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People don’t need to be saved or rescued. People need knowledge of their own power and how to access it.
INTERNATIONAL

US Senate passes legislative provision to give India NATO ally-like status.
- The United States Senate has passed a legislative provision that brings India at par with America’s NATO allies and countries like Israel and South Korea for increasing defence cooperation. The National Defence Authorisation Act or NDAA for the fiscal year 2020, was passed by the Senate India Caucus Co-Chair Senator John Cornyn with the support of Senate India Caucus Co-Chair Senator Mark Warner. The Act provides for increased US-India defence cooperation in the Indian Ocean in the areas of humanitarian assistance, counterterrorism, counter-piracy and maritime security.

Zimbabwe runs out of passports amid economic crisis.
- Zimbabwe has run out of passports as the country has no adequate funds to pay for special imported paper, ink and other raw materials required to print the passports. Citizens seeking to apply for a passport face a minimum wait time of 18 months. Zimbabwe is facing its worst economic crisis in over a decade, with inflation at almost 100%.

California 1st US state to ban discrimination against natural hair.
- California has become the first state in the US to ban discrimination against people based on their natural hair. The law prohibits employers and schools from enforcing a dress code against hairstyles such as afros, braids, twists, and locks. The law especially aims to end policies that discriminate against black people.

Ursula von der Leyen is appointed as European Commission president
- Germany's Ursula von der Leyen is selected by European Union (EU) pioneers as coalition's next Chief Executive (European Commission president).
- She will be the primary lady in history to hold the position. She will supplant Jean-Claude Juncker. She will lead the Union’s most significant organization to set the alliance’s strategy plan. The Union is comprised of 28 officials.
- Ms.Ursula: Ms.Ursula, the 60-year-old gynecologist, began her political profession in her initial age of 40. In 1990 she joined Angela Merkel’s Christian Democratic Union gathering (CDU) and labored for a long time.
- In 2009 Van der Leyen moved to the Labor Ministry, before turning into the principal female resistance serve in 2014.
Italian socialist Sassoli to be president of EU Parliament.

- Italian socialist David-Maria Sassoli was elected Wednesday to head the European parliament, completing the bloc’s drawn-out and at times acrimonious appointment process for its top jobs.
- The European Parliament has an array of powers within the EU including given its ascent to the others that EU leaders picked for its top jobs.

About European Parliament:

- The European Parliament is the only parliamentary institution of the European Union that is directly elected by EU citizens aged 18 or older. Together with the European Commission and the Council of the European Union it exercises the tripartite legislative function of the European Union.

  FOUNDED: 10 September 1952, Europe
  Head Quarter: Brussel, Belgium

About Sassoli:

- Sassoli, 63, is a journalist turned politician who has been in the European Parliament since 2009.
- David Maria Sassoli is an Italian politician and journalist, member of the Democratic Party. A member of the European Parliament since 2009, he was elected its President on 3 July 2019.
- Office: President of the European Parliament since 2019
- Presidential Term: 3 July 2019 –

Kyriakos Mitsotakis sworn in as the Prime Minister of Greece

- Kyriakos Mitsotakis, the Greek conservative leader, sworn in as the Prime Minister of Greece. The election result gave New Democracy an outright majority with 158 seats in the 300-member Greek parliament. He is EU's most indebted member who promised to end a decade of economic crisis.

About Kyriakos:

Kyriakos Mitsotakis, 51 years old, is a Greek politician. He was previously the Leader of the Opposition from 2016 to 2019. He served as the Minister of Administrative Reform from 2013 to 2015. Mitsotakis in his campaign promised further reforms with a focus on fewer taxes, attracting investment and improving the job market.

Greece:

- President: Prokopis Pavlopoulos
- Prime Minister: Kyriakos Mitsotakis
- Capital: Athens
- Official language: Greek
- Currency: Euro (€) (EUR)
Airtel Africa has been listed as the third-largest stock on the bourse by market value

• Airtel Africa has been listed as the third-largest stock on the bourse by market value. On 9 June, Nigerian Stock Exchange reported that the Airtel Africa has a 1.36 trillion naira ($4.4 bn) flotation. Airtel Africa operates across 14 African countries.
• The listing comes after Airtel's main rival, South Africa’s MTN, listed its Nigerian unit in Lagos in May in a $6.5 billion float. South Africa’s MTN is in the second-largest stock on the bourse by market value.
• The shares of Airtel Africa climbed 10% from their listing price of 363 naira after the float went live. The company, owned 68.3% by India’s Bharti Airtel, offered shares in its African unit via a London IPO and dual list in Nigeria.

Alan Turing, who cracked Nazi code to win World War II, to appear on Bank of England note

• Mathematician Alan Turing, whose cracking of a Nazi code helped the Allies to win World War Two but who committed suicide after being convicted for homosexuality, will appear on the Bank of England’s new 50-pound banknote, the BoE said on Monday.
• Turing’s electro-mechanical machine, a forerunner of modern computers, unraveled the Enigma code used by Nazi Germany and helped give the Allies an advantage in the naval struggle for control of the Atlantic.
• His work at Bletchley Park, Britain’s wartime code-breaking centre, was credited with shortening the war and saving many thousands of lives.
• But he was stripped of his job and chemically castrated after being convicted of gross indecency in 1952 for having sex with a man. Homosexual sex was illegal in Britain until 1967.

World Bank planned to offer $250 million to

• World Bank would offer a credit of $250 million to the Kerala Government for the Resilient Kerala venture.
• The primary point is at improving the state’s versatility against the effects of catastrophic events and environmental change in the wake of a year ago's floods.
• The World Bank as of late marked a $250 million credit consent to help Kerala upgrade its flexibility against catastrophic events and environmental change.Kerala

Asia has 60% of hungry people in the world.

• Asia they are 820 million people enough to eat in 2018, up from 811 million in the previous year. It is the third year of increase in a row.
This underscores the immense challenge of achieving the Sustainable Development Goal of Zero Hunger by 2030
The edition of the annual 'The State of Food Security and Nutrition in the World'.
The 'immense challenge' to reach the target of zero hunger more than 820 million people worldwide.
There are about 820 million people to eat in 2018, up from 811 million in the previous year.
This underscores the immense challenge of achieving the Sustainable Development Goal of Zero Hunger by 2030

Benjamin Netanyahu becomes the longest serving Prime Minister of Israel.
- Benjamin Netanyahu became the longest serving Prime Minister of Israel. He overthrew the record set by David Ben-Gurion, Israel's founding father and first leader. Netanyahu has spent 4,876 days, more than 13 years, in office as on 20 July, 2019. Netanyahu is the Israel's youngest-ever Prime Minister as won his first election in 1996, at the age of 46.

Israel:
President: Reuven Rivlin
Prime Minister: Benjamin Netanyahu
Capital: Jerusalem
Official languages: Hebrew
Currency: New shekel (ILS)

The US and South Korean military exercises to be held in August despite warning from North Korea
- The 19-2 Dong Maeng (alliance) exercise, an annual military exercise between the US and South Korean military exercises, will be held in the month of August, despite the warning from North Korea.
- The announcement was made by Choi Jong-kun, the secretary for peace planning to South Korean President Moon Jae-in.
- Earlier, the United States and South Korea had suspended a large-scale exercise and it also canceled a second exercise after the Singapore summit in June 2018.
- Reason:
The reason cited by South Korea is the exercise will affect the Democratic People’s Republic of Korea (DPRK) - U.S. working-level negotiations.

Boris Johnson elected as UK Prime Minister.
- Boris Johnson elected as the leader of Britain's governing Conservative Party.
He is declared as country's next Prime Minister. Johnson will formally take over as Prime Minister.
He succeeds Theresa May.
She got stepped down over her failure to get parliament to ratify her Brexit deal.
Johnson served as UK foreign minister and London's Mayor.

**Theresa May**
She is a British politician who has been Leader of the Conservative Party since 23 July 2019.
She is the Member of Parliament for Uxbridge and South Ruislip since 2015
She served as an MP for Henley from 2001 to 2008.
She was Home Secretary from 2010 to 2016 and Leader of the Conservative Party from 2016 until 2019.
She is first elected to be the Member of Parliament for Maidenhead in 1997.

**Boris Johnson**
Boris de Pfeffel Johnson is a British politician
He is Leader of the Conservative Party since 23 July 2019.
He is selected as the Member of Parliament for Uxbridge and South Ruislip since 2015
He is the member of MP for Henley from 2001 to 2008.

**Andhra Pradesh Becomes First State to Reserve 75% Private Jobs for Local Youths**

- Andhra Pradesh became the first state to reserve jobs for local youth. The Andhra Pradesh Assembly passed the Andhra Pradesh Employment of Local Candidates in Industries/Factories Act, 2019.
- Industries/Factories Act, 2019 reserves 75% private jobs across all categories in industrial units, factories, joint ventures as well as the project that are in public-private partnership (PPP) mode. It reserves 75 per cent jobs in industrial units, factories, joint ventures and projects set up under public-private partnership mode. The new law states that if a company does not find the necessary skills in locals, then it will need to train them in association with the state government. Around no company will be able to hide behind the excuse of not finding skilled local labourers.
- Andhra Pradesh Chief Minister Jagan Mohan Reddy agreed to provide quota in local jobs during his ‘padyatra’ in the state. The government announced 1.33 lakh village volunteer jobs for unemployed youth in the state. Several states have put forth the idea of reserving jobs for locals.
- Madhya Pradesh chief minister Kamal Nath would bring in a law to reserve 70% jobs for locals where Congress came to power in December 2018.

**Nigeria set to host 2020 FIFA women U-20 World cup**

- India and South Korea presented their bids for the 2020 U20 Women’s World Cup but India named the 2020 U17 Women’s World Cup host. The last FIFA event held in Nigeria. The 2009 FIFA U-17 World Cup won by Switzerland.

**FIFA U-20 Women’s World Cup:**
It is an international association football tournament. It is organized by FIFA (Federation Internationale de Football Association), for national teams of women under the age of 20. The tournament is held in even-numbered years. It was first conducted in 2002 in Canada. France hosted the 2018 FIFA U-20 Women’s World Cup (9th edition). Japan emerged as a champion.

Meeting of the BRICS Ministers of Foreign Affairs / International Relations.

• The meeting of the BRICS Ministers of Foreign Affairs / International Relations took place on 26 July 2019, in Rio de Janeiro, Brazil, with the representation of the Federative Republic of Brazil, the Russian Federation, the Republic of India, the People’s Republic of China and the Republic of South Africa.

• The Ministers exchanged views on key issues on the international agenda. They also reviewed with satisfaction the progress of BRICS cooperation featuring mutual respect and understanding, equality, solidarity, openness, inclusiveness and mutually beneficial cooperation. The Ministers agreed to further deepen BRICS three-pillar-driven cooperation in the areas of economy, peace and security and people-to-people exchanges.

• The Ministers reaffirmed the commitment to upholding and respecting international law and to an international system in which sovereign States cooperate to maintain peace and security, advance sustainable development and ensure the promotion and protection of human rights and fundamental freedoms for all. They underlined support for multilateralism and the central role of the UN in international affairs, and the commitment to uphold the purposes and principles enshrined in the Charter of the United Nations. They reiterated the urgent need to strengthen and reform the multilateral system, including the UN, the WTO, the IMF, and other international organizations. The international system, including international organizations, in particular the United Nations, which Ministers stressed must be driven by Member States, should promote the interests of all. The Ministers reaffirmed the commitment to the principles of mutual respect, sovereign equality, democracy, inclusiveness and strengthened collaboration, and to build a brighter shared future for the global community through mutually beneficial cooperation. To this end, international governance should be more inclusive, representative, and participatory.

Iran Tests Medium-Range Missile.

• A Shahab-3 medium-range missile. It can fly 1,000 kilometers, or 620 miles.

• The missile was launched from the southern coast of Iran and landed east of Tehran, the official said on Thursday, adding that it flew about 1,100 kilometers, or about 680 miles, and stayed inside Iran for the entire flight.
IAF gets its first batch of the AH 64E Apache helicopters of the 22 helicopters

- US aerospace major Boeing handed over the first batch of the AH-64E Apache helicopters of the 22 helicopters to the Indian Air Force (IAF). The next batch of four choppers will be delivered in the month of August.

The agreement:
In September 2015, the IAF signed a multi-billion dollar contract with the US government and Boeing Ltd for 22 Apache helicopters.

Also, in 2017, the Defence Ministry approved to buy 6 Apache helicopters along with weapons systems from Boeing for the Army for the cost of Rs.4,168 crore.

- This will be its first fleet of attack choppers.

AH-64E Apache attack helicopter:
The AH-64E Apache attack helicopter is one of the world’s most advanced multi-role combat helicopters. These helicopters are flown by the US Army. It has a spectrum of capabilities for virtually any mission requirement. It has greater thrust and lift, joint digital operability, improved survivability and cognitive decision.

Apple to acquire Intels smartphone modem business for a transaction value of $1 billion.

- Apple announced the acquisition of chip-maker Intel's smartphone modem business for $1 billion. There are around 2,200 Intel employees will join Apple along with intellectual property, equipment and leases, the Cupertino-based iPhone.

The transaction is expected to close in the fourth quarter of 2019.

This agreement us to focus on developing technology for the 5G network while retaining critical intellectual property and modem technology that our team has created.

Apple will hold over 17,000 wireless technology patents, ranging from protocols for cellular standards to modem architecture and modem operation. Intel will retain the ability to develop modems for non-smartphone applications, such as PCs, internet-of-things devices and autonomous vehicles. Johny Srouji, Apple's senior vice president of Hardware Technologies said that Apple is excited to have excellent engineers to join its growing cellular technologies group.

Apple has been working on its own chips for quite some time. Intel's technology could help the iPhone maker accelerate its plans.

Apple may have paid chip-maker Qualcomm somewhere between $5 billion-$6 billion for an agreement to dismiss all ongoing litigations, including those with Apple’s contract manufacturers.

Intel working on a chipset for the iPhone maker, with the chip expected to be part of iPhones by 2020.
Aparna Kumar created history by becoming the first civil servant and IPS officer to achieve the 7 Summits challenge.

- Aparna Kumar created history by becoming the first civil servant and IPS officer to achieve the incredible and rare feat of completing ‘7 Summits’ challenge’. Kumar hoisted India’s tricolour on Mount Denali in Alaska, USA. Mount Denali is the highest peak of North America standing at 20,310 ft. She scaled the summit in her third attempt.

Aparna Kumar:
- Aparna Kumar is an Indo-Tibetan Border Police (ITBP) Dehra Dun Frontier DIG. She is also the first woman IPS officer to reach the South Pole on January 13 after walking 111 kilometres with 35 kilograms of equipment on her back.
- In 2016, she became the first officer of the All India Services to successfully scale Antarctica’s highest peak Mount Vinson Massif followed by Mount Manaslu in Nepal in 2017.

Mount Denali:
- Mount Denali is considered the third most prominent and third most isolated peak on Earth, after Mount Everest and Aconcagua. Mount Everest is the highest peak in the world, Aconcagua is the highest mountain in the Southern and Western Hemispheres. It is also the tallest peak outside of Asia.
- Seven Summits:
  - The seven listed summits in the challenge are:
    - 1) Mount Everest in Nepal/China
    - 2) Aconcagua in Argentina
    - 3) Denali in the US
    - 4) Mount Kilimanjaro in Tanzania
    - 5) Mount Elbrus in Russia
    - 6) Mount Vinson in Antarctica
    - 7) Puncak Jaya and Mount Kosciuszko in Australia

Other Mountaineers in Summit Challenge:
- Canadian mountaineer Patrick Morrow was the first man to climb the Seven Summits in 1986.
- Indian Army officer Colonel Ranveer Singh Jamwal is the first Indian to summit the seven highest peaks spread across the seven continents. He is a recipient of India’s highest adventure award, Tenzing Norgay National Adventure Award Jamwal is also the first officer from the Indian Army to achieve this feat.
India to contribute USD 5 Millions in 2019 to UN Palestine refugee agency

- India pledged USD 5 million in 2019 to the UN Palestine refugee agency.

The agency's difficult financial situation due to voluntary contributions from a limited donor base and called for ensuring sustained fiscal support for its work.

