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

World first satellite launch by Soviet led US to create NASA.
• The Soviet Union launched the world's first artificial satellite Sputnik I on October 1957. The US-Soviet Cold War, Sputnik's launch directly led to the foundation of the National Aeronautics and Space Administration (NASA)
The Weight of the Sputnik is 83.6 kg, the 58-cm-wide satellite transmitted signals for 21 days before losing speed and burning up in the atmosphere in 92 days.

History of Soviet Union
The history of Soviet Russia and the Soviet Union reflects a period of change for both Russia and the world. The terms Soviet Russia and Soviet Union often are synonymous in everyday speech, The foundations of the Soviet Union, Soviet Russia properly refers to the few years between the October Revolution of 1917 and the creation of the Soviet Union in 1922.

NASA
Headquarters: Washington, D.C., United States
Founder: Dwight D. Eisenhower
Founded: 29 July 1958, United States
Administered by: Jim Bridenstine

Scotland becomes the first country in the UK to ban the smacking of children.
• Scotland has become the first part of the United Kingdom to ban the smacking of children. The country introduced a law that makes smacking the children a criminal offence for parents and carers to use physical punishment against a child.

Aim:
The law change is aimed to give children the same protection from assault as adults. This law has brought Scotland into line with United Nations recommendations. Currently, the parents and the carers are allowed to use reasonable physical force in order to discipline children.

India and Bangladesh signed 7 projects.
• Bangladesh Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina met Prime Minister Narendra Modi for bilateral talks on 6 October. The two leaders jointly inaugurated 3 projects to strengthen ties in diverse areas including defence and security, trade and connectivity.

Discussion:
The two countries signed 7 pacts in core areas namely transport, connectivity, capacity building and culture. Three projects involving the import of LPG from Bangladesh were also launched during the meeting. The leaders also discussed the issue of implementation of the National Register of Citizens (NRC) in Assam.

Trade opportunities between the US and India are historic
• The governor of Arkansas state Asa Hutchinson in the US said that the trade opportunities between the US and India are historic although there is a re-examining of trading relationships based on a look at new trading rules.
• Because of the national leaders who foster trade and investment between India and the United States the trade opportunities are very high.
• Hutchinson:
Asa Hutchinson is one of 5 governors of New Jersey, Colorado, Delaware, and Indiana apart from Arkansas. He has been scheduled to visit India over the next few months to enhance economic ties with the country.
US Astronauts Complete 1st of 5 Power Upgrade Spacewalks.
• Two NASA astronauts have successfully wrapped up a seven-hour and one minute spacewalk, marking the completion of the first of the five spacewalks to upgrade the station's power systems this month.

The replacement of nickel-hydrogen batteries with newer, more powerful lithium-ion batteries on the far end of the station's port truss, Expedition 61 Flight Engineers Christina Koch and Andrew Morgan of NASA concluded their spacewalk at 2.40 pm EDT on Sunday. The astronauts were also able to accomplish get-ahead tasks, including the removal of an additional nickel-hydrogen battery, originally scheduled for the second spacewalk.

These new batteries provide an improved power capacity for operations with a lighter mass and a smaller volume than the nickel-hydrogen batteries.

Mr Morgan and Ms Koch are scheduled to venture outside again for another spacewalk to continue the battery replacements on the first of the two power channels for the station’s far port truss.

The next spacewalks dedicated to the battery upgrades are scheduled on October 16, 21 and 25.

The battery spacewalks, the second half of this sequence of spacewalks will focus on repairs to the space station’s Alpha Magnetic Spectrometer.

The Dates for those spacewalks are still being discussed, but they are expected to begin in November.

The Space station crew members have conducted 219 spacewalks in support of assembly and maintenance of the orbiting laboratory.

WTO to host first World Cotton Day celebrations in Geneva.
• World Trade Organisation, WTO will host the first World Cotton Day (WCD) celebrations in Geneva. This event stems from the application by the Cotton-4 countries (Benin, Burkina Faso, Chad and Mali) to the United Nations General Assembly for its official recognition of a World Cotton Day, reflecting the importance of cotton as a global commodity.

The five-day event of World Cotton Day being observed at Geneva beginning today. The plenary session will be attended by heads of states, heads of international organisations and executives from the private sector.

World Cotton Day will celebrate the many advantages of cotton, from its qualities as a natural fibre, to the benefits people obtain from its production, transformation, trade and consumption. World Cotton Day will also serve to shed light on the challenges faced by cotton economies around the world because cotton is important to least developed, developing and developed economies worldwide.

The World Cotton Day launch will give more than 30 countries exposure to producers, processors and businesses and more than 400 participants will be celebrating cotton in Geneva with thousand more around the world.

A cotton exhibition is also being held where TEXPROCIL, Handloom Export Promotion Council (HEPC), Cotton Corporation of India (CCI) and the National Institute of Fashion Technology (NIFT) will be setting up their stalls.

A sculpture of Mahatma Gandhi made out of cotton will be displayed to commemorate the 150th birth anniversary of the Father of the Nation. The Cotton Textiles Export Promotion Council (TEXPROCIL) will be displaying India’s high quality cotton textiles at the exhibition.

HEPC will be displaying hand woven products from prominent clusters of India and will also have a live demonstration of the charkha by Pitta Ramulu, National Awardee weaver. The charkha will be donated to the WTO after the event.
Cotton is a global commodity that is produced all over the world and a single tonne of cotton provides year-round employment for five people on average. Cotton is a drought-resistant crop ideal for arid climates, it occupies just 2.1 per cent of the world’s arable land, yet it meets 27 per cent of the world’s textiles need. In addition to its fibre used in textiles and apparel, food products are also derived from cotton-like edible oil and animal feed from the seed.

**World Trade Organisation WTO**
Headquarters: Geneva, Switzerland
Membership: 164 member states
Founded: 1 January 1995

**India handed over 10,000 vials of antirabies vaccines to Myanmar**
- India handed over 10,000 vials of anti-rabies vaccines to Myanmar. The move is to help Myanmar in its fight against the Rabies disease. The handing over ceremony was held in Yangon, Myanmar on 8 October. The vials of Anti-Rabies Vaccines were handed over by the Deputy Chief of Mission Sumit Seth to Myanmar's Director General of Department of Medical Research [DG(DMS)] Zaw Than Htun at the Indian Embassy in Myanmar.
- **Aim:**
  The aim of the move of donating vials is to provide support to the Government of Myanmar for its fight against Rabies. This showcases the strength of India's pharmaceutical industry in manufacturing high-quality vaccines at a highly competitive price.

**Pakistan PM Imran Khan declared as 2020 Muslim Man of the Year.**
- Jordan's Royal Islamic Strategic Studies Centre (RISSC) has declared the Pakistan Prime Minister Imran Khan as Muslim Man of the Year 2020. He won the title in the recent list of the most persuasive Muslims in the world issued by the Centre. His name has also been included in The Muslim 50, the Most Influential Muslims in the World published by the RISSC. Mr. Khan has also become the 6th most popular world leader on Twitter with 10.5 million followers on the social media platform.
  The RISSC has also declared Rashida Tlaib as Muslim Woman of the Year 2020. She is an American Congresswoman.

**RISSC:**
The Royal Islamic Strategic Studies Centre (RISSC) is an autonomous research organization in Jordan. It is affiliated with the Royal Aal Al-Bayt Institute for Islamic Thought. It aims to protect, preserve and propagate Islam as defined by the international Islamic Consensus on the Three Points of the Amman Message arrived at over the years 2005-2006. It also aims to publicize the religious and legal positions of Islam on key issues relevant to life in the modern world.

**NASA Launches Long-Delayed ICON Space Weather Satellite to Study Earth's Ionosphere**
- The Ionospheric Connection Explorer (ICON) spacecraft launched aboard a Northrop Grumman Pegasus XL rocket, which was released in midair from its carrier plane, a Stargazer L-1011. The aircraft had taken off about an hour and a half earlier from Cape Canaveral Air Force Station.
- **ICON make its way to Earth orbit on a mission to study the planet's ionosphere, a massive layer of our atmosphere that overlaps with the boundary of space. The spacecraft's measurements will help scientists better understand the link between space weather and terrestrial weather, and how the two interact in the ionosphere, mission team members he ionosphere is continually changing, and it's very dynamic,”Nicky Fox,** head of NASA's heliophysics division, explained during a prelaunch news briefing on Tuesday (Oct. 8).
Prahlad Singh Patel participated in the BRICS Culture Ministers Meet

- BRICS Culture Ministers’ Meet was held at Curitiba, Brazil. Shri Prahlad Singh Patel, Union Minister of State for Culture and Tourism (Independent Charge), participated in the meeting. In the meeting, the countries reaffirmed to contribute towards stronger bonds of friendship and cooperation in cultural fields amongst member countries.
- India-BRICS relationship:
  - With its rich cultural heritage and traditions, India has contributed towards stronger bonds of friendship and cooperation in the fields of Cultural Heritage, Archives, Literature, Theatre for children and young people, Films, Arts, Museums & Galleries, etc.
  - India’s National Gallery of Modern Arts of India, under BRICS Alliance of Museums and Art Galleries, is to host Bonding Regions & Imagining Cultural Synergies during November-December, 2019.

1-WTO gives US final authorisation to impose tariffs on EU products in retaliation for illegal subsidies given to Airbus.
2-US imposes sanctions, tells Turkey to stop Syria invasion.
3-Jay Chen CEO of Huawei want to tie up with Reliance Jio. India is still thinking on this 5G ecosystem in the country.
4-Sino-Pak axis plans to sell arms to Nigeria and Myanmar

The study, released amid growing global alarm over climate change, found that intense heatwaves over the summer in Switzerland had dashed hopes that an exceptionally snow-filled winter would limit the glacier melt this year. Switzerland’s glaciers have lost a tenth of their volume in the past five years alone -- a melting rate unmatched during observations stretching back more than a century.

“Gender Imbalance in Unpaid Work”
- The annual meeting of the IMF and the World Bank, the International Monetary Fund said that while men have increased their time spent on unpaid work, women still spend from 20 to 1,000 per cent more time than men around the world.
- Women in Hong Kong spend 2.6 hours a day on unpaid work, and in Mexico 7.1 hours. Gender imbalances in the distribution of unpaid work varies significantly across countries, the paper said.

Turkey launched a cross-border assault on Kurdish fighters on Wednesday after the US decided to withdraw troops from Syria, a move criticised by the Republicans, with some terming it a "betrayal" of the Kurds.

India halved its poverty rate since the 1990s: World Bank report
India has halved its poverty rate since the 1990s and achieved a seven plus growth rate over the last 15 years. The country has achieved annual growth exceeding seven per cent over the last 15 years, halved its poverty rate since the 1990s, and enjoyed strong improvements in most human development outcomes.

Trade deal with China being papered, says Donald Trump
US President Donald Trump on Wednesday said the partial trade deal agreed with China last week is now being formally put on to the paper.

FATF to rule on harsher sanctions for Pakistan
The support extended by Turkey, China and Malaysia resulted in the FATF deciding not to include Pakistan on its “black list”. The Financial Action Task Force (FATF) has reviewed steps taken by Pakistan to counter money laundering and terror financing during meetings underway in Paris and is expected to rule on whether harsher sanctions will be imposed on the country.

- China, Turkey and Malaysia also appreciated the steps taken by Pakistan though some concerns were raised about a tax amnesty scheme offered by the government.

Barack Obama backs Canada’s Justin Trudeau for another term in office
Barack Obama is urging Canadians to re-elect Prime Minister Justin Trudeau, an apparently unprecedented endorsement of a candidate in a Canadian election by a former American president.

Trump dismisses Syria concerns; Democrats walk out of WH meeting
Condemnation of Trump’s stance on Turkey, Syria and the Kurds was quick and severe during the day, not only from Democrats but from Republicans who have been staunch supporters on virtually all issues.

End terror or face action: Global watchdog FATF puts Pakistan on notice
FATF warned that a part of the action will include urging members to advise their financial institutions to give special attention to business relations/transactions with Pakistan.

Trump to host G7 summit at his Miami golf resort next year
US President Donald Trump will host the Group of Seven (G7) summit in June next year at his golf resort in Florida, the White House confirmed.

UK, EU hail new Brexit deal, but Parliament sign-off hangs in balance
The UK and the European Union (EU) declared that they have agreed a new Brexit deal for Britain’s withdrawal from the 28-member economic bloc within the October 31 deadline. While UK PM Boris Johnson hailed the agreement as a “great new deal”, EU President Jean Claude-Juncker branded it a “fair and balanced agreement”.

US announces Turkey has agreed to ceasefire in Syria
US Vice President Mike Pence announced that the US and Turkey had agreed to a five-day ceasefire in northern Syria to allow for a Kurdish withdrawal from a security zone roughly 20 miles south of the Turkish border.

Pak warns India against diverting water flow, says it would be act of aggression
Foreign Office spokesperson Mohammad Faisal made the remarks during his weekly media briefing here in response to a question regarding Prime Minister Narendra Modi’s recent remarks to stop water flowing to Pakistan.

Fate of Japan’s imperial dynasty rests on shoulders of 13-year-old
Japan only allows males to ascend the ancient Chrysanthemum Throne and changes to the succession law are anathema to conservatives backing Prime Minister Shinzo Abe.

Stocks, sterling rise on long-awaited Brexit deal
Wall Street rose as upbeat earnings from Netflix and Morgan Stanley affirmed a strong start to the US reporting season, while the dollar fell against the euro as the common currency got a lift on the long-awaited Brexit deal.

**Imran Khan govt faces united opposition’s march, over 1.5 million turnout expected**

Political party Jamiat Ulema-e-Islam-Fazl (JUI-F) called for the anti-government protest, demanding the Imran Khan-led government to step down from power as they have failed to cater to the needs of the people of the country, who the party claimed, were under severe stress due to "government's policy failure".

**North Korea says US, South Korea must present new solutions for conflict**

The United States and South Korea must produce new solutions for the current standoff on the Korean Peninsula, a senior North Korean military official said on Monday, warning that hostile policies towards Pyongyang would lead to serious consequences.

**China's defence minister says resolving Taiwan question is national priority**

- No force can prevent 'reunification' of China, he says
- He calls China-US military relationship 'generally stable'
- Taiwan says China has endangered world peace

**All taxis in Dubai now fitted with surveillance cameras**

The system has sensors that automatically activate the camera once the customer steps into the vehicle.

**Egypt reveals details of 30 ancient coffins found in Luxor with inscriptions, paintings**

The coffins were for men, women and children from the 22nd dynasty (945-715 B.C.) and had been collected and hidden by a priest for fear of being looted, secretary general of the Supreme Council of Antiquities.

**China's next space rockets likely to make test flights in 2020, 2021**

At about 116 tonnes and with a length of 31 meters, the Smart Dragon-3, set for a test flight in 2021, will be capable of sending 1.5 tonne payloads into orbit.

**1984 Sikh Genocide Memorial in US removed after India protests**

About three months after a ‘1984 Sikh Genocide Memorial’ to the Sikh victims of the 1984 riots in India was installed at Otis Library here, the memorial was removed - in part following the urging of the Indian government.

**President Ram Nath Kovind attends enthronement ceremony of Japan's Emperor Naruhito**

President Ram Nath Kovind on Tuesday attended the enthronement ceremony of Japan's new Emperor Naruhito who completed his ascension to the Chrysanthemum Throne after his father's abdication earlier this year.

**Malaysia's Mahathir stands by Kashmir comments despite palm oil boycott by India traders**

Malaysian Prime Minister Mahathir Mohamad said on Tuesday he would not retract his criticism of New Delhi's actions in Kashmir even though Indian traders have urged a boycott of Malaysian palm oil.
Hong Kong extradition bill withdrawn, but protests unlikely to end
The rallying cry of the protesters, who have trashed public buildings in the Chinese-ruled city, set street fires and thrown petrol bombs at police, has been “five demands, not one less”, meaning the withdrawal of the bill make no difference.
-Will continue to pressurise Pakistan to act against Lashkar, Jaish and Hizbul, says US
The US has once again reiterated that it will continue to pressurise Pakistan to act against terrorism breeding on its ground.
- US has said it will continue to put pressure on Pakistan to act against terror outfits
- US has said it will pressurise Pakistan to against Lashkar, Jaish and Hizbul
- US also supported Imran Khan's remark that terrorists are enemies of Pakistan too

-White House denounces 'smear campaign’ against Donald Trump
The White House rejected damning testimony Tuesday from a US diplomat in Donald Trump’s impeachment probe as part of a “smear campaign” from the far left of the Democratic Party.
Stunning congressional testimony by Bill Taylor appeared to confirm allegations that Trump abused his office by conditioning foreign aid to Ukraine on its leader interfering on Trump’s behalf in the 2020 election.

