sarbananda Sonowal

### EARTH'S OLDEST FUNGI FOSSIL AGED 1 BILLION YEARS DISCOVERED

- Earth's oldest fungi fossil named **Ourasphaira Giraldae** aged 1 billion years was discovered by the scientists of **Liege University of Canada**. They are about 600 million years older than the last discovery.

#### Keypoints :

- The study was published in the journal **Nature**.
- Researchers found the presence of chitin, a fibrous substance that forms on fungal cell walls. The fossils were found in by its ratio of radioactive elements.
- Fungi are abundantly available organisms on the planet. They are the third largest contributor to global biomass after plants and bacteria.

## 3.2 NATURAL DISASTERS - SAFEGUARD MEASURES

### CYCLONE FANI HITS ODISHA AND WEST BENGAL

- Cyclone Fani with a maximum **wind speed of 240-250 kmph**, is one of the most biggest and fiercest cyclonic storm over the east coast in nearly

two decades. Several villages nearby **Puri** in Odisha have submerged due to heavy rains and till now at least 3 people have lost their life.

### Key Highlights :

- Central government has released **Rs 1086 crore** advanced financial assistance to four states for undertaking preventive and relief measures to deal with cyclone 'Fani'. Out of this sanctioned amount, Odisha will receive Rs 340.87 crore, West Bengal Rs 235.50 crore, Tamil Nadu Rs 309.37 crore and Andhra Pradesh will get Rs 200.25 crore.
- The Ministry of Home Affairs (MHA) has started **helpline number 1938** for Cyclone Fani. The people can call this helpline number and can ask for help from the government.
- Till now, 11 lakhs people have been evacuated from eastern coastline of Odisha and West Bengal and around 4000 shelters have been created to accommodate those displaced people.
- According to the government, around 10,000 villages and 52 towns in Odisha got affected by cyclone Fani and around 223 trains have been cancelled due to cyclone Fani.

### 6<sup>TH</sup> SESSION OF GLOBAL PLATFORM FOR DDR

- The 6<sup>th</sup> Session of the biennial **Global Platform for (DDR) Disaster Risk Reduction (GP2019)** will take place in **Geneva, Switzerland** from **13<sup>th</sup> May to 17 May, 2019** and will be co-chaired by **Switzerland and UNISDR**.



### Key Points :

- The session is summoned under the theme, **'Resilience Dividend: Towards Sustainable and Inclusive Societies'**.
- The agenda of the session is to represent the next key opportunity for the international community to enhance the implementation of the **Sendai Framework**, related **Sustainable Development Goals of the 2030 Agenda**, and commitments of the **Paris Climate Agreement**.
- The session has been hosted by **Switzerland's Government** and has been summoned and organized by the **UN Office for Disaster Risk Reduction (UNISDR)**.



## 4. Economics

### 4.1 CURRENT SOCIO - ECONOMIC PROBLEMS

#### RBI IS GOING TO ISSUE NEW RS 20 DENOMINATION BANKNOTE WITH GREENISH - YELLOW COLOUR

- The Reserve Bank of India (RBI) will issue new Rs 20 denomination banknotes having a base colour of greenish-yellow with size of 63 X 129 mm. The first Rs 20 notes were issued in the Mahatma Gandhi Series in August 2001.
- The new note will have a **motif of Ellora caves on the dorsal side**.



### 4.2 NEW ECONOMIC POLICY & GOVT. SECTOR

#### CEA INCLUDED AS A MEMBER OF ADVISORY COUNCIL OF 15<sup>TH</sup> FINANCE COMMISSION

- The Chief Economic Adviser (CEA), **Dr. Krishnamurthy Subramanian** has been included as the member of the **Advisory Council to the 15<sup>th</sup> Finance Commission** headed by **N.K. Singh**. The Advisory Council now has **12 members** after inclusion of **Chief Economic Adviser Dr. Krishnamurthy Subramanian**. Other members include Dr. D.K. Srivastava, Dr. Indira Rajaraman, Dr. Arvind Virmani, Dr. Surjit S. Bhalla, Dr. Sanjeev Gupta, Prof. Pinaki Chakraborty, Sajjid Chinoy, Neelkanth Mishra, Prachi Mishra, Dr. M. Govinda Rao, and Dr. Omkar Goswami.

**Additional Points :**

- In April 2018, **15<sup>th</sup> Finance Commission** had constituted an Advisory Council for the following purpose:
  - To advise the Commission on any issue or subject related to the Terms of Reference (ToR) of the commission, which may be of relevance.
  - To assist in the preparation of any paper or research study which would enhance the understanding of Commission on the issue contained in its Terms of Reference (ToR).
  - To help in broadening the Commission's ambit and understanding to seek best national and international practices on matters related to fiscal devolution and also improving the quality and reach and enforcement of its recommendation.
- In December 2018, Dr. Krishnamurthy Subramanian appointed as the Chief Economic Advisor (CEA) to the central government for three years.

**About 15<sup>th</sup> Finance Commission**

- The 15<sup>th</sup> Finance Commission was constituted in November 2017. The role of Commission is to give recommendations for devolution of taxes and other fiscal matters to the central government for 5 years, commencing from April 1, 2020.
- **Chairman:** N.K. Singh



## 5. Science

### 5.1 SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY

#### WORLD'S FIRST FLOATING NUCLEAR POWER PLANT NAMED 'AKADEMIK LOMONOSOV'

- The 70 MW 'Akademik Lomonosov', world's first floating nuclear power plant successfully tested by **Rosenergoatom**, operator subsidiary of Rosatom, state owned atomic energy cooperation of Russia. The ship was named after famous academician **Mikhail Lomonosov**. It will replace the four-unit Bilibino plant, with an aggregate 48 MW capacity.



#### Key specifications of Nuclear Plant :

- The nuclear power plant powered by its twin **KLT-40S** reactor system. This nuclear reactor was developed by **OKBM Afrikantov** and assembled by Nizhniy Novgorod Research and Development Institute **Atomenergoproekt**.
- The floating nuclear power plant is 144 metres in length, 30 metres wide and has a displacement capability of 21,000 tonnes.

#### 'YETI' FOOTPRINTS SIGHTED CLAIMS INDIAN ARMY TWEET

- The official Twitter account of the Indian Army's Additional Directorate General of Public Information tweeted that an Indian Army mountaineering expedition team has sighted mysterious footprints of mythical himalayan beast "Yeti" measuring 32×15 inches (81 centimeters by 38 centimeters) close to **Makalu Base Camp**, located in North - Eastern Himalayas on **09 April 2019**.





- The yeti is also known as Abominable Snowman or Asian Bigfoot is a giant ape - like creature often figures in South Asian folklore. Yetis are believed to weigh anywhere between 91 to 181 kilograms with a height of above 6 feet.

### JAPAN CREATES WORLD'S 1<sup>ST</sup> ARTIFICIAL CRATER ON ASTEROID



- **Japanese scientists** have successfully created the first-ever **artificial crater** on an asteroid, which gave some clue on how the solar system evolved.

#### Key Points :

- Yuichi Tsuda, who is the project manager of Hayabusa2 confirmed the crater from images captured by the probe located 1,700 meters (5,500 feet) from the asteroid's surface.
- Hayabusa2 space probe shot a projectile at the **Ryugu asteroid** around 340 million kilometers from Earth, as part of the probe's mission to explore the origin of life and the evolution of the solar system.
- The mission was launched in **December 2014** and is scheduled to return to Earth with its samples **in 2020** with a total cost of around 30 billion yen (\$270 million).

### FIRST 'MARSQUAKE' DETECTED BY NASA LANDER INSIGHT

- Mars InSight lander of NASA (National Aeronautics and Space Administration) has recorded first "**marsquake**," quake on the mars due to volcanic eruptions or land tides. The first faint signal, equal to a 2.5 magnitude earthquake came on April 6, the lander's 128th Martian day, or sol. It has been detected by lander's Seismic Experiment for Interior Structure (SEIS) instrument.
- The scientists believe that the tremble comes from the Martian interior, rather than from surface forces. It has been observed that Mars is still seismically active.

#### About Mars :

- **Radius:** 3,389.5 km
- **Distance from Sun:** 227.9 million km
- **Moons:** Phobos, Deimos

#### About NASA:

- **Headquarters:** Washington, D.C., United States
- **Founder:** Dwight D. Eisenhower
- **Founded:** 29 July 1958, United States

## BHAWANA KANTH: 1ST WOMAN IAF PILOT TO QUALIFY FOR COMBAT MISSIONS

- Flight Lieutenant Bhawana Kanth scripted history by becoming first woman pilot of Indian Air Force (IAF) to qualify to undertake combat missions on a fighter jet.