India’s Deputy Permanent Representative to the UN Ambassador K Nagaraj Naidu the government increased its annual financial contribution four fold to the UNRWA core budget from USD 1.25 million in 2016 to USD 5 million in 2018.

They attended a meeting of the General Assembly Ad Hoc Committee for Voluntary Contributions to United Nations Relief and Works Agency for Palestine Refugees in the Near East (UNRWA).

They mark of India's solidarity with the Palestine refugees.

India's support for UNRWA's work is providing assistance to about 5.4 million Palestine refugees to help them achieve their full human development potential.

As part of the Government of India's ongoing assistance programmes in Palestine to strengthen capacity-building efforts focused on institutions, services, and training personnel.

The country is providing 150 places for Palestinian professionals every year under the Indian Technical and Economic Cooperation program.

During the last five years, under an India-Palestine development partnership, 17 agreements signed in the fields of agriculture, health care, information technology, youth affairs, consular affairs, women's empowerment, and media.

About Palestine

President: Mahmoud Abbas
Prime Minister: Mohammad Shtayyeh

Uttar Pradesh State government has started DASTAK campaign against communicative diseases Acute Encephalitis Syndrome.

- Uttar Pradesh State government has started DASTAK campaign against communicative diseases Acute Encephalitis Syndrome (AES) and Japanese Encephalitis (JE) disease on 1 July in the State.

DASTAK campaign will run from 1st to 31st July. This campaign is part of the State's comprehensive Social and Behaviour Change Communication (SBCC) strategy. The vector-borne disease sensitive states have been marked.

Aim:

The campaign was started with an aim to create awareness about the communicable diseases JE and AES.

Under this state-wide campaign, teams will reach every village of the state to create awareness about the communicable diseases JE and AES.
It will also ensure the availability of clean drinking water, initiate sanitation drive, ensure vaccination and early treatment so that disease should be nipped in the bud.

**About AES and JE:**

Japanese encephalitis (JE) a vector-borne viral disease, caused by a group B arbovirus (Flavivirus) and transmitted by Culicine mosquito.

Acute Encephalitis Syndrome (AES) is most widely caused by Japanese Encephalitis (JE) virus. Encephalitis is an inflammation or swelling and irritation of the brain. It is also called acute viral encephalitis or aseptic encephalitis.

**Symptoms:** The symptoms include mild flu-like symptoms such as a high fever, personality changes, convulsions (seizures), severe headache, nausea and vomiting, stiff neck, confusion, problems with speech or hearing, hallucinations, memory loss, drowsiness and coma.

Encephalitis cannot be prevented, but illnesses that may lead to it can be avoided.

**Why awareness is needed in India?**

The incidence of AES and JE in Bihar is increasing since 2009. AES claimed 150 lives in 2019. The highest incidence reporting for AES in Bihar are from Patna, Jehanabad, Nawada, Gaya, Lakhisarai, Gopalganj, Siwan, East Champaran and West Champaran. People should be educated and awareness about the disease should be created among the people.

AES in Uttar Pradesh: After Bihar, UP is being affected with vector-borne disease. The disease hits the peak during monsoons, from July to October.

The State government has taken measures for AES disease. The bed capacity at BRD has been increased to 428 from 272, the annual medicine budget has been raised from Rs.2.5 crore to Rs.13 crore, while 16 lakh persons are being vaccinated each year and 3.5 lakh paramedics trained to assist in treatment.

**Rajya Sabha passes J&K Quota Bill, extends President’s rule.**

- The Rajya Sabha passed Jammu and Kashmir reservation bill on July 1, 2019 also extends President’s rule in Jammu and Kashmir. This bill provides 3% reservation for people in the State living near the international border (LOC). Home Minister Amit Shah replied to the debate on the motion and the bill that Centre government has no objection to hold Assembly elections in the State. He said security forces have raised certain concerns and he hoped that the Election Commission will take a decision at the earliest.

**Lok Sabha passes teachers’ reservation Bill.**

- The Lok Sabha has passed the Central Educational Institutions (Reservations in Teachers’ Cadre) Bill-2019 on July 2, 2019. The bill seeks to provide for the reservation of posts in appointments by direct recruitment of persons belonging to Scheduled Castes, Scheduled Tribes and Educationally Backward Classes and Economically Weaker Sections to teachers’ cadre in Central Educational Institutions. The bill will replace the Ordinance promulgated in this regard.
India seeks to buy $2.2 billion warships to meet China challenge.
- India sought bids for purchase of warships and support vessels for its navy and coast guard as it ramps up security of its maritime border in the Indian Ocean region.
- The shipbuilders invited include private shipyards Larsen & Toubro Ltd. and Reliance Naval & Engineering Ltd., apart from the state-run Mazagon Dock Shipbuilders Ltd., Garden Reach Shipbuilders and Engineers Ltd., Goa Shipyard Ltd., Hindustan Shipyard Ltd. and Cochin ShipyardNSE 0.10 % Ltd., people with knowledge of the matter said. They asked not to be identified citing rules.

Special Rhino Protection Force (SRPF) has been currently deployed across the Kaziranga National Park.
- The Special Rhino Protection Force (SRPF) has been currently deployed across the Kaziranga National Park. A first ever batch of 82 constables of a SRPF has been deployed in various parts of UNESCO World Heritage Site Kaziranga National Park in Assam.
  - The force consists of 74 men and 8 women who underwent 43 weeks of training. The constables assumed their duties across the national park to protect one horned rhino.
  - Aim:
    - This is the first time a special force that has been dedicated to keep a check on rhino poaching and related activities in the Kaziranga National Park.
    - From 2013, there was rampant rhino poaching in Kaziranga. In 2013 and 2014, 27 poaching incidents each year was reported. In the last 2 years there has been 6 cases each year. In 2019, there have been three cases so far.
  - About Kaziranga:
    - Kaziranga National Park, the prestigious national park of India, is situated in the state of Assam. It was created in 1908 and it was declared as National Park on 11 February 1974. It was declared as a World Heritage Site by UNESCO in the year 1985.
  - About Rhinos in Kaziranga:
    - The Assam state forest department reported that there are 2,547 rhinos in Assam in its 2018 census.
    - Greater One-Horned rhinoceros and the Asian One-Horned Rhinoceros falls under the IUCN list of endangered species. A report said that about 3,000 Rhinos live in the wild, and around 2000 of which are found in Kaziranga National Park.

Delhi police signed a MoU with SECI to set up rooftop solar energy systems
- The Delhi police has consented to an arrangement with Solar Energy Corporation of India (SECI) to set up housetop sun based vitality frameworks in more than 200 of its structures over the city. Under the understanding, the SECI will bolster the usage of matrix associated housetop sun powered photovoltaic frameworks on the foundations of Delhi police.
The undertaking is relied upon to be finished soon in a staged way with dynamic participation between the two offices. This MOU will be ideally utilized in the structures and buildings accessible with Delhi Police all over the city.

House top sun oriented photovoltaic Project: It has been evaluated that Rooftop Solar Systems of absolute limit of around 3-4 MW will be executed crosswise over different Delhi Police structures. The undertaking will use empty tops of their structures to saddle sunlight based vitality and to cook some portion of their power request through the created environmentally friendly power vitality. The task would result in huge decrease on power charge installments of the Delhi Police.

**NIRDPR has signed with Bharat Dynamics Limited (BDL) to supply sanitary napkins to students**

- National Institute of Rural Development and Panchayati Raj (NIRDPR) has signed with Bharat Dynamics Limited (BDL), a public sector enterprise, on a pilot project to supply sanitary napkins to students. The project has been allocated an amount of Rs.71.82 lakh given by the BDL as part of its Corporate Social Responsibility (CSR) initiatives.
- Under the project, sanitary napkins will be provided to 11,516 students free of cost through a team of volunteers and female teachers of 75 schools in Gandipet, Moinabad, Rajendranagar, Serilingampally and Shamshabad mandals of the Telangana State.

**Aim:**
The project aims to create awareness and hygiene on menstruation and menstrual hygiene among children in government schools in Telangana. The objective includes information dissemination on safe disposal mechanism of sanitary napkins without affecting the environment. It aims to drive them towards fruitful education without absenteeism and health hazards. BDL has prepared a communication material in both Telugu and English, which may be useful for other women in the villages too.

It is likely to be expanded to 22 more mandals in the next phases depending upon the results.

**Gujarat FM presents the state’s highest budget pegged at over Rs 2 lakh crore**

- Finance Minister of Gujarat Nitin Patel presented the Budget size of Rs 2,04,815 crore for the year 2019-20 for the state. The budget indicates the overall surplus of Rs 572 crore. An additional tax income of Rs 287 crore is added to it.
- This is the first time the State’s budget crossed Rs.2 lakh crore. The budget estimates around Rs 1,54,732 crore revenue expenditure of Rs 1, 51, 858 crores for the year 2019-20. The tap water to every household by 2022. The state government allotted Rs.4,500 crore for this purpose.
- The clean energy space, the state plans to increase installed capacity to 30,000 megawatts (Mw) by 2022, from 8885 MW at present.
Rajya Sabha passed the Indian Medical Council (Amendment) Bill 2019.
• The Rajya Sabha passed the Indian Medical Council (Amendment) Bill, 2019 on 4 June. The Bill was introduced by Health Minister Harsh Vardhan. It allows for the supersession of the Medical Council of India (MCI) by a Board of Governors for a two-year period from 2018 till 2020. The Bill will also allow for the increase in the number of members in the Board of Governors to 12 from the existing seven. As the Bill has been passed by both Houses, it will replace an ordinance that was promulgated on February 21.
The panel of eminent professionals will run the scam-tainted Medical Council of India (MCI) so that medical education can be regulated in the best manner.
The BoG will have eminent people that includes directors of AIIMS and PGI, Chandigarh. The board will prevail until a council is constituted. The medical education can be regulated by the introduction of the BoGs in the best manner.

Tata Steel Kalinganagar included in WEF's Global Lighthouse Network.
• Tata Steel Kalinganagar (TSK) in World Economic Forum's (WEF) Global Lighthouse Network a community of manufacturers showing leadership in applying Fourth Industrial Revolution technologies to drive financial and operational impact.
TSK in Odisha’s Jajpur district is the first and the only Indian manufacturing plant to be included in the WEF’s Lighthouse Network, it said.
The addition of 10 new factories including TSK to its Global Lighthouse Network carried out. The factors join a network of 16 existing lighthouses across multiple geographies and industries.
US clears SoftBank’s $2.25 billion investment in General Motors-backed Cruise
Amazon’s Jeff Bezos finalises divorce with $38 billion settlement.
They serve as beacons to guide others to overcome challenges in upgrading systems and applying cutting-edge technologies such as artificial intelligence, big data analytics and 3D printing.
The factories were selected based on their success in integrating these technologies to increase efficiency and drive innovation.

About Tata Steel
Founded: 25 August 1907, Jamshedpur
Headquarters: Mumbai
CEO: T. V. Narendran

India to sell bonds overseas for 1st time to finance budget deficit.
• The government on Friday said it will sell sovereign bonds overseas for the first time to finance the fiscal deficit. Ex-RBI Governor C Rangarajan opposed the plan saying India will have to bear the
exchange-rate risk if it borrows in foreign currency. The government set the fiscal deficit target at 3.3% of GDP for FY20, from 3.4% set in February.

Jaipur’s walled city gets UNESCO heritage city tag.
• The ‘Walled City’ of Jaipur was on Saturday included in the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO) World Heritage sites list.
• The announcement was made during the 43rd session of the World Heritage Committee being held in Baku, Azerbaijan, from June 30 to July 10. India received the support of 16 out of the 21 countries participating in the event.
• Jaipur, Rajasthan’s capital, is the 38th Indian site to be included on the UNESCO World Heritage list.

Union Budget Highlights 2019 - 2020
• Finance Minister Nirmala Sitharaman presented a union budget for the financial year 2019 - 2020. The main aim is to boost investment at a time when the economy shows signs of a slowdown.
• It is the Bharatiya Janata Party, which is led by Prime Minister Narendra Modi.
The key highlights of union Budget 2019 are given below:
A 10-point Vision for the decade
2. To Achieve green Mother Earth and Blue Skies through a pollution-free India.
4. Launching Gaganyan, Chandrayan, other Space and Satellite programs.
5. Building physical and social infrastructure.
7. Blue Economy.
8. Self-sufficiency and export of food-grains, pulses, oilseeds, fruits and vegetables.
10. Emphasis on MSMEs, Start-ups, defence manufacturing, automobiles, electronics, fabs and batteries, and medical devices under Make in India.

DRDO carries out three successful Nag missile tests in one day in Pokhran
• Moving closer toward the induction of the Nag anti-tank guided missiles into the Army, Defence Research and Development Organisation (DRDO) on Sunday carried out three successful test firings of the missiles in the Pokhran.
• Government sources said the missile is in the final stages of being inducted into the Army which will use it by mounting them on the modified armoured vehicles.
• The Defence Acquisition Council has last year approved the procurement of DRDO’s designed and developed NAG Missile System (NAMIS) at the cost of Rs 524 crore.
• The system includes a third generation Anti-Tank Guided Missile, the NAG, along with the Missile Carrier Vehicle (NAMICA). The NAG missile is a third generation anti-tank guided missile, which has top attack capabilities that can effectively engage and destroy all known enemy tanks during day and night.
• The successful induction of the NAG missile into the Army is expected to give a quantum boost to the Army’s capability against enemy armour.
• The Army and DRDO are supposed to carry out more tests of the missiles on Monday also to further validate the missile’s capabilities.
• Nag was one of the first five strategic missiles planned to be developed under the Integrated Missile Development Programme initiated in the 1980s. The other missiles developed under the project include the Agni, Prithvi and Akash and all three of them have been successfully developed and inducted into the armed forces.
• The Trishul project was shut down after being developed as a technology demonstrator.

India’s first cow sanctuary in Madhya Pradesh to be privatised

• India’s first cow sanctuary, set up by the previous BJP-led Madhya Pradesh government in September 2017, will be privatised by the Congress-led government, an official said.
• Kamdhenu Gau Abhyaranya in Agar Malwa, 190 km north west of Bhopal, was developed by the MP Gau Samvardhan Board by spending about Rs 32 crore. Around 4,000 cows are living in the sanctuary which is spread across 472 hectares. The decision of privatisation is being taken due to financial crises. Soon, the department will issue a notification to invite interested organisations, said a higher officer of the Animal Husbandry department.
• “The issues of poor management and regular deaths of cow in the sanctuary have been raised many times. The government tried to improve the facilities but it was getting hard to manage it. Some renowned NGOs like Akshaypatra showed interest in managing the sanctuary at no profit no loss basis. But we will hand over the sanctuary according to rules,” said the official.
• According to officials in the sanctuary, in last over one year more than 600 cows died due to extreme weather condition. Akshay Patra also runs Jaipur Municipal Corporation’s Hingonia cow shelter in outskirts of the pink city.

Indian business man becomes first expat in Sharjah to get UAE’s permanent residency.

• UAE-based Indian business tycoon Lalu Samuel has become the first expat in Sharjah to get the gold card permanent residency.
• Unlike the long-term visa of 5-10 years for businessmen and talented individuals, the gold card gives permanent residency of the UAE to the holder.
• The Kingston Group chairman was handed over the gold residence card by Brigadier Arif Al Shamsi, Director-General of residency and foreigners affairs in Sharjah, the Gulf News reported Monday.

**About Kingston Group:**
• The Kingston Holdings owns one of the largest manufacturing companies in the Middle East that comprises several manufacturing units that process plastic and metal.

**Odisha state government implemented the Centres Witness Protection Scheme 2018.**
• The Odisha state government implemented the Centre’s Witness Protection Scheme 2018. Naveen Patnaik led Odisha govt. informed the Orissa High Court on 6 July. By this Odisha became the first State to implement the Scheme.

On December 5 2018, Supreme Court has directed all States and Union Territories to endorse the Central scheme on Witness Protection Scheme-2018. It said that the Witness Protection Scheme, 2018 shall be the 'law' under Article 141 and 142 of the Constitution, till the enactment of suitable parliamentary or state legislations on the subject.

**Reason for implementation:**
The move comes after an informant sought protection for his life and property as he was a witness in a murder case under Kodala police station area in Ganjam district in the Orissa HC. A Single Judge Bench of Justice Biswajit Mohanty directed the petitioner to approach the competent authority in the district concerned for protection under the scheme.