-Iran executes children in violation of human rights law
The UN special investigator on human rights in Iran, expressed deep concern at the overall use of the death penalty in the Islamic Republic, saying its execution rate 'remains one of the highest in the world' even after a drop from 507 in 2017 to 253 in 2018.

-Journalists urge action against Google over EU copyright dispute
Hundreds of journalists called Wednesday for European officials to take action against Google over its refusal to pay media companies for displaying their content in defiance of a strict new EU copyright law. But Google said last month that articles, pictures and videos would be shown in search results only if media firms consent to let the tech giant use it for free.

-Sikh leader Jagmeet Singh emerges as pillar of new Canadian govt
Indian-origin Canadian Jagmeet Singh-led New Democratic Party (NDP), which won 24 seats in the general election, is likely to emerge as the "kingmaker" where Prime Minister Justin Trudeau’s Liberal Party held onto power in a nail-biting poll, albeit as a weakened minority government.

-UK Kashmir body to launch digital campaign in London
If turned down by the court to protest outside the Indian High Commission in London, the protestors will use a bus to launch their digital campaign. Metropolitan Police under Section 12 Public Order Act 1986 imposed restrictions on the protest "in order to prevent serious disruption to the community".

-South Korea to give up developing country status in WTO talks
South Korea will no longer seek special treatment reserved for developing countries by the World Trade Organization in future negotiations given its enhanced global economic status, its finance minister said.

-Storm-hit areas in Japan brace for heavy rains, 60,000 advised to evacuate
A wide swath of eastern Japan hit by flooding and landslides from Typhoon Hagibis two weeks ago braced for more heavy rains on Friday.
Wind-whipped fires rage across California as lights go dark
In Northern California wine country, authorities ordered 2,000 people to evacuate as a wildfire exploded to more than 15 square miles (39 square kilometers), whipped up by the strong winds that prompted utilities statewide to impose blackouts to prevent such fires from igniting.

Hundreds visit to Australia’s Uluru for last ever climb atop the sacred monolith
A permanent ban on scaling Uluru -- also known as Ayers Rock -- comes into place Saturday in line with the long-held wishes of the traditional Aboriginal owners of the land, the Anangu.

Indians will no longer require visas to visit Brazil
Bolsonaro, a far-right politician, came to power at the beginning of the year and has made it a policy to reduce visa requirements from a number of developed countries. But the announcement, made during an official visit to China, is the first he has made expanding that policy to the developing world.

Saudi Arabia names new foreign minister, hinting towards generational shift
Prince Faisal bin Farhan -- a one-time adviser to Crown Prince Mohammed bin Salman and currently ambassador to Germany -- will replace Ibrahim al-Assaf who was in the role for less than a year.

Washington banning US flights to all Cuban cities but Havana
Two people briefed on the matter say the Trump administration is banning U.S. flights to all Cuban cities but Havana in the latest move to roll back Obama-era easing of relations. The people say the Transportation Department will announce that JetBlue and American Airlines flights to Santa Clara in central Cuba and Holguin and Camaguey in the island’s east will be banned starting in December. Flights to Havana account for the great majority of U.S. flights to Cuba and will remain legal.

Renewed anti-government protests in Iraq leave 42 dead
Renewed anti-government protests across Iraq left more than 40 people dead on Friday through tear gas, live rounds and fires, a watchdog and security sources told AFP. The protests represent a second phase of a week-long movement in early October that ended with more than 150 people dead.
Rallies had been set to resume on Friday, with a range of actors from Iraq’s highest Shiite authority to the United Nations urging restraint. They began early and calm on Thursday evening, with protesters exchanging flowers with security forces and the interior minister insisting police would “protect” protesters.
But by Friday evening, demonstrations across the country had descended into violence that left 42 protesters dead -- at least half of them as they attacked the headquarters of armed factions or government bodies. Twelve died in the southern city of Diwaniyah alone, while setting fire to the headquarters of the powerful Badr organisation, part of the Hashed al-Shaabi paramilitary force.

-World Bank, the multi-lateral funding agency, has announced that it is to continue providing a $6 billion annual lending target for India to support infrastructure development and alleviate poverty. The announcement was made by President of World Bank David Malpass during his visit in the backdrop of the recently released World Bank report on Ease of Doing Business 2020.
- The 29th BASIC Ministers' Meeting on Climate Change was held in Beijing
29 October 2019 Current Affairs: The 29th BASIC (Brazil, South Africa, India, and China) Ministers’ Meeting on Climate Change was held in Beijing, China, on 25th-26th October 2019. The meeting was chaired by H.E. Mr. LI Ganjie, Minister of Ecology and Environment of the People’s Republic of China. Union Minister for Environment, Forest and Climate Change, and I&B Mr. Prakash Javadekar represented India in the Ministers’ meeting.

Highlights:
♦ The BASIC countries called for comprehensive implementation of the Paris climate deal
♦ The ministers of the meeting called on the developed nations to deliver on their commitment to provide $100 billion climate
♦ The ministers decided to foster climate resilience and promote the reduction of greenhouse gas emissions, low-carbon, and sustainable development
♦ The ministers agreed to collectively work towards the preparedness of the international community for the wellbeing of all
♦ The meeting highlighted that developing countries, including BASIC countries, are notwithstanding various challenges including food security, poverty eradication, and insufficient and uneven progress of domestic development
♦ Substantial gaps in mitigation, adaptation, and support provided by developed countries to developing countries in the pre-2020 period were highlighted in the meeting. The Ministers urged the developed countries to take immediate measures to close the gaps by revisiting the targets set for the countries on mitigation under the Convention and the Kyoto Protocol and fulfilling their commitments of providing support to developing countries.

-Exercise Shakti-2019
Exercise Shakti-2019, a bilateral exercise between the Indian Army and French Army, is to be held at the Foreign Training Node at Mahajan Field Firing Ranges in Rajasthan from 31 October to 13 November.

-Baghdadi died whimpering, crying like a coward: US President Donald Trump
US President Donald Trump announced the success of the raid, saying that ISIS chief Baghdadi, who is said to be 48 years old, died "whimpering and crying and screaming", and "like a dog and a coward", adding that the ISIS leader and "the losers" under his command "were very frightened puppies".

J&J’s own expert, working for FDA, found asbestos in Baby Powder
Ever since Johnson & Johnson (JNJ.N) disclosed this month that a government test had turned up asbestos in its Baby Powder, the company has attacked the validity of the result. J&J announced that other labs it hired ultimately found no asbestos in samples from the bottle tested by the U.S. Food and Drug Administration or from the same production lot. In challenging the FDA’s finding, however, the healthcare giant is casting doubt on one of its own experts.

Facebook agrees to pay UK fine over Cambridge Analytica scandal
Facebook (FB.O) has agreed to pay a 500,000 pound fine for breaches of data protection law related to the harvesting of data by consultancy Cambridge Analytica, Britain’s information rights regulator said on Wednesday.
Facebook CEO Mark Zuckerberg has faced questioning by U.S. and EU lawmakers over how the political consultancy obtained the personal data of 87 million Facebook users from a researcher. The Information Commissioner’s Office issued the small but symbolic fine last year after it said data from at least 1 million British users had been among the information harvested by Cambridge Analytica and used for political purposes. On Wednesday the ICO said that in dropping its appeal and agreeing to pay the fine, Facebook had not made an admission of liability.

Pakistan issues coin to commemorate 550th birth anniversary of Guru Nanak
The government of Pakistan on Tuesday issued coins to commemorate the 550th birth anniversary of Baba Guru Nanak, marking the opening of the Kartarpur Corridor for the Sikh pilgrims from India. The opening of the Kartarpur Corridor has become a major initiative as it comes amid heightened tensions between India and Pakistan, following the Centre's decision to revoke Article 370, that granted special status to Jammu and Kashmir. The coin, worth Pakistan rupee 50, will be available at the Kartarpur Sahib along with a postal stamp worth PKR 8 to the travelling pilgrims, as reported by news agency ANI.

Lebanon PM Saad Hariri resigns amid nationwide anti-government protests
Lebanon Prime Minister Saad Hariri on Tuesday announced resignation from the post amid a wave of protests against his government in nearly two weeks. "I can't hide this from you. I have reached a dead-end. To all my political peers, our responsibility today is how to protect Lebanon and to uplift the economy. Today, there is a serious opportunity and we should not waste it," Hariri.
As Hariri announced his resignation, scores of demonstrators in Beirut celebrated with joy and waved the Lebanese flag.

Fiat Chrysler to join forces with Peugeot to create world's fourth-largest auto firm
The boards of the two groups have mandated their respective teams to finalise discussions and reach a binding memorandum of understanding in the coming weeks, the two automakers said in a joint statement.

-Reorganisation of J&K internal affair: India slams China over Kashmir statement
We do not expect other countries, including China, to comment on the matters which are internal to India, just as India refrains from commenting on internal issues of other countries," Raveesh Kumar said. Asserting that the UT of J&K and Ladakh are integral part of India, he said India expects other countries to respect its sovereignty and territorial integrity.

Twitter bans all political advertisements
The issue suddenly arose in September when Twitter, along with Facebook and Google, refused to remove a misleading video ad from President Donald Trump's campaign that targeted former Vice President Joe Biden.

Facebook agrees to pay 500,000 pound fine to UK over Cambridge Analytica
The social networking giant had initially appealed the penalty. The ICO then pursued its own counter-appeal. But finally, Facebook has agreed to pay the 500,000 pound fine but has made no admission of liability in relation to the fine.
Lost World War II British submarine found sunk off the coast of Malta

The wreck of a British submarine, which vanished at the height of World War Two, has been discovered lying at the bottom of the sea off Malta, university marine archaeologists said on Thursday.

HMS Urge had been based with other submarines in Malta and had carried out several deadly missions when the British navy ordered it and rest of the flotilla to redeploy to Egypt because of a relentless German siege of the Mediterranean island.

Urge set sail on April 27, 1942, carrying a 32-strong crew, 11 other naval personnel and a journalist. However, it failed to reach Alexandria on the agreed rendezvous date of May 6 and its fate has always been a mystery - until now.

Gas canister being used to cook breakfast in Pakistan train explodes, kills at least 65

A fire swept through a Pakistani train on Thursday, killing at least 65 people and injuring nearly 40 after a gas canister that passengers were using to cook breakfast exploded, government officials said.

The fire destroyed three of the train’s carriages near the town of Rahim Yar Khan in the south of Punjab province. It was on its way from the southern city of Karachi to Rawalpindi, near the capital, with many people going to a religious conference.

Government launched the DIN system of CBDT.

• Ministry of Finance has launched the Documentation Identification Number (DIN) system of the Central Board of Direct Taxes (CBDT) on 1 October 2019. On the day of launching, about 17,500 communications with DIN were generated. DIN system has been created as per the direction of Finance Minister Ms. Nirmala Sitharaman. The introduction of DIN will make every CBDT communication to have a documentation identification number.

Aim:
The DIN system is expected to ensure greater accountability and transparency in tax administration.

Provisions of DIN:
♦ Any communication from the Income Tax (IT) Department without a computer-generated DIN, including notice, letter, order and summon or any other correspondence, would be invalid.
♦ All communications with DIN will be verified on the e-filing portal
♦ No communication would be issued manually without DIN except only if it is in the specified exceptional circumstances.
♦ Any communication issued manually under exceptional circumstances should be uploaded and regularised on the system portal within 15 days of its issuance.

Paryatan Parv 2019 launched.

• Center has launched the nationwide Paryatan Parv 2019 on 2 October. It was inaugurated by the Minister of Petroleum & Natural Gas and Minister of Steel, Shri Dharmendra Pradhan in New Delhi.

Organized by:
Paryatan Parv 2019 was organized by the Ministry of Tourism.

Aim:
Paryatan Parv aims to propagate the message of Dekho Apna Desh with the objective to encourage Indians to visit various tourist destinations of the country. It also spread the message of Tourism for All.

**Paryatan Parv 2019:**
Paryatan Parv 2019 will be held from 2nd to 13th October 2019 across the country. Paryatan Parv 2019 is dedicated to the 150th Birth Anniversary of Mahatma Gandhi. Paryatan Parv is being organized with the objective of drawing focus on the benefits of tourism, showcasing the cultural diversity of the country. It also reinforces the principle of Tourism for All.
The three components of Paryatan Parv, are:
♦ Dekho Apna Desh - To encourage Indians to visit their own country.
♦ Tourism for All - Tourism Events at sites across all States in the country are being organized.
♦ Tourism & Governance - Interactive Sessions & Workshops with Stakeholders on varied themes.

**Gandhi Jayanthi is celebrated on 2 October.**
• Gandhi Jayanthi is celebrated on 2 October in India. The Day marks the to mark the birth anniversary of Mohandas Karamchand Gandhi. The celebrations in the year 2019 mark the 150th birth anniversary of Mahatma Gandhi. The day is celebrated every year. His birth anniversary is observed as the International Day of Nonviolence.

**Mahatma Gandhi:**
M.K. Gandhi was born on 2 October 1869. He was known for his non-violence protest during the British rule. He was a leading figure of freedom movements whether in India or South Africa. India got freedom from colonial rule with his efforts.
Major events in the freedom struggle:
♦ In 1906-07, Satyagraha in South Africa
♦ In 1910, Satyagraha against emigration and restriction in Natal
♦ In 1917, Champaran Satyagraha
♦ In 1917-1918, Kheda Satyagraha
♦ In 1919, Khilafat Movement
♦ In 1920, Non-Cooperation Movement
♦ In 1930, Civil-Disobedience Movement
♦ In 1942, Quit India Movement
The above major movements that were led by Mahatma Gandhi helped India in attaining freedom from the British rule. Gandhi was assassinated by Nathuram Godse, a Hindu nationalist, on 30 January 1948.

**International Day of Non Violence is observed on 2 October.**
• International Day of Non-Violence is observed on 2 October. The day is observed on the birthday of Mahatma Gandhi. He is the leader of the Indian independence movement and pioneer of the philosophy and strategy of non-violence. The day aims to disseminate the message of non-violence, including through education and public awareness.
The principle of non-violence rejects the use of physical violence in order to achieve social or political change.

**History:**
On 15 June 2007, the United Nations General Assembly (UNGA) passed a resolution to declare 2nd October as International Day of Non-Violence. The resolution reaffirmed the universal relevance of
the principle of non-violence. It desires to secure a culture of peace, tolerance, understanding, and non-violence.

**India gets its first Floating Basketball Court.**
- India got its first-ever Floating Basketball Court in the Arabian Sea near Bandra Worli Sealink. It was installed by the National Basketball Association on 2 October.

**NBA India Games 2019:**
On 20 December 2018, NBA India had announced that the first-ever NBA game would be organized in the country in October in Mumbai. The NBA India Games 2019 has been prepared to feature the Sacramento Kings and Indiana Pacers, who will play two pre-season games on October 4 and 5 at the Dome, NSCI, SVP Stadium.

**National Basketball Association:**
- Founded on: June 6, 1946
- Countries: United States (29 teams), Canada (1 team)
- Headquarters: New York City
- Champion(s): Toronto Raptors

**India Economic Summit was held in New Delhi.**
- The India Economic Summit of the World Economic Forum (WEF) was held in New Delhi on 4 October 2019. The Prime Minister of Bangladesh, Sheikh Hasina and Union Minister of Commerce & Industry and Railways, Piyush Goyal were present in the summit.

**Summit highlights:**
During the summit, two Government to Business (G2B) MoUs were signed between Startup Bangladesh and Tech Mahindra and Bangladesh Economic Zones Authority and Adani Ports and SEZs. Over the last decade, bilateral trade between India and Bangladesh has grown steadily over the last decade. India's exports to Bangladesh for the financial year 2018-19 (April-March) stood at $9.21 billion and imports from Bangladesh for the same period stood at $1.22 billion.

**The 50th IFFI to be held in Goa from 20th to 28th November**
- The 50th International Film Festival of India (IFFI) has been scheduled to be held from 20th November to -28 November 2019 in Goa. Over 250 films from various countries are to be screened at the premiere movie festival. Nearly, 12 films that were made in different languages about 50 years ago will also be screened at the golden jubilee festival of IFFI. Russia will partner India at the IFFI film festival.

