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INTERNATIONAL
For the first time in 92 years, 6 Indian-origin kids among 8 won the National Spelling Bee Contest.
• For the first time in 92 years, 6 Indian-origin kids were among the 8 who won the 92nd Scripps National Spelling Bee Contest.
• They were awarded the cash of $50,000 and prizes.
• The competition, broadcasted in ESPN, was held at Gaylord National Resort in National Harbor, Maryland, US.
• Erin Howard aged 14 of Alabama, Rishik Gandhasri aged 13 of California, Saketh Sundar aged 13 of Maryland, Shruthika Padhy aged 13 of New Jersey, Sohum Sukhatankar aged 13 of Texas, Abhijay Kodali aged 12 of Texas, Christopher Serrao aged 13 of New Jersey and Rohan Raja aged 13 of Texas were the winners of the competition.
• There were 565 contestants aged between 7 and 14 who have not passed 8th grade from US, Canada, Ghana, Jamaica, Japan, Bahamas, Germany, South Korea and other countries.
• The winners correctly spelt the final 47 words accurately over 5 consecutive rounds with words like Omphalopsychite, Geeldikkop, auftaktigkeit and many more. The winner of the year 2018 was Karthik Nemmani, a 14-year-old eighth-grader from Texas.
• Balu Natarajan became the first Indian-origin child to win in the year 1985. National Spelling Bee Contest is a high profile, a high-pressure endurance test of exotic words.

**Astronomers discovered the Forbidden Planet, NGTS- 4b in the Neptunian Desert.**
• An international collaboration of astronomers with the University of Warwick, I-JK, have discovered an exoplanet, Next-Generation Transit Survey(NGTS)- 4b, the Forbidden Planet, in the Neptunian Desert.
• It is smaller than Neptune but 3 times the size of the Earth.
• The Research was led by Dr. Richard West including Professor Peter Wheatley, Dr. Daniel Bayliss and Dr. James McCormac from the Astronomy and Astrophysics Group at the University of Warwick.
• This information was published in the Journal Monthly Notices of the Royal Astronomical Society(MNRAS).
• The Forbidden Planet with a mass of 20 Earth masses, radius 20% smaller than Neptune and temperature of 1000 degree Celsius, orbits around the star in only 1.3 days and its atmosphere as gases.
• NGTS, situated at the European Southern Observatory Paranal Observatory in the Atacama Desert, Chile.

**Sri Lankan presidential polls to be held between 15 Nov and 7 Dec.**
• The presidential elections in Sri Lanka would be held between November 15 and December 7, Election Commission Chairman Mahinda Deshapriya has said, clarifying that according to constitutional provisions, the polls must be held one month before the end of the current President’s term.
President Sirisena’s five-year term is scheduled to end on January 8, 2020. Sirisena was elected for a 5-year term on January 8, 2015, when he challenged the incumbent Mahinda Rajapaksa.

**Taiwan proposed deal to buy tanks from the US.**
• Taiwan plans to propose a deal to buy tanks and portable missiles from the U.S. This proposal by Taiwan drew an angry rebuke from China. Taiwan's Defence Ministry requested the US for 108 M1A2 Abrams main battle tanks, more than 1,500 Javelin and TOW anti-tank missiles, and 250 shoulder-fired Stinger anti-aircraft missiles in the proposal formally.
• The U.S. government, on the other hand, has given Congress informal notification of its plan to sell the equipment in a deal worth $2 billion.

**One-China policy:**
- China has asked the U.S. to understand that its decision to sell arms to Taiwan might cause problems between China and Taiwan as it is expected Taiwan to abide by the One China principle.
- One-China policy says that there is only one country of China with the official name of China, despite the fact that there are two governments namely the People's Republic of China (PRC) and the Republic of China (ROC).
- Despite being ruled separately since the end of a civil war in 1949, China still views Taiwan as its territory and has vowed to take the island, by force if necessary.
- If China announces war on Taiwan, the country outgunned in terms of troop numbers and firepower. Hence, Taiwan is in need to upgrade much of its equipment. Its current tank force consists of around 1,000 CM 11 Brave Tiger and M60A3 tanks, a technology that is increasingly obsolete.

**Past Taiwan and US deal:**
- The U.S. government announced plans in 2018 to sell spare parts worth $330 million to Taiwan for its U.S. made F-16 fighter jets and C-130 military transport planes. Taiwan has also submitted a formal request to Washington for new fighter jets to upgrade its air force but the US had not made any open response yet.

**Report says sharp 10 percent decline in the approval rate of H 1B visa by the US.**
- US authorities said that there was a sharp 10% decline in the approval of H-1B visas by the U.S. in 2018, which is popular among highly skilled Indian IT professionals. The experts attributed to the aggressive policies of the Trump administration to clamp down on the use of the work visa programme.

**What is H-1b Visa?**
- H-1B visa programme is the main vehicle through which US employers can sponsor skilled foreign workers for admission. It is a non-immigrant visa that allows U.S. companies to employ foreign workers in specialty occupations that require theoretical or technical expertise.

**10% decline in approval rate:**
- In 2018, the U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services (USCIS) approved 3,35,000 H-1B visas, both new and renewable. This was 10% less than the 3,73,400 visas approved in the previous fiscal year of 2017, according to the USCIS’ annual statistical report. The approval rate of H-1B declined from 93% in 2017 to 85% in 2018.
- For the first six months of the fiscal year 2019, the overall approval rate of the H-1B visa for new and continuing visas continued to stay to 79% by the end of March, down from 85% last year.

**Buy American and Hire American:**
- “Buy American and Hire American” executive order which was signed by Trump in April 2017, seeks to create higher wages and employment rates for U.S. workers. It also seeks to protect their economic interests by rigorously enforcing and administering our immigration laws. • It also directed to advance policies to help ensure H-1B visas are awarded to the most-skilled or highest-paid beneficiaries.

**Forbes magazine named Rihanna as the worlds richest female musician.**
- Forbes magazine has named Rihanna as the world’s richest female musician. Rihanna's Fenty Beauty brand business endeavors have officially made her the richest female musician in the world.
Her worth is estimated at $600m (£472m) which includes revenues made from her fashion and beauty lines in addition to those from her music career.

- Forbes reported that the French luxury brand LVMH backs Rihanna’s lucrative cosmetics company, Fenty Beauty. Fenty beauty was launched in 2017. It is worth more than £3bn, from which Rihanna has earned $570m.

- In 2012, Rihanna founded the Clara Lionel Foundation. The trust supports health and education efforts in impoverished communities around the world. Harvard University, in February 2017, she was named humanitarian of the year.

- Top 5 in Forbes’ list of richest female musicians:
  - The other singers in Forbes’s list of the top five richest female musicians are:
    - Madonna stands second place ($570m)
    - Céline Dion stands third ($450m)
    - Beyoncé and Barbra Streisand tied in fourth ($400m)
    - Taylor Swift stands sixth ($360m).

- Forbes other rankings:
  - Forbes has also name Kardashian scion Kylie Jenner as America’s youngest self-made billionaire.
  - It has named Jay-Z as the world’s first billionaire rapper as his worth is estimated at $1bn.

**China launched a space rocket from the sea for the first time on 5 June.**

- China launched a space rocket from the sea for the first time on 5 June 2019. With this China will be the third nation to successfully demonstrate the ability to launch satellites into orbit from a floating platform following the U.S. and Russia.

  In the operation, March 11, a Long rocket was launched from a ship in the Yellow Sea.

  **Aim:**
  - The first ever seaborne launch technology aims to meet the growing launch demand of low inclination satellites. It is also expected to help China provide launch services for countries participating in the Belt and Road Initiative

  **Payloads:**
  - The rocket carried two experimental satellites and five commercial satellites. The experimental satellites will monitor ocean winds to set up all-weather monitoring of ocean wind fields and improve typhoon monitoring and accuracy of the weather forecast in China. It was built by the China Academy of Space Technology in Beijing.

  **Experimental satellites:**
  1. Bufeng-1A
  2. Bufeng-1B

  **Commercial satellites:**
  1. Earth-imaging cubesat - 1
  2. Tianqi-3, an experimental communications satellite
  3.4. China's first Ka-band communications satellites- Two satellites
  5. New satellite for China's Jilin-1 remote-sensing satellite constellation

  The seaborne test along with its ambitious plans for missions to the moon and beyond has made China a major space power.

**China's space exploration:**

- China is the first nation to land a rover on the far side of the moon. It also plans to build a research base on the lunar surface. The country also plans to send a probe to Mars and build a space station in Earth orbit.

- In 2003, China became the third nation to have the capability of launching humans into space.
China is one of the leading country in launching a number of satellites from its launch stations on land.

**Russia launched first Arctic train service.**
- Russia launched its first ever tourist train traveling through Russia's Arctic region to Norway set off from Saint Petersburg station with 91 passengers aboard for the inaugural trial journey.
- The train named "Zarengold" ("The Tsars gold" in German) complete with two restaurant cars travel from Saint Petersburg through Petrozavodsk, the historic town of Kem and Murmansk. The duration of the trip will be 11 days.
- The inaugural function consists of 91 tourists from seven countries including the US, Germany, Norway and Russia.

**About Russia**
Capital: Moscow
Currency: Russian ruble
President: Vladimir Putin

**US terminated India's preferential trade status under GSP programme.**
- Generalized System of Preference (GSP) is the largest and oldest US trade preference programme.
- India was the largest beneficiary of the GSP programme in 2017 with $5.7 billion in imports to the US given duty-free status.
- Reason for US withdrawing India's GSP benefits:
  - The move was taken on determining that India has not committed to provide “equitable and reasonable access to its markets” for the US.
  - US’s trade imbalance with India,
  - No access to Indian market for US dairy,
  - Medical device industry and
  - Issues related to data localisation norms.
- On March 4, Trump announced that the US intends to terminate India's designations as a beneficiary developing country under the GSP programme. The 60-day notice period ended on May 3.

**Canada to ban single use plastics from 2021.**
- Canada ban single-use plastics from the year 2021
Prime Minister Justin Trudeau planned to ban plastic bottles, straws and plastic bags clogging the world's oceans.
- Canada to lead to fighting against plastic pollution as the country with the world's longest coastline.
- Currently, 10 percent of plastics are recycled.
- A million birds and more than 100,000 marine mammals worldwide suffer injury or death through the food chain.
- Plastic Straws, plastic bags, cutlery, plates among the items.
Around 180 countries reached a deal to reduce the amount of plastic that ends up in the world's oceans.
- Marine animals can become entangled in larger plastics - particularly cord, nets, and ropes from fishing.
Canadian government planned to decide single-use plastic products included ban of plastic bags, straws, cutlery, plates and stir sticks.
• Around 3m tonnes of plastic waste thrown away each year at Canada.

About Canada
Capital: Ottawa
Governor General: Julie Payette
Prime Minister: Justin Trudeau

Singapore topped the IMD World Competitiveness Ranking 2019.
• Swiss-based International Institute for Management Development (IMD) World Competitiveness Ranking 2019 said Singapore has dethroned the US to become the most competitive economy in the world. Hong Kong stands second spot in the list. USA stands third followed by Switzerland and UAE and fourth and fifth respectively.
• Qatar entered the top 10. India ranked 43, one position higher compared to 2018.

Parameters considered:
• The ranking process considers a wide range of hard statistics such as Gross Domestic Product (GDP), unemployment and government spending on health and education. IMD also used the soft data from an Executive Opinion Survey which covers other parameters such as social cohesion, globalization and corruption.

Amazon clinches top spot in the world’s most valuable brand ranking.
• Amazon clinched the world’s most valuable brand in cloud computing, consumer tech and movie production.
It is founded by the world’s richest man Jeff Bezos.
According to the 2019 BrandZ Top 100 Most Valuable Global Brands rankings, Amazon online retailer set its brand value quintuple in the past five years to reach $315.5 billion.
It is undertaken annually by advertising holding company WPP.
The detailed study of Brand Z reveals firms financial data and draws on an extensive consumer survey to reach its conclusions.
Amazon expanded into grocery, healthcare, food delivery and, with its Alexa devices, even voice recognition. Amazon jumped from third to first place to eclipse Google. The brand of Amazon from 52 percent to $315 billion.
The company jumped from third place to first place and got the third position to topmost by replacing Google.

About Financial Market
• There are two online shopping namely Alibaba and JD.com Chinese website which are down its Chinese e-commerce operation. Huawei company got a sudden break down of telecom network equipment and smartphone maker poses security and spying risks. Huawei added 8 percent to its brand value in the past year to reach $26.9 billion. Netflix was third among the global market and they obtained 65% to obtain its brand value of 34.3 billion.

About Amazon
Founder: Jeff Bezos
Headquarters: Seattle, Washington, U.S.
New app to help students wishing to study in U.S

- EducationUSA launched an app in collaboration with the United States India Educational Foundation. The app is available on both Android and iOS platforms for free. The US embassy launched a mobile application that gives comprehensive and latest information about studying in the United States.
- The main aim is at students who may not be geographically centred in India. It helps students with information about studying in the country. The app EducationUSA launched in collaboration with the United States India Educational Foundation.
- It is available on both Android and iOS platforms for free.
- The app acts as the first point of information for students, parents, school counsellors and other interested users.

NASAs OSIRIS REx spacecraft creates new record

- NASA's OSIRIS-REx rocket entered its second orbital stage around space rock Bennu, called Orbital B on June 12, 2019. It broke its very own reality record for the nearest circle of a planetary body.
- In the Orbital B stage, the move set the rocket in a circle 680 meters over the outside of space rock Bennu. The past record was set by OSIRIS-REx on 31 December, 2018, when the rocket flew 1.33 km over the space rock's surface during Orbital A stage.

OSIRIS-REx:

- The OSIRIS-REx rocket was sent to consider the space rock Bennu and return an example from its surface to Earth. The rocket is on a seven-year venture. The example of a crude space rock will enable the researchers to comprehend the arrangement of the Solar System over 4.5 billion years prior. Test gathering has been booked for summer of 2020. The shuttle is relied upon to convey the example to Earth in September 2023.

India designated as guest country at Guadalajara International Book Fair in Mexico

- India designated as the Guest of Honour at the 33rd Feria Internacional del Libro de Guadalajara (Guadalajara International Book Fair) in Mexico, the National Book Trust. The book fair organized from November 30 - December 8.
- India pavilion at the fair will showcase over 35 Indian authors and artists, along with 15 publishing houses.
- India displays a wide array of its rich and composite literary and cultural heritage through literary and academic activities comprising conferences. Ancient and rare manuscripts including "Mahabharata" and "Ramayana" will be put on exhibition, along with photo books, handicrafts, and paintings. The exhibition will run parallel to the book fair in the pavilion.
- They will feature art by 40 renowned Indian women artists including Arpana Caur, Paula Sengupta, and Seema Kohli.
- The "Festival of India" will showcase folk, classical and contemporary cultural programmes.
India extended $15 million grant to Niger to organize the AU summit

• India extended USD 15 million assistance to Nigeria for organizing the African Union (AU) summit scheduled to be held in Niamey. This summit is scheduled to be held in Niamey from July 7-8. It is the first time that Niger is scheduled to host an AU summit.

• The assistance in the form of the grant was symbolically handed over to Niger’s Deputy Foreign Minister Lamido Ousseini Bala Goga Salamatou by Ambassador of India to Niger Rajesh Agarwal held on June 17 in Niamey.

This summit is expected to launch the historic African Continental Free Trade Area (AfCFTA).

Bangladesh emerged as the fastest economy in Asia-Pacific: Asian Development Bank.

• According to the Asian Development Bank (ADB), Bangladesh emerged as the fastest growing economy among the 45 countries of the Asia-Pacific region. Higher public sector investment, stronger consumption demand, revival in exports, improved power supply and higher growth in private sector credit were the key factors of the high growth performance of Bangladesh.

Bangladesh registered a growth rate of 7.9%.

They predicted that the growth will be 8% in the next financial year 2019-20.

About Bangladesh:
Capital: Dhaka
Currency: Bangladeshi taka
Headquarters: Mandaluyong, Manila, Philippines
Prime Minister: Sheikh Hasina
Asian Development Bank (ADB) President: Takehiko Nakao

Mauritania holds election for 1st time since independence 60yrs ago.

• Mauritania went to polls for the first time on Saturday since the African nation gained independence from France nearly 60 years ago. President Mohamed Ould Abdel Aziz, who seized power in a coup in 2008, agreed to step down and abide by the maximum two five-year elected terms. Non-elected military governments have mostly ruled the country following independence.

Saudi Arabia became the first Arab country to get FATF membership

• Saudi Arabia turned into the principal Arab nation to get participation of the Financial Action Task Force (FATF).
• The quantity of perpetual individuals from the Financial Action Task Force (FATF) is 39. The enrollment conceded into the worldwide illegal tax avoidance after the Annual General Meeting in Orlando, Florida.
• FATF commended their 30th commemoration of its first gathering. Saudi Arabia got a welcome from FATF in 2015 and they joined as an "onlooker part'.

Mexico became the first country to ratify the trade deal to replace NAFTA
• Mexico turned into the main nation to endorse the economic accord to supplant 25-year-old North American Free Trade Agreement (NAFTA).
• The exchange accord is known as the United States-Mexico-Canada Agreement (USMCA).
• The USMCA (NAFTA 2.0) adjusted for automakers, stricter work, and ecological guidelines, licensed innovation assurances, and advanced exchange arrangements.
• US President Donald Trump and Canadian Prime Minister Justin Trudeau and Mexico’s and President Enrique Pena Nieto marked the arrangement in November 2018 need to sanctioned by every one of the three governments.

Former General Mohamed Ould Ghazouani won presidential election of Mauritania.
• Mauritania, a country in Northwest Africa conducted election a former general and defense minister, Mohamed Ould Ghazouani of Union for the Republic (UPR) party won the presidential election.
He won with 52% votes.
He succeeds Mohamed Ould Abdel Aziz.
Anti-slavery activist Biram Dah Abeid won second with 18.58% votes.
Sidi Mohamed Ould Boubacar biggest Islamist party won third with 17.87% votes.
First time in 60 years Mauritania faced elections.
They gained independence (28 November 1960) from France.

About Mauritania:
Capital: Nouakchott
Currency: Mauritanian ouguiya

India wins trade dispute with US over solar panel incentives.
• The World Trade Organisation (WTO) has ruled that a series of US renewable energy incentives violated international trade rules.
• A WTO panel upheld India’s claim that seven US states illegally incentivised the use of local content, thereby discriminating against Indian and other imported solar suppliers.
• The US, however, told the panel that the ruling would have little or no impact.
**NASA to send Dragonfly robot to search for life on Saturn’s moon Titan.**

- NASA has planned to return to Saturn’s moon Titan with a nuclear-powered drone, Dragonfly. NASA plans to launch the drone lander mission as early as 2034 to search for life on Saturn’s largest moon.
- Dragonfly, is expected to travel billions of kilometer to search for signs of microbial alien life on Saturn’s moon Titan, while navigating its earth-like gravity and aerodynamics in the process. The mission will succeed NASA’s Cassini probe, which ended its 13-year mission orbiting Saturn in September 2017 by diving into Saturn’s atmosphere.