**Categories of the Scheme:**
Under the scheme, the state govt. included three categories of witnesses as per threat perception.
Category A: This category consists of those cases where threat extends to the life of witness or family members during an investigation, trial or thereafter.
Category B: Cases where the threat extends to safety, reputation or property of the witness or family members during the investigation or trial.
Category C: Cases where the threat is moderate and extends to harassment or intimidation of the witness or family members, reputation or property during investigation, trial or thereafter.

**Provisions of the Scheme:**
The scheme includes different features including protective measures that ensures that:
♦ protection and Change of identity
♦ the witness and the accused do not come face to face during probe
♦ relocation of witness
♦ confidentiality and preservation of records and recovery of expenses among others
Shailesh Sadashiv Tinaikar resumed his office as the Force Commander of UNMISS

- Lieutenant General Shailesh Sadashiv Tinaikar has been newly appointed as the Force Commander of the UN mission in South Sudan. He assumed charge in Juba on July 6. The appointment was announced by the UN Secretary-General Antonio Guterres in May.
- Tinaikar:
Tinaikar has a long and distinguished career with the Indian Army spanning over three decades. He graduated from the Indian Military Academy in 1983. He did his Master of Philosophy (M Phil) in Defence and Strategic Studies from The University of Madras, India. He was awarded in December 2014.
He was awarded the Vishisht Seva Medal and the Sena Medal for his Distinguished Service. India is the second highest troop contributor to UNMISS, as of March 2019. India contributed with 2,337 troops deployed with the mission.

Govt initiates proposal to establish first National Police University.

- Centre today said it has initiated a proposal to establish the first National Police University in the country.
It will be dedicated to imparting education in policing and internal security.
In a written reply in Lok Sabha the Minister of State for Home Affairs, G. Kishan Reddy said the university will conduct undergraduate, graduate and postgraduate academic programmes in specialized subjects.
He said Gujarat, Rajasthan and Jharkhand have set up dedicated universities for conducting courses in police services and internal security.

Prasar Bharati signs MoU with IIT Kanpur for research collaboration in newly emerging technologies.

- Prasar Bharati and Indian Institute of Technology, Kanpur today signed a Memorandum of Understanding for research collaboration in newly emerging technologies and broadcasting-related areas in New Delhi.
- The move is likely to boost research activities in the broadcasting field. Chief Executive Officer of Prasar Bharati Shashi Shekhar Vempati and Director, IIT Kanpur Abhay Karandikar were present at this juncture.
- Direct to mobile broadcasting, Convergence of 5G, Artificial Intelligence Incubation Centre by Prasar Bharati and student internship for students of IIT, Kanpur at Prasar Bharati are among the main areas in the research collaboration.
• Speaking on the occasion, Mr Vempati said, this engagement with IIT, Kanpur on Research and Development and innovation are very important as it is the onus of the largest public broadcaster to actively look to the future, develop and shape the future with emerging technologies. The MoU will be effective from today and remain in force for a period of five years. The institutes may extend the term in writing through mutual agreement.

ICSI launches UDIN to improve corporate governance
• Institute of Company Secretaries of India (ICSI) rolled out an initiative in the form of a Unique Document Identification Number (UDIN)
• The main aim is to pursue a heightened sense of self-governance and strengthen the practicing side of company secretaries.
• UDIN will provide ease of maintaining a register of attestation and certification services. The ICSI functions under the Ministry of Corporate Affairs.

The second edition of India-Russia Strategic Economic Dialogue 2019 held in New Delhi
• The second India-Russia Strategic Economic Dialogue (IRSED) 2019 held
The function was held in New Delhi.
• Aim: The bilateral cooperation between the two countries. The various fields was chaired by Rajiv Kumar, Vice-Chairman of India’s think tank, National Institution for Transforming India (NITI) Aayog, and Russia’s Deputy Minister of Economic Development, Timur Maksimov.
• The main areas of cooperation include Development of transport infrastructure and technologies Development of agriculture and agro-Processing sector Small and Medium business support Digital Transformation and Frontier Technologies Cooperation in Trade, Banking, Finance, and Industry Tourism & Connectivity.

Meghalaya becomes first state to come up with water policy.
• Amid a drought scare in half of India, Meghalaya is all set to become the first state in the country to have a proper water policy.
• The objective of the policy is to recognize water resources as a common pool resource, to provide safe and hygienic water for drinking, domestic and sanitation and livelihood development to all residents of the state.
• It also aims at ensuring protection and conservation of catchment areas of all water sources to prevent degradation of the quantity and quality of water sources and promote principle of 3Rs – reduce, recycle and reuse, besides enhance resilience to disasters and the impacts of climate change.
• Among other things, the draft state water policy which seeks to protect and improve management of water resources while actively involving the community, also states that roof top rainwater harvesting will be made mandatory in all building constructions while traditional water harvesting
structures, springs and water bodies will be revived and promoted through programs for repair, renovation and restoration.

**Chandrayaan 2 launch 2019: India’s first lunar landing mission set for blast off.**

- India will launch Chandrayaan-2, the nation’s first lunar landing mission, just days before the 50th anniversary of Neil Armstrong’s first steps on Moon on July 20, 1969.
- Chandrayaan-2 consists of an orbiter, a lander and a rover together referred to as “composite body”.
  - Chandrayaan-2 will be launched from Satish Dhawan Space Centre at Sriharikota on-board GSLV Mk-III on July 15, 2019.
  - Chandrayaan-2 will be injected into an Earth parking orbit. A series of manoeuvres will raise its orbit and put it on lunar transfer trajectory. On entering the Moon’s sphere of influence, thrusters will slow it down for lunar capture.

**Govt plans to set up 4,200 Ayush wellness centres in ongoing fiscal**

- Ayush Minister Shripad Yesso Naik informed the Rajya Sabha that 2,500 new centres are planned to be opened within the first four months of the present government.
- The government also provided financial assistance to set up integrated Ayush hospitals in 85 districts across various states, and has plans to add more.
- The government is trying to modernise Ayush hospitals across the country and is increasing the number of doctors. It is also modernising postgraduate AYUSH medical colleges.
- The government provided around Rs 53,000 crore for Ministry of Health and Rs 1,686 crore for Ministry of Ayush for the last fiscal. Standing Committee asked to increase the budget for the Ministry of Ayush.Yadav asked the government to introduce NET like all-India entrance exam for tradition medical education.

**The Lok Sabha passed the Central Universities (Amendment) Bill, 2019**

- The Lok Sabha passed the Central Universities (Amendment) Bill, 2019. The Bill aimed at establishing a Central University and Tribal University in Andhra Pradesh on July 12.
- The government has allotted Rs.450 crore for the central university and Rs.420 crore for the central tribal university for offer research facilities in the fields of art, culture and technology to the tribal population.

**Aim:**

The Bill seeks to amend the Central Universities Act, 2009. It aims to Provide higher educational and research facilities in tribal art, culture, and customs primarily to the tribal population of India. It also aims to provide quality of higher education and also promote avenues of higher education for the people of the state. The Tribal University provide research facilities in tribal art, culture and customs and advancement in technology to the tribal population of India.
First-ever Himalayan States Conclave to be hosted by Uttarakhand on July 28, 2019

- First-ever Himalayan States Conclave hosted by Uttarakhand on July 28, 2019
- The main focus on sustainable development of the Indian Himalayan Region.
- It will be held at Mussoorie.
- The event will discuss the common issues pertaining to states located in the Himalayan Region.
- The main reasons are environmental protection, Himalayan culture and economic development.
- The administrators, specialists, the conclave host the Chief Ministers of the Himalayan states Uttarakhand, Jammu and Kashmir, Himachal Pradesh, Sikkim, Assam, Arunachal Pradesh, Meghalaya, Nagaland, Tripura, Mizoram and Nagaland. Rajiv Kumar, Vice President of Niti (National Institution for Transforming India) Aayog, will also be a part of the conclave. The key points adopted at the Himalayan conclave will be presented as a draft to the Niti Aayog. This will help to frame policies for the region’s development.

Cabinet approved the Insolvency and Bankruptcy Code (Amendment) Bill, 2019.

- The Union Cabinet approved amendments to the Insolvency and Bankruptcy Code 2016 through the Insolvency and Bankruptcy Code (Amendment) Bill, 2019 on 17 July 2019. The approval will place a greater emphasis on more time-bound resolution and lays down voting rules of the financial creditors.

Amendments:

- The amendments include mandating a deadline for the completion of the resolution process within 330 days, including all litigation and judicial processes. Votes of all financial creditors covered under Section 21(6A) shall be cast in accordance with the decision approved by the highest voting share of financial creditors on present and voting basis. The voting should be more than 50%.
- Another amendment allows for creditors who voted against the majority to receive a minimum liquidation value. This decision would have retrospective effect in cases where the resolution plan has not yet been finalised or has been appealed against. According to the amendment Bill, the resolution plan will be binding on all the stakeholders, including governments, to whom a debt is owed.

Jio overtakes Airtel to become India's 2nd largest operator by users.

- Mukesh Ambani-led Reliance Industries’ telecom unit Reliance Jio has overtaken rival Bharti Airtel to become India’s second-largest operator by subscribers as of May. Jio ended the month with 32.3 crore wireless customers as against Airtel's 32.04 crore users, data from the Telecom Regulatory Authority of India showed. Vodafone Idea remained India’s top operator with 38.76 crore customers.
Centre plans to introduce the Dam Safety Bill, 2019 in Parliament.

• The Centre plans to introduce the Dam Safety Bill, 2019 in Parliament after getting clearance from the Union Cabinet Committee on Economic Affairs (CCEA). The Bill aims to put in place a systematic procedure to ensure that India’s 5,600 dams are made and maintained safely.

• Provisions of the Bill:

• The Bill make provisions for the establishment of a National Dam Safety Authority as a regulatory body to implement the policy. The State Dam Safety Organisation will be manned by officers from the field dam safety.

• Implementation of the project:

• The CCEA has approved the Rs.1,600 crore for initiate the Dibang Multipurpose Project in Arunachal Pradesh, India’s largest hydropower project. The total cost estimated for the Project is Rs.28080.35 crore, which includes IDC&FC of Rs.3974.95 crore. The estimated completion period for the project sis 9 years from receipt of Government sanction.

• Reason why Centre is introducing now?

• The Bill have been introduced since 2010 in various edition in the State but has never been successfully passed. This is because, States have opposed at various times. Karnataka, Kerala, Tamil Nadu and Odisha have opposed the Bill and citied reasons that the introduction of the bill will encroach upon the sovereignty of States to manage their dams.

The 10th edition of the Jagran Film Festival was inaugurated by Prakash Javadekar.

• Union Minister of Information and Broadcasting Prakash Javadekar inaugurated the 10th edition of the Jagran Film Festival. The Delhi chapter has been scheduled from 18 to 21 July at Siri Fort Auditorium, New Delhi.

Important Film personalities like actor Anil Kapoor, choreographer Farah Khan, film producer Shobu Yarlagadda, director Ketan Mehta and film critic Rajeev Masand were present at the inauguration.

In the first day of the film festival, there were two panel discussions in the Cinema Summit category, on:
♦ Future of Cinema and Breaking Language Barriers in Indian Cinema with Yarlagadda and Mehta
♦ Changing Landscape of Bollywood with Khan.

The festival will travel its way from Delhi through various places like Kanpur, Lucknow, Allahabad, Varanasi, Agra, Meerut, Dehradun, Hisar, Ludhiana, Patna, Ranchi, Jamshedpur, Gorakhpur, Raipur, Indore and Bhopal. The festival will end on September 29 in Mumbai.

Minister of Human Resource Development Ramesh Pokhriyal Nishank released Deeksharambh.

Deeksharambh:
Deeksharambh aims to help new students to adjust and feel comfortable in the new environment. It will also guide them to inculcate the ethos and culture of the institution and help the students to build bonds with other students and faculty members. It will also help them to expose to a sense of larger purpose and self-exploration.

Student Induction Programme:
UGC has planned to conduct awareness programmes and training programme for teachers in different regions of the country in order to spread awareness about Deeksharambh.
The programme intended to empower the aspirant learners to face the Competitive world with confidence, open new horizons of life leading to character building based on Universal Human values such as Truth, Righteous conduct, Love, Non-violence, Peace and assist in developing self-awareness, compassion and oneness.

Tata becomes Indias most valuable brand for 2019 according to Brand Finance India 100 2019 report.
- According to the London-based consultancy Brand Finance annual report , “Brand Finance India 100 2019”, “Tata” become India’s most valuable brand for the second straight year in 2019 the brand value of $19.6 billion.
The followed by LIC(Life Insurance Corporation) (2nd )with $7.3 billion and Infosys (3rd )$6.5 billion.
The brand value of Tata increased to 37% with $19.6 billion.
It is the highest in the top 25 compared to $14.23 billion in 2018.
TATA group’s brand present across autos, IT services, steel, and chemicals.
Brand Finance, calculates the value of brands based on the 'royalty relief approach estimates likely future sales that are attributable to a brand based on the royalty rate. It also ranks brands based on its strength & performance with its competitors.

About TATA group:
Founder: Jamsetji Tata
Headquarters: Mumbai, Maharashtra,
Chairman : Natarajan Chandrasekaran

Chandrayaan 2 to be launched from Sriharikota at 2:43 pm on July 22
- Indian Space Research Organisation (ISRO)planned to launch India’s second mission Chandrayaan -2 to the Moon at 2.43 pm today on July 22

About Chandrayaan - 2
Chandrayaan-2 planned to go the Moon's south polar region. The main aim is to explore its main surface for the signs of water and to find out the new form of energy. The 978-crore cost spent while the launch process
The second launchpad at the Satish Dhawan Space Centre, Sriharikota, in Andhra Pradesh. The countdown announced on Sunday. It is a 20-hour countdown. The launch began at 6.43 pm.
India's second Moon odyssey launched 11 years after ISRO's successful first lunar mission Chandrayaan 1

Union Minister Piyush Goyal to launch Global Innovation Index 2019
• Minister of Commerce and Industry Piyush Goyal planned to launch the Global Innovation Index (GII) on July 24. The theme of the event is "Evaluating the Medical Innovation Scenario of the Next Decade." They will launch in the presence of the World Intellectual Property Organisation (WIPO) Director General Francis Gurry.
• The launch of GII mainly shows the innovation rankings of economies and findings for this corresponding fiscal year. The 12th edition of GII with 129 countries under its observation. The GII measures innovation friendly are based on the environment of global economies. There are around 80 entries.
Aim:
The main aim is to highlight the role and dynamics of medical innovation to implement the future of healthcare and the potential impact on the economic growth.
The GII started to assess the innovation capabilities of national economies worldwide. The initiative will make to feel the countries facilitate innovation was done by INSEAD and World Business in 2007.

Lok Sabha passed the Right to Information (Amendment) Bill, 2019 on 22 July.
• Lok Sabha passed the Right to Information (Amendment) Bill, 2019 on 22 July. The Bill amends the Right To Information Act. It aims at institutionalisation, streamlining and ease of delivery of services.
Aim:
• The Bill aims to give power to the Centre to set serving period and salaries of Chief Information Commissioner (CIC) and Information Commissioners.
• The Centre can also specify the stature of information commissioners from the equivalent of election commissioners, with their salaries and service conditions.
• The Centre will be fully committed to transparency and autonomy of the institution. The Bill also gives rights to the Centre to reduce an equal amount to the pension of the mentioned officials.
Asian Development Bank sanctions Rs 1,925 cr power project in Tripura.

- Asian Development Bank (ADB) sanctioned a Rs 1,925 crore project for up-gradation of power generation and distribution in Tripura, Deputy Chief Minister Jishnu Dev Varma.

  The amount was recently sanctioned to the Tripura State Electricity Corporation Limited (TSECL) after the state government had sought the ADB’s assistance, Dev Varma who is also the power minister.

  The project sanctioned for upgrading capacity of 63 MW Rokhia Project to 120 MW
  It is at an estimated cost of Rs 699.80 crore.

  The project sanctioned for upgrading capacity of 63 MW Rokhia Project to 120.
  They modernising Gumti Hydro Electric Project at an estimated cost of Rs 1225.88 crore.

  Rokhia project is located at West Tripura district
  North East Council approved sanction of Rs 12.7 crore for an overhaul of the 49.15 km-long Ambassa-Gandacherra power transmission line.

