

Current Affairs June 2019

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DELHI: +91-8920-180-477

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National

The first session of 17th Lok Sabha from June 17th

- i. The first session of the 17th Lok Sabha will commence on 17th of this month. The Rajya Sabha will have its sitting from 20th onwards. Information and Broadcasting Minister Prakash Javdekar stated the session will continue till 26th of next month (July).
- ii. The election for the Speaker of the Lower House will be held on 19th of June. The President will address the Joint sitting of both the Houses of Parliament on the 20th. The Economic Survey will be tabled on the 4th of July and the Union Budget will be presented on the 5th of July.



Nirmala Sitharaman To Present First Union Budget On 05th July

- i. The first session of the newly-elected Lok Sabha has been convened from 17th June to 26th July 2019 and the new government of Prime Minister Narendra Modi will present its first Budget on 05th July 2019 by Nirmala Sitharaman, who is Minister of Finance and Minister of Corporate Affairs. The 40-day session will have 30 sittings.

Important Facts:-

1. The election for Lok Sabha Speaker will take place on 19th June'19.
2. The Economic Survey, which gives the status of the country's economy, will be presented in Parliament on 04th July'19.
3. Nirmala Sitharaman is the only woman to hold the portfolio (Minister of Finance) after former Prime Minister Indira Gandhi.
4. The Modi government had on 01st February 2019 presented the interim Budget in view of the upcoming Lok Sabha elections.



Kasturirangan committee submits new draft education policy to HRD Ministry

- i. Former ISRO chief Dr. Kasturirangan led Committee submitted the draft National Educational Policy (NEP) to HRD Minister Ramesh Pokhriyal Nishank in New Delhi. The policy draft recommends incorporation of Indian knowledge systems in the curriculum, constituting a National Education Commission and curbing arbitrary fees hikes by private schools.
- ii. The existing NEP was framed in 1986 and revised in 1992.



Financial Literacy Week to be observed during June 3-7

- i. Financial Literacy Week 2019 to be observed from June 3-7 on the theme of "Farmers" and how they benefit by being a part of the formal banking system. Financial Literacy Week is an initiative of RBI to promote awareness of key topics every year through a focused campaign. Growth in agriculture is necessary for the overall economic growth and finance is an essential enabler for the same. RBI is actively involved in formulating policies that enhance the flow of credit to the farming community.



ONGC topples IOC to regain most profitable public sector company

- i. ONGC, India's top oil and gas producer, has toppled Indian Oil Corp (IOC) to regain the crown of being the country's most profitable public sector company. According to earnings statements of the listed companies, Oil and Natural Gas Corp (ONGC) reported a 34 percent jump in its 2018-19 fiscal net profit to Rs 26,716 crore.
- ii. In comparison, IOC registered a net profit of Rs 17,274 crore for the fiscal year ended March 31, 2019. ONGC, in the previous two financial years, had lost the most profitable PSU tag to IOC.



Important Takeways from above news-

- The headquarters of ONGC is in New Delhi.
- Shashi Shankar is Chairman and Managing Director of ONGC.

IndianOil, BPCL And HPCL Ink JV For Kandla-Gorakhpur LPG Pipeline Project

- i. IndianOil, Bharat Petroleum Corporation (BPCL) and Hindustan Petroleum Corp Ltd (HPCL) had signed a joint venture in New Delhi for Kandla-Gorakhpur LPG Pipeline Project. They will be laying the world's longest LPG pipeline from Kandla (Gujarat) to Gorakhpur (UP).



ii. The Kandla-Gorakhpur LPG Pipeline is estimated to cost about Rs10,000 crore. It would be implemented by a Joint Venture Company of **IndianOil with 50% shareholding. BPCL and HPCL will have 25% share each.**

Telangana Formation Day: 02nd June

i. On the occasion of the fifth Telangana State Formation Day on 02nd June 2019, President Ram Nath Kovind and Prime Minister Narendra Modi have extended their wishes to the people of the state.

ii. Telangana Formation Day is celebrated on the formation of Telangana State on 2nd June every year since 2014. The State celebrates the occasion with formal events across the districts.



Important Takeways from above news-

- K Chandrashekhar Rao is the first and present CM of Telangana.
- Hyderabad is the capital of Telangana.
- The current governor of Telangana is ESL Narasimhan.
- The current PM of Sweden is Stefan Lofven.

Chandrani Murmu became the youngest MP in India's history

i. In a first, a **25-year-old** engineering graduate from **Odisha** has become the youngest **Member of Parliament** to the **17th Lok Sabha**.

ii. Odisha has a total of seven women MPs, making it the first state ever to have **33 percent or the largest share** of women MPs of its total of **21 seats**.

iii. **Chandrani Murmu**, who has replaced **Dushyant Chautala**, was elected as Biju Janata Dal (BJD) candidate from the Keonjhar seat, as the youngest parliamentarian in the country.



Ashis Ray's Book On World Cup "Cricket World Cup: The Indian Challenge" Launched

i. "**Cricket World Cup: The Indian Challenge**" – a book on the history of the tournament from an Indian perspective by veteran broadcaster and **writer Ashis Ray** – has been formally unveiled by the **chief executive of the England and Wales Cricket Board, Tom Harrison**.

PM Modi Forms 2 Cabinet Panels For Growth & Jobs

i. In a bid to spur investment and create new employment opportunities, **Prime Minister Narendra Modi set up two Cabinet committees** to deal with the two crucial issues. Both the panels, respectively **on Investment and Growth** and **on Employment and Skill Development**, will be headed by the prime minister.

ii. The **Cabinet Committee on Investment and Growth** will have Union Home Minister Amit Shah, Finance Minister Nirmala Sithataman, Road Transport and Highways Minister Nitin Gadkari and Railways and Commerce Minister Piyush Goyal as its members.

iii. The **Cabinet Committee on Employment and Skill Development** will include, besides Shah, Sithataman and Goyal, Agriculture Minister Narendra Singh Tomar, HRD Minister Ramesh Pokhriyal 'Nishank', Petroleum Minister Dharmendra Pradhan, Minister of Skill Development M N Pandey, Labour Minister Santosh Kumar Gangwar and Housing and Urban Development Minister Hardip Puri.



MP Cabinet passes resolution to increase reservation for OBCs to 27%

i. **Madhya Pradesh Cabinet** has passed a resolution to increase reservation quota for **Other Backward Classes (OBC)** from existing **14% to 27%**.

ii. The move will lead to the reservation in the state breaching the Supreme Court-mandated **50 percent cap to reach 63 percent**. If implemented, Madhya Pradesh will become the only state in the country to have a **27% quota for OBCs**.



JLR Inks Pact With BMW To Develop Next-Gen Electric Vehicles

i. **Tata Motors-owned Jaguar Land Rover** has joined hands with **BMW** to develop next-generation electric drive systems.

ii. The two partners will invest jointly in research and development, engineering and procurement with an aim to provide the necessary economies of scale to support increased consumer adoption of electric vehicles.

Traffic Index-2018: Mumbai 'Most Congested', Delhi Ranks 4th

- i. Mumbai ranked first in the study, '**Traffic Index-2018**', compiled by location technology specialist TomTom, with a **congestion level of 65%**, while New Delhi ranked fourth with congestion of 58%.
- ii. The study covered 403 cities in 56 countries and defined congestion as the extra time added to road travel when traffic doesn't flow freely.

Global Gender Equality Index Released: India Ranks 95, Denmark Tops

- i. **India ranked 95th out of 129 countries** in a new index that measures global gender equality looking at aspects such as poverty, health, education, literacy, political representation and equality at the workplace. **The list was topped by Denmark.**
- ii. **Chad** was placed at bottom most position (129th). The **Sustainable Development Goals Gender Index** has been developed by **UK-based Equal Measures 2030**, a joint effort of regional and global organizations.