**International Film Festival of India (IFFI):**
IFFI was founded in 1952. It is one of the most significant film festivals in Asia. IFFI is being organized in Goa since 2004 under the leadership of the Chief Minister of Goa. From the 35th edition, the International Film Festival of India became globally competitive.

**Supreme Court bars Maharashtra govt from cutting more trees in Aarey**
- Supreme Court (SC) ordered the Maharashtra government to not cut more trees in the Aarey area. The Bombay High Court allowed the state government to go ahead with the felling of trees, following which the state had swiftly moved to cut the green cover to make way for a shed for the upcoming metro project in the city.
- The state government has promised to implement the SC order.
The Mumbai Metro Rail Corporation (MMRC) planned to cut some 2600 trees for the proposed infrastructure. The SC order is a win for the environmentalists, activists and members of the Hindi film fraternity who were opposed to the axing of the green cover.

• Several politicians had also extended their support to the activists protesting against the feeling of trees in Aarey.

**Exercise Nomadic Elephant XIV commenced on 6th October in Bakloh**

• The Exercise Nomadic Elephant XIV, 14th edition of Indo–Mongolian joint military training has commenced from 6 October 2019. The exercise is conducted over a period of 14 days from 6 October to 18 October 2019 at Bakloh, Himachal Pradesh.

**Aim:**
Nomadic Elephant-XIV aims to train troops in counter-insurgency and counter-terrorism operations under the United Nations mandate. It aims to enhance defence co-operation and military relations between the two countries.

**Drills:**
- The exercise will provide a platform to share the experiences and best practices of the two countries and gain mutually during the joint training.
- It aims to evolve various tactical drills in counter-terror environment like Convoy Protection Drill, Room Intervention Drills, Ambush/ Counter Ambush Drills.

**India and Bangladesh signed MoU to set up coastal surveillance**

• India and Bangladesh have signed an MOU to set up a coastal surveillance system radar in Bangladesh on 5 October. Delhi will enable the setting up the surveillance. The countries have decided to further expand connectivity network corridors to boost Delhi’s Indo-Pacific strategy with Dhaka emerging as a key pillar in that vision.

**MoUs:**
Including this, India and Bangladesh signed MoUs to strengthen ties: The MoUs include:
- MOU to provide a Coastal Surveillance System
- Standard Operating Procedure (SOP) on the use of Chattogram and Mongla Ports for Movement of goods to and from India
- Withdrawal of 1.82 cusecs of water from Feni River by India for drinking water supply scheme for Sabroom town, Tripura
- Agreement concerning Implementation of the Lines of Credit (LoCs) committed by India to Bangladesh
- Between the University of Hyderabad and the University of Dhaka for the renewal of Cultural Exchange Programme
- Co-operation in Youth Affairs

**Centre launched eDantseva website.**

• Centre launched the e-Dantseva website and mobile application, the first-ever national digital platform, on oral health information and knowledge dissemination. It was launched by Dr. Harsh Vardhan, Union Minister of Health and Family Welfare on 7 October in New Delhi.

**e-DantSeva:**
e-DantSeva is the first-ever national digital platform. It aims to provide oral health information both in the form of a website and mobile application.

**Aim:**
It aims to create awareness among the significance of maintaining optimum oral health. It will also equip them with the tools and knowledge to do so, including awareness of the nearest oral health service facility.

e-DantSeva provides oral health information that were gathered from scientific resources and connects the public to timely advice for managing any dental emergency or oral health problem.

**Developed by:**
e-DantSeva initiative was developed by the Ministry of Health and Family Welfare along with AIIMS and other stakeholders.

**Other launches:**
♦ The Union minister released the Braille booklet and Voice over on Oral Health Education for the visually impaired individuals
♦ Also, oral health posters for pregnant women and children were released

**India ranked 68th in the 2019 Global Competitiveness Index**
- Singapore topped the 2019 Global Competitiveness Index (GCI) and pushed the US to the second place. India ranked 68th on the GCI. The list is compiled by the Geneva-based World Economic Forum (WEF).
- Top 5 countries of the list:
  1) Singapore
  2) The US
  3) Hong Kong SAR
  4) Netherlands
  5) Switzerland
- Report highlights about India:
  ♦ India ranked 58th in the 2018 GCI report. It is among the worst-performing BRICS nations. The reports suggested that India should grow its skills base.
  ♦ India's product market efficiency has been undermined by a lack of trade openness.
  ♦ About Indian's labour market, WEF said that it is characterized by a lack of worker rights’ protections.

**Hindon to operate its first flight on 11 October.**
- Hindon airport is all set for the first commercial flight from 11 October. The first flight from Hindon Airport is operated by the Heritage Aviation company. The 9-seater will take off to Uttarakhand's Pithoragarh district from Hindon Civil Airport.
  The company has set the price for one seat in the aircraft at Rs.2,500. The company has planned to launch flights for Dehradun, Hubli, Shimla, Faizabad, Gulbarga, Nasik and Coonoor among other popular destinations.

**Hindon Airport:**
Hindon Airport is an upcoming civil airport in Ghaziabad, Uttar Pradesh. The airport is operated by the Airports Authority of India (AAI) at Hindan Air Force Station of the Indian Air Force. The Hindon airport will serve as the second airport in Uttar Pradesh. This airport will reduce the load at Delhi’s Indira Gandhi International (IGI) Airport.

**Forbes India Rich List Mukesh Ambani retains top position for 12th straight year**
• Reliance Industries Ltd (RIL) Chairman Mukesh Ambani bagged the number one spot with $51.4 billion net worth on Forbes list of richest Indians for the year 2019. Gautam Adani came a close second as he jumped 8 spots on the list with a net worth of $15.7 billion.
• This is the 12th consecutive year that Ambani has topped the list despite being a challenging year’ for the Indian economy According to the American business magazine. Ambani’s wealth swelled to $51.4 billion this year. Mukesh Ambani remains the richest Indian for the 12th year in a row. Reliance Industries is became one of India’s biggest mobile carrier Adani who rose 8 spots to bag the second place on the list saw his fortune rise on account of venturing into a slew of new businesses from airports to data centres.
• Ashok Leyland owners Hinduja brothers came third with a net worth of $15.6 billion, Shapoorji Pallonji Group’s Pallonji Mistry was on the fourth spot with a $15 billion net worth, Kotak Mahindra Bank’s Uday Kotak ranked fifth with $14.8 billion net worth followed by HCL Technologies Shiv Nadar with a net worth of $14.4 billion.
• This year also spelled an 8% drop in the total wealth of business tycoons on the Forbes' 2019 list to $452 billion. It had been a challenging year for the nation's wealthiest" owing to the economic slowdown.

New version of return filing portal to be launched by GST Network
• The Goods and Services Tax Network (GSTN) is to launch an improved version of the GST return filing portal on 22 October. It aims to make the process easier. The announcement was made by the GST Network CEO, Prakash Kumar.
• GST benefit:
  ♦ GST has reduced complexity by lowering the number of forms to be filed by businesses to 12. Previously it was 495 under as many as 17 central and state laws.
  ♦ Data that is shared by indirect tax administration with the income tax department has helped in detecting mismatches.
  ♦ Currently, there are 12.3 million registered GST taxpayers.

India, China to set up high level group to tackle Indias trade deficit
Indian Prime Minister Narendra Modi and Chinese President Xi Jinping agreed to set up a high-level group to tackle India’s trade deficit at the summit held in Mamallapuram, Tamil Nadu. The high-level group will be led by Finance Minister Nirmala Sitharaman from the Indian side and Chinese Vice Premier Hu Chunhua.

Highlights:
♦ The leaders discussed to improve bilateral ties
♦ The summit aimed to break through distrust over border disputes, trade rows, and China’s close military ties with Pakistan
♦ The leaders also said that a new mechanism would be established to discuss trade, investment, and services
♦ China urged India to take an independent decision on Huawei’s bid for India’s proposed 3G network without heeding to U.S. pressure
It was also suggested that the two sides to expand cooperation in the military sector to boost trust

Centre to fund Rs.25 lakh crore for infrastructural development
• Centre has announced Rs.25 lakh crore for infrastructural development in the villages across the country. It was announced by Prime Minister Narendra Modi on 13 October. The move aims to
strengthen rural infrastructure. The fund will be used to construct modern storage centres for crops also.

**Aim:**
The fund comes with a broader vision for farmers. Centre has been taking steps to solve the problems of farmers permanently.

**Other measures:**
♦ Among the allocated Rs.25 lakh crore, Rs.3.5 lakh crore will be used for water conservation and building facilities for water conservation.
♦ The government is also carrying work by constructing roads of the village.
♦ klavya Model School is to be introduced by the government to enhance the education and skills of tribal children.

**PM Modi holds talks with King of the Netherlands Willem-Alexander and Queen Maxima in New Delhi.**

2- India and Netherlands launch 2nd phase of LOTUS-HR (Local Treatment of Urban Sewage Streams for Healthy Reuse) project in Delhi.

3- Nirmala Sitharaman ask the firms to clear dues of MSME
   a) “The corporate affairs ministry has a complete list of companies, which have stated that they owe MSMEs nearly Rs 40,000 crore. We are taking a two-pronged approach so that before Diwali, MSMEs will get the dues,” Sitharaman said.

4- Govt plans to train women across villages to combat water crisis.
   a) Women in villages across 256 water-scarce districts will receive training to ensure clean water supplies, Smriti Irani, the federal minister for women & child development, said in Mumbai Tuesday. The program will be expanded to cover all of India’s 750,000 villages, Irani said.

**Delhi bans diesel gen-sets as GRAP kicks in, air quality very poor in several parts:**
National capital banned generator sets, barring those being used in essential and emergency services, on 16-Oct-2019, as the air quality in several places in the city and adjoining areas slipped to "very poor" level. The ban on generators is a part of the Graded Response Action Plan (GRAP), a set of stricter anti-pollution measures to be taken according to severity of pollution. This is the first time that the ban on gen-sets has been extended to NCR cities of Gurgaon, Ghaziabad, Noida, Greater Noida, Faridabad, Sonepat, Panipat and Bahadurgarh.

**India ranks below Pakistan, Sri Lanka in Global Hunger Index**
- The annual index is designed to measure and track hunger at the global, national and regional levels and to assess progress and setbacks in combating hunger. India is now ranked below Pakistan (94), Bangladesh (88) and Sri Lanka (66) among South Asian nations.

**The Supreme Court hearing on the Ayodhya land dispute case has entered the final leg.**
- In anticipation of an order within a month’s time the Rashtriya Swayamsewak Sangh (RSS), which has spearheaded the Ram Janmabhoomi movement for decades and has kept construction of a Ram temple at Ayodhya as its top agenda, has called a meeting of every "pracharak" with all Sangh affiliated organisation.

**Springboard mentor helps professionals transition to Data Science & ML.**
Springboard, a US-based learning platform, is now helping professionals in transition into Data Science & ML, through its 1:1 mentoring model. Every learner is matched with a personal mentor based on their background and aspiration to work on projects and help with industry insights. Mentors come from top companies like Flipkart, Paytm, InMobi, Ola, Uber, and more.

**KKR appoints David Hussey, Mills as chief mentor & bowling coach.**
- IPL side Kolkata Knight Riders on Saturday named Australian David Hussey as the chief mentor and former New Zealand pacer Kyle Mills as the team's new bowling coach. Both Hussey and Mills will work under former New Zealand wicket-keeper batsman Brendon McCullum, who has been appointed as the head coach of KKR for the next IPL.

**In Odisha’s first robotic restaurant, two humanoids to serve customers**
- A restaurant in Bhubaneswar first robotic restaurant opened its doors to customers claiming to be the first eatery in eastern India where two indigenously developed robots will serve customers.
- Named ‘Champa’ and ‘Chameli’, the two humanoid robots rolled on the floor of the “Robo Chef” restaurant in Chandrasekharpur area of Bhubaneswar in the evening and served food to the waiting customers. After serving them food, the two robots even chimed "Apana mane khushi to" (Are you happy), a phrase popularised by chief minister Naveen Patnaik during his 2019 election campaign.

**Hindu Dalit Nauksham Chaudhary is BJP’s choice in Muslim-dominated Punhana assembly seat of Haryana**
- The BJP, which has never won a seat in the Mewat region, has experimented by fielding a Hindu Scheduled Caste woman candidate, Nauksham Chaudhary (28), a rank outsider.
- The Meo-Muslim-dominated Punhana assembly constituency in Haryana’s Mewat region is all set to witness a keenly-fought contest between a debutante Hindu Dalit woman candidate and four Meo-Muslims.

**Indian retail market to touch $1,200 billion by 2021**
Indian retail market will reach $1,200 billion by 2021 and $1,750 billion by 2026, a FICCI-Deloitte report said, adding that the country’s e-commerce market is expected to touch $84 billion by 2021 and $200 billion by 2026.

**Trading tyres: How the West fuels a waste crisis in Asia**
Not long ago, Nabipur was a quiet farming village in northern India. Now the village is home to at least a dozen furnaces burning a steady stream of tyres to make low-quality oil in a process known as pyrolysis.

**Ranjan Gogoi recommends SA Bobde as 47th Chief Justice of India**
Justice Bobde has in the past served as Additional Judge at Bombay high court and Chief Justice of Madhya Pradesh High Court.

**Transfer Assam NRC Coordinator to MP for max period possible**
The Supreme Court ordered the transfer of Assam National Register of Citizens (NRC) coordinator Prateel Hajela of Madhya Pradesh on inter-cadre deputation for the “maximum period possible”.
Oil companies defer decision to suspend fuel supplies to Air India
Officials said the decision to defer the move follows Air India making a written request for the same as also promising to make regular payments to clear over Rs 5,000 crore in overdue fuel bills.

Non-recognised private school in Delhi wont be shut: AAP
Delhi Deputy CM and Education Minister Manish Sissodia said that Municipal corporation of Delhi will not be allowed to close any non-recognised private school.

50,000 OLA & Uber drivers to go on strike in Telangana on Oct 19
A joint action committee (JAC), comprising over 50000 Ola and Uber drivers is joining Telangana state road transport corporation employees on a state wide strike on October 19.

UP police on alert ahead of Supreme Court verdict of Ayodhya issue
Uttar Pradesh Director General of Police OP Singh has said that security arrangements in Ayodhya and the rest of the state are being assessed and upgraded as needed ahead of the Supreme Court verdict on Ayodhya.

Heavy rains create flood scare in parts of Karnataka
Torrential rains in many parts of the state and Maharashtra have created a flood scare afresh as many rivers are in spate, especially in north Karnataka and Chikkamagaluru.

INX Media: Delhi court takes cognisance of CBI chargesheet against Chidambaram
A Delhi court has taken cognisance of the CBI chargesheet in the INX Media corruption case accusing former finance minister P Chidambaram of causing loss to the exchequer by violating PMLA.

Over 100 terrorists were ready to infiltrate from six launch pads in PoK near Tangdhar
Over 100 terrorists were waiting in six launch pads in Pakistan occupied Kashmir across Tangdhar sector to infiltrate Jammu and Kashmir in small batches, sources said.

Pakistan stops postal service to India: Breach of international law
Ravi Shankar Prasad said Pakistan took the decision of stopping the postal mail services between the two countries without prior information.

Siachen area from Base to Kumar post open for tourists
Defence Minister Rajnath Singh on Monday declared Siachen area from Base to Kumar post open for tourists from across the world.

Pakistan to levy fees on Kartarpur pilgrims
Pakistan to levy service fee on pilgrims visiting Gurdwara Darbar Sahib in Kartarpur, Pakistan, considering the maintenance and development work going on in the Kartarpur Corridor. The Pakistan government said that it will charge $20 fee per pilgrim.

India to go ahead with Kartarpur agreement as Pak insists on levying $20 fee on pilgrims
In a statement, the Ministry of External Affairs (MEA) said, "If Pakistan wants to levy a service charge despite India's objections, India will go ahead with the Kartarpur Corridor agreement keeping
religious sentiments and longstanding demand in mind." The Kartarpur agreement between India and Pakistan will be signed on October 23.

**Freedom, conditions apply: Detained J&K leaders can’t comment or hold rallies on Art 370 for a year, says bond**
While some detained Jammu and Kashmir leaders have been freed, they have had to sign a bond that forbids them from making any comments, issuing statements, giving public speeches or participating in any public event "related to the recent events in the state of Jammu and Kashmir" for one year.