**NASA’s Dragonfly Mission**

- Dragonfly mission is a part of NASA’s New Frontiers program, which includes a series of space exploration missions, which are being conducted with the purpose of researching several of the Solar System bodies, including the dwarf planet Pluto. The New Frontiers programme also includes Pluto probe New Horizons, Jupiter probe Juno and OSIRIS-Rex asteroid mission.
Tenth National Science Film Festival of India to be held in Agartala, Tripura in 2020.

- 10th National Science Film Festival of India (NSFFI) will be in Agartala, Tripura in January-February 2020.
- This is for the second time the event will be held in a North-Eastern city.
- It will be jointly hosted by Vigyan Prasar of the Central Government, State Government, and Tripura Central University.
- Chief Minister of the State Biplab Kumar Deb had requested the Union Science and Technology Minister to hold the NSFF in Tripura.
- Minimum 10 countries will participate in the upcoming event and it will include the films produced by UNICEF, UNESCO and filmmakers from different countries.
- In NSFFI, the maximum length of the films will be 40 minutes and Vigyan Prasar will raise awareness on science and environment to the society through cinemas.

NSFFI was first held in Chennai in 2011.
- Since then, all the regions of the nation have been covered including Bhubaneshwar, Kolkata, Bangalore, Lucknow, Mumbai, Guwahati and Mohali.
- Besides the NSFFI, The Tripura Government has plans to host 'Destination Tripura', a special competitive film production initiative.
- It will focus on upholding tourism and rich biodiversity of Tripura like the flora and fauna, wildlife sanctuaries, water bodies, rubber and bamboo plantations.

About National Science Film Festival of India (NSFFI)
- The festival is an initiative of Vigyan Prasar and the Government of India to promote science films in India.
- Science filmmaking is not a developed field in India compared to many other developed countries.

Mohana Singh becomes 1st woman fighter pilot to fly Hawk jet.
- Flight Lieutenant Mohana Singh has become the first woman fighter pilot to be qualified to undertake missions by day on Hawk advanced jet aircraft, an official statement said. Her training involved flying both air-to-air combat and air-to-ground missions. She has a total of over 500 hours of incident-free flying of which 380 hours are on the Hawk Mk 132 jet.

About Mohana Singh:
- Mohana Singh Jitarwal is one of the first female pilots of India. She was declared as the first combat pilot along with two of her cohort, Bhawana Kanth, and Avani Chaturvedi. All three women pilots were inducted into the Indian Air Force fighter squadron in June 2016.

India removes restriction on air space usage.
- Indian Air Force (IAF) removed all temporary restrictions on all air routes in the Indian airspace.
- The IAF made the announcement on Twitter.
- The IAF imposed restrictions following air strikes on a terror camp at Balakot in Pakistan on 27th February.
- India imposed restrictions which did not allow any aircraft flying over Pakistan airspace to use entry or exit points into India.
• Since February 27, flights on these sectors were taking longer routes leading to an increase in flying time by up to three hours.

About Indian Air Force (IAF)
Founded: 8 October 1932
Headquarters: New Delhi
Commander-in-Chief: President Ram Nath Kovind

NITI Aayog suggested a National Project Management Policy Framework.
• A task force on project management, headed by NITI Aayog CEO Amitabh Kant, has suggested the development of a National Project Management Policy Framework for the effective execution of public sector and public-private partnership infrastructure projects.
• It has also recommended the setting up of a nodal body for the certification of chartered project management professionals to create world-class infrastructure. The project management, with a view to delivering on time and within budget, is a learnable capability that can be institutionalised as demonstrated by the experiences of the U.S., the U.K., the UAE, and China.

NITI Aayog
Formed: 1 January 2015
Preceding: Planning Commission
Headquarters: Delhi
Chairman: Narendra Modi
Vice Chairman: Rajiv Kumar
CEO: Amitabh Kant
• NITI Aayog is a policy think tank of the Government of India.
• It is established with the aim to achieve Sustainable Development Goals and to enhance cooperative federalism by fostering the involvement of State Governments of India in the economic policy-making process using a bottom-up approach.

ONGC became Indias most profitable public sector company.
• Oil and Natural Gas Corp (ONGC), India's top oil and gas producer, has toppled Indian Oil Corp (IOC) to regain the crown of being the country's most profitable public sector company.
• Oil and Natural Gas Corp (ONGC) reported a 34% jump in its 2018-19 fiscal net profit to Rs.26,716 crore.
• Whereas, IOC registered a net profit of Rs.17.274 crore for the fiscal year ended March 31, 2019.
• ONGC, in the previous two financial years, had lost the most profitable PSU tag to IOC. With its refining margins under pressure due to falling oil prices, IOC had also lost the title of being India's largest company by turnover tag to billionaire Mukesh Ambani-led Reliance Industries in FY19.
• Reliance has been India's most profitable company for the fourth year in a row.

Oil and Natural Gas Corporation (ONGC):
Founded on: 14 August 1956
Headquarters: New Delhi, India
Chairman & MD: Shashi Shankar
Owner: Government Of India
ONGC is an Indian multinational oil and gas company.
• It is a Public Sector Undertaking (PSU) under the administrative control of the Ministry of Petroleum and Natural Gas.
• It produces around 70% of India's crude oil and around 62% of natural gas.

**India has 20 health workers per 10,000 people: NSSO study.**
• National Sample Survey Organization (NSSO) data showed that India has 20.6 health workers per 10,000 people.
• This is less than the World Health Organization's (WHO) minimum overreach of 22.8 per 10,000 people.
• Distribution of health workers:
  • This is uneven between the urban and rural areas.
  • Rural areas with 71% of India's population have only 36% of health workers.
  • Delhi highest concentration of health workers followed by Kerala, Punjab, and Haryana.
• Public and private sector: The study has further notified that there is an uneven distribution of health workforce seen in public and health sector too.

**About NSSO:**
Founded on: 1950
Headquarters: Delhi

**Karnataka government has launched Pink Sarathi vehicles for women’s safety.**
• Karnataka government has launched ‘Pink Sarathi’ vehicles that are procured by the Bangalore Metropolitan Transport Corporation (BMTC). It was launched by Chief Minister H.D. Kumaraswamy. BMTC will use the vehicles to attend to the grievances of women passengers in city buses.
• MTC had received Rs.56.07 crore from the Centre under the Nirbhaya scheme. It has also taken up various measures for the safety of women passengers, including the launch of Pink Sarathi vehicles. The BMTC now has a fleet of 25 Pink Sarathi vehicles fitted with GPS and public announcement systems.
• The safety of female passengers will be a priority. It will also take on other tasks such as manning traffic movement at bus bays making sure that drivers stop at the designated stops, taking action against bus crew when they fail to close the door once the vehicle is in motion, and ensuring that men are not occupying seats reserved for women.

**CM Yogi Adityanath unveiled a 7 foot tall statue of Lord Rama at the Shodh Sansthan museum.**
• Uttar Pradesh Chief Minister Yogi Adityanath unveiled a 7-foot tall statue of Lord Rama at the Shodh Sansthan museum in Ayodhya on 7 June. Adityanath will also inaugurate the event to celebrate Mahant Nritya Gopal Das.

**Ram Statue:**
• The statue is made out of a single rosewood block statue which was from Karnataka for Rs.35 lakh from Karnataka. The statue will depict Kodamb Ram, one of the five avatars of Lord Ram.
• Kodamb Ram is worshipped in the south. The statue depicts the stage of Ram’s life when Sita was kidnapped by Ravan, the demon king. The statue shows Ram alone, without Sita and Laxman.

**Ayodhya Shodh Sansthan:**
The Ayodhya Shodh Sansthan museum was established in 1986. The museum is a government-funded museum. It hosts works related to the Hindu epic Ramayana.

**The Dispute:**
Lord Ram is said to have been born in Ayodhya. Ayodhya is at the heart of a dispute which involves the site where the 16th-century Babri mosque stood before it was razed in 1992 by Hindu activists. It is believed that it was built on the ruins of an ancient temple marking the birthplace of Lord Ram. After the mosque demolition, 2,000 people died across the country in the riot.

In 2018, the Uttar Pradesh State government announced a project to build a Ram statue on the banks of the Sarayu river. It is expected to measure 221 metres topping even the famed freedom movement icon Sardar Patel's Statue of Unity in Gujarat. The central government is yet to announce a date for the construction of Ram temple.

**India Foreign Minister Jaishankar in Bhutan on his 1st bilateral visit.**

External Affairs Minister of India, S Jaishankar reached Bhutan on June 7 on a two-day visit. This is his first overseas trip after assuming charge of the Foreign ministry.

During his visit, the two countries discuss the entire gamut of bilateral relations, including the upcoming high-level exchanges, economic development and hydro-power cooperation.

**About Bhutan:**
- Capital: Thimphu
- Currency: Bhutanese Ngultrum
- King of Bhutan: Jigme Khesar Namgyel Wangchuck
- Prime Minister: Lotay Tshering

**India-Marshall Islands tax data pact notified.**

The union government notified an agreement with the Marshall Islands a country of volcanic islands and coral atolls in the Pacific Ocean, for the exchange of banking and company information for tax purposes.

It comes under tax evasion and tax avoidance.
It is called as tax information exchange agreement (TIEA)
They allow mutual cooperation between the two countries by providing an effective framework for exchange of information in tax matters.

The agreement (India-Marshall Islands TIEA) between the Indian government and the government of the Marshall Islands was signed on March 18, 2016, at Majuro, the Republic of the Marshall Islands.

The bilateral agreement is based on international standards of tax transparency and exchange of information and enables the sharing of information on request.

**Gujarat topped the country with annual fish production of 7.8 lakh tonnes.**

Gujarat topped the country with annual fish production of 7.8 lakh tonnes, followed by Tamil Nadu (7.02 lakh tonnes) and Kerala (6.43 lakh tonnes) according to the Central Marine Fisheries Research Institute (CMFRI).

**Tamil Nadu:**
- Kanniyakumari topped in the Tamil Nadu state annual fish production.
- Ramanathapuram has emerged as the second topper in the Tamil Nadu state in annual fish production. It has recorded 1.46 lakh tonnes during 2018.
Nagapattinam stands third highest fish production district to have recorded 91,186 tonnes. Thoothukudi stands fourth by recording 70,965 tonnes followed by Cuddalore (62,525 tonnes) and Chennai (55,707 tonnes).

**Report:**
- The Central Marine Fisheries Research Institute (CMFRI) released the district wise marine fish landing data for the year 2018. The Fisheries Resources Assessment Division (FRAD) of CMFRI had collected random sampling data across the state and finalized the provisional figure. The data was collected by the fisheries department by employing the multi-stage cluster sampling method and the figures varied.

**Fish export in 2018:**
- While Cuttlefish (Cephalopods), prawns, Pomfrets, crabs, and fishes belonging to the family of Percidae were exported, the protein-rich Sardines and Anchovies were sold in the local markets.
- According to CMFRI report, the Fish production for the year 2018 was estimated at 3.49 million tonnes at the all India level.

**Rajnath Singh to chair the Committee on Parliamentary Affairs.**
- Defence Minister Rajnath Singh is to chair the Cabinet Committee on Parliamentary Affairs in the second term of the NDA government. Decisions on all the parliament matters will be taken by the Cabinet Committee on Parliamentary Affairs.
- He is also a part of the Cabinet Committee on Political Affairs, the all-important panel on political affairs which is headed by Prime Minister Narendra Modi. All important political decisions in the ruling dispensation will be taken by the panel.
- Apart from these 4 committees, he is also a member of the Cabinet Committee on Economic Affairs (CCEA) and the Cabinet Committee on Security (CCS). In total, he is now a part of six key panels of the government.
- In the last government, Rajnath Singh headed the Cabinet Committee on Parliamentary Affairs.

**Health Minister Dr Harsh Vardhan reviews status of Nipah Virus disease in New Delhi.**
- Union Health and Family Welfare Minister Dr. Harsh Vardhan reviewed the status of Nipah Virus disease in New Delhi.
- A total of 316 contacts are being followed up on a daily basis.
- One positive case admitted in Ernakulam is now conscious and having a mild fever and six symptomatic contacts have been admitted in the quarantine facility at the Medical College and all the samples were found to be negative.
- A Sample from one symptomatic contact sent to NIV Lab.
- Strategic Health Operation Centre (SHOC) at NCDC has been activated and the activities are coordinated.
- 40 calls have been attended at SHOC- NCDC regarding Nipah information.
- District Control Room has been set up in the Collector Office (Helpline No. 04842425200)
- Joint Commissioner(Livestock Health) deployed two experts to Ernakulam, Kerala to support local Animal Husbandry Department in the investigation.
- On the basis of the epidemiological investigation, a team from NIV Pune and Animal Husbandry are investigating bats and other animals in the vicinity of his (confirmed case) residence during the possible time of transmission of infection.

**About Nipah Virus**
• It is a genus of RNA viruses belongs to the family Paramyxoviridae and order Mononegavirales containing five established species.
• Henipaviruses are naturally harbored by pteropid fruit bats and microbats of several species
  Scientific name: Henipavirus
  Rank: Genus
  Higher classification: Paramyxoviridae.

Indian football team Baichung Bhutia congratulated Chhetri becoming India's most-capped Player.
• Former India skipper Bhaichung Bhutia congratulated Sunil Chhetri and became India's most capped international player with 108 appearances.
  He overtook his mentor Bhutia's record of 107 matches and captained India in the King's Cup opener against Curacao.
  He scored the goal for his side in the 31st minute from a spot kick for his 69th goal.
  India ranked 101.
  The 82nd ranked Caribbean island nation two players associated with English Premier League and some others in European leagues.
  They scored three goals in the space of 18 minutes through Roly Bonevacia, Elson Hooi and Leandro Bacuna.
  India will play with the losing team of the match between Thailand and Vietnam in the third-place play-off.

About Bhaichung Bhutia
Current team: East Bengal F.C. (Forward)
Awards: Padma Shri, Arjuna Award for Football

Govt. set up a 10 member Cabinet Committee on Employment and Skill Development.
• The government set up a 10-member Cabinet Committee on Employment and Skill Development on 5 June. The committee is one of two Cabinet committees that are set up to rise the economic growth and tackle unemployment.

Members of the committee:
The Committee will be chaired by Prime Minister Narendra Modi.
The committee includes:
Home Minister Amit Shah
Finance Minister Nirmala Sitharaman
Railway Minister Piyush Goyal
Agriculture Minister Narendra Singh Tomar
Human Resource Development Minister Ramesh Pokhriyal ‘Nishank’
Petroleum and Natural Gas Minister Dharmendra Pradhan
Minister Skill and Entrepreneurship Mahendra Nath Pandey
Ministers of State Santosh Kumar Gangwar (Labour)
Ministers of State Hardeep Singh Puri (Housing and Urban Affairs)

Reason for the formation of the committee:
The committee was set up because the Employment data for 2017-18 which was released on May 31 after the Lok Sabha elections reported that the country’s unemployment rate has risen to 6.1% in the period. This is the highest in 45 years.
Fall in Gross Domestic Product (GDP):
• It is expected that the committee on economic growth will prepare a road map to bring the economy back on the growth trajectory as the Gross Domestic Product (GDP) fell to 5.8% in the last quarter of 2018-19. It is the lowest since 2014. The GDP growth for 2018-19 was 6.8%, against the target of 7.2%.
• The fall in growth is the result of the dip in the performance of the core sectors of the economy, as the eight core sectors recorded a growth of just 2.6% in April, compared with 4.6% in the same month in 2018. According to the government’s data, the country’s economic growth saw the third straight fall in January-March quarter in 2019.
Note:
• The eight core sectors are coal, crude oil, natural gas, refinery products, fertilizers, steel, cement, and electricity.

Pramila Jayapal as first Indian-American woman to preside over US House.
• Pramila Jayapal first Indian American woman to preside over US house. She is the first elected to Congress in 2016 preside over the House and served the most diverse Congress in the nation’s history.
• She presided over the House as a Temporary Speaker.
• The House Democrats rotate for the ceremonial position of presiding over the chamber. She became the first South Asian American woman to preside over the US House of Representatives.
• A record number of 17 Asian Americans serve in Congress with 14 in the House and three in the Senate house.

About Pramila Jayapal
• Pramila Jayapal is an American politician and activist from the State of Washington She serves as the U.S. Representative from Washington's 7th congressional district.
• It includes most of Seattle as well as suburban areas of King County.

Nirmala Sitharaman to attend G20 Finance Ministers Meeting in Japan.
• Finance Minister Shri Nirmala Sitharaman attend the two-day meeting of G-20 Finance Ministers and Central Bank governors in Japan on June 8 and 9
• It is the first overseas visit of Sitharaman as the Finance Minister.
• She took charge as full time finance minister last week.
• The main aim is to focus on the risks and challenges of overseas trade and investment in infrastructure which are faced by our country.
• Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD) submit a report on taxation, urging greater cooperation among nations.
• India actively participating in the OECD-G20 efforts to create a global consensus on the taxation of the digital economy.

About G 20
Chairperson: Shinzō Abe
Founder: Group of Seven
Founded: 26 September 1999
Purpose : Bring together systemically important industrialized and developing economies to discuss key issues in the global economy.
Madhya Pradesh Cabinet passes resolution to increase reservation for OBCs to 27%.

- Madhya Pradesh Cabinet passed a resolution to increase the percentage of reservation quota for Other Backward Classes (OBC) from existing 14 percent to 27 percent.
- The move will lead to the reservation in the state breaching the Supreme Court-mandated 50 percent cap to reach 63 percent.
- Madhya Pradesh is the only state in the country to have a 27 percent quota for OBCs.
- Cabinet also increased to 3% the dearness allowance for employees

About Madhya Pradesh:
- Capital: Bhopal
- Chief Minister: Kamal Nath
- Governor: Anandiben Patel.

Indian Army commissioned a Continuous Ambient Air Quality Monitoring System under Go Green initiative.

- Indian Army commissioned a Continuous Ambient Air Quality Monitoring System (CAAQMS) at Fort William Military Station, Kolkata, West Bengal. It is a part of the countrywide Go Green' initiative.
- The Air Quality Monitoring System was commissioned by Lt Gen M M Naravane, General Officer Commander-in-Chief, Eastern Command. It will be overall sixth CAAQMS in Kolkata.

**CAAQMS:**

- Along with measuring air pollution, the CAAQMS will display the wind speed, direction, ambient temperature, relative humidity, solar radiation, barometric pressure, and rain gauge.
- The CAAQMS at the Eastern Command headquarters, Fort William in Kolkata, will measure air pollution, including SO2, NO, NO2, NH3, CO, O3, VOC and particulate matters (PM 10 and PM 2.5) continuously throughout the year.
- West Bengal Pollution Control Board (WBPCB) or any other local or international weather monitoring bodies can also use CAAQMS.
- The data can be remotely monitored on the internet and collated into various desired formats. Its readings will be considered a benchmark of quality.
- The data will be published via the Internet for public awareness.

**Army's previous efforts:**

- Apart from this, initiatives have already been taken to reduce the consumption of electricity as well as conserve water and segregate waste at Fort William.
- It has reduced electricity bills and distributed nearly 100 sets of dustbins in the garrison for segregation of waste.