### About Bhawana Kanth:

- She is from the first batch of women fighter pilots of the IAF and joined the fighter squadron in November 2017.
- For the first time she flew solo in a MiG-21 Bison, in March 2018 and became second woman pilot of the Indian Air Force to fly solo. The 25-year-old flew from Ambala Air Force Station to achieve the feat.
- In order to be declared 'Operational by Day', a pilot has to complete their syllabus which announces them as fit to fly and undertake day operations.

## COUNTRY'S BIGGEST STUCCO FIGURINE UNEARTHED IN TELANGANA'S PHANIGIRI

- Indian archaeologists recently unearthed a life-sized stucco sculpture from a Buddhist site at **Phanigiri in Suryapet, Telangana**. As per heritage department officials it represents one of **Bhodhisattva in JathakaChakra**. This is the largest stucco sculpture found from India till date.
  1. The sculpture is about 1.73 metres in height and 35 cm in width.
  2. It is considered to have been built at peak of Ikshavaku dynasty.
  3. The preliminary excavation at Phanigiri was started by archaeological department official Khaja Muhammad Ahmad in 1941.

### About Archaeological Survey of India

- Founder: Alexander Cunningham
- Founded: 1861
- Headquarters: New Delhi
- Parent organisation: Ministry of Culture, Government of India

## ISRO ANNOUNCED SEVEN MEGA MISSIONS IN NEXT 10 YEARS

- **Indian Space Research Organisation (ISRO)** has announced to conduct seven Mega Missions for upcoming 10 years and also prepared a roadmap for the next 30 years. The seven Mega Missions includes India's second moon mission **Chandrayaan-2, XPoSaT and Aditya L-1**.

### Key Highlights :

- ISRO has categorized its six Mega Missions (excluding Chandrayaan-2) in two broad categories-
  - **Defined Missions:** The mission includes XPoSaT and Aditya L-1.
  - **Undefined Missions:** The missions which are still in planning stage. These missions are: Mangalyaan-2, Venus Mission, Lunar Polar Exploration and Exoworlds.

## JAPAN'S FIRST PRIVATELY DEVELOPED ROCKET "MOMO-3" REACHED OUTER SPACE

- A Japanese aerospace start-up **Interstellar Technology Inc.** has successfully launched a **first privately developed rocket 'Momo-3'** into space. The unmanned rocket launched from its test site in **Taiki on the northern Japanese island of Hokkaido** and it reached about 110 km in altitude before falling into the Pacific Ocean after 10 minutes of flight time.



### Key Highlights :

- The rocket is 10 meters in length, 50 centimeters in diameter and weighs about 1 ton. 'Momo-3' rocket has the capability of putting payloads into the orbit.
- The company **Interstellar Technology Inc.** founded by former Livedoor Co. President **Takafumi Horie** in 2013. The objective is to develop low-cost commercial rockets to carry satellites into space.

## NASA'S FIRST PLANETARY DEFENCE TECHNOLOGY TO COLLIDE WITH SMALL MOONLET IN 2022

- The **National Aeronautics and Space Administration (NASA)** will hit an asteroid named **Didymoon or Didymos B** with a spacecraft called **Double Asteroid Redirection Test (DART)** in 2022. This will be the first mission which demonstrates a planetary defence technique. The asteroid is **150 m tall** which orbiting a larger body called **Didymos A**. This will help in understanding the state of the asteroid system.

### Key Highlights :

- The spacecraft **Double Asteroid Redirection Test (DART)** will carry an optical navigation system which captures the images. This will help the spacecraft to reach its target successfully.
- The DART spacecraft will use **small hydrazine thrusters** which utilise the **electric propulsion system**.
- The spacecraft will collide with the asteroid at a speed of approximately **6 km/s (km per second)** and this collision will change the speed of the asteroid in its orbit by fraction of 1%.

### About NASA

- **Headquarter:** Washington, D.C., US
- **Founder:** Dwight D. Eisenhower
- **Motto:** For the benefit of all

## MONKEYPOX VIRUS: SINGAPORE REPORTS FIRST CASE OF RARE VIRUS

- Singapore recently reported the first ever case of the Monkeypox Virus, a rare virus similar to the human smallpox. The virus was brought in by a Nigerian who arrived in Singapore in late April 2019.
- The man might have been infected by bush meat, the probable source of the virus transmission. Bush meat can be of chimpanzee, gorilla, antelope, birds or rodents.
- Though the risk of spread of virus is low, the authorities still investigated for people who had been in touch with the patient. Over 20 people have been identified as being in close contact with the patient and are under investigation as a precautionary measure.

### Monkeypox Virus :

- Monkeypox virus was eradicated in 1980. It **does not spread easily from person to person**, but in rare cases, it can be fatal.
- The rare virus disease occurs in **West and Central Africa**.
- It spreads by **wild animals or through the consumption of bush meat** of monkeys, bats, rodents, etc. Bush meat is a popular source of protein in some African countries.

## THE RARE MONKEY POX VIRUS, FOR THE FIRST TIME, REPORTED IN SINGAPORE

- **Singapore**, for the first time, has detected a case with the rare monkey pox virus which was brought in by a Nigerian man. He thought to have got this rare virus by eating bushmeat. Monkey pox is a rare disease caused by the virus that is transmitted from animals, such as rodents and monkeys (through the hunting and consumption of bush meat), to humans. It is usually found in the central and western parts of Africa's tropical rainforest.

### Key Points :

- **Symptoms** of the disease are lesions, fever, muscle ache and chills.
- Atleast 23 persons have been traced and they were in the close contact of the infected Nigerian.

## WORLD'S 1ST PARENT-WISE GENOME FOR WATER BUFFALOES DEVELOPED

- Anand-based National Dairy Development Board (NDDB) has developed world's first complete parent-wise genome assembly of buffalo named **"NDDB\_ABRO\_Murrah"** of riverine buffaloes.
  1. This comes on the back of the successful launch of a customized genotyping chip for indigenous cattle and their crosses, named **INDUSCHIP**.
  2. To ensure better accuracy, for the first time a trio binning was used for separating haplotypes of a buffalo, using a father-mother-offspring trio.

3. World buffalo population is estimated to be 224.4 million, of which 219 million (97.58 per cent) are in Asia.

## ENTIRE GENOME OF ASIATIC LION SEQUENCED FIRST TIME

- Scientists from Council of Scientific and Industrial Research (CSIR)-Centre for Cellular and Molecular Biology, Hyderabad have been sequenced the entire genome of the Asiatic lion for the first time. De novo sequencing and annotation have resulted in a draft assembly of the entire genome of a male Asiatic lion.

### Key Points :

- The information obtained from sequencing would help to understand the evolution of Asiatic Lion.
- Comparative studies of royal Bengal tiger, African Cheetah and Jaguar would be possible with the complete genome of these big cats.
- The population of the endangered Asiatic lion is very low — only 523 animals are present in the Gir forests.
- The genome is estimated to be 2.3 Gb (Gigabase) long and is found to have 20,543 protein-coding genes.

### About Centre for Cellular and Molecular Biology, Hyderabad :

- **Director** : Rakesh Mishra
- **Founded** : 1977

## BRAHMOS AIR LAUNCHED MISSILE TEST FIRED FROM A SU-30 MKI

- The Indian Air Force (IAF) successfully fired aerial version of supersonic BrahMos cruise missile from a Su-30 MKI fighter aircraft.

### Key Highlights About:

- The IAF successfully fired BrahMos Air Launched Missile from its frontline Su-30 MKI fighter aircraft. Background: Earlier on 22 November 2017, the IAF became World's first Air Force to successfully fire an air launched 2.8 Mach surface attack missile of this category on a sea target . Since then this was the second such live launch of weapon.
- **Result** : The launch from Su-30 MKI aircraft was smooth and missile followed desired calculated trajectory before directly hitting land target.
- **Safety** : The firing was successfully undertaken with dedicated support Indian Navy Which ensured that large number of monitoring ship are available for ensuring range safety clearance.
- **Singnificance** : The capability of BrahMos missile coupled with superlative performance of Su-30MKI aircraft gives IAF its desired strategic reach.



## NASA DUBBED ITS 2024 MISSION TO MOON AS 'ARTEMIS'

- The US Space Agency announced that the **National Aeronautics and Space Organization (NASA)** is set for its **Mission to Moon "Artemis"** which is to be achieved by 2024. Earlier, its goal was to achieve this feat by 2028. The Mission is named 'Artemis' after the Greek mythological goddess of the Moon and twin sister to Apollo.



### Key Points :

- This Mission has committed to take a female astronaut to the surface of the moon for the first time.
- The annual budget for this mission is approximately **USD 21.5 billion** (Nearly Rs. 1,51,000 crores) with a requirement of an additional amount of **\$1.6 billion** (Nearly Rs. 11,300 crores) in order to meet its deadline as it has to bear the expenses of the new ground and space vehicles.
- After the Mission to Moon "Artemis", NASA is planning to reach **Mars by 2033**.

