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INTERNATIONAL

Pentagon to send 320 more troops to US-Mexico border.
• The US Defence Department announced that it would deploy around 320 additional troops to the southern border with Mexico to support immigration officials. The troops, set to deploy until the end of September, will add to around 2,900 active duty military and 2,000 National Guard members currently posted to the border. The Pentagon spokesman said, the troops would assist with transporting migrants, monitoring the welfare of migrants in custody and providing heating and meals.

Airtel Africa reports $83 million profit in March quarter.
• Airtel Africa, a subsidiary of Bharti Airtel, on Tuesday reported a profit of $83 million for the March quarter, as against a loss of $49 million a year earlier. The company's revenue grew 6% to $781 million. Qatar Investment Authority invested $200 million in the company during the quarter, taking funds raised as pre-IPO private placement to $1.45 billion.

Jaish chief Masood Azhar designated as global terrorist by UN.
• The designation of Azhar as a terrorist by the UNSC will lead to embargos on his travel and his ability to find finance for his group
• India’s first attempt to get Azhar listed came in 2009, seven years after his JeM group was designated a terrorist outfit by the UN.

Japan got its new emperor Naruhito.
• The new emperor, Naruhito (59-year-old), on 1st May received the sacred imperial regalia that represents his rightful succession to the world’s oldest monarchy, Tokyo, Japan. Emperor Akihito of Japan formally stepped down on 30th April 2019 as his son Naruhito prepared to take the Chrysanthemum Throne and usher in a new imperial era.

Pakistan named its retaliatory action against India on February 27 as Operation Swift Retort.
• Pakistan Air Force announced that they will observe its retaliatory action against India against the Balakot strike of Indian Air Force as ‘Operation Swift Retort’. The Indian air strikes at Balakot terror camp on February 26 was response of Pakistan based Jaish-e-Mohammed (JeM) attack by a suicide bomber in Pulwama that killed 40 CRPF jawans. In response to Indian attack, Pakistan Air Force (PAF) retaliated and captured IAF Wing Commander Abhinandan Varthaman who was released by Pakistan on March 1.

Warren Buffett finally embraces Amazon as Berkshire acquires stake.
• Warren Buffett has said that he underestimated Amazon.com Inc.’s Jeff Bezos. Now one of Buffett’s deputies is willing to put money behind the tech giant.

Donald Trump, Vladimir Putin discuss new nuclear accord possibly including China
• U.S. President Donald Trump said he and Russian President Vladimir Putin discussed on Friday the possibility of a new accord limiting nuclear arms that could eventually include China in what would be a major deal between the globe’s top three atomic powers.
• Trump, speaking to reporters as he met in the Oval Office with Peter Pellegrini, prime minister of the Slovak Republic, also said he and Putin discussed efforts to persuade North Korea to give up nuclear weapons, the political discord in Venezuela, and Ukraine during a call that stretched over an hour.
• The 2011 New START treaty, the only U.S.-Russia arms control pact limiting deployed strategic nuclear weapons, expires in February 2021 but can be extended for five years if both sides agree. Without the agreement, it could be harder to gauge each other’s intentions, arms control advocates say.

US to hike tariffs on USD 200 bn of Chinese goods.
• President Donald Trump announced on 5th May that the U.S. would raise tariffs on $200 billion of Chinese goods to 25% from 10th May because trade talks are moving too slowly, as they attempt to renegotiate. Mr. Trump’s action came ahead of the arrival of a major Chinese delegation to Washington for the latest round of talks around, it is believed, could possibly lead to a deal.
• For 10 months, China has been paying Tariffs to the USA of 25% on 50 Billion Dollars of High Tech, and 10% on 200 Billion Dollars of other goods. 10% will go up to 25%. The two sides have imposed tariffs on $360 billion in two-way trade since 2018. But Mr. Trump and Chinese leader Xi Jinping agreed to a truce in December to refrain from further escalation.
• The two sides have imposed tariffs on USD 360 billion in two-way trade since 2018. But Trump and Chinese leader Xi Jinping agreed to a truce in December to refrain from further escalation. Trump said that he wants to reduce the huge US trade deficit with China, which in 2018 totalled $378.73 billion if trade in services is included.
• Besides a greater opening of the Chinese market to US goods, Trump is pressing for structural changes such as Beijing ending its practice of forcing US companies that operate in China to share their technology. Trump is also demanding that China halt theft of intellectual property and subsidies to state-owned companies.

Oil tumbles, China stocks plunge over 4% after Trump vows tariff hike.
• Global financial markets tumbled on Monday after US President Donald Trump unexpectedly jacked up pressure on China to reach a trade deal, saying he would hike US tariffs on Chinese goods this week.
• Equity markets, which had been largely expecting a trade accord, fell sharply across export-reliant Asia as further talks were thrown into doubt.
• Chinese shares plunged more than 4% at one point, while US stock market futures fell close to 2%. Oil prices plunged and the Chinese yuan tumbled.

US wants India to eliminate trade barriers for American companies: Ross
• The US wants India to eliminate trade barriers for American companies and remove restrictions with regard to data localisation to cut the cost of doing business, visiting US Commerce Secretary Wilbur Ross said Tuesday.
• "Our goal is to eliminate barriers to the US companies operating here including data localisation restrictions that actually weaken data security and increase the cost of doing business," he said here. Ross was speaking at the Trade Winds Forum and Trade Mission. He is accompanying a delegation of over 100 American businesses. He also alleged that India imposes very high import duties on goods like automobiles, motorcycles, agri products and alcoholic beverages."
• Currently US businesses face significant market access barriers in India. These include both tariff and non-tariff barriers as well as multiple practices and regulations to the disadvantage of foreign companies. "India’s average applied tariffs rate is 13.8 per cent and that remains the highest of any major world economy, the very highest.
• It has for example a 60 per cent tariff on auto, while the US has 2.5 per cent. It has 50 per cent tariff on motorcycles and 150 per cent on alcoholic beverages. Just a few extreme examples," he added.
US deploys carrier strike group to send ‘clear message’ to Iran
• The US is deploying an aircraft carrier strike group and a bomber task force in the Middle East to send a “clear and unmistakable” message to Iran that any attack on American interests or its allies will be met with “unrelenting force”, National Security Advisor John Bolton has warned.
• Bolton said on Sunday the decision to deploy the USS Abraham Lincoln Carrier Strike Group and a bomber task force to the US Central Command region in the Middle East was in response to a number of “troubling and escalatory indications and warnings” from Iran.
• The deployment of the strike group and bomber task force comes after US President Donald Trump last month refused to give waivers to countries like India from buying oil from Iran, in an attempt to reduce Iran’s oil exports to zero.
• After coming to power, Trump withdrew from the Iranian nuclear deal last year and has imposed stringent sanctions against what he describes as the “authoritarian” Iranian regime.

Uber falls below $70bn value on 1st trading day, CEO blames trade war.
• Uber ended its first day of trading with a market cap of $69.7 billion, below its last private valuation of $76 billion. CEO Dara Khosrowshahi said US-China trade tensions played a role in the stock’s weak performance, adding, “You can’t pick when you go public”. Uber priced its IPO at $45 per share, valuing the company at $75.5 billion.

Japan tests world’s fastest bullet train capable of 400 kmph speed.
• Japan has started testing world’s fastest bullet train, the ‘ALFA-X’ version of the Shinkansen train, capable of reaching 400 kmph speed. It will be tested twice a week after midnight between Sendai and Aomori, which are around 280 kilometres apart. On entering operation, it will run at up to 360 kmph, outpacing China’s Fuxing train, which runs 10 kmph slower.

Hinduja brothers named UK’s wealthiest people for third time.
• The Hinduja brothers have been named the UK’s wealthiest people for the third time, according to Sunday Times Rich List. Sri and Gopi Hinduja saw their wealth increase by £1.35 billion from last year to £22 billion (around ₹2 lakh crore). The Hinduja Group was founded in Mumbai in 1914 and operates in fields including oil, banking, IT and property.

Elon Musk’s brain tech startup Neuralink raises $39 million.
• Neuralink, an American neurotechnology startup co-founded by Elon Musk, has raised $39 million of a planned $51 million funding round, Bloomberg said quoting a filing with the SEC. As per its LinkedIn, Neuralink is developing ultra-high bandwidth brain-machine interfaces to connect humans and computers. Notably, billionaire Elon Musk is the CEO of Tesla and SpaceX.

Chinese navy launches two new guided missile destroyers.
• China, which is developing its navy at a feverish pace, has commissioned two more guided missile destroyers taking the total of such warships to 20 with more in the pipeline, state-media reported on Monday.
• Two Type 052D guided missile destroyers were launched last Friday in Dalian, a coastal city, state-run Global Times reported.
• Their commissioning marked the 19th and 20th of launches of their kind, the report said and quoted Chinese analysts as saying that plans are afoot to build more guided missile destroyers.
GTA publisher Rockstar Games buys KBC game maker Dhruva.
• Grand Theft Auto publisher Rockstar Games has acquired Swedish developer Starbreeze AB's 91.82% stake in Bengaluru-headquartered video game studio Dhruva Interactive for over ₹55 crore. Founded in 1997 by Rajesh Rao, Dhruva Interactive is claimed to be India's first-ever game development studio. It is best known for its games Kaun Banega Crorepati, N64 Mission: Impossible and Forza Horizon.

Alabama Senate passes bill to ban abortion.
• The Alabama Senate has passed the most restrictive abortion Bill in the U.S., which places a near-total ban on the termination of pregnancy (abortion), even in cases of rape and incest, and could punish doctors who perform the procedure with life in prison. •The text passed by the Republican-led Senate has been sent to Governor Kay Ivey’s desk for signature into law and, if approved, is expected to trigger a legal battle.
Under the Bill:
• Performing an abortion is a crime that could land doctors who perform it in prison for 10 to 99 years
• Abortions would only be legal if the life of the mother is in danger or the foetus has a fatal condition
• ACLU, the largest human rights defence organisation in the United States, promised to file a lawsuit to block its implementation. The Republican-led Senate approved the measure by 25 votes to six.

China to host 2023 Asian Cup.
• China has become the sole contender to host the Asian Cup Football tournament in 2023. The announcement came after South Korea has announced to withdraw its bid to host the game. The Korea Football Association (KFA) announced that it had pulled out to strategically focus on a joint bid with North Korea to host the Women’s World Cup in the same year.
• China’s interest to host:
  • In February 2013, China suggested interest in hosting the 2019 AFC Asian Cup. However, in September 2013, the CFA withdrew its bid.
  • In late 2015, the CFA confirmed their intention to bid for the 2023 AFC Asian Cup. In March 2019 China had officially proposed to bid for the 2023 Asian Cup. China has previously hosted the 2004 Asian Cup.

About 2023 AFC Asian Cup:
• The 2023 Asian Football Confederation (AFC) Asian Cup will be the 18th edition of the AFC Asian Cup. It is organised by the Asian Football Confederation (AFC). The tournament will involve 24 national teams.

Taiwan becomes 1st Asian country to legalise same-sex marriage.
• Taiwan has become the first Asian country to legalise same-sex marriage following a vote on Friday. In 2017, the island's constitutional court ruled that same-sex couples had the right to legally marry. Taiwan's parliament was given a two-year deadline and was required to pass the changes by May 24.
About Taiwan:
• Taiwan, officially the Republic of China, is a state in East Asia. Neighbouring states include the People's Republic of China to the west, Japan to the northeast, and the Philippines to the south.
  • Capital: Taipei
  • Dialing code: +886
Kami Rita sets record by scaling Mount Everest for the 23rd time

A Nepalese Sherpa climber Kami Rita has scaled Mount Everest for a 23rd time, breaking his own record for the Most successful ascents of the world's highest peak. Rita reached the 8,850-metre (29,035-feet) summit with other climbers via the Southeast Ridge route.

His latest ascent took him two summits clear of two fellow Sherpas, who have successfully climbed the peak 21 times.

About Kami Rita Sherpa:
Rita belongs to Thame village of Solukhumbu district in Nepal. Rita first scaled Everest in 1994 and has been making the trip nearly every year since.

In 2017, Kami became the third person to climb Mount Everest for the 21st time. With this, he matched the achievement of Phurba Tashi Sherpa and Apa Sherpa, both of them, have retired since then. In 2018 he summited the Mt. Everest 22nd time in 2018 and set a record of most summits on Mount Everest.

Who are Sherpa climbers?
Sherpa is one of the ethnic groups native to the most mountainous regions of Nepal and the Himalayas.

Nepal banned popular Chinese digital wallets Alipay and WeChat.
Nepal banned popular Chinese digital wallets Alipay and WeChat to prevent the loss of foreign currency earnings from tens of thousands of Chinese tourists. The reason cited is Nepal was losing out since the actual transactions took place in China.

Over 1,50,000 Chinese holidaymakers visited Nepal in 2018, many using digital wallets to pay in hotels, restaurants, and shops in tourist areas, especially in Chinese-run businesses.

Nepal:
President: Bidhya Devi Bhandari
Prime Minister: KP Sharma Oli
Capital: Kathmandu
Currency: Nepalese rupee

Bangladesh stopped visas for Pak. nationals.
The Bangladesh High Commission in Islamabad has stopped issuing visas to Pakistani nationals for one week over a fresh diplomatic row amid strained bilateral ties since 2013 when Dhaka decided to hang several of the 1971 war criminals.
The Bangladesh High Commission in Islamabad stopped issuing visas to Pakistanis for the last one week as a mark of protest as a Bangladeshi diplomat's visa-extension application has not been cleared by the Pakistan government for last four months.

No official announcement yet made:
In 2018, Dhaka denied a visa to the Pakistan High Commissioner. The Foreign Office in Dhaka, however, is yet to make any formal confirmation and no official notification has been issued on the halting of visas to the Pakistani nationals.

Bangladesh refusal for Pak. new high commissioner:
Bangladesh has reportedly refused to accept the 'agreement' from Islamabad for the appointment of a new high commissioner. Pakistan Ministry of Foreign Affairs named Saqlain Syedah as its new High Commissioner to Bangladesh, but Dhaka refused to accept the "agreement", a diplomatic requirement under which a host country has to confirm the appointment of an incoming envoy.

**Reason:**
Bangladesh, which seceded from Pakistan in 1971, has accused Pakistan of financing terrorism on its soil. Bilateral ties have become so strained. Now it has halted granting visas to all Pakistanis.

**US, Japan, South Korea, Australia Hold 1st Naval Drills In Western Pacific.**

- US State Department approved to sell air-defense missiles for worth of more than USD 600 million to Japan and South Korea.

  This approval was result of rising tension with North Korea when a pair of missile was tested by North Korea last week.

  The US government has approved sale of 94 SM-2 missiles used by ships against air threats along with 12 guidance systems for a total cost of USD 313.9 million.

**About South Korea**
Capital: Seoul
Currency: South Korean Won
President: Moon Jae-in

**About Japan**
Capital: Tokyo
Currency: Japanese Yen
Prime Minister. Shinzo Abe

**About USA**
Capital: Washington D.C.
Currency: United States Dollar
President: Donald Trump

**Trump bypasses US Congress to sell $8-billion arms to Saudi, UAE.**

- US President Donald Trump, declaring a national emergency because of tensions with Iran, bypassed Congress on Friday to complete the sale of over $8 billion worth of weapons to Saudi, the UAE and Jordan. Members of Congress had been blocking sales of military equipment to Saudi and the UAE because of huge civilian toll from their air campaign in Yemen.

**Donald Trump becomes first foreign leader to meet new Japanese emperor.**

- US President Donald Trump became first foreign leader at Japan's Imperial Palace where he made history becoming the first world leader to meet with the new emperor of Japan. Emperor Naruhito ascended to the throne on May 1, opening what is called the era of "Reiwa," or "beautiful harmony."

- US President who is on a four-day state visit to Japan was treated to a welcome ceremony full of pomp and pageantry.

**About Naruhito**
Reign: 1 May 2019 - Present
Predecessor: Akihito
126th monarch - According to Japan's traditional order of succession.
India, Sri Lanka and Japan signed a deal to develop container terminal at Colombo

• Sri Lanka, Japan, and India signed an agreement to jointly develop the East Container Terminal at the Colombo Port on 28th May. The joint initiative is estimated to cost between $500 million and $700 million.
• The signing of the Memorandum of Cooperation (MoC) is significant, given that the countries had been negotiating the deal since last year with little success. As per the agreement, the Sri Lanka Ports Authority (SLPA) retains 100% ownership of the East Container Terminal (ECT), while the Terminal Operations Company is jointly owned. Sri Lanka will hold a 51% stake in the project and the joint venture partners will retain 49%.
• Aim: The ECT development project aimed at neutralizing the growing influence of China, which has poured money into the South Asian island nation under its Belt and Road Initiative (BRI) infrastructure plan. The ECT is located some three km away from the China-backed international financial city, known popularly as port city.

Huawei challenged U.S. s NDDA bill as sanctions fight ramps up.

• World’s largest telecom equipment maker Huawei filed a motion in a US court to declare National Defense Authorization Act (NDAA) as “unconstitutional”. The U.S. court had agreed on a schedule to hold hearings in September on motions by opposing sides.

NDAA Bill:
• The NDAA bill, passed by the U.S. Congress in 2018, places a broad ban on federal agencies and their contractors from using Huawei equipment on national security grounds, citing the company’s ties with the Chinese government.

Huawei’s accusation:
• In its petition, Huawei said that NDAA illegally targets without opportunity for rebuttal or escape. It provides no opportunity to present evidence as defence. The company repeatedly denied it is controlled by the Chinese government, military or intelligence services.

Ban on Huawei:
• In early May 2019, the U.S. Commerce Department put Huawei on a trade blacklist that bans companies from doing business with the Chinese firm, a move which immediately disrupted the global tech sector. The ban affected the company’s more than 1,200 suppliers and threatened to affect its 3 billion customers in 170 countries.
• Huawei, which has been given a 90-day reprieve from the ban, has denied its products pose a security threat and protested Washington’s attempts to limit its business.

US removed India, Switzerland from its currency monitoring list.

• US Government removed India and Switzerland from its currency monitoring list US Government has removed India and Switzerland from its currency monitoring list. The monitoring list includes countries with potentially questionable foreign exchange policies and practices currency manipulation. It is prepared by the US Treasury Department. India had a significant trade surplus while Switzerland had a material current account surplus. In its semi-annual report to US Congress on International Economic and Exchange Rate Policies, the Treasury Department removed India and Switzerland from the list.
• Criteria:
• Countries with a current-account surplus equivalent to 2% of the Gross Domestic Product(GDP) are eligible for the list, according to modifications made in the new list, down from 3% earlier.
• repeated intervention in the currency markets
• a trade surplus with the US of at least $20 billion
• Why was India removed?
• India was placed in the bi-annual currency watch list in October 2018. In 2018, there was a decline in the scale and frequency of foreign exchange purchases in Switzerland and India. Neither Switzerland nor India met the criteria for having engaged in persistent, one-sided intervention in either the October 2018 report or the recent report.
• India had met one out of three criteria which were necessary for inclusion on the monitoring list, a significant bilateral surplus with the US for two consecutive reports.
• India for the first time was placed by the US in its currency monitoring list of countries with potentially questionable foreign exchange policies in May 2018. As per the Report of October 2018, India had made improvements in this regard.
• The US Treasury Department reported that India maintains ample reserves according to the International Monetary Fund (IMF) metrics for reserve adequacy.
• Countries in the list:
  • At present, the list includes 9 countries namely China, Japan, South Korea, Germany, Italy, Ireland, Singapore, Malaysia, and Vietnam.
  • The US Treasury Department urged the Asian nations to take necessary steps to avoid a "persistently weak currency".

About the USA:
• President: Donald Trump
• Capital: Washington, DC
• Currency: US Dollar

WHO concluded that Burnout is not a medical condition.
• The World Health Organization (WHO) has for the first time recognised "burn out" in its International Classification of Diseases (ICD), collectively known as the ICD-11. The decision was taken during the World Health Assembly (WHA) in Geneva.

Burn-out:
• WHO has now defined burnout as "a syndrome conceptualised as resulting from chronic workplace stress that has not been successfully managed". Burn-out refers specifically to phenomena in the occupational context and should not be applied to describe experiences in other areas of life
• The syndrome was characterised by:
  1) feelings of energy depletion or exhaustion
  2) increased the mental distance from one’s job or feelings of negativism or cynicism related to one's job
  3) reduced professional efficacy.

Significance:
• Classifying "burn-out" in ICD could help put to rest years of debate among experts about how to define burnout, and whether it should be considered a medical condition or not.
• International Classification of Diseases (ICD):
  • It is the global health information standard for mortality and morbidity statistics. It was created in 1948 and WHO was entrusted with it. ICD is revised periodically and this year is currently its 10th revision.
• It is widely used as a benchmark for diagnosis and health insurers. The updated 'CD list, dubbed as ICD-11, was drafted in 2018 following recommendations from health experts from all around the world. It was approved on 25 May 2019 and will take effect in January 2022.

Goldman Sachs to invest USD250 mn to construct one of its largest global workspaces in Bengaluru
• New York-based investment and financial services major Goldman Sachs have pumped in $250 million to construct one of its largest global workspaces in Bengaluru.
• Bengaluru workspace: Bengaluru, with 2,500 techies, is the second-largest engineering talent base of Goldman Sachs after New York. Goldman Sachs Service, Bengaluru has become one of the firm’s global centres of innovation focused on the development and application of artificial intelligence, machine learning, and data analytics to help solve business problems for our worldwide network.
• The investment bank has seen significant technology value-addition from Bengaluru during the past one-and-a-half decades, and software solutions developed in the city have been used in many business verticals. It has also undertaken automation of key services such as client onboarding.

