Arvind Kejriwal takes oath as CM of Delhi for third time:
- Aam Aadmi Party chief Arvind Kejriwal on Sunday took oath as the chief minister of Delhi, for the third time, at the Ramlila Maidan.
- The Aam Aadmi Party registered a massive majority in the recently concluded Delhi Assembly election with 62 seats in its kitty.
- Arvind Kejriwal was administered the oath of office and secrecy by Delhi Lieutenant Governor Anil Baijal.
- Manish Sisodia, who was the deputy chief minister of Delhi in AAP government’s previous term, also took oath as minister in Arvind Kejriwal’s cabinet.

PM Modi Inaugurates ‘Kashi Ek Roop Anek’ Event at Varanasi:
- Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi visited his Lok Sabha Constituency Varanasi on 16 February 2020 to attend various events and inaugurate several programmes.
- Inaugurated a cultural arts and handicrafts exhibition named ‘Kashi Ek Roop Anek’ organized at the Deen Dayal Upadhyay Trade Facilitation Center, at Varanasi.
- Unveiled the 63 feet Statue of Deendayal Upadhyay (largest statue of the leader in the country) and dedicated to the nation the Deendayal Upadhyay Memorial in Varanasi.
- Flagged off the third corporate train ‘Kashi Mahakal Express’ which links 3 Jyotirling Pilgrim Centres – Varanasi, Ujjain and Omkareshwar.

World Defence Spending Rose by 4% in 2019, Highest in 10 Years: IISS Report:
- The global Defense spending rose by 4% in 2019 compared to the previous
year, as per a new report titled “Military Balance” published by the London-based think tank International Institute for Strategic Studies (IISS).

- As per the international think tank, this global rise is the highest annual increase in 10 years.

**Banking and Economy**

**SEBI Constitutes Municipal Bonds Development Committee:**

- Markets regulator Securities and Exchange Board of India (SEBI) has constituted a municipal bonds development committee.
- The committee will be headed by the Executive Director of SEBI, Mr Sujit Prasad and comprise of representatives from municipal corporations, lawyers, professionals and market practitioners.

**15th Finance Commission Constitute Panel on Defence and Internal Security Funding:**

- The Fifteenth Finance Commission has constituted a 5-member group on Defence and Internal Security.
- The panel will be headed by the Chairman of the commission, Shri N.K. Singh. Home Secretary, Defence Secretary, Finance Secretary and a member of Commission will be the other members of the group.

**Sports**

**India clinches 3 medals in 2020 World SnowShoe Championship:**

- Three Indian athletes from Kashmir, have won medals in their respective categories at the 2020 World SnowShoe Championship held at Myoko, Japan from 15 to 16 February 2020.
- Participants from 17 countries of different continents participated in the championship.
- It is first time ever in the history of SnowShoe sport that Indian athletes bagged medals in the World Championship. Indian contingent included nine members, of which three athletes bagged one silver and two bronze medals.
Important Days

9th World Pangolin day 2020:
- World Pangolin Day is celebrated on the third Saturday of February every year.
- In 2020, the world is celebrating the 9th edition of the annual World Pangolin Day. It was celebrated on 15 February 2020.

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National News

Nitin Gadkari Inaugurates India’s First Intercity Electric Bus between Mumbai and Pune:
- The Union Minister of Road Transport & Highways, Nitin Gadkari flagged off Mumbai-Pune Electric Bus on 14 February 2020 in Mumbai.
- It is the first Electric Intercity Bus in India.

President Kovind Appoints Kejriwal as new CM of Delhi:
- President Ram Nath Kovind has appointed Arvind Kejriwal as the new Chief Minister of the National Capital Territory of Delhi, after his Aam Aadmi Party won the recent Delhi Assembly elections with 62 of the 70 seats.
- The president has also appointed six MLAs as ministers of the Delhi Government namely: Manish Sisodia, Satyender Jain, Gopal Rai, Kailash Gehlot, Imran Hussain and Rajendra Gautam.