### About NASA:

- **Headquarters** : Washington, DC
- **Administrator** : Jim Bridenstine
- **Formation** : July 29, 1958

## ISRO SUCCESSFULLY LAUNCHED EARTH OBSERVATION SATELLITE 'RISAT-2B'

- **Indian Space Research Organisation (ISRO)** has successfully launched the **'RISAT-2B'** Satellite from the Sriharikota's, Satish Dhawan Space Centre, SHAR.
- The **Polar Satellite Launch Vehicle (PSLV-C46)** lifted-off from the First Launch Pad and injected **RISAT-2B into an orbit of 556 km**, about 15 minutes and 25 seconds after lift-off.
- The RISAT-2B is a radar imaging earth observation satellite, **weighing about 615 kg**. The satellite is intended to provide services in the field of agriculture, forestry and disaster management.
- The **all-weather, radar imaging satellite** has the capability to observe and image the earth from about 500 kms.



# 6. National Dairy of Events



## INDIA-US BILATERAL TRADE MEETING HELD IN NEW DELHI



- **India-US Bilateral trade meeting** was held in **New Delhi**. It was co-chaired by **Suresh Prabhu**, Minister of Commerce & Industry and Civil Aviation, Government of India and **Mr. Wilbur Ross**, Secretary of Commerce, USA.

### Key Points :

- An official release said, both leaders appreciated the strong, robust and growing bilateral ties across the spectrum of trade and commerce. Both the sides expressed satisfaction over the year 2018, with bilateral trade in Goods and Services registering a growth of **12.6%**.
- Both sides agreed to deepen economic cooperation and bilateral trade by ensuring greater cooperation amongst stakeholders.

## INDIA RANKED AS THE 2<sup>ND</sup>-MOST TARGETED NATION BY HACKERS

- The report by Akamai Technologies notifies that with more than 120 crore account takeover attacks in 2018, India ranked second for hacking attempts in the world after the US.
- 1. According to a new edition of the **“State of the internet/security”** report, Akamai Technologies, each of the attacks represented an attempt by a person or a computer to log in to an account with a stolen or generated username and password. Canada ranks third for attacks.
- 2. The US registered 1,252 crore hacking attempts in 2018 while Canada registered 102 crore.
- 3. The hackers attacks targeted large media brands, retail, gaming and various other sectors.
- 4. The research study stated that in the video media sector, in 2018, 3 of the largest credential stuffing attacks skyrocketed from 133 million to 200 million.

## 11<sup>TH</sup> ARCTIC COUNCIL MINISTERIAL MEETING IN ROVANIEMI

- Finland held the **11<sup>th</sup> Arctic Council Ministerial Meeting in Lappi Areena, Rovaniemi, Finland**. The dignitaries from the 8 Arctic States had approved the work completed under the 2-year **Finnish Chairmanship** to enhance **sustainable development** and **environmental conservation** in the Arctic region.



### Key Points :

- The Arctic States were joined by delegates from the Arctic Council's Permanent Participant organizations, the heads of the 6 Working Groups, and Observers.
- Arctic States concluded the Arctic Council Ministerial meeting by signing a joint agreement as the Arctic Council Ministers meet, passed the **Chairmanship from Finland to Iceland**.

## CHINESE NAVY LAUNCHES TWO TYPE 052D NEW GUIDED MISSILE DESTROYERS

- **Chinese Navy** has commissioned two new **Type 052D** guided missile destroyers in Dalian, a coastal city. They are the 19<sup>th</sup> and 20<sup>th</sup> ships in the class and are named as **Tangshan** and **Suzhou**. China, at present, has **20 Type 052Ds** either in active service or to be launched for service soon.



### Key points:

- The destroyers are fast and warships are operated for long distances. In addition, they can be used to accompany the aircraft carriers.
- The newly developed Type 052D destroyers are the upgrades of its previous version Type 052C.
- The Type 052D destroyer is a large 7500 tone destroyer. It was introduced into the People's Liberation Army Navy (PLAN) in March 2014.
- **PLAN** is the World's fastest growing Navy as it adds new vessels to the fleet every month.

## ISIS HAS CLAIMED TO HAVE ESTABLISHED A NEW 'PROVINCE' IN INDIA, TERMED AS "WILAYAH OF HIND" IN ARABIC

- After the occurrence of clashes between militants and security forces in Kashmir on May 10, 2019, for the very first time ISIS, the **Islamic State terror group** has claimed to have established a new 'province' in India, termed as "**Wilayah of Hind**" (India Province) in Arabic. This has been announced through its **Amaq News Agency**.



### Key points:

- ISIS (**The Islamic State of Iraq and the Levant, also known as the Islamic State of Iraq and Syria. Officially known as the Islamic State**) did not speak about the Indian province's **geographical territory** though.
- This is estimated as a part of ISIS' propaganda to give the impression of enhancing its global affiliations following the territorial losses (**Iraq and Syria**) in the Middle East. In the past, a similar strategy was brought to light by **ISIS chief Abu Bakr al-Baghdadi**.
- But, a senior Jammu and Kashmir police officer has rejected the announced claim by the Islamic State terror group.
- The short ISIS statement was made via Telegram, the messaging app.
- The statement notified that the ISIS militants using machine guns had clashed with the Indian security forces in the village of **Amshipora in Kashmir's Shopian district** and caused casualty to many of them.

## IBSA SHERPAS MEET CONCLUDED IN COCHIN

- India, Brazil and South Africa (IBSA) Sherpas meeting was held in Cochin from May 3 to May 5, 2019. Before IBSA Sherpas meeting, the **9<sup>th</sup> IBSA trilateral Ministerial Meeting** was also concluded at the same venue. Indian delegation was led by **T.S. Tirumurti**, Secretary (Economic Relations) in Ministry of External Affairs and **Amb. Norberto Moretti**, Sherpa of Brazil and **Prof. Anil Sooklal**, Sherpa of South Africa led their respective delegation at the meeting.



### Key Highlights :

- The Sherpas of all three countries conveyed their happiness that the first Gandhi Mandela Memorial Freedom Lecture was delivered by Cyril Ramaphosa, President of South Africa on 25th January, 2019 in New Delhi.



## 'INDIA YOUNG SCIENTIST PROGRAMME' (YUVIKA-2019)

- ISRO launched a maiden **2-week** long (13<sup>th</sup> May 2019 to 26<sup>th</sup> May 2019) summer vacation residential programme termed '**India Young Scientist Programme**' (Yuvika-2019) or '**Yuva Vaigyanic Karyakram**' in line with the central government's vision of '**Jai Vigyan, Jai Anusandhan**'. This two-week-long programme is regarded as "**Catch them young**". The selected students from **29 states and 7 Union Territories** across India would be able to avail this novel programme.



### Key Points :

- ISRO's (**Indian Space Research Organisation**) Chairman **Dr K Sivan** inaugurated the Young Scientist Programme (Yuvika-2019) through video mode from ISRO headquarters at Bengaluru.
- The students are selected based on their performance in the **8<sup>th</sup> Standard** (CBSE, ICSE and State syllabus) and this includes their performance in academic as well as extracurricular activities.
- The selected students will be provided with course material that's already been pre-loaded on Tablets. The course programme includes topics like a Rocket engine, Environment science, Astronomy, Space applications, Renewable Energy so on and so forth.

## MINT GLOBETROTTER INDEX NOTIFIES THAT DUBAI IS COSTLIER THAN DELHI

- The **Mint Globetrotter Index** was prepared by **Mint's data partner How indialives.com** which is a **database and search engine** for public data that took into account 25 essential spends in total, ranging from multifarious categories, namely, **accommodation, shopping, leisure, market and food** and came up with an **index** which would help general public to travel well-informed.

### Key Points:

- For an easy comparison between different cities, the indices were benchmarked to a value of **100 for Delhi** and re-based accordingly.
- This means that, **Zurich** has an index value of 301 (this means that the 25 items cost 201% more of what they cost in Delhi) **Kathmandu** has an index of **82** (the same items here cost 18% less than what they cost in Delhi).
- The '**others**' category in the **Mint Globetrotter Index** comprises of **7 cities** across **Africa, West Asia and the Indian Ocean**, among which, **Victoria, the capital of Seychelles, is the most expensive** with an **index value of 192** and a **rank of 28**.



## FOR THE FIRST TIME INDIA WILL HOST THE 5TH ARMY INTERNATIONAL SCOUT MASTERS COMPETITION

- For **promoting geniality** among the participating nations, India, for the first time will host a part of **an international military sports event named ‘ Army Scout Masters Competition ‘** in **Jaisalmer, Rajasthan’s** for **9 days in August (August 6 to August 14, 2019)**.