**Court allows ED to interrogate Ratul Puri in Tihar**
A Special court at the Rouse Avenue Court Complex here on Monday allowed the Enforcement Directorate to further interrogate businessman Ratul Puri in Tihar jail for three days in connection with Rs 3,600 crore AgustaWestland VVIP chopper money laundering case.
-Puri, who is the nephew of Madhya Pradesh Chief Minister Kamal Nath, is accused of allegedly receiving kickbacks in the deal. He was arrested by the ED on September 3.

**Zomato fined Rs 1 lakh for breeding mosquitoes in Chennai office**
Food delivery giant Zomato has been fined by Greater Chennai Corporation for discarding bags used by its delivery executives on the terrace of its Chetpet office in Chennai.
The food delivery app has been asked to pay Rs 1 lakh for failing to destroy mosquito breeding sources.

**IRCTC to pay around Rs 1.62 lakh as compensation for late running of Tejas Express**
A delay of more than three hours in the running of Delhi-Lucknow Tejas Express on October 19 has cost IRCTC around Rs 1.62 lakh which the railway subsidiary will pay through its insurance companies as compensation to around 950 passengers, a first in the history of Indian Railways.

**Heavy rains batter Kerala, IMD issues 2-day orange alert for several districts**
According to the weather forecast agency, an orange alert has been issued in 12 districts, including Thiruvananthapuram, Kollam, Alappuzha, Pathanamthitta, Kottayam, Idukki, Ernakulam, Thrissur, Palakkad, Malappuram, Kozhikode, and Wayanad, which will receive heavy to very heavy rainfall today accompanied with thunderstorm and lightning.

**Railways to implement Rs 18,000-crore project to run trains at 160 kmph**
The Indian Railways will implement a Rs 18,000-crore project to operate trains at a speed of 160 kmph on the busy Delhi-Mumbai and Delhi-Kolkata routes by upgrading infrastructure, Railway Board Chairman VK Yadav.

**Agra postal department stops booking posts for Pakistan**
In reaction to the Pakistan government’s decision to deny the extension of international postal services to India following the deterioration of relations between the two countries, the Agra Postal department has now stopped booking posts for addresses in Pakistan.

**Goan cows not the first to love meat but this may make Donald Trump happy**
- Goa government has sent meat-loving cows for rehabilitation
• A band of 76 stray cows in Goa were found to be loving non-veg food
• In an earlier case, cows were found to be eating live chickens in Bengal.

PMC bank scam: Protesters demand Rs 25 lakh ex-gratia for deceased account holders
The PMC bank account holders who are protesting at the Azad Maidan in Mumbai have put forth demands to the RBI including providing Rs 25 lakh ex-gratia for the people who died during the period when the bank scam came to light.

Kashmir's Iron Lady Parveena Ahanger on BBC list of 100 most inspiring women
Known as the 'Iron Lady of Kashmir' for her relentless protests against the alleged abduction of her son by the Indian Army in 1990 and thereafter forming the Association of Parents of Disappeared Parents (APDP) in 1994, Parveena Ahanger has featured on the BBC's list of top 100 inspiring women.

PM joked about media trying to trap me with anti-Modi remarks
• Abhijit Banerjee met PM Narendra Modi at his residence on Tuesday
• PM Modi lauded Abhijit Banerjee's list of accomplishments who recently won the Nobel Prize
• Banerjee said PM Modi joked about the media trying to trap him with anti-Modi remarks

Kartarpur pact to be inked on ‘zero line’, India and Pak to not cross border
India and Pakistan will sign an agreement on October 24 to operationalise the Kartarpur Corridor to allow Indian pilgrims to visit a gurdwara built at the site where Guru Nanak spent the final years of his life, capping protracted negotiations on the issue.

Delhi roads in for makeover, 9 stretches to be redone in first phase: Arvind Kejriwal
Arvind Kejriwal said all roads will be redesigned, at the estimated cost of Rs 400 crore, as per international standards. This will include landscaping, space for non-motorised vehicles and wider footpath which will be differently-abled friendly.

Health ministry’s intensified immunisation drive to reach 90% children
About 87% children are covered under the government’s universal immunisation programme (UIP), which is a significant jump from the national average of 70% in 2014.

Zakir Musa’s successor among 3 militants killed in Kashmir encounter
Three militants of Ansar ul Gazwat ul Hind, a terror outfit linked to al Qaeda, were killed in an encounter in Tral area of Jammu and Kashmir’s Pulwama district.

18 terrorists killed, JeM launch pads destroyed in PoK strikes by Indian army
Officials in Indian security agencies that have assessed the impact of the Indian Army’s artillery assault on terror launch pads in Neelum Valley and three other places in Pakistan Occupied Kashmir (PoK), said on condition of anonymity that at least 18 terrorists were killed along with 16 Pak Army personnel on October 19 and 20. The army hasn’t confirmed the number of dead.

Satya Pal Malik may be Lt Guv of Jammu and Kashmir, Ladakh Union territories
The union government is looking for candidates to take over as lieutenant governors (L-Gs) of the Union Territories (UTs) of Jammu and Kashmir (J&K) and Ladakh, carved out following J&K's
reorganisation that will come into effect on October 31, according to people aware of the developments.
There has been speculation that J&K governor Satya Pal Malik, 73, could preside over both UTs--
J&K and Ladakh--even as the J&K Reorganisation Act provides for separate L-Gs for both UTs.

**Delhi HC dismisses plea against odd-even scheme**
- The Delhi High Court Wednesday dismissed a PIL challenging the AAP government’s proposed odd-even road rationing scheme which is expected to be in force from November 4-15.
- A bench of Chief Justice DN Patel and Justice C Hari Shankar declined to entertain the plea as the petitioner had not made any representation to the government before approaching the court.
- The court also said that the petition was filed without the details of the scheme which is yet to be notified by the Delhi government.

**Happy Fridge to ensure that no one goes hungry on Diwali**
- In a bid to fight against hunger and poverty, Feeding India NGO has kickstarted an initiative and has come up with the idea of installing community refrigerators.
- In these community refrigerators, people can store surplus food or can donate food to the needy.

**Govt hikes wheat MSP by Rs 85/qtl; pulses up to Rs 325/qtl**
The government on Wednesday increased the minimum support price (MSP) for wheat by Rs 85 to Rs 1,925 a quintal and for pulses by up to Rs 325 per quintal.
A decision in this regard was taken at the meeting of the Cabinet Committee on Economic Affairs (CCEA), headed by Prime Minister Narendra Modi.

**Kerala cabinet reduces fine for certain offences under new Motor Vehicle Act**
- The Kerala cabinet has decided to reduce fines for certain offences under the new Motor Vehicle Act
- The fine for speeding for light Motor Vehicle was between Rs 1,000 to Rs 2,000. The revised fine has been fixed by the state government to be Rs 1,500. The fine for the heavy vehicle was between Rs 2,000 to Rs 4,000. It has been fixed to be Rs 3,000 by the state government.
- The cabinet has decided to fine violators Rs 2,000 if caught using mobile phones while driving. Earlier, the fine for this offence used to be between Rs 1,000 to Rs 5,000.
- For auto racing, the fine earlier was Rs 10,000 which has been reduced to Rs 5,000.
- The fine for driving without a permit was between Rs 2,000 to Rs 5,000. It has now been fixed at Rs 3,000.
- The fine for not wearing a seat belt or riding without a helmet has been reduced to Rs 500 from Rs 1,000.
- The fine, however, for not giving side to an ambulance and fire service has been reduced to Rs 5,000 from Rs 10,000.
- For a repeated offence of driving without insurance, the fine has been reduced from Rs 4,000 to Rs 2,000.
- Parliament in July had passed the Motor Vehicles (Amendment) Bill, 2019, which seeks to tighten road traffic regulations such as the issuance of driving licence and imposed stricter penalties for traffic-related violations.

**BEST launches bus services without conductors in Mumbai**

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The Mumbai civic body's transport arm BEST has for the first time started conductor-less bus services on two routes here from Wednesday, a senior official said. Passengers will have to buy tickets at the originating stops while boarding these non-stop buses.

**HIGHLIGHTS**
- Assam has rolled out its two-child policy passed by assembly in 2017
- Assam policy disqualifies people with more than two kids for government jobs
- India was among the first countries to launch a family planning programme in 1951.

**Four opposition MLAs join BJP in Jharkhand**
Sukhdeo Bhagat and Manoj Yadav of the Congress, Kunal Sarangi of the JMM and Independent MLA Bhanu Pratap Sahi joined the BJP in the presence of Chief Minister Raghubar Das at the party office here.

11-Terrorists hurl petrol bomb at security forces in Srinagar
- Targeting the forces in Srinagar, terrorists hurled petrol bomb at them and fled the spot.
- The incident happened at Srinagar's Batmaloo.
- Hameed Lelhari was named its new commander by Al-Qaeda affiliated Ansar Ghazwat-ul-Hind (AGH) after Zakir Musa’s death in May, 2019.

**Kartarpur Corridor agreement signed, pilgrims can carry Rs 11000 and a 7kg bag**
Kartarpur Corridor will go operational on November 8 as scheduled as India and Pakistan today signed an agreement to this effect. Those who wish to visit the holy shrine need to register with the home ministry.

**Humbled to have got people’s support yet again in Maharashtra: PM Modi**
After over 9 hours of heated poll battle that we witnessed today on vote counting day for the Maharashtra assembly elections 2019, the results are now looking clear. With Aaditya Thackeray emerging as the winner from Worli, his electoral debut constituency, and the party winning 33 seats and leading in 24 constituencies, Shiv Sena looks to draw a hard bargain with the Bharatiya Janata Party.

**SC allows Centre’s plea to recover adjusted gross revenue of Rs 92k crore from telecom companies**
- In an affidavit filed in the top court, DoT said that as per calculations, Airtel owes Rs 21,682.13 crore as licence fee to the government.
- Dues from Vodafone totalled Rs 19,823.71 crore while Reliance Communications owed a total of Rs 16,456.47 crore, DoT said.
- The BSNL owed Rs 2,098.72 crore while MTNL owed Rs 2,537.48 crore, it said.
- The total amount, which has to be recovered from all the telecom firms, accrues to Rs 92,641.61 crore as on date.

**Satya Pal Malik transferred to Goa, Girish Chandra Murmu made Governor of Jammu and Kashmir**
Jammu and Kashmir Governor Satya Pal Malik has been transferred to Goa while former IAS officers Girish Chandra Murmu and Radha Krishna Mathur have been appointed Lieutenant Governors of Jammu and Kashmir and Ladakh respectively.
Radha Krishna Mathur to be LG of Ladakh: All you need to know about him
Radha Krishna Mathur is a retired 1977 batch Indian Administrative Service (IAS) officer of Tripura cadre. Radha Krishna Mathur retired as the Chief Information Commissioner of India (CIC) in November 2018.
IAS officer Radha Krishna Mathur has been appointed the Lieutenant Governor of the union territory of Ladakh, the reorganisation of which will take effect from October 31, 2019.

PoK is terrorist controlled part of Kashmir, says Army chief Bipin Rawat
The territory which has been illegally occupied by Pakistan is not controlled by the Pakistani establishment, it is controlled by terrorists.

Karnataka: Fishing to commode, citizens protest in creative ways over state of roads
The state of roads in Karnataka has been playing a pivotal role in bringing out the lost creativity amongst the people of the state. Talking about the roads in Bengaluru, apart from traffic, the potholes and craters are the next major issue for the citizens. Fed up with the continuous apathy from the state authorities to deal with the problem, the people have resorted to unique ways of protesting and showing their discontentment.

SFIO starts probe in deals between Videocon and Deepak Kochhar
The Serious Fraud Investigation Office (SFIO) has initiated a probe in the deals between Deepak Kochchar's NuPower Renewables and Videocon Group in connection with the ICICI Bank Videocon loan default case.
Earlier, Ministry of Corporate Affairs had asked the SFIO to initiate investigations in dealings between Nupower Renewables -- a company owned by Deepak Kochhar.

Terrorists in Kashmir trying to radicalise children using schools of banned Jamaat-e-Islami, say intel reports
Jamaat-e-Islami has been trying to establish a parallel schooling system at a local level in Kashmir to start an anti-government narrative among children. Recently terrorists had tried to burn down a school building in Chawalgam while more terror outfits are planning to target government schools.

IMD issues cyclone alert for Goa, south Konkan and Karnataka
IMD has advised fishermen not to venture into the east-central Arabian Sea along and off Maharashtra - Goa - Karnataka coasts during the next 48 hours.

Gujarat firms gets 229.7 crore contract to redevelop Parliament Building
The contract for redevelopment of Parliament building, Rajpath and Central Vista in Delhi was Awarded to Ahmedabad-based HCP Design, Planning and Management on Friday.

UP CM Yogi Adityanath launches new emergency helpline number 112
Uttar Pradesh Chief Minister Yogi Adityanath on Saturday launched an all-encompassing emergency helpline number ‘112’. He also launched a senior citizen safety initiative ‘Savera’.

Marigold flowers worth Rs 2 crore to be sold on Diwali
Marigold flowers worth Rs 2 crore are estimated to be sold in Uttar Pradesh’s Meerut on Diwali
-Even though the harvest of the flower has been good this year, retailers are selling them at high prices to earn profits.

**Migrating eagle’s foreign trip makes Russian scientists bankrupt as bird flew to Iran**
After some migrating eagles flew from Russia to Iran, scientists ran out of money for tracking the birds. They had to start crowdfunding to pay off the debts drawn by the SMS messages.

**-India, China coordinate patrolling of disputed area**
Fish Tail-I and II are in the easternmost corner of Arunachal Pradesh. Fish Tail-I is largely glaciated terrain, and patrols from either side are few and far between.
India and China are for the first time patrolling Fish-Tail II, one of the 13 disputed areas along the Line of Actual Control (LAC) in south-east Arunachal Pradesh, in coordination with each other in an attempt to build mutual confidence and maintain peace along the border, a senior official in the security establishment said on condition of anonymity.
Fish Tail-I and II are in the easternmost corner of Arunachal Pradesh. Fish Tail-I is largely glaciated terrain, and patrols from either side are few and far between.

**-Centre appoints 29 joint secretaries in major reshuffle**
Of these, 13 are from the Indian Administrative Services (IAS) and the rest from the Indian Revenue Service (IRS), Indian Forest Service (IFoS), Indian Information Service (IIS) and the Central Secretariat Service (CSS), among others.
Alaknanda Dayal, Punjab-cadre IAS officer, was appointed a joint secretary in the Ministry of Home Affairs, an order issued by the personnel ministry said.
Ashutosh Jindal, joint secretary in the Ministry of Petroleum and Natural Gas, has been transferred to the Cabinet Secretariat at the same post.
IAS officer Puneet Aggarwal will be joint secretary in the Department of Defence.

**-5.4 lakh earthen lamps light up in Ayodhya for Deepotsav**
More than 500,000 diyas or earthen lamps were lit on Saturday at Ram Ki Paidi on the banks of the Saryu River in Uttar Pradesh’s Ayodhya as part of the BJP government’s Deepotsav celebrations this year.
Fiji’s minister Veena Bhatnagar, the chief guest at this year Deepotsav, lit the first earthen lamp as chief minister Yogi Adityanath and Governor Anandiben Patel and several ministers of the state government were present.

**Manohar Lal Khattar was sworn in as the Chief Minister of Haryana**
Manohar Lal Khattar was sworn in as the Chief Minister of Haryana for a second term on 27 October. He will lead the BJP-JJP (Jannayak Janata Party) coalition government in the state. Also, JJP leader Dushyant Chautala took oath as the Deputy Chief Minister of Haryana. The oath office was administered by Haryana Governor Satyadeo Narain Arya at the Raj Bhawan.

**-Defence Minister Rajnath Singh will represent India at the Shanghai Cooperation Organisation (SCO) heads of state meeting, which is to be held in Uzbekistan on 2 November. Mr. Singh is to embark on a three-day visit to Uzbekistan from 1-3 November.**
He will also hold a meeting with Uzbekistan’s defence minister. Both Ministers will discuss military cooperation. It is expected that they will conclude discussions on two pacts on military education and cooperation and military.

- Ladakh Literature Festival began on 29 October in Leh for the first time ever. The three-day fest will conclude on 31 October 2019. It will culminate on the day when Ladakh would formally become a Union Territory (UT) on 31 October. The festival will mark the official separation of Jammu & Kashmir and Ladakh. Organized by: Ladakh Literature Festival is organized by the Divisional Administration in association with the J&K Tourism Department, Ladakh Autonomous Hill Development.