Banking and Economy

GIC Re gets license from Bank of Russia for reinsurance biz:
- India’s reinsurance company, General Insurance Corporation of India (GIC Re) has received the license from Central Bank of the Russian Federation (Bank of Russia) to commence reinsurance business in Russia.
- The license enables the subsidiary to commence transacting domestic and international reinsurance business in Russia based on the capital invested by
the Corporation.
- GIC of India is a state owned enterprise in India. It was the sole reinsurance company in the Indian insurance founded in 22 November 1972. GIC Re has its registered office and headquarters in Mumbai.

**Awards and Recognition**

**BioAsia 2020 announces Genome Valley Excellence Award:**
- BioAsia, Asia's largest annual global biotechnology and life sciences forum organised by the Government of Telangana, has announced that the Genome Valley Excellence Award will be bestowed upon Dr Carl H June and Dr Vas Narasimhan for their contributions to life sciences.
- Dr. Carl H June will be awarded for his work in immunotherapy, research in development of CAR-T (Chimeric Antigen Receptor- T cells) for treatment of cancer & commercialization of world’s first FDA (Food and Drug Administration, United States)- approved gene therapy.

**Science and Technology**

**ISRO G Narayanan to head space PSU NSIL:**
- Veteran space scientist G Narayanan has been named the chairman of Indian Space Research Organisation’s newly formed commercial entity New Space India Ltd (NSIL).
- Narayanan, who hails from Kerala’s Palakkad, had earlier worked as first secretary (space) at the Indian embassy in Paris.
- The Indian Space Research Organisation is the space agency of the Government of India and has its headquarters in the city of Bengaluru. Its vision is to “harness space technology for national development while pursuing space science research & planetary exploration”.

Founder: Vikram Sarabhai
Founded: 15 August 1969
Headquarters: Bengaluru
Sports

Sports Minister KirenRijiju Announces Khelo India Winter Games in Jammu and Kashmir:
- Sports Minister KirenRijiju has announced Khelo India winter games 2020 which will be held in the Union Territory of Ladakh later this month followed by a similar event in the Union Territory of Jammu and Kashmir in March.
- Khelo India Ladakh Winter Games will feature an open ice hockey championship, figure skating, and speed skating, and the competition will be conducted at the block, district, and UT levels with the expected participation of about 1700 athletes.

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National News

E-Cigarettes Banned Across All Indian Airports and Aircrafts – Aviation Security Regulator:
- The Bureau of Civil Aviation Security (BCAS), under the Ministry of Civil Aviation of India, has issued a circular that Electronic Cigarettes and all forms of Electronic Nicotine Delivery System (ENDS) will not be allowed in both domestic and international flights as well as at airports.
- Under the Prohibition of Electronic Cigarettes Act which is passed in December 2019.

International News

Narayana Murthy’s son-in-law appointed as UK’s new Finance Minister:
- Rishi Sunak has been appointed as the Finance Minister of the United Kingdom. He will replace Pakistani Chancellor Sajid Javid.
- Now three Indian origin Members of Parliament are a part of Britain’s most diverse cabinet led by UK Prime Minister Boris Johnson.
- Along with Rishi Sunak, Priti Patel has been appointed as the Home Minister and Alok Sharma has been appointed as the Business Secretary in the British
Cabinet.

Banking and Economy

**IndusInd Bank tops list of ‘Highest increase in brand value’:**
- According to ‘The Banker’\'s Top 500 Banking Brands 2020’ report, IndusInd Bank has topped the list of ‘Highest increase in brand value’ among global banks.
- As a part of the report, the list “Top 50 By Total Brand Value by Country” has been topped by China, followed by United States (US) at 2nd position while Canada and the United Kingdom (UK) ranked at 3rd and 4th spots. Japan has moved up to the fifth spot. India ranked 8th in this list in comparison to 10th place in 2019.
- The brand value of IndusInd Bank has increased by 122% over the past 12 months, making it the highest placed for growth in brand value, across the globe. The bank reported total assets of Rs 3.1 lakh crore at the end of Q3 FY20.

Managing Director & CEO of IndusInd Bank: Romesh Sobti
Headquarter of IndusInd Bank: Mumbai, Maharashtra.
The tagline of IndusInd Bank: We Make You Feel Richer.