### Key Points:

- India will host the **fifth Army International Scout Masters Competition** as part of the games.
- The competition will be held under the patronage of the **Indian Army** and is organised by the **Konark Corps at Jaisalmer military station**.
- The **International Army Games**, organised by the **Ministry of Defense of the Russian Federation**, is taking place **since 2015**.
- The **32 disciples** of the International Army Games in 2019, will be hosted by **10 nations**, namely, **Russia, India, China, Azerbaijan, Armenia, Belarus, Iran, Mongolia, Uzbekistan and Kazakhstan**.
- 8 countries, namely, **Russia, Kazakhstan, Uzbekistan, Zimbabwe, Armenia, Belarus, China and India** will participate in the India leg.

## 5<sup>TH</sup> SMART CITIES INDIA 2019 EXPO INAUGURATED IN NEW DELHI



- On May 22, 2019, **5th Smart Cities India 2019 Expo** including Transport India, Solar India, Buildings India and Water India expos was inaugurated by **Durga Shanker Mishra**, Secretary, Ministry of Housing and Urban Affairs (MoHUA), Government of India at **Pragati Maidan, New Delhi**.

### Keypoints :

- The event was organized by **India Trade Promotion Organization (ITPO) and Exhibitions India Group**. It Initiated to strengthen ‘**Smart Cities Mission**’ through the display of various products and solutions relevant to building smart cities in India.

## TAIWAN EXPO 2019 BEGINS IN NEW DELHI



- **Taiwan Expo 2019** began in Pragati Maidan, New Delhi.
- The **representative of Taipei Economic and Cultural Centre Tien Chung-Kwang** and **Chairman of Taiwan External Trade Development Council, TAITRA James CF Huang** inaugurated the three-day event in the presence of **Joint Secretary Praveen Bonigala** and **ITPO Chairman LC Goyal**.

## 11<sup>TH</sup> INDIA IRAN JOINT CONSULAR COMMITTEE MEETING (JCCM)

- The 11<sup>th</sup> India Iran Joint Consular Committee Meeting (JCCM) held in **New Delhi** on May 14, 2019. Indian delegation was led by **Amit Narang**, Joint Secretary in Consular, Passport and Visa (CPV) division and the Iran delegation was led by **Ali Asghar Mohammadi**, Director General of Consular Affairs.

### Key Highlights :

- The purpose of this meeting is to review the status of ongoing cooperation in consular and visa related issues and also to discuss the strategy to further expand people to people contacts and to promote friendly exchanges between India and Iran.
- Both countries have discussed some important issues between India and Iran:
  - Early conclusion of Agreement on Mutual Legal Assistance on civil and commercial matters.
  - To extend longer duration of e-Visa for each other nationals on reciprocity.
  - Visa facilitation for greater people to people contacts etc.

### About Iran

- **Capital** : Tehran
- **Currency** : Iranian Rial

## TRIPURA GRAMIN BANK AMONG TOP RRB PERFORMER IN COUNTRY

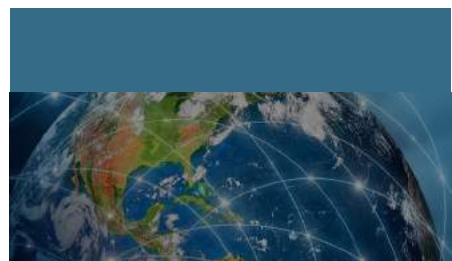
- **Tripura Gramin Bank** is among India's top three **Regional Rural Banks (RRBs)** in terms of profit, business and growth. Currently India has 46 Regional Rural Bank out of which Tripura Gramin Bank ranked 3rd in the country. Tripura Gramin Bank has posted a profit for 7 successive years to Rs 125.45 crore in the fiscal 2018-19.



### Key Highlights :

- In Tripura Gramin Bank, central government has a 50% stake, the Union Bank of India has 35% stake and rest 15% is held by the Tripura government.
- Tripura Gramin Bank is the only RRB in the north-eastern region out of eight, which has been making profit to 7 successive years.

# 7. International Affairs



## UN ADOPTED RESOLUTION ON SEXUAL-VIOLENCE CONDEMNING RAPE AS A WEAPON OF WAR

- The German-sponsored resolution on sexual violence was adopted by **United Nations Security Council (UNSC)** condemning rape as a weapon of war after 13 out of 15 members have voted in favour of the resolution while Russia and China abstain from voting.
- The resolution was adopted only after language on a woman's right to "reproductive health" was removed from the draft to avert a veto by the anti-abortion US administration.

### About UNSC :

- **Headquarter:** New York, USA
- **Founded:** 24 October, 1945

## U.S., JAPAN, S.KOREA, AUSTRALIA HOLD FIRST NAVAL DRILLS IN WESTERN PACIFIC

- S. Navy ships conducted joint drills with warships from allies Japan, Australia and South Korea in their first combined exercise in the Western Pacific, the U.S. Navy. The Pacific Vanguard exercise took place near the U.S. island of Guam.

## CHINA HOSTED 2<sup>ND</sup> BELT AND ROAD FORUM IN BEIJING



- The second edition of Belt and Road Forum (BRF) was held in Beijing, China from April 25th to April 27th, 2019 in which 37 heads-of-state had participated along with United Nations Secretary-General **Antonio Guterres** and International Monetary Chief (IMF) **Christine Lagarde**. The theme of this event was "**Belt and Road Cooperation: Shaping a Brighter Shared Future**".
- The Belt and Road Forum is a part of the Belt and Road Initiative (BRI). The idea of BRI was first proposed by Chinese President Xi Jinping in 2013.

### About China :

- **Capital:** Beijing
- **Currency:** Renminbi

## INDIA-AUSTRALIA JOINT WORKING GROUP ON COUNTER-TERRORISM

- The 11<sup>th</sup> meeting of the joint working group on counter-terrorism between India and Australia held at **Canberra, Australia** on May 2, 2019. **Mahaveer Singhvi**, Joint Secretary (Counter-Terrorism) led Indian delegation while Paul Foley, Australia's Ambassador for Counter Terrorism led Australian delegation for the meeting.



### Key Highlights :

- The objective of this meeting is to discuss the counter-terrorism challenges which both countries are facing such as financing of terrorism, the use of the internet for terror purposes, radicalisation and foreign terrorist fighters.
- The Joint Working Group also agreed to further deepen counter-terrorism cooperation through mutual capacity building efforts, regular exchange of information, mutual legal assistance, regular exchange of information, sharing of best practices on counter-terrorism and radicalization.

## G7 ENVIRONMENT MINISTERS MET IN METZ, FRANCE TO DISCUSS ABOUT CLIMATE CRISIS



- The **G7's (Group of Seven)** Environment Ministers from Britain, Canada, France, Germany, Italy, Japan and the United States gathered for a **2-day** meeting **in Metz, France** to discuss on steps required to handle deforestation, plastic pollution, depletion of coral reefs and ways to build pacts between the countries in order to achieve the target.

### Key Points :

- IMF (International Monetary Fund) notified that the G7 nations have the **7 largest advanced economies globally**, thus representing 58% of the net global wealth which amounts to 317 \$ trillion. The G7 countries also represent more than 46% of the global GDP (Gross Domestic Product) based on nominal values, and more than 32% of the global GDP based on purchasing power parity.
- The delegates from the European Union, Chile, Egypt, the Fiji Islands, Gabon, India, Indonesia, Mexico, Niger and Norway joined the ministers in the meeting.



## UNITED NATIONS TO HOLD OCEAN CONFERENCE 2020 IN PORTUGAL

- United Nations General Assembly (UNGA) has decided to hold **Ocean Conference 2020 in Lisbon, Portugal** from June 2 to 6, 2020 with a theme of “**Scaling up ocean action based on science and innovation for the implementation of Goal 14: stocktaking, partnerships and solutions.**”



### Key Highlights :

- The objective of this conference is to support the implementation of **Sustainable Development Goal 14 (SDG 14)** which stated as to conserve and sustainably use the oceans, seas and marine resources for sustainable development.

## INDIA RECEIVES ITS FIRST APACHE GUARDIAN ATTACK HELICOPTER IN BOEING'S PRODUCTION FACILITY IN MESA, ARIZONA US

- The Indian Air Force legally received its 1st **Apache Guardian attack helicopter** AH-64E (I) during a ceremony at the **Boeing production facility** in Mesa, Arizona, US (United States). This first attack helicopter in India's defence arsenal was received by **Air Marshal AS Butola, IAF**.