ISS spacewalk successfully carried out for the 217th time by 2 cosmonauts
• Two Russian space agency Roscosmos’ cosmonauts have successfully carried out the 217th spacewalk for International Space Station's support, maintenance and upgrade. The spacewalk, fourth for 2019, was done by Expedition 59 Commander Oleg Kononenko and Flight Engineer Alexey Ovchinin and lasted six hours and one minute.
• This was Commander Kononenko’s fifth spacewalk and the first-ever for Ovchinin. The cosmonauts retrieved science experiments, install handrails on the Russian segment of the complex, and conduct maintenance on the orbiting laboratory.
• Roscosmos State Space Corporation:
  Formation: 25 February 1992
  Headquarters: Moscow, Russia
  Administrator: Dmitry Rogozin
  Parent organization: The Russian government
• It is responsible for the wide range and types of space flights and cosmonautics programs for the Russian Federation.

NATIONAL

Reliance Jio to launch 'Super App' with 100 services: Report.
• Reliance Jio is reportedly aiming to launch a ‘Super App’ that will provide over 100 services in one platform. The report said the app will let users order goods and services on it and pay bills using in-app payment services. Reports added that launching the app will put Reliance in a position to replicate China's WeChat in India.

OYO buys 51% stake in Europe's @Leisure for Rs.1,400 crore.
• Indian hotel startup OYO has agreed to buy a 51% stake in European vacation rental group @Leisure from German media company Axel Springer for Rs.1,400 crore. @Leisure manages
holiday homes, holiday parks and holiday apartments across Europe and has a total inventory of more than 3 lakh rooms. OYO now has presence in more than 800 cities across 24 countries.

**Flipkart in talks to buy grocery chain Namdhari’s Fresh: Reports.**
- Walmart-owned e-commerce giant Flipkart is in talks to buy Bengaluru-based grocery chain Namdhari's Fresh, as per reports. While Walmart is said to have held talks with Namdhari's, the acquisition will be made through Flipkart, reports said. Namdhari's operates over 30 stores in Bengaluru, and the acquisition will help Flipkart expand its food and grocery segment, reports added.

**L&T buys Coffee Day & its Founder’s stake in Mindtree for Rs. 3,210 cr.**
- Larsen & Toubro (L&T) has purchased a 20% stake in Bengaluru-based IT services firm Mindtree from Coffee Day and its Founder VG Siddhartha for about Rs.3,210 crore. The infrastructure major is aiming to acquire an up to 66% stake in Mindtree for Rs.10,730 crore. L&T’s hostile bid to acquire controlling stake in Mindtree is the first in India's IT industry.

**Bengaluru logistics startup BlackBuck raises Rs.1,043 crore.**
Bengaluru-based logistics startup BlackBuck has raised about Rs.1,043 crore in Series D funding round led by Goldman Sachs Investment Partners and Accel. Sequoia Capital, B Capital, among others also participated in the round which reportedly values the startup at just under $1 billion. BlackBuck was founded in 2015 by IIT-Kharagpur alumni Rajesh Yabaji, Chanakya Hridaya and Ramasubramanian B.

**April GST collections at Rs.1.13 lakh crore, highest since rollout.**
- The Goods and Services Tax (GST) collection in April touched Rs.1.13 lakh crore, the highest since the nationwide levy was rolled out in July 2017. The revenue in April is 16% higher than the monthly average GST revenue of Rs.98,114 crore in 2018-19. This is the fifth time the collections crossed Rs.1 lakh crore since GST rollout.

**BSNL launches Bharat fibre for high speed broadband Internet service with local channel partner in Pulwama.**
- ‘Bharat Fibre’, the state-owned telecom firm, BSNL (Bharat Sanchar Nigam Limited) became the 1st operator to start optical fibre-based high-speed broadband service in Pulwama.
- The Bharat Fibre services with reliable and high-speed internet are provided on the optical fibre by FTTH (fibre-to-the-home) service up to the customer premises.
The service was launched by BSNL Chief General Manager of Jammu and Kashmir Circle, Rana Ashok Kumar Singh, in the presence of Srinagar General Manager Telecom District Zafar Iqbal and BSNL’s channel partner, Mir Nazir.
- The Internet services generally remain unaffected even during the vagaries of weather.
BSNL provides the FTTH service with a monthly charge of Rs 777-16,999 in around 160 telecom districts with a minimum speed of 2 megabit-per-second (Mbps).
The ‘Bharat Fibre’ service launched on a revenue sharing basis in a business collaborative model with the local channel partner of Pulwama area.

**PayPal India launched One Touch with the help of Google Smart Lock for seamless transactions.**
- PayPal India used Google Smart Lock and launched its OneTouch experience in India.
OneTouch feature permits Indian consumers to register their Android device with PayPal and stay logged into PayPal for further PayPal purchases on that device, thus removing the issue of repeated log-ins and enabling a seamless payments experience.

The integration with Google Smart Lock will offer a hassle-free payment procedure as well as maintain security to prevent fraud.

- India becomes the first market where the feature of Google Smart Lock has been integrated.
- PayPal’s Buyer Protection feature will provide an extra layer of security to this feature for eligible transactions, that is, if items that are purchased online mismatch with the description of the product that was sold, the Buyer Protection feature enables them to claim a refund for eligible transactions.

**Godrej Properties buys Mumbai’s iconic RK studio.**

- Godrej Properties Ltd (GPL) on Friday said it has bought Mumbai’s iconic R.K. Studios, founded by legendary film actor Raj Kapoor, for an undisclosed amount.
- The company will develop the property, spread across 2.2 acres, into a project spanning 0.35 million sq ft of saleable area comprising modern residential apartments of various configurations as well as a luxury retail experience, Godrej Properties said in a filing to the BSE.

**HealthKart to raise 173 cr from Belgium’s Advent Management.**

- Gurugram-based health and fitness products platform HealthKart is raising about Rs.173 crore from Belgium-based Advent Management, Entrackr revealed. It has raised around Rs. 346 crore worth preference and equity capital since July last year.

HealthKart was founded by Prashant Tandon and Sameer Maheshwari in 2011 after raising $1 million from Kae Capital and Sequoia Capital.

**Vodafone Idea signs multi-million dollar IT deal with IBM.**

- India’s largest telecom operator Vodafone Idea Ltd on Friday announced a five-year multi-million-dollar IT outsourcing deal with tech giant IBM.
- “This engagement will also contribute to Vodafone Idea’s merger synergy objectives by reducing its IT related costs,” the telecom firm said in a statement.
- The company did not divulge the size of the deal but some reports pegged it at about $700 million.

**ISRO planning to send a probe to study sun early next year**

- Indian Space Research Organization is planning to send a probe to study the sun early next year. ISRO chairman Dr K Sivan currently scientists are exploring possibilities to study more about Sun and the probe named Aditya-L1 will be sent to observe the solar corona, the outer layers of the Sun.
- The satellite would be ed in a halo orbit around the L1 (Lagrangian point 1) of the Sun-Earth system so that it has the advantage of continuously viewing the Sun without any occultation or eclipses.
- The L1 is 1.5 million kms from the mission to send Indian astronauts to space by 2022 is well on stream. The provided by ISRO, officials were able to forecast the landfall area and this helped in taking precautionary measures in advance.

**NHA sets up unit to boost innovations**

- The National Health Authority (NHA), the implementing body for the Ayushman Bharat-Pradhan Mantri Jan Arogya Yojna (AB-PMJAY), has set up a unit to promote innovations that reduce dependence on imported technologies to make quality health care affordable.
• The NHA “innovation unit” comprises a four-member team that will sift through applications from start-ups, including organisations and individuals, offering technologies that lower cost. Ayushman Bharat is the Modi government’s flagship public health insurance scheme.
• “Lot of start-ups offer affordable health care by innovating on expensive technologies that exist. Many have approached us with proposals to develop cost-effective machines, gadgets, diagnostic kits, data privacy technology etc to bring down the cost significantly,” said Dinesh Arora, deputy CEO, Ayushman Bharat.

Odisha death toll in Cyclone Fani rises to 16; Puri without power, water
• A day after Cyclone Fani wreaked havoc at the pilgrim town of Puri with wind speed in excess of 220 km per hour, the district administration still grappling with the devastation which includes damage to parts of the Jagannath temple.
• So far 16 people across Odisha have been killed in the cyclone due to wall collapse, falling of trees and flying debris. But officials said the death toll may go up as rescuers are unable to reach several places of the coastal districts which are still inaccessible.
• “Till now we are unable to reach disconnected blocks like Krushnsprasad, Bramhagiri and Astaranga. Though we have managed to somehow clear the national highway connecting Bhubaneswar and the roads in the town, many interior roads are still inaccessible. .

DPIIT recommends relaxation in Income Tax rules to facilitate fundraising by start-ups.
• The Department for Promotion of Industry and Internal Trade (DPIIT) brought relaxation in the income tax rules related to residential properties’ sale and carry-forward of losses, in order to facilitate fundraising by start-ups.
• The relaxation laws are part of the ‘Startup India Vision 2024’ that’s been prepared by the DPIIT.
• The DPIIT recommended amendments in Section 54GB of the Income Tax Act, that is, capital gain on transfer of residential property not to be charged in certain cases and Section 79 that states, carry forward and set off of losses would be done for specific companies.
• The DPIIT has proposed to reduce shareholding requirements of founders from 50% to 20% and compulsory tenure from 5 years to 3 years.
• Start-up promoters need to hold 100% shares for carrying forward of losses.

Bandana sets Guinness World Records on Longest Dancing Marathon by an Individual.
• An 18-year old girl from Nepal named Bandana set a Guinness World Records on ‘Longest Dancing Marathon by an Individual’. She danced exclusively to Nepalese music continuously for 126 hours (over five days).
• She broke the record set by India’s Kalamandalam Hemlatha, who danced continuously for 123 hours and 15 minutes in 2011.
She performed classical dance form Mohiniyattam and set the record at age of 37.

BigBasket receives $150 million in funding, becomes the newest unicorn.
• Supermarket Grocery, which runs and operates the online grocery brand BigBasket, has received $150 million in a financing round led by South Korea’s Mirae Asset- Naver Asia Growth Fund, UK’s CDC Group, and existing investor Alibaba, said the company on Monday.
• This round has boosted the company’s valuation to over $1 billion, pushing it to the coveted ‘unicorn’ club.

**INS Vishal: India, UK in talks to replicate Naval Supercarrier.**
• Art aircraft carrier along the lines of Britain's HMS Queen Elizabeth as part of the ongoing 'Make in India' negotiations, according to a media report.
• The talks are under way for the Indian Navy to buy detailed plans for the 65,000-ton British warship to build a so-called "copycat supercarrier" to be named INS Vishal in 2022.
• "An Indian delegation has already visited Rosyth dockyard in Scotland where HMS Queen Elizabeth was assembled and where a second supercarrier, HMS Prince .

**NEET chance: HRD Ministry to decide on Karnataka’s request**
• HRD Ministry on Monday assured the Karnataka Government it would soon decide on their request to allow over 500 students from the State, who missed the NEET exam on Sunday due to a train delay.
• HRD Minister Prakash Javadekar announced that the National Testing Agency will conduct NEET exam again for those students of Karnataka who missed their exam as their train was delayed which has come as a major relief to the candidates.NEET for these students will be conducted on May 20.
• Nearly 365 students from north Karnataka had missed appearing for the National Eligibility cum Entrance Test (NEET) on May 5, as the train in which they were travelling reached Bengaluru over seven hours late.

**Bombs hurled, booths ‘looted’ in West Bengal**
• A helpless Election Commission of India watched Bengal’s poll percentage drop by notches even as sporadic violence, bombing and booth-capturing marred the fifth phase of elections too with both the Opposition BJP and Left Front and the ruling Trinamool Congress accusing each other of “rampant rigging.

**TCS set to become world’s third-largest IT services company.**
• NEW DELHI: Tata Consultancy Services Ltd (TCS) is set to surpass DXC Technology Co. to become the world’s third-largest software services provider in fiscal 2018-19, marking the first change in the pecking order of the information technology (IT) outsourcing industry in two years.
• If TCS does surpass DXC, it will only lag behind International Business Machines Corp. and Accenture Plc.

• Reports of violence and booth jamming came in from Barrackpore where the turncoat TMC strongman and former MLA Arjun Singh was fighting against former Union Minister Dinesh Trivedi.
• While a suave and composed Trivedi was seen playing cricket with children amid overseeing polling, Singh ran from booth to booth alleging massive rigging by TMC workers. He reportedly exchanged fisticuffs with police officials before complaining that “the police were helping the TMC rig elections. He fell down and injured himself while chasing away ‘outsiders’. Bombs were hurled at Himli Saolapara in Gaighata Assembly segment of Bongaon parliamentary constituency where one TMC supporter received head injuries. Later the CAPF resorted to massive lathi-charge.
BharatPe launches UPI Bahi Khata for merchants for seamless networking and business expansion.

- India’s first Fintech (Financial technology) start-up enabling payments via interoperable UPI (Unified Payments Interface) QR (Quick Response) codes, BharatPe notified its venture into merchant services by launching a new app UPI Bahi Khata that allows merchants to keep a track of their cash/credit (Udhar) sales customer wise, to request the accounts receivable from customers through SMS (Short Message Service) payment links or through WhatsApp and to record accounts that are payable to suppliers.
- The newly launched app also helps the merchants to network and collaborate with other BharatQR merchants near them to expand their businesses.

The major features on BharatPe app for merchants are: UPI Khata (Ledger), Managing Supplier Bills, Cashback, Settlements and Refer and Earn.

Water storage level of 91 major reservoirs of the country goes down by one percent.

- The water storage available in 91 major reservoirs of the country for the week ending on May 09, 2019 was 38.734 BCM, which is 24% of total storage capacity of these reservoirs. This percentage was at 25 for the week ending on May 02, 2019. The level of water storage in the week ending on May 09, 2019 was 116% of the storage of corresponding period of last year and 105% of storage of average of last ten years.
- The total storage capacity of these 91 reservoirs is 161.993 BCM which is about 63% of the total storage capacity of 257.812 BCM which is estimated to have been created in the country. 37 Reservoirs out of these 91 have hydropower benefit with installed capacity of more than 60 MW.

The man with all the toys: Why Mukesh Ambani bought Hamleys.

- India’s richest man has sealed another deal in his battle with Amazon and Walmart for India’s online retail market, which a Morgan Stanley estimate sees at $200 billion by 2028.
- On Thursday, Reliance agreed to purchase the 259-year-old British toy store chain Hamleys from C.Banner International Holdings for $88.5 million in cash in a transaction that will “catapult Reliance Brands to be a dominant player in the global toy retail industry,” said a statement.
- The 62-year-old businessman is quietly piecing together a network of partners through stake purchases or outright acquisitions in his push for consumer business, which Ambani says will contribute nearly as much as to the conglomerate’s total earnings as its core energy business by the end of 2028.

Ex-Flipkart execs' unicorn Udaan gets Rs.139 crore from parent.

- Bengaluru-based B2B online marketplace Udaan has raised over Rs.139 crore from Singapore-based parent firm Trustroot Internet. The parent entity has invested over 400 crore in Udaan in past five months. Founded in 2016 by former Flipkart executives Sujeet Kumar, Vaibhav Gupta and Amod Malviya, Udaan had achieved the ‘unicorn’ tag with a billion-dollar valuation within just 26 months of launch.

Short film 'Kamali' on 9-yr-old TN skateboarder qualifies for Oscars.

- 'Kamali', a short film on Tamil Nadu's nine-year-old skateboarder girl Kamali Moorthy, has qualified for the 2020 Academy Awards shortlist.
- The 24-minute film directed by filmmaker Sasha Rainbow from New Zealand won the Best Documentary Short at Atlanta Film Festival in April.
• Born in a fishermen colony, Kamali has toured across India with professional skateboarding teams to promote the sport.

Reliance Industries moves registered offices of five subsidiaries to Gujarat.
• Reliance Industries (RIL) has moved registered offices of five of its subsidiaries — four telecom and one investment arm — to Ahmedabad, Gujarat, over the last one year.
• The telecom subsidiaries include — Reliance Jio Messaging Services Ltd, Reliance Jio Infratel Private Ltd, Reliance Jio Infocomm Ltd, and Reliance Jio Digital Services Ltd. The registered office of the investment arm Reliance Industrial Investments and Holdings Ltd (RIIHL), which serves as a vehicle to invest in various business ventures of RIL, has also been moved to Gujarat. Prior to the shift, all these companies had their registered offices in Mumbai.

China may route its commercial presence in India through Bay of Bengal.
• India’s outreach to the East and an escalating trade war between China and the United States is helping to turn the Bay of Bengal coastline into a new and attractive growth engine.
• In the backdrop of Shanghai, Guangzhou and Shenzhen — coastal cities which propelled China's rise as the workshop-of-the-world — India too appears to be stepping up its game of coast based manufacturing, focusing intensely on its eastern shores.

NABARD launched Nab Ventures- its maiden fund to give support to agriculture, food, rural startups.
• NABARD (The National Bank for Agriculture and Rural Development), Nab Ventures notified its first time funding termed ‘NAB VENTURES Fund I’ which is a Rs 700-crore venture capital fund for equity investments to provide support for agriculture, food and rural startups (which would help improve rural livelihoods)
The fund has a proposed corpus of Rs 500 crore has a greenshoe option of Rs 200 crore and has received an anchor commitment from NABARD.
The aforementioned fund is registered with SEBI as a Category II Alternative Investment Fund and would raise the resources from domestic and global investors.

India’s GS Lakshmi becomes first ever female ICC match referee.
• India's GS Lakshmi has become the first ever woman to be appointed to the ICC International Panel of Match Referees and will be eligible to referee international games with immediate effect. The 50-year-old first officiated as a match referee in domestic women’s cricket in 2008/09. Lakshmi has overseen three women’s ODI matches and three women’s T20I matches.

NABARD subsidiary announces 700 cr fund for rural startups.
• Nabventures, a subsidiary of National Bank for Agriculture and Rural Development (NABARD) has announced a 700-crore venture capital fund for investments in agriculture, food and rural-focused startups. The fund has a proposed corpus of 500 crore with an option to retain over-subscriptions of 200 crore. Till now, NABARD has contributed 273 crore to 16 alternate investment funds.

India to co-chair 2020 CG of Global Facility for Disaster Reduction and Recovery.
• India was unanimously chosen by member countries as next co-chair of Consultative Group (CG) of Global Facility for Disaster Reduction and Recovery (GFDRR) for the fiscal year 2020. This decision was taken during Consultative Group meeting of GFDRR 2019 held from 13 May- 17 May in Geneva,
Switzerland. This is the first time that India has been given the opportunity of co-chairing CG meeting of GFDRR.

- The Consultative Group meeting held in Geneva was the 6th Session of GPDRR 2019. The CG Meeting 2019 was co-chaired by the European Union (EU), Africa Caribbean and Pacific (ACP) Group of States, and World Bank.
- GFDRR in cooperation with the UN Office for Disaster Risk Reduction (UNDRR) and EU also organized the 4th edition of World Reconstruction Conference (WRC) on May 13-14, 2019 in Geneva.
- The participants included experts, policymakers, leaders, and practitioners from various government, international organizations, academia, private sector and NGOs from both developing and developed countries.

- India and GFDRR:
  - In 2015, India became a member of Consultative Group (CG) of GFDRR. At the 5th session of GFDRR held in October 2018, India expressed its interest to co-chair the meet.
  - India’s candidature was backed by member countries because of India’s consistent progress in disaster risk reduction (DRR) and also various initiatives it has undertaken to form a coalition on disaster resilient infrastructure.

**Paytm Partners With Citibank To Launch 1st Credit Card- Paytm First Card.**

- Digital payments company Paytm, in association with Citibank, launched its first credit card called Paytm First Card.
- Paytm First Card comes with unlimited cash back and will be accepted in India as well globally. The card is issued by Citibank and doesn’t involve any hidden fees or charges.

**India had world’s highest child mortality rate in 2015: Lancet study**

- India had more deaths among children under five than any other country in 2015, with large disparities in the child mortality rate between richer and poorer states, a Lancet study has found. The researchers at the Johns Hopkins Bloomberg School of Public Health in the US analysed state-level Indian data on the causes of death among children under five for the years 2000-2015. They found that India made great progress during the period, reducing annual mortality among children under five from 2.5 million in 2000 to 1.2 million in 2015 - which was still the highest in the world.

**India’s Chandrayaan-2 to carry NASA payload too in July: ISRO**

- India’s second Moon mission, Chandrayaan-2, that’s planned for a July launch will have 13 payloads and one passive experiment from American space agency NASA, ISRO said on Wednesday. The spacecraft with a 3.8-tonne mass has three modules- orbiter, lander, and rover. Eight of the 13 Indian payloads will be on orbiter, three will be on lander and two on rover.

  **About Chandrayaan-2:**
  - Chandrayaan-2 is India’s second lunar exploration mission after Chandrayaan-1.
  - Developed by the Indian Space Research Organisation, the mission is planned to be launched to the Moon by a Geosynchronous Satellite Launch Vehicle Mark III.
  - It includes a lunar orbiter, lander and rover, all developed indigenously.

