

## Monthly Current Affairs Quiz – (February 2019)



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**1. The Africa Centre for Climate and Sustainable Development was established by which country government in partnership with the UN's Development Programme (UNDP) and FAO?**

- A. Italy
- B. France
- C. China
- D. India
- E. None of these

**Answer: A**

Italian Prime Minister Giuseppe Conte has opened a new centre, set up by the government in partnership with the UN to fight climate change and boost sustainable development in Africa. The new centre is located near the headquarters of the Food and Agriculture Organisation (FAO) in Rome

**2. RBI lifted lending curbs on three public sector banks, which of the following bank is not one of them?**

- A. Bank of India
- B. Bank of Maharashtra
- C. Oriental Bank of Commerce
- D. Indian Overseas Bank
- E. Both A and B

**Answer: D**

RBI lifted lending curbs on three public sector banks (PSBs), Bank of India, Bank of Maharashtra and Oriental Bank of Commerce to exit the PCA framework following capital infusion by the government and a decline in net non-performing asset ratio

**3. Ujjivan Small Finance Bank (SFB) launched Ujjivan Bank Kisan Suvidha loan to offer financial credit services to small and marginal farmers, Ujjivan Small Finance Bank headquarters located in?**

- A. Chennai
- B. Bangalore
- C. Hyderabad
- D. Kochi
- E. None of these

**Answer: B**

Ujjivan Small Finance Bank (SFB) launched Ujjivan Bank Kisan Suvidha loan to offer financial credit services to small and marginal farmers. Ujjivan Small Finance Bank headquarters located in Bangalore

**4. The government revised its forecast for GDP growth for 2017-18 to how much percent from 6.7%?**

- A. 7.0%
- B. 7.1%
- C. 7.2%
- D. 7.3%

E. None of these

**Answer: C**

The government revised its forecast for GDP growth for 2017-18 to 7.2% from the earlier estimate of 6.7%.

**5. Which of the following company acquired hotel booking platform Nightstay, launching the domestic hotel bookings on its platform for an undisclosed amount?**

- A. Paytm
- B. Flipkart
- C. Amazon
- D. Shopclues
- E. None of these

**Answer: A**

Indian payments conglomerate Paytm acquired hotel booking platform Nightstay, launching the domestic hotel bookings on its platform for an undisclosed amount

**6. Who has been assumed charge as Director General of NCC (DGNCC)?**

- A. Varun Kumar
- B. Arun Varma
- C. Rajeev Chopra
- D. Mahesh Chand
- E. None of these

**Answer: C**

Lt Gen Rajeev Chopra assumed charge as Director General of NCC (DGNCC). Lt Gen Chopra is an alumnus of the National Defence Academy, Khadakwasla and Indian Military Academy, Dehradun

**7. Who took charge as the Flag Officer Commanding-in-Chief of the Western Naval Command at Mumbai?**

- A. Harish Singh
- B. Ajit Kumar
- C. Dhinesh Gupta
- D. Sachin Rathore
- E. None of these

**Answer: B**

Vice Admiral Ajit Kumar P took over as the Flag Officer Commanding-in-Chief of the Western Naval Command at Mumbai. He succeeds Vice Admiral Girish Luthra who retires upon superannuation, after a career spanning nearly four decades in the Indian Navy

**8. Which bank announced the appointment of Ajai Kumar as interim MD-CEO of the bank for one month?**

- A. Federal Bank
- B. HDFC Bank
- C. Axis Bank
- D. ICICI Bank
- E. Yes Bank

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**Answer: E**

Yes Bank announced the appointment of Ajai Kumar as interim MD-CEO of the bank for one month or till Ravneet Gill assumes office as MD-CEO, whichever is earlier

**9. PETROTECH-2019, the 13th International Oil & Gas Conference & Exhibition will held in which city?**

- A. Hyderabad
- B. Mumbai
- C. New Delhi
- D. Noida
- E. None of these

**Answer: D**

PETROTECH-2019, the 13th International Oil & Gas Conference & Exhibition, being organised under the aegis of the Ministry of Petroleum & Natural Gas, Government of India, is all set to be inaugurated on February 10, 2019.

Along with the Conference, the event will have a concurrent Exhibition spread over 20,000 square meters at India Expo Mart, Greater Noida

**10. Defence Minister Nirmala Sitharaman approved indigenous construction of six submarines worth how much amount?**

- A. 30,000 crore
- B. 40,000 crore
- C. 50,000 crore
- D. 70,000 crore
- E. None of these

**Answer: B**

The Defence Acquisitions Council, DAC chaired by Defence Minister Nirmala Sitharaman approved indigenous construction of six submarines worth 40,000 crore rupees

**11. Israel Aerospace Industries announced entering into agreements worth \$93 million for providing Naval MRSAM systems to which country?**

- A. Japan
- B. China
- C. India
- D. Russia
- E. None of these

**Answer: C**

Israel Aerospace Industries announced entering into agreements worth \$93 million for providing Naval MRSAM (Medium Range Surface to Air Missile) systems to India

**12. The Indian Space Research Organisation (ISRO) has planned to launch which communication satellite, from the French Guiana?**

- A. GSAT-31
- B. GSAT-30
- C. GSAT-29
- D. GSAT-28
- E. None of these

**Answer: A**

The Indian Space Research Organisation (ISRO) has planned to launch the GSAT-31 communication satellite, from the French Guiana on 6th February, to replace INSAT-4CR

**13. International Cricket Council (ICC) announced a five year global partnership deal with which company?**

- A. Flipkart
- B. Paytm
- C. Amazon
- D. Coca-Cola
- E. None of these

**Answer: D**

The International Cricket Council (ICC) announced a five year global partnership deal with beverage manufacturer Coca-Cola Company

**14. Globally, On which day World Wetlands Day is observed annually?**

- A. 2nd February
- B. 3rd January
- C. 5th February
- D. 5th January
- E. 10th December

**Answer: A**

World Wetlands Day is celebrated every year on 2 February. This day marks the date of the adoption of the Convention on Wetlands on 2 February 1971. This day established to raise awareness about the value of wetlands for humanity and the planet. WWD was celebrated for the first time in 1997. Theme for 2019 is – Wetlands and Climate Change]

**15. Rajasthan CM Ashok Gehlot announced the monthly allowance scheme for educated, unemployed youth from March 1. Through this scheme unemployed boys will receive \_\_\_\_\_ while girls will get an assistance of \_\_\_\_\_ rupees as monthly unemployment allowance.**

- A. Rs.3500 and Rs.3000
- B. Rs.3000 and Rs.3500
- C. Rs.3500 and Rs.3500
- D. Rs.3000 and Rs.3000
- E. Rs.4000 and Rs.2000

**Answer: B**

Rajasthan CM Ashok Gehlot announced the monthly allowance scheme for educated, unemployed youth from March 1. Through this scheme unemployed boys will receive Rs. 3,000 while girls will get an assistance of Rs. 3,500 as monthly unemployment allowance. The new scheme is likely to benefit one lakh educated youth in the state and cost the exchequer Rs 525 crore

**16. Which state government has banned import of pigs and piglets to prevent outbreak of a disease that has cost the lives of thousands of swines in the state?**

- A. Manipur
- B. Sikkim
- C. Mizoram
- D. Meghalaya
- E. Tripura

**Answer: C**

Mizoram government has banned import of pigs and piglets to prevent outbreak of a disease that has cost the lives of

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thousands of swines in the state. The porcine reproductive and respiratory syndrome (PRRS) has cost the lives of over 10,000 swines in Mizoram since 2013 and it is believed that it happened due to import of pigs and piglets from Myanmar where the disease was known to be prevalent

**17. The United Nations announced 2019 as the International Year of the Periodic Table of the Chemical Elements to highlight its first publication in 1869. Where does the United Nations headquartered?**

- A. Singapore
- B. Geneva
- C. Washington D.C
- D. New York
- E. Paris

**Answer: D**

The United Nations announced 2019 as the International Year of the Periodic Table of the Chemical Elements to highlight its first publication in 1869. The periodic table was first designed by the Russian scientist Dmitri Ivanovich Mendeleev. The announcement by the United Nations will help to raise the profile of how chemistry can provide solutions to global challenges in agriculture, education, energy and health.

**18. Name the P2P Lending platform, that has received its NBFC - Peer-to-Peer (P2P) certification from the RBI recently?**

- A. Spacebox
- B. Virtualbox
- C. Mousebox
- D. Jetbox
- E. Lendbox

**Answer: E**

Delhi based P2P Lending platform, Lendbox has received its NBFC – Peer-to-Peer (P2P) certification from the RBI. NBFC-P2P is a new class of NBFCs, for non-banking institutions which carry on the business of Peer to Peer Lending in adherence to the guidelines released by Reserve Bank of India (RBI). Lendbox began operations in November 2015 and is one of India's largest P2P Lending platforms with almost 200,000 registered users and a loan book size of almost 40 crores.

**19. The Punjab National Bank associated life insurance company, PNB MetLife has introduced whom as its brand ambassador?**

- A. PV Sindhu
- B. Sina Nehwal
- C. MS Dhoni
- D. Aravinda Swamy
- E. Virat Kohli

**Answer: A**

The Punjab National Bank associated life insurance company, PNB MetLife has introduced the ace shuttler PV Sindhu as its brand ambassador. Sindhu will support various initiatives under project Damini, a CSR initiative intended to empower girls at every stage of the journey into womanhood.

**20. Who was appointed as new Ambassador to the Republic of Colombia?**

- A. Rajeev Tripathi
- B. Sanjiv Ranjan
- C. Somnath Chaterji
- D. Amith Barou
- E. Venkanna Chowadry

**Answer: B**

Ministry of External Affairs announced that Sanjiv Ranjan appointed as new Ambassador to the Republic of Colombia. Ranjan is the current Ambassador to Argentina, is expected to take up the assignment shortly. He was 1993 batch Indian Foreign Service officer holds a bachelor in Economics from Delhi University and an M.A. in International Relations from Jawaharlal Nehru University. The government also appointed Dinesh Bhatia, the present Consul General, Consulate General of India at Toronto as the next Ambassador of India to Argentina.

**21. 'ICT Academy Bridge 2019' conference inaugurated in which city?**

- A. Hyderabad
- B. Bangalore
- C. Chennai
- D. Thiruvananthapuram
- E. Bhubaneswar

**Answer: C**

Dr. M. Manikandan, Minister for Information Technology, Government of Tamil Nadu, inaugurated 'ICT Academy Bridge 2019' conference. The 37th edition of the conference is the largest Industry-Institute Interaction Event of Asia, Organized by ICT Academy. Theme of the event – "Fostering India for Industry 4.0",

**22. Who won the soccer title by beating four-time champion Japan 3-1 in the Asian Cup final?**

- A. India
- B. Oman
- C. South Korea
- D. Qatar
- E. UAE

**Answer: D**

Qatar won its first soccer title by beating four-time champion Japan 3-1 in the Asian Cup final. Qatar's Almoez Ali became the first player to score nine goals at a single Asian Cup. This was the first time that Japan lost in an Asian Cup final.

**23. Indian athlete Vani Kapoor is related with which sport?**

- A. Cricket
- B. Tennis
- C. Table Tennis
- D. Swimming
- E. Golf

**Answer: E**

Vani Kapoor became the first Indian to earn a card for the Australian Ladies PGA Tour (LPGA) after coming through

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its first-ever Qualifying Tournament at the Ballarat Golf Club in Ballarat, Australia. Vani Kapoor finished tied-12th in the first-ever Australian LPGA Qualifying Tournament. The top-20 from a field of 81 earned playing rights on the Australian LPGA

**24. World Cancer Day takes place every year on 4 February to increase awareness of cancer. What is the theme of the day for the year 2019?**

- A. I am and I will
- B. We can. I can
- C. Not Beyond Us
- D. Debunk the Myths
- E. Together let's do something

**Answer: A**

World Cancer Day takes place every year on 4 February to increase awareness of cancer, and to encourage its prevention, early detection and treatment. This year, **Union for International Cancer Control**, which organizes World Cancer Day, is launching a new 3-year campaign with the theme: **"I Am and I Will."** The campaign is an empowering call-to-action urging for personal commitment and represents the power of individual action taken now to impact the future

**25. According to the 2018 report of the World Travel and Tourism Council (WTTC), India ranked at what position in the tourism sector?**

- A. First
- B. Second
- C. Third
- D. Fourth
- E. Fifth

**Answer: C**

The country's tourism sector fetched 234 billion US Dollar revenue last year, registering a growth of over 19%. This revenue was contributed by 87 per cent domestic and 13 per cent foreign tourists. According to the 2018 report of the World Travel and Tourism Council (WTTC), India is ranked third in the tourism sector

**26. Which is the first-of-a-kind report analyses the current and future importance of rail around the world launched by Piyush Goyal?**

- A. Rail with Public
- B. Railway Progress
- C. The Future of Rail
- D. Rail and Rail Yatra
- E. None of these

**Answer: C**

Minister of Railways & Coal, Shri Piyush Goyal launched the report "The Future of Rail" of International Energy Agency (IEA). "The Future of Rail" the first-of-a-kind report analyses the current and future importance of rail around the world through the perspective of its energy and environmental implications. The report reviews the impact of existing plans and regulations on the future of rail and explores the policies that could help to realise an enhanced future of the railways.

**27. Recently, PM Modi inaugurated 294 km long electrified railway lines in which state?**

- A. Maharashtra
- B. Madhya Pradesh
- C. Rajasthan
- D. West Bengal
- E. Uttarakhand

**Answer: D**

Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi inaugurated Railway electrification of 294-km long **Andal-Sainthia-Pakur-Malda** and **Khana-Sainthia** sections in West Bengal. Electrification of this section will enable ease of transportation of coal, stone chips and ballast to North and North East India in a seamless manner. He also dedicated the twenty kilometre long **Hijli-Narayangarh** third line to the Nation

**28. Sri Lanka celebrating its \_\_\_\_\_ Independence Day on 4 February 2019?**

- A. 68th
- B. 69th
- C. 70th
- D. 71st
- E. 72nd

**Answer: D**

The 71<sup>st</sup> National Day of Sri Lanka is celebrated on **4 February** to commemorate its internal political independence from British rule on that day in 1948. The main function will be held at Galle face grounds in Colombo where President Maithripala Sirisena will be chief guest. Maldives President Ibrahim Mohamed Solih will attend the function as guest of honour. A total of 545 prisoners have been granted Presidential pardon to mark the occasion and will be released

**29. "Nasr" is a Short-Range Ballistic Missile that belongs to which country?**

- A. India
- B. Bhutan
- C. China
- D. South Korea
- E. Pakistan

**Answer: E**

Pakistan Army successfully test-fired the short range surface-to-surface ballistic missile "Nasr" with a strike range of about 70 km. Nasr is a high precision, shoot and scoot weapon system with the ability of in-flight maneuverability

**30. Which state government declared the endangered Indus river dolphins, one of the world's rarest mammals, as the state's aquatic animal?**

- A. Punjab
- B. Manipur
- C. Delhi
- D. Jharkhand
- E. Gujarat

**Answer: A**

Punjab government declared the endangered Indus river dolphins, one of the world's rarest mammals, as the state's

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aquatic animal. The decision was taken at the a meeting of the state board for wildlife chaired by chief minister Captain Amarinder Singh. At present, there are only around 1,800 of these in the Indus in Pakistan. Their population in the Beas is between 8 to 10. The chief minister also gave approval to declare the Kanjli Wetland and the holy Kali Bein River as a wildlife conservation reserve to mark the historic 550th birth anniversary of Sikhism founder Guru Nanak Dev.

**31. Microsoft India entered into a pact with the which state government to improve the education system in the state by boosting digital literacy?**

- A. Nagaland
- B. Tripura
- C. Sikkim
- D. Manipur
- E. Mizoram

**Answer: C**

Microsoft India entered into a pact with the Sikkim state government to improve the education system in the state by boosting digital literacy and the knowledge of new-age technology among students and teachers in government schools. As part of the collaboration, Microsoft would support the state in integrating IT content in the state board curriculum and build student capacity besides building teacher capacity through the Microsoft Educator Network and Innovative Educator Program

**32. Who has been appointed the Director of the Central Bureau of Investigation?**

- A. Dinesh Tripathi
- B. Rishi Kumar Shukla
- C. Sarath Chandra
- D. Rakesh Verma
- E. Vinod Kumar Boopathy

**Answer: B**

Former Madhya Pradesh Director General of Police Rishi Kumar Shukla has been appointed the Director of the Central Bureau of Investigation. Mr Shukla, a 1983-batch officer, will head the CBI for a period of two years. His appointment was made a day after the second meeting of a high-powered committee comprising PM Modi, Chief Justice Ranjan Gogoi and opposition leader Mallikarjun Kharge

**33. Nilambar Acharya appointed as which countries ambassador to India?**

- A. Malaysia
- B. Sri Lanka
- C. Vietnam
- D. Nepal
- E. Bangladesh

**Answer: D**

Former Law Minister of Nepal Nilambar Acharya has been appointed as country's ambassador to India. The position of the Nepalese ambassador to India was vacant for more than a year after **Deep Kumar Upadhyay** resigned. President Bidya Devi Bhandari administered the oath of office and secrecy to

Mr. Acharya in Kathmandu. Mr. Acharya had also served as Nepal's envoy to Sri Lanka

**34. Who among the following was given an additional charge of the Civil Aviation Ministry?**

- A. Ramesh Abhishek
- B. Sanjay Kothari
- C. S. K Sinha
- D. Rajesh Kotecha
- E. Anant Narayan Nanda

**Answer: A**

Ramesh Abhishek, secretary of the Department of Industrial Policy and Promotion (DIPP), was given an additional charge of the Civil Aviation Ministry. The Appointments Committee of the Cabinet has approved assignment of additional charge of the post of secretary, Civil Aviation Ministry, to Abhishek. Choubey has been named as member of the Union Public Service Commission (UPSC).

**35. International Spice Conference 2019 held in which city?**

- A. Vijayawada
- B. Hyderabad
- C. Vishakhapatnam
- D. Warangal
- E. Tirupati

**Answer: B**

International Spice Conference 2019 held in Hyderabad. The International Spice Conference aims to provide a platform for all stakeholders of the industry including the business houses, the spice associations, the policymakers, the farmers and the end users, to address and interact. Theme of the conference is "Challenges of Change: Redefining the Value Chain"

**36. According to the latest ICC women's ODI rankings who among the following batters topped the list?**

- A. Mithali Raj
- B. Ellyse Perry
- C. Smriti Mandhana
- D. Meg Lanning
- E. Harmanpreet Kaur

**Answer: C**

Indian opener Smriti Mandhana has climbed three spots in the batters' list to become number one in the latest ICC women's ODI rankings. Ellyse Perry is second in the rankings, while another Aussie Meg Lanning is third. Indian ODI skipper Mithali Raj has slipped to the fifth position. In the ODI Bowler's rankings, veteran pacer Jhulan Goswami is fourth, with Poonam Yadav at eighth, and fellow spinner Deepti Sharma at ninth. Deepti is fourth in the All-rounders standings and is the sole Indian in the top-10.