**Eastern Command of Indian Army:**

- It is one of the seven operational commands of the army.
- It is headquartered in Fort William in the city of Kolkata, West Bengal.
- Current commander: Lt Gen M M Naravane, PVSM, AVSM, SM, VSM.

India partners with Portugal to set up a national maritime heritage museum at Lothal.

- India has partnered with Portugal to set up a national maritime heritage museum at Lothal in Gujarat. The Indian Navy will be the stakeholder in the project and the Portuguese Navy will assist as
they have experience in it by administering the maritime museum in Lisbon, Portugal. India is to follow a similar model of the maritime museum.

**Implementation of the project:**
- In March 2019, Prime Minister Narendra Modi laid the foundation stone for the project and the Government of India has allocated a grant for building the maritime museum.
- The project will be implemented by the Ministry of Shipping through its Sagarmala programme. The Archaeological Survey of India (ASI) along with the State government and other stakeholders is also involved in setting up the museum.

**Partnership and plans:**
- The initial discussion about the partnership was held during the visit of Portuguese Defence Minister João Gomes Cravinho to India in April 2019. A Defence Ministry-led delegation will visit Portugal to study the existing museum.

**Maritime museum:**
- A maritime museum is a museum that specializes in display the objects relating to ships and travel on large bodies of water. A subcategory of maritime museums are naval museums, which focus on navies and the military use of the sea.

**MoSPI has proposed to set up a National Data Warehouse to leverage big data analytical tools.**
- Ministry of Statistics and Programme Implementation (MoSPI) has proposed to set up a National Data Warehouse with an aim to leveraging big data analytical tools. This move is to further improve the quality of macro-economic aggregates. MoSPI also plans to introduce a legislative framework so that the National Statistical Commission (NSC) can function with independence and give holistic guidance for improving the national statistical system.

**Significance:**
- The move also lends its support to the system reforms that are currently ongoing. It will also ensure the responsiveness to the changing needs of society that are necessary.
- This proposed set up is necessary as there are increasing demands on the statistical system for the production of relevant and quality statistics.

**National Data Warehouse for macro-economic aggregate:**
- The Ministry also proposed to establish a National Data Warehouse on Official Statistics. Here, the technology will be leveraged for using big data analytical tools for further improving the quality of macro-economic aggregates.
- MoSPI has been criticized in some sections for the quality of macro-economic data.

**Merger of merger of CSO and NSSO:**
- Regarding this the government has recently merged the Central Statistical Organisation (CSO) and the National Sample Survey Office (NSSO) to streamline and strengthen the statistical system. The merger leveraged the strengths of the two organisations so that it can meet the increasing demands.
- The government use the statistical data to revise the GDP estimate would require concomitant changes in the sectoral data flows and associated regulatory framework in the data source agencies to facilitate the use of more macro modelling techniques.

**Ministry of Statistics and Programme Implementation (MOSPI):**

Established on: 15 October 1999
Minister responsible: Rao Inderjit Singh, Minister of State (Independent Charge)
It has 2 wings:
1)Department of Statistics
2) Department of Programme Implementation
• It is responsible for the development of the statistical system and maintains norms and standards in the field of statistics that involves concepts and definitions, methodology of data collection, processing of data and dissemination of results.
• MoSPI is concerned with coverage and quality aspects of statistics.

**ASI declares Chaukhandi Stupa as of national important monument.**
• A Monument and protected area of national importance by Archaeological Survey of India (ASI).

**Chaukhandi Stupa:**
• Chaukhandi Stupa is a lofty mound of brick whose square edifice is surrounded by an octagonal tower. It was built to mark the place where Lord Buddha met his first disciples as he traveled from Bodhgaya to Sarnath.
• The Chaukhandi Stupa is said to be originally a terraced temple during the Gupta period, that is 4th to 6th Century.
• Govardhan, the son of Raja Todarmal gave the present shape to the Chaukhandi Stupa. He built an octagonal tower to commemorate the visit of Humayun, the great Mughal ruler.

**Archaeological Survey of India (ASI):**
• ASI was formed on 1861, headquartered at New Delhi, India. ASI is the premier organization for the archaeological researches and protection of the cultural heritage in India. It functions under the Ministry of Culture.
• ASI is responsible for the regulation of all archaeological activities in the country as per the provisions of the Ancient Monuments and Archaeological Sites and Remains Act, 1958 and Antiquities and Art Treasure Act, 1972.

**India's First Dinosaur Museum Park inaugurated in Gujarat**
• Gujarat Chief Minister Vijay Rupani inaugurated India's first Dinosaur-Museum-cum-Park in the Mahisagar district.
• It is set to give visitors a Jurassic Park kind of feel. The museum is located in Raiyoli area in Balasinor exhibit remains of various dinosaurs and fossil records.
• Dinosaur Museum cum Park is the first park in the country and the world's third park. Raiyoli area is the third largest dinosaur fossil site in the world and it is also the second largest dinosaur hatchery in the world, where thousands of eggs had been found.

**About Dinosaur-Museum-cum-Park**
• It is equipped with modern technology like 3D projection, virtual reality presentations, interactive kiosks and life-size dinosaur replicas.
• It has a total land area of 2.63 hectares. It is famous for displaying the evolution of dinosaurs on earth and probable reasons for their extinction. It is a world-class tourism spot and prove useful to students as well as experts.

**About Gujarat**
Capital: Gandhinagar
Governor: Om Prakash Kohli
Chief Minister: Vijay Rupani
GST council to introduce new GST return system.

• GST Council decided to introduce a new GST return system to facilitate taxpayers. The new plan is worked out to ease the transition to the new return system.
• A prototype of the offline tool has already been shared on the common portal to give the look and feel of the tool to the users.

The tool is the same as that of the online portal.

There are three main components to the new return
one main return (FORM GST RET-1) and two annexures (FORM GST ANX-1 and FORM GST ANX-2).
The new return system (ANX-1 & ANX-2 only) will be available for trial for taxpayers to make themselves familiar.

About GST Council

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Cabinet approved the setting up of Defence Space Research Agency (DSRO).

• The Cabinet Committee on Security headed by Prime Minister Narendra Modi has approved the setting up of Defence Space Research Agency (DSRO), a new agency, which will develop sophisticated weapon systems. The approval aimed to To enhance the capabilities of the armed forces to fight wars in space.

Members of DSRO:
The agency will be headed by a Joint Secretary-level scientist. DSRO would constitute a team of scientists which would be working in close coordination with the tri-services integrated Defence staff officers.

Functions of DSRO:
DSRO will be entrusted with the task of creating space warfare weapon systems and technologies. It would provide the research and development support to the Defence Space Agency (DSA).

About DSA:
Defence Space Agency (DSA) will constitute of members from the three services. The aim of setting up of DSA is to help the country fight wars in the space.
DSA is being set up under an Air Vice Marshal-rank officer in Bengaluru. It will be gradually taking over the space-related capabilities of the three forces.

ICAT released India’s 1st BS VI Certificate in Two Wheeler Segment.

• International Centre for Automotive Technology (ICAT) released India’s first Type Approval Certificate (TAC) for Bharat Stage - VI (BS – VI) norms for the two-wheeler segment in New Delhi.
The certificate released and handed over by Director ICAT, Dinesh Tyagi to top officials of the OEM (Original Equipment Manufacturers). India’s first certification in the two-wheeler segment for the BS – VI
• They are the latest emission norms as notified by the Government of India.
• Norms of the ICAT - India’s 1st BS – VI Certificate in Two Wheeler Segment
The ICAT drive through many steps in providing assistance and support to the automotive industry for the development, optimization and calibration of engines and vehicles for complying with these
upcoming emission norms. Bharat Stage norms are the automotive emission norms which the automotive manufacturers have to comply to sell their vehicles in India.
The norms are applicable to all two wheelers, three wheelers, four wheelers.
The Government of India decided to leapfrog from the exiting BS – IV norms to the BS- VI, thereby skipping the BS – V norms.
They are to be effective from 1st April 2020.
The vehicles will be sold and registered in India from 1st April 2020 onwards which comply to these norms. The norms are stringent and at par with global standards.
I issued the approval for BS –VI norms to M/s Volvo Eicher Commercial Vehicles for the Heavy Commercial Vehicle segment. It is the first in its segment in India.

About ICAT
It is the testing agency authorized by the Ministry of Road Transport and Highways for providing testing and certification services to vehicle and the components vehicles in India.
It has the latest equipment, facilities, and capabilities to develop, validate, test and certify the engines and vehicles for the latest norms in the field of emission and many other facilities like crash lab, NVH lab, EMC lab and test tracks.

ISRO unveiled plan to set up its own space station in seven years
• ISRO disclosed arrangement to set up its own space station in seven years. ISRO is to set up a little and a different space station. It won't be a piece of the International Space Station (ISS). The venture will be an augmentation of the Gaganyaan mission, which intends to send an Indian team to space in 2022.
• The heaviness of the space station will associate with 20 tons. ISRO's proposition will be sent to the legislature for endorsement by 2022 after the first Gaganyaan mission. The mission is taking a gander at 5-7 years to execute the program. The expense of the proposed space station was not unveiled.
• The International Space Station (ISS) is an association between European Space Agency, the United States (NASA), Japan (JAXA), Canada (CSA) and Russia (Roscosmos). It is the world's biggest global helpful program in science and technology.
China likewise plans to construct its very own space station.

YSRs Tammineni Sitaram took charge as Speaker of Andhra Pradesh Assembly
• The principal session of the fifteenth Andhra Pradesh Legislative Assembly as the senior chief of YSR Congress Party Tammineni Sitaram consistently chose as the Speaker of the Assembly. Boss Minister Y. S.
• Jagan Mohan Reddy praised Tammineni spoke to secure the parliamentary majority rules system.
• The fifteenth Andhra Pradesh Legislative Assembly's first session favored by the administration with chose lawmakers being controlled the promise of confirmation Protem Speaker S. Appala Naidu led the race for the arrangement of the Speaker which was proposed by 30 MLAs of YSRCP. Boss Minister experienced 23 MLA's and 3 MPs to surrender from YSRCP to the decision TDP.

About Tammineni Sitaram :
She is the fourth speaker of the gathering from Srikakulam area. Sitaram began his political vocation from TDP a six-time MLA from Srikakulam region’s Amadalavalasa.
India to impose retaliatory tariffs on 29 US goods
• Ministry of Commerce announced to impose retaliatory tariffs on US goods that will be effective from June 16 onwards. The retaliatory tariffs on 29 goods imported from the U.S. The Ministry initially decided to impose tariffs in 2018. The decision is ahead of the meeting between Modi and Trump on the sidelines of the G20 summit in Japan. The move made by the trade ministry was approved by the Ministry of External Affairs.
• The tariffs will be applied on $220-290 million worth of goods that are imported from the US, and will have about the same impact as the tariffs imposed by Washington on India in 2018. Ministry of Finance said that the Commerce ministry will release the official notification of the tariffs before 16 June.
Why India is imposing tariffs:
• In March 2018, the US imposed 25% tariff on steel and 10% import duty on aluminium. India was one of the major exporters of these items.
• Tariffs on 29 major products are impacted which includes Chickpeas, Bengal gram, Mansur dal, Boric acid, domestic reagents, apples, Binders for foundry moulds. India repeatedly asked for exemption from these higher tariffs, but US did not respond.
• On June 2018, India decided to retaliate by imposing duties but extended the deadline.
On 5 June 2019, the U.S. withdrew export incentives to India under its Generalized System of Preferences (GSP) programme. India was the largest beneficiary of GSP.

India ranks 141 in the 2019 Global Peace Index
• Iceland topped the Global Peace Index 2019 rankings which was released by Institute for Economics & Peace. Since 2008, Iceland holds the most peaceful country in the world. India ranked 141 among 163 countries. In 2018, India ranked at 136th among 163 countries.
• Afghanistan ranked as the least peaceful country in the world. Th has replaced Syria, which is now the second least peaceful.
Parameters:
The Australian think tank ranked countries according to their level of peacefulness. The analysis were based on three major domains:
1) the level of societal safety and security
2) the extent of ongoing domestic and international conflict
3) the degree of militarization
• Top/Bottom 5 countries:
The top five countries in the list are Iceland, New Zealand, Austria, Portugal, and Denmark. The least 5 peaceful countries in the list are Iraq, Yemen, South Sudan, Syria and Afghanistan (ranked the least) remains the world's least peaceful counties.

Two female scientists Ritu Kridhal and Vanitha to head Indias 2nd Moon mission Chandrayaan-2
• For the first time, Indian Space Research Organization (ISRO) has named two ladies researchers - Ritu Karidhal (as mission executive) and Muthayya Vanitha (as undertaking chief) - to head the India's second Moon mission Chandrayaan-2.
• ISRO Chairman K Sivan reported that near 30 percent of the ISRO group chipping away at Chandrayaan 2 are ladies. Ritu Karidhal was alluded as the 'Rocket Woman of India'.
• She wound up popular with the dispatch of the MarsOrbiter Mission where she was the appointee activities chief.

Union Cabinet cleared NDIAC Bill, 2019 on institutionalised arbitration
• The Union Cabinet has cleared the New Delhi International Arbitration Center (NDIAC) Bill, 2019, which accommodates setting up of a free and self-governing body for institutional intervention.
• It additionally plans to get and move the endeavors of International Center For Alternative Dispute Resolution to New Delhi International Arbitration Center (NDIAC) with impact from March 2 this year.
• The Bill gives to supplant and nullify the NDIAC Ordinance, 2019. The proposed New Delhi International Arbitration Center is going by an administrator, who has been a judge of the Supreme Court or a judge of a high court or a prominent individual, having uncommon learning and involvement in the direct or organization of assertion.

Scientists places worlds highest weather stations atop Mount Everest
• Scientists from National Geographic Society and Tribhuvan University installed have installed two highest weather stations in the world in an expedition to Mount Everest that wrapped up in June 2019. The two weather monitoring stations are located at an altitude of 8,430 meters (27,657 feet) and 7,945 meters (26,066 feet). Also, three other stations have been set up across the Mount Everest.
• The setting up of the weather station aim to collect weather data. The data gathered from the stations will help scientists to understand how rising global temperatures impacts the rapidly melting glaciers.
• The nearly two month expedition involved a team of more than 30 scientists from all over the world, including 17 Nepali researchers. The team also collected the world highest ice core sample at 8,020 meters, which will help the scientists study the deep record of precipitation on the mountain and composition of the atmosphere during pre-industrial times.
• The project also reached another milestone of placing the world's highest helicopter-based lidar scan and the most detailed photogrammetric imaging, also with lidar scans, of the Everest Base Camp area and the entire Khumbu Glacier.

India to host COP-14 of UNCCD.
• India will be hosting the 14th session of the Conference of Parties (COP-14) of the United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification (UNCCD) for the first time. COP-14 will be held between September 2 and 14 in Delhi.

Participants: It is expected that atleast 5,000 delegates from nearly 197 countries will be participating.
• The Centre launched a flagship project, part of a larger international initiative called the Bonn Challenge ahead of the COP-14. The flagship project aims to enhance India’s capacity for forest landscape restoration (FLR).
• The Bonn Challenge is a global effort to bring 150 million hectares of the world’s deforested and degraded land under restoration by 2020, and 350 million hectares by 2030.

COP-13 of UNCCD:
• The 13th session of the Conference of Parties (COP-13) of the United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification (UNCCD) was held in Ordos, China. Around 113 countries had agreed to specify concrete targets with clear indicators, to rehabilitate more land and reverse degradation, which currently affects over a third of the world’s land resources.

**United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification (UNCCD):**
Drafted: 17 June 1994  
Signed: 14 October 1994  
Location: Bonn, Germany  
Parties: 197 (196 states + the European Union)

UNCCD aims to combat desertification and mitigate the effects of drought through national action programs that incorporate long-term strategies supported by international cooperation and partnership arrangements.

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**Unemployed Graduates To Get Up To Rs 3,500 in Rajasthan**
• Unemployed youth who completed their graduation or equivalent degree will be given unemployment allowance by the Rajasthan government.  
Male applicants will get Rs 3,000/month  
• While the women and differently-abled will get Rs 3,500/month under Chief Minister Yuva Sambal Yojana.  
• The applicants must be natives of Rajasthan.

**Maharashtra topped the USGBC list of Top 10 States for LEED in India**
• The Second Edition of the United States Green Building Council's (USGBC) list of India's top 10 states are released. The states which have maximum number of Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design (LEED) certified green buildings are listed below.  
• Maharashtra bagged the top slot with 334 LEED-certified green buildings.  
• It is followed by Karnataka and Tamil Nadu with the rankings 232 and 157 buildings respectively.  
• LEED is a widely used green building rating system in order to rank states in terms of cumulative Gross Square Feet (GSF) of certified space.  
• They were ranked on December 31, 2018.  
• At the first Edition of the list Tamil Nadu ranked first with 118 buildings.

**Indian Navy to build 6 submarines.**
• Indian Navy issued an ‘Expression of Interest’ for shortlisting potential strategic partners.  
The construction of six P-75 (I) submarines costing nearly ₹45,000 crore.  
• This is the second project being undertaken under the latest Strategic Partnership (SP) Model.  
The procurement of 111 naval utility helicopters (NUH) are obtained recently.
They provide a major boost to the indigenous design and construction capability of submarines in India.
The latest submarine design and technologies as part of the project.
‘Make in India’ issued the Expression of Interest(s) for shortlisting of potential Indian Strategic Partners (SPs) for construction of six conventional submarines for P-75(I) project of the Indian Navy on June 20.
The case was approved by the Defence Acquisition Council on January 31.
The Expression of Interest (EoI) for shortlisting of Indian strategic partners been uploaded on the Defence Ministry and Navy websites.
The EoI for shortlisting of Original Equipment Manufacturers (OEMs) will be issued in two weeks.

**About Indian Navy**
Founded 1612  
Country India  
Commander-in-Chief: President Ram Nath Kovind  
Chief of the Naval Staff (CNS): Admiral Karambir Singh

**KCR inaugurates Kaleshwaram multi-purpose lift irrigation project.**
- The Kaleshwaram Lift Irrigation Project in Telangana was inaugurated on Friday by Chief Minister K Chandrashekar Rao. It is believed to be the largest multi-stage, multi-purpose lift irrigation project in the world. Andhra Pradesh and Telangana Governor ESL Narasimhan, Andhra CM YS Jagan Mohan Reddy and Maharashtra CM Devendra Fadnavis were chief guests at the event.

**Nammm Kolhapuri chappal got GI tag.**
- The controller general of patents, designs and trademarks has granted the GI (Geographical Indications) tag to Kolhapuri chappal from Kolhapur, Sangli, Satara and Solapur districts of Maharashtra and Dharwad, Belgaum, Bagalkot and Bijapur of Karnataka.
Getting GI tag for Kolhapuri means that footwear produced only in these 8 districts will qualify to carry tag of being Kolhapuris.