Indian Institute of Management Calcutta (IIM (C)) secured the 17th rank globally in the Financial Times Masters in Management Rankings 2019.
- Indian Institute of Management Calcutta (IIM (C)) secured the 17th rank globally in the Financial Times Masters in Management Rankings 2019. The institute secured the ranking for its 2-Year Masters in Business Administration. IIM Calcutta topped among the 5 Indian B-Schools.

- Delhi to announce free ride for senior citizens and all students
Delhi Chief Minister Arvind Kejriwal announced that the free-ride scheme for women on Delhi public buses might be extended to senior citizens and all students.
Free-ride scheme.

- Nirmala Sitharaman released a special coin on Paramahansa Yoganandas 125th birth anniversary
29 October 2019 Current Affairs: Finance Minister Nirmala Sitharaman released a special commemorative coin on Paramahansa Yogananda to mark his 125th Birth Anniversary on 29th October. He was recognized globally by the message of his that brought harmony.

Paramahansa Yogananda:
Paramahansa Yogananda was born in 1893. He is considered one of the preeminent spiritual figures of modern times. He died in 1952.
Paramahansa has profoundly impacted the lives of millions with his comprehensive teachings on:
♦ the science of Kriya Yoga meditation
♦ the underlying unity of all true religions
♦ the art of balanced health and well-being in body, mind, and soul.

- PM Narendra Modi leaves for home after concluding visit to Saudi Arabia
Prime Minister Narendra Modi concluded his visit to Saudi Arabia on Tuesday, during which he held extensive talks with the top Saudi leadership and addressed a key financial forum here.
Prime Minister Modi, held wide-ranging talks with Saudi King Salman bin Abdulaziz and powerful Crown Prince Mohammed bin Salman, during which a Strategic Partnership Council was established to coordinate on important issues.
A memorandum of under standing was also signed to roll out RuPay card in the Kingdom - making Saudi Arabia the third country in the Persian Gulf after the UAE and Bahrain to introduce India’s digital payment system.

- Considering proposal to drop everything about Tipu Sultan from textbooks: BS Yediyurappa
Earlier, on October 28 State Education Minister Suresh Kumar wrote to the Managing Director of Karnataka Textbook Society, directing him to submit a report in three days on BJP MLA Appachu Ranjan’s proposal to strike off references to Tipu Sultan from history textbooks.

-Congress announces nationwide protests from November 5 to 15 against Centre’s policies
Congress general secretary organisation K C Venugopal said in a statement that the protests against the BJP Government’s “misrule” would be carried out at all state capitals and district headquarters.
The protests will culminate in a “massive programme” in the national capital in the last week of November, he said, adding that at the state level, the PCC presidents, CLP leaders and senior AICC functionaries will provide the leadership, while central leaders will participate in the protest in Delhi.
He said the Congress will highlight the issues of the “adverse impact of the Regional Comprehensive Economic Partnership (RCEP), current economic crisis, mounting unemployment, spiralling price rise, collapse of banking system, heavy loss of jobs in public and private sectors and the omnipresent farm distress”

-Orange alert in 4 districts in Kerala
The Orange alert, indicating heavy to very rainfall of between 6 CM to 20 CM, was for Ernakulam, Thrissur, Malappuram and Kozhikode districts for October 31, while the other 10 districts were issued a yellow alert for tomorrow.

-India considers adding more levies on refined palm oil imports
-Govt is discussing a proposal to impose a new levy in addition to the existing import duty and raise the goods and services tax on the processed tropical oil.
-India, the world’s biggest buyer of palm oil, is considering a proposal to further increase import taxes on the refined variety to boost local processing and cut dependence on overseas purchases.

-Delhi: Run for Unity participants brave bad air quality in capital
Thousands of participants of the 'Run for Unity' on Thursday braved bad air quality in Delhi as they made their way through a smoky haze to mark the 144th birth anniversary Sardar Vallabhbhai Patel.

-RK Mathur sworn-in as first L-G of Union Territory of Ladakh
RK Mathur is the first L-G of the union territory of Ladakh after the two UTs of J-K and Ladakh came into existence on midnight Wednesday following a notification by the home ministry.

-Ban on night-time construction in NCR extended till Saturday
The window of the ban, which starts from 6 pm, has also been increased to 10 am from the earlier 6 am, the Supreme Court-mandated body said on Thursday. The ban on coal-based industries, barring power plants, in Faridabad, Gurgaon, Ghaziabad, Noida.

-Labour productivity falls over the last eight years
Labour productivity in India has gone down significantly over the last eight years from the average of 7.4% between 2010-11 and 2014-15 to a low of average 3.7% during fiscal year 2015-16 to 2017-18, an analysis of India Ratings and Research.
Google partners with the government for the Crafted in India project

- Google Arts & Culture’s new project Crafted in India was unveiled on 7 October. For this Google has partnered with the Ministry of Tourism, Dastkari Haat Samiti, and 20 other cultural institutions for the project.

Aim:
Crafted in India project aims to showcase the country’s rich handicraft heritage. This will also make it accessible for the world to experience Indian crafts.

- Crafted in India:
  ♦ Crafted in India is the largest online exhibition on Indian Crafts.
  ♦ Over 50 of India's crafts will now be available in Crafted in India.
  ♦ Around 280+ exhibits and 11,000+ images & videos will give people an immersive tour of varied Indian craft forms including fabrics, embroidery, wall paintings to stonework, metal casting, wood carving, and more.

India jumps to 7th spot in Brand Finance Nation Ranking

- India jumped two levels to 7th position in the Brand Finance Nation ranking of 2019 The overall economic growth due to slowdown in the manufacturing and construction sectors. The latest report by independent brand valuation consultancy Brand Finance, India has jumped to the seventh position from 9th last year, after recording a solid 19 percent growth in brand value to USD 2.6 trillion.

  - The Indian economy to recover after the global financial crisis with growth now reduced by a recent slowdown in both the manufacturing and construction sectors. Canada secured 7th position dropped to 8th position. South Korea was at the 10th position last year managed to jump a level up to reach the 9th position.

  - Italy which was at 8th position last year, slipped to the 10th. US, China and Germany continued to be the top three nations, respectively even in 2019.

AWARDS AND RECOGNITION

Sanjay Kapoor awarded Most Inspiring Indian Bollywood Actor in UK.

- Sanjay Kapoor appointed for most of the inspiring Indian Bollywood Actor in UK. The actor has been a part of some of the best films in the past. The actor has been recognised for all the performances he has put together, and in fact, he is also relatively popular. The actor also received an award for his performance.

He has received an award at the House of Common Parliament of the United Kingdom, for being the Most Inspiring Indian Bollywood Actor.

Dil Sambhal Ja Zara to the web series and my recent Bollywood release Mission Mangal. The web series has recently been nominated at the Emmys which feels great. It is a 30 minutes video which is being present.
Shanti Raghavan, Dipesh Sutariya won Social Entrepreneur of the Year Award.
Shanti Raghavan and Dipesh Sutariya of EnAble India awarded the 10th Social Entrepreneur of the Year Award, 2019, for building an ecosystem of skilling, employment, and entrepreneurship for persons with disabilities (PwDs).
EnAble India changed the mindset of 729 business houses and built frameworks of inclusion in universities and government agencies, thus creating a robust business case for employing PwDs in formal and informal sectors across India.
The non-profit organization is bringing changes to the lives of PwDs through technology innovations, breakthroughs in skill trainings, new workplace solutions and behavioural change tools.
Over the past 20 years, Raghavan, Sutariya and their teams have transformed the lives of 220,000 individuals with disabilities and their families, community leaders, and employers across all the states.
All EnAble India trainees work across a wide spectrum of 14 disabilities, perform at par and receive salaries at par with their non-disabled peers. The organization aims to transform one million PwDs as confident taxpayers, active citizens, and nation-builders over the next three years through partnerships with 200 non-profit organizations.
The PwDs leads to 5-7% loss in India’s GDP. It starts with when the parent, who first thought that their child.

Jubilant Bhartia Foundation
Jubilant Bhartia Foundation, established in 2007, is the not-for-profit organization of the Jubilant Bhartia Group. It focuses on conceptualizing and implementing the corporate social responsibility initiatives for the group. The Jubilant Bhartia Foundation's activities include various community development works, healthcare programmes, cultural and sports events, an environmental preservation initiative, vocational training, women empowerment and educational activities.

Nobel Prize for Medicine awarded to William Kaelin and Gregg Semenza of US, Peter Ratcliffe of Britain
• Three researchers from the US and Britain on Monday shared the Nobel Medicine Prize for discoveries on how cells sense and adapt to oxygen availability, paving the way for new cancer treatments.
William Kaelin and Gregg Semenza of the US and Britain's Peter Ratcliffe split the nine million Swedish kronor ($914,000, 833,000 euros) award.
• They established the basis for our understanding of how oxygen levels affect cellular metabolism and physiological function,
• The trio identified molecular machinery that regulates the activity of genes in response to varying levels of oxygen, which is central to a large number of diseases.
• The intense ongoing efforts in academic laboratories and pharmaceutical companies are now focused on developing drugs that can interfere with different disease states by either activating, or blocking, the oxygen-sensing machinery.

IFS officer Ramesh Pandey to receive Asia Environmental Enforcement Award
• Senior Indian Forest Service (IFS) officer Ramesh Pandey has been selected for the prestigious Asia Environmental Enforcement Award for the year 2019. He was selected by the UN Environment in partnership with the United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP). He will receive the award at the United Nations Conference Centre in Bangkok on 13 November 2019. The selection panel recognized Pandey for his excellent work to combat transboundary environmental crime.
Ramesh Pandey:
Ramesh Pandey is a 1996-batch IFS officer. He was posted as Chief Conservator Forests in Lucknow and Secretary, UP State Bio-diversity Board. He is popularly known for his investigation and intelligence gathering on poachers. He was selected to be a part of the Wildlife Crime Control Bureau by the Indian government because of his work in Katerniaghat to curb poaching. He also served as Field Director of Dudhwa Tiger Reserve. He introduced the Monitoring System for Tigers Intensive Protection & Ecological Status (M-Strips), a new software-based patrolling in Dudhwa Tiger Reserve on the recommendation of the National Tiger Conservation Authority.

**Olga and Handke won the Nobel Prize for literature.**

- Olga Tokarczuk and Peter Handke have won the Nobel Prize for literature for the year 2018 and 2019. It was announced by the Royal Swedish Academy. Each received a nine million Swedish kronor, a medal and a diploma.

**2018 award:**

As the award was not announced for the year 2018, the academy awarded two winners, one for the year 2018 and one for 2019. The Swedish Academy suspended it in 2018 after a sexual assault scandal.

**Olga Tokarczuk:**

Polish author Olga Tokarczuk was awarded the Nobel Prize for the year 2018. She also won the Man Booker International Prize in 2018. Tokarczuk, 57, was rewarded for a narrative imagination with an encyclopaedic passion that represents the crossing of boundaries as a form of life. In 1993, her debut novel was published. She has also authored the famous Primeval and Other Times. The Nobel prize committee appreciated The Books of Jacob that presents a rich panorama of a little-known chapter in European history. she became the 15th female winner of the Nobel Prize out of 116 literature laureates.

**Peter Handke:**

The Austrian author and playwright Peter Handke, 76, was recognized for his influential work that with linguistic ingenuity has explored the periphery and the specificity of human experience. He has been a controversial figure as he supported the Serbs during the 1990s Yugoslav war. He was charged in 2001 with the Bosnian Genocide.

**Nobel Peace Prize: Ethiopia PM Abiy Ahmed wins.**

The 2019 Nobel Peace Prize has been awarded to Ethiopian Prime Minister Abiy Ahmed who made peace last year with bitter foe Eritrea. He was awarded the prize for his efforts to "achieve peace and international cooperation". Mr Abiy's peace deal with Eritrea ended a 20-year military stalemate following their 1998-2000 border war. He was named as the winner of the 100th Nobel Peace Prize in Oslo, where he will receive the award in December.

**Vice-President Venkaiah Naidu conferred highest Civilian Honour of Comoros**

- Vice-President M Venkaiah Naidu conferred the highest Civilian Honour of Comoros The Order of the Green Crescent. The honour was conferred by the President of the Union of Comoros Azali Assoumani in Moroni. He is on a first-ever high-level visit to Comoros.
• India and Comoros signed six agreements on defence, health and culture. The countries decided to exempt each other from Visa for diplomatic and official passport holders for short visits. India as a maritime neighbour is ready to share the experience of its progress with the people of Comoros.
• The Comoros and India have a commonality of approach on most of the important issues facing the world community and have consistently supported each other in different multilateral forums. India’s trade with Comoros was at USD 47.11 million for 2018-19. The potential for trade between #India and Comoros is vast. India would like to become a valuable partner in the economic development of Comoros.

**Kiran Uniyal sets Guinness World record**
Kiran Uniyal, the wife of a serving Colonel of Indian Army, has created Individual Guinness World Records for The most full contact knee strikes in three minutes (one leg) (female) with 263 strikes and The most full contact knee strikes alternate legs in one minute (female) with 120 strikes. The previous records were of 177 strikes and 102 in the female category, respectively.

**GoAir received the Best Airline award**
GoAir received the Best Airline award by Andaman Tourism Award 2019 in its first edition for its leadership in attaining on-time performance for 12 consecutive months. The Andaman Tourism Award ceremony was organized at Port Blair in association with the Andaman Ministry of tourism and Andaman Association of Tour Operators.

**National Panchayat Award 2019**
Union Minister of Panchayati Raj Narendra Singh Tomar conferred the National Panchayat Awards 2019 at a function in New Delhi. The Minister also launched a Spatial Planning Application called ‘Gram Manchitra’ which is a Geo Spatial based decision support system for panchayats.

**Most Eminent Senior Citizen Award 2019**
The Vice President Shri Venkaiyah Naidu presented the “Most Eminent Senior Citizen Award” to scholar, legal luminary and former Attorney General of India Shri K Parasaran. He was honored with the award on the occasion of Elder’s Day celebration organized by Age Care India.

**Rajbhasha Awards were presented by Prasar Bharati**
Prasar Bharati’s CEO Shashi Shekhar Vempati presented the Rajbhasha Awards to the winners of the Hindi Pakhwada competition.
♦ The theme of the competition was Plastic Free India and Cleanliness drive.
♦ The competition was conducted in 10 categories, including essay writing, poster making, story writing, and others.
♦ Prasar Bharati announced that from next year onwards, social media and technology would possibly be brought in to make Hindi competition more innovative.

**Anup Singh was awarded the Udyog Rattan Award**
Shri. Thakur Anup Singh, Marg ERP Ltd’s Chairman, and Managing Director, was awarded the Udyog Rattan Award-2019 by the Institute of Economic Studies. The award recognized his exceptional work in transforming the Indian industry landscape how MSMEs can accelerate their business using technology. Udyog Rattan Award-2019: The Udyog Rattan Award is presented every year to Indian citizens for their outstanding contributions to the economic development of the
country. The award is presented by the Institute of Economic Studies, India (IES), an affiliate of the Government of India.

World largest School
Lucknow-based City Montessori School (CMS) has won the Guinness World Record for becoming the 'world's largest school' in terms of strength of students. City Montessori School (CMS) has won the global award for having largest number of students in 2019-20. At present, the CMS has 18 branches and approximately 56,000 students all over the city.

SPORTS

Katarina Johnson won Heptathlon gold at the World Championships.
Katarina Johnson-Thompson won Heptathlon gold at the World Championships 2019 in Doha, Qatar. She won with a British record of 6,981 points. She defeated 2017 champion Nafissatou Thiam by 304 points. Austria's Verena Preiner took third.

2019 World Athletics Championships:
Edition: 17th
Venue: Khalifa International Stadium, Doha, Qatar
Dates: 27 September-6 October
Events: 49 (24 men, 24 women, 1 mixed)
Organized by: IAAF, Qatar Athletics Federation
Individual prize money (US$): 60,000 (gold), 30,000 (silver), 20,000 (bronze)
Team prize money (US$): 80,000 (relay gold), 40,000 (silver), 20,000 (bronze)

Niklas Kaul became the youngest world decathlon champion.
• Niklas Kaul set a record by becoming the youngest world decathlon champion in history at the World Athletics Championships 2019 held at Doha, Qatar. Kaul progressed steadily through the field after each of the 10 events.
He started off in 20th place after the 100m, ending the first day in 11th place and then breaking into the top three following a monster 79.05m throw in the javelin. A secured a high 4:15.70 run in the 1500m and sealed the record. Kaul won with a score of 8691. This is his third personal best of the season.