### Key points :

- In September 2015, India signed a \$1.4 billion deal with the US government and Boeing for **22 attack helicopters (AH- 64 E Apache helicopters)**, of which the 1st batch of helicopters will be shipped to India by July.
- Apache is a stealthy and versatile machine that has been designed for all kinds of missions. It consists of:
  - **laser and infrared systems** for day and night operations
  - air to surface **Hellfire missiles**
  - 70 mm rockets
  - an automatic cannon



## THE 58<sup>TH</sup> VENICE BIENNALE IS HELD FROM 11<sup>TH</sup> MAY TO 24<sup>TH</sup> NOVEMBER 2019 AT VENICE, ITALY

- After a long gap of **8** years, India has again marked its presence at the **58<sup>th</sup> Venice Biennale**, Italy which will be held from **11<sup>th</sup> May till 24<sup>th</sup> November 2019** (6 month's period). The theme at the is **'Our Time for a Future Caring'**.



### Key Points:

- Initially opened in **April 1895**, the Venice Biennale is the oldest, largest and the most prestigious art exhibition in the world. It is held in 'Venice', also known as **'The Queen of the Adriatic'** and **'The Floating City'**.
- Venice Biennale was organized by the **Biennale foundation** and focuses on contemporary art, **contemporary dance, architecture, cinema and theatre**.
- The theme for Venice Biennale 2019 is **'Our Time for a Future Caring'**.
- India's debut at the biennale happened in 2011 with **'Everyone Agrees: It's About To Explode'**, curated by **Ranjit Hoskote**. This was nearly **116 years** after the event first started.

## GLOBAL INFLUENCE OF ASIAN CIVILIZATIONS FORUM HAS BEGUN IN BEIJING

- The opening ceremony of the **Conference on Dialogue of Asian Civilizations** will be held in the China National Convention Center, **Beijing** where **Xi Jinping, Chinese President** will deliver a keynote speech.



### Key Points :

- The **Forum on Global Influence of Asian Civilizations** is 1 of the 6 parallel forums of the **"Conference of Dialogue on Asian Civilizations"**.
- The Forum on Global Influence of Asian Civilizations is organized by the **National Radio and Television Administration of the People's Republic of China**.
- The representatives from **47 Asian and other invited countries** will attend the **Conference on Dialogue of Asian Civilizations** event. The theme of the event is **"Exchanges and Mutual Learning among Asian Civilizations and a Community with a Shared Future."**

## INDIA JOINS GLOBAL INITIATIVE TERMED 'CHRISTCHURCH CALL TO ACTION'

- India joined **France, New Zealand, Canada and several other nations** in launching a key initiative, termed '**Christchurch call to action**' in **Paris** to fight against online terrorism and extremism and make the internet secure.



### Key Points:

- The initiative was termed after **51 people were killed** (on 15<sup>th</sup> March, 2019) in an attack on mosques in **Christchurch, New Zealand** and the video of which went viral.
- The initiative was headed by **New Zealand Prime Minister Jacinda Ardern** and **France's President Emmanuel Macron**.
- The objective of the initiative is to assemble collective efforts to **globally secure the internet from terror groups** as the internet is no more immune to abuse by **terrorist and violent extremist actors**.

## INDIA-BOTSWANA FOREIGN OFFICE CONSULTATIONS HELD IN NEW DELHI

- The 3rd round of Foreign Office Consultations between **India** and **Botswana** was held in **New Delhi** on 15<sup>th</sup> May, 2019. Indian delegation was led by **Neena Malhotra**, Joint Secretary (East and Southern Africa) and the Botswana delegation led by **Tapiwa Mongwa**, Deputy Permanent Secretary in the Ministry of International Affairs and Cooperation.

### Key Highlights :

- The purpose of the Foreign Office Consultation is to review bilateral relation which includes political, economic, commercial, defence, consular and international cooperation related to United Nations.
- They have also discussed the strategy to further strengthen the existing friendly relations by way of expanding cooperation in development projects. Botswana government had also decided to join the **International Solar Alliance (ISA)**.
- The next round of Foreign Office Consultations will be held in Botswana on mutually agreed dates.

### About Botswana

- **Capital** : Gaborone
- **Currency** : Botswana Pula

## TAIWAN BECOMES THE FIRST COUNTRY IN ASIA TO LEGALISE SAME-SEX MARRIAGE

- For the first time in Asia, **Taiwan's parliament** legalised same-sex marriage, as lawmakers **passed a bill** permitting same-sex couples to form **'exclusive permanent unions'** which would let them apply for a **'marriage registration' (under Clause Four)** with government agencies.
- In **2017**, Taiwan's constitutional court ruled that same-sex couples had the **right to legally marry**, but also notified that Taiwan had 2 years to make necessary changes to the law.



### Key Points :

- The vote took place on the **International Day Against Homophobia, Transphobia and Biphobia**, that is on **17th May, 2019**.
- Taiwan has been 1 of the most progressive societies in Asia for gay rights, in the last 10 years. Taiwan had staged Asia's **biggest annual gay pride parade**.

## 2<sup>ND</sup> U20 MAYORS SUMMIT HELD IN TOKYO



- The second **Urban 20 (U20) Mayors** summit was held in **Tokyo**, capital city of Japan from May 20 to May 22, 2019. The theme of summit was **"Climat Action, Circular Economy, Social Inclusion and Integration, Sustainable Economic Growth and Gender Equality"**. The U20 Mayors summit takes place one month ahead of the G20 summit which is to be held in Osaka, Japan.
- The aim of this summit was to allow invited Mayors to discuss and approve a communique which will be formally presented to the G20 Summit.

# 9. General Knowledge



## 1) IMPORTANT AWARDS IN INDIA

Sl no	Category	Awards	Details
1	Civilian Awards	Bharat Ratna	This award is the highest civilian award of India and is conferred for achievements in the fields of Science, Literature, Arts, Public services, Sports. Mother Teresa was the first naturalized Indian citizen of Bharat Ratna Award Winner in 1980
		Padma Vibhushan	The Padma Vibhushan is given for exceptional and distinguished service in any field including service rendered by the government servants. A few eminent personalities who received this award are Zakir Hussain, V K Menon, Sachin Tendulkar, Shri Sharad Pawar and more.
		Padma Bhushan	A few well-known people who have received this award are Vishwa Mohan Bhatt, Devi Prasad Dwivedi, Swami Niranjana Nanda Saraswat and several others.
		Padma Shri	Padma, meaning lotus in Sanskrit, and Shri, a Sanskrit-derived honorific equivalent to 'Mr.' or 'Ms.' (ie., "Noble One in Blossom"), appear in Devanagari above and below a lotus flower.

2	Gallantry Awards	Param Vir Chakra	Param Vir Chakra is awarded for most conspicuous bravery or some daring or pre-eminent act of valor or self-sacrifice, in the presence of the enemy, whether on land, at sea, or in the air. The name of the award means the "Wheel of the Ultimate Brave".
		Ashoka Chakra	Ashoka Chakra is awarded for most conspicuous bravery or some act of daring or pre-eminent act of valor or self-sacrifice otherwise than in the face of the enemy.
		Mahavir Chakra	Maha Vir Chakra is awarded for acts of conspicuous gallantry in the presence of the enemy whether on land, at sea or in the air. Also, it replaced the British Distinguished Service Order (DSO).
		Kirti Chakra	Kirti Chakra is awarded for conspicuous gallantry otherwise than in the face of the enemy. The award was known as the Ashoka Chakra, Class II V before 1967.
		Vir Chakra	Vir Chakra is awarded for acts of gallantry in the presence of the enemy, whether on land or at sea or in the air. Moreover, it replaced the British Distinguished Service Cross (DSC), Military Cross (MC) and Distinguished Flying Cross (DFC).
		Shaurya Chakra	Shaurya Chakra is awarded for gallantry otherwise than in the face of the enemy. The award was known as Ashoka Chakra, Class III before 1967.



3	Literature awards	Jnanpith Award	The Jnanpith Award is an Indian literary award presented annually by the Bharatiya Jnanpith to an author for their “outstanding contribution towards literature”.The nominations for the award are received from various literary experts, teachers, critics, universities, and numerous literary and language associations.
		Sahitya Akademi Award	The award, India’s National Academy of Letters, annually confers on writers of the most outstanding books of literary merit published in any of the major Indian languages
		Bhasha Samman	Like the Sahitya Akademi Awards, Bhasha Samman too comprise a plaque and a cash prize of Rs. 1,00,000(from 2009).The Sammans are given to 3-4 persons every year in different languages on the basis of recommendation of experts’ committees constituted for the purpose.
		Premchand Fellowship	Named after Hindi writer Premchand, the fellowship was started in 2005. It is given to persons of eminence in the field of Culture from SAARC countries.
4	Sports Awards	Rajiv Gandhi Khel Ratna	The Rajiv Gandhi Khel Ratna is the highest sports award given for most outstanding performance in the field of sports in India.As of 2017, all Rajiv Gandhi Khel Ratna recipients will receive Rs. 7.5 lakhs in cash, a citation and a medal.
		Arjuna Award	This award is given to a sportsperson who has consistently exhibited outstanding performance for four years.All Arjuna Awardees receive a cash prize of Rs. 5 lakhs, a certificate, and statuettes.