**History:**
- According to the GI application made by the two states, Kolhapuris can be traced back to the 12th century when King Bijjal ruled Bidar in Karnataka and his prime minister Vishwaguru Basavanna wanted to create a casteless society and remove the stigma associated with the cobbler community. The community embraced Lingayat faith and used its creative skills to start producing footwear known equally for its ruggedness and regal bearing.
Brand Kolhapuri came into being only in the beginning of 20th century when the footwear began to be traded in 20th century when the footwear began to be traded in Kolhapur. Chhatrapati Shahu Maharaj (1874-1922) of Kolhapur encouraged its production and 29 tanning centres were opened during his rule in Kolhapur.
About Geographical Indications (GI) tag:
A geographical indication (GI) is a name or sign used on certain products which corresponds to a specific geographical location or origin.
Darjeeling tea became the first GI tagged product in India, in 2004-05, since then by October 2018, 321 had been added to the list.
The GI tag is valid for a period of 10 years. Further it can be renewed.

India’s first solar cruise vessel will debut in Kerala.
• India’s first solar-powered ferry in 2016, Kerala is gearing up for the launch of the country’s premier solar-powered cruise boat.
The initiative comes from the State Water Transport Department (SWTD), whose solar ferry Aditya in the Vaikom-Thavanakadavu route proved to be a success.
The Rs. 3-crore cruise boat can carry 100 passengers is under construction at a boatyard in Aroor and comes from the stable of the builders of Aditya.
It will be rolled out in Alappuzha in December.
The hybrid vessel will be powered by a motor that can source energy from solar panels, battery, and generator.
Its battery will have 80 KWh (kilowatt hour) power backup, as compared to 50 KWh backup in Aditya.

About Low Energy Force
Aditya incurs a rock-bottom energy expense of ₹200 a day compared to the approximately Rs. 8,000 needed for diesel-powered ferries.
Solar vessels do not create air and noise pollution.
The double-deck, double-engine catamaran-type vessel adheres to norms specified by the Indian Registry of Shipping (IRS).
The vessel will have an air-conditioned lower deck and pushback seats, he said.
The upper deck, which is non-air conditioned, can be used for dining and to get a better view of the backwaters.

India’s first iron ore mine discovered in Bangladesh
• Iron ore mine discovered at Isabpur village in Dinajpur.
This announcement was made by the Geological Survey of Bangladesh.
After the effect of extensive drilling over two months in the area. A 400-foot thick iron layer was found in Bangladesh after the result of the Geological Survey.
• Around 1,750 feet beneath the surface stretched over an area of 6-10 square kilometer.
The percentage of iron in the mine around 65.
It indicates the high quality of the ore. The other countries like Canada, China, Brazil, Sweden, and Australia have the percentage of iron ore is below the level of 50.
• Other minerals such as gold, copper, nickel, and chromium also found at various levels of the mining.
The discovery of the iron mine opened up economic prospects for the country.
The iron concentration in the magnetite ore is 65 percent.

Indian Navy launches Operation Sankalp in Gulf of Oman
• Indian Navy launched ‘Operation Sankalp' in the Persian Gulf and the Gulf of Oman. Their main aim is to reassure safe passage of Indian flagged vessels transiting through the area.
• This deployment depends on the following recent maritime incidents in the region. INS Chennai and INS Sunayna deployed in the region to undertake maritime security operations.
• An aerial surveillance in the area done by IN aircraft.
Information Fusion Centre-Indian Ocean Region (IFC-IOR) of Indian Navy watch over the movement of ships in Gulf region.

Government of Jharkhand to get $147 Million Loan from World Bank.
• Government of Jharkhand and the World Bank, signed a $147 Million Loan Agreement. They provide basic urban services to the people of Jharkhand and planned to help improve the management capacity of the urban local bodies (ULBs) in the State.
The Jharkhand Municipal Development Project mainly focus on improving the municipal sector’s capacity.
It will invest in urban services such as water supply, sewerage, drainage, and urban roads; and strengthen the capacity of the Jharkhand Urban Infrastructure Development Company (JUIDCO).
The ULBs planned to carry out reforms in the areas of urban finance and governance.
The main need is to establish 31 million people reside in urban areas.
The population of urban population growth at nine of 24 districts in Jharkhand is above India’s overall urbanization pace of 2.7 percent.
The Loan Agreement was signed by Mr. Sameer Kumar Khare, Additional Secretary, Department of Economic Affairs, Ministry of Finance on behalf of the Government of India and Mr. Shanker Lal, Acting Country Director (India), the World Bank, on behalf of the World Bank.
Most of these components will open to all 43 ULBs in the state to participate within an agreed framework under the project.
Over 350,000 urban residents of the participating ULBs are expected to benefit.
Interventions such as piped water supply, stormwater drains, climate-friendly road construction and energy efficient street lighting will help improve urban services but also make it environmentally sustainable.
The Work on two sub-projects namely Khunti water supply subproject and the Dhanbad roads subproject to commence shortly.
Kerala topped NITI Aayog’s health index 2019 ranking

• Kerala has topped ranking state in terms of overall health performance as per the report submitted by NITI Aayog on health index. This is the second edition of its type. It measured the annual and incremental performances of states and UTs.

Larger States:

Overall performance:

Next to Kerala, Andhra Pradesh and Maharashtra have emerged as the second and third best performers, respectively, on health parameters. Uttar Pradesh and Bihar were ranked the two worst performers, respectively.

Kerala secured an overall score of 74.01, while Uttar Pradesh was the least performing state with an overall score of 28.61. The report highlighted the outbreak of encephalitis in Bihar that killed over 150 children till 24 June.

Incremental performance:

In terms of incremental performances, Haryana, Rajasthan, and Jharkhand made the maximum improvement in terms of health among larger states.

Smaller states:

Among the smaller states, Mizoram ranked first in overall performance, while Tripura and Manipur were top two states in terms of incremental performance.

Union Territories:

• Among the Union Territories, Chandigarh ranked first in overall performance, while Dadra and Nagar Haveli made the most improvement.

Report prepared by:

The report was prepared NITI Aayog in collaboration with the Ministry of Health and Family Welfare with technical assistance from the World Bank.

Healthy States Progressive India:

NITI Aayog's report, titled 'Healthy States Progressive India', ranked states and Union Territories (UTs) based on the Health Index. The evaluation was based on 23 indicators that covers the key aspects of health sector performance.

The first edition of the report of this kind was released in 2018. It measured the annual and incremental performances of states and UTs for period 2014-15 (as base year) to 2015-16 (as reference year).

In the 2018 report, Kerala, Punjab, and Tamil Nadu had ranked on top in terms of overall performance among bigger states. Jharkhand, Jammu and Kashmir, and Uttar Pradesh topped in terms of annual incremental performance.

NITI Aayog:

Formed on: 1 January 2015
Headquarters: Delhi
Chairman: Narendra Modi
Vice Chairman: Rajiv Kumar
CEO: Amitabh Kant
It replaced the Planning Commission.
The government think tank aims to achieve Sustainable Development Goals (SDG). It also plans to enhance cooperative federalism by fostering the involvement of State Governments of India in the economic policy-making process.

Buddhist pillar, dating back to third century AD, found in Prakasam dist.
• A third century A.D Buddhist relic was found on the right bank of river Gundlakamma at Anamanaluru village in Prakasam district on Wednesday.

ABOUT:
• The local limestone pillar is carved with half lotus medallions at the centre and the top on all the four side
• It measures to about 1’-3”x0’-9”x8’-0” also, it is two feet below the ground level.

J&K reservation (amendment) bill 2019 passed by Lok Sabha.
• Lok Sabha has passed Jammu and Kashmir Reservation (Amendment) Bill, 2019, aimed to provide reservations in educational institutions and government jobs within 10km of the International Border in the Jammu area, just like the Line of Control in Kashmir. In the favour of this bill Union Home Minister Amit Shah said that students had to stay in bunkers for several days during shelling and firing, which was why the government wanted a reservation for those living along the International Border. Moving the bill in the Lok Sabha, Shah said, "This bill is not to please anyone but for those living near the International Border."

Article 370 only temporary provision, not permanent, says Home Minister Amit Shah.
• Amit Shah, Union Home Minister stated recently that Article 370 is a temporary provision and not permanent. Amit Shah said this while participating in a debate in the Lok Sabha to extend the President’s rule in Jammu and Kashmir. The Home Minister said that people who call upon Article 370 repeatedly in reference to Jammu and Kashmir forget that the article also has the word ‘temporary’ before it.
• Amit Shah reiterated that Article 370, which gives special status to Jammu and Kashmir, is only a temporary provision in the constitution and not a permanent one. The Home Minister said this in response to Opposition’s argument that Jammu and Kashmir can't be treated like other states because Article 370 gives it a special status.
Indian Crypto Exchange Koinex Shuts down its operation

- India's Largest cryptocurrency exchange, Koinex terminating its digital asset trading services and other crypto-related operations citing regulatory uncertainty and disruption.
- It was facing problems with its payment services and gateways, along with non-crypto related transactions like payment of salaries, rent, and purchase of equipment.
- It started its digital assets exchange services in August 2017.
- It executed over 20 million orders in trading volume on its platform so far.
- The country's central bank, the Reserve Bank of India (RBI), barred banks from serving companies dealing in cryptocurrency exchanges.

About Koinex:
- Founders: Rahul Raj, Rakesh Yadav, Aditya Naik
- Sector: Digital assets

BANKING AND ECONOMICS

Forex reserve rises by 1.99 billion to 419.99 billion.
- India's foreign exchange reserves increased by 1.994 billion to 419.992 billion US Dollar in the week ended 24th May 2019.
- RBI released that foreign currency assets rose by 1.991 billion to 392.188 billion US Dollar.
- In the previous week, the reserves had declined by 2.05 billion to end at 417.99 billion US Dollar.
- Gold reserves remained stable at 23.021 billion US Dollar. India's special drawing rights with the International Monetary Fund went by 0.8 million to 1.445 billion US Dollar, while the country's reserve position also increased by 2 million to 3.336 billion US Dollar.

ICICI Bank launches centre for MSMEs in Bengaluru.
- ICICI Bank launched a centre in Bengaluru to provide business solutions exclusively to start-ups and MSME sector.
- ICICI Bank along with Viral Rupani, Retail Business Head South, ICICI Bank inaugurated the centre.
- The services offered include working capital loans upto ₹20 crore, business loans (based on GST returns) upto ₹1 crore, instant overdraft facility of ₹15 lakh, extensive trade solutions and cash management services, among others.
- The centre has a legal and valuation desk to assist customers in resolving challenges pertaining to collaterals offered for various loans.

About ICICI Bank
- Industry: Banking, Financial services
- Headquarters: ICICI Bank Towers, Bandra Kurla Complex, Mumbai, India
RBI reduces interest rates by 25 basis points to 5.75 percent.  
• The Reserve Bank of India's (RBI) Monetary Policy Committee (MPC) reduced interest rates by 25 basis points to 5.75% with immediate effect amid slowing economic growth and rising global uncertainty, for the 3rd time in a row.  
RBI Governor Shaktikanta Das announced it in the second bi-monthly monetary policy statement for 2019-20.  

**Purpose:**  
• The reduction is expected to bring down the EMIs on home and auto loans, and reduce the debt repayment burden on corporates.  

**What is repo rate?**  
• It is the rate at which the central bank of a country, that is RBI, lends money to commercial banks in the event of any shortfall of funds. The monetary authorities use this to control inflation. The banks can borrow money for about 7 to 14 days from the Reserve Bank of India.  

**Policy rates and Reserve ratios:**  
- Policy Repo Rate: 5.75%  
- Reverse Repo Rate: 5.50%  
- Marginal Standing Facility Rate: 6.00%  
- Bank Rate: 6.00%  
- CRR: 4%  
- SLR: 19.00%  

**HDFC Bank appoints new auditor after RBI's action against EY firm.**  
• HDFC Bank has cancelled the re-appointment of SR Batliboi & Co, a member firm of EY, after the RBI restricted it from auditing commercial banks for a year. India's largest bank by market value has appointed MSKA & Associates as its new statutory auditor. RBI said lapses have been identified in a statutory audit assignment carried out by SR Batliboi.  

**RBI initiated Financial Literacy Week 2019 is observed from 3 to 7 June.**  
• Financial Literacy Week 2019 is being observed from 3 June to 7 June. It is an annual initiative by the Reserve Bank of India (RBI) to promote awareness of key topics through a focused campaign.  

**Theme:**  
• The theme of Financial Literacy Week 2019 is 'Farmers'. The FL Week would focus on farmers as the target group with the primary theme being "responsible borrowing and agricultural finance". It also focuses on how they can benefit from being a part of the formal banking system.  
• The aim of the initiative is to create awareness about financial products and services, good financial practices, going digital and consumer protection.  

**RBI's Financial Education Initiative includes:**  
• The FAME (Financial Awareness Messages) booklet- which provides basic financial literacy messages for information of the general public.  
• It has developed tailored financial literacy content for five target groups' namely Farmers, Small entrepreneurs, School children, Self Help Groups and Senior Citizens. The content can be used by the trainers in financial literacy programmes.  
• RBI has designed Audiovisuals on Basic Financial Literacy, Unified Payments Interface (UPI) and Going Digital for the benefit of the general public on topics relating to Financial Literacy.
State Bank of India introduces Repo Rate-Linked Home Loan.
• State Bank of India introduced repo rate-linked home loans.
SBI, the country’s largest bank by assets home loans linked to the repo rate from July 1, 2019.
• There are 10 key new facts, repo rate-linked SBI home loan:
Key interest rate reduced to 5.75
Repo rate-linked home loan will make changes in the key interest rate by the central bank would be passed on directly to the customers.
Interest rates applicable to regular home loans are decided by the commercial banks on a time basis. The Reserve Bank of India on several occasions in the past few months urged the commercial banks to transmit the rate cuts to the public.
State Bank of India benefit from the latest reduction in the repo rate has been passed fully to cash credit account and overdraft customers with limits of over Rs. 1 lakh.
After the move, the effective repo-linked lending rate (RLLR) for a cash credit and overdraft customers will be 8 percent. These changes will also take effect on July 1.
• The Reserve Bank of India's Monetary Policy Committee (MPC) lowered the repo rate by 25 basis points and switched to an “accommodative” stance from “neutral”.
• The decision by the RBI to ease the monetary policy follows official data last month showing India lost its status as the fastest growing major economy to China.
RBI reduced the repo rate each in its policy reviews in February and April.
SBI has a share of around 35 percent in home loans and auto loans.

RBI to infuse Rs.15,000 crore into financial system through the purchase of government bonds.
• The Reserve Bank of India is to infuse Rs.15,000 crore into the financial system through bond purchases on June 13.
Why the infusion:
RBI made the decision after assessing of prevailing liquidity conditions and also of the durable liquidity needs that are going forward.
RBI uses Open Market Operations (OMO) for injecting liquidity into the system through the purchase of government bonds (G-sec). Therefore, RBI is to conduct the purchase of six G-sec under OMOs through multi-security auction using multiple price method.
What is G-Sec?
A government security (G-Sec) is a debt obligation of the Indian government to fund their fiscal deficit. The securities are tradable. G-sec is issued either by the central or the state government. They are offered for short term as well as long term.
Multiple price-auction
In a multiple price-auction each successful bidder should pay the price stated by the player himself. But, in case of uniform price auctions, all successful bidders should pay the cut-off price, that is, the same price at which the market clears the issue.
Open Market Operations:
Open market operations (OMO) refers to the buying and selling of government securities by the central bank, RBI in case of India, in the open market in order to contract or expand the amount of
money in the banking system. The purchase of the securities will inject money into the banking system and stimulate growth, while sales of securities do the opposite and contract the economy.

SEBI introduced enhanced disclosure guidelines for credit rating agencies
• The business sectors controller Securities and Exchange Board of India (SEBI) presented upgraded revelation rules for FICO score offices (CRA). SEBI asked the rating organizations to reveal the likelihood of default for the backers they rate, agitated by the raters’ reputation of distinguishing defaults or close defaults.
• Explanation behind the move: Since the worldwide money related emergency in 2008, the validity of the rating organizations has been disintegrating a direct result of the irreconcilable circumstance that emerges from the way that they are paid by the guarantors to rate their protections and for their inability to minimization beset firms until they are very nearly chapter 11.
• The ongoing Infrastructure Leasing and Financial Services Ltd’s (IL&FS) liquidity emergency among non-bank loan specialists in India has concentrated consideration again using a credit card rating offices.

India’s FDI Inflows during the five fiscal years of the Modi Govt hit to $42 billions
• India ended up being the sub district's biggest beneficiary getting remote direct ventures worth $42 billion out of 2018. The interest in India billion with solid inflows in assembling, correspondence and money related administrations.
• As indicated by the report, FDI inflows have expanded by 3.5% to $54 billion. India pulled in over 77% of the all out remote direct speculations eventually arrived up toward the South Asian district. The development in India in cross-fringe merger and acquisitions (M&As) came to $33 billion of every 2018 from $23 billion per year back. Bangladesh and Sri Lanka rose to a record level, to $3.6 billion and USD 1.6 billion, individually, while Pakistan saw a 27% decrease in venture to USD 2.4 billion, the report read.
• A few nations received arrangement measures to advance and encourage venture with India To revise the model concession concurrence on open private associations in the port area.
• The report featured that of the 5,400 extraordinary financial zones (SEZs) on the planet, more than 4,000 are in creating nations in Asia. China bested the rundown at 2,543 pursued by Philippines (528), India with 373, Turkey - 102, Thailand - 74 Korea 47, Malaysia - 45.

RBI directed all the banks to grout ATMs to a structure to enhance security
• The Reserve Bank of India has requested that the banks guarantee their ATMs are grouted to a divider, column, or floor before September month’s over, with the exception of those introduced in high verified premises, for example, air terminals.
• The declaration accompanies a mean to improve security of the money candy machines. The ATMs will be worked for money renewal just with advanced One Time Combination (OTC) locks. All banks can likewise reveal a far reaching e-reconnaissance instrument at the ATMs. This will guarantee convenient alarms and fast reaction.
• Advisory group on Currency Movement (CCM): The RBI had set up a Committee on Currency Movement (CCM) in 2016. The advisory group was solicited to audit the whole extent from security of fortune in travel and submit reports in regards to that. According to the proposals recommended by
the board, the Reserve Bank of India has now issued the guidelines gone for alleviating dangers in ATM activities and upgrading security.

**Cricket Australia signs a multi-year partnership with HCL**

- Indian multinational information technology service HCL Technologies (Hindustan Computers Limited, HCL) signed a multi-year deal with Cricket Australia (CA), the administrative body of Australian Cricket.
- India’s third largest sports deal, Accenture was working with Cricket Australia
  A five-year deal from November 2013.
- HCL becomes the digital technology partner of Australia (CA)
  The company will help CA more fans, cricketers, fans, employees, and volunteers through digital experience around the world.
- HCL build CA’s digital products such as Cricket Australia Live App, cricket.com.
  Cricket Australia’s fan following gradually increased upto 20 million per year.