Government Reconstitutes 8 Cabinet Committees

- i. The Government has **reconstituted eight Cabinet Committees**. These are Appointments Committee, Committees on Accommodation, Economic Affairs, Parliamentary Affairs, Political Affairs, Security, Investment and Growth and Cabinet Committee on Employment and Skill Development.
- ii. The Cabinet Committee on Security will have Prime Minister Narendra Modi, Defence Minister Rajnath Singh, Home Minister Amit Shah, Minister of Finance and Corporate Affairs Nirmala Sitharaman and External Affairs Minister Dr. S Jaishankar.
- iii. Appointments Committee of the Cabinet has Prime Minister Modi and Mr Shah. While Cabinet Committee on Investment and Growth will have the Prime Minister and Ministers of Home, Road Transport and Highways, Finance and Corporate Affairs and Railways and Commerce and Industry.



Delhi Metro Becomes India's 1st Project To Receive Power From Waste-To-Energy

- i. The **Delhi Metro Rail Corporation (DMRC)** has become the **first ever project in the country to receive power generated from a waste-to-energy plant**. It has started receiving 2 MW power from a 12 MW capacity waste-to-energy plant set up in Ghazipur.
- ii. The waste-to-energy plant set up by East Delhi Waste Processing Company Limited (EDWPCL) is based on a Public Private Partnership (PPP) involving the Delhi government and East Delhi Municipal Corporation (EDMC), besides the EDWPCL.



Aditya Birla Fashion and Retail (ABFRL) acquires Jaypore

- i. Aditya Birla Fashion and Retail Ltd (ABFRL), which retails brands such as Louis Philippe, Peter England and Van Heusen, has acquired ethnic apparel and lifestyle retailer 'Jaypore E-Commerce Pvt. Ltd' which sells ethnic fashion merchandise under its own brand 'Jaypore' for Rs 110 crore.

Amazon dethrones Google as top global brand: 100 Top BrandZ report

- i. According to global market research agency Kantar in its 2019's '100 Top BrandZ Report', US retail giant Amazon has moved past hi-tech titans Apple and Google to become the world's most valuable brand.
- ii. The brand value of Amazon surged by 52 percent to \$315 billion, hence jumping from third to first place to replace Google.

Important Takeways from above news-

- CEO of Amazon: Jeff Bezos

1st session of 17th Lok Sabha has begun

- i. First session of **17th Lok Sabha** has started. Prime Minister **Narendra Modi** is the first MP to take oath in the 17th Lok Sabha. The inaugural session of the new Lok Sabha has started with the swearing in of its members.
- ii. All the members will be administered the oath by the **protem Speaker Virendra Kumar**. The first session of the **17th Lok Sabha will continue till June 26**.



Assam govt to set up Skill University at Darrang district

- i. Assam government will set up a **Skill University at the cost of 850 crore rupees at Darrang district**.
- ii. This will be perhaps the first skill university of the country with a capacity of **10 thousand seats**. The International Yoga Day will be observed at 459 centres of the **Skill Development Mission**.



Very Severe Cyclonic Storm 'VAYU' Over East-Central Arabian

- i. The Very Severe Cyclonic Storm 'VAYU' over East-central Arabian Sea moved nearly northwards with a speed of about 13 kmph in last six hours and lay centred over East-central Arabian Sea, about 470 km west-northwest of Goa, 280 km south-southwest of **Mumbai (Maharashtra)** and 340 km nearly south of **Veraval (Gujarat)**.
- ii. It is very likely to move nearly northwards and cross Gujarat coast between Porbandar and Mahuva around Veraval & Diu region as a Very Severe Cyclonic Storm with wind speed 145-155 kmph gusting to 170 kmph around morning of 13th June 2019.



India's TCS Now Has Higher Market Value Than IBM at \$120.5 bn

- i. India's largest software services company **Tata Consultancy Services (TCS)** has **surpassed US technology giant IBM** in terms of market capitalisation.
- ii. As of recent closing, the market cap of TCS stood at **Rs8.37 lakh crore (\$120.5 billion)** compared to IBM's \$119.5 billion. TCS reported revenue of \$20.9 billion in the previous fiscal while IBM ended 2018 with \$79.6 billion in revenue.



India accounts for 12% of the world's internet users

- i. According to the annual report on internet trends by venture capitalist Mary Meeker, India accounts for 12% world's internet users.
- ii. China has the largest base, accounting for 21% of all internet users globally, and the US comes third at 8%.



Dell has emerged as the most trusted brand in India in 2019: TRA

- i. According to a report released by brand analytics firm TRA Research, "Dell" has emerged as the most trusted brand in India in 2019. With 31% Brand Trust Index (BTI) difference from Dell, auto brand Jeep makes a dramatic entry in the second spot. LIC and Amazon are ranked on the third and fourth spots and Apple iPhone emerged as India's fifth most trusted brand.

Important Takeways from above news-

- Dell is an American based multinational computer technology company
- CEO of Dell: Michael S Dell

Global Peace Index 2019: India Ranks 141st, Iceland Tops

- i. India's rank has slipped five places to **141 among 163 countries on the Global Peace Index 2019**, while **Iceland remains the most peaceful country** and **Afghanistan the least peaceful nation**, as per the report by Australian think tank **Institute for Economics & Peace**.
- ii. In South Asia, Bhutan topped the index with 15th rank, followed by Sri Lanka 72, Nepal 76 and Bangladesh 101. The neighboring country Pakistan has been ranked 153rd on the index.

World's Highest Weather Stations Installed Atop Mount Everest

- i. A team of Tribhuvan University and National Geographic Society scientists and researchers have installed the **world's highest, fully automated weather stations atop Mount Everest**.
- ii. Total five weather stations, including one at a record height of 27,657 feet, were installed on the Earth's highest mountain above sea level.

Four Indian movies selected to be screened at South Korea's Film Festival 2019

- i. Among 288 movies from over 29 countries, **four Indian movies** to be screened at the **Bucheon International Fantastic Film Festival 2019**.
- ii. The Bollywood movies which will be screened include **Gully Boy, Andhadhun and Manikarnika: The Queen of Jhansi** and one Tamil movie which will be screened is **Super Deluxe**.

Important Takeways from above news-

- **South Korea Capital- Seoul, Currency-South Korean won**

Facebook backs Meesho in first startup investment in India

- i. Social networking giant **Facebook** has picked up a minority stake in social-commerce company **Meesho** in its first startup investment in the country.
- ii. Bengaluru-based startup **connects re-sellers to manufacturers** to sell goods via social media platforms.

Important Takeways from above news-

- **Facebook Headquarters:** California, US, **CEO:** Mark Zuckerberg

Namma Kolhapuri chappal gets GI tag

i. Namma Kolhapuri chappal has earned **Geographical indication tag** from **Intellectual Property India**. ii. The approval for GI tag was **jointly received by Karnataka and Maharashtra**. iii. These leather chappals are hand-crafted and tanned using vegetable dyes. The art of making them is passed down one generation to another.

A water clinic for elephants opens in Mathura

i. India has opened its **first specialised hydrotherapy treatment for elephants** suffering from arthritis, joint pain and foot ailments in **Mathura, Uttar Pradesh**.
 ii. The **care centre** runs in collaboration with the **Uttar Pradesh Forest Department** and the **NGO Wildlife SOS**.
 iii. The **centre** constitutes **jumbo pool** which is **11-foot-deep** and has **21 high pressure jet sprays** that create water pressure that massage the elephants' feet and body and help in increasing blood circulation.



Important Takeways from above news-

- **Chief Minister of Uttar Pradesh:** Yogi Adityanath, **Governor:** Ram Naik.