**37. Which team won the fourth edition of the Pro Wrestling League (PWL)?**

- A. Delhi Sultans
- B. Mumbai Maharathi
- C. NCR Punjab Royals
- D. UP Dangal
- E. Haryana Hammers

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**Answer: E**

Haryana Hammers won the fourth edition of the **Pro Wrestling League (PWL)** as they outclassed Punjab Royals 6-3 in the summit clash at the Gautam Buddha University indoor stadium. Riding on Aleksander Khotsianivski, Ali Shabanov, Kiran, Ravi Kumar and Anastasia Nichita's dominating performance, the runners-up in the last three editions, Haryana Hammers, turned the tables on the defending champions Punjab Royals winning all the first five bouts of the evening to clinch the title

**38. Sana Mir is related with which sport?**

- A. Tennis
- B. Wrestling
- C. Badminton
- D. Cricket
- E. Shooting

**Answer: D**

Former captain of the Pakistan women team Sana Mir has become the first Asian woman to play hundred T20Is. Sana Mir is one of Pakistan's most senior women cricketers and has been representing the country since 2005. The 33-year-old reached the milestone when she walked into the field for the ongoing third and final T20I against West Indies in Karachi. Mir is the only sixth woman from around the world to play 100 T20Is. West Indian Deandra Dottin leads the list with 109 T20Is

**39. India-Monaco Business forum 2019 held in which city?**

- A. New Delhi
- B. Mumbai
- C. Kolkata
- D. Varanasi
- E. Bhubaneswar

**Answer: A**

Union Minister of Commerce & Industry and Civil Aviation, Suresh Prabhu, addressed the India-Monaco Business Forum in New Delhi. Bilateral trade between India and Monaco in 2017-18 was USD 3.01 million, and there is immense potential to scale up the bilateral trade between the two nations. Monaco is ranked 106th among foreign direct investor in India (from April 2000 to June 2018) with USD 2.51 million FDI equity inflow

**40. According to a report released by National Bulk Handling Corporation (NBHC), by what percentage did the production of basmati rice is expected to decline for the year 2018-19?**

- A. 9.0%
- B. 9.24%
- C. 9.6%
- D. 9.74%
- E. 9.94%

**Answer: B**

National Bulk Handling Corporation (NBHC) has released kharif crop estimation for the year 2018-19 which shows that basmati rice production is expected to decline by 9.24% to

5.18 million metric tonne. The pulses production is projected to drop marginally to 9.10 million tonne from 9.35 million tonne last year. Total oilseeds production is estimated to be 19.87 million metric tonne which is 5.36 % lower than last year's of 21 million metric tonne.

**41. Which Indian state has become the first State to set up a price monitoring and research unit (PMRU) to track violation of prices of essential drugs and medical devices under the Drugs Price Control Order (DPCO)?**

- A. Rajasthan
- B. West Bengal
- C. Kerala
- D. Karnataka
- E. Andhra Pradesh

**Answer: C**

Kerala has become the first State to set up a price monitoring and research unit (PMRU) to track violation of prices of essential drugs and medical devices under the Drugs Price Control Order (DPCO). The move comes more than five years after the National Pharmaceutical Pricing Authority (NPPA) proposed such a system for the States and the Union Territories.

**42. "Sopan 2019" The Festival of Young Musicians and Dancers held in which city?**

- A. Bangalore
- B. Hyderabad
- C. Chennai
- D. New Delhi
- E. Jodhpur

**Answer: D**

Music and dance festival 'Sopan 2019' has started, to encourage young and upcoming artistes to take up traditional art, in New Delhi. It is organised by Sahitya Kala Parishad and the Delhi government in association with New Delhi Municipal Council (NDMC). These six day long festival is an opportunity for upcoming talents from vocals and instruments to dance forms to set an audience base for themselves

**43. Which state approved new policies for MSME and pharmaceutical sectors with a view to boosting the industrial growth and attracting investment in the state Pharmaceutical Policy 2019?**

- A. Punjab
- B. Chhattisgarh
- C. Madhya Pradesh
- D. Gujarat
- E. Haryana

**Answer: E**

The Haryana government approved new policies for MSME and pharmaceutical sectors with a view to boosting the industrial growth and attracting investment in the state Haryana Pharmaceutical Policy 2019. Aiming to attract investment in the pharmaceutical sector to the tune of Rs. 2,000 crore and to generate 25,000 new jobs, and establish a

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state-of-the-art Pharma Park at Karnal and to develop Haryana into a hub for pharmaceutical manufacturing.

**44. The Asian Development Bank (ADB) has bought a 14% stake in which Indian micro-financier company?**

- A. Janalakshmi Financial Services Pvt Ltd
- B. Sonata Finance Pvt Ltd
- C. Asmitha Microfin Ltd
- D. SKS Microfinance Ltd
- E. Annapurna Finance

**Answer: E**

The Asian Development Bank (ADB) has bought a 14% stake in micro-financier Annapurna Finance for **Rs. 137 crore**, reinforcing the belief that India's microfinance sector is on course to attracting long-term funds from global lenders and investors. The expansion of equity will help the firm expand its loan portfolio in asset classes such as MSME and affordable housing. ADB has backed MFIs to help achieve its broader objective of reducing poverty in Asia and the Pacific. The investment by ADB will expand Annapurna's net worth to Rs 580 crore.

**45. The Ministry of Finance has announced the amalgamation of which two regional rural banks to form Tamil Nadu Grama Bank?**

- A. Narmada Jhabua Gramin Bank, Pallavan Grama Bank
- B. Prathama Bank and Narmada Jhabua Gramin Bank
- C. Prathama Bank and Pallavan Grama Bank
- D. Pallavan Grama Bank and Pandyan Grama Bank
- E. Pandyan Grama Bank and Prathama Bank

**Answer: D**

The Ministry of Finance has announced the amalgamation of two regional rural banks in Tamilnadu- Pallavan Grama Bank, sponsored by Indian Bank and Pandyan Grama Bank, sponsored by Indian Overseas Bank (IOB) into a single regional rural bank in the state and name the new entity as Tamil Nadu Grama Bank. The amalgamated regional rural bank Tamil Nadu Grama Bank will be under the sponsorship of **Indian Bank**, with its head office at Salem. The amalgamation would be effective from 1 April.

**46. Which Online food ordering and delivery firm announced that it has acquired Bengaluru-based AI startup Kint.io an artificial intelligence (AI) startup, for an undisclosed sum?**

- A. Uber Eats
- B. Zomato
- C. Swiggy
- D. Food Panda
- E. None of these

**Answer: C**

Online food ordering and delivery firm Swiggy announced it has acquired Bengaluru-based AI startup Kint.io an artificial intelligence (AI) startup, for an undisclosed sum. **Acqui-hiring** refers to buying out a company or an entity **primarily for the skills and expertise of its staff**, rather than for its products or services. The team at Kint.io will join the company to boost its computer vision

technology and superior consumer experience. The founding members of Kint.io, Pavithra Solai Jawahar, and Jagannathan Veeraraghavan, will join the Swiggy team

**47. With which countries Ministry of Energy, Indian Ministry of Coal entered into MoU to foster relations in the field of coal mining and clean coal technologies?**

- A. Hungary
- B. Ukraine
- C. Republic of Poland
- D. Europe
- E. Germany

**Answer: C**

Ministry of Coal entered into a Memorandum of Understanding with Ministry of Energy, Republic of Poland. The MoU has been signed between Sh. Haribhai Parathibhai Chaudhary, Hon'ble Minister of State for Coal and Mines and Mr. Grzegorz Tobiszowski, Secretary of State, Ministry of Energy, Republic of Poland. The objective of this MoU is to foster relations in the field of coal mining and clean coal technologies through the already established Joint Coal Working Group as well as research institutes and academia between the two countries.

**48. Indian sports person Ramit Tandon, is related with which sport?**

- A. Squash
- B. Badminton
- C. Tennis
- D. Cricket
- E. Hockey

**Answer: A**

Indian squash player Ramit Tandon defeated Egyptian Mohamed El Sherbini in the finals to win the Seattle Open, a Professional Squash Association challenger squash Tour event. The Indian won 11-4, 11-7, 2-11, 11-2 for his first PSA title in 2019 and fourth title overall in his career.

**49. The National Green Tribunal imposed a cost of Rs. 25 lakh on the which state government for failing to stop dumping of sewage and untreated water in the Ganga Canal.**

- A. Uttar Pradesh
- B. Uttarakhand
- C. Madhya Pradesh
- D. Bihar
- E. Jharkhand

**Answer: A**

The National Green Tribunal imposed a cost of Rs. 25 lakh on the Uttar Pradesh government for failing to stop dumping of sewage and untreated water in the Upper Ganga Canal. A bench headed by NGT Chairperson Justice **Adarsh Kumar Goel** directed the urban development ministry to deposit a performance guarantee of Rs. 35 lakh.

**50. Recently, Road Transport and Highways Minister Nitin Gadkari laid the foundation stone for three highway projects worth over Rs. 2345 crore rupees in which state?**

- A. Meghalaya

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- B. Odisha  
C. Mizoram  
D. Madhya Pradesh  
E. Tripura

**Answer: B**

Road Transport and Highways Minister Nitin Gadkari laid the foundation stone for three highway projects worth over Rs. 2345 crore rupees. The projects including four-laning of the 41.7-km Talcher-Kamakhyanagar section of NH 200/23 (new NH 53) at a cost of Rs 795.18 crore. 51.1-km Kamakhyanagar-Duburi section of NH 200 (new NH 53 ) at a cost of Rs 761.11 crore and 39.4-km Duburi-Chandikhole section of NH 200 (new NH 53) at a cost of Rs 789.23 crore.

**51. Madhya Pradesh state government has made it mandatory for all industries to provide what percent of the jobs to locals?**

- A. 50%  
B. 50%  
C. 70%  
D. 75%  
E. 80%

**Answer: C**

Madhya Pradesh state government has made it mandatory for all industries to provide seventy percent of the jobs to locals. The government has decided to set up training sessions and employment fairs in each district to register unemployed youths. Youth will be first provided a stipend and later jobs under state's 70 percent clause.

**52. Boori Boot Yollo festival is celebrated in which state?**

- A. Andhra Pradesh  
B. Uttar Pradesh  
C. Madhya Pradesh  
D. Arunachal Pradesh  
E. Himachal Pradesh

**Answer: D**

The Nyishi tribe of Arunachal Pradesh is celebrating its fortnight-long Boori Boot Yollo festival. Boori Boot Yollo is observed in the month of February every year to welcome spring and a successful harvest. During the festival, people invoke God to bless them with prosperity and seek protection from any kind of disease. This festival is celebrated particularly in two districts of Arunachal, Upper Subansiri and Lower Subansiri district,

**53. Which country makes Siamese fighting fish national aquatic animal?**

- A. India  
B. Malaysia  
C. Bhutan  
D. UAE  
E. Thailand

**Answer: E**

Tiny, testy and eye-catching with a colourful fin plumage, the Siamese fighting fish was named Thailand's national aquatic animal. Thailand's official national animal is the elephant.

**54. What amount did the RBI has imposed a monetary penalty on UCO Bank for non-compliance of norms related to payment through cheques?**

- A. Rs.50 Lakh  
B. Rs.1 crore  
C. Rs.1.25 crore  
D. Rs.1.75 crore  
E. Rs.2 crore

**Answer: E**

The RBI has imposed a monetary penalty of Rs. 2 crore each on UCO Bank and Axis Bank, and Rs. 1 crore on Syndicate Bank. Penalty of Rs. 2 crore has been imposed each on Axis Bank and UCO Bank for non-compliance of norms related to payment through cheques. In another case, a penalty of Rs. 20 lakh has been imposed on Axis Bank for contravention of the directions related to detection and impounding of counterfeit notes. The penalty on Syndicate Bank has been imposed for violation of guidelines related to checking fraud and managing risk

**55. According to commerce and industry ministry, Foreign direct investment (FDI) into India has declined what per cent during April-September period of the current fiscal?**

- A. 8%  
B. 9%  
C. 10%  
D. 11%  
E. 12%

**Answer: D**

According to commerce and industry ministry, Foreign direct investment (FDI) into India has declined 11 per cent to \$ 22.66 billion during April-September period of the current fiscal. The foreign fund inflows during April-September 2017-18 stood at \$ 25.35 billion. Key sectors that received maximum foreign investment during the first six months of the fiscal include services (\$4.91 billion), computer software and hardware (\$2.54 billion), telecommunications (\$2.17 billion), trading (\$2.14 billion), chemicals (\$1.6 billion), and automobile industry (\$1.59 billion). Singapore was the largest source of FDI during April-September 2018-19 with \$8.62 billion inflow, followed by Mauritius \$3.88 billion. FDI had increased at a five-year low growth of 3 per cent at \$ 44.85 billion in 2017-18.

**56. Which state government announced a high-powered committee to prepare a comprehensive action plan to boost the dairy sector with the aim of supplementing the income of farmers in a result-oriented manner?**

- A. Uttarkhand  
B. Gujarat  
C. Punjab  
D. Rajasthan  
E. Meghalaya

**Answer: C**

Punjab Chief Minister Captain Amarinder Singh announced a high-powered committee to prepare a comprehensive action

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plan to boost the dairy sector with the aim of supplementing the income of farmers in a result-oriented manner. The committee would consist of Chairman State Farmers Commission, Director Animal Husbandry, Director Dairy Development, a representative of Guru Angad Dev Veterinary and Animal Sciences University (GADVASU). It will suggest measures to promote diversification of agriculture with the aim of enhancing farmers' income from allied sources.

**57. According to Transparency International, which state occupied the top slot in the ranking of best practices followed by states in Budget formulation?**

- A. Andhra Pradesh
- B. Assam
- C. Odisha
- D. Bihar
- E. Punjab

**Answer: B**

According to Transparency International, Assam occupied the top slot in the ranking of best practices followed by states in Budget formulation, followed by Andhra Pradesh and Odisha. The survey is based on 4 parameters which include public disclosure, budgetary process, post budget fiscal management and efforts to make budget more transparent and citizen friendly. States which are lower in the ranking were Meghalaya, Manipur and Punjab

**58. Politician Harihar Karan passed away. He belongs to which political party?**

- A. Indian National Congress
- B. Bharatiya Janata Party
- C. Communist Party of India
- D. Aam Admi Party
- E. Rashtriya Janata Dal

**Answer: A**

Senior Congress leader and former minister Harihar Karan passed away. A six-time MLA from Daspalla constituency in Nayagarh district, Karan was elected for the first time in 1974. He was the Odisha's Health and Family Welfare minister in the JB Patnaik government in 1980. Karan was also the chairperson of the disciplinary committee of the Odisha Pradesh Congress Committee (OPCC) in 2013.

**59. Swachh Bharat Mission Grameen launched 'Darwaza Band - Part 2' campaign in which city?**

- A. Mumbai
- B. Kolkata
- C. Ahmedabad
- D. Varanasi
- E. New Delhi

**Answer: A**

The Swachh Bharat Mission (Grameen) launched the 'Darwaza Band -Part 2' campaign for sustainability of the Open Defecation Free (ODF) status of villages across the country. The campaign was launched by the **Ministry of Drinking Water and Sanitation** in Mumbai in the presence of brand ambassador Amitabh Bachchan. The 'Darwaza

Band- Part 2' campaign is supported by the World Bank. **Swachh Bharat Abhiyan (SBA)** or **Swachh Bharat Mission (SBM)** is a nation-wide campaign in India for the **period 2014 to 2019** that aims to clean up the streets, roads and infrastructure of India's cities, towns, and rural areas.

**60. The Maharashtra government has set up a committee to review various schemes being implemented for the welfare of tribals in the state. The committee will be headed by whom?**

- A. Sanjay Raut
- B. Vivek Pandit
- C. Piyush Goyel
- D. Sharad Power
- E. Husain Dalwai

**Answer: B**

The Maharashtra government has set up a committee to review various schemes being implemented for the welfare of tribals in the state. The 17-member committee, headed by former MLA and Shramjeevi Sanghatna president Vivek Pandit, will undertake the study of various works done for providing employment opportunities, minimum wages and proper livelihood to tribals. The committee will suggest measures to ensure that children in tribal regions were not deprived of education. The committee will hold its meetings every three months and submit its recommendations to the government

**61. According to the Sixth Bi-monthly Monetary Policy Statement what is the current Repo Rate?**

- A. 6.5%
- B. 6.0%
- C. 6.25%
- D. 6.75%
- E. 7.0%

**Answer: C**

On the basis of an assessment of the current and evolving macroeconomic situation, the Monetary Policy Committee (MPC) decided to reduce the policy **repo rate** under the liquidity adjustment facility (LAF) by 25 basis points from 6.5 per cent to 6.25 per cent with immediate effect. Reverse repo rate under the LAF stands adjusted to 6.0 per cent, and the marginal standing facility (MSF) rate and the Bank Rate to 6.5 per cent.

**62. Fino Payments Bank introduced sweep account facility in association with which Small Finance Bank?**

- A. Ujjivan Small Finance Bank.
- B. ESAF Small Finance Bank
- C. Equitas Small Finance Bank
- D. Suryoday Small Finance Bank
- E. Utkarsh Small Finance Bank

**Answer: D**

Fino Payments Bank (FPB) has announced the launch of a sweep account facility in association with Suryoday Small Finance Bank (SSFB). As per the Reserve Bank of India (RBI), payment banks can only take deposits upto Rs. 1 lakh

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per account. The partnership would allow customers to seamlessly transfer the excess amount from their account in Fino Payments Bank (FPB) to Suryoday Small Finance Bank (SSFB) (partner bank) account.

**63. Who has been appointed as the secretary of the Ministry of Civil Aviation?**

- A. Vinay Dube
- B. Vinay Dube
- C. Rohit Nandan
- D. E.Sreedharan
- E. Pradeep Singh Kharola

**Answer: E**

The government appointed Air India chief managing director and Chairperson Pradeep Singh Kharola as the secretary of the Ministry of Civil Aviation. Pradeep Singh Kharola is a 1985 batch IAS officer of the Karnataka cadre, was named chairperson of Air India in November 2017. He will take over from Rajiv Nayan Choubey, who retired on January 31.

**64. Who has been honoured with the 'Freedom of the City of London' award in recognition of his contribution to promoting the bilateral relations?**

- A. Amitabh Chaudhry
- B. Sunil Mehta
- C. Mrutyunjay Mahapatra
- D. Atul Kumar Goel
- E. Sanjiv Chadha

**Answer: E**

India's largest state-owned lender SBI's UK head Sanjiv Chadha has been honoured with the 'Freedom of the City of London' award in recognition of his contribution to promoting the bilateral relations. Sanjiv Chadha was nominated for the honour by Lord Mayor of London Peter Estlin and Sheriff Vincent Keaveny. Chadha took up the position in 2014 and he will be succeeded by Sharad Chandak. The previous Indian recipient of the honour is Jawaharlal Nehru, the first Prime Minister of India. Other recipients include author J K Rowling and actor Dame Judi Dench.

**65. WLPGA 2019 ASIA LPG summit held in which city?**

- A. Bangalore
- B. Jodhpur
- C. Coimbatore
- D. New Delhi
- E. Hyderabad

**Answer: D**

Union Minister for petroleum and natural gas Shri Dharmendra Pradhan, inaugurated the **2019 Asia LPG summit in New Delhi**. The summit is being organized by the World LPG Association (WLPGA) in association with major Indian public-sector oil companies (OMCs) Indian Oil, Hindustan Petroleum, and Bharat Petroleum. The two-day 'WLPGA Asia LPG Summit', focusing on 'LPG – Energy for Life'. India is the 2nd largest consumer of liquified natural gas (LPG) in the world.

**66. Who inaugurated the 2nd National Conference of Micro Missions of National Police Mission?**

- A. Arvind Kejriwal
- B. Ashok Gehlot
- C. N. N. Vohra
- D. Nitish Kumar
- E. Vijay Rupani

**Answer: C**

Bureau of Police Research and Development (BPRD) organized the 2nd National Conference of Micro Missions of National Police Mission in New Delhi. The two day Conference, inaugurated by former governor of Jammu and Kashmir N. N. Vohra, discuss the issues of Skills and Competence at the grass-root level, Attitudinal Changes in Police, Gender Sensitization, harnessing technology and Community Policing

**67. Ministry of Coal, Government of India, signed an MoU with Ministry of Energy of which country to foster relations in the field of coal mining and clean coal technologies?**

- A. Switzerland
- B. Germany
- C. Poland
- D. Australia
- E. USA

**Answer: C**

The Ministry of Coal, Government of India signed an MoU with Ministry of Energy, Republic of Poland in-order to foster relations in the field of coal mining and clean coal technologies. The MoU was signed between Sh. Haribhai Parathibhai Chaudhary, Hon'ble Minister of State for Coal and Mines and Mr. Grzegorz Tobiszowski, Secretary of State, Ministry of Energy, Republic of Poland.

**68. Name the mobile app for booking of Bungalow No.5, New Delhi, that was launched by Minister of State for Housing & Urban Affairs Hardeep S Puri?**

- A. Bglow5
- B. Mashoka5
- C. BookNow5
- D. BN5Book
- E. None of these

**Answer: B**

Mashoka5, the mobile app for booking of Bungalow No.5, New Delhi was launched by Minister of State for Housing & Urban Affairs Shri Hardeep S Puri. The Application will help an applicant to complete the entire booking process from anywhere and at any time, by using a mobile phone.