Lok Sabha passed the 2019 Muslim Women (Protection of Rights on Marriage) Bill

- Lok Sabha passed the Muslim Women (Protection of Rights on Marriage) Bill, 2019 on 25 July. The Bill was introduced by the Law Minister Ravi Shankar Prasad. The bill is for the justice, respect and dignity of women.

  - Provisions of the Bill: The Bill criminalises instant triple talaq among Muslims. It also approves a jail term of three years for the husband.
  
  The bill will replace the ordinance passed by the previous government in February. It should be noted that around 20 Muslim countries in the world, including Pakistan and Malaysia, have banned the triple talaq.

  **Opposition:**
  The Bill was opposed by BJP ally Janata Dal (United). The party said that it will create distrust among a particular community.

The Companies Amendment Bill, 2019 introduced in Lok Sabha on 25 July

- The Companies (Amendment) Bill, 2019 has been introduced in Lok Sabha on 25 July. The Bill was introduced by the Union Finance Minister Nirmala Sitharaman.

  - Provision of the Ordinance:
    16 of the offences that are punishable with fine or imprisonment, or both has been recategorised as it empowers the adjudicating officers, who are appointed by the central government, may now levy penalties instead.

    The ordinance prohibits a company from issuing shares at a discount, except in certain cases.

    - It also says that a company can not commence business unless it files a declaration within 180 days of incorporation or files a verification of its registered office within 30 days of incorporation.
The companies must register charges such as mortgages on its property within 30 days of creation of charge.

Lok Sabha cleared the Unlawful Activities Prevention (Amendment) Bill, 2019
• Lok Sabha cleared the Unlawful Activities Prevention (Amendment) Bill, 2019. The Bill aims to end terrorism.
• Provisions of the Bill: The Bill will now empower the government to designate individuals as terrorists. If any person commits or participates in acts of terrorism or involved in terrorist, he/she can be designated as terrorist.
The Director-General of the National Investigation Agency (NIA) can now grant approval of seizure or attachment of property when the case is investigated by the agency.
• Bill was opposed: The amendments to the Bill was opposed saying that the legislation violates Article 21 and also lacks judicial review. Also, the opposition said that the intent of the Bill will be used to just detain people in jail and deny them a trial. The Bill was also termed as anti-federalism and anti-people.

GUJRAT state assembly broke the record for longest sitting on a single day.
• Gujarat assembly’s Friday’s proceedings commenced at 10 am and concluded at around 12:09 am on Saturday, clocking more than 12 hours and nine minutes.
• The 14th Gujarat Legislative Assembly has broken its 1993 record of the longest sitting on a single day with its proceedings lasting for more than 12 hours and nine minutes on Friday-Saturday
• The “historic” feat was celebrated by the legislators and officials after the announcement was made by the Speaker.
• The proceedings of the Assembly had lasted for 12 hours and eight minutes on January 6, 1993.
• The Assembly has 182 MLAs

Noida to get 100 charging stations for electric vehicles
• Hundred charging stations for electric vehicles are in the offing for Noida
The authority is planning a tie-up with a government-backed agency for setting up infrastructure for mobility based on clean energy. A memorandum of understanding (MoU) expected to be signed between Noida Authority and EESL.
The MoU will be signed in the presence of NOIDA Chairperson Alok Tandon, CEO Ritu Maheshwari and EESL Managing Director Saurabh Kumar
• The authority is also planning to lease five electric vehicles from EESL to be used for official purposes. Three of these stations will be on the road, while three off-road.
• Vehicle – Features Vehicle growth in the country has been rapid in recent years.
The need for switching to cleaner technology in the transport sector, around Rs.1.2 lakh crore could be saved in imported crude oil.
The central government issued a set of guidelines to set up charging stations for electric vehicles across the country, outlining ways to build such fuelling points every 25 km. The government expects 25 percent of the total vehicles on roads will be electric vehicles by 2030.

- The ministry made amendments to the Model Building Byelaws (MBBL) 2016 and the Urban Regional Development Plans Formulation and Implementation (URDPFI) Guidelines.

Nagaland government has planned to form a commission to frame the modalities of creating RIIN

- The Nagaland government has planned to form a commission to frame the modalities of creating the Register of Indigenous Inhabitants of Nagaland (RIIN) on 27 July. It aims to prevent issuance of indigenous inhabitant certificates to ineligible persons.

Aim:
The RIIN aims to provide protection to genuine citizens who are permanent settlers of Nagaland and non-Nagas will not be harassed during preparation of the list of indigenous citizens. It also aims to help identify the citizens who settled in Nagaland prior to December 1, 1963 as it was the day when it became a full-fledged State.

- Board Members: The new Commission would be headed by retired Chief Secretary Banuo Z. Jamir as chairman. The Home Commissioner and the Commissioner Nagaland will be ex-officio members of the panel. The members of the panel are T. Kiheto Sema, S. Chingwang Konyak as members. Justice (Retd.) and Zelre Angami as the advisor to the Commission.

Indian President Ram Nath Kovind is to visit three nations in the West African region.

- Indian President Ram Nath Kovind is to visit three nations in the West African region. His tour to the countries began on 28 July. He has become the first Indian head of state to visit West African nation Benin. He will visit the Gambia and Guinea. Until now, no Indian head of state has yet visited the places. Kovind is visiting to improve India's ties with the western nations.

Aim:
The President's tour is to recast India's ties with Africa. It aims for a major growth pole and a major source of resources.

Kovind to visit 3 African Countries:
On 28 July, Kovind started his visit with Benin. It is one of India’s key trading partners in West Africa. After visiting Benin, he will be visiting Gambia. New Delhi has extended several Lines of Credit to Gambia, including $6.7 million in 2006 for a tractor assembly plant, approximately $27 million for construction of National Assembly Building Complex.

After that visit, he will be visiting Guinea. In 1960-1980, India was an influential country in Africa as India supported independence and decolonization in the continent.

Previous visits:
As India focused on closer ties with developed economies for investments and technology, Benin’s President Boni Yayi visited New Delhi for the third India-Africa Summit in October 2015. Benin’s current President Patrice Talon visited India to Attend annual Meeting of African Development Bank (ADB) held in Ahmedabad in May 2017.

26-million-year-species-vine-snake-western-ghats

Pro Ahaetulla antique, 26 million years old species of Vine snake found in the southern Western Ghats Researchers from Indian Institute of Science (IISc), Bengaluru discovered new vine snake species named Pro Ahaetulla antique (member of the Ahaetuliinae family) evolved around 26 million years ago in the southern Western Ghats.

The common name suggested for these individuals is ‘keeled vine snake’. Vine snakes get their names due to their slender bodies and vine-like appearances.

There are 4 species of commonly distributed vine snakes, and another one was discovered in Odisha recently in India

This research report has been published in the journal PLOS ONE in collaboration with researchers from Chennai Snake Park, Chennai, and Bombay Natural History Society, Mumbai. The study was funded by the Department of Biotechnology (DBT), Ministry of Environment, Forests and Climate Change (MoEFCC), DBT-IISc Partnership Programme and the Critical Ecosystem Partnership Fund.

Indian Navy ship LCU L56 was commissioned into the Indian Navy at Visakhapatnam.

• Indian Navy ship LCU L56 was commissioned into the Indian Navy at Visakhapatnam on 29 July. It was commissioned by Vice Admiral Atul Kumar Jain, Eastern Naval Command. LCU L56 is the sixth ship of the MK IV class ships.

About LCU L56:

The LCU L56 vessel will be used for transportation, deployment and recovery of main battle tanks, armoured vehicles, troops and equipment from ship to shore and vice-versa. LCU L56 would be administered and based in Port Blair under the Naval Component Commander (NAVCC) in Andaman and Nicobar Command (ANC). The measurement of the ship is 62 metres in length. It is fitted with two MTU diesel engines. These engines provides a sustainable speed of over 15 knots. The ship was built by the Garden Reach Shipbuilders and Engineers Ltd (GRSE), Kolkata. This is the 100th warship built by GRSE. The ship will be used for various purpose like: beaching operations, disaster relief operations, search and rescue missions, coastal patrol, and surveillance operations along the Andaman and Nicobar Group of Islands.
Rajya Sabha passed the triple talaq Muslim Women Protection of Rights on Marriage Bill
• The Rajya Sabha passed the triple talaq Muslim Women (Protection of Rights on Marriage) Bill, 2019. The bill makes the declaration of triple talaq means the police can arrest an accused without a warrant.
• It is the government’s attempt to protect the rights of married Muslim women.
• Provisions of the Bill: The Bill makes the instant triple talaq a criminal offence. It provides a jail term to a Muslim man for the crime that prohibits divorce by pronouncing talaq thrice in one go. If the woman misuses the law, the man should have the right to appeal.

Rajya Sabha passed the IBC amendment Bill
• The Rajya Sabha approved the amendments to the Insolvency and Bankruptcy Code (IBC). Insolvency and Bankruptcy Code (Amendment) Bill, 2019 provides clarity about preference to secured lenders over operational creditors.
• Provisions of the amendments: The amendments gives a loan defaulting company explicit authority over the distribution of proceeds of an auction in the resolution process.
With reference to the IBC, it has fixed a firm timeline of 330 days for resolving cases.

BANKING AND ECONOMICS

Ola Electric invests $250 million funding from SoftBank.
• SoftBank invested around $250 million in Ola Electric Mobility. The electric vehicle unit Ola becomes the newest unicorn from India. The likes of Flipkart, Zomato, Paytm in the parent company are with the Registrar of Companies.
Ola Electric issued 4,326 fully and compulsorily convertible series B preference shares of face value of Rs 10 each having the privileges and preferences.
Japanese investor paid a total of Rs 1,725.04 crore (around $250 million)
The SoftBank funding was received on Tuesday in light of a special resolution passed by the board of Ola Electric on June 25.
Tata Sons’ Chairman Emeritus Ratan Tata invested an undisclosed amount in Ola Electric. This investment is a part of company’s series-A round of funding, was in Ratan Tata’s personal capacity.
Ola Electric announced raising Rs 400 crore in a funding round
This is led by Tiger Global and Matrix India.
Ola raised $300 million from South Korean carmaker Hyundai Motors along with its affiliate Kia Motors.
As part of the deal, Hyundai plans to introduce its EVs in the cab fleet of Ola by 2021.
Ola Electric is currently running several pilots to deploy electric vehicles and charging solutions. The company claimed they would introduce a fleet of 10,000 electric vehicles over the next year.

Ola Electric initially established to enable Ola's electric mobility pilot program in Nagpur in 2017.

**Airtel Payments Bank ties up with Bharti AXA Life to sell term insurance.**

- India's first payments bank Airtel Payments Bank has partnered with Bharti AXA Life Insurance to offer a life term insurance plan through its extensive network of banking points across the country.
- The product, Bharti AXA Life POS (Point of Sale) Saral Jeevan Bima Yojana, is a pure life term insurance plan which is aimed at the under-insured and uninsured segments in India. Both the partners will leverage vast network to reach deep rural pockets and serve the under-insured.

**Airtel Payments Bank ties up with Bharti AXA Life Insurance to offer the Bharti AXA Life POS Saral Jeevan Bima Yojana**

- Airtel Payments Bank partnered with Bharti AXA Life Insurance to offer Bharti AXA Life POS (Point of Sale). Saral Jeevan Bima Yojana, a pure life term insurance decided to plan up to Rs 5 lakhs.
- The scheme is aimed at the under-insured and uninsured segments in India.
- The policy available at all the Airtel Payments Bank's 25,000 retail outlets. It will be expanded to cover over 60,000 banking points.
- The customers are offered the option of life cover between 3-5 lakh. The scheme further extended up to Rs 25 lakh. Airtel Payments Bank partnered with Bharti AXA Life Insurance to offer the scheme Pradhan Mantri Jeevan Jyoti Bima Yojana (PMJJBY).

**Punjab & Sind Bank sets up centralised hub 'Cen-MARG' to process retail and MSME loans.**

- Punjab & Sind Bank set up a centralized hub named "Centralised MSME & Retail Group" (Cen-MARG) for processing retail and Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises (MSME) loans for better efficiency of branches in business acquisition. It is headquartered in New Delhi.
- It will ensure qualitative improvement in credit appraisal, improved turnaround time, uniform documentation, and efficient monitoring.
- Cen-MARG linked with pan-India branches of the bank in a phased manner.
- The bank is main aim to bring about much-enhanced customer satisfaction through this initiative.
- The launch of Cen-MARG and retail credit will be performed at the Cen-MARG,
- They will help branches focus better on lead generation for retail lending and MSME and enhanced customer service.

**About Punjab & Sind Bank:**
Headquarters: New Delhi  
MD & CEO: S Harisankar  
Tag line: Where service is a way of life
LinkedIn chooses Ashutosh Gupta as country manager for India

- LinkedIn appointed Ashutosh Gupta as its new country manager for India effective September 2, 2019. He will replace Mahesh Narayanan. He was the country manager for India from January to June 2019.
- Gupta joined LinkedIn as the head of Marketing Solutions (LMS) business in 2013. He moved to Singapore to build LMS’ Online Sales Organisation (OSO) for the Asia Pacific (APAC) and China. He will report to Olivier Legrand, LinkedIn’s Managing Director (MD) for the APAC and he will continue to lead the LMS’s OSO.
- He is an alumnus of IIM-Lucknow and IIT (BHU), Varanasi. Worked in organizations like Google, Cognizant, and Infosys. The two decades of experience on the internet and IT and software services industries. Microsoft-owned LinkedIn over 630 million users globally more than 57 million members in India.

Oriental Bank of Commerce bank cuts MCLR rate upto 10 bps.

- Oriental Bank of Commerce (OBC) has reduced the marginal cost of funds-based lending rate (MCLR) by up to 10 basis points (bps) for various tenors. It is effective from 11 July 2019. MCLR for overnight has been reduced to 8.20% from 8.30% and one-month loan tenor has been reduced by 10 bps from 8.35% to 8.25%.
- Similarly, MCLR has been decreased by 5 bps for:
  1) three-month loan to 8.45%
  2) six-month loan to 8.55%
  3) one-year tenor loans to 8.65%.
- Previously, the MCLR for three-month, six-month and one-year tenor loans were at 8.50%, 8.60% and 8.70%, respectively.

RBI’s announcement:

The move comes after the announcement of RBI’s Governor Shaktikanta Das who said that RBI expects faster transmission of the three successive repo rate cuts totalling 75 basis points.

In June the RBI announced 25 bps repo rate cut in the Monetary Policy review. It is expected to reduce still, in the next meeting of the monetary policy committee which is scheduled for 5-9 August.

Other banks reduces MCLR:

The State Bank of India had lowered its MCLR by 5 basis points across all tenors on 9 July 2019.

In June RBI announced rate cut in Monetary Policy review. After the announcement, Bank of Maharashtra, Corporation Bank and IDBI Bank had reduced their MCLR by 5-10 bps in the month of May 2019.

MCLR:

MCLR is abbreviated as Marginal Cost of funds based Lending Rate
MCLR refers to the minimum interest rate of a bank below which it cannot lend, except in some cases allowed by the RBI. MCLR is the reference rate or an internal benchmark set by and for the bank.

**Oriental Bank of Commerce:**
Founded on: 19 February 1943  
Headquarters: Gurugram, India  
MD & CEO: Mukesh Kumar Jain  
Total assets: ₹237,541.54 crore  
The Bank has around 2700 branches and 2621 ATMs across India. It is one of the promising public sector banks (PSBs) in India.

**RBI imposed fine on SBI and Union Bank of India for violating certain regulatory guidelines**
- The Reserve Bank of India (RBI) imposed fine on State Bank of India (SBI) and Union Bank of India for violating certain regulatory guidelines.

**Fine on SBI:**
RBI fined Rs.7 crore as SBI did not comply with the directions issued by the RBI on Income Recognition and Asset Classification (IRAC) norms, code of conduct for opening and operating current accounts and reporting of data on Central Repository of Information on Large Credits (CRILC), and fraud risk management and classification and reporting of frauds.
- The central Bank held the reference to its financial position as on March 31, 2017 which revealed that the lender had violated those norms.