Bangladesh, South Korea state channels now on DD Free Dish

i. India has signed agreements with **Bangladesh** and **South Korea** for **DD India** to be telecasted on the state platforms of the respective countries.
 ii. As per the agreement, **BTV World**, a channel owned by **Bangladesh TV** and **KBS World**, an English language of **South Korea**, will now be available on the state-owned **DD Free Dish**.

Important Takeways from above news-

- **South Korea Capital-** Seoul, **Currency-** South Korean won
- **Bangladesh Capital:** Dhaka, **Currency:** Taka, **PM:** Sheikh Hasina.

"Amazon India" best place to work in the country

i. Randstad rates **Amazon India** as **country's most attractive employer brand**. **Microsoft India** emerged as the **runner-up**.
 ii. As per the study, **salary** and **employee benefits** continue to be the top driver, while choosing an employer for the Indian workforce, followed by work-life balance and job security.

Important Takeways from above news-

- **CEO of Amazon:** Jeff Bezos

QS World University rankings for 2020

i. In the recently released **QS World University rankings for 2020**, **IIT-Bombay** which is **ranked 152** is India's best university for the second year in a row.
 ii. The next two Indian Universities in the top 200 are **IIT Delhi (182)** and the **Indian Institute of Science, Bengaluru (184)**.
 iii. There are a total of **23 Indian institutions** in the top 1,000.



CCI approves Indiabulls Housing Finance and Lakshmi Vilas Bank merger

i. **Competition Commission of India (CCI)** has approved the merger of the **Indiabulls Housing Finance** and **Lakshmi Vilas Bank**.
 ii. **Lakshmi Vilas Bank** is going to merge with **Indiabulls Housing Finance** in a **share swap deal** with intent to create a combined entity with a larger capital base and wider geographical reach.
 iii. After the merger, **Indiabulls Housing Finance** will get access to low cost deposits, geographical diversification and expanded client base and cross selling opportunities.



Important Takeways from above news-

- **MD & CEO of Lakshmi Vilas Bank:** Parthasarathi Mukherjee.

Telangana CM inaugurates Kaleshwaram project



i. The **Kaleshwaram Lift Irrigation Project** which is one of the **world's largest multi stage and multi purpose lift irrigation scheme**, was inaugurated by **Telangana Chief Minister** in **Jayashankar-Bhupalapally district of Telangana**.

ii. The **Kaleshwaram Lift Irrigation Project** envisages irrigation over **37 lakh acres of new and existing ayacut in 21 districts** of the State.

Important Takeways from above news-

- **Chief Minister of Telangana:** K. Chandrashekar Rao, **Governor:** E. S. L. Narasimhan.
- **Ayacut** is the area served by an irrigation project such as a canal, dam or a tank.

Mata Vaishno Devi shrine to get disaster response force by 2020

i. The **Mata Vaishno Devi Shrine**, a religious pilgrimage, will get a dedicated **in-house disaster response force by September, 2020**.

ii. **Shri Mata Vaishno Devi Shrine Board** is going to **train 180 employees** to prepare a dedicated **disaster response force** for the shrine.

iii. It will also set up an **Emergency Operation Centre** as part of its disaster preparedness.



Anupam Kher pens his autobiography: "Lessons Life Taught Me Unknowingly"

i. Bollywood actor **Anupam Kher** is coming out with his autobiography, **"Lessons Life Taught Me Unknowingly"**.

ii. **Anupam Kher** is one of the most prolific actors in the Indian film industry who has acted in over 530 films in several languages, both in India and the West.



Meenakshi Lekhi's first novel: The New Delhi Conspiracy

i. **"The New Delhi Conspiracy"** is **Meenakshi Lekhi's** first novel to be published soon. She has co written it with **Krishna Kumar**.

ii. The novel will be published by **Harper Collins**.

31.4% of Indian children will be stunted by 2022: Food and Nutrition Security Report

i. Recently released **Food and Nutrition Security Report** stated that **31.4% of Indian children** will be stunted by **2022**. Which means **one in every three Indian children** under five years will be stunted by 2022.

ii. In States like **Bihar (48%)** and **Uttar Pradesh (46%)**, almost one in two children are stunted, while it is only one in five children in **Kerala and Goa (20% each)**.

iii. The report is **prepared by the UN World Food Programme** in collaboration with the **Ministry of Statistics and Programme Implementation**.



Kerala tops health rankings: NITI Aayog report

i. **Kerala** has topped in **NITI Aayog's Health Index** followed by **Andhra Pradesh** and **Maharashtra**. ii. Also, **Haryana, Rajasthan** and **Jharkhand** showed the maximum improvement of health outcomes from base to reference year.

iii. The **health index** has been **developed by NITI Aayog**, with technical assistance from the **World Bank**, in consultation with the ministry of health and family welfare.

iv. The report ranks the states and Union territories innovatively on their year-on-year incremental change in health outcomes, as well as, their overall performance with respect to each other.



Important Takeways from above news-

- **NITI Aayog CEO:** Amitabh Kant; **Vice Chairman:** Rajiv Kumar.

G-20 summit begins in Osaka

i. **G-20 summit** has begun in **Osaka, Japan**.

ii. The theme of the summit is **Human centred future society**.

iii. **19 countries**, the **European Union** and several special invitees are participating at the **Osaka Summit**.

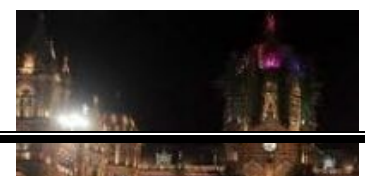
Important Takeways from above news-

- The next **G20 Summit** will be hosted by **Saudi Arabia** in **November 2020**.



Mumbai in top 20 most expensive cities in Asia for expatriates

i. **Mercer** has released **25th Annual Cost of Living Survey**.



Some findings of the survey:

- The costliest city in the world for the second consecutive year is **Hong Kong** followed by **Tokyo**, **Singapore** and **Seoul**.
- **Mumbai** fell **12 spots** and was **ranked at the 67th position** out of 209 cities surveyed.
- Eight out of the top ten of the world's **most expensive cities for expatriates** are **Asian**.
- The world's **least expensive cities** for expatriates are **Tunis (209)**, **Tashkent (208)**, and **Karachi (207)**.

International

Jay-Z Named World's 1st Billionaire Rapper By Forbes Magazine

- i. Jay-Z has been named the **world's first billionaire rapper** by **Forbes**.
- ii. Apart from a \$100 million stake in subscription-based streaming service Tidal, the 49-year-old rapper's assets also include shares in Uber and an art collection worth \$70 million each.



14th Organisation of Islamic Cooperation Summit Held In Mecca

- i. The **14th summit of the Organisation of Islamic Cooperation (OIC)** held in Mecca, Saudi Arabia was hosted by **Saudi King Salman bin Abdul Aziz Al Saud**.
- ii. The official agenda of meeting was to address '**current issues in Muslim world**' and 'recent developments in a number of OIC member states'.



Important Takeaways from above news-

- The organization of Islamic Cooperation (OIC) is the second largest inter-governmental organization after the United Nations with a membership of **57 states**.
- The Organization was established upon a decision of the historical summit which took place in Rabat, the Kingdom of Morocco on **25 September 1969**.
- Secretary-General of Organization of Islamic Cooperation is **Yousef Bin Ahmad Bin Abdul Rahman Al-Othaimeen**.

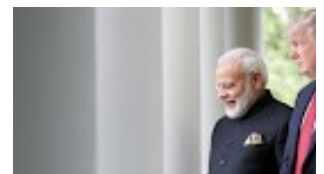
Indian retail tycoon becomes UAE's first permanent expat resident

- i. **Abu Dhabi-based** Indian retail tycoon **MA Yusuff Ali** has become the first expat to get the **UAE's first gold card permanent residency**.
- ii. The **LuLu Group chairman**, who was ranked the richest expat in UAE by the Forbes magazine, becomes the first of 6,800 investors with total investment exceeding **USD 27 billion** to receive the gold card under a scheme announced last month by **Sheikh Mohammed bin Rashid Al Maktoum**, the ruler of Dubai.