**Maruti Suzuki inks partnership with BOB for dealer financing**

- Maruti Suzuki, an Automobile producer in India marked ‘Favored Financier’ MoU (Memorandum of comprehension) with Indian worldwide with Bank of Baroda (BOB) so as to improve credit for business stock financing.
- The association with Bank of Baroda permits Maruti Suzuki to back chances to sellers just as clients. The financing will work in accordance with the Bank of Baroda’s item program of Supply Chain Finance.
- The tight liquidity circumstance in the budgetary arrangement of the IL&FS emergency and rising awful credits incited the banks. Moneylenders presented exacting credit standards for vehicle vendors because of the rising instances of awful advances in this portion of the car business. The sellers were approached to give guarantee stretched out by banks.

**Max Bupa partners with MobiKwik for health insurance.**

- Max Bupa, an independent wellbeing back up plan went into a vital association with MobiKwik, a fintech stage to advance moderate and helpful chomp measured gathering medical coverage items for MobiKwik’s 107 Million clients the nation over.
- Max Bupa think of a huge number of creative contributions, including a Cancer spread at an ostensible premium
  A HospiCash item for MobiKwik’s immense client base.
- Max Bupa’s HospiCash item accommodates a pre-characterized day by day stipend based on number of long periods of hospitalization regardless of the real cost acquired by the client.
- Hospi Cash will offer ₹500 every day clinic remittance for as long as 30 days in a year.
• The primary mean to empower monetary incorporation by making pocket-estimate medical coverage arrangements accessible through the Mobikwik stage
• The arrangement to obtain 1 million Mobikwik clients throughout the following 3-4 years.

AWARDS AND RECOGNITION

Former Indian President of India Pratibha Patil conferred the Orden Mexicana del Aguila Azteca award.
• Former Indian President Pratibha Patil has been conferred the "Orden Mexicana del Aguila Azteca" (Order of the Aztec Eagle), the highest civilian award of Mexico given to foreigners, on 1 June 2019.
• The Ambassador of Mexico to India, Melba Pria, conferred the award on Patil, who created history as this country's first woman President (2007-2012), at a special ceremony held in the MCCIA Bhavan, Pune.

Recognized for:
• Mexico's highest distinction for foreigners is in recognition of their outstanding services to the Mexican nation or humanity, significant contributions to strengthening the bilateral relations between Mexico and other countries.

Other India Awardees:
• Ms. Patil, 85, becomes only the second Indian head of state to get the award. Earlier, the late President S. Radhakrishna had been conferred this honour.
• Other Indian recipients in various categories include Nobel laureate Amartya Sen, renowned artist Satish Gujral, industrialist Raghupati Singhania, Consul-General of Mexico in Mumbai Rajju Shroff and others.

Order of the Aztec Eagle Award:
• The royal eagle is Mexico's national animal, sacred to the ancient Aztecs and it is present on the National Emblem of the Mexican flag. It is an essential symbol that links their Aztec past with the modern nation.
• It is of gold and turquoise and is given to express the respect and admiration of the Mexican people.
• The award was created by a decree in 1993 by the then President of Mexico, Abelardo L. Rodriguez, it is awarded to prominent heads of state or government, ambassadors after they have served in Mexico, important personalities who have made a major contribution in various fields, service to the country or its people.
• The award comes in five degrees namely Collar, Sash of Special Category, Sash, Plaque, Venera and Insignia.
PM Modi awarded Maldives' highest honour for foreign dignitaries.

- Prime Minister Narendra Modi was on Saturday conferred the Maldives' highest honour accorded to foreign dignitaries, 'The Most Honourable Order of the Distinguished Rule of Nishan Izzuddeen', during his visit to the island nation. PM Modi is visiting the Maldives as part of his first diplomatic foreign visit after he assumed office for a second term.

Google Sunder Pichai, Nasdaq's Friedman Receive 2019 Global Leadership Award.

- Google's Chief Executive Officer (CEO) Sundar Pichai and Nasdaq President Adena Friedman selected for Global Leadership Awards 2019 by business advocacy group USIBC. They both are recognized for their companies contribution as the leading technology-driven platforms.
- Washington-based US-India Business Council (USIBC) gives this award for achievements in over 30 categories for talented people who are recognized for their work by their companies. The award will be given in 'India Ideas Summit' next week.
- Google and Nasdaq at the vanguard, bilateral trade in goods and services grew by nearly 150% over the past five years to touch $142.1 billion in 2018.

About Google
- Founded: 4 September 1998
- CEO: Sundar Pichai
- Parent organization: Alphabet Inc.
- Founders: Larry Page, Sergey Brin

About Nasdaq
- CEO: Adena Friedman
- Headquarters: New York, United States
- Market cap: $10 trillion.

Author Amitav Ghosh was conferred the 54th Jnanpith Award

- Author Amitav Ghosh was presented the 54th Jnanpith Award. He was granted for his commitment to the improvement of Indian writing in English at a service. The honor was introduced by the previous legislative leader of West Bengal Gopalkrishna Gandhi in New Delhi on 13 June. Amitav Ghosh is the principal English essayist to get this lofty Jnanpith Award.
- Amitav Ghosh: Amitav Ghosh is an Indian author. He is best known for his work in English fiction. In 2007, the administration of India granted him the regular citizen respect of Padma Shri. He likewise got the Israeli Dan David Prize, together with Margaret Atwood.
- His works and grants: His book, The Circle of Reason won the Prix Médicis étranger which is France's top scholarly honors. His work 'The Calcutta Chromosome' won the Arthur C. Clarke Award for 1997. Additionally, his work 'Ocean of Poppies' was shortlisted for the 2008 Man Booker Prize. The book 'Stream of Smoke' was shortlisted for the Man Asian Literary Prize 2011.

Priyanka Chopra to be honoured with humanitarian award by UNICEF

- Indian actress Priyanka Chopra with the Danny Kaye Humanitarian Award at the United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF) Snowflake Ball in the month of December.
- The event will be held on December 3 in New York. She is a UNICEF Goodwill Ambassador. She visited Ethiopia last month. She is known for her contribution to social causes. She will raise her voice for children's education.
• India to raise awareness against child welfare. She is also to improve the education, health and safety of girl child in India.

Akshaya Patra was awarded the BBC World Service Global Champion Award
• The Bengaluru-based NGO Akshaya Patra has been granted the BBC World Service Global Champion Award for the program. The honor is exhibited at the BBC Food and Farming Awards in Bristol, London.
• The honor perceives an undertaking or individual who is changing the way the world produces, forms, expends or considers sustenance to improve things.
• Akshaya Patra was chosen by a global board of judges from selections sent in by the World Service group of spectators around the globe. Different activities on the waitlist included UK philanthropy WRAP, and Food 4 Education.

Indian engineer wins Innovation for Sustainable Development Award
• Indian engineer Nitesh Kumar Jangir whose low-cost neonatal breathing device saved the lives of new-born babies across small towns. India won the 2019 Commonwealth Secretary-General's Innovation for Sustainable Development Award in London.
• Nitesh Kumar Jangir created Saans as a breathing support device to avoid deaths of premature babies from respiratory distress syndrome due to a lack of immediate access to complex medical equipment.
• He received his award in the People category alongside 14 other innovators from across the 53 member-countries of the Commonwealth.
• The main aim is to ensure that babies don't lose their lives due to the lack of access to a piece of technology. This device can be used anywhere to deliver crucial support to premature babies.

Bronze for India in the 58th Ostrava Golden Spike Athletics meet.
• Annu Rani won the women’s javelin bronze in the 58th Ostrava Golden Spike athletics meet.
• Croatia’s Sara Kolak took the gold and Slovenia’s Martina Ratej bagged the silver.
• About Annu Rani
• She is a Javelin thrower from Uttar Pradesh.
• She is supported by Olympic Gold Quest.
• A not-for-profit foundation that identifies and supports Indian athletes
• She finished eighth a best of 56.37 meters in the final.
• At the Asian Games in Incheon South Korea, she won the bronze medal with a throw of 59.53 meters
• She Born in Jatt Farmer Family in Dabthuwa Village of Meerut.
Dr Gaurav Nigam, an educationist, pediatrician and author, honoured with 'Innovative Research Excellence Award 2019'

- Dr Gaurav Nigam deliberated with 'Inventive Research Excellence Award 2019'. The honor was given by Lyonpo Ugyen Dorji, Minister for Labor and Human Resources of Bhutan at the Asian Leadership Summit.
- The capacity is held at Thimphu, Bhutan. The occasion sorted out by the Global Leaders Foundation.
- He won this honor for his magnificence in school training of extraordinary commitment towards the imaginative improvement look into exercises in the field of school instruction in South Asian Region.
- He is the author of iCare. He is the writer of the book titled 'Villain Inside My Mind'.

India-born Priya Serrao crowned Miss Universe Australia 2019.

- India-born Priya Serrao has been crowned Miss Universe Australia 2019. The 26-year-old was born in India, spent most part of her childhood in Oman and Dubai, before moving to Melbourne with her family at the age of 11. Serrao is a law graduate and works as a full-time policy adviser with the Australian government in Melbourne.

SPORTS

India beats Ireland 1-0 in the final to claim U21 four-nation title.

- Indian junior women's hockey team won Cantor Fitzgerald U21 International 4-Nations title after beating Ireland 1-0 in the final.
- India ended the tournament three goals in four games, Mumtaz Khan finished as the highest goal scorer of the tournament.
- The second quarter of the game created a new record over it.
- Ireland created three PCs over the period of the final quarter was thwarted by a resolute Bichu Devi and the Indian defense to ensure that the team ended up with a clean sheet.
- Gagandeep’s goal major difference between the sides, as India prevailed 1-0 and took the title.

England 1st team in ODI history to score seven 300+ totals in a row.

- England have become the first team in ODIs to score seven 300-plus totals in a row, achieving the feat against Bangladesh in 2019 World Cup on Saturday. England scored 386/6 in 50 overs, with Jason Roy top-scoring with 153 runs off 121 balls including 14 fours and 5 sixes. It is also England's highest ever total in World Cup history.

Japan defeat Mexico and won FIH Hockey Series.

- International Hockey Federation (IHF) conducted Men's Hockey Series.
- The Final match is played at Kalinga Stadium in Bhubaneswar.
- Japan defeated Mexico by a goal 3-1.
About International Hockey Federation (FIH)
• Founded: 7 January 1924
• Headquarters: Lausanne, Switzerland
• Membership: 137 national associations
• Motto: FairPlay Friendship Forever
• President: Narinder Batra
• CEO: Thierry Weil

About Japan
• Capital: Tokyo
• Currency: Japanese yen
• Prime minister: Shinzō Abe

Haryana, Maharashtra dominate third day of Youth men’s & women’s national boxing championship.
• Haryana and Maharashtra participated in the third day of the 3rd Youth men’s and women’s national boxing championship in Rudrapur, Uttarakhand
Four boxers from Maharashtra entered the quarterfinals
Ankit Narwal-led Haryana boxers reached the last-eight stage.
Narwal, the 2018 Youth Asian Championship bronze winner in men’s 60kg category
Haryana’s Akshay Kumar won the game in the same way.
In the women’s category, Haryana’s Bharti and Poonam and Bharti registered a hard-fought 3-2 win over Ekta Saroj of Punjab in which went down to the wire, while Poonam got the better of Assamese boxer Kimpa Boro.
Women's boxing between Manipur's Babyrojisana Chanu and Kerala's Aishwarya Raj PT 51kg category.

About Women’s national boxing championship
AIBA Women’s World Boxing Championships was held at KD Jadav Indoor Stadium at New Delhi, India
The event took place between 15 and 24 November 2018.
In the finals Mary Kom of India beat Ukrainian boxer Hana Okhota to win the gold,
She is the first woman boxer to win six gold medals in the AIBA World Boxing Championships

India debut flag in #WorldRaftingChampionship.
• India is making debut in the adventurous game of Rafting.
Former Prime Prime Minister Atal Bihari Vajpayee Institute of Mountaineering and Allied Sports team played in World Rafting Championship which is taking place in Tuncelli.
There are 20 teams from 20 countries are challenging for the title.
President of Turkish Rafting Federation Fikret Yadimei expressed his excitement over hosting the World Rafting Championship.
The championship commenced on June 8 and will conclude on June 13.
About International Rafting Federation
• It is the official umbrella International Sports Federation for national rafting organizations worldwide and administers all aspects of rafting sport worldwide.
• World Rafting Championships (WRC), European Rafting Championships (ERC), Pan American Rafting Championships, and the Euro Cup rafting series are governed by the IRF.
• It works closely with national organizations and government bodies by offering the only raft guide certification program accepted worldwide.

Lewis Hamilton Won Canadian Grand Prix 2019.
• Lewis Hamilton won Canadian Grand Prix, the world of Formula One championship title 2019. Lewis Hamilton, Robert Kubica and Daniel Ricciardo players who played various matches in championship and considered as star players.
• Hamilton won 78th career win in Formula One.
• He also fifth out of the seven races contested this season
• He secured seventh win at the 2019 Canadian Grand Prix and defeated Sebastian Vettel (Ferrari)

About Canadian Grand Prix
Canadian Grand Prix is an annual auto race held in Canada since 1961. It is a part of the Formula One World Championship since 1967.
First held: 1961
Number of times held: 56
Most wins: Germany Michael Schumacher, Lewis Hamilton

About Lewis Hamilton
Nationality: United Kingdom
Entries: 236
Win: 78

Rafael Nadal clinched the 12th French Open title by defeating Dominic Thiem.
• World number two Rafael Nadal clinched the 12th French Open title in 15 years in men's single category held in Roland Garros Stadium, France.
• He defeated world number four Dominic Thiem in the men's singles. The Spaniard won the match with a scoreline of 6-3, 5-7, 6-1, 6-1. The 33-year-old has now won 18 Grand Slam titles, two fewer than world number three Roger Federer.
• The champions of the 2019 French Open
• Men's Singles: Spain Rafael Nadal
• Women's Singles: Australia Ashleigh Barty
• Men's Doubles: Germany Kevin Krawietz / Germany Andreas Mies
• Women's Doubles: Hungary Timea Babos / France Kristina Mladenovic
• Mixed Doubles: Chinese Taipei Latisha Chan / Croatia Ivan Dodig

2019 French Open:
• The 2019 French Open was held from 26th May-9th June
• Edition: 123rd
• Category: Grand Slam tournament
• Prize money: €42,661,000
• Surface: Clay
• Held at: Roland Garros Stadium, France
International Association of Athletics Federations (IAAF) re-branded as World Athletics.

- The International Association of Athletics Federations (IAAF), the international governing body for the sport of athletics, changed its name from IAAF to World Athletics. The members of IAAF council have approved the rebranding at an IAAF Council meeting held in Monaco on 8th June. The process to rebrand IAAF began on January 2018.

**Purpose:**
The new name and logo has been designed to represent the modern and positive face for athletics. Also, it aims to attract the younger audience. It will see the organisation take on its new name and a re-designed logo after the 2019 World Athletics Championship in Doha in October.

**From the Origin:**
IAAF was formed in 17 July 1912. When it was founded, the name it had was International Amateur Athletic Federation. It was then changed to International Association of Athletics Federations in 2001. The headquarters of IAAF is located in Monaco. IAAF has 215 member federations. The current President of IAAF is Sebastian Coe. The CEO of IAAF is Jon Ridgeon.

**Indian team for Senior Asian Artistic Gymnastics Championships announced**
- Gymnastics Federation of India declared the Indian group for the Senior Asian Artistic Gymnastics Championships. It is to be held in Ulaanbaatar, Mongolia from June 19 to 22.
- The four men and four ladies senior gymnasts chose for the esteemed competition after Sports Authority of India (SAI) consented to GFI's proposition of holding open preliminaries at IG Stadium. Men group includes Rakesh Kumar Patra (rings and parallel bars), Yogeshwar Singh (floor and vault), Debang Dey (wallop pony) and Arik Dey (level bar).
- Pranati Nayak (vault and pillar), Shraddha Talekar (uneven bars), Pranati Das (shaft) and Papiya Das (floor) are the ladies' cooperative individuals. The Championships will be International introduction for Debang Dey in men's classification Papiya Das in ladies' area classification.
- This challenge likewise be critical introduction to the Gymnasts preceding the 2019 World Championships. It is the fitting the bill for the 2020 Olympics.

**Peter Gilchrist won the 2019 Pacific International Billiards Championship**
- Peter Gilchrist won the 2019 Pacific International Billiards Championship at the Yarraville Club in Melbourne, Australia. Peter Gilchrist defeated Kolkata cueist Kothari who had been on a roll winning the International Reventon Classic Snooker championship, a triple crown event of Australia and thereafter went on to display some outstanding billiards en-route the final.

**Peter Gilchrist:**
- Peter Gilchrist is an English-born Singaporean English billiards player. He has won the WPBSA World Championships in 1994, 2001 and in 2013.
- He has also represented Singapore in the SEA Games in 2009, where he won Gold for English Billiards Singles, and Bronze for the doubles.
- He also set the world record for highest break in billiards (1346) under modern rules, at the New Zealand Open Billiards Championships.
- In 2014, he scored his second 1000 break at the World Billiards Irish Open. He is the only player of the modern era who scored more than one 1000 points in tournament break.
India remained at 101 in the latest FIFA Rankings, Belgium on Top
• The Indian men's football team remained static at the 101st position in the latest FIFA rankings. India recently participated in King's Cup in Thailand, in which it lost one match and won the other in the tournament.
• Belgium remained to top the overall FIFA world rankings, followed by France, Brazil, England, and Portugal.
• The Indian team is at the 18th spot among the Asian countries. Iran has become the only Asian country to feature in the top 20 as they moved one spot to finish at the 20th rank.

About FIFA:
Full form: Federation International Day Football Association
Founded at: Paris, France
Founded: 21 May 1904
President: Gianni Infantino
Headquarters: Zürich, Switzerland
Membership: 211 national associations.

Joshna Chinappa wins record 17th national title.
• Indian squash player Joshna Chinappa won a record 17th national title after beating Sunayna Kuruvilla 11-5, 11-4, 7-11, 11-5. Chinappa broke the 16-time national champion Bhuvneshwari Kumari's record, which stood for 27 years. Rajasthan's Bhuvneshwari had won the national titles from 1977 to 1992. In the men's final, Mahesh Mangaonkar won the title.

Eoin Morgan breaks world record for hitting most sixes in an ODI.
• England captain Eoin Morgan set the world record for most sixes (17) in an ODI, achieving the feat during his 71-ball 148-run knock against Afghanistan in World Cup today. The previous record (16 sixes) was jointly held by Rohit Sharma, Chris Gayle and AB de Villiers. Morgan also smashed the fastest World Cup hundred by an England player (57 balls).

Rashid Khan becomes most expensive bowler in World Cup history
• Afghanistan leg-spinner Rashid Khan is the most expensive bowler in World Cup history. He is the world’s No.3 ODI bowler. He played Sunrisers Hyderabad in Indian Premier League. The record earlier belonged to New Zealand’s Martin Snedden 105 runs for two wickets against England in the 1983 World Cup.
• Rashid had taken one for 52 against Australia and two for 17 against Sri Lanka. He gave 45 runs against South Africa team. He is the second most expensive in ODI history. Pakistan’s left-arm Wahab Riaz took 110 runs in 10 overs against England in August 2016. He is a world class bowler & a delight to watch.
India name 23-member squad for Asian Junior Badminton Championship.
• India named a 23-member squad to represent the country at the Asian Junior Badminton Championship.
The tournament will be held in Suzhou, China.
boys' singles challenge by Manipur's Maisnam Meiraba Luwang.
An impressive total of 1000 points by virtue of a fine run in the domestic circuit.
The girls' team led by Malvika Bansod of the Airport Authority of India.
She topped the list with 1000 points.
Ishaan Bhatnagar and Vishnuvardhan Goud lead India's challenge in the boys' doubles competition, while Aditi Bhatt and Tanisha Crasto the ones to watch out for in girls' doubles.