**EIU lowers global growth forecast for 2020**
- This impact because of Novel virus in China and also the virus starts spreading globally.
- The virus originated in Wuhan, a city of around 11.3 million people in central Hubei province, China, and has spread to most provinces in mainland China and overseas.
- EIU also revised China’s growth downwards by lowering the real GDP (Gross Domestic Product) forecast for China in 2020 to 5.4 per cent from 5.9 per cent earlier.

About Economist Intelligence Unit:
Managing Director (MD): Robin Bew.
founded: 1946.

**SEBI introduces a system to track client securities:**
The Securities and Exchange Board of India (SEBI) has developed in-house capabilities to track the movement of client securities collected by the broker as collateral online. It will raise alerts with exchanges if diversion of clients’ securities is noticed. So far, three ‘mismatch reports’ has been forwarded to the stock exchanges for reconciliation with members.

SEBI: The Securities and Exchange Board of India is the regulator for the securities market in India owned by the Government of India. It was established in 1988 and given Statutory Powers on 30 January 1992 through the SEBI Act, 1992.

Founded: 12 April 1992
Sector: Securities market
Jurisdiction: India
Headquarters: Mumbai
Type: Statutory corporation
Chairperson: Ajay Tyagi

**Summits and Mou’s**

**India, Portugal sign seven agreements:**
- India and Portugal have signed seven agreements to boost cooperation and bilateral ties. The agreements were signed during the state visit of Portugal’s President.
- This is President Marcelo Rebelo de Sousa’s first visit to India. PM Modi had visited Portugal in June 2017.

**Science and Technology**

**Scientists discovered the nearest known planet “2MASS 1155-7919 b”:**
- The scientists from Rochester Institute of Technology has discovered the nearest-known ‘baby giant planet’ which is named as “2MASS 1155-7919 b”.
- The scientists has used the data from Gaia space observatory to find the baby giant planet. The newly discovered baby giant planet which is named as “2MASS 1155-7919 b” lies about 330 light-years from our solar system.
- The planet is closer to Earth and is located in the Epsilon Chamaeleontis Association. This planet orbits a star that is about 5 million
years old. The planet has only ten times the mass of Jupiter.

Obituary

Noted fashion designer and Padma Shri awardee Wendell Rodricks passed away:
- Wendell Rodricks was awarded the Padma Shri in 2014 and was a recipient of Chevalier de l’Ordre des Arts et Lettres (Knight of the order of arts and letters) in 2015.
- Rodricks made his mark in the fashion industry with his first collection from Goa that earned him the title ‘Guru of Minimalism’.

Sports

FIH honours Manpreet Singh with FIH Men’s Player of the Year 2019 award:
- Manpreet Singh won the International Hockey Federation’s (FIH) Men’s Player of the Year award.
- He created a record as he became the first Indian hockey team player to win the awards since its inception in 1999.
- He won the award ahead of Arthur van Doren of Belgium and Lucas Vila of Argentina, who finished second and third respectively.
- FIH: The Fédération Internationale de Hockey, commonly known by the acronym FIH, is the international governing body of field hockey and indoor field hockey. Its headquarters are in Lausanne, Switzerland and the president is Narinder Batra.
  Headquarters: Lausanne, Switzerland
  President: Narinder Batra
  Founded: 7 January 1924
  CEO: Thierry Weil
  Abbreviation: FIH
  Membership: 137 national associations

Appointments and Resignations

Former IAS officer Rajiv Bansal appointed as CMD of Air India:
Former IAS officer Rajiv Bansal was recently appointed as the Chairman and Managing Director (CMD) of Air India.
Bansal is currently serving as Additional Secretary in Union Ministry of Petroleum and Natural Gas.
Former India all-rounder Robin Singh appointed UAE’s Director of Cricket
The Emirates Cricket Board has appointed former Indian cricketer Robin Singh as the new director of cricket.
Robin Singh’s appointment was announced after Emirates Cricket Board fired head coach Dougie Brown.

Books and Authors

Book titled “Messages from Messengers” by Priti K Shroff:
“Messages from Messengers” book launch by Priti K Shroff at the prestigious Bombay Stock Exchange, Mumbai.
MD and CEO of the Bombay stock exchange, Ashish Chauhan was the chief guest.