US ends special trade treatment for India amid tariff dispute

- i. The US will end preferential trade status for India next week, President Donald Trump has confirmed amid a deepening row over protectionism. India had been the largest beneficiary of a scheme that allows some goods to enter the US duty-free.
- ii. In March Trump announced that it would be revoked because India had failed to provide adequate access to its markets, but Mr. Trump gave no date.



Russia Launches 1st Arctic Train Service

- i. In **Russia**, the **first tourist train** traveling through **Russia's Arctic region** and on to Norway set off from **St. Petersburg station** with 91 passengers aboard for the inaugural trial journey.
- ii. The **train, named, Zarengold**, complete with two restaurant cars will travel from Saint Petersburg through, the whole trip will take 11 days and allow passengers to discover areas difficult to access by other means.



Important Takeaways from above news-

- **Vladimir Putin** is President of Russia.
- **Moscow** is the capital city of Russia.
- The **Russian ruble** is the currency Russia.

United Nation's World Population Prospects Report 2019

- i. **United Nation** released its "**World Population Prospects Report 2019**". Findings of the report are:
India will **overtake China** as the **most populous** country by **2027** and will have almost **1.64 billion** inhabitants by **2050**.
- ii. The **Central and the Southern Asia** region is expected to see a **25% increase** in **population** till **2050**.
 The rate of **population growth** is the **highest** in **sub-Saharan Africa**, where the **fertility rate** stand at **4.6 births per woman** over a lifetime.
- iii. **India** is still among the countries where the **working-age population (25-64 years)** is growing faster than other groups.

Important Takeways from above news-

- United Nations Headquarters in **New York, USA**. It was founded on **24 October 1945**.
- **Mr Antonio Guterres** of Portugal is the Secretary-General of the United Nations.

NASA's First Astrobees Robot "Bumble" Starts Flying in Space

- i. **National Aeronautics and Space Administration's** robot named **Bumble** became the **first Astrobees robot** to fly under **its own power in space**.
- ii. **Astrobees** is a **free-flying robot system** that will help researchers test new technologies in zero gravity and perform routine work alongside astronauts aboard the International Space Station.
- iii. **Astrobees** robots can **move in any direction** and **turn on any axis in space**.



Important Takeways from above news-

- **Headquarters of NASA:** Washington, D.C., United States; **Founded:** 29 July 1958.
- **Administrator of NASA:** Jim Bridenstine.

Canada To Ban Single Use Plastics From 2021

- i. Canada Prime Minister Justin Trudeau announced that single-use plastics will be banned in the country from 2021. He declared it a global challenge to phase out the plastic bags, straws and cutlery clogging the world's oceans.
- ii. Less than 10% of the plastics used in Canada are currently recycled. Each year a million birds and more than 100,000 marine mammals worldwide suffer injury or death by becoming entangled in plastic or ingesting it through the food chain.



Important Takeways from above news-

- Canada Capital: Ottawa, Currency: Canadian dollar.

Saudi Arabia becomes 1st Arab country to be granted full FATF membership

- i. **Saudi Arabia** has become the **1st Arab country** to be granted full membership of the **Financial Action Task Force**. It becomes the **39th member** of **FATF** during the group's Annual General Meeting in Orlando, Florida.
- ii. **FATF** is responsible for issuing international standards, policies and best practices to combat money laundering, terrorist financing and proliferation.



Important Takeways from above news-

- **President of FATF:** Marshall Billingslea; **Established** in 1989.

NASA's Spitzer Space Telescope to Retire in 2020

- i. After nearly 16 years of exploring the cosmos in infrared light, NASA's Spitzer Space Telescope will be switched off permanently on Jan. 30, 2020.
- ii. Spitzer is a small but transformational observatory. It captures infrared light, which is often emitted by "warm" objects that aren't quite hot enough to radiate visible light. Spitzer has lifted the veil on hidden objects in nearly every corner of the universe, from a new ring around Saturn to observations of some of the most distant galaxies known.



Important Takeways from above news-

- Headquarters: Washington, D.C., United States, Founded: 29 July 1958
- Administrator: Jim Bridenstine

Facebook launches cryptocurrency "Libra"

- i. **Facebook** has announced a digital currency called **Libra** that will allow its billions of users to **make financial transactions** across the globe.

ii. Libra is being touted as a means to connect people who do not have access to traditional banking platforms. **Technology** to make transactions with Libra will be **available** as a standalone app as well as on WhatsApp and Facebook Messenger platforms as early as **2020**.

Defence

India Test Fires Brahmos Supersonic Cruise Missile From Chandipur in Odisha

- i. India has successfully test fired **Brahmos Supersonic Cruise Missile** from Chandipur in Odisha.
- ii. Described as the **world's fastest supersonic cruise missile with high rate of precision and accuracy**, **BrahMos** can be fired from land, sea and air.



India successfully test fires hypersonic cruise missile

- i. India successfully conducted a first test flight of the indigenously developed Hypersonic Technology Demonstrator Vehicle (HSTDV) from a base off the Odisha coast. The only other countries that possess this technology are the US, Russia, and China.
- ii. The HSTDV is an unmanned scramjet (allowing supersonic combustion) demonstration vehicle that can cruise up to a speed of Mach 6 (or six times the speed of sound) and rise up to an altitude of 32 km in 20 seconds. It has a range of uses, including missiles of the future, and energy-efficient, low cost and reusable satellite-launch vehicle.



Important Takeways from above news-

- DRDO: Defence Research and Development Organization
- Founded: 1958, Headquarter: New Delhi
- Chairman: Dr G Satheesh Reddy

ICG co-hosts 12th ReCAAP ISC capacity building workshop

- i. Indian Coast Guard (ICG) co-hosts **12th Capacity Building workshop** with Regional Cooperation Agreement on Combating Piracy and Armed Robbery against Ships in Asia (**ReCAAP**) Information Sharing Centre (**ISC**) in New Delhi.

Important Takeways from above news-

- The ReCAAP is **the first regional Government-to-Government agreement** to deal with **piracy and armed robbery at sea in Asia**.
- Presently 20 countries are members of ReCAAP. **India** played an active role in the setting up and functioning of **ReCAAPISC** along with **Japan** and **Singapore**.



Indian Navy launches Operation Sankalp in Gulf of Oman

- i. Indian Navy launched **Operation Sankalp** in the **Persian Gulf** and the **Gulf of Oman** to reassure **Indian flagged vessels safe transit** through the area.
- ii. **INS Chennai** and **INS Sunayna** have been **deployed** in the region to **undertake maritime security operations**. In addition, aerial surveillance in the area is also being done by IN aircraft.



Important Takeways from above news-

- Vice Admiral **Karambir Singh** is the present **Chief of the Naval Staff**.

Appointments or Resign/Retired

Gopalaswami Named BCCI's Electoral Officer For AGM

- i. **Former Chief Election Commissioner N Gopalaswami** has been appointed as an electoral officer for the BCCI's Annual General Meeting (AGM), to be held on October 22, 2019.
- ii. The **Committee of Administrators (CoA)**, which was appointed by the Supreme Court in January 2017 to oversee the sweeping reforms recommended by the Lodha panel, met at the BCCI headquarters to discuss the road map for the elections.



Military Government Chief Prayuth Chan-ocha Elected Thailand's PM

i. **Thailand's** new parliament has elected **military government chief Prayuth Chan-ocha** as the country's prime minister. He received 500 votes to 244 for Thanathorn Juangroongruangkit of the Future Forward Party.

ii. Prayuth's appointment becomes official when it is endorsed by King Maha Vajiralongkorn.