**69. 5th India-Bangladesh Joint Consultative Committee Meet held in which city?**

- A. Delhi
- B. Mumbai
- C. Dhaka
- D. Chittagong
- E. None of these

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**Answer: A**

5th India-Bangladesh Joint Consultative Committee Meet held in Delhi. External Affairs Minister Sushma Swaraj and Foreign Affairs Minister of Bangladesh Dr. A. K. Abdul Momen co-chaired the meeting. The last Joint Consultative Committee Meeting between the two countries was held in October 2017 at Dhaka. The Foreign Affairs Minister of Bangladesh arrived in New Delhi on a four day visit to India. It is the first high-level visit from Bangladesh since Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina's victory in the parliamentary elections in December last year

**70. State-run power giant NTPC has signed an agreement with which private sector Bank for a Rs 2,500 crore loan to part finance capital expenditure?**

- A. Axis Bank
- B. HDFC Bank
- C. ICICI Bank
- D. Kotak Mahendra Bank
- E. IndusInd Bank

**Answer: B**

State-run power giant NTPC has signed an agreement with HDFC Bank for a Rs 2,500 crore loan to part finance capital expenditure. The loan is extended at an interest rate linked to three-month marginal cost of funds-based lending rate (MCLR) of the bank. The loan has a door-to-door tenure of 15 years and will be utilised to part finance the capital expenditure of NTPC

**71. Who was conferred the Légion d'Honneur (Legion of Honour) the highest civilian award of France in recognition of his work for specially-abled children?**

- A. Pope Benedict XVI
- B. Pope John Paul II
- C. Francois Laborde
- D. Sinead O'Connor
- E. Antonio Vivaldi

**Answer: C**

Francois Laborde, a 92-year-old priest, from Bengal, was conferred the Légion d'Honneur (Legion of Honour) the highest civilian award of France in recognition of his work for specially-abled children. He is the third person from the state to have been awarded the Legion of Honor after film maestro **Satyajit Ray** and actor **Soumitra Chatterjee**. Father Francois Laborde has set up the **Howrah South Point**, an organisation working for the development of specially-abled children, the destitute and the most deprived sections of the society.

**72. Parmanu Tech 2019' conference held in which city?**

- A. Bangalore
- B. Jodhpur
- C. Chennai
- D. Delhi
- E. Hyderabad

**Answer: D**

Parmanu Tech 2019' conference held in New Delhi. The conference was organised by the Ministry of External Affairs

and Department of Atomic Energy (DAE) to discuss issues related to Nuclear Energy and Radiation Technologies. The Union Minister Dr Jitendra Singh delivered the keynote address at the 'Parmanu Tech 2019' conference

**73. DigiCop a mobile application developed by Nasscom launched by which city police?**

- A. Hyderabad
- B. Vijayawada
- C. Bangalore
- D. Ahemadabad
- E. Chennai

**Answer: E**

Tamil film actor Vijay Sethupathi launched the mobile App 'DigiCop' of the Chennai police department. The application was developed by Nasscom. Using the App, people can track the status of stolen two-wheelers and cell phones. The details of 18,000 stolen mobile phones are stored in the App. So next time someone is buying a phone from a second hand shop they can verify if the phone is stolen or genuine. Using DigiCop App, people can verify IMEI, report lost two-wheelers and phones, know the nearest police station, police news and traffic alerts.

**74. Who has taken over as General Manager of Integral Coach Factory (ICF)?**

- A. Dinesh Pandey
- B. Manohar Dubey
- C. Vamsi Krishna
- D. Rudra Pratap Singh
- E. Rahul Jain

**Answer: E**

Rahul Jain has taken over as General Manager of Integral Coach Factory (ICF). Jain, was former Assistant General Manager at Western Railway. He belongs to the Indian Railway Service of Mechanical Engineer (IRSME) cadre and his appointment comes after former ICF GM **Sudhanshu Mani** retired on December 31. Mani is regarded as the architect of India's first self-propelled long distance "Train 18", which was later named "Vande Bharat Express".

**75. What is Indias' rank in the recently released US Chamber's global IP index?**

- A. 49th
- B. 52nd
- C. 38th
- D. 36th
- E. 44th

**Answer: D**

India has jumped eight places to 36th position on the International Intellectual Property (IP) Index, which analyses the IP climate in 50 global economies. India's eight-point jump in 2019 **from 44th position in 2018** is the highest increase among 50 nations mapped by the index. The US, the UK, Sweden, France and Germany remained the top five economies on the intellectual property index in 2019 retaining their spots from the last year. The index brought out by the US Chamber of Commerce's Global Innovation Policy

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Center (GIPC) ranks countries based on 45 indicators that are critical to an innovation-led economy supported by robust patent, trademark, copyright, and trade secrets protection.

**76. With which statutory body of the Government of India, did the Government e Marketplace (GeM) entered into a Memorandum of Understanding to enable a fair and competitive environment in the e-Marketplace?**

- A. Securities and Exchange Board of India
- B. Financial Stability and Development Council
- C. Competition Commission of India
- D. Advertising Standards Council of India
- E. None of these

**Answer: C**

Government e Marketplace (GeM) and Competition Commission of India (CCI) entered into a Memorandum of Understanding to enable a fair and competitive environment in the e-Marketplace. GeM is a state-of-the-art national public procurement platform of **Ministry of Commerce and Industries**, which has used technology to remove entry barriers for bonafide sellers and has created a vibrant e-marketplace with a wide range of goods and services. Competition Commission of India is a **statutory body** of the Government of India, responsible for enforcing the **Competition Act, 2002** throughout India and to prevent activities that have an adverse effect on competition.

**77. Which team won the recently concluded Ranji Trophy?**

- A. Saurashtra
- B. Vidarbha
- C. Karnataka
- D. Services
- E. Railways

**Answer: B**

Vidharbha lifted the Ranji Trophy for the second time in a row, defeating Saurashtra by 78 runs at Nagpur. Vidarbha became the sixth team to win back to back Ranji Trophy titles. Left arm spinner, Sarwate was adjudged man of the match.

**78. 9th Hockey India Senior Women National Championship 2019 Begins In which state?**

- A. Haryana
- B. Himachal Pradesh
- C. Bihar
- D. Punjab
- E. Uttar Pradesh

**Answer: A**

The 9th Hockey India Senior Women National Championship 2019 begins in Hisar's Astroturf International Hockey Stadium, Haryana Agricultural University. RSPB will begin their campaign against Hockey Rajasthan in the Pool A opening match during the 11-day domestic extravaganza

**79. Name the campaign launched by Swachh Bharat Mission Grameen focuses on sustaining the open defecation free status of villages across India?**

- A. Swachh Ganv- Part 2
- B. Darwaza Band- Part 2
- C. Hygiene and Health- Part 2
- D. Swachh Desh- Part 2
- E. None of these

**Answer: B**

On 6th February 2019, the "Darwaza Band- Part 2" campaign was launched by Swachh Bharat Mission Grameen focuses on sustaining the open defecation free status of villages across the country. The campaign launched by the Ministry of Drinking Water and Sanitation in Mumbai in the presence of actor Amitabh Bachchan.

**80. India's fiscal deficit has touched what percent of the FY19 Budget target of Rs. 6.24 lakh crore during the period of 9 months from April to December 2018?**

- A. 58 %
- B. 112 %
- C. 76 %
- D. 137 %
- E. None of these

**Answer: B**

India's fiscal deficit has touched 112% of the FY19 Budget target of Rs. 6.24 lakh crore during the period of 9 months from April to December 2018. The data was presented by the Controller General of Accountant (CGA) which manifested that fiscal deficit of previous fiscal was 13.6%. Fiscal deficit was at 7 lakh crores during this financial year. This is 112.4% of the Budget estimates for FY19, while for exact figures, it was 113.6% for 2017-2018. Fiscal Deficit is the gap between income and expenditure of the government.

**81. The largest Krishi Kumbh of Eastern India is launched in which state?**

- A. Bihar
- B. Meghalaya
- C. Manipur
- D. Sikkim
- E. Mizoram

**Answer: A**

Bihar Governor Lalji Tandon and Union Agriculture Minister Radha Mohan Singh jointly inaugurated the Krishi Kumbh in Bihar. This is the largest Krishi Kumbh of Eastern India. Over fifteen thousand farmers across different states and about two hundred agricultural scientists are participating in the Kumbh. There will be 14 technical sessions during three day Krishi Kumbh. The objective of Krishi Kumbh is to **promote modern techniques and diversification** in agriculture that could help in doubling farmer's income.

**82. The International Paralympic Committee (IPC) lifts the ban on which countries Para athletes by March 15, under certain conditions?**

- A. China
- B. Russia

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- C. Australia  
D. USA  
E. New Zealand

**Answer: B**

The International Paralympic Committee (IPC) lifts the ban on Russian Para athletes by March 15, under certain conditions. Russia has been barred from international competitions since August 2016. Russia had met 69 of its 70 reinstatement criteria

**83. RBI raised collateral-free farm loan limit to what amount?**

- A. Rs.1.25 lakh  
B. Rs.1.35 lakh  
C. Rs.1.6 lakh  
D. Rs.1.75 lakh  
E. Rs.1.8 lakh

**Answer: C**

RBI raised the limit of collateral-free agricultural loans to Rs. 1.6 lakh from the current Rs. 1 lakh with a view to help small and marginal farmers. RBI also set up an internal working group to review agriculture credit and arrive at a “workable solutions and policy initiatives”. Currently, the banks are mandated to extend collateral-free agricultural loans up to Rs. 1 lakh. This limit was fixed in the year 2010.

**84. Reserve Bank of India has slapped what amount as penalty on the country's largest lender State Bank of India for not monitoring the end use of funds in respect of one of its borrowers ?**

- A. Rs.75 lakh  
B. Rs.1 crore  
C. Rs.1.25 crore  
D. Rs.1.5 crore  
E. Rs.2 crore

**Answer: B**

Reserve Bank of India has slapped Rs 1 crore penalty on the country's largest lender for not monitoring the end use of funds in respect of one of its borrowers. The Banking Regulation Act, 1949 confers power on Reserve Bank of India (RBI) under Section 47(A) to impose penalties if there has been any default or contravention.

**85. Who was Assumed Charge as Secretary of Ministry of Minority Affairs?**

- A. Shri Sailesh  
B. Shri Suresh  
C. Shri Satish  
D. Shri Sarvesh  
E. Shri Somesh

**Answer: A**

Shri Sailesh a 1985 batch IAS Assam-Meghalaya Cadre officer assumed the charge as Secretary, Ministry of Minority Affairs

**86. Which country is going to host 13th Conference of Parties (COP) of the Convention on the conservation of migratory species of wild animals (CMS)?**

- A. China

- B. Germany  
C. Russia  
D. India  
E. France

**Answer: D**

The 13<sup>th</sup> Conference of Parties (COP) of the Convention on the conservation of migratory species of wild animals (CMS) is going to be hosted by India during 15<sup>th</sup> to 22<sup>nd</sup> February, 2020 at Gandhinagar in Gujarat. CMS an environmental treaty under the aegis of United Nations Environment Programme. India has been a Party to the CMS since 1983. The Conference of Parties (COP) is the decision-making organ of this convention. The Union Environment Minister, Dr. Harsh Vardhan, inaugurated the Logo and Mascot (GIBI) along with website for the international event, in New Delhi

**87. With which country Bangladesh signed MOU for training 1800 Bangladesh civil servants?**

- A. India  
B. Bhutan  
C. Sri Lanka  
D. Malaysia  
E. Vietnam

**Answer: A**

India and Bangladesh have signed an MOU for training 1800 Bangladesh Civil Servants at the National Centre for Good Governance (NCGG) an institute under the Department of Administrative Reforms and Public Grievances (DAR&PG), Ministry of Personnel, Public Grievances & Pensions, Government of India, over the next 6 years. The MOU was signed between the NCGG and the Ministry of Public Administration, Government of the People's Republic of Bangladesh during the visit of the Foreign Minister of Bangladesh. The NCGG is planning to conduct 15 training programs in 2019 each of 2 weeks duration. The trainee officers will undergo training at the NCGG Mussoorie centre.

**88. ICAI signs pact with Invest India to promote foreign investment. Who is the current ICAI President?**

- A. Naveen N D Gupta  
B. Deepak Bagla  
C. RD Sharma  
D. Vikram Patvari  
E. None of these

**Answer: A**

The Institute of Chartered Accountants of India (ICAI) has signed a pact with Invest India to promote foreign investments in the country and Indian investments abroad. Invest India is a government agency that promotes and facilitates investment in the country. The memorandum of understanding (MoU) was signed by ICAI President Naveen N D Gupta and Invest India MD and CEO Deepak Bagla.

**89. According to the Union Cabinet, the Constitution (103 Amendment) Act amends which article of constitution and it will provide 10% reservation in government jobs and education to Economically Weaker Sections?**

- A. Articles 12 and 13

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- B. Articles 13 and 14
- C. Articles 14 and 15
- D. Articles 15 and 16
- E. None of these

**Answer: D**

The Union Cabinet chaired by Prime Minister, Narendra Modi has given the approval to revised Office Memorandum regarding Amendment of Constitution to provide reservations for economically weaker sections of society. The Constitution (103 Amendment) Act amends Articles 15 and 16 of constitution and it will provide 10% reservation in government jobs and education to Economically Weaker Sections.

**90. India and which Country had signed a MoU to promote cooperation in the areas of mutual interest pertaining to the development of blue economy?**

- A. Norway
- B. Russia
- C. China
- D. Maldives
- E. Monaco

**Answer: A**

The Union Cabinet approved MoU between India and Norway on Norway Ocean Dialogue to promote cooperation in the areas of mutual interest pertaining to the development of blue economy. Norway is a global leader in the areas of Blue Economy and they are well equipped with cutting edge technologies and expertise in various Ocean resources and maritime transport. MoU will contribute to create opportunities for collaboration in areas such as exploitation of hydrocarbons as well as management of ports.

**91. A Himalayan Cloud Observatory has been set up in which district of Uttarakhand to receive forecast and monitor cloud burst incidents in the Himalayan region and help minimise the damage.**

- A. Tehri
- B. Pithoragarh
- C. Uttarkashi
- D. Haridwar
- E. Chamoli

**Answer: A**

A Himalayan Cloud Observatory has been set up in Tehri district to receive forecast and monitor cloud burst incidents in the Himalayan region and help minimise the damage. The Observatory has been established in the SRT campus and is currently in the testing period. This is the second observatory in the country to monitor cloud activities by the Indian Science and Technology Department and Indian Institute of Technology (IIT) Kanpur that can function in high-altitudes.

**92. Who laid foundation stone of a Mega Food Park in Mathura, Uttar Pradesh?**

- A. Narendra Singh Tomar
- B. Harsimrat Kaur Badal
- C. Radha Mohan Singh
- D. Mukhtar Abbas Naqvi

E. Harsh Vardhan

**Answer: B**

Union Minister for Food Processing Industries Harsimrat Kaur Badal laid foundation stone of a Mega Food Park in Mathura, Uttar Pradesh. The Mega Food Park is being set up in over 57 acre of land at a cost of around 121 crore rupees. The Centre has also approved a financial assistance of 50 crore rupees to the project. The Park will provide direct and indirect employment to five thousand persons and benefit about 25,000 farmers.

**93. The Reserve Bank of India (RBI) decided to raise the criteria for 'bulk deposits' for banks to what amount from the current Rs. 1 crore, to provide more operational freedom to lenders to raise funds.**

- A. Rs.1.25 crore
- B. Rs.1.5 Crore
- C. Rs.2 crore
- D. Rs.2.5 crore
- E. Rs.3 crore

**Answer: C**

The Reserve Bank of India (RBI) decided to raise the criteria for 'bulk deposits' for banks to Rs. 2 crore from the current Rs. 1 crore, to provide more operational freedom to lenders to raise funds. Interest rates on bulk deposits are marginally higher than on smaller-amount fixed deposits for similar maturity period. The instructions regarding bulk deposits were last reviewed in January 2013 and defined as single rupee deposits of Rs 1 crore and above. The proposal was suggested by the National Federation of Urban Cooperative Banks and Credit Societies Ltd. (NAFCUB). RBI also proposed that banks would maintain their bulk deposit interest rate cards in the core banking system for supervisory review.

**94. Which social media major acquired GrokStyle virtual search start-up to boost AI capabilities?**

- A. Instagram
- B. Youtube
- C. Twitter
- D. Facebook
- E. LinkedIn

**Answer: D**

Facebook acquired US-based virtual search startup GrokStyle, to enable users shop better using artificial intelligence capabilities, for an undisclosed amount. San Francisco Based GrokStyle was founded in 2015

**95. Who has been elected chairman of the African Union at the continental body's summit in Ethiopia?**

- A. Barham Salih
- B. Ashraf Ghani
- C. Bashar al-Assad
- D. Recep Tayyip Erdoğan
- E. Abdel-Fattah el-Sissi

**Answer: E**

Egypt's President Abdel-Fattah el-Sissi has been elected chairman of the African Union at the continental body's

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summit in Ethiopia. The African Union (AU) is a continental union consisting of 55 countries of the continent of Africa.

El-Sisi's election brought to an end the one-year chairmanship of Rwanda's President Paul Kagame.

**96. Who has been appointed as an assistant coach of Australia's men's team for the 50-over World Cup 2019?**

- A. Adam Gilchrist
- B. Shane Warne
- C. Brett Lee
- D. Glen McGrath
- E. Ricky Pointing

**Answer: E**

Former captain Ricky Ponting has been appointed as an assistant coach of Australia's men's team for the 50-over World Cup 2019. Ponting was appointed after David Saker's resignation from the post. Current batting coach is Graeme Hick. The main coach for the Australian Cricket team is Justin Langer

**97. Five-day multinational maritime exercise 'AMAN-19' begins in which country?**

- A. Japan
- B. USA
- C. UK
- D. Pakistan
- E. Britain

**Answer: D**

A five-day multinational exercise 'AMAN-19' has kicked off near the southern port city of Karachi, Pakistan. The multinational maritime exercise as part of efforts to enhance cooperation in combating pirates, terrorists and smugglers. Representatives from the navies of 45 nations, including the United States, Britain and Japan, are participating in the exercise. The Pakistan Navy's ships, submarines, boats, marines and special forces will all take part in the exercise, along with the Pakistan Air Force, Pakistan Army and Pakistan Rangers. The exercise is conducted every two years since it was initiated in 2007.

**98. Name the second indigenously developed, propulsion-based missile system was successfully flight tested in Odisha by the Defence Research and Development Organisation (DRDO).**

- A. Solid Fusion Ducted Ramjet
- B. Solid Furnance Ducted Ramjet
- C. Solid Fuel Ducted Ramjet
- D. Solid Flamable Ducted Ramjet
- E. None of these

**Answer: C**

The second indigenously developed 'Solid Fuel Ducted Ramjet (SFDR)' propulsion-based missile system was successfully flight tested in Odisha by the Defence Research and Development Organisation (DRDO). Unlike conventional rockets that carry propellant and oxidizer, Ramjet uses the air as an oxidizer just like a jet engine. Therefore the weight of the fuel required is eliminated. The first flight of SFDR, developed under a joint Indo-Russian

R&D project, was tested in 2018. It had achieved the speed of Mach 3.

**99. Who clinched Chennai Open ATP Challenger title?**

- A. Quentin Halys
- B. Corentin Moutet
- C. Elliot Benchetrit
- D. Ugo Humbert
- E. Benjamin Bonzi

**Answer: B**

France's Corentin Moutet has clinched the Chennai Open ATP Challenger tournament title after beating Andrew Harris of Australia 6-3, 6-3 in the singles final. It was the second Challenger title for Moutet, who received \$7,200 and 80 ATP points.

**100. Which team lifted the 9th Senior National Men's Hockey Championship crown at Gwalior?**

- A. Railway Sports Promotion Board
- B. Bengaluru Hockey Association
- C. Hockey Punjab
- D. Hockey Unit of Tamil Nadu
- E. Assam Hockey

**Answer: A**

Railway Sports Promotion Board (RSPB) lifted the 9th Senior National Men's Hockey Championship crown at Gwalior. RSPB beat defending champion Punjab 3-2 and claim the gold medal. Petroleum Sports Promotion Board (PSPB) beat Punjab & Sind Bank 4-1 to clinch the bronze medal.