**HDFC Bank, CSC launch credit card for village entrepreneurs and small traders**
- HDFC Bank and Common Services Centres (CSCs) launched a co-branded ‘Small Business Money-Back Credit Card’ For small traders and village-level entrepreneurs (VLEs). The credit card is designed for VLEs and VLE-sourced customers.
- The users give easy access to credit for their day-to-day business expenses, according to a statement. The card launched by HDFC Bank MD Aditya Puri and CSC Chief Dinesh Kumar Tyagi.
- The personalized cards were handed out to a few women entrepreneurs. CSC as access points for delivery of various services and there are 3.6 lakh such centers operating across the country.
- Around ₹70,000 crore worth of business is transacted through the network of CSCs which apart from providing a platform for essential government and public utility services. It also delivers a range of social welfare schemes, financial services, education and skill development courses, health care, agriculture services and digital literacy.
- They entered into a pact in July 2018. The bank offers various products and services in remote locations to VLEs enrolled with CSCs.
Income Tax Department to celebrate Aaykar Diwas 2019

• Central Board of Direct Taxes (CBDT) will observe and celebrate the 159th Income Tax Day on 24th July, 2019. It was on 24th July, 1860 The Income Tax introduced for the first time in India by Sir James Wilson to compensate for the losses incurred by the British regime
• This incident took place during the first war of independence against British Rule. The week preceding the AaykarDiwas 2019 marked by various activities undertaken by the regional offices of the department across the country. Several field offices undertook a grievance redressal week to help redress pending grievances of the taxpayers.
• Some field stations made free legal aid available to taxpayers in conjunction with the local Tax Bar Association. Several field stations holding functions felicitating super senior tax payers for their contribution to nation building, while also recognizing the hard work put in by the officers and officials of the department in various designated areas of work.
• The department will launch a “Kardaata e-SahyogAbhiyaan” The main aim is to assist and support taxpayers and other stakeholders in enabling them to e-file their returns and discharge other tax related obligations.

Larsen and Tourbo Tech Company to partner with UTC for Collins Aerospace

• L&T Technology Services (LTTS) selected as a strategic partner by United Technologies Corporation (UTC) for Collins Aerospace. It is a subsidiary of UTC Collins Aerospace comprises former UTC Aerospace Systems, Rockwell Collins and BE Aerospace is one of the leading providers of intelligent solutions for the global aerospace and defence industries.
• L&T Technology Services
LTTS is a long-standing engineering partner for UTC. Collins Aerospace comprises of the former UTC Aerospace Systems, Rockwell Collins and BE Aerospace.
• It is one of the leading providers of intelligent solutions for the global aerospace and defense industries. LTTS is a long-standing engineering partner for UTC.
They got ‘UTC Supplier Gold’ since 2015. LTTS recognized as UTAS Supplier of Year in April 2016. It is for its high-quality services and value creation.

RIL became the top Indian company in the latest Fortune Global 500 list

• Reliance Industries (RIL) has topped the Indian company to feature in the latest Fortune Global 500 list. RIL has moved 42 positions from its previous and has secured 106th ranking. The Indian company that stands next to RIL is the state-run Indian Oil Corporation (IOC). It has secured 117th rank.

RIL:
The profit of RIL has been increased from $62.3 billion to $82.3 billion in 2019. IOC has recorded a 17.7% growth in revenue from $65.9 billion to $77.6.
• Other Indian Companies in the list:
The other companies that are included in the Fortune Global 500 list are ONGC that ranked 160, State Bank of India that ranked 236, Tata Motors that ranked 265, Bharat Petroleum which ranked 275 and Rajesh Exports that ranked 495.

**GST Council to decide on tax cut on electric vehicles this week**

- Finance Minister Nirmala Sitharaman chair the 36th meeting of the GST Council through videoconferencing in Delhi. It is the first GST Council meeting after the Union Budget placed before the parliament in July 5. The GST Council is expected to announce its decision lowering tax rates for electric vehicles solar power projects and rationalisation of GST rates on lottery.
- GST rates - Electric vehicles: The several sops for the electric vehicle (EV) sector includes income tax exemption and reduction in custom duties for certain components. The government is expected to push for a GST rate cut on EVs from 12% to 5%. The issue of GST rate cut on EVs earlier sent to a rate fitment committee to a rate fitment committee.
- The Modi government wants to encourage domestic manufacturing of e-vehicles.
- The GST rate for petrol and diesel cars and hybrid vehicles is already at the highest bracket of 28% plus cess.

**GST rates on lottery:**

The GST Council is likely to look at the issue of taxation of lotteries. The two rates of GST on the lottery. The 12% GST is levied on lottery run by the state government and 28%. GST is levied on lotteries authorized by the state government.

Several industry bodies have demanded that the GST Council should expand

**Reliance Jio overtakes Vodafone-Idea network and became India’s Largest Telecom Operator**

- Reliance Jio overtook Vodafone-Idea to become India’s leading telecom operator. While the monthly subscriber report from the Telecom Regulatory Authority of India (TRAI). The news comes from data collated off the quarterly financial reports furnished by Bharti Airtel, Reliance Jio and Vodafone-Idea, India’s three leading telecom operators.
- Bharti Airtel disclosed through TRAI its user base of 320.4 million users while enduring a rough quarter of high subscriber churn rate (subscribers unsubscribing from the network against new subscriptions). Jio’s recently disclosed Q1 FY20 financial report showed 331.3 million subscribers in its network.
- Vodafone-Idea's financial report for the same quarter, it has come to light that the operator group lost 14.1 million in Q1 FY20, declining from the industry-topping 334.1 million subscribers as of March 2019, to stand at 320 million subscribers.
AWARDS AND RECOGNITION

USISPF honors Wipro Chairman Azim Premji & Mastercard CEO and President Ajay Banga with Global Excellence Award 2019
• Indian multinational corporation Wipro's Chairman, Azim Premji, and Global Financial services company Mastercard's CEO and President, Ajaypal Singh Banga chosen for 2019 Global Excellence Award.
• The award will be given by LIS-India Strategic Partnership Forum (USISPF) for their contribution to strengthening economic ties between the US and India.
The awards will be given at the USISPF Second Annual Leadership Summit in Washington on July 11, 2019.
• US Commerce Secretary Wilbur Ross, LIS Energy Secretary Rick Perry, LIS House of Representative Speaker Nancy Pelosi, US Senator Dan Sullivan, a Republic from Arkansas and Indian Ambassador to the US Harsh Shringla attend the leadership summit.
• The aim is to highlight bilateral cooperation, trade, and investment, strategic energy ties, manufacturing, and innovation partnership of two countries.

Gully Boy won NETPAC award in Bucheon film festival
• Film-maker Zoya Akhtar's directorial 'Gully Boy' won the Network for the Promotion of Asian Cinema (NETPAC) Award at the 23rd Bucheon International Fantastic Film Festival (BIFAN) in South Korea.
• NETPAC Jury Committee, comprised of NETPAC members and film professionals which features newer genres and varied stories of comedy, fantasy and drama 'Gully Boy', features actors Ranveer Singh and Alia Bhatt, is based on the lives of street rappers.
• The film performed well in the Indian and overseas market.
It will also be screened at the 2019 Indian Film Festival of Melbourne.
Akhtar recently made the Indian film industry proud by joining the list of new members of the Academy of Motion Picture Arts and Sciences that organizes the annual Oscar awards.

• NAVIO, a robotics-assisted surgery system from Smith & Nephew, a Global medical technology provider, has recently been felicitated at the prestigious 'The Economic Times Best Healthcare Brands 2019' at a glittering ceremony held in the capital of India recently. This coveted and one of the most prestigious awards in India honors brands which have shown robust growth by high customer satisfaction in the healthcare sector. The recognition was based of an extensive research carried out by the Economic Times, the business publication of the Times of India Group.
• NAVIO surgical system has been designed to aid Indian surgeons with implant alignment, ligament balancing and bone preparations which are the key factors for patient satisfaction. While conventional knee replacement surgery is highly successful, incidences of improperly installed replacement parts are not uncommon. To improve outcomes, Indian surgeons are now using the NAVIO robotic-assisted total knee replacement surgery and it has shown to be extremely effective for partial and total knee replacement surgery and resulting in improved functional outcomes for the patient. NAVIO enables the surgeon to fix only the damaged part of the knee to absolute perfection, saving all the other normal structures of the joint.

NASA awarded Imaging Xray polarimetry explorer (IXPE) mission to SpaceX
• NASAs awarded a contract to SpaceX to launch NASA’s Imaging Xray polarimetry explorer (IXPE) mission, a groundbreaking astrophysics mission. The mission aims to uncover the mysteries behind black holes and neutron stars. The cost estimated for the mission is $50.3 million. The mission plans to launch three space telescopes. These telescopes will be capable of analyzing the polarization of cosmic X-rays. The IXPE mission is expected to be launched from the Kennedy Space Centre in April 2021.

About IXPE:
The Imaging X-ray Polarimetry Explorer (IXPE) will get information regarding the polarization state of light from astrophysical sources. This will provide insight into the X-ray production in objects such as neutron stars and pulsar wind nebulae, as well as stellar and supermassive black holes. The launch mass of IXPE is 320 kilograms. IXPE will be launched over SpaceX FALCON 9 which is capable of launching 22,800 kilograms to low Earth orbit (LEO). There will also be excess payload capacity at launch.

SRK to be awarded honorary doctorate at Indian Film Fest of Melbourne.
• Australian University La Trobe will award actor Shah Rukh Khan with an honorary doctorate at the Indian Film Festival of Melbourne on August 9. It’s the first Australian University to award Khan with an Honorary Doctor of Letters.

Padma Shri awardee Raghu Ram receives FRCS of Thailand.
• Popular breast surgeon and Padma Shri awardee P. Raghu Ram bagged with Honorary Fellowship of the Royal College of Surgeons (FRCS) of Thailand. The function held at the 44th annual congress of the Royal College in Pattaya. The theme of the function is “ASEAN collaboration in value-based surgery”. The highest recognition got by the Institute in recognition of Raghu Ram’s bold vision coupled with an intense body of work.
It paved towards significantly improving the delivery of breast healthcare in India. It helps in the
recognition of his contribution in promoting the highest standards of surgical education in India
through his association with the Royal College of Surgeons of Edinburgh and England.
It was conferred by professor Tanaphon Maipang, the President of the Royal College of Surgeons of
Thailand.
Raghu Ram achieved the rare distinction conferred FRCS from six Royal Colleges include London,
Edinburgh, Glasgow, Ireland, and Thailand & from the American College of Surgeons.
In 1995, he qualified to become a surgeon and he had 24 years of experience.
He also created awareness about the importance of early detection of breast cancer.

About Thailand:
♦ Capital: Bangkok
♦ Prime Minister: Prayut Chan-o-cha

**Kaushik Ganguly’s Bengali film Nagarkirtan bags 4 awards including Best Feature Film at**
**SAARC film festival 2019.**
• The 9th edition of the SAARC( South Asian Association for Regional Cooperation) festival 2019 in
Colombo, Srilanka.
Bengali filmmaker Kaushik Ganguly’s film ‘Nagarkirtan’ won four awards (Best Director’, ‘Best Actor’
and ‘Best Original Score’) including ‘Best Feature Film’ at the festival.
The Best Actor award bagged to Riddhi Sen.
The Two other Indian films have won awards at the fest.
‘Na Bole Wo Haram’ bagged the ‘Best Short Film’ award directed by Nitish Patankar, while ‘Walking
With the Wind’ received the Special Jury award directed by Praveen Morchhale.

**About SAARC:**
The South Asian Association for Regional Cooperation (SAARC) is an economic and geopolitical
organization of eight countries.
They are primarily located in South Asia.
It is established on 8 December 1985.
**Main Objectives:** To promote and strengthen collective self-reliance among the countries of South
Asia to contribute to developing mutual trust, understanding, and appreciation of one another’s a
problem.
The member states include Afghanistan, Bangladesh, Bhutan, India, the Maldives, Nepal, Pakistan,
and Sri Lanka.
The Secretariat of the SAARC is in Kathmandu, Nepal
It is established on 16 January 1987.
Sachin Tendulkar inducted into ICC Hall of Fame.
• Ex-India batsman Sachin Tendulkar, ex-South Africa pacer Allan Donald and ex-Australia Women pacer Cathryn Fitzpatrick have been inducted into the ICC Hall of Fame. Sachin is the sixth Indian cricketer after Anil Kumble, Sunil Gavaskar, Bishan Singh Bedi, Kapil Dev and Rahul Dravid to be inducted into the ICC Hall of Fame. Sachin played 664 international matches, scoring 34,357 runs.

Mohun Bagan Ratna Award 2019: Keshav Dutt, Prasun Banerjee
• Keshav Dutt, Prasun Banerjee Chosen for Mohun Bagan Ratna Award 2019
Two-time Olympic gold medal-winning hockey player Keshav Dutt and former India football captain Prasun Banerjee will get this year’ MOHUN BAGAN Ratna Award on the annual celebration of Mohun Bagan Day on July 29.

About Mohun Bagan Ratna Award
Mohun Bagan Ratna Award is an award presented each year on Mohun Bagan Day to outstanding former players. Every year 29 July is celebrated as Mohun Bagan Day. It is on this day in 1911 the Mariners became 1st club to defeat a British club. First recipient was former captain Sailen Manna in 2001. Mohun Bagan Day to outstanding former players. First recipient was former captain Sailen Manna in 2001.

Keshav Dutt
The 93 year old Dutt, who played as a half-back, was part of National hockey team that won gold medals after India’s Independence– 1948 London Games. From where India won the 1st gold post-Independence and 2nd Olympic gold in 1952 Helsinki. He is one of the oldest surviving hockey Olympians of country. Prasun Banerjee. The 64-year-old Banerjee, was a prominent midfielder of his times. He is the younger brother of iconic footballer P.K. Banerjee.

TIFF 2019: Meryl Streep to receive inaugural TIFF Tribute acting award.
• Meryl Streep will be the first recipient of an acting award bestowed as part of the Toronto International Film Festival.
• The festival’s organizers announced Friday that Streep will receive the inaugural TIFF Tribute Actor Award during a Sept. 9 charity gala.
• Streep stars in Steven Soderbergh’s upcoming Panama Papers film The Laundromat with Gary Oldman and Antonio Banderas. The film will have its North American premiere at TIFF.
• The award is separate from honours bestowed on films screening at the September festival.
DD News channel bagged Champions of Empathy Award
DD News(Doordarshan)news channel of India awarded “Champions of Empathy Award” The award is given for spreading awareness about hepatitis. Mayank Agrawal, Director General of DD News received the Award from Lok Sabha Speaker Om Birla. The main responsibility of DD News is make people aware about various diseases and preventions by showing health-related programs, reports, and policies that help to spread awareness towards health in society.

Hepatitis:
Hepatitis name has derived from the Greek word ‘Hepar’ meaning liver and ‘itis’ means inflammation. It is a medical condition in which inflammation occurs in liver cells and its complications vary with the type of infection. It is mostly caused by a group of viruses called hepatitis viruses. There are 5 types of hepatitis namely. A, B, C, D, and E. Each type is caused by a different hepatitis virus.

SPORTS

World Cup 2019: Ambati Rayudu retires from International cricket, Iceland Cricket’s special offer to Rayudu.
Ambati Rayudu retires from International Cricket. Rayudu made the announcement after the Indian cricket team management repeatedly ignored him in the ongoing world cup. Ambati Rayudu was named as one of the five stand-bys for the Indian world cup squad but he was snubbed twice, after the Indian selectors preferred Rishabh Pant and Mayank Agarwal over him.

Hima Das won the women’s 200m gold in the Poznan Athletics Grand Prix in Poland
Star Indian sprinter Hima Das won the women’s 200m gold in the Poznan Athletics Grand Prix in Poland. She was timed 23.65s on her way to the 200m gold. This was Hima’s first focused 200m race of the year 2019.
other winners: The national record holder shot putter Tajinder Pal Singh Toor packed away a bronze with a best exertion of 19.62m.
Vismaya completed third with an individual best time of 23.75s in the race at Poznan Asian hero.
Muhammed Anas, the 400m national record holder, protected third in the men’s 200m race with a planning of 20.75 seconds.
K S Jeevan won the men’s 400m bronze in 47.25s.