Important Takeways from above news-

- **Thailand Capital:** Bangkok, **Currency:** Baht.



'Cyclone Man' Mrutyunjay Mohapatra Appointed IMD Chief

i. **Renowned scientist and cyclone warning specialist Mrutyunjay Mohapatra** was appointed as the **chief of India Meteorological Department (IMD)**.

ii. Mohapatra and his team at the Cyclone Warning Division of the IMD have earned praise for their accurate forecasts on cyclones, its wind-speed and likely impact on life and property including during the recent cyclone 'Fani', when their timely warnings enabled the authorities to ensure early evacuation of millions of people. He will assume charge in August.



CAG Rajiv Mehrishi chosen External Auditor for WHO

i. The election was held in the **72nd WHO Assembly in Geneva** where the CAG **Rajiv Mehrishi** was elected with a majority (**90 out of 162 votes**) in the first round of voting itself.

ii. **Mehrishi** will take over from the incumbent **External Auditor of WHO**, the Supreme Audit Institution of Philippines. This is the second major international audit assignment for the CAG this year following his selection to the post of External Auditor of Food and Agriculture Organisation in Rome earlier this year in March 2019.



Important Takeways from above news-

- Headquarters of WHO: **Geneva, Switzerland**.
- **Tedros Adhanom Ghebreyesus** is Director-General of the WHO.

RBI approves appointment of Rakesh Makhija as chairman of Axis Bank

i. **Axis Bank** stated that the Reserve Bank of India has approved the appointment of **Rakesh Makhija** as **chairman of the bank**.

ii. Mr. Makhija will be independent director as the non-executive (part-time) chairman of the bank, for a period of 3 years, with effect from **July 18, 2019, up to July 17, 2022**.



Flipkart co-founder joins Ujjivan Small Finance Bank as Director

i. **Ujjivan Small Finance Bank** has appointed **Flipkart founder Sachin Bansal** as its **independent director**.

ii. This is the second big futuristic move by Ujjivan management after it roped in HDFC Bank's digital banking head **Nitin Chugh** as its **next chief executive**.



Important Takeways from above news-

- The Ujjivan Small Finance Bank commenced its banking operations from **01st February 2017**.
- **Ittira Davis** is MD and CEO of Ujjivan Small Finance Bank.
- Head Office of Ujjivan Small Finance Bank is in **Bengaluru**.

Indian-origin Anita Bhatia appointed UN Deputy Executive Director

i. Indian-origin **Anita Bhatia**, a veteran in strategic partnerships, resource mobilization, and management, has been appointed by UN Secretary-General Antonio Guterres as the Deputy Executive Director in the global body's agency focused on women empowerment and gender equality.

ii. Ms. Bhatia holds a Bachelor of Arts in History from Calcutta University, a Master of Arts in Political Science from Yale University and a Juris Doctor in Law from Georgetown University.



Ajit Doval Stays As NSA, Gets Cabinet Rank With 5-Year Term

i. **Ajit Doval** has been granted cabinet status and five more years as the National Security Adviser (NSA). He has been given cabinet rank in recognition of his contribution in the



national security domain. Ajit Doval has been granted cabinet status and five more years as the National Security Adviser (NSA).

Justice Dhirubhai Naranbhai Patel Takes Oath As New CJ Of Delhi High Court

- i. **Justice Dhirubhai Naranbhai Patel** was sworn in as **Chief Justice of the Delhi High Court**. Lt Governor Anil Baijal administered the oath of office to Justice Patel at a function held at Raj Niwas.
- ii. Earlier, Justice Patel was posted at the Jharkhand High Court. The Supreme Court Collegium had recommended his name for the appointment as Chief Justice of the Delhi High Court.



Azim Premji To Retire As Executive Chairman of Wipro in July

- i. **IT Industry icon Azim Premji** will retire as **Executive Chairman of Wipro** with effect from 30th July 2019. He led the company for 53 years. He will continue to serve on the board as Non-Executive Director and founder Chairman.
- ii. His son **Rishad Premji, Chief Strategy Officer and a board member, will take over as the Executive Chairman of the company.**



Sharad Kumar named interim CVC Vigilance Commissioner

- i. Sharad Kumar has been named as acting Central Vigilance Commissioner as current (CVC) K V Chowdary completed his tenure at the anti-graft body.

Important Takeways from above news-

- Central Vigilance Commission, headquartered in New Delhi.
- Set up by the GoI in February 1964.
- CVC is an apex vigilance institution.

RBI gets a new executive director

- i. **Dr. Rabi N. Mishra** has been elevated from principal chief general manager to **Executive Director in the Reserve Bank of India**.
- ii. Mishra's portfolio now includes non-banking and Co-op bank supervision as well as the College of Supervisors. Current strength of Executive directors in RBI is 12.

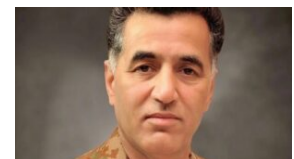
Important Takeways from above news-

- **RBI 25th Governor: Shaktikant Das, Headquarters: Mumbai, Founded: 1 April 1935, Kolkata**



Lt General Faiz Hameed Appointed Pakistan ISI Chief

- i. Pakistan has appointed **Lieutenant General Faiz Hameed** as the new **Director General of the Inter-Services Intelligence (ISI)**.
- ii. He was previously serving as the head of the Counter Intelligence wing in the ISI. Lieutenant General Faiz Hameed replaced Lieutenant Gen Asim Munir.



BJP MP Virendra Kumar to be pro-tem speaker of Lok Sabha

- i. Virendra Kumar, a seven-term member of Parliament will be the pro-tem speaker of the Lok Sabha. As pro-tem speaker, he will preside over the first sitting of the Lok Sabha and administer the oath of office to the newly elected MPs.

Important Takeways from above news-

- Constituency of Virendra Kumar: Tikamgarh, Madhya Pradesh.
- Lok Sabha has 545 seats which is made up by the election of up to 543 elected members and at a maximum, 2 nominated members of the Anglo-Indian Community by the President of India.

Nripendra Mishra Retained As Principal Secretary To PM Modi, Gets Cabinet Minister Rank

- i. **Nripendra Misra and PK Mishra** were re-appointed as **Principal Secretary and Additional Principal Secretary**, respectively, to Prime Minister Narendra Modi with Cabinet minister rank.
- ii. The Appointments Committee of the Cabinet approved both the appointments with effect from May 31. Their appointments will be co-terminus with the term of the prime minister.



Reckitt Names Pepsico's Laxman Narasimhan As CEO

- i. British consumer goods giant **Reckitt Benckiser** named **PepsiCo executive Laxman Narasimhan** to succeed Rakesh Kapoor as chief executive officer.
- ii. Narasimhan, PepsiCo's global chief commercial officer, will join Reckitt as CEO-designate and be appointed to the board on July 16. He will become group CEO on September 1.

World Archery appoints Bindra to sort AAI trouble

- i. **World Archery** appointed **Abhinav Bindra** as an independent person to sort out the ongoing mess in the **Archery Association of India (AAI)**.
- ii. AAI violated the constitution by **unanimously electing two parallel bodies in Chandigarh and New Delhi**.

Om Birla Elected As 17th Lok Sabha Speaker

- i. **Om Birla**, a two-time Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP) member of Parliament (MP) from Rajasthan, is set to be **unanimously elected as the 17th Lok Sabha Speaker**.
- ii. Om Birla was elected to the 17th Lok Sabha from the Kota-Bundi constituency.

Important Takeways from above news-

- Sumitra Mahajan was 16th Lok Sabha Speaker.