**Hyundai partners with ALD Automotive for car leasing service.**

- Hyundai Motor India Ltd (HMIL) has collaborated with ALD Automotive India, a globally renowned automotive leasing and fleet management company, as part of its in its smart mobility solutions initiative.
• The flexible leasing solutions will provide an attractive alternative to owning a car to salaried individuals, working professionals, small and medium enterprises, corporates and public sector.
• Hyundai Leasing will be available across Delhi NCR, Mumbai, Chennai, Hyderabad and Bangalore in the first phase.
• The lease will be made available across the entire Hyundai product line-up at an attractive monthly lease rental. The benefits of leasing to the customers include no upfront cost, no financial risk, efficient tax management, easy up-gradation and no maintenance and insurance hassles

About Hyundai:
• The Hyundai Motor Company, commonly known as Hyundai Motors, is a South Korean multinational automotive manufacturer headquartered in Seoul.
• Parent organization: Hyundai Motor Group
• Headquarters: Seoul, South Korea
• Subsidiaries: Kia Motors, Hyundai Card Co., Ltd., Beijing Hyundai, etc.

About ADL Automotive:
• ALD Automotive is a French fleet managing and operational car leasing company and a fully owned subsidiary of Société Générale. The company is active internationally and manages around 1.5 million vehicles.
• Headquarters: Rueil-Malmaison, France
• Number of employees: 6,500 (2017)
• Parent organization: Société Générale
• Subsidiaries: Merrion Fleet Management Limited, etc.

Lokpal website launched in the country.
• The website of the Lokpal www.lokpal.gov.in has been launched in India. It was inaugurated by Chairperson Justice Pinaki Chandra Ghose in presence of all the Members of Lokpal in New Delhi.
• It provides basic information about the working and functioning of the anti-corruption ombudsman.
• The Lokpal is the first institution of its kind in India established under the Lokpal and Lokayuktas Act, 2013 to inquire and investigate into allegations of the corruption against public functionaries.

About the Lokpal Act:
The Lokpal Act, which was passed in 2013 after a nationwide anti-corruption movement. The act provides for setting up of Lokpal at the centre and Lokayuktas in the States.
• It has jurisdiction over all Members of Parliament, central government employees, and top functionaries and public servants, including the Prime Minister and the Chief Ministers in cases of corruption.

About Lokpal:
The Lokpal consists of a Chairperson and eight members. Four of the judicial members have been former Chief Justices of different High Courts and the four non-judicial members have been from All India Services/Central Services.
• First Chairperson of the Lokpal is Shri Justice Pinaki Chandra Ghose is a former Judge of Supreme Court of India and was a sitting member of National Human Rights Commission.
• Judicial members are Shri Justice Dilip B Bhosale, Shri Justice Pradip Kumar Mohanty, Smt. Justice Abhilasha Kumari, Shri Justice Ajay Kumar Tripathi.
• Non-Judicial members are Shri Dinesh Kumar Jain, Smt. Archana Ramasundaram, Shri Mahender Singh, Dr. Indrajeet Prasad Gautam.
CBIC introduced weightage system for appointments under compassionate appointment scheme.

- Central Board of Indirect Taxes and Customs (CBIC) introduced a weighting system for appointments under compassionate grounds which will be based on nine criteria like family income, dependents, remaining service period of the deceased, etc.
- The main objective is to ensure objectivity, transparency, and uniformity in the selection process for appointments on the compassionate ground.
- The government appoints the dependent member of a government employee under compassionate appointment scheme on the grounds of medical condition or that employee dying in harness.
- The guidelines for appointment are issued by the Department of Personnel and Training (DoPT) and CBIC introduced a weighted points system for its cadres according to the guidelines of DoPT.

Eleventh India Iran Joint Consular Committee Meeting (JCCM) in New Delhi

- India Iran Joint Consular Committee Meeting (JCCM) held in New Delhi on May 14, 2019. The Indian delegation was led by Amit Narang, Joint Secretary in Consular, Passport and Visa (CPV) division and the Iran delegation was led by Ali Asghar Mohammad, Director General of Consular Affairs.
- The purpose of this meeting is to review the status of ongoing cooperation in consular and visa related issues and also to discuss the strategy to further expand people to people contacts and to promote friendly exchanges between India and Iran.
- Both countries have discussed some important issues between India and Iran:
  - Early conclusion of Agreement on Mutual Legal Assistance on civil and commercial matters.
  - To extend the longer duration of e-Visa for each other nationals on reciprocity.

- About Iran
  - Capital: Tehran
  - Currency: Iranian Rial

Indian Navy conducted missile tests to boost its anti air warfare capabilities

- The Indian Navy conducted significant missile tests boosting its anti-air warfare capabilities. The first cooperative engagement firing of the Medium Range Surface to Air Missile (MRSAM) or Barak-8 was held on the Western Seaboard.
- The firing was undertaken on the western seaboard by the INS Kochi and the INS Chennai wherein the missiles of both ships were controlled by one ship to intercept different aerial targets at extended ranges. Interestingly, one of the ships controlled the complete mission through its automated data links. The firing trials were carried out by Indian Navy, Defence Research and Development Organisation (DRDO) and the Israel Aerospace Industries (IAI).
- This was achieved by network-centric operations that helped to combine the capabilities of all military platforms in a formation. The MRSAMs are fitted onboard the Kolkata Class Destroyers. These would also be fitted on all future major warships of the Indian Navy.

Kerala State to go paperless under E Vidhan initiative

- The Kerala State Assembly is undertaking E-Vidhan, an initiative to digitize all records. The first phase of the project is expected to be completed in 14 months. The project is expected to cost around Rs.40 crore.
• Once the project is completed, all the Assembly proceedings like submission of notice by a member, question and answers, and all the other correspondence and business concerning the Assembly will go paperless.
• Uralungal Labour Contract Cooperative Society:
• The state has awarded the work to Cyberpark, which is run by the Uralungal Labour Contract Cooperative Society.
• It has started working on the ambitious project, E-Vidhan to enable the state legislature to go completely paperless.
• Benefits of E-Vidhan:
• The Assembly handles hundreds of various committee reports, Bills, notices, and various other reports which demand massive paperwork. E-Vidhan will completely get rid of paper in all the business transacted by the Assembly.
• The functioning of various departments linked to the Assembly and library will also be made paperless as part of the project.
• It will save around 35 crore to 49 crore annually as the state has been spending around 40 crore for taking tonnes of paper printouts.

Govt plans introducing artificial intelligence system in MCA 21 portal
• The union government plans to introduce artificial intelligence system in the MCA 21 portal as it seeks to make the compliance process easier as well as ensure routine enforcement activities are done round-the-clock on autopilot basis.
MCA 21 is the electronic backbone for the dissemination of information to all stakeholders, including the regulator, corporates and investors.
• All filings under the companies law are submitted to the ministry through this portal.
• Ministry of Corporate Affairs Secretary Injeti Srinivas has said the ministry would like to introduce Artificial Intelligence in MCA 21 when version 3 of the portal is rolled out in about a year’s time.

India sets Guinness World Records of largest laundry lesson with the participation of 400 young men
• India achieved a Guinness World Records of ‘largest laundry lesson’ with the participation of 400 young Indian men.
The event was a part of #sharetheload campaign.
• It was done to share the responsibility of cleaning clothes at home along with the female members of the family.
• The event was initiated by Ariel India.
• It was hosted by Mandira Bedi and Indian Actor Anil Kapoor also joined the function.Earlier, the largest laundry lesson was achieved by Lion NANOX Team (Japan) at Lion Hirai Research Laboratory in Edogawa, Tokyo, Japan on November 29, 2017. It had 318 people.

Kerala became first state to list Masala Bond in overseas market
• Kerala became the first state to tap into masala bond market by listing the Kerala Infrastructure Investment Fund Board (KIIFB)’s masala bond worth of USD 312 million (Rs 2,150 crore) in London Stock Exchange (LSE)’s International Securities Market (ISM).
• The masala bond has tenor of 5-year and a 9.723% coupon
Kerala’s state finance minister Thomas Issac executed this move.
• The main objective of this initiative was to tap masala bond market and to rebuild the infrastructure in Kerala from the proceeds of masala bond.

**PCT Humanity entered the Guinness Book of World Records for its hunger relief efforts.**
• PCT Humanity, a charity run by an Indian, in the UAE has entered the Guinness Book of World Records for its hunger relief efforts during the holy month of Ramzan in Abu Dhabi. The charity set the new Guinness World Records for “Longest Line of Hunger Relief Package” in Abu Dhabi. Adjudicated by Douglas Palau, the attempt saw iftar meals containing seven items spread in a line without keeping any gap between the packages for a kilometre.

Joginder Singh Salaria's, founder of PCT Humanity, efforts were in continuation to the vegetarian iftar held daily at the premises of his company Pehal International, Dubai Industrial Park. The main aim of the charity is to feed people pure vegetarian food to stay healthy and fit and also save animals.

**Reliance beats Indian Oil, becomes India's biggest firm by revenue.**
• Asia’s richest person Mukesh Ambani-led Reliance Industries has toppled state-run Indian Oil to become India’s largest company by revenue. Reliance reported revenue of Rs. 6.23 lakh crore for 2018-19 compared to Indian Oil’s Rs.6.17 lakh crore. With this milestone, Reliance has achieved the number one position in India in terms of revenue, profit and market capitalisation.
• Reliance Industries Limited is an Indian conglomerate holding company headquartered in Mumbai, Maharashtra, India. Reliance owns businesses across India engaged in energy, petrochemicals, textiles, natural resources, retail, and telecommunications. [Wikipedia](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Reliance_Industries)

**Indra Nooyi was presented with an honorary degree by the prestigious Yale University.**
• Former PepsiCo chairman and CEO Indra Nooyi was presented with an honorary degree by the prestigious Yale University, her alma mater. The degree is to recognize her achievements in business and for being a global role model who encouraged women and girls to see themselves as top corporate executives. She is celebrated for her leadership and her commitment to helping women achieve success.

• Nooyi, She received a degree in Master of Public and Private Management from the university's Yale School of Management in 1980, was presented with the Honorary Doctor of Humane Letters.
• Nooyi was among 11 individuals to be presented with the honorary degrees for achieving distinction in their fields.

Others who received the honorary degrees included author and feminist activist Gloria Steinem, wildlife researcher Cynthia Moss, entrepreneur and philanthropist Strive Masiyiwa and Harvard University president Lawrence Bacow.

**Indra Nooyi:**
• In 2006, Nooyi became the first woman to helm the global food and beverage giant PepsiCo. She stepped down in October 2 last year as PepsiCo’s CEO, after 24 years with the company, the last 12 as CEO of the global beverage giant.
• Nooyi was recently elected to the board of Amazon, on whose audit compensation committee she sits. She is a member of the World Economic Forum board of trustees and of the American Academy of Arts and Sciences.
• She is also an independent director of the International Cricket Council and chair of the compensation committee at Schlumberger, an oilfield services company, on whose board she serves.
• One of 25 women to have led a Fortune 500 company, Nooyi has appeared frequently on the Forbes and Fortune rankings of the world's most powerful women.

Cong’s Ramya Haridas becomes Kerala’s second-ever Dalit woman MP.
• Ramya Haridas, Congress’ Lok Sabha candidate from Alathur constituency in Kerala is set to become the second-ever Dalit woman MP from the state. She defeated senior CPI(M) leader and sitting MP PK Biju with a margin of nearly 1.59 lakh votes. The 32-year-old, who has a habit of breaking into songs during rallies, recited a poem to thank the voters.
About Ramya Haridas:
• Ramya Haridas is an Indian politician of Indian National Congress in the state of Kerala and the daughter of All India Mahila Congress leader Radha. She currently serves as the Block panchayat President of Kunnamangalam. She will be contesting from Alathur in 2019 election as All Indian National Congress candidate.
• Born: 1987 (age 32 years), Kozhikode
• Party: Indian National Congress.

Gopal becomes first HIV-infected climber to scale Everest.
• Gopal Shrestha, a 56-year-old from Nepal's Pokhara, on Wednesday became the first HIV-infected climber to scale the world's highest peak, the Mount Everest. Shrestha, who used to play football for Nepal, climbed the peak in his second attempt after being forced to abandon his first attempt due to the deadly earthquake in Nepal in 2015.

25-yr-old mechanical engineer Chandrani to become youngest MP ever
• BJD's Chandrani Murmu, a 25-year-old mechanical engineer who won Odisha's reserved Keonjhar seat by defeating two-time BJP MP Ananta Nayak, will become the youngest member in Lok Sabha history. Chandrani won the seat by 66,203 votes. She will replace JJP founder Dushyant Chautala, who had become the youngest parliamentarian at 26 after being elected to 16th Lok Sabha from Hisar.

NDA elects Narendra Modi as its leader for 2nd time in a row.
• The BJP-led NDA has elected Narendra Modi as its leader for the second time in a row at NDA parliamentary board meeting today. Modi will meet President Ram Nath Kovind later today to stake claim to form government. "I thank all allies and MPs who unanimously chose NDA leader Narendra Modi as the new PM," said BJP President Amit Shah.
About NDA:
• The National Democratic Alliance is a coalition of right-leaning political parties in India. At the time of its formation in 1998, it was led by the BJP and had 13 constituent parties. Its chairman was late Prime Minister Atal Bihari Vajpayee. Also representing the alliance are L. K
• Chairperson: Amit Shah
• Founder: Bharatiya Janata Party
• Founded: May 1998
• Members: Bharatiya Janata Party, Biju Janata Dal, All India Anna Dravida Munnetra Kazhagam.

India elected to Executive Board of first UN-Habitat Assembly.
• First session of the UN-Habitat Assembly will be held from 27-31 May 2019, at the headquarters of UN-Habitat in Nairobi.
• The Theme is: “Innovation for Better Quality of Life in Cities and Communities”.
• The Sub-theme as: “Accelerated implementation of the New Urban Agenda towards the achievement of the Sustainable Development Goals”.
• During the first session, The Assembly is expected to establish the Executive Board of UN-Habitat and elect its members, to review and approve the UN-Habitat Strategic Plan 2020-2025 and also review the Progress in the implementation of New Urban Agenda, among other things.
• A State which is a member of a Specialized Agency and the Observer Members States of the United Nations may participate in the deliberations of the UN-Habitat Assembly in the capacity of an observer.
• The Assembly will also be attended by United Nations Agencies, Local authorities and non-state actors including civil society, youth and women group representatives, the private sector and the Academia.

Madhya Pradesh to tentatively have new UNESCO heritage site
• Orchha town in Madhya Pradesh has a historical site with the Bundela dynasty architectural style.
• The Archaeological Survey of India included that heritage town of Orchha in a tentative list of United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO) world heritage sites. It was included in the proposal sent by the ASI to the UN body in April 2019.
• UNESCO’s rules state that to be a part of the World Heritage sites, the heritage or historical site must first be on the tentative list.
• After making it to that list, yet another proposal is sent to the UNESCO.

Meghalaya CM Conrad Sangma launched a new project to boost medicinal plant cultivation
• Meghalaya Chief Minister Conrad K Sangma launched a new project to boost medicinal and aromatic plants cultivation named "Aroma Mission".
• "Aroma Mission" a project of Rs.18 crore launched to give importance for agriculture and allied sectors so that farmers earn the benefits from it.
• CM inaugurated a processing unit of essential oils and insisted institutions like CSIR-CIMAP to undertake more researches in this field.
• Broomsticks and bay leaves were categorized as ’Agro Forestry’ items.
• Cultivation of lemon grass and citronella plant will be undertaken on 50-acre plots in every district of the state.
• Central Institute of Medicinal and Aromatic Plants (CIMAP) is a plant research laboratory of Council of Scientific and Industrial Research (CSIR)

Telangana to set up country’s first 'Blockchain District' in Hyderabad
• Telangana released a draft blockchain policy to set up country's first 'Blockchain District' in Hyderabad. Telangana released a draft blockchain policy to set up country's first 'Blockchain District' in Hyderabad.
• It is aimed to create an ecosystem for major blockchain companies, start-ups for promoting research, innovation and industry collaboration. Telangana Government signed an agreement with Tech Mahindra to set up the Blockchain district in 2018.
• The draft was released by Information Technology, Electronics and Communications (IT E&C) Department. The main focus will be given to the sectors such as banking, financial services and insurance, pharmaceuticals and healthcare, government institutions and departments, logistics and supply chains.
• The incentives like access to investments, subsidies, tax credits will be rolled out to attract enterprises, Small and Medium Enterprises and startups. Other incentives include 25% subsidy on lease rentals up to 5 lakh per annum for the first three years of operations.
• 100% reimbursement of State Goods and Services Tax (SGST ) for the first three years for startups with revenue less than 5 crore and along with one-time grant of Rs.10 lakh, 75% subsidy in travel fare when the founders attend global conferences and 25% reimbursement on Internet charges would be provided.

India moves up to 43rd in competitiveness; Singapore tops chart.
• India secured 43rd rank in the most competitive economy across the world and Singapore topped the chart by toppling the US from the first position and Hong Kong SAR ranked 2nd place as same as last year.
• The US ranked 3rd in the ranking.
• Switzerland ranked 4th in the ranking.
• UAE first time entered into the top 5 rankings. Last year in 2018 UAE ranked 7th.
• Venezuela ranked last in the rankings due to high inflation, poor access to credit and a weak economy.
• The improvement of India's rank resulted of its robust economic growth, large labour force and its huge market size.

About World Competitiveness Rankings
• The World Competitiveness Rankings was published by IMD Business School every year.
• The rankings first time published in 1989.
• It incorporates 235 indicators and ranked 63 countries every year.

Gujarat traffic police to use laser guns to curb overspeeding
• The Gujarat government has decided to equip the traffic police with 'laser guns' for detection of overspeeding by vehicles. The state police's traffic branch has purchased 39 such high-tech guns at a cost of Rs.3.9 crore.
• Five of these US-made devices will be given to the Ahmedabad city police, and every district police force will also be provided one of these guns.
A three-day workshop was organised recently at the Karai Police Academy here to impart training to over 200 traffic policemen on operating the device.
• Laser gun: The gun uses laser technology to detect the speed of a vehicle. It can record the speed of three vehicles simultaneously in a second, even if the vehicles are a km away. The device is equipped to record speeds from 0-320 kilometre per hour.
• The speed gun is an online device which can send an e-memo to the owner with a photo of the vehicle. If required, the speed gun can also generate and print the challan offline on the spot.
• It is also capable of recording videos of the over-speeding vehicles which will serve as proof if the vehicle owner confronts the police.

SC extends tenure of NCDRCs judicial member by one year
• Supreme Court May 29 extended the tenure of Justice V K Jain, a judicial member of the National Consumer Disputes Redressal Commission (NCDRC), which was expiring.
• A vacation bench comprising Chief Justice Ranjan Gogoi and Justice Aniruddha Bose said the extension of tenure would be for one year or till the process of fresh appointment is completed. The bench was dealing with an application seeking an extension of Justice Jain's tenure.
• He had joined the Delhi Judicial Service on May 20, 1977, and was later appointed as a judge of the Delhi High Court on May 14, 2009.
He had demitted the office on May 14, 2014, after which he was appointed as a judicial member of the NCDRC.

Mississippi River flood becomes the longest-lasting in over 90 years
• Flooding in the Mississippi River is on the record for being the longest-lasting in more than 90 years since the "Great Flood" of 1927.
It is due to relentless, record-breaking spring rainfall. In the month of June also, Mississippi River will continue to rise as runoff from snowmelt upstream in combination with rainfall runoff moves through the river system.
• Along several parts of the river, water levels have been at flood stage for nearly 4 months. It is the longest stretch of time since the Great Flood.
• The reason for this drastic flood is climate change, as planet is getting warmer which is resulting in rise of heavy downpours.

Truecaller has more than 100 million daily active users in India.
• It started out as an online directory for mobile phone numbers and also expanded into payments space via Unified Payments Interface (UPI) as well as instant messaging platform.

About the Mississippi River:
• It is the second-longest river and Chief River of the second-largest drainage system on the North American continent.
Source: Lake Itasca, Minnesota, United States
Mouth: Gulf of Mexico.

BANKING AND ECONOMICS

Bandhan Bank to cut promoter holding to 40% through offer-for-sale route.
• Bandhan Bank will reduce its promoter holding to the mandated level of 40% through the offer-for-sale (OFS) route and is not looking at any more acquisitions at the moment, said managing director and CEO Chandra Shekhar Ghosh.
• Speaking to reporters after announcing the bank's Q4 FY19 results, Ghosh said, “We cannot go for any further acquisition and the option is to have an offer for sale.”
RBI imposed penalty on 5 pre paid payment instrument issuers and Yes Bank.
• The Reserve Bank of India imposed a monetary penalty on five pre-paid payment instrument issuers including Vodafone m-pesa and Phonepe, for violating regulatory guidelines. A penalty of Rs.3.05 crore has been imposed on Vodafone m-pesa and Rs. 1 crore each on Mobile Payments, PhonePe and G.I.
• Technology Private Ltd. Also, a penalty of Rs. 5 lakh has been imposed on Y-Cash Software Solutions.
• RBI said it had imposed a penalty of Rs. 29.67 lakh on Western Union Financial Services Inc., USA, and Rs. 10.12 lakh on MoneyGram Payment Systems Inc, USA, for non-compliance of regulatory guidelines.
• The penalties on Western Union and MoneyGram had been imposed by the central bank under the provisions of the Payment and Settlement Systems Act, 2007, for compounding of the contravention.