About Badminton Championship
It is a badminton tournament sanctioned by Badminton World Federation.
The tournament offers the most ranking points, together with Summer Olympic Games.
The winners will be crowned as the "World Champions"

Indian Gymnast, Pranati Nayak won bronze at 2019 Asian Artistic Gymnastic Championship held in Ulaanbaatar, Mongolia
• India's Pranati Nayak won a bronze decoration at the Senior Asian Artistic Championships in Ulaanbaatar, Mongolia. She is from West Bengal.
• She got equipped for finals. She verified 6th spot and concocted a score of 13.384 to win the bronze decoration. She scored 13.400 and 13.367 in the first and second vault score as of late.

Lewis Hamilton won French Grand Prix
Lewis Hamilton of Mercedes won the French Grand Prix. It is held in Circuit Paul Ricard, Le Castellet, France. They verified 187 points. The United Kingdom got an eighth straight success in the year 2019. It was the 6th success of the period. It is 79th of his vocation. He crushed Valtteri Bottas of Mercedes (Finland) verified 151. Charles Leclerc of Ferrari (Monaco) got third Max Verstappen of Red Bull (Belgium) fourth.

World Cup 2019: BCCI unveils India’s away 'orange' jersey for India vs England on June 30.
• Team India's new away 'orange' jersey for World Cup 2019 has been officially unveiled by the BCCI. The much-awaited alternate jersey is dominated by orange colour rather than the original blue. India will be seen wearing this new orange jersey for the first time in its match against England on June 30.
Hosts England hand India their first defeat in 2019 World Cup.

- Hosts England handed India their first defeat in 2019 World Cup by beating them by 31 runs on Sunday. With the victory, England moved to the fourth spot on the points table, while Pakistan slipped one place to the fifth position. Notably, India and England have now played 100 ODIs against each other, with England emerging victorious 42 times.

Rohit 2nd Indian in history to smash 3 hundreds in a World Cup.

- Opener Rohit Sharma has become the second Indian batsman in history to smash three hundreds in a World Cup edition. The 32-year-old, who slammed 122* against South Africa and 140 against Pakistan earlier in 2019 World Cup, reached the three-figure mark in 106 balls against England today. Ex-India captain Sourav Ganguly had smashed three hundreds in the 2003 World Cup.

Kohli first captain to score five straight fifties in WC history.

- India captain Virat Kohli has become the first skipper to score five consecutive fifties in World Cup history. The 30-year-old achieved the feat after reaching the 50-run mark against England in the 2019 World Cup on Sunday. Kohli is only the second player ever to score five fifties in a row in World Cup history after Australia’s Steve Smith.

APPOINTMENTS AND RESIGNATION

Gautam Sawang takes charge as new DGP of Andhra Pradesh.

- Damodar Gautam Sawang, a 1986-batch IPS officer, on Saturday took charge as new Director General of Andhra Pradesh Police. His predecessor RP Thakur was transferred to the Printing and Stationery Department as Commissioner by state’s CM YS Jagan Mohan Reddy on his first day in office. Sawang has also worked as SP and DIG of Police of Maoist-hit Warangal district.

About Gautam Sawang:

- Damodar Gautam Sawang is the present Director General of Police, Andhra Pradesh who was appointed in 31 May 2019. Sawang is a Regular Recruit of the Indian Police Service belonging to the 1986 batch and allocated to the Andhra Pradesh Police cadre.
- Born: 10 July 1963 (age 55 years)
- Service years: 1986-present
- Status: Commissioner of Police, Vijayawada
- Department: Andhra Pradesh Police
- Award: President’s Police Medal for Distinguished Service
- Rank: Director general of police
Yoga Instructor, Namrata Menon appointed as brand ambassador to promote yoga in Goa.
- State Health Department of Goa announced the appointment of Panaji-based, Namrata Menon, Yoga Instructor, and fitness expert, as brand ambassador to promote yoga in Goa.
- She is appointed to promote the ancient system of physical and mental practices to raise awareness about the benefits of yoga so that people follow it on a daily basis.
- She is practicing yoga for 17 years.
- The main objective of this initiative is to increase awareness about the benefits of yoga and encourage people to inculcate a healthy lifestyle.
- The Panaji-based expert has been practicing yoga since the last 17 years and has been instrumental in inspiring many people to take up the ancient practice that involves a range of postures (asanas).

Anita Bhatia appointed as Deputy Executive Director in UN Women.
- Indian-origin Anita Bhatia, a veteran in strategic partnerships, resource mobilization, and management, has been appointed by United Nations Secretary-General Antonio Guterres as the United Nations Entity for Gender Equality and the Empowerment of Women (UN-Women) for Resource Management, Sustainability, and Partnerships. The agency focussed on women empowerment and gender equality.
- The key appointment comes less than a week after Guterres appointed decorated Indian Army officer Lieutenant General Shailesh Tinaikar as his new Force Commander of the UN Mission in South Sudan.

Anita Bhatia:
- Bhatia holds a Bachelor of Arts in History from Calcutta University, a Master of Arts in Political Science from Yale University and a Juris Doctor in Law from Georgetown University.
- Bhatia served for several years as Director of Global Partnerships for the International Finance Corporation (IFC), the World Bank Group’s private sector arm.
- Bhatia has led diverse teams, including as Global Head of Knowledge Management, Head of Business Process Improvement and Head of Change Management. In addition to Latin America, she has worked in Africa, Europe, Central Asia and South and East Asia.

SpiceJet's Chairman and MD Ajay Singh was elected to the board of IATA.
- SpiceJet's Chairman and Managing Director Ajay Singh was elected to the board of the International Air Transport Association (IATA), less than three months after the airline joined the global grouping.
- Founder and former chairman of the now grounded Jet Airways Naresh Goyal, who was associated with the IATA for a long time, was a member on the previous board.

Board of IATA:
- The new board of the global airlines' grouping would be chaired by Lufthansa Group Chief Executive Officer Carsten Spohr, who took charge after the conclusion of the IATA annual general meeting at Seoul, South Korea.
- Spohr will be the Chairman of the IATA Board of Governors (BoG) for a one-year term. Other board members include Air Canada President and CEO Calin Rovinescu, Qantas CEO Alan Joyce and Qatar Airways CEO Akbar Al Baker.
- In March, SpiceJet became the first Indian low-cost carrier to take membership of the IATA, a grouping of around 290 airlines.

International Air Transport Association (IATA):
Formed on: 19 April 1945
Headquarters: Quebec, Canada
DG and CEO: Alexandre de Juniac
Membership: 290 airlines in 120 countries
• IATA is a trade association of the world’s airlines. IATA provides consulting and training services in many areas.

VP Sivakolundhu elected as Puducherry Assembly Speaker.
• Puducherry Deputy Speaker and Lawspet legislator VP Sivakolundhu was on Monday elected as the new Speaker of the Union Territory Assembly. The Speaker's chair fell vacant after Congress' V Vaithilingam stepped down on March 21 to contest the Lok Sabha elections from the lone Puducherry parliamentary seat. The Congress leader, Sivakolundhu, was the sole contender for the Speaker's post.

J&K Bank Chairman removed over governance concerns.
• The Jammu and Kashmir government on Saturday removed J&K Bank's Chairman Parvez Ahmed due to concerns over the bank's governance and functioning. Ahmed, whose tenure was set to end in five months, is reportedly facing allegations of corruption, nepotism and favouritism. The J&K Anti Corruption Bureau raided the premises of J&K Bank's headquarters hours after his removal.

Mrutyunjay Mohapatra is appointed as IMD Chief.
• Renowned scientist and cyclone warning specialist Mrutyunjay Mohapatra was appointed as the Chief of India Meteorological Department (IMD). His is popularly known as Cyclone man. He will take charge in the month of August.
• Mohapatra and his team at the Cyclone Warning Division (CWD) of the IMD are noted for their accurate forecasts on cyclones which have enabled the authorities to ensure early evacuation of millions of people eventually saving many lives. In the past six years, the CWD has given accurate forecasts on cyclones including when Phailin in 2013), Hudhud cyclone in 2014 and Titli in 2018 that hit the eastern coast.

India Meteorological Department
Formed on: 1875
Headquarters: New Delhi
Functions under: Ministry of Earth Sciences
Minister responsible: Harsh Vardhan
Director General: K.J. Ramesh
• The IMD is responsible for the weather and climate-related forecasts in the country. It is also mandated to issue warning to people about severe weather phenomenon like cyclones, dust storms, heavy rain and snow, cold and heat waves, among others.

Ajeya Kallam appointed principal advisor to Andhra Chief Minister.
• Former Chief Secretary Ajeya Kallam appointed as the principal advisor to Chief Minister YS Jagan Mohan Reddy.
• It was issued by Chief Secretary LV Subrahmanyam.
• He will have cabinet rank and leading the secretaries in the Chief Minister's office.
• He will be in the position for 3 years, with a monthly salary of Rs 2.5 lakhs.
• He served as director of horticulture, commissioner of agriculture, commissioner of endowments, executive officer of the TTD, and as Visakhapatnam Port Trust chairman.

Justice Dhirubhai Naranbhai Patel Takes Oath As New CJI Of Delhi High Court.
• Justice Dhirubhai Naranbhai Patel sworn in as Chief Justice of the Delhi High Court.
• Lt Governor Anil Baijal administered the oath of office to Justice Patel at a function held at Raj Niwas.
• Earlier, Justice Patel was posted at the Jharkhand High Court.
• Supreme Court Collegium recommended his name for the appointment as Chief Justice of the Delhi High Court

About Justice Dhirubhai Naranbhai Patel
• Justice Dhirubhai Naranbhai Patel is an Indian Judge.
• He is Chief Justice of Delhi High Court.
• He is former Acting Chief Justice of Jharkhand High Court and Judge of Gujarat High Court.

Uber COO and CMO step down a month after IPO fails.
• Uber confirmed on Friday that its Chief Operating Officer Barney Harford and Chief Marketing Officer Rebecca Messina will depart the company. This comes a month after Uber's IPO failed. CEO Dara Khosrowshahi, who explained the departures in an email to employees, said that he wants to be even more involved in the day-to-day operations of the business.

Wipro Founder Premji to retire after 53 years, son to be Chairman.
• Wipro Founder Azim Premji will retire as Executive Chairman and Managing Director effective July 30 after having led the IT services company for 53 years. His son and Chief Strategy Officer Rishad Premji will take over as Executive Chairman while CEO Abidali Neemuchwala has been appointed as MD. Premji, however, will continue to serve as non-executive director and Founder Chairman.

About Wipro:
• Wipro Limited is an Indian multinational corporation that provides information technology, consulting and business process services. It is headquartered in Bengaluru, Karnataka, India. In 2013, Wipro separated its non-IT businesses into separate companies.
• Founder: M.H. Hasham Premji
• Founded: 29 December 1945, India
• Owner: Azim Premji
• Headquarters: Bengaluru
• Revenue: 847 crores USD (2019)
• Subsidiaries: Appirio, Topcoder, Designit, Yardley of London

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Ajeya Kallam appointed principal advisor to Andhra CM.
• Former Chief Secretary Ajeya Kallam was on Tuesday appointed as the principal advisor to Andhra Pradesh CM YS Jagan Mohan Reddy. Kallam will be in the position for 3 years, with a monthly salary of ₹2.5 lakh, according to an order. Notably, Kallam retired as Chief Secretary in 2017, when N Chandrababu Naidu was Andhra CM.

National Security Adviser (NSA) Ajith Doval gets Cabinet rank with extension of Five more year.
• National Security Adviser (NSA) Ajith Doval gets Cabinet rank with the extension of Five more year reappointed to the post for five more years and given Cabinet rank in the second term of the NDA government.
• Government of India on Monday reappointed Doval as NSA and upgraded his position from Minister of State (MoS) rank
Doval, who was appointed as India’s fifth NSA, played a crucial in ensuring the secure return of 46 Indian nursing bank who was appointed as India’s fifth NSA.
• Doval was widely credited along with the then Foreign Secretary S. Jaishankar and Indian Ambassador to China Vijay Keshav Gokhale, for resolving Doklam Standoff through diplomatic issues.

About National Security Adviser (NSA)
• He is the senior official on the National Security Council (NSC) of India, and the chief adviser to the Prime Minister of India on national and international security policy.
• The National Security Advisor (India) is the most powerful bureaucrat in the Government of India. Ajit Doval is the current NSA.

BJP's Rajesh Patnekar elected Speaker of Goa Assembly.
• BJP MLA Rajesh Patnekar was elected as the Speaker of Goa Assembly, defeating ex-state CM Pratapsingh Rane of Congress by 22-16 votes. Speaking to the MLAs, Patnekar said, "Don't leave the House while the Assembly is in session. Try to watch, try to study." His rival Pratapsingh Rane said that Patnekar "will be judged by the decisions of the House."

About Rajesh Patnekar:
• BJP MLA Rajesh Patnekar was elected as the Speaker of Goa Assembly, defeating ex-state CM Pratapsingh Rane of Congress by 22-16 votes. Speaking to the MLAs, Patnekar said, "Don't leave the House while the Assembly is in session. Try to watch, try to study." His rival Pratapsingh Rane said that Patnekar "will be judged by the decisions of the House.

H Vishwanath resigns as Karnataka JD(S) President.
• Following the Lok Sabha debacle of the Janata Dal (Secular) in Karnataka, state party President H Vishwanath on Tuesday resigned from the post. He resigned saying, "I take moral responsibility for the (party's) defeat." The Karnataka JD(S) chief was reportedly unhappy over being sidelined and not being taken into confidence by the party on key issues.
IV Subba Rao continues as secretary to Vice President.
• IV Subba Rao continues as secretary to Vice President M Venkaiah Naidu as per an order issued by the Ministry of Personnel.
The Appointments Committee of the Cabinet approved the continuation of Rao
He is a retired IAS officer
He serves as secretary to the vice president on a contract basis

More about IV Subba Rao
He is a 1979 batch IAS officer
He belongs to Andhra Pradesh, Rao
He is retired from service in August 2015.

Tokayev sworn in as the President of Kazakhstan.
• Kassym-Jomart Tokayev has sworn in as the President of Kazakhstan. He was the interim president and hand-picked successor of Nursultan Nazarbayev. He won the election, which was held on 9 June, with 70.96% of the vote which was contested against six government-approved candidates.
Tokayev presidency aims to continue Nazarbayev’s policies aimed at improving the well-being of the people. He succeeded Nursultan Nazarbayev, who announced his resignation in March after 30 years in power.
This is the first time Kazakhstan gets its new president since the collapse of the Soviet Union.

BJP MP Virendra Kumar to be pro-tem speaker of Lok Sabha.
• Virendra Kumar, a seven-time MP from Tikamgarh in Madhya Pradesh chosen as the pro tem speaker of the 17th Lok Sabha.
• He was MoS in the ministry of women and child development He was also in the minority affairs ministry in the previous government.
• He is likely to be administered the oath of office at the Rashtrapati Bhavan on June 17, the day where newly elected Lok Sabha commences its first session.
• On the first two days, the new MPs will take the oath.
• The election for the speaker will be on June 19.
• He was elected to the 11th Lok Sabha for the first time in 1996.
• He became a member of the Standing Committee on Labour and Welfare.
• He served as a member and chairman of various committees.
• He studied a Ph.D. started his political career in 1977
• He became the convener of Akhil Bharatiya Vidyarthi Parishad (ABVP), Sagar district, Madhya Pradesh.
• He served a prison sentence of 16 months under the Maintenance of Internal Security Act (MISA) in protest against the imposition of Emergency when he was associated with RSS.
• He was a minister of state in the previous Modi government.

Definition of Pro Term Speaker:
• After the general election and formation of a new government, a list of senior Lok Sabha members prepared by the Legislative Section is submitted to the Minister of Parliamentary Affairs
• He who selects a pro tem speaker.
• The appointment should be approved by the President.
Mekathoti Sucharitha appointed as the Home Minister of Andhra Pradesh.
• Sucharitha, A Dalit Women was inducted into the Congress by the late Dr Y S Rajashekara Reddy (YSR) spotted her during his historic ‘padayatra’ in 2003.
• Chief Minister of Andhra Pradesh, Y S Jagan Mohan Reddy appointed Mekathoti Sucharita as the state home minister
• She is one among five ministers to be selected from SC community
• Her native is Poondla village near Bapatla and completed her studies at Phirangipuram, where her father was practising as a doctor.
• She vowed to maintain the highest standards of integrity and honesty in public life and thanked Chief Minister for reposing faith in her and promised that she would live up to the expectations.

About Y S Gagan Mohan Reddy
• Yeduguri Sandinti Jaganmohan Reddy, is an Indian politician
• He is serving as the 17th and current Chief Minister of Andhra Pradesh.
• Party: YSR Congress Party

About Andhra Pradesh
• Chief Minister: Y. S. Jaganmohan Reddy (YSR Congress Party)
• Governor: E. S. L. Narasimhan

Narasimhan has been appointed as CEO of Reckitt Benckiser
• PepsiCo executive Laxman Narasimhan has been delegated as the CEO of the British shopper products goliath Reckitt Benckiser. He will succeed Rakesh Kapoor.
• Narasimhan will join Reckitt as CEO-assign and be designated to the board on July 16. He will continue his office and become bunch CEO on September 1. Narasimhan's underlying needs will be to concentrate on conveying outperformance particularly in the wellbeing specialty unit, and to drive the Lysol creator's arrangement to part the firm into two specialty units under a similar organization.

PV Ramashastri appointed UP ADG Law and Order.
• IPS PV Ramashastri on Monday assumed the charge as Additional Director General (ADG) Law and Order, Uttar Pradesh. This comes after CM Yogi Adityanath, on Friday, transferred six senior police officers after reviewing state's law and order situation. Praising his predecessor, Ramashastri said during former ADG (Law and Order), Anand Kumar's tenure, there were "stern actions against hardcore criminals".

Lieutenant General Faiz Hameed is appointed as Pakistans Director General of Inter-Services Intelligence.
• Lieutenant General Faiz Hameed has been appointed as Pakistan’s Director General of Inter-Services Intelligence (DG-ISI), a powerful spy agency. He assumed his office on 17th June 2019. The Pakistan Army also announced a number of changes to postings of its top generals.
  Lt. Gen. Hameed was appointed as Director-General of the ISI in place of Lieutenant General Asim Munir. Munir was transferred and appointed as Corps Commander Gujranwala. Lt. Gen. Munir was appointed as ISI chief in October 2018 after the retirement of his predecessor Lt. Gen. Naveed Mukhtar.
Lieutenant General Faiz Hameed:
• Lieutenant General Faiz Hameed is a three-star rank general in the Pakistan Army. He is currently the 24th Director-General of Inter-Services Intelligence (DG-ISI).
• On April 12, the Pakistan Army promoted then Major General Hameed to the rank of Lieutenant General and appointed him Adjutant General at the General Headquarters (GHQ) later that month. He was previously serving as the head of the Counter Intelligence wing in the ISI.