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Union Cabinet approves Pesticide Management Bill 2020:
Union Cabinet has approved the Pesticide Management Bill 2020. Briefing reporters in New Delhi, Information and Broadcasting Minister Prakash Javadekar stated, the legislation will promote organic pesticides in the country.
Major Ports Authority Bill to enhance overall efficiencies of the ports was cleared by the Cabinet. Cabinet has also approved changes in the Direct Tax Vivad se Vishwas Bill, 2020.

Supreme Court orders parties to publish criminal records of all candidates:
The Supreme Court recently directed all the political parties to publish the criminal records of all the candidates, if any, within the next 48 hours.
• These records need to be published on the official websites of these political parties as well as on their social media handles such as Facebook and Twitter.
• The apex court also asked the parties the reason behind allotting the election tickets to candidates with a criminal record.

Arbitration and Conciliation Act 1996 amended to make arbitration process user friendly:
• The Arbitration and Conciliation Act, 1996 was amended by the Arbitration and Conciliation (Amendment) Act, 2015 in order to make arbitration process user-friendly, cost-effective and ensure speedy disposal and neutrality of arbitrators.
• The Amendment Act seeks to a new Part to the Act of 1996 for the establishment and incorporation of an independent body namely, the Arbitration Council of India (ACI) for the purpose of grading of arbitral institutions and accreditation of arbitrators, etc.
• As per the Act, ACI will be headed by a Chairperson, who has been a Judge of the Supreme Court or a Chief Justice or Judge of a High Court or an eminent person, having special knowledge and experience in the conduct or administration of arbitration, to be appointed by the Centre in consultation with the Chief Justice of India.

Banking and Economy

Nasscom’s IT revenue grows at 7.7 per cent in FY20:
• The National Association of Software and Services Companies (Nasscom) projected the Indian IT sector to grow 7 per cent to reach $191 billion in FY20, with exports reaching $147 billion, and headcount addition accelerating from the previous year.
• This is a marginal improvement over its prediction of 2018, when it said that the IT sector will only grow by 6.1 per cent but the sector is still ‘cautiously optimistic’ about FY21, the industry body pointed out.
• While the global economy has been moving at a sluggish pace, Indian economy only grew at 8 per cent and exports stood at $644 billion.
Awards and Recognition

**President Kovind presents President’s "Colour" to INS Shivaji:**
- President Ram Nath Kovind presented ‘President’s Colour’ to the INS Shivaji at a ceremony in Lonavala, Maharashtra.
- The Presentation of Colour or Standards by the Supreme Commander of the Armed Forces is an acknowledgement of the unit’s meritorious service.

Appointments and Resignations

**G Narayanan appointed as head of New Space India Ltd:**
- ISRO’s senior space scientist G Narayanan has been appointed as the chairman of the commercial entity of ISRO New Space India Limited (NSIL).
- Indian Space Research Organisation (ISRO) named him for this post because he earlier worked as deputy director at the Liquid Propulsion Systems Centre (LPSC) of ISRO.
- New Space India Limited (NSIL) was established in March 2019 to meet the demands of ISRO’s various space programs. The NSIL will manufacture small and lightweight satellites.

Important Days

**World Radio Day:**
- World Radio Day is celebrated on 13 February World Radio Day 2020 celebrates the radio as a method for teaching individuals, giving data, and promoting the opportunity of expression across cultures.
- The theme of World Radio Day 2020 is “Radio and Diversity”.

**Sarojini Naidu's 141st Birth Anniversary observed as National Women's Day:**
- India on February 13, 2020 observed Sarojini Naidu’s 141st Birth Anniversary as National Women's Day 2020. Naidu was the first woman governor of India’s United Provinces (now Uttar Pradesh).
- She was popularly known as 'Nightingale of India' for her collection of poems. She was also actively involved in the Indian National Movement.
15 crore loans extended to women under PMMY till Jan 2020, TN tops:
- Over 15 crore loans, amounting to Rs 4.78 lakh crore, have been disbursed to women borrowers under PradhanMantri Mudra Yojana (PMMY), stated Anurag Singh Thakur, Union Minister of State for Finance and Corporate Affairs.
- “As on 31.01.2020, over 15 crore loans have been disbursed to women borrowers, since inception of the scheme, amounting to Rs 4.78 lakh crore under PMMY.”