Huawei overtook Apple to become Worlds 2nd largest smartphone maker
• The Chinese electronics giant Huawei has surpassed Apple to become the No. 2 smartphone vendor worldwide, according to statistics from the International Data Corp. (IDC).
• South Korean consumer electronics giant Samsung continues to top the list with 20.9% market share.
• Huawei was the only smartphone maker in the top three that saw an increase in shipments in the first quarter of 2019. The company saw year-over-year growth of 50.3% in the first quarter and claimed 19% of the worldwide market share.
Apple holds 11.7% of the worldwide market share as of the first quarter of 2019, while Huawei now claims 19%.
• Chinese smartphone maker Xiaomi sits on the fourth position in the list.
The fifth position is captured by another Chinese smartphone maker - Oppo.

Yes Bank slips 3 notches to 10th spot as most valued bank.
• Private lender YES Bank Ltd has slipped three notches to 10th spot, in terms of market valuation, for the first time, as its shares slumped over 30% in the last four sessions after the bank reported a surprise net loss in its March quarter earnings.
• YES BANK is now the 10th most valued bank from seventh earlier, slipping below market valuation of state-run lenders - Bank of Baroda and Punjab National Bank.

Yes Bank shares fall over 5%; m-cap drops by Rs 2,135 cr
• Shares of Yes Bank on Monday dropped by over 5 per cent, wiping out Rs 2,135.29 crore from its market valuation, after ratings downgrade. The scrip tumbled 5.30 per cent to close at Rs 166.30 on the BSE.
• During the day, it tanked 5.75 per cent to Rs 165.50. It was the worst hit among the 30-front-line shares. On the NSE, shares dropped 5 per cent to close at Rs 167. In terms of volume, 43.12 lakh shares of the company were traded on the BSE during the day, while over 4 crore units changed hands on the NSE. The company's market valuation fell by Rs 2,135.29 crore to Rs 38,515.71 crore on the BSE.
• The private sector lender had a double whammy Saturday after domestic rating agency ICRA downgraded its long-term ratings along with a negative outlook, citing a spike in its lower-rated advances and falling core capital buffers. The agency downgraded ratings on instruments totalling
borrowings over Rs 33,000 crore by the lender, ICRA said. The bank had also reported its maiden loss of over Rs 1,506 crore in the March quarter, driven by a near ten-fold spike in provisions.

Hughes, Airtel to combine India VSAT biz
• Telecom operator Bharti Airtel and Hughes Communications India Ltd (HCIL) Tuesday announced they will combine their VSAT (Very Small Aperture Terminal) satellite operations in the country.
• HCIL is a subsidiary of broadband satellite networks and services provider Hughes Network Systems. Hughes will have majority ownership in the combined entity while Airtel will have a significant shareholding, according to a statement.
• The statement did not spell out the financial details of the transaction, which is subject to requisite approvals. "The combined entity will benefit from enhanced scale, improved operational efficiencies and wider market reach.
• The combined entity will be well positioned to leverage the demand for secure connectivity in a rapidly growing digital economy," it said. VSAT is used to provide satellite-based telecom and internet access to individuals and enterprise users. HCIL is a broadband satellite service operator in India, and offers a range of broadband networking technologies, solutions, and services for businesses and governments.

Ratan Tata invests in Ola Electric Mobility
• Ride hailing major Ola Monday said Ratan Tata, Chairman Emeritus of Tata Sons, has invested in its EV business — Ola Electric Mobility (OEM). This investment, which is part of OEM's series A round of funding, is in Tata's personal capacity, Ola said in a statement.
• Details of the funding were not disclosed. "His investment in Ola Electric will bring his deep experience and mentorship to the company's ambitions to make electric mobility viable at scale," it added.
• Tata is also an early investor in ANI Technologies, Ola's parent company. He had invested in ANI Technologies in July 2015. In March this year, OEM had announced raising Rs 400 crore in a funding round led by Tiger Global and Matrix India.

Coworking office space: The emerging spot for investors.
• With a sharp increase in leasing in the shared working space over the last few quarters, co-working is catching up as a preferred asset class for several leading developers and investors, a report by real estate consultancy firm CBRE said.
• Flexible working space saw a 277% jump in leasing to nearly 3 million sq ft in the first quarter of calendar 2019, according to the report. On a quarterly basis, it shot up by 70%. Even the size of leasing have increased significantly with several co-working operators shifting focus to taking up medium-to-large sized spaces of as much as 1 lakh sq ft, the report said.

Flipkart gives Rs. 700cr ESOPs to senior, mid-level staff: Report.
• Bengaluru-based e-commerce platform Flipkart has reportedly issued around $100 million (Rs. 700 crore) worth of Employee Stock Ownership Plan (ESOP) to its senior and middle-level staff. Employees have been allotted these new shares at a price of $125-$130 per unit, the report claimed. The Walmart-owned company is also considering an Initial Public Offering (IPO) for 2021, the report further added.

Uber raises $8.1 billion in IPO, valued at $82 billion.
• Ride-hailing giant Uber priced its IPO shares at $45 apiece to raise $8.1 billion at a valuation of over $82 billion. Shares were priced close to the bottom of its targeted $44-50 range. Uber, which was earlier said to be seeking a valuation of $120 billion, has reportedly taken a conservative stance over its rival Lyft’s post-IPO share falls.

RentoMojo raises ₹77 crore funding co-led by Accel, Chiratae.
• Bengaluru-based furniture and appliance rental startup RentoMojo has raised ₹77 crore in the first tranche of its Series C funding round, regulatory filings revealed. The funding was co-led by Chiratae Ventures and Accel Partners and also saw participation from existing investor Bain Capital. RentoMojo was founded in 2014 by IIT Madras graduates Geetansh Bamania and Ajay Nain.

RBI proposes app to help visually challenged identify notes.
• The RBI has proposed to introduce a mobile application to help visually challenged citizens identify Indian currency notes, and has invited bids from technology firms for the same. The application should be searchable via voice option in all app stores, it said. Currently, intaglio printing-based identification marks on banknotes of ₹100 and above help the visually challenged recognise currency.

HDFC ERGO General Insurance Company launched Mosquito Disease Protection Policy which will cover people against common mosquito-borne diseases.
• India’s 3rd-largest non-life insurance provider in the private sector, HDFC ERGO General Insurance Company launched a scheme termed ‘Mosquito Disease Protection Policy’ which will cover a person against common mosquito-borne diseases, namely, Dengue Fever, Malaria, Chikungunya, Japanese Encephalitis, Kala-azar, Lymphatic Filariasis and Zika Virus.
• These mosquito-borne diseases lead to financial burden due to hospitalization or affect the No Claim Bonus of any conventional Health Insurance.
• The policy by HDFC ERGO will cover hospitalization expenses. The policyholder may opt for a huge amount to be paid as a policy benefit on offering the proof of hospitalization. The policy will also pay the beneficiary the sum insured if in case of the policyholder dies due to the disease.
• This policy also provides international cover to people and also covers all the vector-borne diseases listed in the policy document.
• The policy cover will be available for people between the age of 91 days to 65 years. Along with these benefits, the policyholders will have access to different wellness services, namely, discounts and specialized programs like health tips, diet consultation and other programs offered on the health mobile application of HDFC (Housing Development Finance Corporation Ltd.) ERGO.

Allahabad Bank reduced 0.05% points in benchmark lending rate.
• State-owned Allahabad Bank announced a reduction in benchmark lending rate by 0.05 percentage points across various tenors. The marginal cost of funds-based lending rate (MCLR) for a one-year loan has been reduced to 8.60% from 8.65% effective May 14. Most of the loans including housing loans are benchmarked against MCLR for one year. Revised MCLR:
  • 1 month: 8.20%
  • 3 months: 8.40%
  • 6 months: 8.45%
Wholesale inflation eases to 3.07% in April.
• India's inflation measured by the Wholesale Price Index (WPI) eased to 3.07% in April from 3.18% in the previous month, driven by a fall in prices of fuel and manufactured items. However, inflation in food articles stood at 7.37%, up from 5.68% in March. This comes after India's retail inflation in April rose to a 6-month high of 2.92%.

Yes Bank falls 9% after RBI appoints director in rare move.
• Shares of Yes Bank plunged up to 9% on Wednesday, falling to its lowest since November 2018. This came following the Reserve Bank of India's (RBI) appointment of former Deputy Governor R Gandhi as an additional director on the private lender's board in a rare move. The appointment comes days after Yes Bank reported a fourth-quarter loss of Rs.1,507 crore.

RBI plans to achieve a highly digital and cash lite society.
• Reserve Bank of India on May 15 released a vision document, 'Payment and Settlement Systems in India: Vision 2019 - 2021', with its core theme of Empowering Exceptional (E) payment Experience that aims to achieve a highly digital and cash-lite society.
• RBI targets to:
  • Increase digital payment transaction of GDP by 15%
  • Increase payment system operators
  • fourfold increase in digital transactions
  • increase debit card transactions by 35%
  • increase total card acceptance infrastructure to six times
  • Reduce currency in circulation with no specific target
  • Reduce the volume of cheque-based payments to less than 2%
  • Reduce pricing of electronic payment services by at least 100 basis points
  • Improve the security of digital payment systems
  • Facilitate mobile-based payment transactions
• To achieve these objectives, the RBI outlined specific actions to take over the next two years. Some of these include:
  • Set up self-regulatory bodies for payment system operators, develop feature phone-based payment services to complement smartphone-based services and develop offline payment solutions and USSD-based payment solutions
  • Improve interoperability and build capability to process transactions of one system in another and explore the adoption of newer technologies, including distributed ledger technology for enhancement of digital payment services.
  • Encourage standing instructions for payment transactions and Push contact-less payments and tokenization. It plans to improve the use of bill discounting systems or TReDs and increase coverage of the cheque truncation system.
• Current RBI's Policy rates and Reserve ratios:
  Bank Rate: 6.25%
  Repo Rate: 6.00%
  Reverse Repo Rate: 5.75%
  Cash Reserve Ratio: 4%
  Statutory Liquidity Ratio: 19.00%
HDFC collaborated with IMGC for a mortgage guarantee-backed home loan.

• HDFC Bank collaborated with IMGC (India Mortgage Guarantee Corporation) for a mortgage guarantee-backed home loan.

• Mortgage guarantee is a financial product which compensates lending institutions for the losses that may occur when a home owner defaults on a mortgage loan.

In 'mortgage guarantee', the risk of the home loan gets transmuted from the bank/FIs (financial institution) to the mortgage guarantee company.

• This collaboration will help HDFC provide more loan to a home loan customer on an improved eligibility.

• The main objective of the collaboration is to address middle age-salaried customers, self-employed customers and young salaried customers.

About HDFC Bank

Industry - Banking, financial services

Founded - August 1994

Headquarters - Mumbai, Maharashtra, India

About India Mortgage Guarantee Corporation:

• India’s first Mortgage Guarantee Company, India Mortgage Guarantee Corporation (IMGC) is a joint venture that combines the developmental mandate of National Housing Bank (NHB), the technical expertise of Genworth Financial, and the resources of International Finance Corporation (IFC) & Asian Development Bank (ADB).

• IMGC has come into being with a vision to make early home ownership a real possibility through the provision of Mortgage Guarantee.

HDFC Capital Advisors launched an initiative termed as HDFC Affordable Real Estate and Technology Programme (HeART).

• HDFC Capital Advisors, (a wholly-owned subsidiary of HDFC Ltd) launched an initiative termed as HDFC Affordable Real Estate and Technology Programme (HeART), the objective of which is to mentor, partner and invest in real estate technology companies which produce innovative products that aim at lowering costs and creating efficiencies in every stage of the development cycle of the affordable housing system.

• Due to the upcoming technology disruptions, all processes like land approvals, planning and design, construction, project management, sales and facilities management would undergo a drastic change.

• HDFC Capital will also be collaborating with leading academic institutions, industry platforms and accelerators which would aid in creating an ecosystem that supports various components in the development of affordable housing.

Panel submits report on digital payments to RB

• A Reserve Bank of India-appointed committee on ‘suggestions on promoting digital payment’. It was headed by Aadhaar architect Nandan Nilekani has submitted its suggestions on promoting Payment and Settlement Systems in India: Vision 2019 - 2021, digital payments to Governor Shaktikanta Das.

• The five-member panel was encouraging digitisation of payments and enhance financial inclusion through digitisation.

RBI will examine the recommendations of the committee and will link the action points, wherever necessary, in its Payment Systems Vision 2021 for implementation.

• Panel Members: Besides Nandan Nilekani (Infosys co-founder), H R Khan (former RBI deputy governor), Kishore Sonsi (former MD and CEO of Vijaya Bank), Aruna Sharma (former secretary in
ministries of IT and steel) and Sanjay Jain (chief innovation officer, Centre for Innovation, Incubation & Entrepreneurship (CII-E), 11M Ahmedabad).

**Tripura Gramin Bank received India’s top three Regional Rural Banks (RRBs) in terms of profit, business and growth.**

- Tripura Gramin Bank received India’s top three Regional Rural Banks (RRBs) in terms of profit, business and growth.
- Currently India has 46 Regional Rural Bank out of which Tripura Gramin Bank ranked 3rd in the country.
- Tripura Gramin Bank posted a profit for 7 successive years to Rs 125.45 crore in fiscal 2018-19.
- The central government has a 50% stake, the Union Bank of India has 35% stake and rest 15% is held by the Tripura government.

**About Tripura Gramin Bank**

- Founded: 21 Dec 1976
- Headquarter: Agartala
- Chairman: Mahendra Mohan Goswami.

**HDFC Group overtakes Tata Group As India’s Most Valuable.**

- HDFC group overtaken the 151-year-old Tata group to emerge as India’s most valuable by way of market capitalization (m-cap).

The combined market value of the five listed companies of the HDFC group – HDFC, HDFC Bank, HDFC Life, HDFC Asset Management and Gruh Finance stood at Rs 11.66 lakh crore while the combined m-cap of 29 Tata group companies stood at Rs 11.64 lakh crore, about Rs 2,000 crore less than that of the HDFC group.

**About HDFC group**

- CEO: Aditya Puri
- Headquarters: Mumbai
- Founded: August 1994, India
- Subsidiaries: HDFC securities, HDB Financial Services

**RBI extended time window for using the RTGS for customer transactions**

- The Reserve Bank of India (RBI) announced that the time-window for using the Real Time Gross Settlement System (RTGS) for customer transactions will be extended from 4:30 pm to 6 pm on all working days. It will be effective from June 1, 2019.
- The current RTGS service window for customer transactions is available to banks from 8 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. on a working day.

Transactions will now take place under three windows:

1. 8 am to 11 am
2. 11 am to 1 pm
3. 1 pm to 6 pm

- Charges for the transactions:
- There shall be no charge for transactions between 8 am and 11 am.
- A charge of Rs.2 will be levied on every transaction conducted between 11 am and 1 pm.
- Rs.5 shall be charged for every transaction between 1 pm and 6 pm.

Standard Chartered launched Trade A1 Engine in partnership with IBM
• Standard Chartered launched Trade A1 Engine in partnership with IBM. Standard Chartered in partnership with IBM has launched the Trade A1 Engine which will automate the high risk process of trade documentation.
• It will enhance client experience through increased operational efficiency and strengthened operational control. This newly launched Trade A1 Engine will replace the Traditional documentary trade consisting of millions of data elements in paper-based that to be reviewed through a largely manual process.

**About Trade A1 Engine**
• Conversion of non-digital shipping documents into machine-readable format enabled by Optical Character Recognition (OCR).
• The Identification and classification of document types from an initial pre-defined database.
• The Continuous Machine learning (ML) based on user re-classification / re-defining of data elements to further improve accuracy.
• Natural Language Processing (NLP) capabilities to read and capture context from data in the documents.

**Srei Equipment Finance ties up with Oriental Bank of Commerce to offer loans for purchase of equipment under a co-lending arrangement**
• Srei Equipment Finance tied up with Oriental Bank of Commerce to offer loans for the purchase of equipment under a co-lending arrangement. Srei Equipment Finance is a wholly-owned subsidiary of Srei Infrastructure Finance.
• The funds for the project will be sourced through a platform named iQuippo, a unique digital marketplace of Kanoria Foundation. It will help in loan origination, loan dues collection, auction of equipment, valuation of equipment and other facilities.
• The co-lending arrangement will include financing of construction, mining and allied equipment, medical equipment, commercial vehicles and farm equipment.

**Motilal Oswal AMC become the first Indian fund house to introduce WhatsApp transaction platform**
• Motilal Oswal Asset Management Company (AMC) become the first Indian fund house to launch WhatsApp transaction platform for mutual fund transactions for new as well as existing investors. This enables investors to use WhatsApp to invest in any scheme from Motilal Oswal AMC. Investors can either invest lump sum or through SIPs.
• The platform works:
  • An investor should add Motilal Oswal AMC number (+91 9372205812) to his/her contact list. Then on WhatsApp, type ‘Hi’ on the above number.
  • After sharing the PAN details, the investor should share his/her mode of investment, fund, amount. Finally, authorize payment for the transaction through the payment link sent.

**RBI constitutes a committee for Housing Finance Securitisation Market.**
• The Reserve Bank of India (RBI) constituted a committee to review the existing state of mortgage securitisation in India and suggest measures to deepen it. The six-member committee on Development of Housing Finance Securitisation Market is headed by Harsh Vardhan, Senior Advisor, Bain & Co.
• Role of the panel:
• The panel will review the regulations relating to mortgage-backed securitisation (MBS) currently in place, and make specific recommendations on suitably aligning the same with international norms.
• It will assess the role of various counterparties, including servicers, trustees, rating agencies, in the securitisation process and suggest the steps required.

MBS in India:
• Data from rating company ICRA showed that the securitisation volume in FY19 more than doubled as against FY18 to Rs.2 lakh crore, of which major chunk of loans sold was by housing finance companies (HFCs) to both the demand and the supply side, as well as certain prudential, legal and tax and accounting issues
• Mortgage-Backed Security (MBS):
• Mortgage-Backed security (MBS) is a type of asset-backed security that is secured by a mortgage or collection of mortgages.
• category: Banking & Finance
• banks in order to raise funds owing to tough liquidity conditions.
• The mortgage securitisation market in India is primarily dominated by direct assignments among a limited set of market participants on account of various structural factors impacting.

NCLT approved the the resolution plan of Tata Steel to acquire Bhushan Energy Ltd.
• The National Company Law Tribunal (NCLT) approved the resolution plan of Tata Steel to acquire debt-ridden Bhushan Energy Ltd. for about Rs.800 crore on 30 May. The principal bench of NCLT-Delhi also rejected objections from Bhushan Energy’s former promoter Neeraj Singal opposing Tata Steels' bid.
• Resolution plan:Under the resolution plan, Tata Steel will offer an upfront payment of Rs.730 crore. It would also pay Rs.50 crore additionally to operational creditors of the company. Besides, Tata Steel would also infuse Rs.367 crore into the company as a part of equity infusion. A detailed order is still awaited in this matter.
• Acquisition of Bhushan Steel Ltd.:Bhushan Energy was a subsidiary of Bhushan Steel Ltd., which was also taken over by Tata Steel last May and later renamed as Tata Steel BSL Ltd.Tata Steel had offered Rs.35,200 crore in cash to acquire Bhushan Steel besides Rs.1,200 crore to creditors and convert the remaining debt owed to banks to equity.
• Earlier in June 2018, in this matter, NCLT had extended the insolvency resolution period for 90 days after the creditors failed to find a suitable buyer within the initial period of 180 days as mandated under the Insolvency & Bankruptcy Code (IBC).

AWARDS AND RECOGNITION

Nileena M S won the ACJ Award for Investigative Journalism
• The article titled 'Coalgate 2.0'authored by Nileena M S and published in The Caravan magazine in March 2018 has won the ACJ Award for Investigative Journalism, 2018.
• The award, which comprises a trophy, a citation, and Rs. 2,00,000 cash prize. It was presented to the winner by John Micklethwait, Editor-in-Chief of Bloomberg News, who was the chief guest at the journalism school's annual convocation ceremony.
World Press Freedom Prize 2019 awarded to Myanmar Journalists

• The World Press Freedom Prize also known as UNESCO/Guillermo Cano World Press Freedom Prize 2019 is formally conferred every year by Director-General of UNESCO, on occasion of World Press Freedom Day observed on 3 May.
• In 2019 award would be shared by two jailed Myanmar journalists Wa Lone and Kyaw Soe Oo who reported on alleged human rights violations in the state of Rakhine, Myanmar. The Reuters reporters are serving a seven-year prison sentence in Myanmar. • They are charged with breaking the country's secrets law for their journalistic investigation on the military's brutal crackdown and killings of Rohingya Muslims in Rakhine state.

Recognised for:
• The award recognises their exceptional courage in reporting on alleged human rights violations in the Myanmar's state of Rakhine. Both Wa Lone and Kyaw Soe Oo's documentary on the taboo topic regarding crimes committed against Rohingyas landed them behind the bars. The award paid a tribute to their courage, resistance and commitment to freedom of expression.

Actress Anne Hathaway receives star on Hollywood Walk Of Fame.