**101. On which River does, 2nd Phase of River Information System (RIS) between Farakka and Patna (National Waterway-1) was inaugurated by Union Minister Shri Nitin Gadkari?**

- A. River Ganga
- B. River Yamuna
- C. River Narmada
- D. River Kaveri
- E. None of these

**Answer: A**

Union Minister, Shri Nitin Gadkari inaugurated the 2nd Phase of River Information System (RIS) between Farakka and Patna on National Waterway-1 (River Ganga) in Prayagraj on 8th February 2019. The 2nd Phase of RIS is aimed at enhancing swift electronic data transfer so as to boost movement of Cargo and Fishery Development in river Ganga.

**102. Which Country approved to sell two of its advanced missile to India for an estimated cost of \$190 million?**

- A. U.S
- B. Japan
- C. China
- D. Russia
- E. None of these

**Answer: A**

US agreed to sell two of its advanced missile to India for Air India one. US approved the purchase of the two systems

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known as Large Aircraft Infrared Countermeasures (LAIRCAM) and Self-Protection Suites (SPS) at cost of USD 190 million, to enhance the security of planes flying the Prime Minister and the President. To purchase these two missile, in the interim budget Rs.1084 crores have allotted and these missiles are to be in India in the year end.

**103. What is the name of the digital skilling program launched by Facebook to empower women?**

- A. Digital Empowerment
- B. GOAL(Going Online As Leaders)
- C. Digital India for girls
- D. Go Digital
- E. None of these

**Answer: B**

Focussing on its mission to empower women, social networking giant Facebook on launched a digital skilling and mentorship initiative named GOAL (Going Online As Leaders) across five states in India that would encourage tribal girls to become village-level digital young leaders for their communities.

**104. 13th Conference of Parties of the UN Convention on the Conservation of migratory species(CMS) will be held in which state?**

- A. Uttar Pradesh
- B. Haryana
- C. West Bengal
- D. Gujarat
- E. Maharashtra

**Answer: D**

The centre announced that the Great Indian Bustard(GIB) will be its mascot for the 13th Conference of Parties of the UN Convention on the Conservation of migratory species(CMS) to be held in Gujarat next year.

**105. The Election Commission of India has launched which programme ) for verifications of voters' names, new registrations, changes or corrections in the Voter ID Cards for the upcoming General Elections?**

- A. Voter Paper and Registration Programme
- B. Voter Verification and Information Programme
- C. Voter Verifiable Programme
- D. Voter Registration Programme
- E. None of these

**Answer: B**

The Election Commission of India has launched a Voter Verification and Information Programme(VVIP) for verifications of voters' names, new registrations, changes or corrections in the Voter ID Cards for the upcoming General Elections.

**106. Which among the following days were observed on February 12<sup>th</sup> every year?**

- A. National Deworming Day
- B. World Wetlands Day
- C. International Day of Women and Girls in Science
- D. World Radio Day
- E. World Cancer Day

**Answer: D**

**The National Deworming Day** is observed on February 10 by the Ministry of Health and Family Welfare. The main objective is to deworm children between the ages of (1-19) at schools and anganwadi centres in order to improve their overall health. The government of India had launched the initiative in 2015, making it one of the largest single-day public health initiatives in India

The United Nations General Assembly adopted a resolution on December 2015 to observe February 11th as the “**International Day of Women and Girls In science**” to promote participation of women in fields related to science and technology. 2019 Theme: “Investment in Women and Girls in Science for Inclusive Green Growth”

**107. India joined with which country to launch initiative to combat Marine Pollution?**

- A. Russia
- B. Norway
- C. Vietnam
- D. Bhutan
- E. Pakistan

**Answer: B**

The Ministry of Environment, Forests and Climate Change signed a letter of Intent establishing the India-Norway Marine Pollution Initiative together with the Norwegian ministry of Foreign Affairs. Indian and Norwegian governments agreed to work more closely on oceans by signing a MoU and establishing the India-Norway Ocean Dialogue during the Norwegian Prime Minister's visit to India in January. Norway and India will share experiences and competence, and collaborate on efforts to develop clean and healthy oceans, sustainable use of ocean resources and growth in the blue economy

**108. Which country has decided to include Hindi as the third official language used in its courts as part of a move designed to improve access to justice?**

- A. UAE
- B. Oman
- C. Abu Dhabi
- D. Kuwait
- E. None of these

**Answer: C**

Abu Dhabi has decided to include Hindi as the third official language used in its courts, alongside Arabic and English, as part of a move designed to improve access to justice. The Abu Dhabi Judicial Department (ADJD) stated that, it has extended the adoption of interactive forms of statement of claims filed before courts by including Hindi. The move was aimed to provide foreigners with better access to justice, without a language barrier.

**109. Which state Cabinet has decided to rename the Dikkibandi stadium in Tura town after former Lok Sabha Speaker Purno A Sangma?**

- A. Mizoram
- B. Tripura

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- C. Meghalaya  
D. Sikkim  
E. West Bengal

**Answer: C**

The Meghalaya Cabinet has decided to rename the Dikkibandi stadium in Tura town after former Lok Sabha Speaker Purno A Sangma. The Dikkibandi Stadium formerly known as MP stadium. Purno A Sangma served as Chief Minister of Meghalaya from 1988 to 1990

**110. Where did PM Modi inaugurated Strategic Petroleum Reserve (SPR) facility of the Indian Strategic Petroleum Reserve Limited (ISPRL) built at a cost of Rs. 1,178 crore?**

- A. Vishakhapatnam  
B. Chennai  
C. Kakinada  
D. Mumbai  
E. Thiruvananthapuram

**Answer: A**

Prime Minister dedicated to the nation the 1.33 million metric tonnes of Visakhapatnam Strategic Petroleum Reserve (SPR) facility of the Indian Strategic Petroleum Reserve Limited (ISPRL) built at a cost of Rs. 1,178 crore. He also inaugurated Oil and Natural Gas Corporation Limited's Vashishta and S1 development project located in the Krishna-Godavari Offshore Basin. Modi also laid the foundation stone for setting up of a new terminal of Bharat Petroleum Corporation Limited (BPCL) at Krishnapatnam. It will be built at a cost of Rs 700 crore.

**111. Name the dedicated DD channel launched by PM Modi for Arunachal Pradesh?**

- A. Arunodaya  
B. Arunaprabha  
C. Arunakirana  
D. Arunadarshan  
E. None of these

**Answer: B**

Prime Minister Narendra Modi launched a dedicated 24x7 Satellite channel, 'DD Arunaprabha' for Arunachal Pradesh. DD Arunaprabha is the Doordarshan's second channel for the northeastern region, DD Northeast was the first one. Modi also laid the foundation stone of Film and Television Institute (FTI). The permanent campus of the institute will come up at Jollang-Rakap (Jote) in Arunachal Pradesh.

**112. Who has appointed as India's Ambassador to Bhutan?**

- A. Dr. T. Suresh Babu  
B. Naveen Srivastava  
C. Shri Pradip Kumar Yadav  
D. Shri Atul M. Gotsurve  
E. Ruchira Kamboj

**Answer: E**

Ruchira Kamboj appointed as the next Ambassador of India to Bhutan. She is serving as the High Commissioner of India to South Africa since 2017. Ruchira Kamboj was a 1987

cadre Indian Foreign Service officer. Kamboj has previously served as the Ambassador to Permanent Delegation of India to UNESCO, Paris.

**113. Which Bank wins 9th edition of Aegis Graham Bell Award 2018?**

- A. SBI  
B. ICICI  
C. Axis  
D. HDFC  
E. PNB

**Answer: C**

Aegis Graham Bell Award 2018 announced YES BANK as winner in "Innovation in Data Science" category for their industry-first project "Yes EEE (Engage Enrich Excel)". 9th edition of Aegis Graham Bell Award 2018 hosted by Government of Goa at Entertainment Society of Goa, Panaji. Aegis Graham Bell Awards (AGBA) has been promoting innovations and entrepreneurship in Information and Communication Technology (ICT) domain. Yes-EEE is a customer engagement program for the Bank's Relationship Managers to give them the most relevant communication point for interaction with the customer

**114. Pat Cummins is related to which sport?**

- A. Tennis  
B. Cricket  
C. Foot Ball  
D. Basket Ball  
E. Golf

**Answer: B**

Fast bowler Pat Cummins won Australian cricket's highest individual honor for his performances. Cummins won the Allan Border medal for Australia's leading men's cricketer with 156 votes, six ahead of off-spinner Nathan Lyon, who was voted Test cricket player of the year. Alyssa Healy won the Belinda Clark award for the leading Australian women's cricketer of the year.

**115. Who became the first female driver to win the MRF championship?**

- A. Alice Poweell  
B. Jamie Laura Chadwick  
C. Carrie Schreiner  
D. Abbie Eaton  
E. None of these

**Answer: B**

Jamie Chadwick from England made history by becoming the first female driver to win the MRF challenge after scoring a triple win in the final round of the season in Chennai. Chadwick ended the championship with 280 points, including two bonus points for the fastest lap in the last race. Chadwick became the first woman to win a British F3 race in August

**116. World Radio Day was observed annually on 13 February. What is the theme for the year 2019?**

- A. Dialogue, Tolerance and Peace  
B. Gender Equality and Women's Empowerment in Radio

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- C. Youth and Radio
- D. Radio in Times of Emergency and Disaster
- E. Radio is You

**Answer: A**

World Radio Day was observed annually on 13 February. It was proclaimed on 3 November 2011 by UNESCO's 36th General Conference. The first World Radio Day was officially celebrated in 2012. The theme for this year is 'Dialogue, Tolerance and Peace'.

**117. National Women's Day was observed annually on what date?**

- A. 10th February
- B. 13th February
- C. 15th March
- D. 22nd January
- E. 16th June

**Answer: B**

National Women's Day was observed annually on 13 February. This day is observed on the date of birth of India's first women governor Sarojini Naidu. Sarojini Naidu was born on 13 February 1879. Her birthday has been selected to observe as a National Woman Day in recognition of the works done by her for upliftment and development of women in India

**118. Which city hosted the Seventh session of World Government Summit with the participation of more than 4,000 people from 140 countries?**

- A. Delhi
- B. Geneva
- C. Dubai
- D. Washington DC
- E. Singapore

**Answer: C**

Seventh session of World Government Summit held in Dubai with the participation of more than 4,000 people from 140 countries. The World Government Summit is a neutral, non-profit organization at the intersection of government and innovation. The World Government Summit is a global platform dedicated to shaping the future of governments worldwide. Each year, the Summit sets the agenda for the next generation of governments

**120. Name the Indian Historian who Wins Israel's Million Dollar Dan David Prize.**

- A. Romila Thapar
- B. Irfan Habib
- C. Ramchandra Guha
- D. S. T Joshi
- E. Sanjay Subrahmanyam

**Answer: E**

Noted Indian historian Sanjay Subrahmanyam has won Israel's prestigious Dan David Prize for this year for his work on inter-cultural encounters between Asians, Europeans and people of North and South America during the early modern era. He won the Israel's prestigious USD 1 million dollar award in the category of "Past Time Dimension" for his work

in macro history. He shared the award in the Past category with Professor Kenneth Pomeranz of University of Chicago. The international Dan David Prize is awarded annually to those who have made outstanding scientific, technological and humanistic accomplishments in fields representing the past, present and future of human achievement. Three Dan David Prize are given every year.

**121. Who wins the EY Entrepreneur of the Year for 2018?**

- A. Ritesh Agarwal
- B. Deepak Ravindran
- C. Farihad Achidwalla
- D. Shraavan Kumaran
- E. Siddhartha Lal

**Answer: E**

Siddhartha Lal, Managing Director and Chief Executive Officer, Eicher Motors, was named the EY Entrepreneur of the Year 2018 at the 20th edition of the EOY Awards in India. He will now represent India at the EY World Entrepreneur of the Year Award (WEOY) in Monte Carlo, to be held between June 6 and 8. Wipro Chairman Azim Premji received the Lifetime Achievement Award for putting the Indian information technology industry on the global map and for his philanthropic contributions to society. Byju Raveendran of Think & Learn (Byju's) got the Start-up category award for delivering record growth of over 100 per cent each year.

**122. First LAWASIA Human Rights conference 2019 was held in which city?**

- A. Bangalore
- B. Hyderabad
- C. Mumbai
- D. New Delhi
- E. None of these

**Answer: D**

LAWASIA, in association with the Bar Association of India hosted its 1st LAWASIA Human Rights Conference in New Delhi with a motive to explore a broad range of human rights issues of relevance in the Asia Pacific region. The theme of the conference was "State Power, Business and Human Rights: Contemporary Challenges". The conference was aimed at providing unique opportunity for lawyers and associated professional members to exchange insights and expertise on topics of significant importance to all

**123. Fifth International Dam Safety Conference to be held in which city?**

- A. Ahmedabad
- B. Kolkata
- C. Bhubaneswar
- D. Jodhpur
- E. New Delhi

**Answer: C**

The 5th International Dam Safety Conference 2019 is held in Bhubaneswar as a joint initiative of the Government of India, Government of Odisha and the World Bank under aegis of

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the ongoing World Bank assisted Dam Rehabilitation and Improvement Project (DRIP) as a part of institutional strengthening. Dam Safety Conferences are being organized as an annual event in different DRIP States in collaboration with the Implementing Agencies and leading academic institutes to provide a common platform for all stakeholders including non-DRIP States. Globally India ranks third after China and the USA in terms of the number of large dams with 5264 large dams in operation and 437 large dams under construction.

**124. Which government body signed Statement of Intent with the MSDF to document systemic transformation in education?**

- A. RBI
- B. NITI AAYOG
- C. SEBI
- D. Ministry of Finance
- E. National Development Council

**Answer: B**

NITI Aayog signed a Statement of Intent with the Michael & Susan Dell Foundation (MSDF) to codify, document and share best practices to improve learning outcomes in public school education through systemic reforms, based on their collective experiences of working with various state governments in India. The SOI was signed in the presence of NITI Aayog CEO Amitabh Kant, by Alok Kumar, Adviser (HRD), NITI Aayog and Barun Mohanty, Managing Director (International), MSDF.

**125. Name the joint exercise for disaster relief that kick started in Jaipur, Rajasthan?**

- A. Rahat
- B. Satru Set
- C. Vajra
- D. Garuda
- E. Vijaya

**Answer: A**

A joint exercise – Exercise Rahat, for disaster relief held in Jaipur, Rajasthan. It was demonstrated in Jaipur, Kota, and Alwar in Rajasthan. A mock drill was also conducted with an earthquake like scenario in which the action of all disaster relief operation was done from the first warning of an earthquake to rescue and casualty evacuation. Helicopters like Chetak and Dhruv ALH were also used during the drill and other equipment for relief operations were also shown.

**126. India's First Aqua Mega Food Park commissioned in which state?**

- A. Andhra Pradesh
- B. Karnataka
- C. Delhi
- D. Maharashtra
- E. Mizoram

**Answer: A**

Union Minister of Food Processing Industries Harsimrat Kaur Badal commissioned Godavari Mega Aqua Food Park at Tundurru Village in Bhimavaram Mandal, West Godavari

District, Andhra Pradesh. The park is promoted by Godavari Mega Aqua Food Park Pvt. Ltd. It will be the first Mega Aqua Food Park operationalised exclusively for fish and marine products processing in the state of Andhra Pradesh. The Mega Park has been set up in 57.81 acres at a cost of Rs 122.60 crore.

**127. Which state government has announced a universal old age pension scheme - Mukhyamantri Vridhajan Pension Yojna (MVPY) for all people above 60 years of age?**

- A. West Bengal
- B. Bihar
- C. Sikkim
- D. Tamil Nadu
- E. Gujarat

**Answer: B**

Bihar government has announced a universal old age pension scheme – Mukhyamantri Vridhajan Pension Yojna (MVPY) for all people above 60 years of age. The scheme will come into force from the 1st of April this year. Except those who are retired from the government service, all other people above 60 years will be eligible for 400 rupees monthly pension irrespective of caste, religion or community.

Currently old age pension scheme is applicable to only the BPL category. The Chief Minister also announced a pension of 6,000 rupees for journalists above 60 years of age.

**128. Subarnarekha port is going to come up in which state?**

- A. Andhra Pradesh
- B. Kerala
- C. Odisha
- D. Karnataka
- E. Gujarat

**Answer: C**

Chief Minister Naveen Patnaik laid the foundation stone of the Subarnarekha port in Balasore district of Odisha. The proposed port is being developed by Tata Steel and Creative Port Development Pvt. Ltd, which would own 51% and 49% stakes in the project respectively. The Port Estimated to be constructed at a cost of Rs. 5,000 crore. Patnaik also attended the Talasari festival and addressed a large gathering of youth in Balasore

**129. Which country officially changed its name on paper ending a decades-long dispute that should pave the way for NATO membership?**

- A. Montenegro
- B. Kosovo
- C. Moldova
- D. Macedonia
- E. Cyprus

**Answer: D**

The country formerly known as the Republic of Macedonia officially changed its name to the Republic of North Macedonia on paper ending a decades-long dispute that should pave the way for NATO membership. Macedonia was

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internationally known as FYROM – the Former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia because Greece objected to the use of Macedonia, the name used for its own northern region. After declaring independence from Yugoslavia in 1991, the country chose the name Macedonia.

**130. Bradley Cooper wins Best Director from PETA for which movie?**

- A. American Spinner
- B. The hangover
- C. Limitless
- D. Burnt
- E. A star is born

**Answer: E**

Actor-director Bradley Cooper has won the Oscar award from animal rights organisation People for the Ethical Treatment of Animals (PETA) for directing his dog in A Star Is Born. Bradley Cooper picked up nominations in the best actor, best adapted screenplay and best picture categories, with the film getting 8 nominations in total

**131. Name the Indo-Canadian filmmaker who will be conferred with the Lifetime Achievement Award by the Academy of Canadian Cinema and Television?**

- A. Richie Mehta
- B. Nicky Mehta
- C. Shaun Mehta
- D. Deepa Mehta
- E. None of these

**Answer: D**

Indo-Canadian filmmaker Deepa Mehta will be given the Lifetime Achievement Award by the Academy of Canadian Cinema and Television. Mehta, best known for her Elements Trilogy – “Fire”, “Earth” and “Water”. In May 2012, Mehta received the Governor General’s Performing Arts Award for Lifetime Artistic Achievement, Canada’s highest honour in the performing arts. The Canadian Screen Awards are awards given annually by the Academy of Canadian Cinema and Television recognising excellence in Canadian film, English-language television, and digital media productions.

**132. Third Indo-German Environment Forum held in New Delhi. What is the theme of the summit 2019?**

- A. Cleaner Air, Greener Economy
- B. Go Clean Economy
- C. Environment and Cleanliness
- D. Nature and its Protection
- E. None of these

**Answer: A**

Under the chairmanship of Honourable Minister of Environment, Forest and Climate Change, Government of India, Dr. Harsh Vardhan and his German counterpart Federal Environment Minister Svenja Schulze, The third Indo-German Environment Forum was held in New Delhi. The theme of the forum is “Cleaner Air, Greener Economy”. The one-day event through panel discussions and parallel sessions focuses on challenges, solutions and necessary framework conditions of air pollution control, waste

management and circular economy as well as implementation of NDCs and SDGs based on Paris Agreement and Agenda 2030 of UN respectively. Around 250 representatives of ministries, business and science as well as non-governmental organizations participated in the forum,

**133. First Annual Conference of Media Units under I&B Ministry organized in which city?**

- A. New Delhi
- B. Bangalore
- C. Hyderabad
- D. Mumbai
- E. Kolkata

**Answer: A**

The First Annual Conference of Media Units working under Information & Broadcasting Ministry was organized at Vigyan Bhawan, New Delhi. Union Minister of State (IC) for Information & Broadcasting and Youth Affairs & Sports Col. Rajyavardhan Rathore chaired the Conference. The focus of the Conference was on ensuring synergy between the Media Units in their day to day functioning. The participants also discussed the ways of using Social Media to reach target audience groups and push the boundaries of communication outreach in terms of geographical and cultural barriers.