PSU Survey 2019: ONGC, IOC, NTPC top three profitable PSU:
- According to the PSU Survey 2018-19, Oil and Natural Gas Corporation (ONGC), Indian Oil Corporation and NTPC were three the top profitable companies of India.
- Their total profits were 15.3%, 9.68% and 6.73% respectively. On the other hand, Air India, BSNL and MTNL suffered the most losses.
- According to the survey, 70 government companies were at a loss during this period. About 10 companies were accounted for more than 94% of the total losses.

BhupeshBaghel inaugurates Gaurela-Pendra-Marwahi as Chhattisgarh’s 28th district:
- Chhattisgarh Chief Minister BhupeshBaghel inaugurated Gaurela-Pendra-Marwahi as the 28th district of the state.
- The new district, carved out of Bilaspur, has three tehsils and three development blocks namely Gaurela, Pendra and Marwahi.
- It comprises 166 gram panchayats, 222 villages and two nagarpanchayats, with an area of 1,68,225 hectares.
2019 is official name for disease caused by new virus says WHO:
- The World Health Organization on February 11, 2020 official renamed virus as “”. So far, the deadly virus has caused over 1000 deaths in China, which is more than the number of deaths caused by the SARs of 2003.
- Virus originated in China; however, the virus has now spread in various countries. India has also reported 3 cases of virus from Kerala.

About WHO:
Head: Tedros Adhanom
Headquarters: Geneva, Switzerland
Founded: 7 April 1948

Banking and Economy

Government to introduce new One Rupee Currency Note:
- The Central Government recently announced to introduce new Re 1 currency note with security features. The all-new one rupee note will have several watermarks.
- The value of the currency note will be mentioned in 15 different Indian languages. The note will contain an image of ‘Sagar Samrat’, the oil exploration platform.

Facebook to provide digital literacy training to one lakh women in seven Indian states:
- Facebook launched its ‘We Think Digital’ programme, under which the social media giant will provide digital literacy training to 1 lakh women across seven states, including Uttar Pradesh, West Bengal and Bihar.
- In partnership with National Commission for Women (NCW) and Cyber Peace Foundation, the program aims to provide digital literacy training to one lakh women across seven states through the year.
- The programme will start with the state of Uttar Pradesh and expand to other states including Assam, West Bengal Madhya Pradesh, Gujarat, Jharkhand and Bihar, it added.

Infosys to acquire US-based Simplus for $250 million to step up cloud biz:
- Bengaluru-based IT services major Infosys stated it has signed a definitive agreement to acquire US-headquartered Simplus, a major Salesforce platinum
partner, in a bid to strengthen its cloud business.
- The acquisition, expected to be complete within a month, will incur a cost of up to $250 million, Infosys said in a filing with stock exchanges. $200 million, including contingent consideration to be paid for the acquisition of shares, subject to closing adjustments.

**Appointment and Resignation**

**Arvind Kejriwal to take oath as Delhi CM on February 16 at RamlilaMaidan:**
- After resounding victory in Delhi assembly elections, Chief Minister Arvind Kejriwal will take oath for the third time on February 16.
- The swearing-in ceremony will take place at the historic RamlilaMaidan — similar to that of last two times.

**Ducati appoints Bipul Chandra as new head of Indian operations:**
- Italian super bike maker Ducati stated it has appointed Bipul Chandra as the new Managing Director of its India operations.
- Chandra replaces Sergi Canovas who is moving to an international role within the company.

About Ducati:
Parent organization: Lamborghini
Founded: 4 July 1926, Bologna, Italy
CEO: Claudio Domenicali

**Ranking**

**India ranks 17th among countries at risk of virus import:**
- Of the countries most at risk of importing virus cases, India ranks 17th, researchers have found on the basis of a mathematical model for the expected global spread of the virus that originated in China’s Wuhan area in December 2019.
- The top 10 countries and regions at risk of importing virus cases are: Thailand, Japan, South Korea, Hong Kong, Taiwan, USA, Vietnam, Malaysia, Singapore and Cambodia, according to the model.
- While Thailand’s national import risk is 2.1 per cent, it is 0.2 per cent for
India, found the research.