• Oscar-winning actress Anne Hathaway on Thursday was honoured with a star on the Hollywood Walk Of Fame in Los Angeles, US. Thanking her fans, she said, "I'm really very moved by every aspect of this." Anne was accompanied by her husband actor-producer Adam Shulman, her mother actress Kate McCauley, as well as her co-stars from her upcoming film 'The Hustle'.

Sir Andy Murray received the knighthood award for services at Buckingham Palace.

• Sir Andy Murray, who is a Unicef UK ambassador, received the knighthood for services to tennis and charity at Buckingham Palace. The Honours award are used to recognise merit in terms of achievement and service. The three-time Grand Slam champion was named in the Queen's New Years Honours in 2016, following his second Wimbledon win and second Olympic gold. Sir Andy revealed in January that he planned to retire after this year's Wimbledon, forcing back tears as he told reporters at the Australian Open that his hip injury was going to bring a premature end to his glittering career. He had surgery in January and has since begun his rehabilitation

United Kingdom:
Monarch: Elizabeth II
Prime Minister: Theresa May
Capital: London
Currency: Pound sterling(GBP; £)
National/Official language: English
• Sir Andrew Barron Murray:
• He is a British professional tennis player from Scotland. He ranked No. 217 in men's singles (as of May 2019).
• Murray represents Great Britain in his sporting activities. He is a three-time Grand Slam tournament winner, two-time Olympic champion, Davis Cup champion, winner of the 2016 ATP World Tour Finals and former world No. 1.

Nancy Pelosi honoured with 2019 John F Kennedy Profile in Courage Award

• The USA's House of Representatives Speaker Nancy Pelosi was honoured with 2019 John F Kennedy Profile in Courage Award. She was recognized for putting national interest above her party's
interest, for her efforts to pass former President Barack Obama's 2010 health care law (Obama Care) and also for helping Democrats reclaim control of U.S. House during 2018 elections.

- She has served in House of Representatives since 1987.

About JFK Profile in Courage Award:
It is an annual award that was created in 1989 by members of President J.F. Kennedy's family. It seeks to honor J.F. Kennedy and to recognize and celebrate the quality of political courage which he admired most. The award recognizes a public official (or officials) at the local, federal or state level whose actions speaks of qualities of politically courageous leadership.

Oman author Jokha Al Harthi wins Booker International Prize.

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

About Man Booker International Prize
Country: United Kingdom
Awarded for: Best book in English translation
Presented: by Man Group
Reward(s): £50,000
First awarded: 2005.

Prof. Bhargava awarded 2019 Dr Lee Jong-wook Memorial Prize.

- Director General of the Indian Council of Medical Research (ICMR) Professor Balram Bhargava jointly won the 2019 Dr. Lee Jong-wook Memorial Prize for Public Health at the 72nd World Health Assembly in Geneva, Switzerland. He bagged the award for his achievements as a clinician, innovator, researcher, and trainer.
- Professor (Dr) Balram Bhargava, Secretary, Department of Health Research, (Ministry of Health & Family Welfare) and Director General of ICMR joined on 16th April 2018. He is Professor of Cardiology at AIIMS, New Delhi and also serves as the Executive Director for Stanford India Biodesign Centre, School of International Biodesign (SiB). He is an outstanding cardiologist, one of the foremost leaders in biomedical innovation, public health, medical education, and medical research.
- Professor Bhargava has excellent leadership qualities and has established the India-Stanford Biodesign program, a unique interdisciplinary fellowship program to foster innovation, design in low-cost implants/devices. He set up the c-GMP Centre for Excellence for Stem Cell Studies, at AIIMS which has initiated treatment of patients with dilated cardiomyopathy which has benefitted a number of no-option heart failure patients waiting on the cardiac transplant list.

Awards:
- He has been awarded the SN Bose Centenary award, Tata Innovation Fellowship and Vasvik Award for Biomedical Technology Innovation, Ranbaxy Award and the OP Bhasin Award in the field of Health and Medical Sciences. He has been awarded the Padma Shri high civilian award by the Honourable President of India and the UNESCO Equatorial Guinea International Prize for research in Life Sciences at Paris.
The Dr. LEE Jong-wook Memorial Prize for Public Health was established in 2008. It is awarded to individuals, institutions, and governmental or nongovernmental organizations who have made an outstanding contribution to public health. The Prize aims at rewarding work that has extended far beyond the call of normal duties, and it is not intended as a reward for an excellent performance of duties normally expected of an official position of a governmental or intergovernmental institution. The prize is awarded once a year and consists of a plaque from the Founder and a sum of money which will not exceed US$ 100 000. It will be presented at a special ceremony during the World Health Assembly.

South Korean film 'Parasite' wins top award at Cannes Film Fest.
- Director Bong Joon-Ho became the first South Korean to win the Palme d'Or, the top prize at the Cannes Film Festival for his film 'Parasite'. Filmmaker Mati Diop, the first black woman director to be considered for the Palme d'Or, won the Grand Prix, the runner-up prize for her film 'Atlantics'. Belgium's Dardenne brothers won Best Director for 'Young Ahmed'.

N Kumar, TNAU V-C, conferred with 'Lifetime Recognition Award' by the Confederation of Horticulture Association of India.
- Lifetime Recognition Award by the Confederation of Horticulture Association of India was given to Professor N. Kumar, Vice-Chancellor of Tamil Nadu Agricultural University.
- The award has been conferred for his outstanding contribution in the field of horticulture and academic leadership focused on human resource development in agriculture at the International Conference on Innovative horticulture at Pantnagar, Uttarakhand, according to a varsity release.
- He began his career as an Assistant Professor in Horticulture during 1979 at TNAU and by consistent and meritorious performance.
- He managed to occupy the position of Dean of Horticultural College and Research Institute, TNAU in 2009-2013 before becoming the 13th Vice-Chancellor of the renowned Tamil Nadu Agricultural University, Coimbatore.
- He has secured spearheaded 20 externally funded projects including 5 International Projects.

Zaidi wins USD 100,000 Nine Dots Prize.
- Mumbai-based Writer Annie Zaidi was announced as the 2019 winner of the $100,000 Nine Dots Prize, an award for creative thinking that tackles contemporary societal issues. She won the prize for her entry titled 'Bread, Cement, Cactus', a piece that combined memoir and reportage to explore concepts of home and belonging.
- Her proposed book, based on the prize-winning essay, will be published in May 2020 and will examine how a citizen’s sense of home might collapse, or recover. The varied themes it will address include the politics and economics of death in India, the crossing of caste and religious lines in a marriage, and the Partition of India as a great cultural and emotional sundering.

Annie Zaid:
- She is a freelance writer whose work includes reportage, essays, short stories, poetry, and plays.
- She has published both fiction and non-fiction, including a collection of essays Known Turf: Bantering with Bandits and Other True Tales and Love Stories # 1 to 14, a collection of short fiction published in 2012.
• The Nine Dots Prize is sponsored by the Kadas Prize Foundation, a U.K.-registered charity, with support from the Centre for Research in the Arts, Social Sciences and Humanities (CRASSH) at the University of Cambridge and Cambridge University Press.
• It aims to promote, engage and encourage innovative thinking so as to address problems facing the modern world. The prestigious book prize is awarded for creative thinking that tackles contemporary societal issues. The winner receives US$100,000 to write a short book expanding on their ideas.
• Entrants are asked to answer the given question in 3,000 words. All entrants with a minimum of 18 years of age can write. Responses and the resulting book will be in English.

Air Chief Marshal B S Dhanoa received baton of Chairman COSC
• Chief of the Air Staff Air Chief Marshal Birender Singh Dhanoa received the baton of Chairman, Chiefs of Staff Committee from outgoing Chairman COSC and Chief of the Naval Staff Admiral Sunil Lanba,
• Air Chief Marshal Birender Singh Dhanoa will be the Chairman COSC with effect from May 31, 2019, consequent to relinquishment of charge by Admiral Sunil Lanba upon superannuation.
• Air Chief Marshal Birender Singh Dhanoa, an alumnus of Rashtriya Indian Military College and the National Defence Academy, was commissioned in the Flying Branch of Indian Air Force in June 1978. He is an experienced fighter pilot and a qualified CAT ‘A’ Flying Instructor with over 3000 hours of flying experience to his credit.
• The Air Chief Marshal has mainly flown the MiG-21 aircraft with flying experience across the entire spectrum of fighter aircraft of the Indian Air Force.
Admiral Sunil Lanba is proceeding on retirement on May 31, 2019, after a distinguished career spanning over four decades.

SPORTS
Kumar Sangakkara named as first non-British President of MCC.
• Former Sri Lanka captain Kumar Sangakkara appointed as the first non-British president of the Marylebone Cricket Club.
• Sangakkara will be the first overseas MCC president in the organization’s 233-year history.
• The wicketkeeper-batsman, whose nomination was announced by current president Anthony Wreford will begin his one-year tenure in October.
He is an honorary life member of MCC
• He owns Lord’s and acts as the guardian of the laws of the game, was founded in 1787 and lists 168 president.

Apurvi Chandela attains world number one spot in women's 10 m air rifle event.
• Indian shooting ace Apurvi Chandela attained the world number one position in the women's 10 metres air rifle event.
• Anjum Moudgil attained number two after consistent performances in recent years.
The rifle ace from Jaipur is among the five Indian shooters to have already secured 2020 Olympics quotas for the country.
• Moudgil attained the world number two rank in 10 metres Air Rifle after her mixed team gold at the ISSF World Cup in Beijing.
• Manu Bhaker is the world number 10 in 25 metres pistol women category.
India retains top spot in ICC Test rankings.
• India retained its top position in the ICC Test rankings while England remained the number one ODI side in the latest annual rankings released in Dubai. New Zealand secured second place in Test series.
• India bagged prize money of USD 1 million
• New Zealand bagged USD 500,000.
• South Africa finished third with 105 points
Australia finished fourth with 104 points winning prize money of USD 200,000 and USD 100,000 respectively.

Federer makes retirement claim ahead of Madrid return
• The topic of when Federer will finally hang up his racket has followed the Swiss for several years. But the 37-year-old has been able to put off 'Father Time' by continuing to win major trophies and remain in the top 10 in the world. And in a further show that he's not ready to quit, Federer has decided to play during the clay court season for the first time since 2016.
• Speaking in an interview with Spanish publication Marca ahead of the tournament, Federer was asked if he was surprised that he's still able to compete at such a high level at 37.
• And the 20-time Grand Slam revealed the major factor in his decision to carry on playing. "A little, yes," Federer admitted. "If you told me ten years ago that this would be happening, I wouldn't have believed it. I could have hoped for a top ten or top 20 place, but not this." If I'd been asked in 2009 if I would be playing in 2019 I'd have said only if I was still competitive. "I've made my career and I do not need to play to lose in the second round in any tournament. My goal is to win, as I did at the beginning of the season. "If I feel like I can't be the best, it's better for me to stop." I still enjoy the victories in Masters 1000 events or being world No 1, as I did last year in Rotterdam." In a wide-ranging interview, Federer was also asked about the clay court form of Rafael Nadal and Novak Djokovic.

Harbhajan Singh 3rd Indian to claim 150 IPL wickets.
• Chennai Super Kings spinner Harbhajan Singh became the third Indian cricketer to claim 150 or more wickets in the history of Indian Premier League. Delhi Capitals' Amit Mishra with 157 wickets in 147 matches and Kolkata Knight Riders' Piyush Chawla, with 150 wickets in 157 matches, are the only two other Indians who have reached the mark.

World no. 3 Halep beats Bencic to reach 4th Madrid Open final.
• World number three Simona Halep defeated Belinda Bencic to reach her fourth Madrid Open final. Halep won the match with a scoreline of 6-2, 6-7(2-7), 6-0 in one hour and 57 minutes. The final will also be Halep's first of 2019. Bencic had defeated world number one Naomi Osaka in the quarter-finals.

Roger Federer beats Gael Monfils in Madrid to claim 1,200th win.
• Roger Federer on Thursday became the second player in Open Era (since April 1968) to record 1,200 match wins. The 20-time Grand Slam champion saved two match points against France’s Gaël Monfils before clinching the match after a final-set tiebreak to reach quarterfinals of Madrid Open. Notably, the 37-year-old is playing in his first tournament on clay since May 2016.

Man City win their 4th PL title as title race goes till last day.
Manchester City clinched their fourth Premier League title after winning the 2018/2019 season on the last day of the league that started on August 11, 2018. Manchester City registered a 4-1 victory against Brighton to accumulate 98 points in 38 matches with 32 victories, while Liverpool, who were also in the title race till today, finished second with 97 points.

Lewis Hamilton wins Spanish Grand Prix, Bottas finishes second.
Mercedes’ British driver Lewis Hamilton clinched the title at the Spanish Grand Prix, also winning the extra point for the fastest lap at the race on Sunday. The race saw Mercedes' Valtteri Bottas finish second in the race, with Red Bull's Max Verstappen finishing in the third spot. This was the fifth straight 1-2 finish for Mercedes.

Mane, Salah, Aubameyang share PL Golden Boot award.
Liverpool's Sadio Mane, Mohamed Salah and Arsenal's Pierre-Emerick Aubameyang shared the Premier League Golden Boot award after they all ended up with 22 goals.
The 22-goal winning mark was the lowest since the 2010-11 season when Manchester United's Dimitar Berbatov and Manchester City's Carlos Tevez shared the Golden Boot with 20 goals apiece.

Sourav Ganguly and Sanjay Manjrekar inducted in ICC commentary panel for World Cup 2019
Former Indian cricketers Sourav Ganguly and Sanjay Manjrekar are inducted into the International Cricket Council's (ICC) commentary panel for World Cup 2019. World Cup 2019 will begin from May 30, 2019 in England and Wales.
The debut commentary will be made by Michael Clarke, former Australian batsman, who was the captain of the 2015 World Cup winning team and Nasser Hussain, Ian Bishop, Kumar Sangakkara, Michael Atherton, Brendon McCullum, Graeme Smith and Wasim Akram are also the part of panel.
Other commentators of the tournament are Shaun Pollock, Michael Slater, Mark Nicholas, Michael Holding, Isa Guha, Pommie Mbangwa, Harsha Bhogle, Simon Doull, Ian Smith, Ramiz Raja, Athar Ali Khan, and Ian Ward.

PV Sindhu, Saina Nehwal to spearhead Indian challenge at Sudirman Cup in China
Sudirman Cup tournament will begin at the Guangxi Sports Center Gymnasium in Nanning, China.
The Top shuttlers PV Sindhu and Saina Nehwal will spearhead the Indian challenge at this prestigious tournament.
The Indian team will begin their campaign tomorrow against Malaysia in Group 1-D. India reached the quarterfinals twice in the 2011 and 2017 editions but failed to cross the last eight stage.

Sudirman Cup is a mixed team Badminton Championship held every two years.
There are 12 elite teams that will take part in the tournament. Each group comprises of three teams, with the top two qualifings for the quarterfinals.

Rafael Nadal claimed the Italian Open 2019 title
Rafael Nadal has won a record 34th ATP Masters 1000 title by defeating Novak Djokovic in the Italian Open final 2019. This is his ninth Rome title.
Nadal dominated in a 6-0, 4-6, 6-1 win broke a tie with his longtime rival Djokovic. For his victory, Nadal received 1,000 ATP Ranking points and earned ₹7.5 crore. Djokovic produced an error-strewn performance in his 54th meeting with Nadal.
• After three semi-final defeats in Monte Carlo, Barcelona and Madrid, Nadal has returned to his best form ahead of Roland Garros and clinched his first title of the season.

Result of Italian Open 2019:
Men's Singles:
Spain Rafael Nadal
Women's Singles:
Czech Republic Karolína Plíšková
Men's Doubles:
Colombia Juan Sebastián Cabal / Colombia Robert Farah
Women's Doubles:
Belarus Victoria Azarenka / Australia Ashleigh Barty

First 300-run partnership came after 28 years of ODI cricket.
• Sourav Ganguly and Rahul Dravid shared ODI cricket's first ever 300-run partnership after notching 318 runs against Sri Lanka in the ICC World Cup on 26 May 1999, nearly 28 years after first ODI was played. Ganguly, who went on to score his career-best 183 in the match, contributed 157(146) for the second wicket partnership while Dravid scored 145(129).

Apurvi Chandela wins second ISSF World Cup gold of the year.
• India's Apurvi Chandela won her second International Shooting Sport Federation (ISSF) World Cup gold medal this year in Germany on Sunday. Chandela, who beat China's Wang Luyao in the 10-metre Air Rifle event, had earlier registered a world record score at ISSF World Cup in New Delhi in February. Notably, this was Apurvi's career's fourth ISSF medal.

About ISSF World Cup:
• The ISSF World Cup was introduced by the International Shooting Sport Federation in 1986 to provide a homogeneous system for qualification to the Olympic shooting competitions. It still is carried out in the Olympic shooting events, with four competitions per year in each event.

About Apurvi Chandela:
• Apurvi Singh Chandela is an Indian sport shooter who competes in the 10 metre air rifle event. She won the gold medal in the 2019 ISSF World Cup in New Delhi.

Apurvi Chandela bags gold medal in 10m Air Rifle in ISSF World Cup.
• India won third International Shooting Sport Federation (ISSF) World Cup Rifle and Pistol tournament in Munich, Germany.
• Apurvi Chandela won gold in the women's 10m Air Rifle competition after a closely-fought contest. She shot a score of 251 in the final to outshine Wang Luyao of China, who shot 250.8.
• This was Apurvi's second ISSF World Cup gold of the year followed by a world record score in New Delhi.
• After the first round of qualifying in the women's 25m Pistol, Asian Games champion Rahi Sarnobat stood in the second position with a score of 294.

China beat Japan won 2019 Sudirman Cup.
• China won the badminton world mixed-team championship, Sudirman Cup 2019 in Nanning. They beat Japan in men's doubles, women's singles and men's singles and won the title for the 11th time.
• In the latest Men's singles match Shi Yuqi stunned world champion Kento Momota for 15-21, 21-5,21-11.
About 2019 Sudirman Cup
• Dates: 19–26 May
• Edition: 16th
• Level: International
• Competitors: 377
• Nations: 31
• Venue: Guangxi Sports Center
• Location: Nanning, China

About China
• Capital: Beijing
• President: Xi Jinping
• Currency: Renminbi (yuan)

Shooter Saurabh breaks own world record to win 2nd World Cup gold.
• India's 17-year-old shooter Saurabh Chaudhary broke his own junior and senior world record to win his second World Cup gold medal. Saurabh won 10m Air Pistol event with 246.3 points, breaking his own senior record of 245 points and junior record of 245.5 points. Saurabh had booked a quota for 2020 Olympics during his maiden World Cup in February.

About Saurabh Chaudhary:
• Saurabh Chaudhary is an Indian sport shooter. He comes from a family of farmers living in Yamuna & Gangatic plains of western Uttar Pradesh. He won the Gold medal at the 2018 Asian Games in 10m Air Pistol. He became the youngest Indian gold medalist at the Asian Games.
• Gold medals: Shooting at the 2018 Summer Youth Olympics – Men’s 10 metre air pistol,

Shooter Rahi Sarnobat wins gold in WC, seals Olympic quota.
• Indian shooter Rahi Sarnobat on Monday won the gold in 25m Pistol event at the ISSF World Cup in Munich. With this, the 28-year-old also sealed a quota place for India in the event for the 2020 Tokyo Olympics. Rahi scored a total of 39, beating Ukraine’s Olena Kostevych, who was champion at the 2004 Athens Olympics

About Rahi Sarnobat:
• Rahi Jeevan Sarnobat is a female athlete from India who competes in the event of 25 meters pistol shooting. She won her first gold medal at the 2008 Commonwealth Youth Games in Pune, India.
• Gold medal: Shooting at the 2018 Asian Games – Women’s 25 metre pistol
• Awards: Arjuna Award for Shooting.

Ivo Karlovic- Oldest Man to win a match at the French Open 2019 for 46 years
• Croatia’s Ivo Karlovic became the oldest man to win a match at the French Open 2019 for 46 years on 28 May. He beat Spain’s fellow veteran Feliciano Lopez in a first-round duel.
• Forty-year-old Ivo Karlovic became the oldest player to win a match at Roland Garros and defeated 37-year-old Feliciano Lopez to secure 7-6(4), 7-5, 6-7(7), 7-5 in three hours and six minutes to reach the second round at the clay-court Grand Slam for the sixth time.
• This was the oldest men’s match in combined age at Roland Garros during the Open Era, and the seventh-oldest match at a Grand Slam. Karlovic hit 35 aces and saved five of the six break points he faced to win his first match since Indian Wells.

ICC launches criiiio campaign on eve of World Cup.
• ICC launched the criiio campaign on the eve of the men’s World Cup bringing together 460 million people playing cricket globally to celebrate the magnificent diversity of cricket.
• The ICC to join the social cricket tribe by sharing pictures and videos of where and how they play cricket across the world using the newly launched #criiio and visiting criiio.com.
• This builds on the success of the recent user-generated social media initiative # World Wide Wickets and is the first of a series of programs that will be launched by the ICC over the next 12 months.
• Criiio is a celebration of everyone playing cricket their way and world cricket wants to invite them into the criiio tribe.