**134. State-owned power giant NTPC has signed a term loan agreement for Rs. 5,000 crore with which bank?**

- A. Punjab National Bank
- B. Bank of India
- C. Indian Bank
- D. State Bank of India
- E. Syndicate Bank

**Answer: D**

State-owned power giant NTPC has signed a term loan agreement for Rs. 5,000 crore with State Bank of India. The loan facility is extended at an interest rate linked to 3-Month MCLR of the Bank. This loan has a door to door tenure of 15 years and will be utilised to part finance the capital expenditure of NTPC

**135. Which animal will be mascot for National Games 2022 in Meghalaya?**

- A. Blackbuck
- B. Hoolock Gibbon
- C. One-horned rhinoceros
- D. Asiatic lion
- E. Clouded Leopard

**Answer: E**

Meghalaya’s state animal Clouded Leopard will be the mascot for the National Games 2022. This decision was taken at the first National Games 2022 executive committee meeting chaired by Meghalaya Sports and Youth Affairs Minister Banteidor Lyngdoh. Meghalaya will be the third northeastern state after Manipur (1999) and Assam (2007) hosted the National Games.

**136. Who is the author of "Undaunted: Save the Idea of India"?**

- A. Arundhati Roy

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- B. P. Chidambaram
- C. Salman Rushdie
- D. Jhumpa Lahri
- E. None of these

**Answer: B**

Former Vice President Hamid Ansari launched the new book of former Finance Minister P Chidambaram named “Undaunted: Saving the Idea of India” at Nehru Memorial Museum, New Delhi. The book is a collection of essays, narrates how an atmosphere of fear pervades the country in the current context and how Constitutional values such as freedom, equality and secularism are being threatened.

**137. What was the name of the online portal launched during the first investor conference ASCEND 2019 held in Kerala?**

- A. KSWIFT
- B. KSHEER
- C. KINVEST
- D. KPORTAL
- E. None of these

**Answer: A**

On 10th February 2019, Kochi hosted the first investor conference ASCEND 2019 to showcase industry friendly initiatives. The conference displayed landmark administrative and policy reforms that improved ease of doing business in Kerala. Industries department introduced an online platform KSWIFT which enable entrepreneurs to submit all applications online and obtain licences and approvals in a time-bound manner. In the Investment Climate Index, Kerala ranked second which made the state to aim building sustainable industrial infrastructure with an eco-friendly and sustainable mode.

**138. William Barr sworn in as Attorney General of which country?**

- A. USA
- B. UK
- C. Canada
- D. Germany
- E. Europe

**Answer: A**

William Barr was sworn for second time as the nation’s Attorney General. Mr. Barr was also served as the Attorney General from 1991 to 1993 during President George H.W. Bush’s administration. The Senate voted 54-45 to confirm his appointment and he succeeds Jeff Sessions. He was 85th attorney general of the United States

**139. Who was appointed as new Election Commissioner by President Ram Nath Kovind?**

- A. Ashu Suyash
- B. Sushil Chandra
- C. Ram Sewak Sharma
- D. Harsh Kumar Bhanwala
- E. SC Khuntia

**Answer: B**

Central Board of Direct Taxes (CBDT) Chairman Sushil Chandra was appointed as new Election Commissioner by President Ram Nath Kovind. The post had fallen vacant after the appointment of then Election Commissioner Sunil Arora as Chief Election Commissioner. Mr. Chandra was a 1980 batch Indian Revenue Service (IRS) official. The other two members of the Commission are Chief Election Commissioner (CEC) Sunil Arora and Election Commissioner (EC) Ashok Lavasa. Election Commissioners are appointed for a term of six years, or till the age of 65 whichever is earlier.

**140. Name the Vice Admiral who takes over as Chief of Staff, Eastern Naval Command?**

- A. Anup Singh
- B. R Hari Kumar
- C. SN Ghormade
- D. Ashok Kumar
- E. Karambir Singh

**Answer: C**

SN Ghormade was commissioned into the Indian Navy on 01 Jan 1984. He is a graduate of National Defence Academy (NDA), Khadakwasla, Pune, United States Naval Staff College at Naval War College, Newport, Rhode Island and the Naval War College, Mumbai. His operational appointments include commands of the Guided Missile Frigate INS Brahmaputra, Submarine Rescue Vessel INS Nireekshak and Minesweeper INS Allepey and second in command Guided Missile Frigate INS Ganga

**141. Who was appointed as chairman and managing director (CMD) of Air India?**

- A. Ashwani Lohani
- B. Rohit Nandan
- C. Om Prakash Rawat
- D. Sushil Kumar
- E. None of these

**Answer: A**

Former Railway Board chairman Ashwani Lohani was appointed as chairman and managing director (CMD) of Air India. This will be Lohani’s second tenure as Air India chief. His first tenure in Air India was from August 2015 to August 2017. Lohani was an officer of the Indian Railway Service of Mechanical Engineers. He was appointed as Railway Board chairman in August 2017 and retired in December 2018.

**142. Kerala government inaugurated the Ascend 2019 conference in which city?**

- A. Thiruvanthapuram
- B. Kochi
- C. Kozhikode
- D. Thrissur
- E. Kollam

**Answer: B**

Kerala government inaugurated the Ascend 2019 conference in Kochi. ‘ASCEND KERALA 2019’ is an event planned to showcase the various initiatives undertaken by the Government of Kerala as part of the Ease of Doing Business

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reforms. The initiatives would make the state a top investment destination and empower entrepreneurs to launch their enterprises in a speedy and hassle-free manner. Kerala chief minister Pinarayi Vijayan released the ‘Invest Kerala Guide’ at the inaugural session of the event. Union minister of commerce & industries and civil aviation Suresh Prabhu was the chief guest at the opening ceremony. The government also launched the two software applications, K-swift (Kerala single window interface for fast, transparent clearances) and intelligent building plan management system (IBPMS)

**143. The Government of India, Government of Himachal Pradesh and the World Bank signed a \_\_\_\_\_ Million dollar Loan Agreement to help bring clean and reliable drinking water to the citizens of the Greater Shimla area.**

- A. \$35
- B. \$40
- C. \$45
- D. \$50
- E. \$25

**Answer: B**

The Government of India, Government of Himachal Pradesh and the World Bank signed a \$40 Million Loan Agreement to help bring clean and reliable drinking water to the citizens of the Greater Shimla area. The Shimla Water Supply and Sewerage Service Delivery Reform Programmatic Development Policy Loan is expected to improve water supply and sanitation (WSS) services in and around the iconic hill city of Shimla. The \$40 Million Loan from the International Bank for Reconstruction and Development (IBRD), has a 4-year grace period and a maturity of 15.5 years.

**144. Indian sports person Prajnesh Gunneswaran is related to which sport?**

- A. Cricket
- B. Tennis
- C. Squash
- D. Table Tennis
- E. Badminton

**Answer: B**

Prajnesh Gunneswaran broke into men’s singles top-100 for the first time in his career with a jump of six places to 97th Rank. He is only third Indian player to break into the top-100 in the past decade after Somdev Devvarman and Yuki Bhambri. In the doubles, Rohan Baopanna stayed put at 37 and was followed by his partner Divij Sharan at 39.

**145. Name the Annual Exercise carried out by Indian Army at Deolali Camp near Nashik?**

- A. Exercise Sampri
- B. Exercise Mitra Shakti
- C. Exercise Shatrujeet
- D. Exercise Topchi
- E. None of these

**Answer: D**

Indian army demonstrated its artillery firepower, aviation and surveillance capacity at the annual ‘Exercise Topchi’ at Deolali Camp near Nashik. The latest ultra-light Howitzer M-777, self-propelled gun K-9 Vajra and indigenous Swathi weapon-locating radar was demonstrated. The aviation assets showcased were the indigenous advanced light helicopter, light combat helicopter, Cheetah & Chetak helicopters.

**146. Under which Article of the Constitution, the Minister of State for Home notified that National Awards, such as Bharat Ratna, Padma Vibhushan, Padma Bhushan and Padma Shri cannot be entitled as titles?**

- A. Article 18(1)
- B. Article 17(1)
- C. Article 16(1)
- D. Article 15(1)
- E. None of these

**Answer: A**

On 12th Feb. 19, replying to a written question in Lok Sabha, Minister of State for Home Shri Hansrah Gangaram Ahir said that National Awards, such as Bharat Ratna, Padma Vibhushan, Padma Bhushan and Padma Shri do no amount to titles within the meaning of Article 18(1) of the Constitution and hence, cannot be used as prefixes or suffixes to the name of the recipient. In case of any misuse, the defaulter shall forfeit the award conferred on him/her as per the Regulation 10 related to creation of awards, which says that the president may cancel or annul the awards, after which the name of the awardee would be erased from the records and he would have to surrender it.

**147. India signed MoU with which country to combat marine pollution?**

- A. Sri Lanka
- B. USA
- C. Russia
- D. Norway
- E. Bhutan

**Answer: D**

India’s Environment Ministry signed an agreement with the Norwegian Foreign Affairs Ministry for an initiative seeking to combat marine pollution.

**148. What is the minimum national monthly wage fixed by the expert panel headed by V V Giri?**

- A. Rs.8000
- B. Rs.8500
- C. Rs.9000
- D. Rs.9500
- E. Rs.9750

**Answer: E**

The 7-member expert panel headed by V V Giri National Labour Institute (VVGNI) Fellow Anoop Satpathy submitted its report titled “Determining the Methodology for Fixation of the National Minimum Wage”. The expert committee recommended a uniform national minimum wage of Rs. 375 per day or Rs. 9,750 per month or region-wise minimum wages ranging from Rs. 8,892 – Rs. 11,622 per

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month for five regions, with supplementary house rent allowance of Rs. 1,430 per month for urban workers. This wage-level is irrespective of sectors, skills, occupations and rural-urban locations for a family comprising 3.6 consumption units. The Present is National Minimum Wage Rs. 4,576.

**149. Union Minister for Science and Technology, Earth Sciences, and Environment Dr Harsha Vardhan inaugurated India's first agromet forecast center in which state?**

- A. Karnataka
- B. Bihar
- C. Andhra Pradesh
- D. Mizoram
- E. Rajasthan

**Answer: A**

Union Minister for Science and Technology, Earth Sciences, and Environment Dr Harsha Vardhan inaugurated the North Karnataka Agromet Forecasting and Research Centre (NKAFC) in Dharwad, Karnataka. This is country's first agromet forecast centre which will provide accurate information on weather. About 25 lakh farmers in the region would get information on various platforms including SMS, Whatsapp, social networking sites and community radio stations.

**150. Who took over as the new chairman of the Central Board of Direct Taxes (CBDT)?**

- A. Ashok Srivastava
- B. Narayana Murthy
- C. Pramod Chandra Mody
- D. Satyadev Sahayadri
- E. None of these

**Answer: C**

Pramod Chandra Mody took over as the new chairman of the Central Board of Direct Taxes (CBDT). Mody was a 1982 batch Indian Revenue Service (Income Tax cadre), has been appointed in place of Sushil Chandra, who was earlier named as an Election Commissioner. Prior to this he was a Member (Administration) in the CBDT. CBDT functions under the Department of Revenue of the Ministry of Finance.

**151. Asia's largest early Childhood Conference - Early Ed Asia 2019 held in which city?**

- A. Udaipur
- B. Jodhpur
- C. Jaisalmer
- D. Mumbai
- E. Jaipur

**Answer: E**

Early Ed Asia 2019 the two day educational event was held at the City Palace in Jaipur, Rajasthan. This was the first time such a conference was held in India with over 6000 eminent early childhood educators, policy-makers, researchers and other stakeholders from India and foreign countries. The motto of the conference was 'Our Children. Our Future'.

**152. World Sustainable Development Summit 2019 held in which city?**

- A. Hyderabad
- B. Delhi
- C. Bangalore
- D. Kolkata
- E. Vishakhapatnam

**Answer: B**

The World Sustainable Development Summit (WSDS) is the annual flagship event of The Energy and Resources Institute (TERI) was inaugurated by vice president Venkaiah Naidu at New Delhi. Theme of the summit was 'Attaining the 2030 Agenda: delivering on our promise'. Prime Minister of Fiji Frank Bainimarama was honoured with the Sustainable Development Leadership Award 2019 for his outstanding contributions towards sustainable development in Fiji.

**153. Name the portal launched by IWAI real-time information on available depth on stretches of National Waterways?**

- A. LADIS
- B. CDAIS
- C. MAISD
- D. LUDES
- E. None of these

**Answer: A**

Inland Waterways Authority of India (IWAI) launched a new portal LADIS (Least Available Depth Information System) for real-time information on available depth on stretches of National Waterways. LADIS will ensure that real-time data on least available depths (LADs) is disseminated for ship, barge and cargo owners so that they can undertake transportation on national waterways (NWs) in a more planned way.

**154. Name the The Indian Air Force's (IAF) major exercise that is held at Pokhran Air-to-Ground Armament Range near Jaisalmer in Rajasthan.**

- A. Vajrashakti
- B. Vayushakti
- C. Varunashakti
- D. Jaashakti
- E. Aagnishakti

**Answer: B**

The Indian Air Force's (IAF) major exercise Vayushakti 2019 held at Pokhran Air-to-Ground Armament Range near Jaisalmer in Rajasthan. Akash missile firing, gun firing from Advanced Light Helicopter and MiG 29's air-to-ground role demonstrated in this exercise. Indigenously developed weapons, aircraft and equipment to be displayed include Akash (midrange surface to air missile), Astra (all weather beyond visual range air-to-air missile), Light Combat Aircraft Tejas, Advanced Light Helicopter and Airborne Early Warning and Control systems

**155. Who was appointed as the Coach of Under-23 Indian Football team for the upcoming Asian Football Confederation (AFC)?**

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- A. Sandesh Jhingan
- B. Jackichand Singh
- C. Derrick Pereira
- D. Pronay Halder
- E. None of these

**Answer: C**

Derrick Pereira is set to become the coach of the Indian Under-23 football team for the upcoming Asian Football Confederation (AFC) qualifiers, to be held in Tashkent, Uzbekistan from 22nd March. He will take charge from the preparatory camp in Goa that begins on 2nd March. A friendly match between Qatar U-23 and India U-23 is also scheduled in Doha on 11th March 2019.

**156. World Health Organization (WHO) along with which Organization had issued a new international standard regarding fabrication and utilization of musical devices?**

- A. UNICEF
- B. World Trade Organization(WTO)
- C. International Trade Union (ITU)
- D. World Intellectual Property Organization(WIPO)
- E. None of these

**Answer: C**

Ahead of World Hearing Day, the World Health Organization (WHO) and International Trade Union (ITU) have issued a new international standard regarding fabricating and utilization of musical devices, which includes smart phones and audio players, to make them safe for listening. The motto and aim behind this move is to avert hearing loss among 1.1 billion young people who use musical devices most often. As 50% of the people who lie in age group of 12-35 are at risk of getting deaf due to prolong and immoderate exposure to loud sounds, they listen via their music devices. It is estimated that by 2050, around 900 million people will have loss of hearing. This new standard for music device was developed under WHO's "Make Listening safe" initiative, drawing on the latest evidences and consultations. These standards will recommend Sound allowance function, Personalized profile, Volume limiting, general information and guidance.

**157. Which terror group has claimed responsibility for the Pulwama terror attack, one of the deadliest terror attacks on the Indian Armed Forces after Uri?**

- A. Lashkar-E-Taiba
- B. Indian Mujahideen
- C. Jaish-e-Mohammed
- D. Al-Umar-Mujahideen
- E. None of these

**Answer: C**

The Pakistan-based Jaish-e-Mohammed terror group has claimed responsibility for the Pulwama terror attack in Jammu and Kashmir and the suicide bomber was identified as Adil Ahmed, who according to officials joined the terror group in 2018.

**158. The Pradhan Mantri Shram-Yogi Maandhan scheme was launched on February 15, 2019. Under the scheme, the workers will get what amount of pension after attaining the age of 60 years?**

- A. Rs 1500
- B. Rs 3000
- C. Rs 4500
- D. Rs 6000
- E. Rs 6500

**Answer: B**

The Union Ministry of Labour and Employment on February 15, 2019 launched the Pradhan Mantri Shram Yogi Maandhan Yojana (PM-SYM). The scheme was announced in the Interim Budget 2019. The unorganised sector workers, with income of less than Rs 15,000 per month and who belong to the entry age group of 18-40 years, will be eligible for the scheme.

**159. India's first district cooling system to be built in which state?**

- A. Andhra Pradesh
- B. Karnataka
- C. Bihar
- D. Gujarat
- E. Maharashtra

**Answer: A**

UAE-based international cooling provider (Tabreed) has entered into a 30-year concession with Andhra Pradesh government to build, India's first district cooling system in the state's new capital Amaravati. The agreement is for a contracted cooling capacity of 20,000 refrigeration tonnes. This will be the Tabreed's first plant outside its Gulf Cooperation Council (GCC) market.

**160. National Green Tribunal (NGT) has slapped a whopping Rs. 100 crore on which state government for its failure to prevent pollution of the rivers and canal of the state?**

- A. Meghalaya
- B. Tamil Nadu
- C. Punjab
- D. Telangana
- E. Sikkim

**Answer: B**

National Green Tribunal (NGT) has slapped a whopping Rs. 100 crore on Tamil Nadu government for its failure to prevent pollution of the Adyar and Cooum rivers and the Buckingham Canal. The Bench comprising the Chairman Adarsh Kumar Goel, Judicial member Justice K. Ramakrishnan and expert member Nagin Nanda directed the constitution of a joint committee comprising of representatives of CPCB, Indian Institute of Science, Bangalore, Madras School of Economics, National Environmental Engineering Research Institute and the Tamil Nadu Pollution Control Board to assess the causes and quantum of damage to the environment as well as further steps required for restoration of environment.



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**161. Who wins international human rights award?**

- A. Louise Arbour
- B. Shulamith Koenig
- C. Enriqueta Estela Barnes de Carlotto
- D. Abdul Aziz Muhamat
- E. None of these

**Answer: D**

Abdul Aziz Muhamat, a Sudanese refugee who has been on Manus Island in Papua New Guinea (PNG), for more than five years, was named the 2019 Martin Ennals Award Laureate at a ceremony in Geneva for exposing “the very cruel refugee policy” of Australia’s government. This is the first time that the major prize has been awarded to an individual focused on refugee issues. The Martin Ennals Award for Human Rights Defenders, sometimes called “the Nobel Prize for human rights”, it was created in 1993. The Award is an annual prize for human rights advocates given by a jury of 10 of the world’s leading human rights NGOs

**162. Who was conferred with the first-ever ‘Football Ratna’ award?**

- A. Gurpreet Singh Sandhu
- B. Sunil Chetri
- C. Sandesh Jhingan
- D. Anirudh Tapa
- E. None of these

**Answer: B**

India and Bengaluru FC skipper Sunil Chhetri was conferred the first ever Football Ratna honour by Football Delhi, state association governing the sport in Delhi. Dr. Shaji Prabhakaran, President, Delhi Football presented the honour a function at the majestic Jawaharlal Nehru Stadium. Sunil Chhetri popularly known as Captain Fantastic. He has scored 2nd highest number of goals in international matches among active players after Cristiano Ronaldo.

**163. Who is the author of the recently released book ‘Simplicity & Wisdom’?**

- A. Ratan Tata
- B. Anil Ambani
- C. Dinesh Sahara
- D. Volkmar Denner
- E. None of these

**Answer: C**

Famous Industrialist and Philanthropist Dinesh Shahra’s book, ‘Simplicity & Wisdom’ was launched by the Governor of West Bengal- Keshari Nath Tripathi at Parmarth Ashram in Kumbh. The book is dedicated to late eminent Vedanti Swami Pragananandji. This book is aimed at offering saintly wisdom and guidance to lead a content and happy life.

**164. Name the mobile application launched by Infosys for engineering students?**

- A. InfyAQ
- B. InfyDQ
- C. InfyIQ
- D. InfySQ
- E. InfyTQ

**Answer: E**

Infosys the country’s 2nd largest IT firm has launched its next-generation digital platform called ‘InfyTQ’ that aims to offer learning and engagement experiences for engineering students. InfyTQ is a free platform open to all engineering students in their third and fourth year across India. This platform available on both mobile and desktop includes content, courses, and news as well as online assessments and certification.