Indiabulls Housing appoints Chief Risk Officer after new rules.
• Indiabulls Housing Finance on Monday said it has named Naveen Uppal as Chief Risk Officer to comply with regulator National Housing Bank’s direction. Uppal has been associated with Indiabulls Housing Finance for 12 years and presently heads Risk and Compliance. He'll directly report to the company's Vice-Chairman, MD and CEO or the board-constituted risk management committee of the company.

Paytm Mall names Rudra Dalmia as Exec Director, Board member.
• Paytm Mall has named Rudra Dalmia as the Executive Director and also appointed him to its board. Dalmia is an SRCC alumnus and has an MBA from Cornell University's Samuel Curtis Johnson Graduate School of Management. "I welcome [Dalmia] to Paytm family...am proud to see him as a board member of Paytm e-commerce," Paytm CEO Vijay Shekhar Sharma said.

Indiabulls Housing Finance Ltd has appointed Naveen Uppal as the Chief Risk Officer.
• Indiabulls Housing Finance Ltd has appointed Naveen Uppal as the Chief Risk Officer (CRO). The appointment complied with norms of National Housing Bank (NHB), the housing finance sector regulator. His appointment will be for a period of three years with effect from June 17, 2019. He will be directly reporting to the managing director and CEO of the company.

RBI's norm:
• The appointment comes after the announcement made by RBI on 16 May which said that all non-banking financial companies (NBFCs) with assets of more than ₹5,000 crore to appoint a chief risk officer (CRO). RBI’s move was in the wake of ongoing rating downgrades of non-banks which has raised fears of another liquidity crisis.

Mr.Uppal:
• Uppal has over 23 years of experience in operations, audit and credit risk within the finance industry. He has been associated with Indiabulls Housing Finance for 12 years and presently heads risk and compliance. He was also associated with ICICI Bank as its zonal operations head.

Indiabulls Housing Finance Ltd:
♦ Founded on: January, 2000
♦ Headquarters: Gurgaon, India
♦ Chairman and Founder: Sameer Gehlaut
♦ Vice Chairman and MD: Gagan Banga
♦ Indiabulls Housing Finance Ltd. (IBHFL) is India’s second largest housing finance company, regulated by the National Housing Bank (NHB).
♦ It was rated the 13th largest consumer finance company worldwide by Forbes Global 2000 in June 2018.

Kona Raghupati was elected as the Deputy Speaker of the Andhra Pradesh Legislative Assembly.

- Kona Raghupati was unanimously elected as the Deputy Speaker of the Andhra Pradesh Legislative Assembly on 18 June 2019. He is a two-time MLA from the ruling YSRCP who is representing Bapatla constituency.
- Mr. Raghupati was nominated by the Municipal Administration and Urban Development Minister Botsa Satyanarayana which was backed by other members of the cabinet and senior leaders of the ruling party. Speaker Tammineni Sitaram declared the election of Kona Raghupathi as Deputy Speaker as he was the only contestant.

Mr. Raghupati:

- He is from political family. He holds a Bachelors degree. His father, Kona Prabhakara Rao, was a veteran Congress leader who even served as the Speaker for the Assembly of united Andhra Pradesh, for a brief period between 1980 and 1981. Rao also acted as Governor for three states, Puducherry, Sikkim and Maharashtra, serving a brief period in each state between 1983 and 1986.

Om Birla has been elected as the 17th Lok Sabha Speaker.

- Om Birla has been unanimously elected as the 17th Lok Sabha Speaker with the opposition Congress coming out in support of the National Democratic Alliance (NDA)’s candidate. Birla will replace Sumitra Mahajan.

Mr. Om Birla:

- He is a two-time Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP) member of Parliament (MP) from Rajasthan. Birla is also a member of the Standing Committee on Energy in Parliament, member of Committee on Petitions and Consultative Committee for Ministry of social justice and empowerment. He has an 86% average attendance in the House.

Nominated by:

- Mr. Birla was nominated by Prime Minister Narendra Modi, defence minister Rajnath Singh, home minister Amit Shah and minister for transport and highways and shipping Nitin Gadkari. He was also backed by Biju Janata Dal (BJD) and YSR Congress Party (YSRCP).
- The United Progressive Alliance (UPA) which was led by the Congress has also decided to support Birla’s candidature.
Shefali Juneja appointed as India’s representative in the Council of the International Civil Aviation Organisation (ICAO)

- India's Pranati Nayak won a bronze decoration at the Senior Asian Artistic Championships in Ulaanbaatar, Mongolia. She is from West Bengal.
- She got equipped for finals. She verified 6th spot and concocted a score of 13.384 to win the bronze decoration.
- She scored 13.400 and 13.367 in the first and second vault score as of late.

Justice V Ramasubramanian appointed as the Chief Justice of the Himachal Pradesh High Court

- Justice V Ramasubramanian designated as Chief Justice of the Himachal Pradesh High Court.
- He succeeded Chief Justice Surya Kant. The function was managed by Governor Acharya Devvrat.
- He filled in as an Additional Judge of the Madras High Court.
- He joined as changeless Judge from November 9, 2009.

Justice Raghvendra Singh Chauhan appointed as the second Chief Justice of Telangana High Court

- Raghvendra Singh Chauhan named as the second Chief Justice of Telangana High Court in Hyderabad.
- He succeeded Chief Justice T.B. Radhakrishnan in April, 2019. He has a place with Rajasthan.
- He made vow before Governor E.S.L. Narasimhan. Boss Secretary S.K. Joshi started swearing-in service.
- The Registrar General of Telangana High Court A. Venkateswar Reddy read out the warrant.

RBI Deputy Governor Viral Acharya resigned.

- The Reserve Bank of India’s (RBI) Deputy Governor Viral Acharya resigned six months before the scheduled end of his term.
- He returned to New York University Stern School of Business (NYU stern) as CV Starr Professor of Economics.
- He submitted a letter to RBI he is unable to continue his term as a Deputy Governor of the RBI beyond July 23, 2019.
- He leave the central bank on December 10, 2018.
- He is in charge of the Financial Stability Unit, Monetary Policy Department, Department of Economic and Policy Research, Financial Markets Operation Department.

About Reserve Bank of India

Established: 1 April 1935
Headquarters: Mumbai, Maharashtra, India
Governor: Shaktikanta Das
InMobi names Harvard professor Khanna as independent director.

- InMobi Group’s Board of Directors has appointed Harvard professor Tarun Khanna as an independent director of the firm. "InMobi’s journey...being the first unicorn to becoming a successful global company to emerge out of India is an inspiration for any entrepreneur," Khanna said. A member of the faculty since 1993, Khanna is the Jorge Paulo Lemann Professor at Harvard Business School.

OBITUARY

Poet and lyricist Pazhavila Ramesan passed away on 13 June

- Poet and lyricist Pazhavila Ramesan passed away on 13 June 2019 at Thiruvananthapuram. He was 83. He was debilitated for quite a while.
- Pazhavila Ramesan: Ramesan had gotten the 2017 Kerala Sahithya Akademi grant for generally speaking commitments. He composed verses for Malayalam motion pictures, for example, Njattadi, Aashamsakalode, Uncle Bun, Maloottty, and Vasudha.
- He was co-manager of K. Balakrishnan’s Kaumudi Weekly in the sixties. He worked at the State Institute of Languages in different limits till 1993.
- He is a beneficiary of different honors, Ramesan brought out verse accumulations, for example, Mazhayude Jalakam, Njan Ente Kadukalelilku, and Pazhavila Ramesante Kavithakal, other than accumulations of his compositions, for example, Ormayude Varthamanam, Mayatha Varakal, and Nervara.

SUMMITS AND MOU’s

The US formally terminated Indias eligibility for a duty free import scheme.

- The United States on formally terminated India’s eligibility for a duty-free import scheme for developing countries on 31 May. It cited that India has not given assurances it will provide equitable and reasonable access to its markets to US companies as required under relevant American trade laws. The US President Donald Trump has said the country would end its preferential trade treatment for India on June 5.
- India-The biggest beneficiary:
  - Notably, India is the biggest beneficiary of the US’ Generalized System of Preferences (GSP). It sold an estimated $6.3 billion worth of goods to the United States under this program in 2018.
Background:
• President Trump had conveyed his intention to terminate India’s eligibility for the programme, Generalized System of Preferences (GSP), to the US Congress on March 4. And the formal termination became due on May 4, after the mandatory 60-day notice period.
• But the administration held off on the proclamation as India was in the middle of elections at the time and there was pressure from US lawmakers, from both parties, to delay the termination to allow more time for negotiations. There was an expectation that India could avert the termination.
• But the Trump administration had concluded much before, according to people close to the developments, that India would not be able to deliver no matter how much additional time it was given.

What is Generalized System of Preferences (GSP)?
• The Generalized System of Preferences (GSP) is a U.S. trade program designed to promote economic growth in the developing world by providing preferential duty-free entry for up to 4,800 products from 129 designated beneficiary countries and territories. GSP was instituted on January 1, 1976, by the Trade Act of 1974.
• The GSP program has effective dates which are specified in relevant legislation, thereby requiring periodical reauthorization in order to remain in effect. GSP expired on July 31, 2013, and was most recently reauthorized on June 29, 2015 (effective July 29, 2015) for a period of two and a half years. The relevant legislation permits retroactive extension of GSP benefits. Recently the USA has excluded India from the list of beneficiaries of this program.

Govt extends PM-KISAN scheme, announces Rs 6,000 cash handout scheme to all farmers.
• In the first Cabinet meeting, Modi led new government decided to extend PM-KISAN scheme to all 14.5 crore farmers in the country costing Rs 87,000 crore a year and also announced over Rs 10,000 crore pension scheme for 5 crore farmers, thereby fulfilling the BJP’s poll promise.
• The Rs 75,000-crore Pradhan Mantri Kisan Samman Siddhi (PMKSS - PM Kisan) was announced in the interim Budget under which the government decided to provide Rs 6,000 per year (in three equal instalments) to an estimated 12.5 crore small and marginal farmers holding land up to 2 hectares.
• Now, the revised scheme envisages to cover around 2 crore more farmers increasing the coverage of the PM- KISAN to around 14.5 crore beneficiaries.
• Farmer pension scheme:
  • Cabinet also approved the Pradhan Mantri Kisan Pension Yojana under which small and marginal farmers will get a minimum fixed pension of Rs 3,000 per month on attaining the age of 60 years.
  • The scheme will cost the exchequer a total of ₹10,000 crore per annum.
  • New Union Minister of Agriculture and Farmers welfare - Narendra Singh Tomar

India and France to carry out Garuda, a two week long mega air exercise.
• Indian Air Force and French Air Force have planned to carry out Garuda, a two-week-long mega air exercise, beginning on July 1 in France. The aim is to boost the military-to-military ties between the two countries. A fleet of Sukhoi 30 fighter jets of the Indian Air Force will engage in dogfights with France’s Rafale multirole aircraft in simulated scenarios as part of the ‘Garuda’ exercise.
• Other assets include mid-air refueller will also be sent to France by the IAF. It will be one of the largest air exercises between the two strategic partners. The exercise will also provide an opportunity
to a sizeable number of IAF pilots to have a close look at the Rafale jets being operated by the French Air Force.

- India had signed a government-to-government deal with France in 2016 to buy 36 Rafale fighter jets at a cost of about Rs.58,000-crore. The first Rafale jet is scheduled to be delivered in September.

**Disability Summit, Argentina 2019 is being held Buenos Aires, Argentina.**
- The 2nd Global Disability Summit being held in Buenos Aires, Argentina. 'Disability Summit, Argentina 2019', the three-day summit will be held from 6 June to 8 June 2019. India will be represented by the Minister of Social Justice and Empowerment Thaawar Chand Gehlot.

**Organized by:**
- The Global Disability Summit is organized by International Alliance Disability (IDA), an umbrella organization focused on improving awareness and rights for individuals with disabilities around the globe which was established in 1999, and Latin American Network of Non-Governmental Organizations of Persons with Disabilities and their Families (RIADIS).

**Objective:**
- The summit will be focusing on deliberating issues across the world concerning empowerment and inclusion of Persons with Disabilities. The summit will also include a discussion to work out a mechanism for enabling them to live an independent and dignified life.
- The Summit brings together governments, international organizations, organizations of people with disabilities, civil society organizations, international cooperation agencies, academia, and the private sector, with the hope of achieving real change for people with disabilities.

**1st Global Disability Summit:**
- The 1st Global Disability Summit was held in London on 23-24 July 2018. The summit was hosted by the UK Department for International Development (DFID), along with the International Disability Alliance (IDA) and the Government of Kenya.

**Aim:**
- The 1st summit was in line with the principle of ‘nothing about us, without us’. 40 countries participated in the summit.
- All countries that participated in the summit signed the Charter for Change, the principal legacy document of the Global Disability Summit and committed to working in direction of economic empowerment of the persons with disabilities.

**AAI signs with Boeing to improve airspace utilization.**
- The Airports Authority of India (AAI) signed a technical assistance agreement with aerospace major Boeing. The agreement aims to develop an air traffic management roadmap which will improve airspace utilization and help maintain efficient aircraft operations. The AAI will use guidance in the modernization of the Indian National Airspace System (NAS).
  The roadmap is expected to be developed within 18 months and it will be undertaken with a grant from the United States Trade and Development Agency (USTDA).
  In this project, Boeing will also work closely with Indian aviation regulator Directorate General of Civil Aviation (DGCA) and other airspace stakeholders like the US-India Aviation Cooperation Program (ACP).
The G20 Summit ended with the issuance of joint statement on trade and the digital economy.

• In the G20 Summit, the Finance Ministers and Central Bank Governors from the Group of 20 economies issued a joint statement on trade and the digital economy. The meeting was held in Tsukuba, Japan on 8 and 9 June 2019.

Aim:
• The G20 Summit was focused on the ways to promote trade and cooperation among the G20 countries in order to harness the potential of the digital economy.

New tax rules:
• The Finance Ministers discussed new tax rules on global IT giants as well as the impact of aging populations on the economy as the corporate sector make huge profits through cross-border data transfers.
• Global growth is being stable and is expected to pick up moderately by late 2019 and into 2020. However, growth remains low and risks remain tilted to the downside as trade and geopolitical tensions have been intensified.

Agreements:
• The Ministers confirmed their commitment to refraining from competitive currency devaluations in order to gain an unfair trade advantage.
• They also agreed on guiding principles for using artificial intelligence which is created on the 36-member OECD and an additional six countries. They also planned to highlight divisions over trade issues such as reform of the World Trade Organization.

SEBI signed MoU with MCA to facilitate the sharing of data and information for regulatory purposes.
• The Securities and Exchange Board of India (SEBI) signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) with the Ministry of Corporate Affairs (MCA).

Aim:
• The MoU will ensure that both the MCA and the SEBI have seamless linkage for regulatory purposes and in addition to regular exchange of data. It also aims to facilitate the continuous sharing of data and information for carrying out scrutiny, inspection, investigation, and prosecution.

Benefits:
• The MoU will facilitate the sharing of data and information between SEBI and the MCA on an automatic and regular basis. It will also enable sharing of specific information such as details of suspended companies, delisted firms, shareholding pattern from the SEBI and financial statements filed with the Registrar by corporates, returns of allotment of shares and audit reports relating to corporates.
• The MCA has the database of all registered firms whereas the SEBI only regulates listed entities that may have unlisted subsidiaries. The MCA alone has access to all the data of such unlisted entities.
• The data exchange status will be reviewed and analyzed by a Data Exchange Steering Group which will meet and review periodically.

Significance:
• The move comes after the view to increase the need for surveillance in the context of corporate frauds which affects important sectors of the economy. It is a known fact that the private sector plays an increasingly vital role in economic growth, the need for a robust corporate governance mechanism becomes the need of the hour.
• Already there exists a protocol of sharing of data between SEBI and MCA, in many cases, the regulator has also sent its orders against various entities to the MCA for further action.

**Securities and Exchange Board of India (SEBI):**
Formed: April 12, 1988
Acquired Statutory Status on: January 30, 1992
Headquarters: Mumbai, Maharashtra
Chairman: Ajay Tyagi
Executive Director: Anand Rajeshwar Baiwar
SEBI is the regulator for the securities market in India

**India signs six key agreements with the Maldives.**
• Indian Prime Minister Narendra Modi visited the Maldives on 8 June. PM's visit to the Maldives reflects the importance India attaches to its Neighbourhood First policy.

**Highlights:**
• During his visit, PM Narendra Modi and the President of Maldives Ibrahim Mohamed Solih signed six key agreements and substantive bilateral level talks.
• MoU includes maritime and defence ties which are a top priority and the radar system are expected to boost maritime security.
• The leaders jointly inaugurated a coastal surveillance radar system and a composite training centre for the Maldives defence forces.
• Launch of RuPay Card in the Maldives was welcomed by PM Modi as it will give a boost to tourism in the island nation.

The six agreements include:
• cooperation in the field of hydrography
• cooperation in the field of health
• customs capacity building between the Central Board of Direct Taxes (CBDT) and Customs of India and the Maldives Customs Service
• the establishment of passenger and cargo services by sea
• training and Capacity Building Programme for Maldivian civil servants Maldives Civil Service Commission signed with India’s National Centre for Good Governance (NCGG) with the Department of Administrative Reforms and Public Grievances
• sharing white shipping information between the Indian Navy and the Maldives National Defence Force

**Previous agreements:**
In March 2019, India and Maldives signed an $800-million Line of Credit Agreement with an aim to assist the Maldives in achieving sustainable social and economic development.

**Maldives:**
President: Ibrahim Mohamed Solih
Vice President: Faisal Naseem
Capital: Malé
Currency: Maldivian rufiyaa (MVR)
Official languages: English, Dhivehi
PM Narendra Modi to meet Putin and Xi Jinping in sidelines to SCO summit.

- Prime Minister Narendra Modi is to meet Russian President Vladimir Putin and Chinese President Xi Jinping before the Shanghai Cooperation Organisation (SCO) summit. The announcement was made by the Ministry of External Affairs.

Its a reiteration:

- Prime Minister Modi is to reiterate his invite to President Xi to visit India for an informal summit in 2019. The first informal summit was held in Wuhan in 2018.
- The Ministry did not approve to hold a separate meeting between the Prime Minister with his counterpart from Pakistan, Imran Khan.

SCO Summit 2019:

- The SCO summit is to be held on June 14 in Bishkek, Kyrgyz Republic. It will be the first multilateral meeting of Prime Minister Narendra Modi after his re-election in the Lok Sabha election.
- The group will discuss issues related to terrorism, Afghanistan, regional security, multilateral dialogue and global scenario.

NDMA conducts training programme for CBRN emergencies at Kandla Port.