**Important Days**

**National Productivity Day observed globally on 12 February:**
- National Productivity Day is observed on 12 February. The day is celebrated by the National Productivity Council (NPC) to promote productivity culture in India. Also, National Productivity Week is celebrated from 12-18 February 2020. The day aims to propagate productivity, quality, competitiveness, and efficiency.
- NPC was established in 1958. The autonomous organization functions under the Department for Promotion of Industry & Internal Trade (DPIIT), Ministry of Commerce and Industry.
- Chairman of National Productivity Council: Guruprasad Mohapatra.
- Director-General of National Productivity Council: Arun Kumar Jha.

**International Day of Women and Girls in Science:**
- The United Nations General Assembly (UNGA) adopted a resolution A/RES/70/212 on December 2015, declaring Feb.11 as the International Day of Women & Girls in Science.
- Theme: “Investment in Women and Girls in Science for Inclusive Green Growth”.

**World Unani Day:**
- The World Unani Day is observed every year on February 11.
- The day commemorates the birth anniversary of great Unani scholar and social reformer Hakim Ajmal Khan.
- Defence Minister ShriRajnath Singh was the chief guest of the 4th Unani day function organized by AYUSH (Ayurveda, Yoga & Naturopathy, Unani, Siddha and Homeopathy) Ministry, New Delhi, India.

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[https://www.toprankers.com/subscription-plans](https://www.toprankers.com/subscription-plans)
National News

Vice President Venkaiah Naidu Releases book ‘A Child of Destiny’ by K. Ramakrishna Rao:
- The Vice President of India, and Chairman of RajyaSabhaShri M Venkaiah Naidu released a book titled, ‘A Child of Destiny’, an autobiography penned by Prof. K. Ramakrishna Rao, well-known educationist in Visakhapatnam, Andhra Pradesh.
- The Government of India awarded him the civilian honour of Padma Shri in 2011.

5th India-UK Joint Military Exercise AJEYA WARRIOR 2020 to begin from Feb 13:
- The fifth edition of annual Joint Military Exercise AJEYA WARRIOR-2020 between the Armies of India and the United Kingdom is scheduled to be conducted at Salisbury Plains, the United Kingdom from 13 to 26 February 2020.
- The exercise will comprise 120 soldiers each from the Indian and United Kingdom Army.

State of the World’s Children Report UNICEF:
- According to UNICEF, more than 8 lakh children below 5 years died under five years of age. UNICEF identified some major reasons for child mortality in India.
- UNICEF report said that major causes of child mortality are - Pneumonia (17.1%), Prematurity & low weight (29.8%), Other non-communicable diseases (8.3%), Birth asphyxia & birth trauma (8.2%), Injuries (4.6%), Diarrheal diseases (8.6%) among others.

National Institute of Financial Management, Faridabad, to be renamed as ArunJaitley National Institute of Financial Management:
- National Institute of Financial Management (NIFM), Faridabad will be
known as Arun Jaitley National Institute of Financial Management (AJNIFM) as the Government of India has decided to rename the institute.

- NIFM facilitates state governments, defense establishments, banks, other financial institutions and PSUs. It does not only provide training but also management education.
- He introduced the historic Goods and Services Tax (GST), which brought the country under a single tax system. Under his leadership, the railway budget was merged with the general budget.

Awards and Recognition

Lalremsiami becomes FIH Women's Rising Star of Year:
- Lalremsiami is a forward player in India’s women’s hockey team. She has been selected as the FIH women’s rising star of the year.
- The voting was conducted by the International Hockey Federation. Argentina’s Julieta Jankunas and Netherlands’ Frederique Matla secured second and third places respectively.