About International Cricket Cadre
Chairman: Shashank Manohar
CEO: Manu Sawhney
Headquarters: Dubai, United Arab Emirates
Formation: 15 June 1909

Chelsea clinched the UEFA Europa League 2019 Cup.
• Chelsea clinched the UEFA Europa League 2019 Cup. It scored four goals in a devastating second-half display to beat Arsenal 4-1 on 29 May at the Baku Olympic Stadium in Azerbaijan.
• It gave Italian manager Maurizio Sarri a major trophy in his first season in charge and Chelsea a first European title since the 2013 Europa League.
• The triumph in Baku means Chelsea have won three European titles in seven years, with the Champions League triumph in 2012 followed by their first Europa League victory in 2013.
• By contrast, Arsenal have lost five of their six major European finals, with their only victory coming in the 1994 Cup Winners' Cup against Parma.

UEFA Europa League:
Founded: 1971
Region: Europe (UEFA)
Number of teams: 48
Current champions: Chelsea

• It is an annual football club competition organised by UEFA since 1971 for eligible European football clubs.
• It is the second-tier competition of European club football, ranking below the UEFA Champions League.

APPOINTMENTS AND RESIGNATION
Air Marshal RKS Bhadauria takes over as Vice Chief of Air Staff.
• Air Marshal Rakesh Kumar Singh Bhadauria took over as Vice Chief of the Air Staff on Wednesday, succeeding Air Marshal Anil Khosla. Bhadauria has over 4,250 hours of experience on 26 types of fighters and transport aircraft. He was reportedly the Chairman of India's negotiating team for the Rafale deal with France.

Eric Schmidt leaves Google board, after 18 years.
• Eric Schmidt will not seek re-election to the board when his term expires in June, but will continue to advise on technical matters
• Schmidt's net worth is estimated to be around $14 billion by Forbes.
**Viacom18 appoints Gourav Rakshit as Viacom18 Digital Ventures COO.**
- Film, television and digital content conglomerate Viacom18 Media Pvt Ltd on Wednesday announced the appointment of Gourav Rakshit as chief operating officer for its digital arm, Viacom18 Digital Ventures. Rakshit will join the organisation in May and report to Sudhanshu Vats, Group CEO and managing director, Viacom18.
- An alumnus of the University of Rochester and IIM Ahmadabad, Rakshit is currently serving as president and chief executive officer of People Group that owns and operates online wedding service Shaadi.com.

**Myntra appoints Virat Kohli, Anushka Sharma as first brand ambassadors.**
- Flipkart-owned fashion e-commerce platform Myntra on Friday announced that it had appointed celebrity couple Virat Kohli and Anushka Sharma as its first brand ambassadors.
- The platform declined to reveal the brand deal size or period of association. According to celebrity management sector estimates, Myntra may be shelling out upwards of ₹10 crore for the couple as brand endorsement fee.

**Change of Command at Air Force Station Faridabad.**
- Group Captain Chandra Shekhar Bhatt took over the command of Air Force Station Faridabad from Group Captain Kaushik Das. The change of command took place in a Ceremonial parade at Station Parade ground.
- Group Captain Bhatt was commissioned in the Logistics branch of IAF in 1990. During his career, the officer has held various appointments in Operational bases and Depots. For his distinguished service, the officer has been commended by Air Officer Commanding-in-Chief (AOC-in-C) and Chief of the Air Staff (CAS).

**Ajoy Mehta appointed as Chief Secretary of Maharashtra.**
- Brihanmumbai Municipal Corporation (BMC) commissioner Ajoy Mehta has been appointed as the new Chief Secretary of Maharashtra. He will succeed UPS Madan who has been named as the special advisor to Maharashtra Chief Minister Devendra Fadnavis. A 1984-batch IAS officer, Mehta holds.

**Emirates Chief Commercial Officer resigns after profit falls.**
- Emirates Chief Commercial Officer Thierry Antinori has resigned, a company spokesperson said on Sunday, days after the Gulf airline announced its weakest profit in a decade. Emirates posted a 69% fall in 2018-19 profit amid rising fuel costs and slow passenger growth. Antinori, who joined Emirates in 2011, was responsible for commercial operations, the frequent flyer program and cargo division.

**Sanjiv Puri becomes CMD of ITC.**
- ITC Managing Director Sanjiv Puri has been appointed as the chairman by the Board of Directors. His new designation will now be chairman and managing director, the company said in a stock exchange filing.
- Company chairman Yogesh Chander Deveshwar passed away on May 11.
- Mr. Puri (56) has been the Managing Director since 2018. He was appointed on the board in December 2015 and as the CEO in February 2017.
LIC Mutual Fund appointed Dinesh Pangtey as CEO.
• LIC Mutual Fund appointed Dinesh Pangtey as the company's Chief Executive Officer (CEO).
• He joined LIC as a direct recruit officer in 1984
He was Director and CEO at LIC Group's private equity division LIC HFL AMC. He also served as Regional Manager Marketing channel in Western Zone spanning the states of Maharashtra, Gujarat and Goa.
• He has more than 35 years of experience across private equity, life pension, group annuation scheme and insurance sector.

Jet Airways CEO Vinay Dube resigns with immediate effect.
• Jet Airways CEO Vinay Dube has resigned from the grounded airline with immediate effect due to "personal reasons". The development comes just a day after Deputy CEO and Chief Financial Officer of the company Amit Agarwal resigned, also citing personal reasons. Jet Airways, which suspended its operations indefinitely, has only received a bid from Etihad Airways for a minority stake.

Jet Airways CFO Amit Agarwal resigns due to personal reasons.
• Debt- ridden carrier Jet Airways' Chief Financial Officer (CFO) and Deputy Chief Executive Officer Amit Agarwal has resigned from his positions at the airline, the company said in a statement on Tuesday. "[He] has resigned from services of the company due to personal reasons, with effect from May 13," the airline said. Agarwal had joined the airline in December 2015.

RBI appointed R.Gandhi as Additional director of Yes Bank.
• The Reserve Bank of India has appointed its former Deputy Governor R. Gandhi as an additional director on the board of private sector lender Yes Bank with immediate effect. The appointment is for two years, that is till May 13, 2021.
R. Gandhi’s appointment comes against the backdrop of Yes Bank reported a loss of ₹1,507 cr for March quarter. This appointment will significantly strengthen Yes Bank's Board Composition and the Bank will immensely benefit from R. Gandhi's experience and wisdom at the Yes Bank.
• Mr.R.Gandhi:
Gandhi was RBI Deputy Governor during April 2014 and April 2017. Gandhi was the driving force for the design and implementation of real-time gross settlement system or RTGS.
About Yes Bank:
Founded on: 2004
Founder: Rana Kapoor, Ashok Kapur
Headquarters: Mumbai, Maharashtra
Chairman: Brahm Dutt
MD & CEO: Rana Kapoor
Yes Bank is India's 4th largest private sector Bank.

AIFF Appoints Igor Stimac As Indian Football Team Coach.
• The Indian football team has been without a coach since the departure of Stephen Constantine in January.
• Croatia's Igor Stimac has been appointed the head coach of the Indian football team for a two-year term, the All India Football Federation announced on Wednesday.
• The official announcement was made on the Indian Football Team.
• Igor stimac:
• he was part of the Croatia team that finished third in the 1998 World Cup, and a member of the national squad which qualified for the quarterfinals of the UEFA European Championship 1996 (Euro) in England.
• Besides, he was also a part of the Yugoslavia U-19 national team which won the FIFA U-20 World Cup in 1987.
• Stimac's major achievement was guiding Croatia to qualify for the 2014 FIFA World Cup in Brazil. During his tenure as the national coach of Croatia, he handed debuts to the likes of Mateo Kovacic, Ante Rebic, Alen Halilovic, and Ivan Perisic, amongst others.
• His last assignment was with Al-Shahania Club in Qatar.

All India Football Federation:
• The All India Football Federation, also simply known as the AIFF
• is the governing body of association football in India.
• Formed in 1937, the federation was one of founding members of the Asian Football Confederation, the overseer of football in Asia.

Maj Gen Dhingra appointed 1st chief of Armed Forces Special Ops.
• Sri Lanka Civil War veteran Major General AK Dhingra has been appointed as the first Chief of the Armed Forces Special Operations Division. The formation will have Special Forces commandos from the Army’s Parachute Regiment, Navy’s MARCOS and Air Force’s Garud Commando Force. The forces will be trained together and will be tasked in dealing with specific operations.

ARMED FORCES SPECIAL OPS DIVISION:
• The Armed Forces Special Operations Division has been set up by the government to undertake joint operations by three services and will have elements from the Army’s Parachute Regiments SF, Marine Commandos (MARCOS) of the Navy and the Garud Commandos of the Indian Air Force.

Myntra-Jabong hires former YouTube exec as marketing head.
• E-commerce major Flipkart-owned fashion e-tailer Myntra-Jabong has appointed former YouTube executive Harish Narayanan as head of marketing. Narayanan will be taking over from Mithun Sundar, who currently heads revenue and marketing, and will report directly to Myntra-Jabong head Amar Nagaram. The IIM Lucknow alumnus headed B2B marketing for YouTube Asia-Pacific for over 2.5 years

Himalaya Men announces Kohli & Pant as brand ambassadors.
• Himalaya Men announced Virat Kohli, captain of the Indian cricket team, and Rishabh Pant, "ICC Emerging Player of the Year 2018", as the official brand ambassadors for Himalaya Men Face-Wash range. Commenting on the association,

About Himalaya :
• The Himalaya Drug Company is an Indian company established by M Manal in 1930 and based in Bangalore, India. It produces health care products under the name Himalaya Herbal Healthcare whose products include ayurvedic ingredients.

IPS officer Deven Bharti to head Maharashtra Anti-Terrorism Squad.
• The Maharashtra government on Wednesday appointed senior IPS officer Deven Bharti as the chief of the state’s Anti-Terrorism Squad (ATS). Bharti, a 1994-batch IPS officer, has investigated several
high-profile cases including the 26/11 Mumbai terror attacks and the murder of senior crime journalist J Dey. He is also known for his crackdown on terror outfit Indian Mujahideen.

About Anti-Terrorism squad:
- Anti-Terrorism Squad. The Anti-Terrorism Squad(ATS) is a special police force in several states of India including Maharashtra, Gujarat, Kerala, Uttar Pradesh, Rajasthan and Bihar.
- In Maharashtra it is headed by senior of the Indian Police Service. The squad has stopped several terrorist attacks in the country.

Retd. Justice Lokur appointed as a judge of SC of Fijis non resident panel.
- The Retired judge of Indian Supreme Court Justice Madan B Lokur is appointed as a judge of Supreme Court of Fiji’s non-resident panel. He has been appointed in the new role for a period of three years.
- The Supreme Court of Fiji has three sessions in a year. Justice Lokur will join it for the session from August 15 to August 30, 2019.
- Justice Lokur was retired as a Supreme Court justice on December 31, 2018. It is likely that Justice Lokur received the offer from Chief Justice of the Fiji Supreme Court on the day of his retirement itself.

About Justice Lokur:
Justice Lokur became a judge of the Supreme Court on June 4, 2012. He enrolled as an advocate in July 1977 and practised in the Delhi High Court and Supreme Court.
He became an Advocate on Record in the Supreme Court in 1981 and was designated Senior Advocate in 1997. He was appointed Additional Solicitor General in 1998 and continued in that position until February 1999 when he became an Additional Judge of the Delhi High Court and made a permanent judge in July 1999.

Fiji:
- President: George Konrote
- Prime Minister: Frank Bainimarama
- Capital: Suva
- Currency: Fijian dollar (FJD)

Cyril Ramaphosa re-elected as President of South Africa.
- African National Congress (ANC) won South African elections with majority and secured 57.51 percent votes and Cyril Ramaphosa elected as South African President.
Last year in February 2018, Cyril Ramaphosa elected as South African President after President Jacob Zuma resigned from the post due to charges of corruption.
This was the first time that African National Congress has got less than 60 percent votes in national polls.

About South Africa
- Capital: Cape Town, Pretoria, Bloemfontein
- Currency: South African rand

Former Apple retail chief & Burberry CEO joins Airbnb board.
- US-based home-renting platform Airbnb has appointed Angela Ahrendts, former Senior Vice President of Retail at Apple, as its third independent non-affiliated board member. Ahrendts joined Apple in 2014 after serving as CEO of the British fashion house Burberry for eight years. Notably,
Ahrendts had been one of the highest-paid employees at Apple with total compensation of $26.5 million in 2018.

About Airbnb:
- Airbnb, Inc., headquartered in San Francisco,
- operates a global online marketplace and hospitality service accessible via its websites and mobile apps.
- Members can use the service to arrange or offer lodging, primarily homestays, or tourism experiences.
- Founded: August 2008, San Francisco, California, United States
- Revenue: 260 crores USD (2017)
- CEO: Brian Chesky (Aug 2008–)
- Headquarters: San Francisco, California, United States
- Founders: Brian Chesky, Nathan Blecharczyk, Joe Gebbia
- Subsidiaries: HotelTonight, Tilt.com, Accomable, Aibiying, MORE

About Angela Ahrendts:
- Angela Jean Ahrendts, DBE is an American businesswoman and was the senior vice president of retail at Apple Inc.
- She was the CEO of Burberry from 2006 to 2014. Ahrendts left Burberry to join Apple in 2014.
- Born: 12 June 1960 (age 58 years), New Palestine, Indiana, United States
- Salary: US$73.1 million (2014)
- Net worth: $150 million
- Spouse: Gregg Couch
- Residence: California, US; London, England
- Siblings: Kimberly Ahrendts, Carrie Ahrendts, Amy Montefalco, Amanda Ahrendts.

Ujjivan Small Finance Bank appointed Nitin Chugh as MD and CEO
- Ujjivan Small Finance Bank appointed Nitin Chugh as its Managing Director (MD) and Chief Executive Officer (CEO) for a period of 3 years from December 1, 2019.
- The present MD and CEO Samit Ghosh’s tenure will end on November 30, 2019. Currently, Nitin Chugh is Group Head of Digital Banking of HDFC Bank.

About Ujjivan Small Finance Bank
- Headquarter: Bengaluru, Karnataka
- Tagline: We believe in your belief

Joko Widodo has been elected President of Indonesia for the second term.
- Indonesia’s Joko Widodo has been re-elected as President of the country. He beat his rival Prabowo Subianto, a retired general.
- Widodo and his vice-presidential running mate Ma’ruf Amin won the election by a 55.5% to 44.5% margin over Prabowo Subianto and Sandiaga Uno.
- Widodo’s PDI-P finished first in the People’s Representative Council (DPR) election with 19.33%, followed by Prabowo’s Gerindra with 12.57%. The next top parties by the number of votes are Golkar, the National Awakening Party (PKB), the Nasdem Party, and the Prosperous Justice Party (PKS).

Joko Widodo:
- Joko Widodo is an Indonesian politician who is the seventh and current President of Indonesia.
Elected in July 2014 as the first Indonesian president to not come from an elite political or military background, he was previously the Mayor of Surakarta from 2005 to 2012, and the Governor of Jakarta from 2012 to 2014. He belongs to the Indonesian Democratic Party of Struggle.

Indonesia General election:
• General elections were held in Indonesia on 17 April 2019.
• For the first time in the country’s history, the president, the vice president, members of the People’s Consultative Assembly (MPR), and members of local legislative bodies were elected on the same day with over 190 million eligible voters.
• Sixteen parties participated in the elections nationally, including four new parties. The election was a re-match of the 2014 presidential election, in which Widodo defeated Prabowo. The election was described as "one of the most complicated single-day ballots in global history".

Moin ul Haque appointed as Pakistans High Commissioner to India.
• Pakistan announced career diplomat Moin ul Haque as its new High Commissioner to India. The appointment was formally approved by Prime Minister Imran Khan. He is the current ambassador of Pakistan in France.
• Haque replaces Sohail Mehmood. The post of High Commissioner to India fell vacant after Sohail Mehmood was appointed Pakistan’s new foreign secretary.
• Pakistan has announced new ambassadors to 18 countries including China, Japan, and Brussels. The decision came after a detailed meeting with Prime Minister Khan, who formally approved the new appointments.

Other appointments:
• In Beijing, Naghmana Hashmi will replace Masood Khalid, the incumbent envoy to China, after completion of his tenure. Additional Secretary Imtiaz Ahmad has been appointed Ambassador to Japan, while Zaheer Janjua, currently serving as additional secretary in Europe, will look after the Pakistani mission in Brussels.
• Sarfaraz Ahmad was appointed as ambassador to Sudan, Imran Haider as ambassador in Tajikistan, Major General Abdul Aziz Tariq in Brunei and Major General Muhammad Khalid Rao in Bosnia Herzegovina.
• Ambassador in Kuwait Ghulam Dastagir will replace Muazzam Ali Khan in Abu Dhabi, while Qazi Khalilullah, serving as ambassador in Russia, was being given an extension of six months.
• The newly-appointed ambassadors and consul generals will play a pivotal in promoting the soft image of Pakistan and will adopt the best behaviour with Pakistani community living abroad.

Note:
• Ambassador: An ambassador is an accredited diplomat sent by a state as its permanent representative in a foreign country.

TikTok parent hires former Google executive Sameer Singh as VP.
• TikTok owner ByteDance has appointed media agency GroupM’s South Asia CEO Sameer Singh in the role of VP, monetisation, for India. The IIM Calcutta alumnus, who has earlier worked as Director Agencies Business at Google India will join new role in August. In his new role, Sameer will lead the advertising, sales and marketing strategies across ByteDance’s products in India.

About TikTok:
• TikTok, also known as Douyin in China, is an iOS and Android media app for creating and sharing short videos. The application allows users to create short music videos of 3 to 15 seconds and short looping videos of 3 to 60 seconds.
• Initial release date: September 2016
• Stable release: 11.2.3 / 12 May 2019
• Developed by: ByteDance
• Size: 308.3 MB (iOS); 80.19 MB (Android)
• Operating system: iOS, Android
• Available in: 33 languages

Bimal Dayal to lead merged entity of Indus Towers, Bharti Infratel.
• Bharti Airtel and Vodafone Group have announced Bimal Dayal, who is currently CEO of Indus Towers, will be appointed CEO of the merged entity of Indus Towers and Bharti Infratel. Dayal, who joined Indus Towers as its Chief Operating Officer in 2010, previously worked with Ericsson. The tower companies further named Indus CFO Hemant Ruia as the combined entity's CFO.

About merged entity of indus Towers,Bharti Infratel.
• The merged company will be listed on the stock exchanges as Bharti Infratel is a publicly traded company. ... Bharti Infratel and Vodafone Group own 42% each in Indus Towers, while Vodafone Idea, the merged entity of Idea Cellular and Vodafone India, holds 11.15%.

N Chandrababu Naidu resigns as CM of Andhra Pradesh.
• N Chandrababu Naidu has resigned as Andhra Pradesh CM after trends showed his Telugu Desam Party (TDP) leading in only 23 Assembly seats and winning two. YS Jagan Mohan Reddy-led YSR Congress Party (YSRCP) is leading in 138 Assembly seats and has won 12. The Legislative Party meeting of YSRCP is set to take place on May 25.

About N Chandrababu Naidu:
• Nara Chandrababu Naidu is an Indian politician who was the former Chief Minister of Andhra Pradesh serving since 2014. He was the first chief minister of the state since it was divided.

Netflix hires its first India content IP lawyer.
• Netflix has reportedly appointed Priyanka Chaudhari as director and senior counsel for content and Intellectual Property (IP) in India. Chaudhari, who worked at Balaji Telefilms as VP-Group Legal for around two years, will be Netflix's first content IP lawyer in India, the report said. Reportedly, in her new role, Chaudhari will report to Netflix's Los Angeles office.

About Netflix:
• Netflix, Inc. is an American media-services provider headquartered in Los Gatos, California, founded in 1997 by Reed Hastings and Marc Randolph in Scotts Valley, California
• Founded: 29 August 1997, Scotts Valley, California, United States
• Films produced: Black Mirror: Bandersnatch, The Kissing Booth, MORE
• Owned by: Morgan Stanley, Reed Hastings
• Founders: Reed Hastings, Marc Randolph
• Did you know: Netflix is the world's seventh-largest internet company by revenue.

Jagan Mohan Reddy To Be Sworn In As CM of Andhra Pradesh.
• YSR Congress Chief Jagan Mohan Reddy sworn in as chief minister of Andhra Pradesh on 30th of May at Vijayawada.
• Mr Jagan Mohan Reddy announced this following his party achieving inching towards a landslide victory in the legislative elections for Andhra Pradesh Legislative assembly. He will replace N Chandrababu Naidu who resides as Andhra Pradesh CM

About YSR Congress Party
President: Y. S. Jaganmohan Reddy
Founded:12 March 2011

Odisha Cong chief resigns after party's defeat in LS polls.
• Odisha Pradesh Congress Committee President Niranjan Patnaik on Friday announced his resignation after the party's defeat in the state. "I've sent my resignation to Congress President (Rahul Gandhi) owning moral responsibility for party's poor show in Lok Sabha and Assembly polls in (Odisha)," he said. "While Congress faced defeat in the state, I too lost at the hustings," Patnaik added.