**165. Who became the first Indian Woman Flight Engineer of the Indian Air Force?**

- A. Hina Jaiswal
- B. Pragya Jaiswal
- C. Anupama Jaiswal
- D. Niwetha Jaiswal
- E. Priya Jaiswal

**Answer: A**

Hina Jaiswal from Chandigarh, became the first Indian Woman Flight Engineer of the Indian Air Force. Hina was commissioned in the Indian Air Force’s engineering branch in 2015. She completed a six-month Flight Engineer course from 112 helicopter unit, Air Force Station, Yelahanka, Bengaluru. A flight engineer is the member of an aircraft’s flight crew who monitors and operates its complex aircraft systems requiring a specialised skill set

**166. Who wins the recently concluded Irani Cup?**

- A. Rest of India
- B. Railways
- C. Saurstra
- D. Vidarbha
- E. Karnataka

**Answer: D**

Ranji champions Vidarbha beat Rest of India at the Jamtha Stadium in Nagpur to retain the Irani Cup. Vidarbha has now become the third team after Mumbai and Karnataka to clinch two Irani Cup titles in a row. Vidarbha captain – Faiz Fazal

**167. Reserve Bank of India (RBI) withdrew how much percent limit on investments by FPIs in corporate bonds of an entity with a view to encourage more foreign investments?**

- A. 10 Percent
- B. 20 Percent
- C. 30 Percent
- D. 25 Percent
- E. 15 percent

**Answer: B**

The Reserve Bank of India (RBI) lifted the 20% limit on investments by foreign portfolio investors (FPIs) in corporate bonds of an entity with a view to encouraging more foreign investments. In April 2018, RBI was stipulated that FPI should not have an exposure of more than 20% of its corporate bond portfolio to a single corporate

**168. Which Organisation/Ministry Organised the Second National Conference on “Sustainable and Environment-friendly Industrial Production” held in New Delhi?**

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- A. Minister Of Health and Family Welfare
- B. Minister of Social Justice and Empowerment
- C. Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change(MoEFCC)
- D. Minister of Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises
- E. None of these

**Answer: C**

Second National Conference was organised on 15th February in New Delhi on “Sustainable and Environment-friendly Industrial Production (SEIP) Project”. It was organised by Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change(MoEFCC) under Indo-German Development Cooperation. There were 70 participants including representatives from 18 State Pollution Control Boards and 8 State Industrial Departments-including representation from J&K, Tripura, Jharkhand, Goa, Gujarat, Rajasthan, etc.

**169. Which Bank had become the first US bank with Cryptocurrency?**

- A. JP Morgan Chase
- B. Bank of America
- C. Goldman Sachs
- D. Wells Fargo
- E. None of these

**Answer: A**

JP Morgan Chase rolled out as the first US bank with cryptocurrency. The change in opinion of JP Morgan is the first step in the program of making it more competitive. The currency is designed to be decentralized so that no one has control over transactions being sent over the network. JP Morgan Chase will be using the cryptocurrency to see its potential in using digital coins to reduce risk and enable instant transfers. JPM Coin is not for retail customers . It will be used internally by the bank to enable instant transfers of payments between institutional accounts.

**170. Mojaddedi passed away. He is the Former interim President of which country?**

- A. Pakistan
- B. Bhutan
- C. Afghanistan
- D. Bangladesh
- E. Yemen

**Answer: C**

Former Afghan interim president and ex-Jihadi leader Sibghatullah Mojaddedi has passed away. He fought the Soviets and rose to become the country’s interim President after the collapse of the Afghan communist regime in 1992. Mojaddedi’s death comes three days before the 30th anniversary of the Soviet withdrawal from Afghanistan

**171. India's first fulldome 3D Digital theatre inaugurated in which city?**

- A. Kolkata
- B. Mumbai
- C. Ahemadabad
- D. New Delhi
- E. Hyderabad

**Answer: A**

Union Culture Minister Mahesh Sharma inaugurated the India’s first ‘fulldome 3D Digital Theatre’ at the Science City in Kolkata, West Bengal. This facility is the first of its kind in the country and having a 23 metre titled dome to offer a fully immersive experience to the visitors. It is fully funded by the Ministry of Culture at a cost of Rs 20 crore. The Science City is operated by the National Council of Science Museums under the Ministry of Culture.

**172. What is the number Rajnath Singh launched pan-India number for women safety?**

- A. 111
- B. 112
- C. 109
- D. 125
- E. 132

**Answer: B**

Home Minister Rajnath Singh and Minister for Women and Child Development Maneka Gandhi launched a range of citizen safety initiatives in New Delhi. It includes the Emergency Response Support System (ERSS), for women safety in 16 states and Union territories. The service has already been launched in Himachal Pradesh and Nagaland. Persons in distress can dial a pan-India number 112. Under this system, all the states have to set up a dedicated Emergency Response Centre (ERC)

**173. The 40th International Annual Desert Festival held which city?**

- A. Jaipur
- B. Jodhpur
- C. Udaipur
- D. Jaisalmer
- E. Ajmer

**Answer: D**

The 40th International Annual Desert Festival held on the sand dune, Rajasthan. The three-day festival, exhibits rich cultural heritage of the desert state, commenced with a colourful procession from Gadsisar lake fort. The festival is organised by the Rajasthan tourism and district administration.

**174. Recently, which state assembly passed a bill to scrap minimum qualification for local polls?**

- A. Maharashtra
- B. Rajasthan
- C. Bihar
- D. Telangana
- E. Punjab

**Answer: B**

Rajasthan Legislative Assembly passed Rajasthan Municipalities (Amendment) Bill, 2019, and The Rajasthan Panchayati Raj (Amendment) Bill, 2019 to remove the minimum education criterion for panchayat and civic polls candidates. The previous BJP government had introduced the minimum qualification of class 10 for Zila

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Parishad/Panchayat member election, and class 5 or 8 class for the post of sarpanch.

**175. Which bank becomes first U.S. Bank with a Cryptocurrency?**

- A. Bank of America
- B. Citigroup
- C. J.P. Morgan
- D. Morgan Stanley
- E. Goldman Sachs

**Answer: C**

JPMorgan Chase & Co, America's largest bank, is launched its own Cryptocurrency. The cryptocurrency, called "JPM Coin," which has a fixed value redeemable for one U.S. dollar

The bank operates a massive wholesale payment business, with more than \$6 trillion in client funds transferred each day. The crypto-currency, which runs on blockchain technology, has been used successfully to move money between the bank and a client account.

**176. Who among the following has appointed as CBIC members?**

- A. Sandeep Mohan Bhatnagar and Ashok Kumar Pandey
- B. Ashok Kumar Pandey and Vijendra Bhoopathy
- C. Sandeep Mohan Bhatnagar and Vijendra Bhoopathy
- D. Arun Kumar Pandey and Vijendra Bhoopathy
- E. Sandeep Mohan Bhatnagar and Arun Kumar Pandey

**Answer: A**

Senior IRS officers Sandeep Mohan Bhatnagar and Ashok Kumar Pandey have been appointed as members in the Central Board of Indirect Taxes and Customs (CBIC).

Pandey is a 1983-batch Indian Revenue Service (Customs and Central Excise) officer, while Bhatnagar a 1984-batch IRS officer. The CBIC board is headed by a chairman and can have a maximum of six members.

**177. Which state hosted the 4th Agri Leadership Summit?**

- A. Haryana
- B. Punjab
- C. Sikkim
- D. Andhra Pradesh
- E. Karnataka

**Answer: A**

Union Minister of Agriculture and Farmers' Welfare Radha Mohan Singh inaugurated the 4th Agri Leadership Summit at the proposed International Fruit and Vegetable Terminus in Gaur, district Sonapat in Haryana. The theme of the summit is "Entrepreneurship & Agri Business; Agri Allied – A Promising Sector and Agri Service- Direct Marketing". The President of India, Shri Ram Nath Kovind addressed the closing ceremony of the Summit. He also presented the Haryana Kisaan Ratna Puraskar and the Haryana Krishi Ratna Puraskar.

**178. Which company has signed an annual deal worth USD 1.5 billion to import 3 million tonnes of crude oil in the fiscal year beginning April 1?**

- A. Indian Oil Corporation

- B. Hindustan Petroleum Corporation

- C. Oil and Natural Gas Corporation

- D. Reliance Industries Limited

- E. None of these

**Answer: A**

Indian Oil Corporation (IOC) has signed an annual deal worth USD 1.5 billion to import 3 million tonnes of crude oil in the fiscal year beginning April 1. This is the first time Indian refiner has signed an annual contract since the country in 2017 began importing crude oil from the US. India first imported US crude oil in October 2017, and since then oil firms have been buying oil from that country on a tender basis.

**179. Who was named as a brand ambassador for global sportswear giant PUMA for a two-year period?**

- A. Virat Kohli
- B. PV Sindhu
- C. Mary Kom
- D. Sunil Chetri
- E. Ankita Raina

**Answer: C**

Six-time world women boxing champion MC Mary Kom was named as a brand ambassador for global sportswear giant PUMA for a two-year period. Mary Kom is now PUMA India's new ambassador for their women's training category and will be representing the brand in marketing campaigns. She will lead PUMA's #Do You conversation that aims to motivate women across the nation to be strong and accomplish their goals

**180. Which of the following insurance group received broking licence recently from Insurance Regulatory and Development Authority of India (IRDAI)?**

- A. WomemSHG.com
- B. YonoInsurance.com
- C. UnionInsurance.com
- D. IndianMoneyInsurance.com
- E. None of these

**Answer: D**

Indiamoneyinsurance.com, a subsidiary of the Indiamoney.com Group has acquired a broking license from Insurance Regulatory and Development Authority of India (IRDAI) of India's to enter Insurance Business. The company will come to process within next few days and projects to hire 2000 employees before the year ends. The brokerage also projects to institute 500 purchase centres of insurance across India with an investment of Rs. 4 billion.

**181. What day is observed annually on 20th February globally?**

- A. World Leprosy day
- B. World Radio Day
- C. World Social Justice Day
- D. World Telecommunications Day
- E. World Solar Energy day

**Answer: C**

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World Day of Social Justice is observed annually on 20<sup>th</sup> February. The United Nations General Assembly approved the day on November 2007 and every year since 2009 social justice day is observed to raise awareness about social injustices throughout the world. The theme of 2019 World Day of Social Justice is ‘If You Want Peace & Development, Work for Social Justice’.

**182. Union Minister for Agriculture and Animal Welfare Radha Mohan Singh inaugurated the 14th Agricultural Science Congress in which city?**

- A. Hyderabad
- B. Patna
- C. Varanasi
- D. New Delhi
- E. Jaipur

**Answer: D**

Union Minister for Agriculture and Animal Welfare Radha Mohan Singh inaugurated the 14<sup>th</sup> Agricultural Science Congress in New Delhi. A four-day event aims to doubling farmers’ income by 2022. Theme of 14th Agricultural Science Congress is ‘Innovations for Transformation’. The event being organised by the National Academy of Agricultural Science (NASS), Indian Council of Agriculture Research (ICAR) and Indian Agricultural Research Institute (IARI). The Congress, organised once every two years, About 2,000 delegates from 17 countries are expected to attend the event

**183. The 79th Indian History Congress (IHC) will be held at which University in Bhopal, Madhya Pradesh from February 26?**

- A. Madhya Pradesh Bhoj Open University
- B. RKDF University
- C. Barkatullah University
- D. Awadhesh Pratap Singh University
- E. None of these

**Answer: C**

The 79th Indian History Congress (IHC) will be held at Barkatullah University in Bhopal, Madhya Pradesh from February 26. This session was earlier scheduled at Savitribai Phule Pune University (SPPU) from December 28. but it was cancelled by the local hosts due to financial reason. This is the second time the IHC would be held in Madhya Pradesh, Earlier it was hosted in 2011. Over 1,000 delegates including prominent historians are expected to participate in the IHC in Bhopal. Indian History Congress was established in 1935 and this is the largest professional and academic body of Indian historians. It promotes and encourages scientific study of Indian history

**184. Name the initiative launched by Commerce Minister Suresh Prabhu to promote Start-ups, women and youth advantage through e-transactions on Government e Marketplace (GeM)?**

- A. SWAYATT
- B. SARASWATI
- C. SAROJINI

D. MADAD

E. BHAROSA

**Answer: A**

Union Minister of Commerce & Industry and Civil Aviation, Suresh Prabhu, launched SWAYATT in New Delhi. SWAYATT is an initiative to promote Start-ups, women and youth advantage through e-transactions on Government e Marketplace (GeM). This will bring together the key stakeholders within the Indian entrepreneurial ecosystem to Government e-Marketplace the national procurement portal.

**185. Which state has recently introduced Drainage cleaning robot as part of efforts to rid of manual scavenging?**

- A. Tamil Nadu
- B. Karnataka
- C. Bihar
- D. New Delhi
- E. Gujarat

**Answer: A**

A drainage-cleaning robot has been introduced for the first time at the Chennai city corporation as part of efforts to rid of manual scavenging. The robot named Bandicoot has been introduced at a cost of 18 lakh rupees. Drainage cleaning could be detected by viewing the blockages on the screen. The robot could be taken to any place in the corporation area

**186. Recently, Union Tourism Minister K.J. Alphons inaugurated the ‘Eco Circuit’ Project in which state?**

- A. Andhra Pradesh
- B. Kerala
- C. West Bengal
- D. Rajasthan
- E. Punjab

**Answer: B**

K.J. Alphons, Union Minister for Tourism inaugurated the project ‘Development of Eco Circuit: Pathanamthitta – Gavi – Vagamon – Thekkady’ under the Swadesh Darshan scheme of Ministry of Tourism. This Eco Circuit project was sanctioned in December 2015 for Rs. 76.55 crores. Major works carried out under the project includes Eco Adventure Tourism Park at Vagamon, Cultural Centre at Kadamannitta, Idukki. Swadesh Darshan scheme is one of the flagship schemes of Ministry of Tourism for development of thematic circuits in the country. The scheme was launched in 2014 - 15 and as on date the Ministry has sanctioned 77 projects worth projects for Rs. 6131.88 Crore to 30 States and UTs.

**187. Which insurance company Launched the first-of-its-kind ‘Trip Protector’ Policy?**

- A. ICICI Lombard
- B. Bajaj Allianz General Insurance
- C. New India Assurance
- D. HDFC ERGO General Insurance
- E. United India Insurance

**Answer: D**

HDFC ERGO General Insurance Company, India’s third-largest non life insurance provider in the private sector,

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launched the Trip Protector insurance policy, a pioneering policy in the non-life insurance segment in India. In the event of a cancellation, either a flight or hotel booking, Trip Protector insurance policy will safeguard travellers financially against the cost of cancellation levied by Hotels or Airlines. The policy is initially offered to customers of HDFC Bank on the purchase of Airline tickets or Hotel Bookings done using their individual HDFC Bank credit cards

**188. The Laureus World Sports Awards is an annual award ceremony honouring individuals and teams from the world of sports along with sporting achievements throughout the year. Who is named as Sportsman of the year?**

- A. Novak Djokovic
- B. Husain Bolt
- C. Lionel Messi
- D. Virat Kohli
- E. Rory McIlroy

**Answer: A**

The Laureus World Sports Awards is an annual award ceremony honouring individuals and teams from the world of sports along with sporting achievements throughout the year.

Novak Djokovic named as Sportsman of the year

**189. Which is the long-range artillery gun that has received clearance from the Indian Army and the Ministry of Defence for production?**

- A. Vajra
- B. Dhanush
- C. Rama
- D. Bhrama
- E. Varuna

**Answer: B**

The Ordnance Factory Board (OFB) has received clearance from the Indian Army and the Ministry of Defence for production of 114 'Dhanush' long range artillery guns. 'Dhanush' is the first long-range artillery gun to be produced in India. It is the product of joint efforts by the OFB and the Army with contributions from the DRDO, DGQA, Bharat Electronics Limited, SAIL and several private enterprises.

**190. Who became the first Indian women boxers to win gold at the Strandja Memorial Tournament?**

- A. Nikhat and Meena
- B. Sonia Chahal and Meena
- C. Nikhat and Sonia Chahal
- D. Kavita and Nikhat
- E. Kavita and sonia Chahal

**Answer: A**

Nikhat Zareen and Meena Kumari Devi became the first Indian women boxers to win gold medals at the Strandja Memorial Tournament in Sofia, Bulgaria. Zareen, a multiple-time national medallist, claimed a 5-0 win in the 51kg category finals. Meena Kumari Devi win the bantamweight (54kg) summit clash. Asian Games gold medallist Amit Panghal (49kg) claimed a second successive gold at the

Strandja Memorial Tournament. Manju Rani settled for a silver in 48kg category. Pwila Basumatari (64kg), Neeraj (60kg) and Lovlina Borgohain (69kg) had settled for bronze medals after losing their semifinal bouts

**191. International Mother Language Day (IMLD) is celebrated every year on what date?**

- A. 21st February
- B. 18th February
- C. 26th February
- D. 15th February
- E. 13th February

**Answer: A**

International Mother Language Day (IMLD) is celebrated every year on 21 February with the overall objective to promote linguistic diversity and multilingual education. International Mother Language day 2019 will be framed by the International Year of indigenous languages 2019 (IYIL19) around the theme "Indigenous languages matter for development, peace building and reconciliation".

**192. Which country becomes 73rd nation to join international solar alliance?**

- A. Iran
- B. Iraq
- C. Saudi Arabia
- D. Afghanistan
- E. Mongolia

**Answer: C**

Saudi Arabia signed the framework agreement of the International Solar Alliance (ISA) becoming the 73rd country to join the India-led renewable energy organisation. International Solar Alliance (ISA) was unveiled by PM Narendra Modi and former French President Francois Hollande in 2015.

**193. PM Modi flags off world's first diesel to electric converted locomotive in which city?**

- A. Pune
- B. Varanasi
- C. Patna
- D. Agra
- E. Ajmer

**Answer: B**

Prime Minister Narendra Modi flagged off the first ever diesel-to-electric converted locomotive at the Diesel Locomotive Works (DLW) in Varanasi. The 10,000HP freight locomotive has been converted from two units of old diesel locomotives of 2600HP each with indigenous technology. The feat was achieved in record time with the help of engineers from Research Designs and Standards Organisation (RDSO), Chittaranjan Locomotive Works (CLW), and Bharat Heavy Electricals Ltd (BHEL). The work on the project began on December 22, 2017 and from concept to execution of the conversion of the diesel locomotive to electric was carried out in just 69 days

**194. Which state government launched KALIA Chhatra Bruti scholarship scheme?**

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- A. Gujarat
- B. Manipur
- C. Meghalaya
- D. Odisha
- E. West Bengal

**Answer: D**

**Odisha government** has launched the **Krushak Assistance for Livelihood and Income Augmentation (KALIA) Chhatra Bruti scholarship** for the children of farmers, who studying in government professional colleges on merit. The state government will bear all expenditure including course fees, hostel fees and mess fees under Kalia scholarship. The Kalia scholarship funds would be directly sent to the bank accounts of the eligible students through DBT.

**195. 'Festival of India' begins in Nepal. Who is the Indian Ambassador to Nepal?**

- A. Vijay Keshav Gokhale
- B. Manjeev Singh Puri
- C. Harsh Vardhan Shringla
- D. Syed Akbaruddin
- E. Shri Jaideep Sarkar

**Answer: B**

A month-long 'Festival of India' began in Kathmandu to familiarise the new generation of the country about the similarities between the two countries. Minister for Culture, Tourism and Civil Aviation Rabindra Adhikari and **Indian Ambassador to Nepal Manjeev Singh Puri** jointly inaugurated the event. The festival, organised by the Indian Embassy and Swami Vivekananda Cultural Centre, is being held in Kathmandu and other major cities of Nepal from February 19th to March 21st.

**196. Who was conferred the Tagore Award for Cultural Harmony at a function in New Delhi?**

- A. Ram Nath Kovind
- B. Ram Vilas Paswan
- C. Narendra Modi
- D. Venkiah Naidu
- E. None of these

**Answer: A**

President Ram Nath Kovind conferred the Tagore Award for Cultural Harmony at a function in New Delhi. The award was instituted in 2012 as part of the commemoration of Nobel laureate Rabindranath Tagore's 150th birth anniversary. The awardees were selected by a jury headed by the Prime Minister and include Chief Justice of India Justice Ranjan Gogoi, former Chief Election Commissioner Shri N Gopalaswami and the President of Indian Council for Cultural Relations Shri Vinay Sahasrabudde. Exponent of Manipuri dance **Rajkumar Singhajit Singh** was given the award for the year 2014. **Chhayanaut**, a cultural organization of Bangladesh was given the award for 2015 for its role in the promotion of Gurudev Rabindranath Tagore's works and Bangla arts. Renowned sculptor and scholar **Ram Vanji Sutar** was given the award for 2016.