Novak Djokovic won Japan Open 2019 title
• Novak Djokovic, World No.1, won the 2019 Japan Open title on 6 October. He defeated the Australian qualifier John Millman to win the title. Djokovic secured 6-3, 6-2 and marked his 10th win in a tournament main draw debut in his celebrated career.
It was his first competition after pulling out of the US Open due to a left shoulder injury.

Result:
Singles: Serbia Novak Djokovic
Doubles: France Nicolas Mahut / Edouard Roger-Vasselin
• 2019 Japan Open Tennis Championships:
Date: 30 September–6 October
Edition: 46th
Location: Tokyo, Japan
The 2019 Japan open is a part of the ATP Tour 500 series of the 2019 ATP Tour. The men's tennis tournament is played on outdoor hard courts.

Surender Singh won gold in 2019 World Powerlifting Championship
• Surender Singh of India won gold in 110 kg category, Classic Raw and the Best Lifter Award in Classic Raw and Single Ply at the 2019 World Powerlifting Championship in Berlin, Germany. He created three world records at the event.
• Also, 3-time World Champion Mukesh Singh won gold only to be known as 4-time World Champion. On the first day of the championship, Indian players bagged a total of 4 gold and 1 silver medal.

Naomi Osaka won the 2019 China Open title
• Japanese Tennis player Naomi Osaka won the 2019 China Open title. She defeated world number one Ashleigh Barty to win her second Women’s Tennis Association (WTA) Tour 2019 title.

Result:
Men's Singles: Dominic Thiem, Austria
Women's Singles: Naomi Osaka, Japan
Men's Doubles: Ivan Dodig / Slovakia Filip Polášek, Croatia
Women's Doubles: Sofia Kenin / United States Bethanie Mattek-Sands, the United States.

Simone Biles won the 21st World Gymnastics Championships medal
• Simone Biles, 22, set the record by clinching the World Gymnastics Championships 2019 in Stuttgart, Germany. This is Simone Biles' 21st medal at the championships. With this title, she became the most decorated women's gymnast in history. She defeated Russia's Svetlana Khorkina to win the title.
• The USA won the women's team won gold with a tally of 172.330 for the fifth time. Russians won the silver medal with a tally of 166.529 and Italy won bronze with a tally of 164.796.

2019 World Artistic Gymnastics Championships:
Held at: Stuttgart, Germany
Date: 4 October - 13 October 2019
Competitors: 548 from 92 nations

Annu Rani won gold at the 59th National Open Athletics Championships.
Javelin thrower Annu Rani won a gold medal in the women's javelin throw event at the 59th National Open Athletics Championships on 10 October in Ranchi, Jharkhand. She defeated Sharmila Kumari to win the title.
She gave a series of throw of 56.97m, 55.97m, 58.31m, 57.29m, 56.86m, 58.60m. Sharmila Kumari's best throw in the event was 53.28m.
In October 2019, the 25-year-old set the national record at 62.43m at the World Championships in Doha.

Result:
Javelin Throw:
1.Annu Rani - 58.60m
2.Sharmila Kumari - 53.28
3.Poonam Rani - 50.67
Dutee Chand Breaks Her Own 100m Record at National Open Athletics Championships
• Dutee Chand won the 100-meter national record with a time of 11.22 seconds during the semi-finals at the National Open Athletics Championships in Ranchi.
• The previous national record was 11.26 seconds held jointly by Dutee and Rachita Mistry. Dutee Chand also bettered her personal best time by 0.04 seconds, that she registered at the Asian Athletics Championships back in April this year.
• The timing of 11.26 seconds, Dutee would have qualified for the women's 100m semi-finals at the World Athletics Championships, as she had finished 7th in the 3rd heat with a time of 11.48 seconds. He clocked 11.25 seconds in the final to claim the gold, leaving Archana Suseendran and Himashree Roy in the wake.
• Amiya Kumar Malik, who has been struggling to find his rhythm the whole season, won the bragging rights as the fastest man in the National Open. He won the men's 100m in 10.46 seconds, breaking the beam a hundredth of a second ahead of Malaysia's Jonathan AnakNyepa.

India to have first Olympic Hospitality House in Tokyo.
• JSW and the Indian Olympic Association (IOA) announced the launch of the India House that will be constructed in Tokyo for the 2020 Olympics.
The media persons here that the initiative is aimed at creating a home away from home for Indian athletes and fans who will be travelling to Japan during the multisport event.
The construction of India House will get underway soon on a plot of land that has been rented in the Japanese capital.
The land is about 2,227 square metres and it will be a multi-level building. It will have a hospitality zone exclusively for Indian athletes, their staff and their families.

Facilities of JSW
The facilities will be there for the public like an Indian restaurant, a section reserved for Indian brands to showcase and sell their products. We are in discussion with various public sector companies and corporates who will be putting up stalls at India House. The tourism boards of individual states will also be asked to showcase their services and selling tourism packages. The Indian House and charges for services inside will be available at subsidised rates for Indian citizens. The Indian athletes would be participating at the Olympics.
The athletes will be living at the Games village, the India House is aimed at creating a place they can see as a home away from home. The separate section which will be having very little interaction with the general public. It will be up to the IOA, the ministry, the athletes' coaching staff and the athletes themselves to decide how much access they want to allow. We will be working closely with the IOA and the ministry to ensure that the athletes are comfortable. The initiative along with the IOA and is in talks with a number of corporates and public sector companies for funding. The idea after their experience in Rio de Janiero during the 2016 Olympics. The Olympics to watch their athletes play would go into these houses at the end of the day.

Eliud Kipchoge First In World To Run A Marathon In Under 2 Hours.
• Kenya’s Eliud Kipchoge made history busting the mythical two-hour barrier marathon on a specially prepared course in a huge Vienna park. The unofficial time completed by him was 1hr 59min 40.2sec. The Olympic champion became the first ever to run a marathon in under two hours in the Prater park with the course readied to make it as even as possible. The 34-year-old already holds the men's world record for the distance with a time of 2hr 01min 39sec, which he set in the flat
Berlin marathon on September 16, 2018. Kipchoge bested that mark, making good on a failed attempt two years ago in Monza, Italy.

The run was set up and paced the International Association of Athletics Federations will not validate the time as a world record. The running surface had been part and readied with other features such as a banked corner that could save time and avoid injury. The Pacemakers took turns to support him throughout the 42.195-kilometer (26.219-miles) race. They included 1,500-metre Olympic champion Matthew Centrowitz and former world champion Bernard Lagat. The course included a 4.3 kilometer-long straight alley, which the Kenyan ran up and down several times amid dry but foggy weather.

The course prepared so that it should take Kipchoge just about 4.5 seconds more than on a computer-simulated completely flat and straight path, according to an analysis by sports experts at Vienna University.

The distance is about 26 metres in altitude and climbs 12 metres. The founders of the main sponsors, Ineos, British billionaire Jim Ratcliffe, is taking a personal interest in the challenge and himself competes in Ironman triathlons.

The world marathon record has, for the past 16 years, been contested uniquely between athletes from Kenya and Ethiopia. The two nations are also fierce rivals for distance medals on the track. Kipchoge’s record was almost beaten last month in the Berlin marathon by Ethiopia’s Kenenisa Bekele, who ran 2:01.41, just two seconds short of the official world mark.

Mary Kom signs off with bronze in World Championships.

- Mary Kom got third and defeated 1-4 to second seed Cakiroglu, who is the reigning European Championships and European Games gold-medallist. Mary Kom counter-attacks Cakiroglu struggled to make her victory.

The second round followed a similar pattern as far as the tactics went but Cakiroglu seemed the sharper of the two. In the final three minutes, both the boxers upped the ante but Cakiroglu became the dominant aggressor eventually.

The campaign for the 36-year-old Mary Kom and added to her long list of accomplishments. This bronze is her first world medal in the 51kg category.

The six world titles, Mary Kom’s incredible career is also studded with an Olympic bronze medal (2012), five Asian titles, gold medals at the Asian Games and the Commonwealth Games, besides numerous other international top finishes. Later in the evening session, Manju Rani (48kg) will be up against Thailand’s Chuthamat Raksat, who upstaged fifth seed Yuliyanova Asenova in the quarterfinals. Jamuna Boro (54kg) will take on top seed and former Asian Games bronze-medallist Huang Hsiao-Wen of Chinese Taipei. Last edition’s bronze-medallist Lovlina Borgohain (69kg) will face China’s Yang Liu, who took down top seed Chen Nien-Chin.

Lakshya Sen won the Dutch Open mens singles title at Almere

- Indian shuttler Lakshya Sen won the Dutch Open men’s singles title 2019 at Almere, Netherlands. This is his maiden Badminton World Federation (BWF) World Tour title. He won the title by defeating Yusuke Onoda of Japan in the summit. He secured 15-21 21-14 21-15 to defeat Onodera.

- Lakshya Sen currently ranked 72nd. He had won the Belgian Open in September and reached the finals of Polish Open 2019.

**Result:**

Men’s Singles: Lakshya Sen (India)
Women’s Singles: Wang Zhiyi (China)
Men's Doubles: Vladimir Ivanov, Ivan Sozonov (Russia)
Women's Doubles: Gabriela Stoeva, Bulgaria Stefani Stoeva (Bulgaria)
Mixed Doubles: Robin Tabeling, Selena Piek (Netherlands)
Gauff became the youngest American woman to claim WTA title
• Coco Gauff won the Linz Open title on 13 October 2019 in Austria. She became the youngest American woman to win a tour singles title since 1991 to win the Women's Tennis Association (WTA) title. Because of this win, Coco Gauff is set to become World No. 71.
The previous record was set by Jennifer Capriati in 1991. Venus and Serena Williams won their first WTA titles when they were 17.
• Result:
Women's singles: United States Coco Gauff
Women's doubles: Czech Republic Barbora Krejčíková, Kateřina Siniakova.

Mumbai's Yashasvi Jaiswal youngest batsman to hit double hundred in List A cricket.
Mumbai opener Yashasvi Jaiswal has become the youngest ever cricketer to slam a double hundred in professional 50-over cricket. Jaiswal aged 17 years and 292 days, smashed 203(154) against Jharkhand in Vijay Hazare Trophy on 16th October 2019.

Liverpool head to United with widest gulf in years
Premier League leaders Liverpool head to Old Trafford on Sunday to face Manchester United and rarely have the odds been so in favour of an away win. Liverpool have won just five times at United in the Premier League era and the Red Devils have won the fixture 16 times, but the gulf in quality between the sides has widened significantly in recent years.

Sourav Ganguly is all set to take charge as the BCCI
-Sourav Ganguly is all set to take charge as the BCCI president, and the former Indian captain has categorically mentioned that he will speak with the national selectors regarding the future of MS Dhoni before giving his own take on the issue.

Mustafizur Rahman's selection for India tour in doubt amidst fitness concerns
Pacer Mustafizur Rahman will have to prove his match-fitness in the National Cricket League before being considered for selection for the upcoming tour of India.

Consistency will be my main focus at Kings XI Punjab, says new coach Anil Kumble
• Anil Kumble was roped in as Kings XI Punjab's new head coach last week
• This will be Kumble’s return to coaching stint after he quit as India head coach in 2017
• Anil Kumble had previously been the chief mentor of Mumbai Indians and Royal Challengers Bangalore.

-Sarfaraz Ahmed sacked, Pakistan name Azhar Ali and Babar Azam as captains for Test
Azhar Ali will lead Pakistan in Tests in the 2019-20 season while talented batsman Babar Azam has been given the T20 reins till the World Cup next year in Australia, announced PCB.

UEFA Champions League: Barcelona seek sixth straight win at spirited Slavia
Barcelona will be looking to extend their five-game winning streak when they take on Champions League underdogs Slavia Prague in the teams’ first-ever encounter in Prague on Wednesday. Brushing aside political turmoil around them, Ernesto Valverde’s men eased past Eibar 3-0 away on
Saturday with goals from Lionel Messi, Luis Suarez and Antoine Griezmann. Their fifth straight competitive win -- including a 2-1 victory over Inter Milan in their last Champions League game - took them to the top of La Liga a point ahead of Real Madrid.

Roger Federer praises Andy Murray’s Antwerp comeback success
-Roger Federer praised Andy Murray’s weekend Antwerp title just 10 months after the former number one underwent a hip resurfacing
-Andy Murray has been selected for Britain’s Davis Cup squad 24 hours after winning his first tournament since 2017.
-Former world number one Murray clinched his first ATP Tour title for over two years on Sunday when he beat Stan Wawrinka in the European Open final in Antwerp.

CoA reign ends as Sourav Ganguly set to take over as 39th BCCI president
-One of India’s most decorated captains Sourav Ganguly will be taking over as the 39th president of the BCCI on Wednesday at its AGM, ending a tumultuous 33-month reign of the Supreme Court-appointed Committee of Administrators.
-Ganguly is the unanimous nomination for the post of BCCI president along with Union Home ister Amit Shah’s son Jay as the secretary. Mahim Verma of Uttarakhand is the new vicepresident.

-Abhishek Nayar retires from all forms of cricket
Veteran Mumbai all-rounder Abhishek Nayar has retired from all forms of cricket.
“I’m absolutely satisfied... there are so many cricketers out there who would want to be in the position I am today. I can only be grateful and thankful to have had the opportunity to play for this long... absolutely no regrets...I’m a happy man,” Nayar said.

Virat Kohli rested, no MS Dhoni for T20I series vs Bangladesh
- Virat Kohli has been rested for the T20I series vs Bangladesh
- Sanju Samson has returned to the India squad after more than 4 years
- Shahbaz Nadeem who took 4 wickets in his debut Test doesn't find a place in the Test squad

-MS Dhoni endorses our view of backing younsters: MSK Prasad on Rishabh Pant and Sanju Samson's selection
- Selectors picked Rishabh Pant and Sanju Samson as the two wicketkeepers for the T20s vs Bangladesh
- It is yet not clear whether MS Dhoni made himself available for selection or not
- Dhoni has not played any form of cricket since India's exit from the semi-finals of 2019 World Cup.

-FIFA unanimously appoints China as host of new Club World Cup 2021
- FIFA announced it would revamp the tournament to feature 24 teams from 2021
- FIFA president Gianni Infantino said the competition would take place in June-July of 2021
- Infantino did not give an exact breakdown of slots but said there would be eight teams from Europe

-It's going to be thrilling: Yuvraj Singh on joining Maratha Arabians in Abu Dhabi T10 league
- Yuvraj Singh is the latest signing by Maratha Arabians
• Former England head coach Andy Flower is the new Maratha Arabians head coach
• Former West Indies captain Dwayne Bravo will continue to lead the franchise like in the previous edition

-Vijay Hazare Trophy final: Abhimanyu Mithun first to pick hat-trick in summit clash
The right-arm pacer Abhimanyu Mithun on Friday also became the first Karnataka bowler to take a hat-trick in the Vijay Hazare Trophy.

-R Praggnanandhaa became the world’s best Under-18 chess player
He started by observing his sister’s game. Today, 14-year-old R Praggnanandhaa from Chennai has emerged as the world’s best chess player in the Under-18 category

Tamim Iqbal pulls out of India tour, Imrul Kayes named replacement for T20s
Tamim Iqbal has pulled out of Bangladesh’s upcoming tour of India as his wife is expecting their second child later this month, and the national selectors have called up Imrul Kayes as his replacement for the three T20Is.

-Tiger Woods has equaled the world record for most career titles on PGA Tour. He set this feat by winning the Zozo Championship in Japan as his 82nd US PGA Tour victory. The previous world record for most career titles on PGA Tour was set by Sam Snead. Slammin’ Sam Snead set the record in 1965.

Former captain Hamilton Masakadza appointed Zimbabwe’s new Director of Cricket
Hamilton Masakadza, who recently retired from cricket after an 18-year international career, will take charge as Zimbabwe’s new Director of Cricket on November 1.
• Hamilton Masakadza recently bid adieu to international cricket after playing 313 matches for Zimbabwe
• Masakadza will now begin a new innings as Zimbabwe’s Director of Cricket from November
• Masakadza’s appointment is being claimed as a move to strengthen cricket across all levels in the country

BCCI orders 6 dozen pink balls for day-night Test at Eden
• BCCI orders 6 dozen pink balls from SG for day-night Test
• SG plans to deliver pink balls by the middle of next week
• We have been working on the ball since the 2016-17 season: SG marketing director
The BCCI has asked manufacturer SG to deliver 72 pink balls by next week for India's first-ever day night Test, to be held at the Eden Gardens from November 22.
The BCCI president Sourav Ganguly has already confirmed that SG pink balls will be used for the landmark game, leaving the manufacturer with very little room for error.