About Niranjan Patnaik:
• Niranjan Patnaik is an Indian politician, from Orissa. He is currently state president of Orissa Pradesh Congress Committee and former minister of Orissa State.
• Born: 22 February 1948 (age 71 years), Anandapur
• Party: Indian National Congress
• Residence: Bhubaneswar
• Education: Utkal University (1962)
• Siblings: Soumya Ranjan Patnaik, Chittaranjan Patnaik
• Children: Navajyoti Patnaik

YSRCP wins Andhra Assembly polls, Jagan Reddy to become CM.
• YSR Congress Party (YSRCP) has won the Assembly election in Andhra Pradesh, with victory in 151 of the 175 constituencies in the state. The previous ruling party Telugu Desam Party (TDP) managed to win 23 seats. Meanwhile, YSRCP leader Ummareddy Venkateswarlu has announced that party chief YS Jagan Mohan Reddy will take oath as the Chief Minister on May 30.

About Jagan Mohan:
• Yeduguri Sandinti Jaganmohan Reddy, is an Indian politician from Andhra Pradesh, who is the founder and leader of YSR Congress Party, and Leader of opposition in the Andhra Pradesh Legislative Assembly since 16 May 2014. He is the son of the former Chief Minister of Andhra Pradesh, Y. S. Rajasekhara Reddy.
• Born: 21 December 1972 (age 46 years), Pulivendula
• Party: YSR Congress Party
• Spouse: Y S Bharati (m. 1996)
• Education: Nizam College, The Hyderabad Public School, Begumpet
• Siblings: Y. S. Sharmila
• Children: Harsha Reddy, Varsha Reddy
About YSR Congress Party (YSRCP).
• YSR Congress Party is a regional political party in the states of Andhra Pradesh and Telangana in India. Currently, its president is Y. S. Jaganmohan Reddy, the son of former Andhra Pradesh chief minister Y. S. Rajasekhara Reddy. Both YSR and Jaganmohan Reddy had been members of the Indian National Congress.
• President: Y. S. Vijayamma
• Leader: Y. S. Jaganmohan Reddy
• Founder: Y. S. Jaganmohan Reddy
• Founded: 12 March 2011
• Wings: YSR Congress Trade Union, YSR Congress Mahila Wing, YSR Congress Student Wing, YSR Congress Youth Wing
• Headquarters: Hyderabad, Telangana, India

Theresa May to resign as the Prime Minister of UK on June 7.
• Theresa May on Friday said she will step down as the Prime Minister of the United Kingdom on June 7. This comes as May faced backlash by her own MPs against her latest Brexit plan. Since January, the UK Parliament has rejected the withdrawal agreement that May negotiated with the European Union (EU) three times.
About Theresa may:
• Theresa Mary May is a British politician who serves as Prime Minister of the United Kingdom and Leader of the Conservative Party from 2016 until 2019. May was first elected Member of Parliament for Maidenhead in 1997, and served as Home Secretary from 2010 to 2016.
• Born: 1 October 1956 (age 62 years), Eastbourne, United Kingdom
• Party: Conservative Party
• Previous offices: Home Secretary of the United Kingdom (2010–2016),

About United Kingdom:
• The United Kingdom, made up of England, Scotland, Wales and Northern Ireland, is an island nation in northwestern Europe. England – birthplace of Shakespeare and The Beatles – is home to the capital, London, a globally influential centre of finance and culture. England is also site of Neolithic Stonehenge, Bath’s Roman spa and centuries-old universities at Oxford and Cambridge.

BJD wins 112 seats in Odisha, Patnaik set to be CM for 5th time in row.
• BJD won 112 seats out of 146 in 2019 Odisha Assembly polls, with party President Naveen Patnaik set for a fifth consecutive term as CM. Patnaik becomes only the third CM after Sikkim’s Pawan Chamling and West Bengal’s Jyoti Basu to achieve the feat. BJP won 23 seats, Congress 9, and CPI(M) and an independent candidate won one seat each.
About Naveen Patnaik:
• Naveen Patnaik is an Indian politician who is the current and 14th Chief Minister of Odisha. He is also the president of the Biju Janata Dal, a writer and has published four books.
• Born: 16 October 1946 (age 72 years), Cuttack
• Party: Biju Janata Dal
• Education: The Doon School, Welham Boys' School, University of Delhi, St Stephen’s College, Kirori Mal College Hostel
• Siblings: Gita Mehta, Prem Patnaik.
• Parents: Biju Patnaik, Gyan Patnaik.
Indian Army officer appointed head of UN Mission in South Sudan.
• Lieutenant General Shailesh Tinaikar has been appointed as the new Force Commander of the United Nations Mission in South Sudan (UNMISS) by UN Secretary-General António Guterres. He served in the UN Angola Verification Mission III from 1996 to 1997, and in the UN Mission in Sudan from 2008 to 2009. Lieutenant General Tinaikar is currently Commandant of The Infantry School.
• Lieutenant General Shailesh Tinaikar:
  • General Shailesh Tinaikar is the recipient of the Sena Medal and the Vishisht Seva Medal for Distinguished Service. A 1983 graduate of the Indian Military Academy, he was the Additional Director General of Military Operations at Army Headquarters before taking charge of the Infantry School in Mhow.

About United Nations Mission in South Sudan:
• The United Nations Mission in South Sudan is the newest United Nations peacekeeping mission for the recently independent South Sudan, which became independent on 9 July 2011. UNMISS was established on 8 July 2011 by United Nations Security Council Resolution 1996.

Manjit Singh GK expelled from Shiromani Akali Dal.
• Former Delhi Sikh Gurdwara Management Committee president Manjit Singh GK was expelled from Shiromani Akali Dal, two days after he questioned the party’s leadership over its performance in Punjab Lok Sabha polls. Rajya Sabha MP Balwinder Singh Bhunder said that the step was taken after the Delhi court recently directed to investigate corruption charges against Manjit.

President Kovind appoints Modi as PM, swearing-in likely on May 30.
• President Kovind appoints Modi as PM, swearing-in likely on May 30
• NDA leader Narendra Modi met President Ram Nath Kovind today and staked claim to form new government. President Ram Nath Kovind appointed Modi to the office of Prime Minister and asked him to advise about the names of others to be appointed members of the Union Council of Ministers. The swearing-in ceremony is likely to take place on May 30.

Pema Khandu to be sworn-in as Arunachal Pradesh CM on May 29.
• Pema Khandu will be sworn-in as the Chief Minister of Arunachal Pradesh on May 29, Kiren Rijiju, Minister of State for Home Affairs informed on Twitter. This comes after Arunachal Pradesh BJP MLAs on Monday unanimously selected Pema Khandu as the leader of BJP Legislature Party. BJP had won 41 seats in the 60-member Arunachal Pradesh Assembly.

About Pema Khandu:
• Pema Khandu is an Indian politician and the Chief Minister of Arunachal Pradesh. Since assuming office of chief minister in July 2016, he and his government have twice changed their party affiliation
• Office: Chief minister of Arunachal pradesh until 31 Dec 2021
• Party: Bharatiya Janata Party

Punjab Congress chief Jakhar resigns after losing to Sunny Deol.
• Punjab Congress chief Sunil Jakhar has resigned from his post after losing to Bollywood actor and BJP candidate Sunny Deol from Gurdaspur Lok Sabha seat. Jakhar said that he had resigned three days ago but has not heard from the party yet. The Congress won 8 out of 13 seats in the state.

About Sunil Jakhar:
• Sunil Kumar Jakhar is an Indian Politician and President of Punjab Pradesh Congress Committee. Elected consecutively three times from Abohar constituency, he was a Leader of opposition in Punjab Vidhan Sabha from 2012-2017. He is a member of the Indian National Congress.
• Party: Indian National Congress

Prem Singh Tamang sworn in as Sikkim CM.
• Sikkim Krantikari Morcha (SKM) president Prem Singh Tamang on Monday took oath as the Chief Minister of Sikkim. Fifty-one-year-old Tamang, who took the oath in Nepali, was administered the oath by Governor Ganga Prasad at Paljor Stadium in Gangtok. SKM won 17 seats in the 32-member assembly, ousting former CM Pawan Kumar Chamling-led Sikkim Democratic Front after over 24 years.

About Prem Singh Tamang:
• Prem Singh Tamang, better known as PS Golay, is an Indian politician and the current Chief Minister of Sikkim and leader and founder of the Sikkim Krantikari Morcha. Prior to forming the party, he was a key member of the Sikkim Democratic Front Party.
• Organization founded
• Sikkim Krantikari Morcha

Maldives Ex-Leader Mohamed Nasheed Tipped as New Speaker.
• Former Maldives president Mohamed Nasheed nominated as the country’s parliamentary speaker.
1. Ibrahim Mohamed Solih is the current President of the Maldives.
2. Male is the capital of the Maldives.
3. The Maldivian rufiyaa is the currency of the Maldives.

Ola Electric appoints ex-Vodafone Group CEO Arun Sarin to board.
• Bengaluru-based Ola's newly-formed company Ola Electric has appointed former Vodafone Group CEO Arun Sarin as an independent director on its board. Sarin also currently serves on the boards of Cisco Systems, Accenture, Charles Schwab and Ola's parent company ANI Technologies. The IIT-Kharagpur alumni had received an Honorary Knighthood from Queen Elizabeth II at Buckingham Palace in 2010

About Ola Electric:
• India's first multimodal electric vehicle project launched on the 26th of May, 2017.
• The project brought together industry and government to pioneer electric vehicles for public and shared mobility in Nagpur.

About Amit Sarin:
• Arun Sarin is an Indian-American telecommunications executive. Sarin was the former CEO of the telecom giant Vodafone Group plc, serving from 2003 until 2008
• Board member of: Accenture, Ola Cabs, Cisco Systems, Charles Schwab Corporation, University of California, Berkeley
• Awards: CNN-IBN Indian of the Year Global Indian

Candy Crush maker King’s Co-founder quits as CEO after 16 yrs.
• Riccardo Zacconi, Co-founder of video game developer King, known for developing the Candy Crush Saga game, has stepped down as the CEO, its parent firm Activision Blizzard's regulatory filings revealed. Zacconi, an Italian businessman, led King for around 16 years after it was founded in 2003. However, he will stay on as King's Chairman, the filings further revealed.

About Candy Crush Saga:
• Candy Crush Saga is a free-to-play match-three puzzle video game released by King on April 12, 2012, for Facebook; other versions for iOS, Android, Windows Phone, and Windows 10 followed. It is a variation of their browser game Candy Crush.
• Initial release date: 12 April 2012

About Riccardo Zacconi:
• Riccardo Zacconi, is an Italian businessman, best known as CEO of King, a company he founded in 2003. King is the developer of the popular mobile games app Candy Crush Saga. On May 26, 2019, Zacconi announced he was stepping down as CEO of King

Alapan Bandyopadhyay appointed as new Home Secretary for West Bengal
• Chief Minister of West Bengal, Mamata Banerjee appointed Alapan Bandyopadhyay, an IAS officer of the 1987 batch, as the new Home Secretary for West Bengal. He succeeds Atri Bhattacharya.
• Alapan Bandyopadhyay was in charge of the Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises(MSME) Department with additional charge of Industry, Commerce and Enterprises Department.
• Ajit Ranjan Bardhan as the new principal secretary of the North Bengal Development Department (NBDD)Bardhan was earlier in charge of Youth Services and Sports department.
• Barun Kumar Ray, who was in charge of the NBDD with an additional charge of Jalpaiguri Commissioner was transferred as the Commissioner of Malda.
• Choten D Lama, Secretary of the Panchayat & Rural Development Department (P&RD) was shifted to the Backward Classes Welfare Department with an additional charge of the Tribal department.
• Gyanwant Singh was appointed as the new ADGP (Law and Order).

Muhammadu Buhari sworn in as the president of Nigeria for the second term.
• Muhammadu Buhari sworn in for a second term as Nigeria's president.
• He is a former military ruler, won 56 percent of the votes to defeat his main challenger, former Vice President Atiku Abubakar of the Peoples’ Democratic Party (PDP) in the February election.
• According to Transparency International's 2018 Corruption Perceptions Index, Nigeria failed to improve its ranking of 144th out of 180 countries from the previous year, despite a number of positive steps.
• Buhari is the twenty-third child of his father.
• Buhari was raised by his mother after his father died when he was about four years old.

About Muhammadu Buhari
Born: 17 December 1942
Political party: All Progressives Congress
Nationality: Nigerian

Walmart Appoints Suresh Kumar as Chief Technology Officer.
• US-based retail chain Walmart appointed Suresh Kumar, an IIT Madras graduate, and former Google executive, as chief technology officer and chief development officer.
• The appointment comes at a time when Walmart is transforming its customer and associate experiences.
• He has 25 years of technology leadership experience, coming from Google, Microsoft, Amazon, and IBM.
• He has a unique understanding of the intersection of technology and retail, including supply chain, and has deep experience in advertising, cloud and machine learning.

About Walmart
Founded: July 2, 1962;
Founder: Sam Walton
Headquarters: Bentonville, Arkansas, U.S.
Chairman: Greg Penner
President and Chairman: Doug McMillon.

Paytm COO Vasireddy, ex-Paytm Mall COO Sinha quit: Report.
• Paytm Chief Operating Officer (COO) and Senior VP of business Kiran Vasireddy and former Paytm Mall COO Amit Sinha are leaving the homegrown fintech giant, Entrackr reported. Since Sinha led Paytm Mall till February, his accountability quotient for Paytm Mall's poor performance stands high, Entrackr quoted sources as saying. "Their resignation is only a speculation," Paytm responded to the report.

Former Flipkart Executive Sandeep Patil appointed as India Managing Director of Truecaller
• Former Flipkart Executive Sandeep Patil appointed as India Managing Director of Truecaller. He served as the head of consumer and commercial lending vertical at Flipkart until his new appointment with Truecaller.
Sandeep Patil will be leading business strategies to expand the company and increase its revenue.
• He will be supervising the teams based in Delhi, Mumbai and Bengaluru.
India is the largest market for Truecaller with 60-70% of global revenue and user base.
It has 100 million daily active users in the country.

About Truecaller
Headquarters: Stockholm
Founded: 2009
Founders: Nami Zarringhalam and Alan Mamedi.

OBITUARY

Former Australian Prime Minister Bob Hawke dies aged 89.
• Former Australian Prime Minister Bob Hawke passed away on Thursday at the age of 89, his wife Blanche d'Alpuget said in a statement. Hawke, who served as Australia’s Prime Minister from 1983 to 1991, was the country’s third longest-serving leader after Robert Menzies and John Howard. Hawke is survived by his wife and his four children.
About Bob Hawke:
• Robert James Lee Hawke, AC, GCL was an Australian politician who was the 23rd Prime Minister of Australia and the Leader of the Labor Party from 1983 to 1991.
• He was the longest-serving Labor Party Prime Minister. Hawke was born in South Australia but moved to Western Australia as a child.

I M Pei The Master Architect Passes Away
• I M Pei, a dominant figure in American architecture for more than three decades who designed the Louvre's crystal pyramid, has passed away.
• Pei’s more than 50 projects included the Musee d’Art Moderne in Luxembourg (2006) and the 72-story Bank of China Tower in Hong Kong (1989).
• He was honored with the American Institute of Architects’ Gold Medal in 1979; the Grande Medaille d’Or from the Academie d’Architecture de France; and the Presidential Medal of Freedom in the USA.

SUMMITS AND MOU’s
Varuna 19.1, Indo French joint naval exercise, began in Goa.
• Varuna 19.1 is the first part of the Indo-French joint naval exercise. It is being held off the Goa coast from 1st to 10th May 2019. The exercise will see the participation of the French Navy’s aircraft carrier FNS Charles de Gaulle, two destroyers, FNS Forbin and FNS Provence, the frigate FNS Latouche-Treville, the tanker FNS Marne and a nuclear submarine. From the Indian side, the aircraft carrier INS Vikramaditya, destroyer INS Mumbai, the Teg-class frigate, INS Tarkash, the Shishumar-class submarine, INS Shankul, and the Deepak-class fleet tanker, INS Deepak, are taking part in the exercise.

India and Bangladesh agreed to jointly produce film on the life of Mujibur Rahman.
• India and Bangladesh agreed to jointly produce the film based on the life and works of Bangabandhu Sheikh Mujibur Rahman and documentary of Bangladesh Liberation War 1971. The delegation from Bangladesh side led by Dr. Gowher Rizvi, Adviser to Prime Minister of Bangladesh met Amit Khare, Secretary of Information and Broadcasting Ministry. The co-production of film was earlier announced by the PM of both India and Bangladesh The movie will be directed by Shyam Benegal and the scriptwriter of the movie will be Atul Tiwari and the director of the documentary will be from Bangladesh who would be assisted by a co-director from India.
• Additionally, Prasar Bharti decided to carry Bangladesh TV on DD Free Dish platform and also to waive carriage fees.

Tata Global Beverages appoints Shikha Sharma, Bharat Puri as directors.
• NEW DELHI: Tata Global Beverages Wednesday said former MD & CEO of Axis Bank, Shikha Sharma and Pidilite Industries MD Bharat Puri have been appointed as additional and independent directors. Their appointment, which is with effect from May 7, 2019 for five years, will be subject to the approval of shareholders in the ensuing annual general meeting, the company said in a regulatory filing.

WTO Ministerial Meeting of Developing Countries in New Delhi.
• A WTO Ministerial meeting of developing countries is being hosted by India in New Delhi on 13-14 May 2019. Sixteen developing countries, Six Least Developed Countries (LDC)(Argentina, Bangladesh, Barbados, Benin, Brazil, Central African Republic (CAR), Chad, China, Egypt,
Guatemala, Guyana, Indonesia, Jamaica, Kazakhstan, Malawi, Malaysia, Nigeria, Oman, Saudi Arabia, South Africa, Turkey, Uganda)and DG, WTO are participating in the meeting.

• Ministers from Bangladesh, CAR and South Africa have confirmed their participation. Vice Ministers, senior officials and ambassadors will be representing other countries.

India and China sign protocol for Export of Indian Chilli Meal.

• Commerce Secretary, Anup Wadhawan and Vice Minister, General Administration of Customs of China (GACC), Li Guo, held a meeting in New Delhi today to discuss trade related issues of pending Indian request for clearance of agricultural products.

• Both sides appreciated each other’s concerns and agreed to resolve market access issues expeditiously in order to achieve the vision of the leaders of both India and China by promoting a more balanced trade.

• At the end of the meeting a protocol was signed for export of chilli meal from India to China.

20th Conference of Regional Heads of Customs Administration (RHCA) of Asia Pacific Region of the World Customs Organisation (WCO) concludes in Kochi.

• The Central Board of Indirect Taxes and Customs (CBIC) had organised a Conference of the Regional Heads of Customs Administration of Asia Pacific Region of the World Customs Organisation (WCO) in Kochi from 08th to 10th May, 2019. India hosted this Conference in its capacity as Vice-Chair of the Asia Pacific Region of WCO which it assumed on 1st July, 2018 for a two-year period.

• The Conference took stock of the progress made in carrying forward the programmes and initiatives of WCO to promote, facilitate and secure cross-border trade in the Region and the capacity building and technical assistance required by Member Administrations to achieve these goals.

WTO Ministerial Meeting of Developing Countries in New Delhi.

• A WTO Ministerial meeting of developing countries is being hosted by India in New Delhi on 13-14 May 2019. Sixteen developing countries, Six Least Developed Countries (LDC)(Argentina, Bangladesh, Barbados, Benin, Brazil, Central African Republic (CAR), Chad, China, Egypt, Guatemala, Guyana, Indonesia, Jamaica, Kazakhstan, Malawi, Malaysia, Nigeria, Oman, Saudi Arabia, South Africa, Turkey, Uganda)and DG, WTO are participating in the meeting.

• Ministers from Bangladesh, CAR and South Africa have confirmed their participation. Vice Ministers, senior officials and ambassadors will be representing other countries.

India to sign pact with Mongolia to built its first petrochemical refinery.

• India and Mongolia are expected to sign an agreement this week for the construction of Mongolia’s first petrochemical refinery that is expected to cut some of its dependence on Russian fuel. When signed, the project will be the largest being undertaken by the government of India under its Lines of Credit programme, two people familiar with the matter said on Sunday.

• The petrochemical refinery -- near Sainshand in southern Dornogovi province -- is to be built at an approximate cost of $1.25 billion utilising the $1 billion line of credit announced during Prime Minister Narendra Modi’s visit to Ulan Bator in 2015. It is expected to be completed by 2022.

Iran’s Foreign Minister meets Swaraj in India amid US sanctions.

• Iran’s Foreign Minister Javad Zarif met his Indian counterpart Sushma Swaraj in Delhi on Tuesday during his two-day visit to the country. His visit comes amid increased tensions with the US in the
wake of renewed sanctions. India has reportedly stopped imports of Iranian oil after the US withdrew waivers granted to nations on the imports.

**India signed the Christchurch Call to Action in Paris.**

- India signed the Christchurch Call to Action in Paris. The agreement came in the backdrop of the attacks on Christchurch in March and is aimed at stopping the abuse of the Internet by extremists. The meeting held in Paris was attended by representatives of online giants like Microsoft, Google, Twitter, Facebook, and Amazon. India was represented by Ajay Prakash Sawhney, Secretary, Ministry of Electronics and Information Technology.

**Document highlights:**

- Counter the drivers of terrorism and violent extremism by strengthening the resilience and inclusiveness of societies to enable them to resist terrorist and violent extremist ideologies, including through education, building media literacy to help counter distorted terrorist and violent extremist narratives, and the fight against inequality.
- Ensure effective enforcement of applicable laws that prohibit the production or dissemination of terrorist and violent extremist content, in a manner consistent with the rule of law and international human rights law, including freedom of expression.
- Encourage media outlets to apply ethical standards when depicting terrorist events online, to avoid amplifying terrorist and violent extremist content.