Rohit 1st batsman in history to smash 5 hundreds in a World Cup.
India opener Rohit Sharma reached the three-figure mark against Sri Lanka off 92 balls in 2019 World Cup on Saturday to become the first-ever batsman to smash five hundreds in a World Cup.
Rohit overtook ex-Sri Lanka captain Kumar Sangakkara, who slammed four hundreds in the 2015 edition. Rohit also equalled Sachin Tendulkar's record for most World Cup hundreds (six).

**Zhang Shuai first Chinese into Wimbledon last-eight since 2013**
- Zhang Shuai on Monday became the first Chinese woman since Li Na in 2013 to reach the Wimbledon quarter-finals. World number 50 Zhang defeated Ukraine teenage Dayana Yastremska 6-4, 1-6, 6-2.
- The 30-year-old will face either 15-year-old Coco Gauff or former world number one Simona Halep for a place in the semi-finals.
- Strycova beats Mertens
  Czech veteran Barbora Strycova, who is pondering retirement, marched into the quarter-finals at Wimbledon on Monday beating 21st seed Belgian Elise Mertens 4-6, 7-5, 6-2.
  It is the second time the unseeded 33-year-old, who beat fourth-seeded Kiki Bertens in the previous round, has reached the quarter-final stage, the previous occasion in 2014.
  Strycova will play either compatriot and two-time Wimbledon champion Petra Kvitova or Britain’s French Open semi-finalist Johanna Konta in Tuesday’s quarter-finals.

**U.S. women's national soccer team won the FIFA Women's World Cup 2019**
- The U.S. women’s national soccer team (USWNT) won the FIFA Women’s World Cup for a record-extending fourth time on July 7 in Lyon, France. The team defeated the Netherlands and secured 2-0 to win the women’s World Cup.
- This win is a record-extending fourth time for the U.S. women’s national soccer team. The dignitaries which included FIFA’s president, Gianni Infantino, and France’s president, Emmanuel Macron presented the winners’ medal and trophy.
  The Head coach of USWNT is Jill Ellis.
  The captains of the team are Carli Lloyd, Alex Morgan and Megan Rapinoe. USWNT won its first World Cup in 1991 in China.

**Arinjeeta Dey won a silver medal for India in World Youth Cup 2019**
- Karate girl, Arinjeeta Dey (Barasat, West Bengal) won a silver medal under the 12 category in the World Youth Cup 2019. The competition was held in Umag, Croatia (from July 1 to July 5, 2019). It was organized by World Karate Federation affiliated to the International Olympic Association.
- A total of 35 countries participated in this competition. He won 3 times in national championship junior level category (2017 KAI SUB Junior National gold medalist, 2018 KAI SUB Junior National gold medalist, 2019 KAI SUB Junior National Gold and Silver Medalist). She belongs from Barasat in West Bengal. She has been a student of Hanshi Premjit Sen. She is the president of Premjit Sen Martial Art Academy in West Bengal.
Vinesh Phogat won gold medal in the 53 kg category at the Grand Prix of Spain 2019.

- India’s top wrestler Vinesh Phogat won her first gold medal after shifting to 53kg category and Divya Kakran claimed the top honours in the 68kg category at the Grand Prix of Spain 2019 at Madrid, Spain. In the championship, India finished second with 130 points in team championship behind Russia which secured 165. Vinesh defeated Dutch rival Jessica Blaszka at the finals. She is one of India’s medal hopefuls at the 2020 Tokyo Games. She won gold medal at the Jakarta Asian Games. Vinesh had competed in Asian Championship and won bronze. She played in Dan Kolov and won silver respectively in the 53kg category.

Brazil won the Copa America 2019 title.

- Brazil won its first Copa America 2019 title since 2007. It defeated Peru and secured 3-1. The team already owns the fifth and ninth Copa América trophy. The event was hosted by Brazil.
- Everton was named player of the final and also finished as one of the tournament's top scorers with three goals. Dani Alves, Brazil's right-back, was awarded the player of the tournament.
- The last time they won the Copa América was in 1989. Then it played against Uruguay at the Maracanã. Brazil's only other title since 2007 came in the 2013 Confederations Cup

Copa America 2019:
- The 2019 Copa América was the 46th edition of the Copa América, the international men’s association football championship. It was founded in 1916.
- It was organized by South America's football ruling body CONMEBOL. It was held in Brazil and took place between 14 June to 7 July 2019 at 6 venues across the country.
- Uruguay is the Copa América's most successful nation with 15 titles.

Chanu wins gold at Commonwealth Senior Weightlifting C'ship.

- Former world champion Mirabai Chanu won a gold medal on the opening day of the Commonwealth Weightlifting Championship on Tuesday. The Indian contingent won 13 medals that included eight gold, three silver and two bronze medals in senior, junior and youth categories. Mirabai lifted a total of 191kg in the senior women's 49 kg event.

MS Dhoni became the only second Indian player to reach the 350-game mark in ODI

- MS Dhoni became the only second Indian player to reach the 350-game mark in One-Day International cricket (ODI). The first Indian to set the record was Sachin Tendulkar.
- MS.Dhoni:
  He has been tagged as one of the best finishers in the sport. Dhoni led India from 2007 to 2017. Under Dhoni’s captaincy won its second championship in the cricket world cup. He also led India to No. 1 position in the ICC Rankings.
• He is regarded as one of the greatest captains in the world of cricket. MS Dhoni is the only skipper to have won every major ICC tournament. The former Indian captain is also the first wicketkeeper to play in 350 ODI matches.
• He is also the first captain in the world to win three different ICC trophies. Dhoni also led India to a memorable 2013 Champions Trophy triumph in England. In his more than 14-years of international career, Dhoni has played an integral part in many of India's famous victories.

Commonwealth C'ships: Rakhi Halder, Davinder Kaur win gold medals on second day.
• Rakhi Halder and Davinder Kaur won a gold medal each in the senior women's section as Indian weightlifters continued their impressive show on the second day of the Commonwealth Championships in Apia Samoa today. India also won five other gold medals in the junior and youth sections.

The Commonwealth Championships are being held simultaneously together for the youth, junior and senior categories.

Kaur lifted a total of 184kg to win the women's 59kg gold while Halder clinched the yellow metal with a combined effort of 214kg in the 64kg category.

On the first day yesterday, India had clinched 8 gold, 3 silver and 2 bronze medals. Former world champion Mirabai Chanu had clinched the gold in women's 49kg with a total lift of 191kg.

Sathiyan, Amalraj win India's 1st ever medal at Australian Open.
• Indian table tennis players G Sathiyan and Anthony Amalraj won India its first-ever medal at the World Tour Platinum Australian Open after claiming the bronze medal in the men's doubles competition on Friday. The duo was beaten 12-14, 9-11, 8-11 by the top-seeded Korean pair of Jeoung Youngsik and Lee Sangsu in the semifinals.

Williamson registers most runs by a captain in a World Cup edition.
• New Zealand skipper Kane Williamson has set the record for most runs by a captain in World Cup history. The 28-year-old took his tally of runs in 2019 World Cup to 549 after opening his account against England in the final on Sunday, breaking the record set by Sri Lanka's Mahela Jayawardene, who aggregated 548 runs in 2007 World Cup.

Mexico wins CONCACAF Gold Cup final.
• Mexico defeated USA to claim their eighth CONCACAF Gold Cup title. Jonathan Dos Santos scored the winning goal in 73rd min for Mexico in the thrilling final. The teams met five previous times in the Gold Cup final, but this year's edition held additional value: The Americans had a chance to reestablish confidence in a program haunted by its failure to qualify for the 2018 World Cup.
Mexico looked like the more dangerous team in the second half. They finally broke through in the 73rd minutes. Jonathan dos Santos scored off a back-heel pass from Raul Jimenez fountains of beer to fly upward in the pro-Mexico crowd. The Americans created scoring opportunities early one of the positive trends through the tournament.

About CONCACAF
- Founded 1963
- Region North America, Central America and the Caribbean (CONCACAF)
- Number of teams 16

England win World Cup for first time for hitting more boundaries.
- England won the World Cup for the first time due to hitting more boundaries after tied scores in World Cup history's first-ever Super Over forced a boundary count-back. The match went into Super Over wherein both the teams scored 15 each after hitting 241 runs apiece in their respective 50 overs. England scored 26 boundaries while New Zealand hit 17.

Sprinter Hima Das wins 3rd international gold.
- Sprinter Hima Das bagged her third international gold in two weeks after winning the women's 200m event at the Kladno Memorial Athletics Meet in Czech Republic. Das clocked 23.43 seconds to win the event. Muhammed Anas also won gold in the men's 400m event after clocking 45.21 seconds to finish first.

Sharath Kamal voted IOC Sportsperson of the Year
- Sharath Kamal voted the Sportsperson of the Year in the yearly Indian Oil Sports Conclave.
- Different chosen people were cricketer Cheteshwar Pujara, Grandmaster B Adhiban, hockey player Simranjeet Singh and table tennis player Manika Batra.

About Sharath Kamal:
- Sharath Kamal is an expert table tennis player from Tamil Nadu, India. He was among the five candidates for whom votes were surveyed by more than 60 first class sportspersons utilized with the oil major.

PV Sindhu to spearhead Indian campaign at Indonesia Open Badminton
- PV Sindhu won the Indian campaign at the Indonesia Open Badminton tournament beginning. The tournament took place at Jakarta.
- Sindhu will play her opening game against Japan's Aya Ohori tomorrow. Saina Nehwal will not take part in the tournament. Kidambi Srikanth is placed at 8th position.
B. Sai Praneeth and HS Prannoy are other Indians seen in action in the Singles.
- Srikanth face Japan's Kenta Nishimoto, Praneeth take on Wong Wing Ki of Hong Kong. Prannoy meet second-seeded Chinese Shi Yuqi. Ashwini Ponnappa, N. Sikki Reddy, Satwiksairaj Rankireddy and Chirag Shetty are among those will figure in the Doubles.

**India is to host the ISSF Combined World Cup from March 15-26, 2020**
- India is to host the International Shooting Sport Federation (ISSF) Combined World Cup from March 15-26, 2020. The events will be held in New Delhi, India. ISSF finalised and approved the final dates of the events.
- The ISSF Combined World Cup includes events in rifle, pistol and shotgun. In 2020's event of shooting, the World Cup provides golden platform to hit in Tokyo 2020 Olympics. India has hosted a World Cup in February 2019, which offered Olympic quota places for Tokyo.
- **ISSF:**
  The International Shooting Sport Federation (ISSF) was founded on 1907. It is headquartered at Munich, Germany. The President of ISSF is Vladimir Lisinis. It governs the Olympic Shooting events in rifle, pistol and shotgun disciplines, and of several non-Olympic Shooting sport events.

**Vijayveer wins his 3rd gold at Junior Shooting World Cup**
- Vijayveer Sidhutook his third gold medal of the ongoing ISSF Junior World Cup in Suhl, Germany. He combined with Rajkanwar Singh Sandhu and Adarsh Singh to clinch the men’s 25m pistol event. For Adarsh, it was his second gold of the competition.
- India maintained its top spot at the medal standings after day three with 7 gold 7 Silver and 2 Bronze in a total of 16 medals. China is second with 5 Gold 3 Silver and 5 Bronze.
- The day's second medal came in the men's 10m Air Rifle with the trio of Hriday Hazarika, Yash Vardhan and Paarth Makhija winning the team silver with a combined score of 1877.4. It was just 0.4 less than the gold-winning Chinese team's score.

**16-year-old shooter Anish wins gold at ISSF Junior World Cup.**
- India's 16-year-old shooter Anish Bhanwala won gold at ISSF Junior World Cup in the men's 25m rapid fire pistol event in Germany on Wednesday. Anish, who won his first ISSF Junior World Cup gold in 2018, finished with 29 points in the final, defeating Russia's Egor Ismakov by six points. India, with eight golds, are currently leading the medal tally.

**Indian secured the first spot in the medal tally of Commonwealth Weightlifting Championship.**
- Indian team secured the first spot in the medal tally of Commonwealth Weightlifting Championship 2019 held at Samoa, a country in Oceania. 37 Indian players participated in the Commonwealth
Weightlifting Championship in Apia, Samoa. It won 35 medals including 22 golds, 10 silvers and 3 bronze medals in the youth, junior, and senior categories. India also broke a total of 22 records in all 3 age groups in World, Asian, Commonwealth and National level as well as set a new junior record at Commonwealth and National level.

**Top wins of India:**

Mirabai Chanu won gold in women’s 49 kg with a total lift of 191 kg. She is gold medalist at 2018 Commonwealth Games and 2018 Khel Ratna awardee.

Jeremy Lalrinnunga competing in 67 kg male event broke a youth world record with lift of 136 kg in snatch. This same lift also set new youth record at Asian,

Jhilli Dalabehera won gold in women’s 45kg event. She set 6 records with a clean and jerk lift of 94 kg and total lift of 164 kg at Commonwealth (Senior and Junior) and Junior National level.

**Ministry of Youth Affairs and Sports:**

Founded on: 1982 as Asian Games
Renamed in: 1985 as Department of Youth Affairs & Sports, became Ministry of Youth Affairs and Sports in 2000
Headquarters: New Delhi, India
Minister responsible: Kiren Rijiju, Minister of State (Independent Charge)
The Ministry administers the Department of youth affairs and Department of Sports in India.

**PV Sindhu wins her first silver medal of the year at Indonesia Open**

• World number five PV Sindhu won her first silver medal of the year after finishing second at the Indonesia Open.
• The 24-year-old lost her first final of the year to world number four Akane Yamaguchi 15-21, 16-21 in 51 minutes on July 21. Sindhu will next play the Japan Open, which is scheduled to begin on July 23.

**INDONESIA OPEN 2019:**
The 2019 Indonesia Open was the fourteenth tournament of the 2019 BWF WORLD TOUR and also part of the INDONESIA OPEN championships, which had been held since 1982. This tournament was organized by Badminton Association Of Indonesia and sanctioned by the BWF

**Prithu Gupta of Delhi selected as Indias 64th Grandmaster**

• Delhi’s Prithu Guptabecome India’s 64th Grandmaster. He got Elo around 2500 points. He defeated IM Lev Yankelevich in the fifth round of the Portuguese League 2019.
• He received his first GM norm at the Gibraltar Masters. He achieved his second norm at the Biel Masters on the same year.
• He got the final norm at the Porticcio Open and finally achieved the required ELO points.
Indian bodybuilder Ravinder Malik won Mr South Asia title
- Indian Body builder Ravinder Malik won Mr South Asia Title. There are around 91 bodybuilders participated in the championship. The competition is organised by South Asian Bodybuilding and Physique Sports.
- The Federation under the auspices of Nepal Bodybuilding and Fitness Association. He won the overall champion of the 12th Asian Bodybuilding and Physique Sports Championship in Kathmandu.
- He won this title under 80 kg category. He was one among the nine people who the title among the same 80 kg Category.

Shane Lowry claimed the British Open 2019 at Royal Portrush, Northern Ireland.
- Irishman Shane Lowry claimed the British Open 2019 at Royal Portrush, Northern Ireland. It is his first major golfing title. He defeated Tommy Fleetwood and won the title. He is the second player from the country to claim the title. Earlier, the title was claimed by Padraig Harrington in 2007 and 2008.
He won USD1,935,000 which takes him to No.1 on the European Tour’s Race to Dubai.

British Open 2019:
British Open 2019 Championship is the 148th Open Championship. Events were held from 18-21 July at Royal Portrush Golf Club in Northern Ireland. This was the second time the country was hosting as it has hosted for the first time in 1951.

Shiva Thapa Becomes Indias First Gold Medallist in Kazakhstan Presidents Cup
- Four-time Asian medallist Shiva Thapa became India’s first gold medallist at the President’s Cup boxing tournament in the finals in Astana, Kazakhstan
The newly-introduced Olympic category of 63kg. Thapa to fight Kazakhstan’s Zakir Safiullin in the summit clash. Thapa lost to Safiullin in the Asian Championship semifinal.
- The silver medal won by woman boxer Parveen (60kg) got defeated by Rimma Volosenko. Thapa defeated Kyrgyzstan’s Argon Kadiribekuulu 4-1 in the last-four stage Sweety Boora (81kg) and Duryodhan Singh Negi (69kg) ended their campaign with bronze medals.