- The National Disaster Management Authority (NDMA) is conducting a basic training programme at the Deendayal Port Trust in Kandla, Gujarat. The five-day training programme, aimed at increasing the awareness and enhancing the preparedness of Seaport Emergency Handlers (SEHs) to respond to CBRN emergencies at the seaports, started on June 10, 2019.
- This is the fourth in a series of such programmes that will be conducted at various seaports across the country to enable SEHs to respond suitably till the arrival of specialised response teams. Earlier this year, three batches of SEHs were trained at Mangalore, Kochi and Navi Mumbai.
- CBRN (Chemical, Biological, Radiological and Nuclear) threats emanate at seaports due to arrival, storage and transportation of a large amount of chemical, petrochemical and other CBRN agents.
- The training programme is being conducted in collaboration with the Indian Ports Association (IPA), Institute of Nuclear Medicine & Allied Sciences (INMAS) and National Disaster Response Force (NDRF). This training programme will improve the CBRN safety at our seaports by enabling the SEHs to handle any CBRN emergency.
- The programme consists of lectures as well as field training, including live demonstrations of detection and decontamination including use of Personal Protective Equipment (PPE), and mock exercises. Besides equipping the SEHs to handle CBRN emergencies, the training programme will also enable them to provide medical first aid and initial psycho-social support.
- Experts from stakeholder departments such as Atomic Energy Regulatory Board (AERB), Bhabha Atomic Research Centre (BARC) and Defence Research and Development Organisation (DRDO) will train the participants.
- Around 50 participants representing various agencies responsible for operation and maintenance of the seaport are being trained on various aspects of CBRN emergencies. Another 200 working level staff will be sensitized on the subject in a half-day programme.

KSEB signed an agreement with GJ Eco Power Pvt. Ltd. to establish Waste-to-Energy (WtE) plants.

- The Kerala State Electricity Board (KSEB) signed a power purchase agreement with Kochi-based GJ Eco Power Pvt. Ltd. to establish Waste-to-Energy (WtE) plants across the State. GJ Eco Power Pvt. Ltd. has been implementing the project at the Brahmapuram solid waste treatment plant.
• The proposed plant is expected to be commissioned within 18 months of the launch of its construction. The power purchase agreement was signed in the presence of Electricity Minister M.M. Mani, Electricity Department secretary B. Ashok and KSEB chairman and managing director N.S. Pillai.
• Under the agreement, the KSEB will purchase the power generated from the 9.76 MW WtE plant at a rate of Rs.6.17 per unit for a period of 20 years from the commercial operation date. Kerala State Electricity Regulatory Commission has approved the tariff.
• The company had been roped in by the Kochi Corporation to implement the State’s first WtE project in the public-private partnership mode.
• KSEB will be supplied with 330 tonnes per day (TPD) of municipal solid waste by the local body. It is tasked with generating 47 million units (mu) of power.

NSIC signs MoU with CSC e-governance services India.
• National Small Industries Corporation (NSIC) signed an MoU with Common Service Centres (CSC) e-Governance Services India to enhance new offerings for the MSME sector. This MoU enables CSCs to utilize a plethora of NSIC offerings through the NSIC portal. He facilitates VLEs and MSMEs through digital empowerment in accessing NSIC integrated support services encompassing Marketing, Finance, Technology. The MoU special focus on providing services to village level entrepreneurs (VLEs) to exponential growth of Village Entrepreneurs in the country. The MoU enable CSCs to utilize plethora of NSIC offerings through the NSIC portal www.msmemart.com.

About NSIC (National Small Industries Corporation Limited)
Founder: Government of India
Founded: 1955
Headquarters: New Delhi
World Milk Day is observed on 1 June.
- World Milk Day is a day established by the Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO) of the United Nations to recognize the importance of milk as a global food. It has been observed on June 1 each year since 2001. The day is intended to provide an opportunity to bring attention to activities that are connected with the dairy sector.
- Objective of the day:
  - To provide information about the need and importance of milk in a human being's life.
  - Various activities are organised on this day to raise awareness about milk and milk products.
  - To celebrate the contribution of milk and dairy products in several industries, the economy and people's lives.
  - To educate people about the nutrients that are present in the milk like calcium, protein, vitamin B2, potassium, iodine, etc.
  - Several promotional activities about milk and its importance are launched by the International Dairy Federation on its website online.

Milk:
Milk contains valuable nutrients and offers a range of health benefits. It is a white liquid produced by the mammary glands of mammals. Milk is not only consumed by growing children but also by the people of all age groups. It is an important part of our daily diet. It has great nourishing value and a rich source of calcium, protein, fat and vitamin C. Mainly we get milk from cows, buffaloes and from other animals like sheep, goat and camel.

Milk day in India:
- The World Milk Day event does not follow a specific theme in the world. Different countries, governments, and non-governmental organisations decide their own theme.
- The theme for World Milk Day 2019 in India is "Drink Milk: Today & Everyday". Various campaigns are organised in India at the Indian Veterinary Research Institute (IVRI), Izatnagar, Bareilly, Uttar Pradesh and focuses on safe, hygiene milk production and consumption.

June 3 is celebrated as the World Bicycle Day across the globe.
- In April 2018, the United Nations General Assembly (UNGA) declared 3 June as International World Bicycle Day. The resolution for World Bicycle Day recognizes the uniqueness, longevity, and versatility of the bicycle, which has been in use for two centuries, and that it is a simple, affordable, reliable, clean and environmentally fit sustainable means of transportation.
- 2019 will be the second year when it will be celebrated after the UN General Assembly declared it in 2018 to acknowledge the uniqueness, longevity and the importance of the bicycle which is a simple, affordable, reliable and an environmentally friendly mode of transportation.

Aim:
- The day aims to promote the use of bicycles as a means of fostering sustainable development, strengthening education, including physical education, for children and young people, promoting health and tolerance, preventing disease, mutual understanding and respect, facilitating social inclusion and a culture of peace.

World Bicycle Day in India:
• In India, Vice President of India Venkaiah Naidu had flagged off a cycling rally in Connaught Place in Delhi on the occasion of World Bicycle Day. It was also celebrated by cyclists in many other cities like Bengaluru and Mumbai.

World Oceans Day is celebrated on 8th June.
• World Oceans Day is celebrated on 8th June every year. The day was declared in 2008. June 8 was marked as it marks the day when it was first proposed in 1992 by Canada’s International Centre for Ocean Development (ICOD) and the Ocean Institute of Canada (OIC) at the Earth Summit, UN Conference on Environment and Development (UNCED) in Rio de Janeiro, Brazil. The Conference supported the implementation of Sustainable Development Goal (SDG) 14 of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development: Conserve and sustainably use the oceans, seas and marine resources for sustainable development.

Theme 2019:
• The theme for the year 2019 is Gender and Oceans. The theme is to build greater ocean and gender literacy and to discover possible ways to promote gender equality in ocean-related activities such as marine scientific research, fisheries, labour at sea, migration by sea and human trafficking, as well as policy-making and management.

• The importance of gender equality is being recognized increasingly for the effective conservation and sustainable use of oceans, seas, and marine resources. Yet very little data and researches are available on these issues. Serious action towards gender equality and the empowerment of women and girls is still needed in all ocean-related sectors to achieve Sustainable Development Goal 5.

Plastic Pollution:
• María Fernanda Espinosa, the President of the General Assembly launched Play It Out which is a global campaign against plastic pollution. Decades of overuse of single-use plastics has caused a huge menace to the marine lives. 13,000,000 tonnes of plastic leak into the ocean every year which kills 100,000 marine animals annually.

• While most plastics are expected to remain intact for decades or centuries after use. These plastics erode and ends up as micro-plastics, consumed by fish and other marine wildlife, quickly making their way into the global food chain.

Maharana Pratap Jayanti observed on 6 June.
• Maharana Pratap Jayanti is observed on June 6. It is observed to commemorate the birth anniversary of the brave Rajput warrior Maharana Pratap. It was his 479th birth anniversary.

Maharana Pratap:
• Maharana Pratap was the ruler of Mewar. He is the eldest son of Maharana Udai Singh and Maharani Jaiwanta Bai. Maharana Pratap is a symbol of Rajput valour, gallantry, and diligence. He fought against Mughal supremacy to free his homeland from their control.

• Mewar is a province in modern-day Rajasthan. The province includes Bhilwara, Chittorgarh, Rajsamand, Udaipur, Pirawa (Jhalawar), Neemuch and Mandsaur in Madhya Pradesh, and some parts of Gujarat.

Some amazing facts of Maharana Pratap:
• Maharana Pratap was one of the strongest warriors in India. He is of 7 feet 5 inches in height. He carried 360 kg of weight, which included a spear weighing 80 kg, two swords weighing 208 kg and his armour was around 72 kg heavy. His own weight was more than 110 kg.
He had 11 wives, 17 sons, and 5 daughters.
• He didn't surrender to Akbar while all the other Rajput rulers surrendered and became members of his council.
• Maharana Pratap bravely fought the Haldi Ghati Battle with an army of 22,000 against the Mughal army of 80,000. But he lost the war due to treachery by his brother.
• Chetak, Maharana Pratap's horse, is known for his loyalty to his master. The horse is said to have a tinge of blue on his coat. Chetak lost his life while jumping across a 21-feet wide river to save his master's life.
• Ramprasad, Maharana Pratap's elephant killed 2 war elephants of the Mughal army. Ramprasad was imprisoned by Akbar and refused to eat anything or drink and lost his life on the 18th day.
• He died of an injury from the hunting accident while tightening the string of a bow with an arrow.

World Environment Day - 5 June.
• World Environment Day (WED) is celebrated on the 5th of June every year, and is the United Nation's principal vehicle for encouraging awareness and action for the protection of our environment.
• First held in: 1974
• The theme for 2019 is "Beat Air Pollution".
• 2019 host nation is China.
• 2018:
• The theme for 2018 is "Beat Plastic Pollution". The host nation was India.
• Air Pollution facts:
• Approximately 7 million people worldwide die prematurely each year from air pollution, with about 4 million of these deaths occurring in Asia-Pacific.

International Day of Innocent Children Victims of Aggression is observed on 4 June.
• The International Day of Innocent Children Victims of Aggression is a United Nations observance each 4 June. In 1997 The General Assembly adopted the 51/77 Resolution on the Rights of the Child. It was established on 19 August 1982.

History:
• Originally focused on victims of the 1982 Lebanon War. A large number of innocent Lebanese and Palestinian children being the victims of the aggression acts by Israel’s. So, at its special emergency session on 19 August 1982, the members of the General Assembly of Palestine was shocked. Therefore, the assembly decided to celebrate 4th June as the International Day of Innocent Children Victims of Aggression under the resolution ES-7/8.
• UN's purpose expanded to acknowledge the pain suffered by children throughout the world who are the victims of physical, mental and emotional abuse. This day affirms the UN's commitment to protect the rights of children. It was a landmark development in efforts to improve the protection of children in conflict situations.
• In recent years, the number of violations perpetrated against children have, in many conflict zones, increased. More needs to be done to protect the 250 million children living in countries and areas affected by conflict. More must be done to protect children from targeting by violent extremists, to promote international humanitarian and human rights law, and to ensure accountability for violations of the rights of children.
2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development:
• The 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development provides us with the universal masterplan to secure a better future for children. The new agenda included for the first time a specific target to end all forms of violence against children, and ending the abuse, neglect, and exploitation of children are mainstreamed across several other violence-related targets.

International Day Against Child Labour observed on June 12.
• International Labour Organization (ILO) started to celebrate World Day Against Child Labour in 2002. Aim: To focus attention on the global extent of child labour and the action and efforts needed to eliminate it.
The 2019 theme is Children shouldn’t work in fields, but on dreams!
The day brings government employers and workers organizations, civil society, as well as millions of people from around the world to highlight the plight of child labourers.
Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) adopted by world leaders in 2015 to include a renewed global commitment to ending child labour.
Sustainable Development Goals and effective measures are take-ups in order to eradicate forced labour, end modern slavery and human trafficking and secure the prohibition and elimination of the worst forms of child labour includes use of child labours by the year 2025 and to end child labour in all its forms.
ILO celebrates 100 years of advancing social justice.
The protection of children embedded in the ILO’s Constitution (Preamble). One of the first Conventions adopted by the ILO was on Minimum Age in Industry (No. 5, 1919).
8.7 target set by the international community calling for an end to child labour in all its forms by 2025.

About World Day Against Child Labour
Observances: UN, International Labour Organization
Frequency: annual
Called as: WDACL
Observed by: UN Members

World Blood Donor Day is observed on June 14
• The day is celebrated to raise awareness of the need for safe blood and blood products and to thank blood donors. The theme is - Blood Donation and Universal Access to Safe Blood Transfusion
• The main aim is to use as a component of achieving universal health coverage. The theme encourages more people all over the world to become blood donors and donate blood regularly. It is an important occasion for all governments, national health authorities and national blood services to provide adequate infrastructures to increase collection of blood from regular unpaid blood donors.
• It helps to mobilize support at national, regional and global levels among governments and development partners to invest in, strengthen and sustain national blood programmes. Blood is treating the wounded during emergencies like natural disasters, accidents and armed conflicts.
It is essential, life-saving role in maternal care.

About World Blood Donor Day
• Countries around the world celebrate World Blood Donor Day on June 14.
• Date: Friday, 14 June 2019
• Observed by: All member states of the World Health Organization
June month is celebrated as the LGBTQ Pride month
- June month is celebrated as the Lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender and queer or questioning (LGBTQ) Pride month all over the world. The LGBTQ pride month is celebrated to commemorate the anniversary of Stonewall riots at Stonewall Inn in New York, a gathering space for LGBTQ community during the 60s.
- It provides role models, builds community, and represents a civil rights statement about the contributions of the LGBT community. The month is observed by United States, United Kingdom, Canada. LGBT History Month originated in the United States. It was first celebrated in 1994.
- The commemoration of the month is to recognize the impact that lesbian, gay, bisexual and transgender individuals have had on history locally, nationally, and internationally.
- History: On June 28, 1969, police raided the inn, leading to the gay liberation movement in the US. 'Mother of Pride' Brenda Howard organised the first pride parade a year later.

World Day to Combat Desertification and Drought observed on June 17.
- World Day to Combat Desertification and Drought day is observed every year on June 17
  The theme for this year is Let's grow the future together.
  **Aim:** To promote public awareness of international efforts to combat desertification.
  Land degradation neutrality is achieved through problem-solving, strong community involvement and cooperation at all levels.
- United Nations Secretary-General António Guterres land degradation and drought are major threats affecting millions of people worldwide, particularly women and children.
- Every year, the world loses 24 billion tons of fertile soil and dryland degradation reduces national domestic product in developing countries by up to 8 per cent annually.
  Protecting and restoring land and better using it can reduce forced migration, improve food security and spur economic growth.
- They can also help to address the global climate emergency.
  To recognize the imperative of combating desertification as part of the efforts to achieve Sustainable Development Goals

**About Minister for Environment, Forests and Climate Change**
Formed: 1985
Headquarters: New Delhi
Annual budget: ₹2,675.42 crore
Minister responsible: Prakash Javadekar

World Refugee Day is observed on 20 June
- World Refugee Day is observed on June 20 each year. The day is dedicated to raising awareness of the situation of refugees throughout the world. The theme for 2019 World Refugee day is #StepWithRefugees — Take A Step on World Refugee Day.
- The theme expects communities, schools, businesses, faith groups and people from all walks of life should take big and small steps in solidarity with refugees.
• Refugee is a person who has been forced to leave their country in order to escape war, persecution, or natural disaster.

**Fifth International Yoga Day being celebrated on June 21.**

• Nepal celebrates 5th International Day of Yoga. Government of Nepal planned to organize a yoga program in Kathmandu to celebrate the International Day of Yoga. International Day of Yoga aims to raise awareness worldwide about the benefits of practicing yoga. The 2019 Theme: Yoga for Climate Action.

Prime Minister of Nepal K. P. Sharma Oli as chief guest. Indian Ambassador Manjeev Singh Puri and other dignitaries will also attend the event. Janakpur city, a special programme organised early in the morning at the premises of famous Janaki temple.

A mass Yoga Utsav held in temple premises. The event organised by the Embassy of India in association with Janaki temple trust and Patanjali Yogpeeth Nepal.

Many government officials Governor and Chief Minister of Province 2, senior leaders from Center and Province 2 and officials of Indian Embassy Kathmandu and Consul General of India Birgunj join Yoga Day celebrations.

Patanjali Yogpeeth Nepal planned events in all seven provinces of Himalayan nation. Around two hundred programmes will be held in all 77 districts headquarters to celebrate International Day of Yoga.

**India - Celebration of yoga**

Prime Minister Narendra Modi led the nation in celebrating yoga day from Ranchi in Jharkhand.

The main function held at the Prabhat Tara ground in Ranchi.

Prime Minister insisted on integrating yoga with health schemes.

Government has integrated yoga with health and wellness to make it a pillar of preventive health care.

At Gujarat 1.51 crore people participated in the celebrations. Governor of Gujarat O.P. Kohli and Chief Minister Vijay Rupani. Prime Minister participated in the event through video conferencing early this morning.

Tamil Nadu, several programs were organised by Central Government offices, Central and state Government schools and yoga groups.

**About Nepal**

Capital: Kathmandu
Currency: Nepalese rupee
Prime minister: KP Sharma Oli

**International Day Against Drug Abuse and Illicit Trafficking is observed on 26 June.**

• The International Day Against Drug Abuse and Illicit Trafficking is observed on 26 June every year. It is a United Nations International Day against drug abuse and the illegal drug trade. It is observed since 1989. The day was instituted by General Assembly Resolution 42/112 of 7 December 1987.
2019 Theme:
The United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime (UNODC) has set the theme for 2019 as 'Health for Justice. Justice for Health'. The theme highlights that justice and health are two sides of the same coin when it comes to addressing drug problems.
Effective responses to the world drug problem require inclusive and accountable institutions of criminal justice, health and social services to work hand in hand to provide integrated solutions, in line with the international drug control conventions, human rights obligations and the Sustainable Development Goals.

Micro, Small and Medium sized Enterprises Day is celebrated on 27 June.
• United Nations observe 27 June as the Micro, Small and Medium sized Enterprises Day.
Micro, small and Medium-sized businesses celebrated this day in recognition of their work in local and global economies.
These enterprises, which generally employ fewer than 250 persons are the backbone of most economies worldwide.
The General Assembly invites all Member States, organizations of the United Nations system and other international and regional organizations.
It includes non-governmental organizations, academia, individuals and other relevant stakeholders to observe the Day in an appropriate manner and in accordance with national priorities.

Statistics Day is observed on 29th June.
• Statistics Day is observed on June 29th.
Its main aim is to popularize the use of Statistics in everyday life
They plan to sensitize the public where Statistics subject helps in shaping and framing policies.
The theme of 2019 Statistics Day is Sustainable Development Goals.
The day is celebrated on the birth anniversary of Prof. P C Mahalanobis for his invaluable contribution in establishing the National Statistical System.
Minister of Statistics and Program Implementation Rao Inderjit Singh chair the main function to be held in New Delhi.
The winner of Prof. C R Rao Award 2019 for notable contribution in the field of Statistics.
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