Narinder Batra elected as IOC member

- i. **Indian Olympic Association** president **Narinder Batra** has been elected as a member of the **International Olympic Committee**. He secured 58 votes out of 62.
- ii. Narinder Batra now has a rare distinction of becoming a member of the IOC, while heading a National Olympic Committee as well as an international federation.
- iii. He is the first Indian to have this distinction.

Important Takeways from above news-

- **President of IOC:** Thomas Bach



Shefali Juneja appointed India's representative to ICAO

- i. Senior bureaucrat **Shefali Juneja** is appointed as **India's representative** in the council of **International Civil Aviation Organisation (ICAO)**, a United Nations body. She will replace the senior IAS officer **Alok Shekhar**.
- ii. Presently, Shefali Juneja is serving as the Joint Secretary in Ministry of Civil Aviation.

Important Takeways from above news-

- **President of ICAO:** Olumuyiwa Benard Aliu; **Headquarters:** Montreal, Canada.



Qu Dongyu becomes first chinese to head FAO

- i. **Qu Dongyu** becomes the **first Chinese national** to head the **UN's Food and Agriculture Organization**.
- ii. Qu Dongyu will **replace Brazil's Jose Graziano da Silva**. He is a biologist by training and has 30 years of experience in developing digital technologies in agriculture and introducing micro credit in rural areas.

Important Takeways from above news-

- **Headquarters:** Rome, Italy; **Founded:** 1945.



New heads for the country's premier spy agencies IB & RAW

- i. **Appointments Committee of the Cabinet** has named new heads for the country's premier spy agencies — the **Intelligence Bureau (IB)** and the **Research & Analysis Wing (RAW)**.
 - **Arvind Kumar** will head the **Intelligence Bureau**, the main internal intelligence unit of the government. He will **succeed Rajiv Jain**.
 - **Samant Goel** will take charge of the **RAW**, which looks after the external intelligence of the country. He will **succeed Anil Dhasmana**.

Important Takeways from above news-

- **Prime Minister** is the head of the Appointments Committee of the Cabinet (ACC).



K Natarajan to be the new director general of Indian Coast Guard

- i. **Krishnaswamy Natarajan** has been appointed as the next **director general of Indian Coast Guard**. He will replace the incumbent **Rajendra Singh** who is retiring after three and a half years of illustrious service.
- ii. K. Natarajan joined the Coast Guard on January 18, 1984, and holds a Masters Degree in Defence and Strategic Studies from Madras University.

Ann Sarnoff becomes the first female CEO of Warner Bros

- i. WarnerMedia, part of AT&T Inc, has appointed **Ann Sarnoff** as the **chief executive officer of Warner Bros**.
- ii. **Ann Sarnoff** has become the **first female CEO of Warner Bros**. She will be replacing Kevin Tsujihara.

RBI Deputy Governor Viral Acharya resigns

- i. Reserve Bank of India's (RBI) Deputy Governor **Viral Acharya** has **quit six months before the scheduled end of his term**. He had joined RBI on January 23, 2017.
- ii. **Viral Acharya** was in charge of the Financial Stability Unit, Monetary Policy Department, Department of Economic and Policy Research, Financial Markets Operation Department, Financial Market Regulation Department, among others at the RBI.



Important Takeways from above news-

- **RBI 25th Governor:** Shaktikant Das, **Headquarters:** Mumbai, **Founded:** 1 April 1935, Kolkata.

FIEO elects Sharad Kumar Saraf as new president

- i. Exporters body **Federation of Indian Export Organisations (FIEO)** has elected **Sharad Kumar Saraf** as its new **president**.
- ii. Sharad Kumar Saraf will replace renowned exporter **Ganesh Kumar Gupta**.

Honours/ Awards

Ex-President Pratibha Patil Awarded With Mexico's Highest Civilian Award

- i. **Former President Pratibha Patil** was bestowed on the **highest civilian award of Mexico for foreigners**. She had served as the first woman president of India during 2007-12.
- ii. The ambassador of Mexico to India, Melba Pria, presented "**Orden Mexicana del Aguila Azteca**" (Order of the Aztec Eagle) to Mrs Patil.



Automobile Major Mahindra Wins Gold Award In South Africa

- i. **Automobile major Mahindra** won the **Gold Award** in South Africa for fairing on various indicators, including level of satisfaction among its network of dealers and the manner of allocation of vehicles to them.
- ii. Mahindra, which has been in South Africa for the past 16 years, received the award from the country's **National Automobile Dealers' Association (NADA)** which tests dealers' satisfaction with the way a brand supports and communicates with them.

i.

WHO award for Rajasthan Health Department

- i. The **World Health Organization** has selected the **Rajasthan government's Medical & Health Department** for its award this year in recognition of its achievements in the field of tobacco control.
- ii. The department's **Additional Chief Secretary, Rohit Kumar Singh** has received the award at a function to mark World No Tobacco Day in New Delhi. The Health Department of the State is the only government body in the country which will be awarded for its **tobacco-free initiatives**.



Important Takeways from above news-

- **Kalyan Singh** is the current Governor of Rajasthan.
- **Ashok Gehlot** is Chief Minister of Rajasthan.

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

- i. In the United States, **Google's India-born CEO Sunder Pichai** and **Nasdaq president Adena Friedman** have been chosen for the **prestigious Global Leadership Awards 2019** by business advocacy group USIBC in recognition of the two companies' contribution as the leading technology-driven platforms.



ii. The award by Washington-based **US-India Business Council (USIBC)** would be conferred upon Indian-American Pichai, 46, and Friedman, 50, during '**India Ideas Summit**'.

Malayalam Actor Sheela J.C. Honoured With J.C. Daniel Award

i. Malayalam Actor Sheela J.C. has won the **J.C. Daniel Award**, the highest honour in Malayalam cinema.

ii. She is **only the second woman to get it**, after Aranmula Ponnammamma in 2005. She won the State and National Awards for the Second Best Female Actor for Akale.



Maldives to confer its highest award 'Nishan Izzuddin' on PM Modi

i. Maldives will confer 'Nishan Izzuddin' award on Prime Minister Narendra Modi. It is the highest award to honour foreign nationals.

ii. Prime Minister Narendra Modi will arrive in Male on the first leg of his two-nation tour to the Maldives and Sri Lanka. This will also be the first bilateral visit to the Maldives of an Indian Prime Minister after 2011.

Important Takeways from above news-

- Male is the capital of Maldives.
- The Maldivian rufiyaa is the currency of the Maldives.
- Ibrahim Mohamed Solih is the current President of the Maldives.

Suman Rao from Rajasthan Crowned Miss India 2019

i. Suman Rao from Rajasthan has won the **Femina Miss India World 2019** beauty pageant during a star-studded ceremony at Sardar Vallabhbhai Patel Indoor Stadium in New Delhi.

ii. Shivani Jadhav from Chhattisgarh clinched **Femina Miss Grand India 2019** title and Shreya Shanker from Bihar won **Miss India United Continents 2019** title during the grand finale of the beauty pageant.



Akshaya Patra wins BBC award

i. Akshaya Patra, a non-profit organization, has been awarded the BBC World Service Global Champion Award. It runs one of the world's largest school meals project in India.

Amitav Ghosh becomes the first English writer to get Jnanpith award

i. Renowned author Amitav Ghosh was awarded the 54th Jnanpith Award for his contribution to the enrichment of Indian Literature in English. He was conferred the award by former governor of West Bengal Gopalkrishna Gandhi.

Important Takeways from above news-

- Jnanpith Award is an Indian Literary Award presented to an author for his outstanding contribution towards literature.
- The award consists of a shawl, citation, statue of goddess Saraswati and Rs 11 lakh.



Priyanka Chopra to be honoured with a humanitarian award by UNICEF

i. Priyanka Chopra, a global UNICEF Goodwill Ambassador for Child Rights is going to be honoured with Danny Kaye Humanitarian Award by UNICEF at the UNICEF SNOWFLAKE BALL.