Kristof Milak created a new world record in the 200 metres butterfly at the 2019 FINA world championship.
- Hungarian swimmer Kristof Milak created a new world record in the 200 metres butterfly at the FINA world championship 2019 in Gwangju, South Korea. He clocked 1:50.73. He broke the record set by Michael Phelps who clocked 1:51.51 in an event in Rome 2009.
Kristóf Milák:
Milák is a swimmer from Hungary. He won the world championships gold in South Korea. He is is currently holding the world record in 200m butterfly. He won the silver medal, and set a new junior world record and a new national record a timing of 50.62 at the 2017 World Aquatics
Championships. He won three gold medals and one silver medal at the 2018 Summer Youth Olympics.

**Boxing Legend Manny Pacquiao won WBA Super Welterweight title 2019**
- Manny Pacquiao(40) won the WBA (World Boxing Association) welterweight championship 2019. He defeated Keith Thurman of US at the MGM Grand Garden Arena, United States. Two judges scored it 115-112 in favor of Pacquiao. The one judge scored it 114-113 to Thurman.
- The eight-division world champion Pacquiao improved to 62-7-2 score with 39 knockouts. He is currently serving as a senator of the Philippines won 12 major world titles as well as being the first boxer to win the lineal championship in five different weight classes.
- He won the “Best Fighter ESPY Award. He currently ranks No. 4 in Boxer's ranking of the greatest pound for pound boxers of all time.

**One gold, five silver medals for India at Makran Cup boxing**
- Deepak Singh (49kg) was the lone Indian boxer
- Deepak Kumar produced a late surge to steal a silver in the men’s 10m rifle event at the Asian Games, giving the shooting contingent its second medal at the ongoing continental championships.
- China’s defending champion Yang Haoran was a cut above the rest, winning the gold with an aggregate of 249.1.

**About Deepak Kumar:**
- Deepak Kumar
- Date of Birth: November 5, 1987
- Event at Asian Games: men’s 10m air rifle
- Past performance (if any): N/A
- Best performance so far: Bronze, Commonwealth Championship in 2017
- Brief Description: Deepak Kumar has been the most consistent 10m air rifle shooter after Ravi Kumar in the last year.

**The third edition of Khelo India Youth Games will be held in Guwahati in 2020 January**
Ministry of Sports has announced that the third edition of Khelo India Youth Games will be held in Guwahati from January 18-30, 2020. The announcement was made by the Sports Minister Kiren Rijiju on 27 July. It will be conducted in partnership with IOA, SGFI, and Assam.
Participants: It is expected that more than 10,000 athletes and officials will be participating in the mega event.
Khelo India is national level multidisciplinary grassroots games in India. It is held for two categories, mainly U-17 years school students and U-21 college students.
Dalilah Muhammad set new world record in the 400m hurdles women's athletics at the U.S. Championships athletics
• American Athlete Dalilah Muhammad set new world record in the 400m hurdles women's athletics at the U.S. Championships athletics on 28 July. She clocked 52.20 sec. The previous world record was set at 52.34 sec by Russia's Yuliya Pechonkina in 2003.
• Other Winners:
Women's 3,000m steeplechase:
Emma Coburn won first and clocked 9 min 25.63 seconds.
Women's 200m:
Noah Lyles came first in the 200m and clocked 19.78 sec. Christian Coleman came second and clocked 20.02. Ameer Webb was third in 20.45 in 100 m.

Tamil Nadu girl won gold medal in World Deaf Youth Badminton Championship
• Tamil Nadu girl Jerlin Anika won the gold medal in the World Deaf Youth Badminton Championships. The competition is held in Taipei last week.
• Anika bagged four medals in the championship, including the gold, two silver, and one bronze. Anika is a tenth standard student in the Avvaiyar government in Madurai.
• The daughter's performance is a matter of pride for India and Tamil Nadu. It is a matter of pride for Tamil Nadu. The main reason behind her success is the support extended by her school and the efforts put in by her coach Saravanan.

APPOINTMENTS AND RESIGNATION
NS Vishwanathan reappointed as Deputy Governor of RBI for 1 year.
• The Appointments Committee of the Cabinet has approved the reappointment of NS Vishwanathan as Deputy Governor of RBI for a period of one year from July 4, 2019. NS Vishwanathan's term as Deputy Governor was supposed to end on July 3, 2019. Earlier, RBI Deputy Governor Viral Acharya resigned citing personal circumstances.

TSSOCA chief is new ISTA vice-president.
• Director of Telangana State Seed and Organic Certification Authority (TSSOCA) K. Keshavulu was elected vice president of International Seed Testing Association (ISTA), the body that regulates seed certification at the global level, during the ongoing 32nd ISTA Congress being held here.
• He is not only the first Indian but also first from any Asian country to hold one of the top executive posts in ISTA. Mr. Keshavulu is also tipped to be elected as the next president of ISTA at its 33rd Congress to be held in New Zealand in 2022 as is the practice in the organisation. He will hold the vice president’s post for a three-year term.
teve Jones of Canada, who has been the vice president till the election of the new executive body on Tuesday, has been elected president for the 2019-22 term. The new committee will also have immediate past president Craig McGill of New Zealand and eight others as members at Large representing Zimbabwe, United Kingdom, France, Germany, Italy, Philippines, Finland and Argentina.

**Harish Rawat resigns as AICC General Secretary.**
- AICC General Secretary in-charge of Assam, Harish Rawat tendered his resignation from his post, taking the responsibility of the party's debacle in 2019 Lok Sabha elections.

**About AICC :**
- The All India Congress Committee is the Presidium or the central decision-making assembly of the Indian National Congress. It is composed of members elected from State-level Pradesh Congress Committees and can have as many as a thousand members.
- Location: Delhi.

**About Harish Rawat:**
- Harish Chandra Singh Rawat is an Indian politician who was Chief Minister of Uttarakhand from 2014-2017. A five-time Member of Parliament,Rawat is a leader of the Indian National Congress party.

**Chelsea appoint former midfielder Frank Lampard as their new manager.**
- Chelsea have appointed their former midfielder Frank Lampard as their new manager on a three-year deal. The 41-year-old succeeds Maurizio Sarri, who left Chelsea in June to take charge at Juventus. Lampard had spent 13 years at Chelsea as a player before leading Derby to the Championship play-off final in his first season as a manager.

**ABOUT FRANK Lampard:**
- Frank James Lampard OBE is an English professional football manager and former player who played as a midfielder. He is currently the manager of Premier League club Chelsea.
- Frank Lampard has the fourth-most goals scored (177) in the Premier League.

**ABOUT Chelsea Foot Ball club:**
- Chelsea Football Club are an English professional football club. Founded in 1905, they compete in the Premier League, the top division of English football.
- Location: Chelsea, Londo, United Kingdom
- Chelsea has the fourth-highest home attendance record (82,905) of English football clubs.
AK Misra appointed as an additional director on the Board of Directors (BOD) of Jammu and Kashmir Bank by Reserve Bank of India

- The Reserve Bank of India (RBI) appointed ex-executive director RBI A.K Misra as Additional Director on the Board of Directors (BOD) of the Jammu and Kashmir Bank Limited.
- The appointment shall be for a period of two years. The appointment will be effect from July 3, 2019 to July 2, 2021.
- The usual sitting fee and allowances are paid to other directors for attending the meetings of the Board and Committee.

BMW's 4-year CEO quits.

- German automaker BMW has announced that Harald Krüger has decided to not seek a second term as the CEO, after serving at the role for about four years. Krüger, a 27-year company veteran, served at the luxury carmaker's board for 10 years. This comes months after BMW posted its weakest quarterly earnings in about a decade for the first quarter.

Mindtree CEO, Chairman, and COO resign days after L&T takeover.

- Mindtree Co-Founders Rostow Ravanan, Krishnakumar Natarajan and NS Parthasarathy have resigned from the mid-sized IT company following the hostile takeover by engineering major Larsen & Toubro (L&T). The three serve as CEO, Executive Chairman, and Executive Vice Chairman and Chief Operating Officer (COO) respectively. All of them have also asked Mindtree to declassify them as promoters.

Milind Deora resigns as Mumbai Congress chief.

- Mumbai Congress chief Milind Deora resigned from the post on Sunday. Deora also proposed a three-member panel to lead Mumbai Congress for the upcoming Maharashtra Assembly elections. The 42-year-old had been appointed to the post on March 25 this year. He had replaced Sanjay Nirupam, who had held the post since March 2017.

Jyotiraditya Scindia resigns as Congress general secretary.

- Senior Congress leader Jyotiraditya Scindia on Sunday resigned as Congress General Secretary (Uttar Pradesh West) over party's defeat in Lok Sabha elections. Scindia's resignation comes after Rahul Gandhi stepped down as Congress President on July 3.

Hero MotoCorp appoints Rajat Bhargava as head of EV business.

- India's largest two-wheeler maker Hero MotoCorp on Tuesday appointed Rajat Bhargava as the head of its new 'Emerging Mobility' business unit. Hero created the unit to give an impetus to new mobility trends such as Electric Vehicles, the company said. Currently, Bhargava is the Head of Strategy & Performance Transformation and Global Business at the company.
Dravid appointed as the Head of Cricket at the National Cricket Academy (NCA) in Bengaluru
• Former India captain Rahul Dravid has been appointed as the Head of Cricket at the National Cricket Academy (NCA) in Bengaluru. The appointment was announced and approved by Board of Control for Cricket in India (BCCI) on 8 July. He is currently the vice-president of India Cements.

Roles and Duties:
Dravid will work closely with the National Head Coaches and Cricket Coaches for India Developmental teams which includes India A, India Under 19, India Under 23 teams, in the identification of key training and development objectives.

He will monitor progress against these objectives for the developmental teams. The role expects him to provide necessary inputs on the same to the Senior Men’s and Women’s Head Coaches.

MN Rao appointed DG of Fire Services, Civil Defence and Home Guard
• The central government appointed M Nageswar Rao, Additional Director of CBI as the Director General of Fire Services, Civil Defence and Home Guard. He will continue to hold the post till superannuation in July 2020.

• He will replace former CBI Chief Alok Verma. The Supreme Court held Rao guilty of Contempt of Court for transferring the investigating officer heading the probe in Muzaffarpur shelter home case in violation of the orders of Apex Court.

State Bank of India MD Anshula Kant named MD and CFO of World Bank.
• State Bank of India Managing Director (MD) Anshula Kant has been appointed as the MD and Chief Financial Officer of the World Bank Group. Kant is a graduate in Economics Honours from Lady Shri Ram College for Women and holds a masters degree in economics from Delhi School of Economics. The 58-year-old joined SBI as a probationary officer in 1983.

Vikas Swarup appointed Secretary of Overseas Indian Affairs.
• India’s current High Commissioner to Canada Vikas Swarup has been appointed as Secretary in the Consular, Passport, Visa and Overseas Indian Affairs division, with effect from August 1. The 1986-batch IFS officer takes over from Sanjiv Arora, who was appointed to the post earlier this year. Swarup is a former spokesperson of the External Affairs Ministry

BL Santosh appointed BJP’s national general secretary of organisation.
• BJP president Amit Shah Sunday elevated party’s joint general secretary (organisation) B L Santosh as its general secretary (organisation)

• Santosh, an RSS ‘pracharak’ with experience of electoral politics, especially in Karnataka.

• Santosh was the party’s general secretary (organisation) for eight years in Karnataka before he was made a national office bearer in charge of southern states in 2014.
SP leader Neeraj Shekhar resigns as Rajya Sabha member.

- Samajwadi Party leader Neeraj Shekhar on Monday resigned as member of the Rajya Sabha and his resignation was accepted by Chairman M Venkaiah Naidu.
- Shekhar, the son of former prime minister Chandra Shekhar, met Naidu and told him he is resigning voluntarily and not under any compulsion.
- He had been a member of the Rajya Sabha from Uttar Pradesh since November 26, 2014, and was due to retire on November 25, 2020.

Kalraj Mishra appointed Himachal Pradesh Governor.

- Senior BJP leader Kalraj Mishra was Monday appointed as the Governor of Himachal Pradesh.
- replacing Acharya Devvrat, who has been transferred and appointed as the Governor of Gujarat.
- the appointments of Mishra and Devvrat will come into effect from the dates they assume charge of their respective offices.

Former leader of opposition Chandrakant Kavlekar has been appointed as the deputy chief minister of Goa.

- Former leader of opposition Chandrakant Kavlekar has been appointed as the deputy chief minister of Goa. He sworn in as DCM on 15 July. He is among the four legislators inducted into the Goa cabinet.
- The appointment came days after 10 Congress MLAs in Goa joined the BJP. Mr.Sawant reshuffled the Goa cabinet on 13 July. Three members of the ally, Deputy Chief Minister Vijai Sardesai, Water Resources Minister Vinod Palyekar, Rural Development Minister Jayesh Salgaonkar and Independent MLA and Revenue Minister Rohan Khaunte, were dropped to accommodate the new members to the cabinet. The monsoon session of the Goa state Assembly began on 15 July.

Chandrakant Kavlekar:

Kavlekar is also known as Chandrakant 'Babu' Kavlekar. He is an Indian Politician from the state of Goa. He is a four term member of the Goa Legislative Assembly. On 11 July 2019 he left Indian National Congress and joined Bharatiya Janata Party.

FanMojo appointed Prithvi Shaw as its brand ambassador

- FanMojo has appointed Prithvi Shaw as its brand ambassador. FanMojo is a fantasy sports platform and it is owned by mobile tech company U2opia Global.
- A lot of former as well as current cricketers including Kapil Dev, MS Dhoni, Virat Kohli and Murali Karthik have associated themselves with various Fantasy cricket league.

Prithvi Shaw:
Prithvi Pankaj Shaw is an Indian cricketer and former India national under-19 cricket team captain. His first international appearance was on 4 October 2018. He is the second-youngest Indian cricketer, after Tendulkar, to make a Test century and the youngest Indian to do so on Test debut.

**Coca cola appoints Sarvita Sethi in M&A role**
- Global beverages major Coco-Cola announced top-level changes in its India and southwest Asia unit. Sarvita Sethi is appointed as Vice president.
- M&A and New Ventures and Harsh Bhutani as Vice-president finance(CFO).
- About Sarvita Sethi
  Sarvita Sethi become the first woman to head the company’s finances for the region, would now be vice-president, merger and acquisitions (M&A) and new ventures, for Coke’s India and Southwest Asia region. Her appointment in a newly created position is of significance. She is responsible for the firm’s crucial incubator, which involves conceptualising, developing and launching new products relevant to the market.

**Biswa Bhusan Harichandran is appointed as the Governor of Andhra Pradesh on july 15**
- Biswa Bhusan Harichandran is appointed as the Governor of Andhra Pradesh on july 15. Bhusan will take over from ESL Narasimhan, who has served as Governor for Andhra Pradesh since December 2009.

**BB Harichandran:**
He is one of the leaders of the BJP in Odisha. A practising lawyer before coming into politics. Bhusan joined the Bharatiya Jana Sangha in 1971 and became its National Executive Member and its State General Secretary till the formation of Janata Party in 1977. He joined the BJP and was its President for Odisha from 1980 to 1988.

**GoAir names former Airbus executive Miranda Mills as COO.**
- Wadia Group-run budget carrier GoAir on Wednesday said it has hired former Airbus executive Miranda Mills as the Chief Operating Officer (COO). She will be reporting to the airline’s Managing Director Jeh Wadia. Before joining GoAir, Mills worked with British aircraft engine maker Rolls-Royce as Chief Digital Officer and Director (Transformation), of the company's civil aviation vertical.

**Sanjeev Kumar Singla is appointed as India's Ambassador to Israel**
- Senior diplomat Sanjeev Kumar Singla is appointed as the next Indian Ambassador to Israel. The appointment was made confirmed this week Friday.
- He is a 1997-batch Indian Foreign Service officer.He was serving as Private Secretary (PS) to Prime Minister Narendra Modi.
- He got appointed to this particular post in the year 2014. He will replace Pavan Kapoor who take charge as the Ambassador to Israel.
Rajya Sabha MP D Raja appointed as CPI General Secretary
• Rajya Sabha member D Raja is appointed the general secretary of the Communist Party of India (CPI). He will replace Sudhakar Reddy. He stepped down due to health reasons. Reddy got elected to the post thrice. The decision to appoint Raja to the post of general secretary taken at the party's national council meeting.