**197. One Health India Conference Inaugurated in which city?**

- A. Mumbai
- B. Pune
- C. New Delhi
- D. Hyderabad
- E. Amaravathi

**Answer: C**

Union Science & Technology Minister, Dr. Harsh Vardhan, inaugurated the One Health India Conference 2019 in New Delhi. The conference plans to launch India's new One Health Initiative – an intersectoral approach to tackling the most urgent health threats in India as well as in low and middle income countries across South and South East Asia and Sub-Saharan Africa. The main objective of the conference is to formulate a roadmap for the response, preparedness, and management of current regional, national and global health challenges using a One Health collaborative approach.

**198. 4th India-ASEAN Expo summit begins in which city?**

- A. Kathmandu
- B. Beijing
- C. Moscow
- D. New Delhi
- E. Hanoi

**Answer: D**

The 4<sup>th</sup> India-ASEAN Expo and Summit inaugurated in New Delhi. This is a flagship event of Department of Commerce, being organised with FICCI to carry forward the momentum and to further strengthen India-ASEAN relations under the Act-East Policy. The Association of South-East Asian Nations (ASEAN) comprises of Vietnam, Thailand, Singapore, Philippines, Myanmar, Malaysia, Lao PDR, Indonesia, Cambodia and Brunei. Trade Ministers of ASEAN Countries, Secretary General of ASEAN and business delegations will participate in the New Delhi Expo and Summit.

**199. Eighth World CSR Congress 2019 held in which city?**

- A. Washington DC
- B. Singapore
- C. Mumbai
- D. Berlin
- E. None of these

**Answer: C**

Eighth World Corporate Social Responsibility Congress 2019 held in Mumbai. World Corporate Social Responsibility Congress (World CSR Congress 2019) popular meeting about Entrepreneurship, Social Responsibility, Sustainability and Social Development. Dr. Soumitro Chakraborty, Chief Executive Officer, Innovative Financial Advisors Pvt. Ltd. (Fiinnovation) was honoured with 'CEO of the year' award. This congress witnessed participation from 33 countries and recognized the efforts of individuals and organizations

**200. Who has been appointed as the CEO of PayU India?**

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- A. Anirban Mukherjee
- B. Ranjit Premji
- C. Anirudh Bhattacharya
- D. Vijay Chadra Premji
- E. None of these

**Answer: A**

Anirban Mukherjee, co-chief executive of Reliance Payments has been appointed as the CEO of PayU India. PayU is a fintech company that provides payment technology to online merchants. Anirban will take over from Amrisha Rau, who was one of the founders of CitrusPay, which was acquired by Naspers-backed PayU in 2016.

**201. Who has launched Operation Digital Board on the lines of Operation Blackboard to provide better digital education in schools?**

- A. Narendra Modi
- B. Smriti Irani
- C. Prakash Javadekar
- D. Jagat Prakash Nadda
- E. Ram Nath Kovind

**Answer: C**

The Human Resource Development (HRD) Ministry, Prakash Javadekar launched Operation Digital Board on the lines of Operation Blackboard to provide better digital education in schools. Under the initiative, 7 lakh classrooms of 9th, 10th and 11th standards and 2 lakh classrooms of colleges and Universities will be equipped with digital boards in the next three years. It aims to converting a class room into a digital class room and in addition to availability of e-resources at any time and at any place to students

**202. The Employees' Provident Fund Organisation (EPFO) hiked the interest rate on employees' provident fund by how many basis points for the 2018-19 fiscal year?**

- A. 15 basis points
- B. 10 basis points
- C. 20 basis points
- D. 40 basis points
- E. 100 basis points

**Answer: B**

The Employees' Provident Fund Organisation (EPFO) hiked the interest rate on employees' provident fund by 10 basis point from 8.55 per cent to 8.65 per cent for the 2018-19 fiscal year. Central Board of Trustees (CBT) headed by the Union labour minister is the highest decision making body of the EPFO that finalises rate of interest on PF deposits. The proposal approved by the trustees would now go to the finance ministry for its approval

**203. Who has been elected as president of the Foundation Board for Better Boxing of the world governing body of the sport, AIBA, for tenure of 4 years?**

- A. Vijay Bhoopathy
- B. Ajay Singh
- C. Lakshmi Narayana
- D. Narasimha Raju

- E. None of these

**Answer: B**

India's boxing chief Ajay Singh has been elected as president of the Foundation Board for Better Boxing of the world governing body of the sport, AIBA, for tenure of 4 years. Foundation for Better Boxing was constituted by the AIBA in the last meeting of their Executive Committee to address future development of the sport globally.

**204. Who has been appointed as the first ombudsman of the Board of Control for Cricket in India (BCCI)?**

- A. Ravindra Jain
- B. Manindra Jain
- C. Akhilesh Jain
- D. Vijay Jain
- E. D. K Jain

**Answer: E**

The Supreme Court appointed its former judge, Justice DK Jain as the first ombudsman of the Board of Control for Cricket in India (BCCI). The role of the ombudsman is to resolve the disputes relating to the players within the state cricket associations and also financial issues

**205. Who has inaugurated the Future of Indian Banking conference held at CSOI, Chanakyapuri?**

- A. Amitab Kanth
- B. Rajiv Kumar
- C. K.V. Subramanian
- D. V.K Suman
- E. None of these

**Answer: B**

Dr. Rajiv Kumar, Vice Chairman, NITI Aayog, inaugurated the Future of Indian Banking conference with the Foundation for Economic Growth and Welfare (EGROW Foundation). The conference aims to increase and elevate the discourse on the banking sector in India, and help develop insights to inform the continued evolution of the Indian banking sector for optimally supporting the growing credit needs of the Indian economy.

**206. Name the first humanoid police robot in India, that is recently launched by Kerala CM Pinarayi Vijayan?**

- A. Police-Bot
- B. Kerala-Bot
- C. KP-BOT
- D. K-BOT
- E. None of these

**Answer: C**

Kerala Chief Minister Pinarayi Vijayan inaugurated KP-BOT, first humanoid police robot in India, in Thiruvananthapuram. The robot ranked as Sub-Inspector and it will perform duties of the front office of police headquarters. It'll receive the visitors, issue identity cards and allot time for them and direct them to different places according to their needs. KP-Bot has been developed by State Police Cyberdome in cooperation with Asimov Robotics, a Kochi-based startup firm

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**207. Which public sector company and Hughes India entered into a Teaming Agreement for design, development, supply, installation, integration and commissioning of Satellite Communication solutions for helicopters?**

- A. Bharat Electornics Limited
- B. Bharat Heavy Electornics Limited
- C. Hindustan Aeronautics Limited
- D. BEML Limited
- E. Electronics Corportion of India Limited

**Answer: A**

Bharat Electronics Limited (BEL) and Hughes India entered into a Teaming Agreement for design, development, supply, installation, integration and commissioning of Satellite Communication solutions for helicopters. Hughes India is a majority owned subsidiary of Hughes Network Systems, LLC, USA. Hughes India is the largest satellite service operator in India providing a comprehensive range of broadband networking technologies, solutions, and services for businesses and governments.

**208. With which country India signed a Memorandum of Understanding to establish a business centre for ICT incubators?**

- A. Bhutan
- B. Bangladesh
- C. Vietnam
- D. Sri Lanka
- E. Nepal

**Answer: D**

India and Sri Lanka signed a Memorandum of Understanding to establish a business centre for ICT incubators in Jaffna, Srilanka, through grant of 25 crore Sri Lankan rupees from India. The MoU was signed by High Commissioner of India to Sri Lanka Mr. Taranjit Singh Sandhu, and Secretary, Ministry of Development Strategies and International Trade Mr. S. T. Kodikara in Colombo. The centre will provide opportunities and enhance the enabling environment for Information Communication Technology (ICT) and other professional services in the Northern region inhabited by minority Tamils

**209. Raj Kumar Barjatya passed away. He was popularly known as \_\_\_\_\_.**

- A. Journalist
- B. Film Producer
- C. Novelist
- D. Politician
- E. Actor

**Answer: B**

Bollywood film producer Raj Kumar Barjatya passed away in Mumbai. He is known for producing several Bollywood films like 'Hum Aapke Hain Koun', 'Vivah', 'Main Prem Ki Deewani Hoon' and 'Prem Ratan Dhan Payo', among others.

**210. Name the SuperComputer that was unveiled in IIT-BHU by Prime Minister Narendra Modi?**

- A. Param Shivay

- B. Aaditya
- C. SahasraT
- D. Param Yuva 2
- E. Param 9000

**Answer: A**

PM Narendra Modi inaugurated supercomputer 'Param Shivay' at IIT-BHU. The supercomputer of 833 teraflop capacity built at the cost of Rs 32.5 crore. Additional Information: India's first supercomputer called PARAM 8000 was launched in 1991. He released commemorative postage stamp on completion of 100 Years of IIT BHU.

**211. Telangana state government announced to give what amount for each of the 40 CRPF jawans martyred to families of Pulwama martyrs?**

- A. Rs.10 Lakh
- B. Rs.15 Lakh
- C. Rs.20 Lakh
- D. Rs.25 Lakh
- E. Rs.30 Lakh

**Answer: D**

Telangana CM K Chandrashekar Rao announced ₹25 lakh assistance to families of each of the 40 CRPF jawans martyred in the Pulwama terror attack. The Assembly and Council adopted a resolution condemning the attack and expressing sympathy with the families and martyrs.

**212. Which state government announced to launch a scheme to provide free sanitary napkins to 17 lakh girl students?**

- A. Odisha
- B. Uttarakhand
- C. Jharkhand
- D. Bihar
- E. None of these

**Answer: A**

Odisha chief minister Naveen Patnaik announced his Government's decision to launch a scheme under which sanitary napkins will be provided free of cost to girl students of government and government-aided schools in the state. The scheme called Khushi will benefit 17 lakh girl students from Class VI to XII. In addition to this, the state government will also expand social marketing of sanitary napkins for women and girls in the community at subsidised rate

**213. Which state government sets up transgender welfare board recentl?**

- A. Maharashtra
- B. Madhya Pradesh
- C. Punjab
- D. Kerala
- E. None of these

**Answer: A**

The Maharashtra government has formed a Transgender Welfare Board to provide formal education, employment opportunities, conduct health programmes and give legal help to the community. Eligible third gender students would be provided hostel accommodation under the Babasaheb

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Ambedkar Swadhar Scheme. Under this scheme, Rs 48000-60000 would be given as scholarship annually. The board would implement skill development programmes to help educated transgenders get jobs.

**214. Which IIT has entered into an agreement with Translational Health Science and Technology Institute (THSTI), to address public health issues and predict adverse pregnancy outcomes using technology?**

- A. IIT Roorke
- B. IIT Bombay
- C. IIT Madras
- D. IIT Kanpur
- E. IIT Kharakpur

**Answer: C**

IIT-Madras has entered into an agreement with Translational Health Science and Technology Institute (THSTI), an autonomous institute of Department of Biotechnology, to address public health issues and predict adverse pregnancy outcomes using technology. A research collaboration agreement was signed during a conclave held here on 'Transforming Maternal and Child Healthcare Using Data Science'. The objective is to apply advanced analytical approach for prediction of adverse pregnancy outcomes, evaluate maternal and childhood consequences of exposure to environmental pollutants, among others.

**215. Who becomes first woman to co-pilot Made-In-India Tejas at Aero India 2019 in Bengaluru?**

- A. Smriti Mandana
- B. Mithali Raj
- C. Saina Nehwal
- D. PV Sindhu
- E. None of these

**Answer: D**

Ace shuttler PV Sindhu flew in the indigenous Light Combat Aircraft Tejas, at the Aero India 2019 air show in Bengaluru. Ms Sindhu, who is among the youngest to co-pilot the HAL-manufactured fighter jet, waved as she climbed into the two-seater trainer variant of the aircraft.

**216. Which aerospace company launches world's 1st private Moon lander for Israel?**

- A. NASA
- B. DRDO
- C. SpaceX
- D. ISRO
- E. None of these

**Answer: C**

Elon Musk-led aerospace startup SpaceX deployed Israel's first Moon lander mission aboard its Falcon 9 rocket, making it the world's first such fully-private mission. 'Beresheet' (Hebrew for 'in the beginning') is set to land on the Moon on April 11. If successful, Israel will become only the fourth nation to have achieved a controlled touchdown on the Moon.

**217. NASA launches website to check daily weather on which planet?**

- A. Venus

- B. Jupiter
- C. Mercury
- D. Uranus
- E. Mars

**Answer: E**

NASA has launched a website to share the daily weather report of Mars with its temperature, atmospheric pressure and wind speed collected by the InSight lander. Temperature on Mars regularly drops below -90°C and rarely rises above -9°C, the data revealed.

**218. Indian sports person Ishan Kishan is related with which sport?**

- A. Cricket
- B. Badminton
- C. Hockey
- D. Foot Ball
- E. Basket Ball

**Answer: A**

Jharkhand batsman Ishan Kishan became the first Indian wicketkeeper-captain to score a century in T20 format. The left-handed batsman achieved the milestone in Jharkhand's 2nd Syed Mushtaq Ali fixture against Jammu and Kashmir.

**219. Name the sitting Lok Sabha member from AIADMK who died in a road accident?**

- A. Vijayendran
- B. Rajendran
- C. Shanmugham
- D. Prachand
- E. None of these

**Answer: B**

In Tamil Nadu, the sitting Lok Sabha member from AIADMK, Rajendran died in a road accident. He represented Villupuram constituency. While being on the way to Chennai, the driver of the car is said to have lost control near Tindivanam, leading to the accident. State Minister CV Shanmugam and party cadres paid homage.

**220. Kodi Ramakrishna dies at 69. He is a famous film director of which language?**

- A. Tamil
- B. Kannada
- C. Telugu
- D. Malayalam
- E. Bengali

**Answer: C**

Veteran Telugu film director Kodi Ramakrishna, who gave several hits to Chiranjeevi, Balakrishna and other leading heroes, passed away. He was 69. Born at Palakollu in West Godavari district of Andhra Pradesh, Ramakrishna made his debut in 1992 with 'Intlo Ramaiah- Veedhilo Krishnaiah' starring Chiranjeevi. He went on to direct more than 100 films in varied genres in a career spanning about three decades.

**221. Every year 24th February is observed as what day?**

- A. Central Excise Day
- B. National Youth Day

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- C. National Army Day
- D. National Productivity Day
- E. National Science Day

**Answer: A**

Central Excise Day is commemorated every year all across the India on 24th of February to encourage the employees of excise department. And also to carry out the central excise duty all over the India in better way in order to prevent the corruption in goods manufacturing business as well as implement other rules to carry out best possible excise services.

**222. Who among the following is goodwill ambassador for hepatitis, WHO South-East Asia Region?**

- A. Ranveer Singh
- B. Sharukh Khan
- C. Amitabh Bachan
- D. MS Dhoni
- E. Sachin Tendulkar

**Answer: C**

Union minister Ashwini Kumar Choubey launched a national programme aimed at eliminating viral hepatitis, recognized as an important public health problem. The minister of state for health launched the National Action Plan – Viral Hepatitis at Mumbai in presence of Amitabh Bachchan, the goodwill ambassador for hepatitis, WHO South-East Asia Region.

**223. Which city hosting Organisation of Islamic Cooperation (OIC) that is going to be held in the month of March 2019?**

- A. Baku
- B. Abu Dhabi
- C. Dhaka
- D. Cairo
- E. Jakarta

**Answer: B**

External Affairs Minister Sushma Swaraj has been invited to deliver an address at the Organisation of Islamic Cooperation (OIC) in Abu Dhabi next month. This is the first time that a leader of the non-Muslim country has been invited to the OIC conference. Ms. Swaraj will be the Guest of Honour and address the inaugural plenary of the 46th Session of the Council of Foreign Ministers of OIC on the 1st and 2nd of next month.

**224. Which state has become the first state in the country to have raised a special dog squad to detect liquor consignment?**

- A. Andhra Pradesh
- B. Sikkim
- C. Karnataka
- D. Bihar
- E. Jammu and Kashmir

**Answer: D**

Bihar has become the first state in the country to have raised a special dog squad to detect liquor consignment. As many as 20 liquor-tracker dogs which were imparted training for nine months in Hyderabad have been deployed in nine police

ranges in the state. Notably, Bihar had banned liquor in the state in 2016.

**225. Which state government hikes bonus for paddy farmers to ₹500 per quintal?**

- A. Maharashtra
- B. Meghalaya
- C. Mizoram
- D. West Bengal
- E. None of these

**Answer: A**

Maharashtra Chief Minister Devendra Fadnavis increased the bonus for paddy cultivation from ₹200 to ₹500 per quintal. Fadnavis also waived annual lease for fishing in ponds up to 500 hectares of area.

**226. Which state government has launched a boat ambulance service to ferry patients to hospitals in remote areas at a cost of Rs 5.40 crore?**

- A. Odisha
- B. Uttarakhand
- C. Jharkhand
- D. Kerala
- E. Tamil Nadu

**Answer: A**

The Odisha government has launched a boat ambulance service to ferry patients to hospitals in remote areas at a cost of Rs 5.40 crore. Six boat ambulances, being added to the road fleet for now, will be part of the '108' ambulance service. Two boat ambulances each have been sanctioned for Malkangiri and Kendrapara districts, and one each for Koraput and Kalahandi

**227. Which General Insurance company has entered into a strategic tie-up with AnyTimeLoan.in (ATL), a peer-to-peer lending platform, to provide insurance cover for the latter's lenders and borrowers?**

- A. Bajaj Alliance General Insurance
- B. New India Assurance
- C. ICICI Lombard
- D. Tata AIG
- E. None of these

**Answer: C**

ICICI Lombard, a private general insurer, has entered into a strategic tie-up with AnyTimeLoan.in (ATL), a peer-to-peer lending platform, to provide insurance cover for the latter's lenders and borrowers. The partnership aims to de-risk exposure of its lenders and borrowers arising from uncertainties such as accidents, critical illness, death, disability, loss of job among others. ICICI Lombard will offer its proprietary policies – Group Secure Mind and Group Personal Accident – to the customers of AnyTimeLoan.in.

This will cover the borrowers of all types of loans facilitated on AnyTimeLoan.in, with minimum policy term of one year to a maximum of three years.

**228. Saudi Arabia appoints whom as its 1st female ambassador to United States?**

- A. Charlene

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- B. Caroline  
C. Stephanien  
D. Angela  
E. Reema bint Bandar

**Answer: E**

Saudi Arabia has named Princess Reema bint Bandar as its first female ambassador to the United States. Bandar, the daughter of a former long-time ambassador to the US, replaced Prince Khalid bin Salman, the younger brother of Crown Prince Mohammed bin Salman. She has been a leading advocate of female empowerment in the kingdom.

**229. Which team becomes the first ever Asian team to win Test series in South Africa?**

- A. India  
B. Sri Lanka  
C. Afghanistan  
D. Bangladesh  
E. Pakistan

**Answer: B**

Sri Lanka became the first Asian side to win a Test series in South Africa. Chasing a target of 197, Sri Lanka had a 137-run deficit to deal with at the start of Day 3 with eight wickets in hand. Kusal Mendis and Oshada Fernando ensured that the visitors don't lose any more wickets. They won the Test by eight wickets and thus sealed the series 2-0. It also ended South Africa's run of seven consecutive series wins at home.

**230. Who was named as the Male Player of the Year 2018 by the Asian Hockey Federation?**

- A. Sreejesh Parattu Raveendran  
B. Rupinder Pal Singh  
C. Harmanpreet Singh  
D. Manpreet Pawar  
E. Vivek Sagar Prasad

**Answer: D**

Indian hockey player Manpreet Pawar was named as the Male Player of the Year 2018 by the Asian Hockey Federation. The Indian women's team striker Lalremsiami bagged the Rising Player of The Year prize. The Indian men's team was awarded the Best Performance of The Year after being the only Asian side to reach the World Cup's top-eight in Bhubaneswar.