2020 T20 World Cup Qualifiers: Scotland clinch Australia berth after beating UAE by 90 runs
Scotland are now the 5th team to qualify for the World Cup from the ongoing T20 WC Qualifiers being held in UAE after The Netherlands, Namibia, PNG and Ireland.
• Scotland beat UAE by 90 runs on Wednesday to qualify for the 2020 T20 World Cup
• The Netherlands, Namibia, PNG and Ireland had already qualified for the World Cup
• Wednesday’s victory was Scotland’s 2nd-highest in history
From Warne scandal to Shakib ban: The curious case of Indian bookies in international cricket
• ICC revealed Shakib Al Hasan exchanged WhatsApp messages with an Indian bookie
• ICC ACU chief Alex Marshall had said Indian bookies operate across the globe
• The likes of Mohammad Ashraful and Hanse Cronje landed in trouble after contact with Indian bookies. Fiat Chrysler (FCA) and PSA said they aimed to reach a binding deal to create a $50 billion company domiciled in the Netherlands, with listings in Paris, Milan and New York and with PSA’s Carlos Tavares as CEO and FCA’s John Elkann as chairman.

-Glenn Maxwell announces break from cricket in the middle of Sri Lanka series
In a surprising move Australian all-rounder Glenn Maxwell decided to go on an indefinite from cricket in the middle of the T20I series against Sri Lanka. Maxwell is believed to have taken the decision to deal with his mental health issues.

Oman, Scotland grab last two places at T20 World Cup
Oman and Scotland join Namibia, Netherlands, Papua New Guinea and Ireland, who had already booked their places in the 2020 showpiece but are still competing for the winner’s trophy in UAE.

APPOINTMENTS AND RESIGNATION

Oil India appointed Sushil Chandra Mishra as MD and CEO.
• Oil India Limited appointed Sushil Chandra Mishra as the new Managing Director (MD) and Chief Executive Officer (CEO) of the company.
He will replace Utpal Bora. Mr. Bora ceased to be Chairman & Managing Director of the company on 30th September.

Sushil Chandra Mishra:
Mishra started his career as an executive trainee with OIL in 1984. He developed deep expertise in commercial matters and played a key role in framing and implementing procurement policies and procedures for inventory management, vendor development, framework agreement and its related strategies.
He acquired significant Board level exposure at corporate office at the time of launch of OIL’s IPO in 2009. He also developed the Strategic Plan 2020.

Amrit Lugun is appointed as the next Ambassador of India to Greece.
The Ministry of External Affairs (MEA) has appointed Amrit Lugun as the next Ambassador of India to Greece. Lugun will be taking up the assignment shortly. Amrit Lugun is a 1989-batch Indian Foreign Service (IFS) officer. Previously Lugun served as the country’s ambassador to Sudan and Yemen respectively.
Greece: President: Prokopis Pavlopoulos Prime Minister: Kyriakos Mitsotakis Capital: Athens
Currency: Euro (€) (EUR) Official and national language: Greek.

Justice Vinod Kumar Sharma appointed as new Punjab Lokpal.
• Justice Vinod Kumar Sharma has been appointed as new Punjab Lokpal. The State government, however, failed to amend the Punjab Lokpal Act, 1996, hence leaving the Chief Minister and the Cabinet ministers out of its ambit. The post was lying vacant since 23 April 2018, after Justice Satish
Kumar Mittal (retd) had resigned. The lokpal will hold the office for a tenure of six years. Justice Sharma had served as Punjab and Haryana high court judge.

ECI appoints 2 Special Observers for Telangana and Sikkim elections.
• Election commission of India (ECI) has appointed 2 Special Observers for Telangana and Sikkim elections. ECI appointed Mr. B. R. Balakrishnan (ex IRS 1983) and a serving Indian Revenue Service officer, Mr. Suresh Kumar (IRS 1988) as Special Expenditure Observers for the Bye-Elections. The appointments are in the exercise of the powers conferred on ECI under Article 324 of the Constitution and Section 20B of The Representation of the People Act 1951.

Roles of special observer:
The Special Observers will supervise and monitor all the works that are carried by the electoral machinery.
The observers will also ensure that necessary and effective enforcement action are taken based on intelligence inputs and complaints received. The common people can submit their complaints through C-VIGIL, Voter Helpline 1950 against all persons/entities who try to induce voters by distributing cash, liquor & freebies etc. in order to vitiate the poll process.

UNESCO appointed Yalitza Aparicio as ambassador for indigenous peoples.
• The United Nations’ cultural agency, the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO), has appointed Mexican actress Yalitza Aparicio as its goodwill ambassador for indigenous peoples. She will be helping the UNESCO’s work among the indigenous peoples across the world by preserving their cultural heritage and environment knowledge and fighting for equal access to education.

Yalitza Aparicio:
Yalitza Aparicio made history as the first indigenous performer nominated for a best actress honor at the Academy Awards 2019 for her performance in the film Roma. In the film she spoke in an indigenous language and in Spanish.
The 25-year-old actress was born in the poor Mexican state of Oaxaca. She set her commitment to fight racism and advocate for gender equality and indigenous rights.

Gitesh Sarma appointed as Indias next High Commissioner to Australia
• Senior diplomat Anumula Gitesh Sarma is appointed as India’s next High Commissioner to Australia. The announcement was made by the Ministry of External Affairs. He will be taking up the assignment soon. He replaces A.M Gondane as India’s envoy in Australia.
• Anumula Gitesh Sarma:
Anumula Gitesh Sarma is a 1986 batch Indian Foreign Service (IFS) officer. Previously, Sarma was serving as Secretary (West) in the Ministry of External Affairs (MEA). He has also served as the Indian envoy to Uzbekistan and Fiji.

Cultsport sportswear appointed Jasprit Bumrah as brand ambassador.
• Cure.fit, an integrated health and wellness start-up, appointed Indian pacer Jasprit Bumrah as the brand ambassador for its premium sportswear brand, cultsport.

Cure.fit:
The company offers apparel that are made with high quality fabric blended with the latest technology to enable an athletic lifestyle. The company features the custom designed collections like Vitals, Code, Signature, the t-shirts have an easy, relaxed fit etc. The cultsport premium sportswear is
distributed through the cure.fit app, and e-commerce partnerships with the likes of Myntra and, Flipkart.

**Jasprit Bumrah:**
Indian Skipper Jasprit Jasbirsingh Bumrah plays for the Indian national cricket team. He bowls at 140–145 kilometres per hour. This made him one of the fastest bowlers in India.

**SAP appoints new co-CEOs to Bill McDermott**
- SAP SE Chief Executive Officer Bill McDermott - Europe’s largest software company replaced Jennifer Morgan and Christian Klein as co-CEOs. Morgan joined SAP in the year 2004 most recently served as president of the software giant’s cloud business group. She became the first American woman appointed to SAP’s executive board in 2017 when she was named the president of the Americas and Asia.
- Klein, who joined SAP as a student in 1999 in chief operating officer since April 2016 served on the executive board since 2018. McDermott joined Walldorf, Germany-based SAP in 2002. He was the first American to hold that rank at the maker of business applications and databases. McDermott embraced cloud computing, changing the way SAP sold software so customers could use it over the internet. He has been transitioning the company through acquisitions and revamped products, challenging rivals Salesforce.com Inc. and Oracle Corp.
- SAP pledged to triple cloud revenue by 2023 the effort has shown mixed results and the company has pushed to shore up profit margins with the support of activist investor Elliott Management.

**SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY**

**Google has finally launched Nest Mini, here’s how it is different from Home Mini**
Google hosted its annual Made by Google event in the New York City earlier this week where it launched Google Home Mini successor, Google Nest Mini, alongside Pixel 4 smartphones, Pixelbook Go, Pixel Buds and Nest Wi-Fi.

**Amazon Alexa gets smarter, allows users to pay bills using voice commands**
Paying various utility bills has always been an arduous task given the nature of services and the service providers. But that changed when Amazon launched Amazon Pay Balance in India back in 2016. Since then Amazon has added a number of new features to its mobile wallet allowing users to not only shop on its e-retail platform using Amazon but also enabling them to use the service to pay their utility bills all without leaving the company's ecosystem. Now, the e-retail giant is making it more easier for users to pay their bills. Amazon has introduced a brand new feature on to its virtual assistant, Alexa, that will enable them to pay their bills simply by asking her to do so.

**Vodafone now offering double data on two prepaid plans: Up to 84GB data up for grabs with other mega benefits**
- Vodafone is offering double data offer on select prepaid plans.
- Subscribers can get up to 84GB data with both these plans.
- Subscribers will be able to make free unlimited calls.
Apple iPhone XR, among world’s most popular smartphones, now made in India
Apple Inc has started selling its popular iPhone XR phones assembled in India, as it looks to expand its share in the world’s second-largest smartphone market where it has struggled against cheaper products from rivals.

Paytm founder Vijay Shekhar Sharma to take home Rs 3 crore in remuneration in FY20
The proposal pertaining to Sharma’s remuneration was approved by members of One97 Communications Ltd at their Annual General Meeting on September 30, 2019, filings with the Corporate Affairs Ministry showed.

Govt to tighten social media rules, will make companies liable for content shared
The government has also stated on affidavit that they will look to finalise and notify the Draft Information Technology Intermediaries Guidelines (Amendment) Rules by January 15, 2020.

World’s biggest face recognition system arrives in India next month
With the tender submission date to procure the National Automated Facial Recognition System (AFRS) just 20 days away, India is closer to install worlds largest facial recognition system to track and nab criminals.

-Airtel goes for high data benefits: Popular plan of Rs 558 is for power users
• Airtel last month also launched Rs 599 premium plan that comes with data and calling benefits.
• Airtel's Rs 558 plan also competes with Jio's Rs 509 plan.
• Airtel takes a lead here as it offers data benefit for a longer validity than Jio.

Indian Army and Bank of Baroda signed MOU.
Indian Army and Bank of Baroda entered a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU). This MoU lays down the basis on which banking services would be provided by Bank of Baroda to serving and retired personnel of the Indian Army. The ceremony chaired by Lieutenant General Ashwani Kumar, Adjutant General. The MoU was signed by Lt Gen Harsha Gupta, Director General (Manpower and Personnel Services) and Shri VS Khichi, Executive Director, Bank of Baroda in presence of Shri PS Jayakumar, Managing Director, Bank of Baroda.

Features of the MOU
The MoU includes Free Personal Accident Insurance (Death & Permanent Total Disability) cover of Rs 30 lakhs, The free air accident insurance (AAI) cover of Rs 15 lakhs to Rs 50 lakhs and overdraft facility upto three times of monthly net salary. The features are also applicable for pensioners of Indian army upto the age of 70 yrs. The Bank of Baroda is the 2nd largest Public Sector bank with extensive national and international presence having 9500+ domestic branches and presence in 24 countries. The bank has assured a new and customized banking experience for serving and retired personnel of the Indian Army.
India and USA to launch new initiative for clean energy.
• India and America will launch a new initiative for clean energy to fuel economic growth in the strategically-important Indo-Pacific region where China has been trying to expand its sphere of influence.
The US has been pushing for a broader role by India in the Indo-Pacific region in the backdrop of China’s rising military maneuvering in the region.
China trying to expand its military presence in the biogeographic region, comprising the Indian Ocean and the western and central Pacific Ocean, including the South China Sea.
The Federal Energy Regulatory Commission (FERC) partners from US department of energy and the US agency for international development. India’s ministry of power will host, along with the ministry of new and renewable energy, the Indian Central Electricity Regulatory Commission, and the Indian Petroleum and Natural Gas Regulatory Board. Together they will strengthen India’s energy security by jointly working toward a national power system for India that is stable, reliable, and affordable.

India and France agreed to deepen defence ties.
• Defence minister Rajnath Singh visited France from 7th October to 8th October. He held discussions with the French Minister of Armed Forces Florence Parly.
Highlights:
♦ During his visit, he reviewed the full spectrum of the bilateral defence engagement.
♦ India and France reaffirmed their strong commitment to further deepen cooperation to combat terrorism.
♦ Both the countries discussed ways to further deepen defence-related official and operational level interactions.
♦ Both sides agreed to expand the scope and complexity of the existing regular bilateral joint exercises including SHAKTI, VARUNA, and GARUDA.
♦ He received the first of 36 Rafale combat jets during his visit.

GeM signed MoU with UBI to avail online services.
• Government e-Marketplace (GeM) has signed a memorandum of understanding (MOU) with Union Bank of India (UBI) under which the bank will offer several services to it including the transfer of funds.
MoU:
♦ The MOU will facilitate a cashless, paperless and transparent payment system on the portal
♦ It will also enable the GeM to create an efficient procurement system for government entities
♦ It will facilitate the online integration for payments and various banking services to GeM.
♦ UBI will provide various services including transfer of funds through GeM pool accounts, advising of performance, bank guarantees and earnest money deposit to the registered users on the portal
GeM:
The commerce ministry launched the procurement portal GeM to increase transparency in public procurement of goods and services, which is estimated at about Rs 8 lakh crore per year. To enable
the Online integration for payments and various banking services, GeM has signed MoU with 14 public sector and private banks.

**International coffee day is celebrated on 1 October.**

• The International coffee day is celebrated on 1 October every year. An estimation says around 3 billion cups of coffee are consumed every day. The diverse mix of global celebrations that take place on International Coffee Day truly showcases coffee as one of the world’s most loved beverages.

**Aim:**
The day is observed to recognize the millions of people across the globe, from farmers to roasters, baristas, coffee shop owners and more, who work hard to create and serve Coffee. It also aims to promote and celebrate coffee as a beverage, with events now occurring in places across the world.

**History:**
The International Coffee Organization has agreed to institute the date on 1 October 2015 at a meeting held on 3-7 March 2014. The day was launched in Milan as part of Expo 2015.

**Shri Thaawarchand Gehlot flags off Walkthan for Senior Citizens to mark International Day of Older Persons.**

• Shri Thaawarchand Gehlot, Union Minister for Social Justice & Empowerment flagged off a Walkthan for older persons and senior citizens to mark the International Day of Older Persons at Commonwealth Games Village Stadium, near Akshardham Mandir.

It is organised by the National Institute of Social Defence (NISD) under Ministry of Social Justice & Empowerment in collaboration with Confederation of Senior Citizens Association of Delhi. Smt. Neelam Sawhney, Secretary, M/o SJ&E, Shri J.R. Gupta, Chairperson of the Confederation and many dignitaries were present. Senior citizens in a large number from all parts of Delhi took part in the Walkthan.

The event consisted of Police Band performance, Cultural and musical programmes by Senior citizens and Yoga & fitness session with Police Band.

Ministry of Social Justice & Empowerment is committed to the overall welfare of older persons and senior citizens. The new programmes and schemes for the welfare of senior citizens. The Ministry felicitates senior citizens and older persons by conferring ‘Vayoshreshtha Samman’ every year on the eminent senior citizens and institutions in many categories in recognition of their services towards the cause of the elderly persons.

**Rashtriya Vayoshri Yojana**

Rashtriya Vayoshri Yojana under which physical aids and assistive living devices namely wheelchairs, hearing aids, spectacles, support stickset care distributed to the older persons of below poverty line category. He said that so far 1 lakh 13 thousand Vayoshri camps had been organised where physical aids and assistive device worth Rs. 68 crore have been provided to senior citizens. This scheme has been initiated in 250 districts of the country. He urged the people especially the young generation to accord due respect to older persons.

The International Day of Older Persons, every year since 2005 the mass awareness event Walkthan is being organised by NISD. The event has a great value for awareness about welfare of Senior Citizens and giving a life of dignity to elderly persons. Showcasing of various positive physical
activities were done like a RUN, slogan March, Yoga and fitness session. This mega event became colorful with the participation of various organizations from Delhi & NCR.

**World Space Week is observed from 4 to 10 October.**
- World Space Week is observed from 4 October to 10 October 2019. It is the largest space event on Earth.

**Theme:**
The 2019 theme for the week is The Moon: Gateway to the Stars. The week showcases some of the creative, innovative and popular events that brought people together to celebrate space.