**Sony, Microsoft partners to build future cloud solutions for gaming and content streaming.**

- Sony and Microsoft have announced a partnership to build future cloud solutions supporting both gaming and content streaming alongside AI solutions.
- PlayStation maker Sony will use Xbox maker Microsoft's data centres and Azure cloud computing service for its existing game and streaming platforms. In return, Microsoft will gain access to Sony’s image sensors.
- The partnership comes as Google works to disrupt the video game world with a Stadia platform that will let players stream blockbuster titles to any device they wish. The Stadia platform will open to gamers later this year in the United States, Canada, Britain and other parts of Europe.
- Google is focused on working with game makers to tailor titles for play on Stadia. It has already provided the technology to more than 100 game developers. The Stadia tech platform aims to connect people for interactive play on PCs, tablets, smartphones and other devices.
- Streaming games from the cloud brings the potential to tap into massive amounts of computing power in data centers.

**BSNL partnered with Google for expanding WiFi footprint**

- Bharat Sanchar Nigam Limited (BSNL) partnered with Google on the occasion of World Telecom Day.
- The main objective is to expand BSNL Wifi footprint in the country.
- Currently, there are around 38,000 BSNL Wifi hotspot locations working across the country and one can use these after buying the Wi-Fi vouchers worth of Rs 19 and more.

**Tech Mahindra signed a defence contract worth Rs.300 crore with Indian Navy.**

- IT major, Tech Mahindra has signed a defence contract worth Rs.300 crore with Indian Navy. This contract is its biggest agreement to date. The IT major will implement RFID-based access control system across all naval bases and ships as part of ‘Armed Forces Secure Access Card (AFSAC)’
Project. AFSAC will replace the existing paper-based identity card for all Navy personnel, including dependents and ex-servicemen. As part of the AFSAC Project, Tech Mahindra will implement RFID (Radio Frequency Identification) based access control system across all naval bases and ships.

**AFSAC Project:**
- The Mumbai-based company will develop a secure application to manage the access control devices, network devices, and the AFSAC card through a data centre.
- The security of Indian Naval establishments against unauthorized access is a thrust area and the AFSAC Project will be an important step towards achieving this aim.
- Scheduled to be implemented over the next two years, the project will ensure smooth issuance, handling, administration, management and life-cycle support of AFSAC Cards on turnkey basis.
- This project further cements the company’s role as one of the leading system integrators globally.

**Tech Mahindra:**
- Type: Public
- Founded on: 24 October 1986
- Chairman: Anand Mahindra
- MD & CEO: C.P. Gurnani
- Services: Outsourcing, Consulting, Managed services

**Assam Rifles signed the charter of affiliation with the Indian Coast Guard.**
- In a first, the Assam Rifles (AR) signed the charter of affiliation with the Indian Coast Guard to enhance inter-forces cooperation and interoperability. It is a permanent affiliation of Assam Rifles with the Coast Guards.
- The charter of affiliation was signed by the Director General (DG) of the Indian Coast Guard, Rajendra Singh and DG, Assam Rifles Lt Gen Sukhdeep Sangwan on 22 May 2019.

**Main Objective:**
The objective of the affiliation is to promote bilateral cooperation between the two Services and contribute to joint capacity for training, sports, adventure, and sustainable development.

**The affiliation includes:**
- The training will involve the exchange of information and personnel of the two Forces and building camaraderie. The two will work together in humanitarian missions and other areas. A combat battalion of Assam Rifles will soon be training onboard ICGS Shaurya (16), an offshore patrol vessel in Chennai.
- In due course of time, arrangements will be made for the exchange of personnel including those with an understanding of Land Border Management (LBM) with Assam Rifles battalions. Over-Seas Deployment (OSD) of AR personnel on board an ICG ship, bilateral meetings between the two forces, and participation of experts from both sides in such meetings.

**ADB to provide Rs.5,200 cr to electrify railway tracks in India.**
- The Asian Development Bank (ADB) on Wednesday said it will provide $750 million (over Rs.5,200 crore) long-term financing to electrify railway tracks in India. This is the largest single non-sovereign loan ever committed by the funding agency. Indian Railway Finance Corporation (IRFC) will use the loan to install electric traction equipment along about 3,378 kilometres of existing railway lines.

**About ADB:**
• The Asian Development Bank is a regional development bank established on 19 December 1966, which is headquartered in the Ortigas Center located in the city of Mandaluyong, Metro Manila, Philippines. The company also maintains 31 field offices around the world to promote social and economic development in Asia.

Wikipedia
• Headquarters: Mandaluyong, Philippines
• President: Takehiko Nakao
• Membership: 68 countries
• Founded: 19 December 1966
• Purpose: Economic development
• Subsidiaries: Asian Development Bank Institute

NSIC signed MoU with the Ministry of MSME for 2018-19 financial year.
• The National Small Industries Corporation Limited (NSIC) signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) with the Ministry of Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises (MSME) for the year 2018-19. The MOU was signed by Ram Mohan Mishra and Arun Kumar Panda in the presence of Alka Nangia Arora, Joint Secretary, SME; Mercy Epao, Director (SME); P Udaya Kumar, Director, P&M, NSIC, and A.K. Mittal, Director, Finance, NSIC. The MoU envisages provision of enhanced services by NSIC under its marketing, financial, technology, and other support services schemes, for MSMEs in the country.
• NSIC plans to increase Profitability:
  • NSIC projects to increase its total business by 21.30% from Rs.22,258 crore in the year 2017-18 to Rs.27,000 crore in the year 2018-19.
  • NSIC also projects growth of 32% in Profitability during the year 2019-20.
  • It also plans to enhance its activities in the areas of imparting entrepreneurship and skill development training. It will do so by targeting 45 percent growth in the number of trainees.
• In August 2018, NSIC had opened another office in Bhubaneswar to encourage MSMEs, including SC/ST groups. The building has workplaces for different offices such as National Skill Development Corporation (NSDC), National Skill Training Institute (NSTI) and others which will work with NSIC for offering help to different MSMEs.
• National Small Industries Corporation Limited (NSIC):
  Founded: 1955
  Headquarters: New Delhi, India
  Chairman & MD: Ram Mohan Mishra
  Parent: Ministry of Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises
• NSIC is the nodal office for several schemes of Ministry of MSME such as Performance & Credit Rating, Single Point Registration, MSME Databank, National SC ST Hub, etc.

DAYS

May 1: International workers day.
• International Worker's Day also known as Labour Day and May Day, is observed on 1st May every year, to promote and encourage the international labour associations.
• The theme of Labour Day 2019 is 'Uniting Workers for Social and Economic Advancement'. Labour Day provides the Labours their right to work for only 8 hours a day.

WORLD PASSWORD DAY – FIRST THURSDAY IN MAY.
• The Registrar of National Day Calendar has designated the first Thursday of May of each year as World Password Day.
• World Password Day is a celebration to promote better password habits. Passwords are critical gatekeepers to our digital identities, allowing us to access online shopping, dating, banking, social media, private work and life communications.

World Press Freedom Day is celebrated on 3rd May
• World Press Freedom Day is celebrated on 3rd May every year. It was started by the UN General Assembly in 1993, on a recommendation from UNESCO. The day aims to celebrate the fundamental principles of press freedom, assess its state around the world, defend the media from attacks on their independence and to pay tribute to journalists who have laid down their lives in the exercise of their profession.
• The theme for this year's World Press Freedom Day is Media for Democracy: Journalism and Elections in Times of Disinformation. The theme discusses current challenges faced by media in elections, along with the media's potential in supporting peace and reconciliation processes. UNESCO's mandate is freedom of the press and freedom of expression. UNESCO believes that these freedoms allow for mutual understanding to build sustainable peace.

International Firefighters Day is observed on 4th May.
• International Firefighters’ Day (IFFD) is observed on 4th May of every year. It was instituted after a proposal was emailed out across the world on January 4, 1999, due to the deaths of five firefighters in tragic circumstances in a bushfire in Australia. May 4 used to be a traditional Firefighters' Day in many European countries because it is the day of Saint Florian, patron saint of firefighters.
• Fire prevention and the need for more intensive and thorough training is one of the main aspects of International Fire Fighters Day. Firefighters and their agencies around the world are constantly stressing fire prevention: in schools, to the community, at public events, at assemblies and even to their own families. The safest way to keep firefighters alive and home to their families is training. This ideal is one that International Fire Fighters Day stresses.
• The Ribbon:
One of the most significant symbols of International Fire Fighters Day is the red and blue ribbon. This ribbon is cut precisely five centimeters long and one centimeter wide, with the two separate colors conjoined at the top. The red and blue were chosen because the red stood for the element of fire whereas the blue would represent the element of water. Coincidently, red and blue are also the colors recognized worldwide to signify emergency services; therefore, red and blue being the best choice of color to recognize an international day.

Coal Miners Day is observed on 4th May every year:
• Coal Miners Day is observed on 4th May every year to highlight the toughest profession and the people working in coal mines. On this day several organisations, communities raises funds and awareness for other organisations in the coal mining area and workers. This day show appreciation for the sacrifices, honour the accomplishments and remember the tragedies that these hardworking individuals experience.

World Laughter Day is celebrated on the first Sunday of May of every year
• World Laughter Day is celebrated on the first Sunday of May of every year. The first celebration was on May 10, 1998, in Mumbai, India. The celebration of World Laughter Day was meant to be a
positive manifestation for world peace and to build up a global consciousness of brotherhood and friendship through laughter and run-on sentences.

- Its popularity has grown exponentially with that of the Laughter Yoga movement, which is now counting over 6000 Laughter Clubs worldwide on all 5 continents.

World Laughter Day was created in 1998 by Dr. Madan Kataria, founder of the worldwide Laughter Yoga movement.

**World Red Cross Day is observed on 08th May.**

- World Red Cross Day (also known as Red Crescent Day) is observed every year on May 8.
- The 2019 theme is, ‘#Love’.
- The day is also the birthday of Henry Dunant, who had generated the Red Cross Committee of the International (ICRI) in 1863 in Switzerland, Geneva.
- He was born in May 8, 1828 and was also the recipient of the Nobel Peace Prize.

**India celebrates National Technology Day on 11th May.**

- National Technology Day is observed every year on the 11th of May in India. It is a reminder of the anniversary of Shakti. The aim of the celebration is to highlight the achievements of the scientists and engineers of India in the field of science and technology.
- It also helps to encourage students towards science and technology field.

**Shakti:**

- The first nuclear test Pokhran with a codenamed as ‘Smiling Buddha’ was carried out in May 1974.
- The second test conducted was Pokhran II which was a series of five tests of nuclear bomb explosions, administered by India at the Pokhran Test Range of Indian Army in May, 1998.
- Pokhran II comprised of five detonations out of which the first one was a fusion bomb while the other four were fission bombs. These nuclear tests evolved various sanctions against India by many major states, including the United States and Japan.

**Why the day is celebrated?**

- On 11th of May, 1998, India victoriously test fired the nuclear missile, Shakti-I at the Pokhran Test Range of Indian Army in Rajasthan in an operation administered by late president and aerospace engineer Dr. APJ Abdul Kalam. After two days, the country victoriously tested two additional nuclear weapons.
- Following this, Prime Minister Atal Bihari Vajpayee announced India as a nuclear state, making it sixth country in the world that has joined the nations "nuclear club" and the first country that was not party to the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons Treaty (NPT). NPT is a global treaty signed by the UK, Russia, China, France, and the US which has the objectives to prevent the increase of nuclear weapons and attain nuclear disarmament.

**International Nurses Day is celebrated on 12 May.**

- International Nurses Day (IND) is an international day observed around the world on 12 May of each year, to mark the contributions that nurses make to society. It was first observed in 1965.
- ICN commemorates this important day each year with the production and distribution of the International Nurses’ Day (IND) resources and evidence. The theme for the year 2019 is "Nurses: A voice to lead - Health for All".

**International Day of Families is observed on 15 May.**
• The International Day of Families (IDF) is observed on the 15th of May every year. The Day was proclaimed by the UN General Assembly in 1993. The day reflects the importance the international community attaches to families. It was first observed in 1996.
• The International Day provides an opportunity to promote awareness of issues relating to families and to increase knowledge of the social, economic and demographic processes affecting families. On this day, people across the world celebrate spending time with their families and reuniting with family members.
• The theme for IDF 2019 is Families and Climate Action: Focus on SDG 13.

The SDG 13 targets include:
• Improve education, awareness-raising and human and institutional capacity on climate change mitigation, adaptation, impact reduction, and early warning
• Integrate climate change measures into national policies, strategies, and planning.

Sikkim Statehood Day - 16th May.
• Sikkim celebrated its 43rd statehood day. It was on May 16, 1975 that Sikkim had officially become a state under the Union of India and Kazi Lhendup Dorjee became its first chief minister. Sikkim has the highest number of employees on the government payroll constituting about 14 percent of its population. It officially became the 22nd state of the country.

About Sikkim
Capital: Gangtok
Chief Minister: Pawan Chamling

World Hypertension Day is celebrated on 17th May.
• World Hypertension Day (WHD) is celebrated on 17th May. WHD was designated and initiated by the World Hypertension League (WHL). The day was initiated to increase the awareness of hypertension. This was especially important because of the lack of appropriate knowledge among hypertensive patients.
• The WHL launched its first WHD on May 14, 2005. Since 2006, the WHL has been dedicating May 17 of every year as WHD. The theme for World Hypertension Day 2019 is Know Your Numbers. The theme is with a goal of increasing high blood pressure (BP) awareness in all populations around the world. In 2019, WHL in conjunction with the International Society of Hypertension (ISH) will also promote May Measurement Month (MMM).
• World Hypertension League (WHL):
It was established in 1966. WHL an umbrella to organizations of 85 national hypertension societies and leagues.

World Telecommunication Day is observed on 17 May.
• World Telecommunication Day is celebrated annually on 17 May since 1969. It marks the founding of International Telecommunication Union (ITU) and the signing of the first International Telegraph Convention in 1865, Paris.
• It was instituted by the Plenipotentiary Conference in Malaga-Torremolinos in 1973.
The day is celebrated with a view to:
• stimulate reflection and exchanges of ideas on the theme adopted by the Council
• debate the various aspects with all partners in society
• formulate a report reflecting national discussions on the issues underlying the theme, to be fed back to ITU and the rest of its membership
Main Objective:
Setting standards is a fundamental pillar of ITU's mission as the specialized agency of the United Nations for information and communication technologies (ICTs). ITU standards help accelerate ICTs for all Sustainable Development Goals.

Theme 2019:
The theme for 2019 is Bridging the standardization gap. The 2019 theme will allow ITU Membership and other key stakeholders to focus on the opportunities for:
• participation of developing countries in ITU's standards-making process
• empowering local experts in the standardization process at the national, regional and international levels
• promoting the implementation of international standards in developing countries.

International Museum Day is observed on 18th May
• International Museum Day (IMD) is an international day that is celebrated on 18th May every year. It is coordinated by the International Council of Museums (ICOM). The objective of International Museum Day (IMD) is to raise awareness of the fact that, Museums are an important means of cultural exchange, enrichment of cultures and development of mutual understanding, cooperation and peace among peoples. The theme for International Museum Day (IMD) 2019 is Museums as Cultural Hubs: The future of tradition.

History:
• IMD was officially established in 1977 with the adoption of a resolution during the ICOM General Assembly in Moscow, Russia to create an annual event with the aim of further unifying the creative aspirations and efforts of museums and drawing the attention of the world public to their activity.
• ICOM suggested a theme for the first time in 1992: Museums and Environment.
• Museums in the Society:
• The role of museums in society is changing. Museums keep reinventing themselves in their quest for becoming more interactive, audience focused, community oriented, flexible, adaptable and mobile. They have become cultural hubs functioning as platforms where creativity combines with knowledge and where visitors can also co-create, share and interact.
• At once a focal point for the community and an integral part of a global network, museums offer a platform for translating local communities needs and views into a global context.

About ICOM:
Formed on: 1946
Location: Paris, France
• The purpose of ICOM is Conservation, continuation and communication to society of the world's natural and cultural heritage.

World AIDS Vaccine Day is celebrated on 18th May
• May 18 is celebrated as World AIDS Vaccine Day, also known as HIV Vaccine Awareness Day. On this day, HIV vaccine advocates promote the continued urgent need for a vaccine to prevent HIV infection and AIDS. World AIDS Vaccine Day observance is headed by the National Institute of Allergy and Infectious Disease (NIAID).
• This day provides a chance to thank several volunteers, community members, health professionals and scientists those who are working and researching to find a safe and effective HIV vaccine for prevention.
HIV research also includes efforts to develop a vaccine for HIV treatment (called a therapeutic vaccine). A safe and effective therapeutic HIV vaccine could prevent HIV from advancing to AIDS, replace daily use of HIV medicines, and help eliminate HIV from the body.

**NIAID:**
Formed on: 1955
Headquarters: Maryland, US
- NIAID is one of the 27 institutes and centers that make up the National Institutes of Health (NIH), an agency of the United States Department of Health and Human Services (HHS).
- NIAID's mission is to conduct basic and applied research to better understand, treat, and prevent infectious, immunologic, and allergic diseases.

**May 21 is observed as Anti Terrorism day in India.**
- Every year May 21 is observed as Anti-Terrorism day in India. The day is observed in the memory of former Indian PM Mr. Rajiv Gandhi who passed away on this day. Former Prime Minister Rajiv Gandhi was assassinated at an election rally near Chennai by a suicide bomber from the LTTE on 21 May 1991. On this day the Centre intends to spread awareness among the people about the danger of terrorism and violence and its effect on the people, society and the country as a whole.
- The Ministry of Home Affairs requested all Varsities and affiliated colleges to observe the day.
- The objective behind the observance of Anti-Terrorism Day is to wean away the people from terrorism and violence. Its motive is to promote unity, peace and harmony across the nation.
- The Purpose of observing World Anti-Terrorism Day is:
  - To spread the message of global peace and non-violence
  - Deter vulnerable youth from following cult practices and being misguided
  - Commemorate and honor the sacrifices made by thousands of soldiers who battled against terrorism
  - Pay homage to the victims who lost their lives in terrorist attacks
  - Device ways and hold awareness programs to protect future generations from radical influence.
- On this day Anti-terrorism pledge is taken in all government offices, PSU and in other public organisations. Events like debates, discussions, symposiums, seminars lectures will be held in schools, colleges and in universities on dangers of terrorism.

**World Biodiversity Day is observed on 22 May.**
- The International Day for Biological Diversity (or World Biodiversity Day) is a United Nations-sanctioned international day to increase understanding and awareness of biodiversity issues. The day is observed on May 22 every year. The theme for 2019 is 2019 - Our Biodiversity, Our Food, Our Health.
Biological Diversity falls within the scope of the UN Post-2015 Development Agenda's Sustainable Development Goals. Agrobiodiversity and its potential to support human nutrition and good health is a critical component of the global sustainability agenda. The critical role of biodiversity in sustainable development was recognized in a Rio+20 outcome document, The World We Want: A Future for All.
Theme 2019: Our Biodiversity, Our Food, Our Health:
- This year’s International Day for Biological Diversity focuses on biodiversity as the foundation for our food and health and as a key catalyst to transforming food systems and improving human well-being.
- The theme aims to leverage knowledge and spread awareness of the dependency of our food systems, nutrition, and health on biodiversity and healthy ecosystems. The theme also celebrates the diversity provided by our natural systems for human existence and well-being on Earth, while
contributing to other Sustainable Development Goals, including climate change mitigation and adaptation, ecosystems restoration, cleaner water, and zero hunger, among others.

• To conserve and sustainably use biodiversity for the well-being, every individual need to:
  • Reduce meat consumption
  • Eat and purchase seasonal foods
  • Buy local foods
  • Reduce food waste
  • Compost food scraps
  • Reduce food packaging by using reusable bags or reusing glass jars or containers
  • Avoid single-use plastics like plastic straws, coffee cups, plastic cutlery, take out containers or plastic water bottles
  • Promote local and indigenous biodiversity for food and nutrition

**World Tortoise Day is observed on 23rd May.**

• World turtle day is observed on 23rd May. It is sponsored yearly since 2000 by American Tortoise Rescue. The aim is to bring attention to, and increase knowledge of and respect for, turtles and tortoises, and encourage human action to help them survive and thrive. This year the day spotlights on freshwater turtles.

  • The herpetologists, one who studies about amphibians and reptiles, have launched a unique initiative to gather more information about India’s freshwater turtles and tortoises.

**In India:**

• The India Biodiversity Portal has initiated a ‘Turtle Spotting Week’ as part of a unique exercise to document the creatures across India. The week began on 17th May and ends on 23rd May 2019.

• There are at least 28 species of freshwater turtles which can be spotted across the country and we felt that not enough attention was being given to them. Research and conservation activities in particular are limited and we wanted to encourage more people to document their findings.

**Veer Savarkar was observed on 28 May**

• Swatantryaveer Vinayak Damodar Savarkar's birth anniversary was celebrated on 28 May 2019. On this occasion, Prime Minister Narendra Modi paid tributes to VD Savarkar. He said that the nation will always remember sacrifices made by Veer Savarkar during the freedom struggle.
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