Important Takeways from above news-

- UNICEF: United Nations International Children's Emergency Fund
- Headquarter: New York, USA, Founded on 11th Dec 1946



JNU to confer alumni award to Union Ministers Nirmala Sitharaman and S Jaishankar

i. Jawaharlal Nehru University will confer the distinguished alumni award to Union Ministers Nirmala Sitharaman and Subrahmanyam Jaishankar. Executive Council of the University has approved a proposal in this regard. The two ministers will be awarded during the third convocation of JNU to be held in August this year.

ii. Ms. Sitharaman had completed her MA and M Phil degrees while Mr. Jaishankar completed his M Phil and doctoral research from JNU.

Important Takeways from above news-



- S Jaishankar is the current Minister of External Affairs.
- Nirmala Sitharaman is the Minister of Finance and Minister of Corporate Affairs.
- Nirmala Sitharaman is Rajya Sabha Member from Andhra Pradesh.

Indian engineer wins Innovation Award in UK

- Nitesh Kumar Jangir, an Indian engineer has won the 2019 Commonwealth Secretary General's Innovation for Sustainable Development Award in the "People" category in London.
- Nitesh Kumar Jangir created Saans, a breathing support device to tackle avoidable deaths of premature babies from respiratory distress syndrome.



The Tribune's reporter wins the 'Journalist of the Year' RedInk Award

- The RedInk Awards for Excellence in Journalism are conferred to encourage good quality reporting and analysis, fair play and high ethical standards in Indian journalism.
- The following are the winners of awards in different categories :
 - Rachna Khaira of The Tribune has bagged the prestigious RedInk Award for 'Journalist of the Year'. She won it for exposing the functioning of the UIDAI and its Aadhaar data cache.
 - Two retired senior journalists Dinu Ranadive from the Maharashtra Times, and Sebastian D'Souza, from the Mumbai Mirror, have jointly received the Lifetime Achievement Award for this year.



Award for Malayalam film at 22nd Shanghai International Film Festival

- Veyil Marangal (Trees Under the Sun) have become the first Indian film to win 'Outstanding Artistic Achievement' award at the Shanghai International Film Festival.
- The film is directed by Bijukumar Damodaran. This was the 22nd edition of the Shanghai International Film Festival.

IIT Kanpur honours Gopichand with honorary doctorate

- IIT Kanpur honours India's chief national badminton coach Pullela Gopichand with honorary doctorate on the occasion of their 52nd convocation.
- Former President APJ Abdul Kalam and former Prime Minister Manmohan Singh are past recipients of the honour.



Indian woman crowned Miss Universe Australia

- India born Priya Serrao has won the Miss Universe Australia title for 2019.
- Western Australia's Bella Kasimba and another Victorian Marijana Radmanovic rounded out 2019's top three, placing second and third.



Important Takeways from above news-

- Australia Capital: Canberra, Currency: Australian Dollar.

Sports

Indian Jr. Women's Hockey Team Clinch Cantor Fitzgerald U21

- The Indian junior women's hockey team clinched the Cantor Fitzgerald U21 International 4-Nations title after beating Ireland 1-0 in the final at Dublin, Ireland.
- The win meant India ended the tournament with an unblemished record. With three goals in four games, Mumtaz Khan finished as the highest goal scorer of the tournament.



Liverpool beat Tottenham Hotspur to win Champions League trophy

- In Football, Liverpool breezed past Tottenham at Madrid to win the Champions League for the sixth time. In the all-English showpiece, the Reds got the better of Spurs with a 2-nil



win. Mohamed Salah put Liverpool in front after just two minutes when he converted a penalty following a handball by Moussa Sissoko.

ii. Last season, Liverpool had lost to Real Madrid, 1-3, at Kiev.

Sunil Chhetri Becomes Most Capped India Player

i. **Sunil Chhetri** became the most capped India player by surpassing **Bhaichung Bhutia's 107 international matches**.

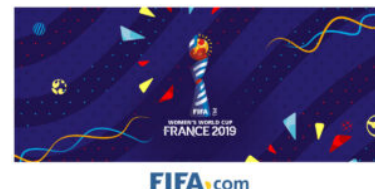
ii. In his milestone match of the **King's Cup football tournament** in Buriram, Thailand, he scored the lone goal for his side for his 69th goal.



2019 FIFA Women's World Cup Starts In France

i. The **2019 FIFA Women's World Cup** is the 8th edition of the FIFA Women's World Cup, the quadrennial international football championship contested by the women's national teams between 7 June and 7 July 2019.

ii. **The Championship will be held in nine cities across France.** In March 2015, France won the right to host the event, the first time the country will host the tournament.



Japan defeat Mexico by goal margin of 3-1 won FIH Hockey Series

i. In the International Hockey Federation (FIH) Men's Hockey Series Finals match played at Kalinga Stadium in Bhubaneswar, Japan defeated Mexico by a goal margin of 3-1.

Yuvraj Singh Announces Retirement From International Cricket

i. **Yuvraj Singh** announced retirement from international cricket, ending a roller-coaster career during which he became the hero of India's 2011 World Cup triumph and fought a gritty battle with cancer.

ii. The 37-year-old cricketer announced his decision in Mumbai. Yuvraj played 40 Tests, 304 ODIs and 58 T20Is for India. He put together 1900 runs in the longest format, and 8701 in the one-dayers, the format in which he enjoyed the most success.

Lewis Hamilton Wins Canadian Grand Prix 2019

i. **Mercedes Driver Lewis Hamilton** secures a record-breaking seventh win at the **2019 Canadian Grand Prix** after Sebastian Vettel (Ferrari) was penalised for dangerous driving.



FIH Series Finals: India beat South Africa 5-1 in title clash

i. In the **FIH Men's Series Finals**, **India** defeated **South Africa** by **5 goals** to one in a summit clash at the **Kalinga Stadium in Bhubaneswar**.

ii. The goals were scored in the 2nd, 11th, 25th, 36th and 50th minutes.

French Open 2019 Concludes: Complete List of Winners

The **2019 French Open** (also known as **Roland Garros**) was a Grand Slam tennis tournament played on outdoor clay courts. It was the **123rd edition** of the French Open. It took place at the **Stade Roland Garros** in Paris, France.

Rafael Nadal was the defending champion in the **Men's Singles** and won his **12th French Open title**. **Ashleigh Barty** of Australia won the **Women's Singles** Category after defeating **Marketa Vondrousova**.

Here is the **Complete List of Winners of French Open 2019** (with their **Respective Countries**):



Sl. No.	Category	Winner	Runner Up
1.	Men's Singles	Rafael Nadal (Spain)	Austria Dominic Thiem
2.	Women's Singles	Ashleigh Barty (Australia)	Marketa Vondrousova (Czech Republic)

India static at 101st in FIFA rankings

i. The Indian football team remained static at 101st place in the FIFA rankings. India had finished third in the King's Cup in Thailand. The Indian team is at 18th spot among the Asian countries led by Iran (20th), Japan (28), Korea (37), Australia (43) and Qatar (55) form the top five in Asia.

ii. Belgium continued to top overall world rankings, followed by France, Brazil, England, and Portugal.



Badminton star Lee Chong Wei announces his retirement

i. Cancer-hit Malaysian badminton star Lee Chong Wei announced his retirement. He spent a total of 348 weeks as world number one but lost six world and Olympic finals in his 19 years career.



Important Takeways from above news-

- Total BWF World Championship: 19-25 August 2019
- Host: Basel, Switzerland

Kohli is the sole Indian in the list of top-paid athletes

i. Virat Kohli, ranked 100th, remains the sole Indian in the Forbes list of world's highest-paid athletes with estimated annual earnings of \$25 million. The list is headed by Barcelona and Argentina football superstar Lionel Messi.