**History:**
The World Space Week was declared by the United Nations General Assembly (UNGA) on 6 December 1999. It passed the resolution and declared that the week will be observed each year from 4-10 October. The week celebrates science and technology and their contribution to the betterment of the human condition.

These days commemorate the following two events:
- On 4 October 1957, Sputnik 1, the first human-made Earth satellite was launched. The way for space exploration was thus started.
- On 10 October 1967, the signing of the Treaty on Principles Governing the Activities of States in the Exploration and Peaceful Uses of Outer Space, including the Moon and Other Celestial Bodies was held.

**World Habitat Day is observed on 7 October**
- World Habitat Day is observed on 7 October 2019 every year. The day aims to reflect on the state of the towns and cities and the basic right of all to adequate shelter. It also aims to remind the world of its collective responsibility for the future of the human habitat.

**Theme:**
The theme for 2019 is Frontier Technologies as an innovative tool to transform waste into wealth. The theme promotes the contribution of innovative frontier technologies to sustainable waste management to achieve Sustainable Development Goal 11 (SDG-11).
- SDG-11 includes safe, resilient and sustainable cities. The theme also includes solid waste, all waste produced by human activities that cause a huge impact on climate change, public health and the environment.

**Wildlife Week is celebrated from 2nd to 8th October**
- Wildlife Week is celebrated in India in the month of October from 2nd to 8th October every year. The week is celebrated with the view to preserve the fauna means the animal life of India.
- This week, the government has launched varieties of sanctuaries and national parks have been already launched in the appropriate localities all across the country.

**Aim:**
The week aims to make people more aware of the conservation and protection of wildlife. It will focus the people’s attention on the importance of conservation of wildlife. It aims to implement more services to preserve wildlife. It will also discuss all the issues related to the preservation of wildlife.

**History:**
Wildlife Week was first started in the year 1952. The week was initiated with a great vision of saving the life of the Indian animals by taking some critical steps. The week has been initiated planning to save animal extinction of any species of India. The Indian Government has established an Indian
Board of Wild Life to improve awareness as well as the consciousness of the Indian people towards wildlife preservation.

**October is observed as the Breast Cancer Awareness Month.**

- The month of October is observed as the Breast Cancer Awareness Month every year. The annual campaign aims to raise awareness of the disease. It also helps to increase attention and support for awareness, early detection, and treatment as well as palliative care of this disease.
- World Health Organization (WHO) aims to promote breast cancer control programmes as part of national cancer control plans.
- IARC Globocan 2008 reports say that about 1.38 million new cases and 4,58,000 deaths from breast cancer every year. It is most common in both developing and developed countries.

**Lack of awareness:**
Currently, there is no sufficient knowledge of the causes of breast cancer. Because of the lack of awareness, early detection of the disease remains the cornerstone of breast cancer control. By early detection, adequate diagnosis and treatment there is a high chance that breast cancer can be cured. The majority of deaths, around 269,000, that occur in low- and middle-income countries, where most women with breast cancer are diagnosed in late stages. This is mainly due to the lack of awareness of early detection and barriers to health services.

**India celebrated its 87th Air Force Day on 8th October.**

- India celebrated its 87th Air Force Day on 8th October 2019. The year 2019 is special because the Indian Air force received the first of 36 long-awaited Rafale fighter jets. Defence Minister Rajnath Singh, who is on a visit to France will receive the fighter jets.
- IAF is conducted a spectacular air display ceremony will take place at the Hindon Air Force base near Delhi. IAF showcased its Chinook and Apache helicopters for the first time. Both these helicopters were acquired from the United States and inducted within the last few months. The Air Force Day 2019 will be celebrated in the presence of IAF chief Birender Singh Dhanoa and senior officials of the three armed forces.

**Indian Air Force (IAF):**
- Founded on: 8 October 1932
- Headquarters: New Delhi
- Part of: Indian Armed Force
- Motto: Touch the Sky with Glory
- Chief of the Air Staff (CAS): Air Chief Marshal RK Singh Bhadauria
- Vice Chief of the Air Staff (VCAS): Air Marshal Harjit Singh Arora.

**World Sight Day 2019 is observed on 10 October 2019.**

- World Sight Day 2019 is observed annually on 10 October. The day aims to create awareness to focus global attention on blindness and vision impairment.

**Report highlights:**
- World Health Organization (WHO) launched the first World report on vision on 8 October 2019.
- The report said that more than 1 billion people are living with vision impairment due to lack of care they need for conditions like short and far sightedness, glaucoma and cataract.
- Also, it said that the change in lifestyles and limited access to eye care are the major cause of visual impairment, particularly in low- and middle-income countries.
- Other mains reasons are Myopia (near-sightedness), Diabetic retinopathy, Late detection.
♦ It said that all people living with severe vision impairment can still be treated if they access rehabilitation services.
♦ Optical magnifiers and reading use Braille, to smartphone wayfinders and orientation and mobility training with white canes will make it possible.

**World Migratory Day is observed on October 12th**

- World Migratory Bird Day (WMBD) observed on October 12th. It is an annual awareness-raising campaign highlighting the need for the conservation of migratory birds and their habitats. The WMBD unifying the planet’s major migratory bird corridors, or flyways: the African-Eurasian flyway, the East Asian-Australasian flyway, and the Americas flyways.
- **Aim:**
  To reach out to a broader audience and amplify its message for bird conservation. Every year people around the world take action and organize public events such as bird festivals, education programmes, exhibitions and bird-watching excursions to celebrate WMBD. All these activities can also be undertaken at any time on the year because that countries or regions observing the peak of migrations at different times, but the main days for the international celebrations in 2019 are Saturday 11 May and Saturday 12 October.

**National Postal Week observed from October 9 to October 15.**

- World Post Day marks the anniversary of the establishment of Universal Postal Union in 1874 and is celebrated on October 9 every year.
- Department of Posts is celebrating National Postal Week from October 9 to October 15.
- **Aim:**
  To bring about awareness about the role of post offices in social economical development.
- The Nagpur Postal Region is organizing a week-long celebration during the National Postal Week. Various programs will be organised like World Postal Day on October 9, Banking Day on Oct 10. Jayabhaye presented the important initiatives of the Postal Department such as Aadhar, POPSK, India Post Payment Bank and status of investment opportunities with Post Office Saving Bank.

**India Post Offices**

- There are 3,067 post offices consisting of 13 head post offices, 380 sub post offices and 2,674 branch post offices. The total staff strength of the region is 7,705 as on March 31, 2019.
- The region has 76,109 PLI and 1,03,945 RPLI policies. The premium collected against these policies during the year 2018-19 was Rs 146.45 crore. Post Office Passport Seva Kendras (POPSKs) have been opened in all the Lok Sabha constituencies in Nagpur Region. There are nine Post Office Passport Seva Kendras in the region which have helped in saving the time and travel requirements for 32,904 passport applicants up to September 30, 2019. There are 11 branches of India Post Payments Bank in the region and so far 197 current accounts and 64,445 savings accounts have been opened in these branches by September 30.
- Further, 32 Saksham Grams have also been covered, he said. Similarly, there are 56 Sampoorna Bima Grams in the region as on August 31, 2019 where eligible households have been covered under Rural Postal Life Insurance.

**Aadhaar Updation**

- There are 249 Aadhaar Updation and Enrolment Centres in the region. Number of camps organised from April 1, 2019 to September 30, 2019 was 167. Aadhaar updations and enrolments done in the camps were 9,883 and 1,724, respectively. Timings of Aadhar updation and enrolment services have been changed from 10 am to 6 pm to 9 am to 8 pm at Amravati, Akola head post offices for flexible
timings to customers and to 8 am to 8 pm at Nagpur GPO and Nagpur City head post office. Accordingly, the number of speed post articles booked and delivered in the region were 47,79,406 and 80,64,412 respectively in the year 2018-19 and 25,20,276 and 28,64,587 respectively in the year 2019-20 (up to September 30, 2019).

World Standards Day observed on 14 October

World Standards Day is observed on 14th October 2019. The day is observed every year. The day is observed to raise awareness of the significance of standardization to the global economy. The day is celebrated globally by the members of the International Electrotechnical Commission (IEC), International Organization for Standardization (ISO) and International Telecommunications Union (ITU), Institute of Electrical and Electronics Employees (IEEE), Internet Engineering Task Force (IETF), etc.

Aim:
The day aims to pay tribute to the collaborative efforts of the experts all over the world who developed the voluntary technical agreements that are published as International Standards. It aims to make the world aware of the significance of standardization and its relevance to the global economy.

EVENT

• 1633 Battle of Liaoluo Bay: Dutch East India Company defeated by Chinese Ming naval forces in southern Fujian sea
• 1721 Tsar Peter the Great becomes "All-Russian Imperator"
• 1879 Thomas Edison perfects carbonized cotton filament light bulb
• 1884 International Meridian Conference in Washington, D.C. adopts Greenwich Mean Time (GMT) worldwide, creating 24 international time zones with longitude zero at the Greenwich meridian
• 1907 Panic of 1907: A run on Knickerbocker Trust Company stock leads to US wide run on banks.

MUSIC

1883 New York’s original Metropolitan Opera House has its grand opening with a performance of the opera "Faust".

SPORTS


23 October - Mole Day

Mole Day is observed on 23 October every year. This day commemorates the Avogadro’s Number which is a basic measuring unit in chemistry. This day was created to generate interest in chemistry.

23 Oct, 2002 - Hungary Protests Against Soviet Rule

2002 : Fifty Chechen rebels storm a Moscow Theater taking 7,000 hostages. The rebels had explosives strapped to their bodies and were demanding the withdrawal of Soviet Forces from Chechnya. Three days later after the death of two of the hostages Russian Special Forces stormed the building and during the raid most of the terrorists and 120 hostages were killed during the raid.

23 Oct, 1915 - U.S.A. Suffrage Movement

1915 : As part of the women's suffrage movement 25,000 women march up Fifth Avenue in New York City demanding the right to vote.

23 Oct, 2007 - U.S.A. Space Shuttle Discovery

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October 23rd, 2007: Space Shuttle Discovery (STS-120) begins a 14-day mission to the International Space Station (ISS) to deliver the Harmony module and reconfigured part of the station in preparation for future assembly missions. The crew commanded by American Pam Melroy, included Mission Specialist Paolo A. Nespoli from Italy where Harmony was built.

23 Oct, 2001 - U.S.A. iPod
October 23rd, 2001: Apple releases the first iPod capable of storing 1,000 songs. The iPod came with a 5 GB hard drive and was fully Mac compatible. Sales worldwide of the iPod now exceed 150 million and Apple iTunes has now sold over 5 billion songs worldwide.

-2008 "Bloody Friday” saw many of the world’s stock exchanges experienced the worst declines in their history, with drops of around 10% in most indices.
-1929 "Black Thursday”, start of stock market crash, Dow Jones down 12.8%
-1593 Alleged teleportation of Spanish soldier Gil Perez from the Philippines to Mexico
-1596 -26] Battle at Kerestes: Ottoman beat Austria-Hungary & Germany.

• 2017 Chinese Premier Xi Jinping unveils his new ruling council in the Great Hall of the People, none of the five are young enough to succeed him
• 1875 The first performance of the Piano Concerto No. 1 by Pyotr Ilyich Tchaikovsky is given in Boston, Massachusetts with Hans von Bülow as soloist
• 1964 Dutchman Anton Geesink is 1st non-Japanese Olympic judo gold medal winner

54 The infamous "Charge of the Light Brigade" during the Battle of Balaclava in the Crimean War results in over 100 killed

-26 Oct, 1959 - Space Moon Photos
1959: The first photographs are seen on earth of the far side of the moon when the Lunik III, a Soviet satellite which are sent back to earth via radio signals.

-26 Oct, 1956 - Hungary October Revolution
1956: The Hungarian October Revolution is now in its third day with demonstrators fighting in the streets of Budapest with Soviet Troops. Estimates range from 3,000 to 5,000 dead and many lying in the streets where they have fallen. They are protesting for economic reforms and the withdrawal of Soviet troops and tanks. The new Prime Minister is appealing for calm.

-October 26th, 1965: The Beatles were made members of the Order of the British Empire (OBE) by the Queen in a ceremony at Buckingham Palace.

-26 Oct, 1994 - Israel Jordan Peace Treaty
Israel and Jordan signed a peace treaty to end 46 years of war. The treaty was signed by Prime Minister Yitzhak Rabin of Israel and Prime Minister Abdel Salam Majali of Jordan and the ceremony was attended by President Clinton.

-26 Oct, 1998 - Honduras Hurricane....Hurricane Mitch the most deadly storm in modern times hits a number of Central American countries including Mexico, Honduras and Nicaragua leaving a trail of destruction and death in the area caused from a combination of very heavy winds and rain causing flooding and huge landslides. The death toll at the end of the storm was over 3,000 with tens of thousands left homeless.

-International Internet Day is celebrated worldwide, every year on 29th of October.
Since the year 2005 the International Internet Day has been famously celebrated to commemorate a momentous day in the history of telecommunications and technology.
29 Oct, 1964 - Middle East Israel Invades Egypt
1964: The Star of India (563.35 carat (112.67 g) star sapphire) and the Eagle Diamond (16.25 carat discovered in Eagle, Wisconsin) are stolen from the American Museum of Natural History in New York City. The Star of India is later recovered but the Eagle Diamond is never found.

29 Oct, 1998 - South Africa Truth and Reconciliation Commission
October 29th, 1998: The Truth and Reconciliation Commission which was to "was to uncover the truth about past abuse, using amnesty as a means of allowing perpetrators of crimes relating to human rights violations, to apologize rather than to be punished past crimes". The commission presented its report on this day in history which condemned both sides for committing atrocities.

29 Oct, 2004 - Italy European Constitution
2004: The European Constitution is established when 25 European heads of state sign the Treaty in Rome. The treaty required each member state to ratify before becoming law but French and Dutch voters rejected the treaty in referendums and the treaty is not implemented.

29 Oct, 2013 - Tunnel Links Europe and Asia
2013: The Marmaray sub-sea tunnel was officially opened in Turkey. The tunnel was built to link Europe and Asia through the Bosphorus Strait. It is the first tunnel to connect two continents together and it was built with the intention to withstand damage from earthquakes.

29 Oct, 1948 - U.S.A. Deadly Smog
1948: A poison cloud of deadly smog settles on Donora Pennsylvania causing the deaths of 19 and hospitalization of 50, the poison in the cloud was caused by a local company which was smelting Zinc causing it to combine with the smog.

-Rashtriya Ekta Diwas or National Unity Day is observed on 31 October every year to commemorate the birth anniversary of Sardar Vallabhai Patel. He had played an important role in unifying the country.

IMPORTANT DATES

31 Oct, 1984 - India Gandhi
1984: Indian Prime Minister Indira Gandhi was gunned down outside of her home by Sikh extremists.

31 Oct, 1921 - U.S.A. Forests
1921: Latest figures released by the federal government show that forests in the United States cover 463 million acres. Current Forestry is 745 million acres.

31 Oct, 1931 - U.S.A. Gold Standard
1931: Following the announcement that Great Britain had decided to abandon the Gold Standard in mid-September a mini panic occurred when people were worried their money was not safe in local banks, the panic caused people to draw savings from the banks which in turn placed more pressure on the banks than the 1929 stock market crash had already, because of this by 31st October 827 banks were forced to close.

31 Oct, 1941 - U.S.A. Mount Rushmore
1941: The Mt. Rushmore sculpture is completed after Gutzon Borglum and 400 stone masons sculpt the colossal 60-foot carvings of U.S. presidents, The project had started on October 4th, 1927 to represent the first 150 years of American history.
George Washington 1732–1799
Thomas Jefferson 1743–1826
Abraham Lincoln 1809–1865
Theodore Roosevelt 1858–1919

**31 Oct, 1956 - Egypt Suez Canal Crisis**
1956 : Following Egypt’s decision to nationalize the Suez Canal Britain and France begin bombing Egypt to force the reopening of the Suez Canal.

**31 Oct, 1964 - Germany Berlin Wall**
1964 : The Berlin wall was opened up for the second time yesterday for West Germans to visit relatives in East Germany and by nightfall 20,000 had passed through the communist controls. The visits are only allowed one way from west to east due to concerns of the East German Government that its subjects would not return.

**31 Oct, 2008 - China Melamine In Food**
2008 : State Media in China has reported the toxic chemical melamine is probably being routinely added to Chinese animal feed, melamine has now been found in contaminated milk and eggs. Melamine is used to reduce production costs while maintaining the protein count for quality inspections.