		Dronacharya Award	It is generally said that “Behind every successful man there is a woman”, one can also say that, “Behind every successful sportsperson there is a coach” Seeing the valuable contribution that coaches have in the sports field, the government of India decided to honour the coaches as well. Dronacharya Awardees are offered a cash prize of 5 lakh, certificate and statuette.
		Dyanchand Award	The Dyanchand Award is given for lifetime contribution to sports development. This award is named after Major Dhyan Chand, an Indian hockey player who scored over 1000 goals during a career span of over 20 years. Dyanchand Awardees are offered a cash prize of 5 lakh, certificate and statuette.

## 2) LIST OF FIRST MEN IN INDIA

S.No	Field	Name of the Person	Year	Birth Place
1	First Governor of Bengal	Lord Robert Clive	1758	England
2	First Governor General of Bengal	Warren Hastings	1773	England
3	First Governor General of India	Lord William Bentinck	1828	England
4	First President of Indian Republic	Dr Rajendra Prasad	1950	Bihar
5	First Field Marshal	Gen SFJ Manekshaw	1971	Punjab
6	First Indian to get Jnanpeeth Award	G Shankar Kurup	1965	Cochin, Kerala
7	First Indian to swim across Indian Channel	Mihir Sen	1958	Bengal, British India

S.No	Field	Name of the Person	Year	Birth Place
8	First Indian Nobel laureate	Rabindranath Tagore	1913	Kolkata, Bengal
9	First Pilgrim to visit India	Megasthenes	302 BC	Syria
10	First Chinese Pilgrim to visit India	Fa-Hien	399	China
11	First Indian Pilot	JRD Tata	1929	Paris, France
12	First man to climb Mt Everest twice	Nawang Gombu	1965	Nepal
13	First Indian Governor General of Independent India	C Rajgopalachari	1948	Thorapalli, Madras Presidency (Now Tamilnadu)
14	First Governor General of India (After Independence)	Lord Louis Mountbatten	1947	England
15	First Commander in Chief of Free India	Gen KM Cariappa	1949	Kodagu, British India (Now Karnataka)
16	First Indian Judge of International Court of Justice	Dr Nagendra Singh	1985	Rajasthan
17	First Indian to receive Bharat Ratna Award	C Rajgopalachari	1954	Thorapalli, Madras Presidency (Now Tamilnadu)
		Dr S Radhakrishnan		Tiruthani, Madras Presidency (Now Tamilnadu)

S.No	Field	Name of the Person	Year	Birth Place
		C. V. Raman		Trichy, Madras Presidency (Now Tamilnadu)
18	First Muslim President of Indian Republic	Dr Zakir Hussain	1967	Hyderabad, Telangana
19	First Indian to win Palk Strait Ocean Swimming Contest	Baidyanath Nath		
20	First President of Indian national Congress	Womesh Chunder Bonnerjee	1885	Calcutta, British India (Now Kolkata)
21	First Indian Scientist to get Nobel Prize	CV Raman (Physics)	1930	Trichy, Madras Presidency (Now Tamilnadu)
22	India's First Chief Election Commissioner	Sukumar Sen	1950	Bengal
23	First Scientist of Indian Origin to get Nobel Prize in the field of Medical Science	Dr Hargovind Khurana	1968	Raipur, Punjab
24	First Scientist of Indian Origin to get Nobel Prize in Chemistry	Venkatraman Ramakrishnan	2009	Cuddalore, Tamilnadu
25	First Indian-born to get Nobel Prize in Peace	Kailash Sathyarthi	2014	Madhya Pradesh
26	First Sports Person to get Bharat Ratna	Sachin Tendulkar	2014	Maharashtra

S.No	Field	Name of the Person	Year	Birth Place
27	First Chief Minister to die in Office	CN Annadurai,	1969	Tamilnadu
28	First Indian Sound Film Director	Alam Ara, directed by Ardeshir Irani	1931	Pune, Maharashtra
29	First Indigenously made colour film director	Kisan Kanya, directed by Moti B	1937	Sind, Pakistan
30	First Chief Justice of India	Justice Hiralal J kania	1950	Surat, Gujarat
31	First Indian to win Stalin Award	Saiffudin Kichlu	1952	Amritsar, Punjab
32	First Education Minister of Independent India	Maulana Abul Kalam Azad	1947	Saudi Arabia
33	First Prime Minister of Independent India	Pandit Jawaharlal Nehru	1947	Allahabad, Uttar Pradesh
34	First Home Minister of Independent India	Sardar Vallabhbhai Patel	1947	
35	First Vice President of Independent India	Dr S Radhakrishnan	1952	Tiruthani, Madras Presidency (Now Tamilnadu)
36	First Chief of Air Staff	Air Marshal Sir Thomas Elmhirst	1947	England
37	First Indian Air Chief of India	Air Marshal S Mukherjee	1954	Culcutta
38	First Chief of Army Staff	Gen M Rajendra Singh	1955	Katiawar (Now Gujarat)



S.No	Field	Name of the Person	Year	Birth Place
39	First Chief of Naval Staff of India	Vice Admiral RD Katari	1958	Chingleput, Madras Presidency ( Now Tamilnadu)
40	First Sikh President of India	Gyani Zail Singh	1982	Punjab
41	First Indian to climb Mt Everest without Oxygen Cylinder	Sherpa Phu Dorjee	1984	Nepal
42	First Speaker of Lok Sabha	GV Mavlankar	1952	Vadodara, Gujarat
43	First Indian Male Recipient of Oscar Award	Satyajitray	1992	Calcutta, British India (Now Kolkata)
44	First Finance Minister of India	RK Shanmukham Chetty	1947	Coimbatore, Tamilnadu
45	First Indian to win Ramon Magasaysay Award	Acharya Vinoba Bhave	1958	Raigad, British India
46	First President of India to die in office	Dr Zakir Hussain	1969	Hyderabad, Telangana
47	First British Prime Minister to visit India	Harold Mc Millan	1958	England
48	First Indian Space Tourist	Santosh George	2008	Kerala
49	First Indian to reach South Pole	Col IK Bajaj	1989	Punjab
50	First American President to visit India	Dwight David Eisenhower	1959	USA
51	First Indian Cosmonaut	Rakesh Sharma	1984	Punjab

S.No	Field	Name of the Person	Year	Birth Place
52	First Indian Prime Minister to resign from Office	Morarji Desai	1979	Gujarat
53	First Foreign recipient of Bharat Ratna	Khan Abdul Gaffar Khan	1987	Pakistan
54	First Indian recipient of Nobel Prize in Economics	Dr Amartya Sen	1998	Kolkata, Bengal
55	First Deputy Prime Minister of India	Sardar Vallabhai Patel	1947	Gujarat
56	First Indian to win World Billiards Trophy	Wilson Jones	1958	Maharashtra
57	First Law Minister of India	BR Ambedkar	1947	Madhya Pradesh

# 10. Practice Questions



- 1) \_\_\_\_\_ is created naturally when cosmic rays interact with nitrogen in the atmosphere.  
A. Radium-32  
**B. Carbon-14**  
C. Uranium-232  
D. Bismuth
- 2) Where was the Christchurch Call to Action, where India signed, held?  
**A. Paris**                      B. Vienna  
C. Geneva                      D. Italy
- 3) India plans to set up military space agency headquartered at \_\_\_\_\_.  
A. Dehradun                      B. Mumbai  
**C. Bengaluru**                      D. New Delhi
- 4) Pakistan plans to create a new province by bifurcating \_\_\_\_\_.  
A. J&K                      **B. Punjab**  
C. Rajasthan                      D. Gujarat
- 5) When is the World Hypertension Day celebrated?  
A. 14th May                      B. 15th May  
C. 16th May                      **D. 17th May**
- 6) What is the theme for World Hypertension Day 2019?  
A. Know Your Blood Pressure  
**B. Know Your Numbers**  
C. Awareness of high blood pressure  
D. Treat to goal
- 7) When Sikkim Statehood Day is observed?  
**A. May 16**                      B. June 20  
C. March 6                      D. April 15
- 8) When is the World Telecommunication Day celebrated?  
A. May 1                      B. May 5  
C. May 12                      **D. May 17**
- 9) What is the theme of the World Telecommunication Day 2019?  
**A. Bridging the standardization gap**  
B. Enabling the positive use of Artificial Intelligence for All  
C. Big Data for Big Impact  
D. ICT entrepreneurship for social impact