Sports

Aditya Mehta wins National Snooker Championship:
- Aditya Mehta, an Indian snooker player, won National Snooker Championship held in Pune recently. He defeated world champion, Pankaj Advani, in the final match. Madhya Pradesh’s Vidya Pillai won the title in the women’s category.
- Aditya Mehta is ranked 49th in the global ranking. He has won gold medals in world and Asia level competitions so far.
National News

Indian Army develops world’s cheapest gunshot locator:
- Indian Army has recently developed the cheapest gunshot locator of the world ‘Parth’. This device has been developed by the Army's College of Military Engineering.
- A private firm also helped the Indian Army to develop this device. According to the media report, its cost is about Rs. 3 lakh. It will save a lot of money as imported device costs about Rs. 65 lakhs.
- The device ‘Parth’ was recently showcased at DefExp0 2020. Earlier, the Indian Army developed a bullet-proof helmet that can stop an AK-47 bullet.

Hyderabad Metro Becomes Second Largest Metro Rail Network In India:
- Hyderabad Metro Rail, the world’s largest public-private partnership project, is now the 2nd-largest operational metro network in the country covering 69.2 km.
- With the launch of another 11-km stretch, Hyderabad Metro Rail has become the second-largest metro rail network in the country after Delhi.

NCL sets up R&D centre for sustainable coal mining:
- The Northern Coalfields Ltd (NCL) has established a research and development centre, named ‘Science and Applied Research Alliance and Support (SARAS)’.
- This research and development centre focuses on the sustainable model for development in coal mining.
- Chairman and Managing Director of the NCL: PK Sinha.

Uttarakhand’s First Heli Services Under UDAN Flagged Off
- Under the Regional Connectivity Scheme “UdeDeshKaAamNagrik (UDAN)” of Government of India, Ministry of Civil Aviation (MoCA) has operationalized the first ever helicopter services in the state of Uttarakhand.

Uttar Pradesh Govt to launch internship scheme for school college students:
- Chief Minister of Uttar Pradesh has announced an internship scheme for the tenth, 12th and graduate students of the state to brighten employment
During the internship of a period of six months or a year, each participating youth will be given 2500 rupees as honorarium every month. Out of this, rupees 1500 will be given by the Central Government and 1000 rupees by the State Government.

International News

African Union Summit 2020 held:
- The theme of African Union Summit 2020 was ‘Silencing the Guns’. It has adopted the eight resolutions including ‘Agreement with United Nations for funding in peace operation’.

Oscars Award 2020 winners

92nd Academy Awards, also known as Oscars 2020, announced. The awards were presented at a ceremony held at Dolby Theater in Los Angeles, USA. The film "Parasite" became the first foreign-language film ever to win the Best Picture award at Oscars 2020. Actor Brad Pitt won the Oscars for ‘Best Supporting Actor’ for his film 'Once Upon a Time in Hollywood'.

Awards

KamyaKarthikeyan becomes youngest climber to conquer Mount Aconcagua:
- KamyaKarthikeyan (12-year-old) from Mumbai has become the youngest girl to climb Mount Aconcagua, the highest mountain in South America.
- She studies in 7th grade at Navy Children School in Mumbai. She holds the record by climbing the highest mountain in the Andes mountain range as the youngest girl to climb this mountain.

- KamyaKarthikeyan trekked in various high altitude areas of the Himalayan region. She aims to complete "Explorers Grand Slam" by 2021.
Science & Technology

Astronomers Find Ultramassive Galaxy From The Early Universe That Suddenly Died:
• The International team of astronomers led by scientists at the University of California, United States (US) have discovered an Ultramassive monster galaxy dubbed as XMM-2599.
• This galaxy existed around 12 billion years ago just 1.8 billion years after the formation of the universe.

Sports

Armand Duplantis breaks Pole Vault World Record:
• Armand Duplantis, a 20-year-old Louisiana native who has been as shrewd in choosing the nation he represents as he has been in choosing his fiberglass poles, broke the world record in the pole vault on Saturday with a jump of 20 feet 2 ¾ inches, or 6.17 meters.

Important Day

World Pulses Day observed globally on 10 February:
World Pulses Day proclaimed on February 10 of each year since 2019. World Pulses Day is a designated United Nations global event to recognize the importance of pulses (chickpeas, dry beans, lentils, dry peas and lupins among others) as a global food.