**231. Who becomes India's 79th T20I cricketer?**

- A. Mayank Markande  
B. Shubham Gill  
C. Ishan Porel  
D. Pankaj Yadav  
E. Himanshu Rana

**Answer: A**

Leg-spinner Mayank Markande became the 79th cricketer to represent India in T20I cricket, achieving the feat against Australia in the first T20I at Visakhapatnam. Markande, who plays for Punjab in domestic circuit and Mumbai Indians in IPL, has taken 99 wickets in 47 professional matches across

formats. Meanwhile, wicketkeeper-batsman Peter Handscomb is making his T20I debut for Australia.

**232. Name the recently launched online portal to keep people informed about ongoing Railway works by Railway Minister Piyush Goyal.**

- A. Rail Drishti  
B. Rail Darshan  
C. Rail Eye  
D. Transparent Rail  
E. None of these

**Answer: A**

Railway Minister Piyush Goyal launched Rail Drishti Dashboard in New Delhi. Rail Drishti Dashboard, an online portal to keep people informed about ongoing Railway works

**233. Waste to Wonder Park is inaugurated by Union Home Minister Shri Rajnath Singh in which city?**

- A. Pune  
B. Mumbai  
C. Ahmedabad  
D. New Delhi  
E. Chennai

**Answer: D**

The Union Home Minister Shri Rajnath Singh inaugurated "Waste to Wonder" Park in Delhi. The park has been built by South Delhi Municipal Corporation (SDMC). It is the first-of-its-kind tourist attraction in the world, with the replicas of the Taj Mahal, the Great Pyramid of Giza, Eiffel Tower, Leaning Tower of Pisa, Christ the Redeemer statue of Rio de Janeiro, Rome's Colosseum, and the Statute of Liberty which were opened for the public at the inauguration. The SDMC has installed solar trees and rooftop panels that will generate 50 KW powers to lighten the park

**234. Which state government launched 'Mukhyamantri Yuva Swabhiman Yojana'?**

- A. Maharashtra  
B. Madhya Pradesh  
C. Mizoram  
D. Meghalaya  
E. None of these

**Answer: B**

Madhya Pradesh Chief Minister Kamal Nath launched state's flagship scheme 'Mukhyamantri Yuva Swabhiman Yojana' (MYSY). The scheme guarantees 100 days of employment a year to urban youth along with a stipend of Rs. 4,000 a month. Only those youths, whose family's annual income is less than Rs 2 lakh and who are in the age group of 21-30 years, are eligible for the scheme

**235. Which state becomes first state to get second Coast Guard district headquarters?**

- A. Andhra Pradesh  
B. Tamil Nadu  
C. Kerala  
D. Karnataka  
E. Maharashtra

**Answer: B**

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Tamil Nadu became the first state in the country to get a second Coast Guard district headquarters Thoothukudi. The first district headquarters is Chennai. Second Coast Guard district headquarters Inaugurated, by state Governor Banwarilal Purohit, with an aim to augment security mechanism on the eastern coast and the state in particular

**236. Skill Saathi Youth Conclave is held in which city?**

- A. Bhuwaneshwar
- B. Ahemadabad
- C. Jaipur
- D. Varanasi
- E. New Delhi

**Answer: A**

Union Skill Development Minister Dharmendra Pradhan Inaugurated a “Skill Saathi Youth Conclave in Bhubaneswar, Odisha. Skill Saathi is a career counselling initiative of the National Skill Development Corporation, under the aegis of Ministry of Skill Development and Entrepreneurship, to create awareness about the Skill India Mission and guide candidates by providing them with information on career paths and opportunities. The conclave mobilised over 2 lakh candidates who were counselled across 427 locations covering all blocks and urban local bodies, across 30 districts in the state.

**237. RTGS dollar is the new currency of which country?**

- A. Zambia
- B. Ghana
- C. Uganda
- D. Zimbabwae
- E. Bostwana

**Answer: D**

Zimbabwe banks start trading new currency RTGS dollar two days after the central bank announced measures to try and resolve a chronic monetary crisis. The bank unveiled a foreign exchange trading system that effectively devalued its quasi-currency, the bond note, which was officially pegged at parity with the US dollar. The new currency replaced electronic bank savings called digital dollars and the bond notes and was named after the real-time gross settlement system that banks use to transfer money between each other. The rate of currency was initially 2.5 RTGS dollars per US dollar.

**238. Who won the Best Actor award in the recently release Oscars 2019?**

- A. Rami Malek
- B. Mahershala Ali
- C. Alfonso Cuarón
- D. Mark Ronson
- E. None of these

**Answer: A**

91st Academy Awards (Oscars) has been announced at the Dolby Theatre in Hollywood & Highland Center, the USA. Rami Malek won the Best Actor for “Bohemian Rhapsody”, Olivia Colman won Best Actress for ‘The Favourite’ and Filmmaker Alfonso Cuaron won the Best

Director award for ‘Roma’ at the 91st Academy Awards in Los Angeles.

**239. Netflix's Indian short documentary 'Period. End of Sentence' wins Oscar. Who is the director for the film?**

- A. Rayka Zehtabchi
- B. Guneet Monga
- C. Anurag Kasyap
- D. Navjot Gulati
- E. None of these

**Answer: A**

A film on menstruation, set in rural India, titled Period. End of Sentence, has won the Oscar in the Documentary Short Subject category at the 91st Academy Awards. Award-winning filmmaker Rayka Zehtabchi has directed the short film, which has been produced by Indian producer Guneet Monga’s Sikhya Entertainment.

**240. FAGMIL signed MoU with with which state Government to establish White cement Plant Project?**

- A. Odisha
- B. Uttarakhand
- C. Himachal Pradesh
- D. Punjab
- E. West Bengal

**Answer: C**

FCI Aravali Gypsum and Minerals India Limited (FAGMIL) signed MoU with Himachal Pradesh Government to establish a white cement plant near village NohraDhar in Sirmour district, Himachal Pradesh, at a project cost of approximately Rs. 605 crores. It will be the 4th white cement plant in the country. The installed capacity of the plant would be 0.3 million tonnes per annum and it will generate the direct employment of approximately 150 persons. The plant is expected to be commenced by the year 2022

**241. Who wins Cannes International Open trophy?**

- A. Pier Luigi Basso
- B. Manish Kaushik
- C. Abhijeet Gupta
- D. Duryodhan Singh Negi
- E. None of these

**Answer: C**

Indian Grandmaster Abhijeet Gupta finished with 7.5 points to win the Cannes International Open. He took an easy draw with Pier Luigi Basso of Italy in the ninth and final round. This was Gupta’s first solo International tournament victory. Abhijeet had also tied for the first place at the Delhi International open in January

**242. As per the recommendations by the Swaminathan Commission, what amount was allocated for providing Minimum Support Price (MSP) to farmers in the recently presented Delhi budget?**

- A. Rs.15,000 crore
- B. Rs.1000 crore
- C. Rs.500 crore
- D. Rs.250 crore
- E. Rs.100 crore

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**Answer: E**

Deputy Chief Minister and Finance Minister Manish Sisodia presented a Rs 60,000 crore budget for 2019-20 in the Assembly. Allocation of Rs. 100 crore for providing Minimum Support Price (MSP) to farmers as recommended by the Swaminathan Commission. Rs. 15,000 crore allocated for education sector. A total of 375 crore rupees have been set aside for 100 mohallah clinics and Rs. 6,380 crores have been made in the budget for Municipal corporations of Delhi.

**243. Which among the following banks to bring down NPA in the current year?**

- A. Syndicate Bank
- B. Canara Bank
- C. Indian Bank
- D. Vijaya Bank
- E. Lakshmi Vilas Bank

**Answer: A**

Syndicate Bank to bring down NPA in the current year. The bank is aiming at bringing down the gross NPA to below 12% and the net NPA to below 6% in the current year from the existing level of 12.5 and 6.5 % respectively. The bank has made a profit in the third quarter after loss in the previous quarters of FY 19. The bank is planning to launch employee share purchase scheme in the first week of March. The scheme offers shares of the bank at a discount ranging from 23 to 25 % with lower grade employees getting maximum discount. The bank is expecting to raise Rs 500 to 600 crore from the process.

**244. RBI to soon put into circulation Rs. 100 bank notes in new series. Who's signature bears the new notes?**

- A. Arun Jaitely
- B. Urjit Patel
- C. Shaktikanth Das
- D. N.K Singh
- E. Raghuram Rajan

**Answer: C**

The Reserve Bank of India (RBI) will shortly put into circulation new series Rs. 100 denomination bank notes bearing the signature of New Governor Shaktikanta Das. The design of these notes is similar in all respects to the Rs. 100 bank notes in circulation currently. All bank notes in the denomination of Rs. 100 issued by the RBI in the past will continue to be legal tender

**245. Kotak Mahindra Bank raises foreign investment limit by what percent?**

- A. 1.5%
- B. 2%
- C. 5%
- D. 10%
- E. 11%

**Answer: B**

Kotak Mahindra Bank has raised the limit on total shareholding of foreign institutional investors and foreign portfolio investors in the company to 45 percent from 43 percent. The hike in the shareholding limit comes after

central bank directive on reducing its Chief Executive Uday Kotak's stake in the bank.

**246. Which among the following bank are being removed by RBI from PCA framework?**

- A. Allahabad Bank
- B. Corporation Bank
- C. Dhanalakshmi Bank
- D. All A, B and C
- E. None of these

**Answer: D**

The Reserve Bank of India (RBI) removed three commercial banks -Allahabad Bank, Corporation Bank and Dhanalakshmi Bank from the prompt corrective action (PCA) framework allowing them to resume their normal lending activities. With the removal of Allahabad Bank and Corporation Bank, six public sector banks are still under the PCA framework. Bank of India (BoI), Bank of Maharashtra (BoM) and Oriental Bank of Commerce (OBC) were taken out of PCA framework on January 31

**247. Which bank has tied up with Germany's KfW Development Bank for funding of USD 113 million to refinance solar projects?**

- A. Syndicate Bank
- B. Bank of Baroda
- C. Indian Bank
- D. State Bank of India
- E. Bank of India

**Answer: B**

State-run Bank of Baroda has tied up with Germany's KfW Development Bank for funding of USD 113 million to refinance solar projects. The tie-up is part of an Indo-German Solar Energy Partnership signed in 2015

**248. Who / Which organisation is conferred with 'Gandhi Peace Prize 2018'?**

- A. Vivekananda Kendra
- B. Akshaya Patra Foundation
- C. Ekal Abhiyan Trust
- D. Yohei Sasakawa
- E. Sulabh International

**Answer: D**

President Conferred 'Gandhi Peace Prize' 2018 to Yohei Sasakawa

**249. Who has conferred with Lifetime Achievement Award at the FMSCI Annual Awards in Mumbai?**

- A. Narain Karthikeyan
- B. G.R. Karthikeyan
- C. Raghul Rangasamy
- D. Gautam Singhanian
- E. None of these

**Answer: B**

G.R. Karthikeyan, father of India's first Formula One driver Narain Karthikeyan, was honoured with the Lifetime Achievement award and Raghul Rangasamy was named the Upcoming Motorsports Person of the Year and received the Raymond Gautam Singhanian Trophy at the FMSCI Annual

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Awards in Mumbai. FIA president Jean Todt was the chief guest and handed over the awards.

**250. Name the India-Bangladesh Joint Military Exercise which is scheduled to be held in Bangladesh for 2019.**

- A. Nomadic Elephant
- B. Sampriti
- C. Indra X
- D. Maitree
- E. Shakti

**Answer: B**

A joint military exercise ‘Sampriti 2019’ between India and Bangladesh will be conducted at Tangail in Bangladesh from 02 March to 15 March 2019. The 14 day exercise is aimed to strengthen and broaden the aspects of interoperability and cooperation between the Indian and Bangladesh Armies. Sampriti 2019’ will be the eighth edition of the exercise which is hosted alternately by both countries. The exercise will involve tactical level operations in a counter insurgency and counter terrorism environment under the UN mandate

**251. Muhammadu Buhari re-elected as which countries president?**

- A. Nigeria
- B. Albania
- C. Mongolia
- D. Zimbabwe
- E. South Korea

**Answer: A**

Nigerian President Muhammadu Buhari has been re-elected for a second four year term. Buhari defeated his main rival, former Vice President Atiku Abubakar with a margin of around four million votes. Buhari’s All Progressives Congress (APC) won in 19 of the 36 states while Abubakar’s People’s Democratic Party (PDP) was won in 17 states

**252. Indian sports personality Prajnesh Gunneswaran is related with which sport?**

- A. Tennis
- B. Table Tennis
- C. Badminton
- D. Golf
- E. Boxing

**Answer: A**

India’s Tennis player Prajnesh Gunneswaran achieved his career-best ranking, rising three places to 94th in the latest list. Ramkumar Ramanathan dropped nine spots to 137, while Yuki Bhambri further slipped to 171. In Doubles rankings, Rohan Bopanna remained at 38th and Divij Sharan at 39th, while Leander Paes rose two spots to 73rd. In the Women’s rankings, Ankita Raina continued to be the top-placed Indian at 164, followed by Karman Thandi at 207 and Pranjala Yadlapalli at 293

**253. Which State government conferred with Platinum award in Web Ratna under the category State/UT by Digital India Awards?**

- A. Kerala
- B. Tripura
- C. Madhya Pradesh
- D. New Delhi
- E. None of these

**Answer: B**

Tripura government conferred with Platinum award in Web Ratna under the category State/UT by Digital India Awards

**254. National Science Day is celebrated across India on what date?**

- A. February 25th
- B. February 26th
- C. February 27th
- D. February 28th
- E. February 29th

**Answer: D**

National Science Day is celebrated across India on February 28. Famous Indian scientist Sir Chandrasekhara Venkata Raman or CV Raman discovered the Raman Effect on this day in 1928. For his discovery, Sir CV Raman was awarded the Nobel Prize in Physics in 1930. In honour of this discovery and as a mark of tribute to the scientist, National Science Day was marked for the first time on February 28, 1987. Theme for the year 2019 is “Science for people and people for science”

**255. Which state government launched PRANAM Commission to protect parents of government employees?**

- A. Assam
- B. Manipur
- C. Andhra Pradesh
- D. Tamil Nadu
- E. Rajasthan

**Answer: A**

Assam Chief Minister Sarbananda Sonowal launched the PRANAM Commission, a panel set up to look after the issues concerning a Bill, for protection of parents of state government employees. The Parents Responsibility and Norms for Accountability and Monitoring (PRANAM) is an effort to protect elderly parents of government employees in their times of need.

**256. New railway zone called ‘South Coast Railway’ is headquartered at which city?**

- A. Vijayawada
- B. Kakinada
- C. Vishakhapatnam

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- D. Kadapa  
E. Bapatla

**Answer: C**

Indian Railways will be making a new zone in Vishakhapatnam, Andhra Pradesh named 'South Coast Railway', Railway Minister Piyush Goyal. The present divisions, including Guntakal, Guntur and Vijaywada and Waltair division will be split into two and will have the headquarter at South Coast Railway. Goyal added that a part of the Waltair division will be converted into a new division with its headquarter at Rayagada, Odisha.

**257. Which bank announced the launch of its Open Banking Platform as part of efforts towards creating a collaborative ecosystem with enterprises?**

- A. City Union Bank  
B. RBL Bank  
C. DCB Bank  
D. South Indian Bank  
E. ICICI Bank

**Answer: C**

DCB Bank announced the launch of its Open Banking Platform as part of efforts towards creating a collaborative ecosystem with enterprises, fintechs and app developers, and enhancing customer-service delivery. Over 20 start-ups, fintechs, merchants, enterprises and developers will partner with DCB Bank for access to its Open Banking Platform APIs as well as collaboration on innovation and customer centric products.

**258. Life Insurance Corporation of India have signed a bancassurance agreement with which bank under which the lender will offer LIC's insurance products at its branches?**

- A. UCO Bank  
B. IDBI Bank  
C. Dena Bank  
D. Indian Overseas Bank  
E. Canara Bank

**Answer: B**

IDBI Bank will now have to offer LIC's insurance products at its branches. IDBI Bank and Life Insurance Corporation of India have signed a bancassurance agreement under which the lender will offer LIC's insurance products at its branches. IDBI Bank as a corporate agent of LIC would get a window to provide LIC's entire gamut of insurance offerings to the bank's 1.80-crore customer base spread over 1,800 branches across the country.

**259. Which space agency to launch defence satellite 'Emisat' in March for DRDO?**

- A. JAXA  
B. ISRO  
C. NASA  
D. CNES  
E. DTU Space

**Answer: B**

Indian Space Research Organisation (ISRO) has said that the agency is set to launch an electronic intelligence satellite 'Emisat' for the DRDO in March. ISRO will also launch 28 third-party satellites and will demonstrate its new technologies like three different orbits with a new variant of 'Polar Satellite Launch Vehicle' rocket in March.

**260. Book 'Quality, Accreditation & Ranking' is authored by whom?**

- A. Dr H Chaturvedi  
B. Dr. R. Rangaswamy  
C. Dr. CH. Suresh Babu  
D. Dr. V. Ramajujan  
E. None of these

**Answer: A**

Vice President M Venkaiah Naidu released Dr H Chaturvedi's edited book titled "Quality, Accreditation & Ranking – A Silent Revolution in the Offing in Indian Higher Education" in New Delhi. The Book has been published by the Bloomsbury Publishing India Pvt Ltd.

**261. Who becomes the 1st batsman in the world to smash 500 sixes in int'l cricket?**

- A. Glen Maxwell  
B. MS Dhoni  
C. Shahid Afridi  
D. Chirs Gayle  
E. None of these

**Answer: D**

Windies' 39-year-old opener Chris Gayle has become the first ever batsman to smash 500 sixes in international cricket and the second batsman to slam 300 ODI sixes. Gayle smashed 14 sixes during his 97-ball 162-run knock against England in fourth ODI to reach 506 international sixes. He has hit 98 sixes in Tests, 305 in ODIs and 103 in T20Is.

**262. Who will be conferred with 2019's META Lifetime Achievement Award at the 14th Mahindra Excellence in Theatre Awards (META) festival, held in New Delhi?**

- A. Mahesh Elkunchwar  
B. Mulk Raj Anand  
C. Jhumpa Lahiri  
D. Ruskin Bond  
E. None of these

**Answer: A**

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Mahesh Elkunchwar, an eminent Indian Playwright, has been chosen for 2019's META Lifetime Achievement Award, which will be conferred upon him at the 14th Mahindra Excellence in Theatre Awards (META) festival to be held in New Delhi on 12th March 2019. He is critically-acclaimed and famous for having experimented with a wide range of drama and is considered a powerful force in both Indian and Marathi theatre scene. His 1985 play 'Wada Chirebandi' (Old Stone Mansion) has been staged in Marathi, Hindi and Bengali and also adapted for television. He has written more than 30 plays and essays, like 'Sultan', 'Holi', 'Garbo', 'Yatanagar', and 'Atmakatha' and is also a receiver of the Sangeet Natak Akademi Fellowship. Previous recipients of the META Lifetime Achievement Award include Vijaya Mehta, Zohra Sehgal, Badal Sarkar, Khaled Chowdhary, Ebrahim Alkazi, Girish Karnard, Heisnaam Kanhailal, Ratan Thiyam and Arun Kakade.

**263. Where did Tejas Networks Launches World's First Ultra-Converged Broadband Product?**

- A. World Sustainable Development Summit, New Delhi
- B. First global conference on Blue Economy, Nairobi
- C. Mobile World Congress, Barcelona
- D. First Global Conference on Air Pollution and Health, Geneva
- E. None of these

**Answer: C**

Tejas Networks launched its broadband access product which provides both wireline as well as wireless broadband services from a single integrated platform. It was launched by Mr. Anshu Prakash, Additional Secretary, Department of Telecom, Government of India at the Mobile World Congress (MWC), Barcelona. The TJI400 integrates multiple broadband access technologies: gigabit fiber broadband (GPON/NG-PON), fixed wireless broadband (4G/LTE eNodeB upgradable to 5G) and GE/10GE/100GE Business Ethernet services (CE2.0 certified) in highly compact, modular and energy-efficient platform.



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