• About CPI - Lok Sabha Elections
It is the second-largest party in Indian Politics
But they face a worse crisis in the electoral numbers at an all-time low.
The party got only two seats in the recently concluded Lok Sabha elections.
The candidates who won the election belongs to Tamil Nadu.

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LSE appoints economist Francisco Ferreira to Amartya Sen Chair in Inequalities Studies.
• Economist Francisco Ferreira, who oversees the World Bank's research program on poverty and inequality, has been appointed the inaugural Amartya Sen Chair in Inequalities Studies at the London School of Economics and Political Science (LSE).
• The chair was announced in March to honour Nobel laureate Sen, who was professor of economics at LSE from 1971-82.
• Ferreira, who studied at LSE, has spent most of his career at the World Bank, most recently as acting director of the World Bank's research department.

Priti Patel appointed home secretary, Javid gets finance in Johnson's office.
• Priti Patel, who was sacked as international development secretary in 2017, was on Wednesday appointed to the key role of UK home secretary by the new Prime Minister, Boris Johnson - the senior-most portfolio held by an Indian-origin MP in British history.
• London-born Patel, 47, has been an MP from Witham in Essex since 2010. An admirer of Margaret Thatcher, she was in the forefront on behalf of the David Cameron government (2010-2015) during the November 2015 visit of Indian Prime Minister Narendra Modi to London.
Tesla Co-founder and CTO JB Straubel stepping down after 16 yrs
• Tesla has announced its Co-founder and Chief Technology Officer (CTO) JB Straubel is stepping down from his role after nearly 16 years. The automaker's Technology VP, Drew Baglino, will take over the role of CTO.

Priti Patel has been appointed as the Britain's first Indian origin home secretary
• Priti Patel has been appointed as the Britain's first Indian-origin home secretary which is a part of Prime Minister Boris Johnson's top team on 25 July. She will replace Pakistani-origin Sajid Javid. He has been transferred to the Treasury department as the first ethnic minority Chancellor of the Exchequer.
• About Priti Patel:
Patiel was a prominent member from the Conservative Party leadership. She was a member of the Back Boris campaign. Since 24 July 2019, she has been Secretary of State for the Home Department. Also, a Member of Parliament for Witham in Essex since 2010. She was previously International Development Secretary from 2016 to 2017. Patel has also served as a junior Treasury minister. She has released a report on the British economy arguing for lower taxes and for a new Bank of England mandate more focused on asset price inflation and financial imbalances.

Congress leader Adhir Ranjan Chowdhury appointed PAC Chairman
• Congress party leader Adhir Ranjan Chowdhury appointed as the Chairman of the Public Accounts Committee (PAC). The post was held by Congress leader Mallikarjun Kharge. He recently concluded elections lost from Gulbarga constituency in Karnataka to BJP's Umesh Jadhav. Chowdhury along with former Union Ministers Satyapal Singh and Jayant Sinha elected as the members of PAC
• The other members elected to the committee from Lok Sabha are TR Baalu (DMK), Subhash Chandra Baheria, Sudheer Gupta, Darshana Vikram Jardosh, Ajay (Teni) Misra, Jagadambika Pal, Vishnu Dayal Ram, Ram Kripal Yadav (all BJP), Bhartrihari Mahtab (BJD), Rahul Ramesh Shewale (Shiv Sena), Rajiv Ranjan Singh (JD-U) and Balashowry Vallabhaneni (YSRC Party).

Lt Gen Paramjit Singh is appointed as the next Director General of Military Operations (DGMO) of the Indian Army
• Lt Gen Paramjit Singh is appointed as the next Director General of Military Operations (DGMO) of the Indian Army. He will oversee various operations of the Indian Army including along the LoC in Jammu and Kashmir. He will take over the position on 15 October 2019. He will replace Lt Gen Anil Chauhan who has been appointed new General Officer Commanding-in-Chief of the Eastern Command.
• Lt Gen Paramjit Singh:
Lt Gen Paramjit Singh has vast experience in counter-terror operations. He is currently serving as the General Officer Commanding of the Army's Nagrota-based XVI Corps.
• He has extensive experience of counter-terror operations including the 2016 surgical strike. He was involved in the planning of the 2016 surgical strikes on terror launch pads across the Line of Control in Jammu and Kashmir.

**Indian Federation of Sports Gaming appoints Justice A.K. Sikri as ombudsman**

• Indian Federation of Sports Gaming (IFSG), country’s self-regulatory industry body for the online fantasy sports gaming sector announced the appointment of Justice Arjan Kumar Sikri as its ombudsman and ethics officer.
• Justice A.K. Sikri responsible for investigating queries/complaints raised by the users of the online fantasy sports gaming platforms. The strategic council, resolve disputes brought forward regarding binding rules or financial discrepancies as well as steer hearings and make announcements for smooth operation and ease of functioning.
• Sikri served as a former judge of the Supreme Court of India and was recently appointed as a judge in the Singapore International Commercial Court. Justice Sikri several eminent positions. He retired as a senior-most judge of the Supreme Court of India on 6 March 2019. He has also served as a Justice of the Punjab and Haryana High Court and Acting Justice of the High Court of Delhi.

**OBITUARY**

**Former Union Minister S Jaipal Reddy passed away on 28 July.**

• The Congress leader and former Union Minister S Jaipal Reddy, 77, passed away on July 28. He was suffering from pneumonia.

**Jaipal’s Career:**

S Jaipal Reddy was a five-time member of Lok Sabha, four-time MLA and two-time Rajya Sabha member. He was known for his oratory skills. He held the petroleum portfolio but was shifted to science and technology. In 1977, the former Minister quit the Congress in protest against former prime minister Indira Gandhi’s imposition of the Emergency. In 1998, in IK Gujral cabinet he served as a Union Minister for Information and Broadcasting. After 21 years in 1999 he returned to Indian National Congress, he was elected as a Union Minister for the Ministry of Earth Sciences and the Ministry of Science and Technology from 29 October 2012 to 18 May 2014.
SUMMITS AND MOU’s

India has signed Rs.200 crore deal with Russia to acquire Strum Ataka

- India has signed Rs.200 crore deal with Russia to acquire Strum Ataka. The anti-tank missile will be added to the fleet of Mi-35 attack choppers of Indian Air Force (IAF). This deal comes in wake of an IAF’s attempt to keep itself battle-ready in situations like post-Balakot aerial strikes. The Strum Ataka anti-tank missile would give an added capability to Mi-35 attack choppers of IAF to take out enemy tanks and other armoured elements.
- Mi-35s are set to be replaced with Apache gunships being acquired from United States (US) and slated to be delivered from August onwards.

About Emergency clause:

- After 14 February Pulwama terror attack in which 40 CRPF personnel were killed, emergency powers were given to Indian Defence forces and India started increasing vigil at borders with Pakistan. Under, emergency powers given to three services, they can procure equipment of their choice within 3 month at a cost of about Rs.300 crore per case.
- IAF has emerged as front runner in terms of weapon acquisition under emergency procurement, followed by Indian Army. Under emergency provisions IAF has acquired also acquired Spice-2000 stand-off weapon system along with a number of spare and air to air mission.

Union Cabinet approved the MoU between India and Maldives for the establishment of passenger and cargo services by sea.

- The Union Cabinet approved the MoU between India and Maldives for the establishment of passenger and cargo services by sea. It was signed during the visit of Prime Minister Narendra Modi to Maldives on 8 June 2019.

Aim:

- The Ferry service would help to harness the potential opportunity in both passenger and cargo transportation by sea between the two countries. Ferry services between Maldives and Kerala is connected by Kochi with Male and Kulhudhuffushi in Maldives by Sea route. Ferry service would contribute in a big way in promoting people to people contact and to boost bilateral trade between two nations.
- India and Maldives relation:
  - India is a leading development partner of Maldives and has established many of the leading institutions of Maldives.
  - Currently, India has provided $100 million Stand-by Credit Facility (SCF) to Maldives, including long-term loans and revolving credit for trade.

Maldives:

- President: Ibrahim Mohamed Solih
• Capital: Male
• Currency: Maldivian Rufiyaa
• The Maldives is a tropical nation in the Indian Ocean
• It is composed of 26 ring-shaped atolls, which are made up of more than 1,000 coral islands
• It’s known for its extensive reefs, beaches and blue lagoons.

Signing of MOU Between Indian Army and National e-Governance Division.
• Management Information Systems Organisation (MISO) of Indian Army is the nodal agency under Directorate General of Information Systems (DGIS) which is mandated to maintain the centralized database for personnel, equipment and major stores for providing management related information to Integrated HQ of MoD (Army) and other agencies. The application was legacy and needed a thorough revamp
• To meet the organizational requirements and enhanced user aspirations, rather than employing the conventional developmental framework, DGIS experimented with a new collaborative approach with Ministry of Electronics and Information Technology (MeitY) for developing the new MISO application. Development work, under the aegis of MeitY started at Bhaskaracharya Institute of Space Applications and Geo-Informatics (BISAG), Gandhinagar which is a CMMI-5 level institute under Department of Science & Technology, Government of Gujarat. In a short span of time, the experiment has paid rich dividends and has appeared as the panacea for undertaking automation of the IA at the fast pace.
• To formalize the entire developmental framework, structures & methodology, Lt Gen Anil Kapoor, Director General of Information Systems and Colonel Commandant, Corps of EME and Mr M S Rao, President & CEO, Ne GD inked a MoU on 05 Jul 19, in the presence of Shri TP Singh, Director, BISAG.
• This signing of MoU is first of its kind inter-ministerial initiative between MoD & MeitY and is sure to lead to similar joint frameworks for finding innovative solutions in the collaborative manner for the IA.

Indian Army & NeGD signed MOU to develop revamped app
• Indian Army and the National eGovernance Division (NeGD) signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) to develop a revamped application. They are the part of Ministry of Electronics and Information Technology (MeitY)
• They will maintain the centralised database for personnel, equipment and major stores to provide management-related information to Integrated Headquarters of Ministry of Defence (Army).
• Anil Kapoor, Director General of Information Systems and M S Rao, President and Chief Executive Officer (CEO), National E-governance Division signed the MOU in the presence of Shri TP Singh, Director, Bhaskaracharya Institute for Space Applications and Geo-informatics (BISAG). The Management Information Systems Organisation (MISO) of the Indian Army is the nodal agency.
• They are under the Directorate General of Information Systems (DGIS). The development work started at Bhaskaracharya Institute of Space Applications and Geo-Informatics (BISAG), Gandhinagar.

**Homegrown VNL to build digital villages in Vietnam.**
• VNL has signed a Memorandum of Understanding with Vietnam, to provide solutions for advancing rural connectivity by creating Digital Villages in Vietnam’s underserved areas,” the Gurugram-based company in a statement said.
• The development comes on the back of India’s efforts to provide digital connectivity in CLMV countries namely Cambodia, Laos, Myanmar and Vietnam.
The Indian companies are eyeing the Southeast Asia region for their business expansion with the Prime Minister Narendra Modi-led government sharing strategic ties for developmental initiatives with the countries.

**India, US agree to address mutual trade concerns.**
• India and the United States have agreed to further grow their economic relationship and address mutual trade concerns.
A US delegation led by Assistant Trade Representative Christopher Wilson held bilateral talks with a team of Indian officials headed by Additional Secretary, Department of Commerce.
The two sides discussed the broad contours of bilateral trade and commercial ties and agreed to continue discussions for achieving mutually beneficial outcomes.
The meeting was aimed at providing a new impetus to bilateral trade and commercial ties. It was in line with the mandate given by Prime Minister Narendra Modi and US President Donald Trump during their meeting at Osaka in Japan last month on the sidelines of the G-20 summit.

**Lok Sabha passes bill to strengthen anti-terror agency NIA.**
• The Lok Sabha on Monday passed the National Investigation Agency (Amendment) Bill 2019
• The bill had been passed with 278 members voting in its favour and six against it
• It also seeks to strengthen the powers of NIA in cases involving explosives and the responsibility in cases of human trafficking will be given to the investigation agency.

**US firm identifies 200 potential Indian partners.**
• US defence manufacturer Lockheed Martin Corporation has identified 200 potential partners with which it could team up under the Make in India programme to manufacture defence equipment or components locally
India is now a “major defence partner” of the US and the two countries are in talks on the “Industrial Security Annex” that will guide the sharing of technology with private entities. India has also been changing its defence procurement policy to assist defence manufacturing in India, and sharing of critical technology with India is becoming simpler.

Tata Lockheed Martin Aerostructures, a JV between Lockheed Martin and Tata group has already delivered 108 empennages for the C-130J Super Hercules military transport aircraft. TataAdvanced Systems Limited has manufactured 150 cabins for the S-92 helicopters.

India and Mozambique signed two MoU to strengthen the Defence co operation.

India and Mozambique signed two Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) at Maputo, Mozambique during the visit by Indian Defence Minister Rajnath Singh from 28 July to 30 July 2019. This is the first time that an Indian Defence Minister has visited Mozambique. It agreement aims to strengthen the defence cooperation on 29 July.

The MoUs included:
- an agreement on sharing white shipping information
- another on cooperation in the field of Hydrography

The MoUs were signed by Indian Defence Minister Rajnath Singh and his Mozambican counterpart Atanasio Salvador M'tumuke.

Aim:
The aim of the MoU is to strengthen the ongoing Indo-Mozambican Defence co-operation. India shares close relations with Mozambique. The relationship between the countries was cemented by robust development partnership and a large presence of the Indian Diaspora. This agreement aims to prevent non-traditional threats like piracy, smuggling, poaching, etc. and overall cooperation in the maritime domain. Mozambique sought co-operation from India to deal with the growing menace of terrorism and radicalization.

World Population Day 11 July.

World Population Day, which seeks to focus attention on the urgency and importance of population issues, was established by the then-Governing Council of the United Nations Development Programme in 1989, an outgrowth of the interest generated by the Day of Five Billion, which was observed on 11 July 1987.

This year's World Population Day calls for global attention to the unfinished business of the 1994 International Conference on Population and Development. Twenty-five years have passed since that landmark conference, where 179 governments recognized that reproductive health and gender equality are essential for achieving sustainable development.
In November, UNFPA, together with the governments of Kenya and Denmark, will be convening a high-level conference in Nairobi to accelerate efforts to achieve these unmet goals. On World Population Day, advocates from around the world are calling on leaders, policymakers, grassroots organizers, institutions and others to help make reproductive health and rights a reality for all.

Why Do We Mark International Days?
- International days are occasions to educate the public on issues of concern, to mobilize political will and resources to address global problems, and to celebrate and reinforce achievements of humanity. The existence of international days predates the establishment of the United Nations, but the UN has embraced them as a powerful advocacy tool.

World Hepatitis Day was observed on 28 July.
- World Hepatitis Day was observed on 28 July every year. The Day aims to raise awareness about the disease which causes inflammation of the liver. The day has been observed since 2010. Study says that the disease claims around 1.4 million lives every year. In 2004, the Patient groups of European and Middle Eastern observed the day as International Hepatitis C Awareness Day. The first World Hepatitis Day was observed in 2008. It was declared by the World Hepatitis Alliance. But in May 2010, the World Health Assembly changed the day to 28 July.
A study by the World Health Organization (WHO) said that the second major killer infectious disease is Hepatitis, first being tuberculosis.

Theme:
The 2019 theme for the day is 'Invest in eliminating hepatitis'. The theme is fixed by the World Health Organization every year. This year the World Hepatitis Day was hosted by Pakistan. All the global events related to the day were held in Islamabad on 27-28 July, 2019.

Hepatitis:
Hepatitis is an inflammatory condition caused by the viral infection caused in liver. The disease is also caused by the use of drugs, toxins, alcohol. Hepatitis is preventable and treatable. Nearly 80% of the people who are affected by Hepatitis still lack prevention, testing, and treatment services. Hepatitis is of A,B,C,D,E types.

World Day Against Trafficking in Persons: 30 July
- Human trafficking is a crime that exploits women, children and men for numerous purposes including forced labour and sex.
- Since 2003 the UN Office on Drugs and Crime (UNODC) has collected information on about 225,000 victims of trafficking detected worldwide.
- Globally countries are detecting and reporting more victims, and are convicting more traffickers. This can be the result of increased capacity to identify victims and/or an increased number of trafficked victims.
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