- 10) When is the International Museum Day observed?  
A. 10th May      B. 15th May  
**C. 18th May**      D. 24th May
- 11) What is the theme of the International Museum Day (IMD)?  
A. Museums and Environment  
B. Museums and contested histories: Saying the unspeakable in museums  
C. Hyperconnected museums: New approaches, new publics  
**D. Museums as Cultural Hubs: The future of tradition**
- 12) Indian Navy conducted a cooperative engagement firing \_\_\_\_\_ on the Western Seaboard.  
A. MRSAM Barak-A  
**B. MRSAM Barak-8**  
C. LRSAM Barak-A  
D. LRSAM Barak-8
- 13) Medium Range Surface to Air Missile (MRSAM) has an intercept range between \_\_\_\_\_.  
**A. 70-100 km**      B. 50-80 km  
C. 90-130 km      D. 25-75 km
- 14) \_\_\_\_\_ is the first Asian country to legalise same-sex marriage.  
A. China      B. India  
C. Japan      **D. Taiwan**
- 15) \_\_\_\_\_ the first Digital Legislature of the country.  
A. Uttar Pradesh  
B. Telangana  
C. Karnataka  
**D. Himachal Pradesh**
- 16) India-Botswana Foreign Office Consultations held in \_\_\_\_\_.  
A. Chennai  
B. Mumbai  
**C. New Delhi**  
D. Vishakhapatnam
- 17) Who was awarded the Sasakawa Award 2019 for Disaster Risk Reduction?  
A. PM Narendra Modi  
B. Ashok Laxmanrao Kukade  
C. Pravin Gordhan  
**D. Pramod Kumar Mishra**
- 18) Who instituted the UN Sasakawa Award?  
**A. Nippon Foundation**  
B. REACT International  
C. Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation  
D. GlobalMedic
- 19) Who is appointed as the US deputy attorney general?  
A. Rod Rosenstein  
**B. Jeffrey Rosen**  
C. Mike Pompeo  
D. Patrick M. Shanahan

- 20) Who won the Italian Open 2019 title?  
A. Novak Djokovic  
**B. Rafael Nadal**  
C. Andy Murray  
D. John McEnroe
- 21) Who won the Women's Singles Italian Open 2019 title?  
**A. Karolína Plíková**  
B. Victoria Azarenka  
C. Ashleigh Barty  
D. Caroline Wozniacki
- 22) Who was awarded the John F Kennedy Profile in Courage Award 2019?  
A. Gabrielle Giffords  
B. Gerald Ford  
C. John Lewis  
**D. Nancy Pelosi**
- 23) Which state became first state to list Masala Bond in overseas market?  
A. Tamil Nadu B. Karnataka  
**C. Kerala** D. Bihar
- 24) \_\_\_\_\_ observed as World Metrology Day  
**A. May 20** B. June 5  
C. July 26 D. August 6
- 25) Which state Government to revamp 'Ujala Clinics' for adolescents?  
**A. Rajasthan** B. Tamil Nadu  
C. Kerala D. Odisha
- 26) Which charity entered the Guinness Book of World Records for its hunger relief efforts?  
A. United Methodist Committee on Relief  
**B. PCT Humanity**  
C. GiveIndia Charity  
D. Saint Camillus Foundation
- 27) When is the Anti-Terrorism day observed in India?  
A. May 5 B. May 8  
**C. May 21** D. May 30
- 28) The Anti-Terrorism day is to mark the \_\_\_\_\_.  
**A. assassination of former Prime Minister Rajiv Gandhi**  
B. 1998 Coimbatore bombings  
C. 25 August 2003 Mumbai bombings  
D. assassination of Mahatma Gandhi in 1948
- 29) Who Registers New Fintech Firm in Switzerland?  
**A. Facebook**  
B. Twitter  
C. Instagram  
D. Whatsapp messenger
- 30) Which of the following is a mission to Mercury?  
A. Cassini-Huygens mission  
B. Voyager 2 mission  
C. Parker mission  
**D. BepiColombo mission**



- 31) when is the World Intellectual Property Day celebrated?  
A. 2nd April    B. 10th April  
C. 17th April    **D. 26th April**
- 32) What is the current status of Indian Army in inducting women as jawans?  
**A. Started to induct**  
B. It will not induct  
C. Discussion is still on  
D. None of the above
- 33) Who is the first non-European to win the Nobel Prize in Literature in 1913?  
A. Ramdhari Singh Dinkar  
B. Kailash Satyarthi  
C. Akilan  
**D. Rabindranath Tagore**
- 34) Who won the Rabindranath Tagore Literary Prize 2019?  
A. Meghna Pant  
**B. Rana Dasgupta**  
C. Avalok Langer  
D. Janice Pariat
- 35) Kim Jong-un, Vladimir Putin hold first summit talks in \_\_\_\_\_  
**A. Vladivostok**  
B. France  
C. United States  
D. Russia
- 36) Who won gold in 10m air pistol at the International Shooting Sport Federation (ISSF) World Cup?  
**A. Abhishek Verma**  
B. Artem Chernousov  
C. Jitu Rai  
D. Vijay Kumar
- 37) Which of the Sri Lankan IGP resigned after the deadly Easter bomb attacks?  
A. Chandra Fernando  
B. Victor Perera  
**C. Pujith Jayasundara**  
D. Jayantha Wickramaratne
- 38) US \_\_\_\_\_ to extend the sanctions waiver for India to import crude from Iran.  
A. accepted  
**B. refused**  
C. did not respond  
D. None of these
- 39) When is the World Immunization Week 2019 observed?  
A. Last week of March  
B. Second week of April  
**C. Last week of April**  
D. First week of May
- 40) India did not participate in the Belt and Road Forum (BRF) for the \_\_\_\_\_ time was concluded in Beijing, China 2019.  
**A. 2nd**                      B. 3rd  
C. 4th                      D. 5<sup>th</sup>

- 41) What is the theme of World Immunization Week 2019?  
A. Close the immunization gap  
B. Are you up-to-date  
C. Protect your world – get vaccinated  
**D. Protected Together: Vaccines Work**
- 42) \_\_\_\_\_ bag one gold, two silver medals at Asian Boxing Championships  
**A.India**  
B.Pakistan  
C.Saudi Arabia  
D.Indonesia
- 43) Which popular scriptwriter won the Master Deenanath Mangeshkar Award 2019?  
A.Javed Akhtar  
**B.Salim Khan**  
C.Mani Ratnam  
D.Rajkumar Hirani
- 44) When is the World Day for Safety and Health at Work observed?  
A.24th April    B.25th April  
C.27th April    **D.28th April**
- 45) What is the theme of the World Veterinary Day 2019?  
**A.Value of Vaccination**  
B.Quality care  
C.Enriching the lives  
D.Care as if
- 46) When is the World Veterinary Day celebrated?  
A.12th April    B.16th April  
C.22nd April    **D.28th April**
- 47) Which country initiated the Belt and Road Initiative (BRI)?  
A.India    B.Indonesia  
**C.China**    D.Nepal
- 48) When is the National Technology Day observed?  
A.10 May    **B.11 May**  
C.12 May    D.13 May
- 49) The first nuclear test Pokhran was codenamed as \_\_\_\_\_.  
A.Crystal clear Vision  
B.Vision  
C.The Mahavir  
**D.Smiling Buddha**
- 50) When was the Pokhran I test carried out?  
A.1947    B.1956  
**C.1974**    D.1982
- 51) Where is the Pokhran Test Range of Indian Army located?  
A.Gujarat  
B.Himachal Pradesh  
C.Punjab  
**D.Rajasthan**
- 52) When is the International Nurses Day (IND) observed?  
A.10 May    **B.12 May**  
C.14 May    D.16 May

- 53) What is the theme for the International Nurses Day (IND) 2019?  
 A. Be patient with patients who are not patient  
 B. Nurses: On Call with Care  
**C. Nurses: A voice to lead - Health for All**  
 D. Keep Calm and Thank a Nurse
- 54) \_\_\_\_\_ Finance Commission hold meetings with Eminent Economists  
**A.15th** B.12th  
 C.18th D.25th
- 55) Which of the following has announced its withdrawal from the UN Arms Trade Treaty?  
 A.Russia B.UK  
**C.US** D.China
- 56) Which country topped the SIPRI Report on biggest Military Spender in 2018?  
**A.U4S** B.UK  
 C.Russia D.India
- 57) India is the \_\_\_\_\_ biggest Military Spender in 2018, as per the SIPRI Report.  
 A.2nd **B.4th**  
 C.6th D.18<sup>th</sup>
- 58) When is the Maharashtra Day and Gujarat Day celebrated in India?  
**A.May 1** B.May 2  
 C.May 5 D.May 10
- 59) What is the theme of Labour Day 2019?  
**A. Uniting Workers for Social and Economic Advancement**  
 B. International Labour Movement Celebration  
 C. Providing of the Job with helping of the Capital  
 D. Employment promotion
- 60) Who is the only female cricketer recommended by BCCI for Arjuna Award 2019?  
 A.Mithali Raj  
 B.Smriti Mandhana  
**C.Poonam Yadav**  
 D.Harmanpreet Kaur
- 61) When is the Ayushman Bharat Diwas celebrated in India?  
 A.April 29th **B.April 30th**  
 C.May 1st D.May 2nd
- 62) Which country set a Guinness World Record for the number of national flags raised in a city for 24 hours?  
 A.Cyprus B.Jordan  
**C.Lebanon** D.Israel
- 63) Coffee Table book on Architecture & Landscape of Rashtrapati Bhawan presented to \_\_\_\_\_  
**A.UAE Minister of Tolerance**  
 B.Home Minister of India  
 C.Finance Minister of India  
 D.Defence Minister of India

- 64) Which of the following defines the boundaries for the states within India on the basis of languages?  
 A. State Bipartition Act, 1947  
 B. States Bifurcation Act, 1949  
 C. States Bifurcation Act, 1950  
**D. States Reorganisation Act, 1956**
- 65) For the Rashtriya Uchchatar Shiksha Abhiyan scheme, Tamil Nadu falls under \_\_\_\_\_ category.  
 A.Backward B.Special Status  
**C.General** D.Most backward
- 66) When was the Rashtriya Uchchatar Shiksha Abhiyan scheme launched?  
 A.2012 **B.2013**  
 C.2014 D.2015
- 67) Where is Varuna 19.1, the first part of the Indo-French joint naval exercise being held?  
**A.Goa** B.Djibouti  
 C.Kolkata D.Chennai
- 68) Which of the following is Indian Navy's vessel.s is to take part in Varuna 19.1?  
 A.INS Vikramaditya  
 B.INS Mumbai  
 C.INS Tarkash  
**D.All the above**
- 69) When is the World Tuna day observed?  
**A.2nd May** B.3rd May  
 C.15th May D.16th May
- 70) Which of the following is the naval exercise between India and French?  
 A. SLINEX 2 B. SIMBEX  
 C.Aman-19 **D. Varuna 19.1**
- 71) Who attained world number one spot in women's 10 m air rifle event?  
 A.Manu Bhaker  
**B.Apurvi Chandela**  
 C.Elizabeth Koshy  
 D.Tejaswini Sawant
- 72) Who becomes 1st Indian to break into top 25 of World Rankings in Table Tennis  
**A.G Sathiyam**  
**B.Ramesh**  
 C.Dinesh Karthick  
 D.Rajesh Kumar
- 73) The Indian government announced \_\_\_\_\_ number plates mandate for all electric vehicles.  
 A.blue B.brown  
 C.indigo **D.green**
- 74) When is the World Press Freedom Day celebrated?  
 A.1st May  
 B.1st friday of May  
**C.3rd May**  
 D.5th May
- 75) WTO Ministerial Meeting Inaugurated In \_\_\_\_\_  
**A.New Delhi** B.Chennai  
 C.Hyderabad D.Mumbai

- 76) Who won gold at Ali Aliev tournament in Russia  
A. Sushil Kumar  
B. Yoghewaran  
**C. Bajrang Punia**  
D. Pawn Kumar
- 77) Whose autobiography titled 'Game Changer' was unveiled?  
A. Rahul Dravid  
B. Shane Watson  
**C. Shahid Afridi**  
D. Sourav Ganguly
- 78) Which country first privately developed rocket "Momo-3" which was launched into space successfully?  
**A. Japan** B. China  
C. Pakistan D. Indonesia
- 79) Which company appointed Virat Kohli, Anushka Sharma as first brand ambassadors?  
**A. Myntra**  
B. Dell  
C. Book My show  
D. Samsung
- 80) PC Chandra Puraskaar 2019 conferred to \_\_\_\_\_  
**A. Devi Prasad Shetty**  
B. Suresh kumar  
C. Rajesh Sharma  
D. Naresh Karthick
- 81) Where was the G-8 +5 meet held in 2005?  
A. Biarritz, France  
B. Stockholm, Sweden  
C. Vienna, Austria  
**D. Gleneagles, Scotland**
- 82) Which of the following country invited India to attend the Group of 7 (G7) industrialised nations meet?  
A. Italy B. China  
**C. France** D. US
- 83) Which of the following launched Dragon spacecraft on a cargo mission for NASA to ISS?  
A. Israel Space Agency  
B. JAXA  
C. ISRO  
**D. SpaceX**
- 84) Which of the following is to bring 100 companies under the country's largest annual trade mission program?  
A. Russia **B. US**  
C. UK D. China
- 85) Who won the Asian Individual Squash Championship titles?  
A. Ramit tandon & Kush Kumar  
**B. Saurav Ghosal & Joshna Chinappa**  
C. Abdul Bari & Anroop  
D. Anwesha reddy & Sunayna Kuruvilla



- 86) Who is honoured with V K Krishna Menon Award?  
A. Vikram Kumar  
**B. G D 'Robert' Govender**  
C. Nitish raj  
D. Rakesh Sharma
- 87) When is the World Red Cross Day observed?  
**A. May 8** B. June 6  
C. March 10 D. July 5
- 88) Which of the following asteroid is will fly towards the Earth in 10 years?  
A. 4 Vesta  
B. Ceres  
C. 433 Eros  
**D. 99942 Apophis**
- 89) Under which conservation status of IUCN does the Purple Frog fall?  
A. Vulnerable  
**B. Endangered**  
C. Critically endangered  
D. Extinct
- 90) How many members are there in the Arctic Council?  
**A. 8** B. 9  
C. 10 D. 12
- 91) When is the World Thalassaemia Day 2019 observed?  
A. 5th May **B. 8th May**  
C. 12th May D. 16th May
- 92) Who among the following is the US Presidential Medal of Freedom awardee?  
A. Arnold Palmer  
B. Jack Nicklaus  
C. Charlie Sifforg  
**D. All the above**
- 93) Who initiated the US Presidential Medal of Freedom award?  
A. U.S. President Trump  
B. U.S. President Lincoln  
**C. U.S. President Truman**  
D. U.S. President Kennedy
- 94) United Nations to hold Ocean Conference 2020 in \_\_\_\_\_  
**A. Portugal** B. Saudi Arabia  
C. Indonesia D. India
- 95) 58th Venice Biennale is held from 11th May to 24th November 2019 at \_\_\_\_\_  
**A. Italy** B. Saudi Arabia  
C. Pakistan D. Indonesia
- 96) Which city has been selected by facebook as the center to develop WhatsApp's mobile payment service?  
**A. London** B. New York  
C. Bangkok D. Hong Kong
- 97) What is the name of the World's first Women cricket magazine?  
A. Bike India  
B. Wisden Asia Cricket  
C. Sportstar  
**D. CRICZONE**

- 98) According to UNEP Report, which two countries tops a list of nations for illegal sand mining?  
 A. Pakistan and Indonesia  
**B. India and China**  
 C. Saudi Arabia and Iran  
 D. South Africa and Australia
- 99) Which country had begun testing the ALFA-X version of its fastest-ever Shinkansen bullet train that could reach 400 km per hour?  
**A. Japan**  
 C. India
- 100) Who has been conferred with the 2019 McCain Institute Award for Courage and Leadership?  
 A. Vikram Kumar  
**B. Chhaya Sharma**  
 C. Ramesh yadav  
 D. Dilip Kumar
- B. Pakistan  
 D. Indonesia

### ANSWER Key

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
B	A	C	B	D	B	A	D	A	C
11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20
D	B	A	D	D	C	D	A	B	B
21	22	23	24	25	26	27	28	29	30
A	D	C	A	A	B	C	A	A	D
31	32	33	34	35	36	37	38	39	40
D	A	D	B	A	A	C	B	C	A
41	42	43	44	45	46	47	48	49	50
D	A	B	D	A	D	C	B	D	C
51	52	53	54	55	56	57	58	59	60
D	B	C	A	C	A	B	A	A	C
61	62	63	64	65	66	67	68	69	70
B	C	A	D	C	B	A	D	A	D
71	72	73	74	75	76	77	78	79	80
B	A, B	D	C	A	C	C	A	A	A
81	82	83	84	85	86	87	88	89	90
D	C	D	B	B	B	A	D	B	A
91	92	93	94	95	96	97	98	99	100
B	D	C	A	A	A	D	B	A	B

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