Important Takeways from above news-

- FORBES: Forbes is an American business magazine.
- Virat Kohli: Captain of Indian Cricket Team in all the three formats.
- ICC Cricket World Cup 2019: It is the 12th edition of the Cricket World Cup being hosted by England and Wales.

Rashid Khan becomes most expensive bowler in World Cup history

i. Afghanistan leg spinner Rashid Khan recorded the worst bowling figures in a ICC World Cup Match after conceding 110 runs in 9 overs against England.

ii. Previous record of conceding 105 runs in 12 overs was held by New Zealand's Martin Snedden.



Important Takeways from above news-

- The International Cricket Council is the global governing body for cricket.
- ICC Chief Executive: Manu Sahney, Headquarters: Dubai, United Arab Emirates.

Joshna Chinappa wins record 17th National Title in Squash

i. Joshna Chinappa made a record for the most number of national titles after beating her Tamil Nadu state-mate Sunayna Kuruvilla.

ii. Joshna broke an age-old landmark set by Bhuvneshwari Kumari who held the record for 27 Years winning consecutive titles from 1976 to 1991.

Important Takeways from above news-

- Union Sports Minister of India: Kiren Rijiju.



Pankaj Advani clinches men's Asian Snooker Championship

i. India's ace cueist Pankaj Advani has clinched the 35th men's Asian Snooker Championship held in Doha.

ii. Advani defeated Thanawat Tirapongpaiboon 6-3 in the finals to become the first player to win the Asian Snooker and World Snooker championships in all formats.



IOC lifts sanctions imposed on India to host international sporting events

i. The International Olympic Committee (IOC) lifted the sanctions imposed on India to host international sporting events.

ii. The sanctions were imposed on India when Pakistani shooters were not issued visas for the World Cup held in Delhi in February 2019.

Important Takeways from above news-

- Japan's capital Tokyo will host 2020 Summer Olympics from 24 July to 9 August 2020.



IAAF To Be Renamed World Athletics

- i. The IAAF Council approved the global governing body's new name and logo at the **217th IAAF Council Meeting in Monaco**.
- ii. The athletics body's new name, '**World Athletics**', builds upon the organization's restructuring and governance reform agenda of the past four years to represent a modern, more creative and positive face for the sport.

Novak Djokovic Tops ATP Rankings

- i. Serbia's Novak Djokovic has topped in the recently released ATP Rankings. Rafael Nadal who has recently won the 12th Roland Garros title is at 2nd position. Austrian Dominic Thiem, whom Nadal beat in final, keeps his fourth place behind Switzerland's Roger Federer. Russian Karen Khachanov jumped two spots into a personal best of the ninth rank.

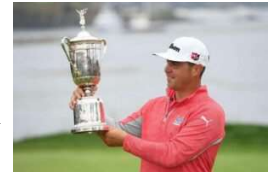


Gary Woodland won the 119th US Open

- i. **Gary Woodland** won the **119th US Open**, capturing his first Major title after defeating two-time defending champion Brook Koepka.

Important Takeways from above news-

- The **United States Open Championship** is the annual open national championship of golf in the United States.
- **US President:** Donald Trump, **Capital:** Washington, D.C, **Currency:** US Dollar



A first ever international 15s win for Indian women's rugby team

- i. The **Indian women's rugby team** have claimed a historic **first ever international Rugby 15s victory**. They defeated **Singapore** with a score of 21-19.
- ii. The **Indian team finished third** in the **Asia Women's Division 1 Rugby XV's Championship** held in **Manila**. China won the tournament after defeating the hosts Philippines.
- iii. The tournament was one of the qualifying rounds for the 2021 Women's Rugby World Cup to be held in New Zealand.



Important Takeways from above news-

- **Union Sports Minister of India:** Kiren Rijiju

Ashleigh Barty becomes world No.1 women tennis player

- i. **Ashleigh Barty** becomes **world No.1 women tennis player** after winning the **Birmingham Classic** by defeating **Julia Goerges** by 6-3, 7-5.
- ii. **Ashleigh Barty** is an **Australian Professional tennis player**.



Indian women's hockey team defeats Japan in FIH Series Finals

- i. The **Indian women's hockey team** have won the **FIH Series Finals** after defeating **Japan**. The team rose to a victory with a score of 3-1. The series was held in Japan.
- ii. The **best player title** was clinched by **Rani Rampal**.
- iii. With the win, **India has secured their place** in the final round of the **2020 Olympics** qualifiers.



IOC opens new headquarters in Switzerland

- i. The **International Olympic Committee** has formally opened **new headquarters** in **Switzerland** exactly **125 years** after the **Olympic Games** were revived.

Important Takeways from above news-

- The next **Summer Olympics** to be held in **Tokyo, 2020**.



Lewis Hamilton Wins France Grand Prix 2019

- i. Mercedes Driver **Lewis Hamilton** wins **France Grand Prix 2019**. This is his sixth triumph in eight races in this season.

Virat Kohli becomes the fastest cricketer to score 20,000 international runs

- i. Virat Kohli becomes the fastest cricketer to score 20,000 international runs. He took just 417 innings to reach the milestone and bettered the time taken by legends such as Sachin Tendulkar and Brian Lara.
- ii. The India captain reached the milestone when he reached the score of 37 in India's 6th match in World Cup tournament against West Indies.



Obituaries

Veteran Comedian And Theatre Actor Dinyar Contractor Passes Away

- i. Veteran comedian, film and theatre actor **Dinyar Contractor** passed away aged 79. He had been suffering from various age-related illnesses.
- ii. The actor had featured in several Bollywood films including '**Baadshah**', and '**Khiladi**' along with television shows like '**Khichdi**' and '**Hum Sab Ek Hain**', and was also awarded the **Padma Shri** in **January 2019**.



Champions League football Architect Lennart Johansson Passes Away

- i. **Lennart Johansson**, who oversaw the introduction of the Champions League during a 17-year reign as president of European soccer's governing body, has died. He was 89.
- ii. Johansson led UEFA from 1990-2007 and was eventually beaten in a presidential election by former France great Michel Platini.



Noted Playwright, Actor and Filmmaker, Girish Karnad Passes Away

- i. Noted actor, filmmaker and playwright **Girish Karnad** passed away. He was 81. He was a recipient of the 1998 Jnanpith Award, the highest literary honour conferred in India.
- ii. He was also conferred the Padma Shri and Padma Bhushan, and had won several accolades for direction in Kannada cinema.



Comedy legend Crazy Mohan passed away

- i. Tamil writer, comedian and actor, **Crazy Mohan**, who was also a **Kalaimamani** awardee, was known for his witty one-liners passed away in Chennai.
- ii. Crazy Mohan's first film was K Balachander's **Poikkal Kudhirai** for which he wrote the dialogues.



Important Takeways from above news-

- **Kalaimamani Award:** It is given by Tamil Nadu Iyal Isai Nataka Mandram for excellence in the field of art and literature.

Six-Time Grammy-Winning Musician Dr John Passes Away

- i. Six-time Grammy-winning musician **Malcolm John Rebennack**, better known as **Dr John**, passed away aged 77.
- ii. The singer-songwriter suffered from a heart attack. He started his career as a pianist in the 1950s.



Former Egyptian President Mohamed Morsy passes away

- i. Former **Egyptian President** and a top figure in the Muslim Brotherhood, **Mohamed Morsy** passed away.
- ii. He served as Egyptian President from **30 June 2012 – 3 July 2013**.

Poet, lyricist Pazhavila Ramesan passes away

- i. Poet and lyricist **Pazhavila Ramesan** passed away. He was 83 years old. He was a recipient of Kerala Sahithya Akademi Award and had also penned songs for films like **Asamsakalode**, **Malooty**, **Uncle Bun**, **Vasudha** and others.

Former MP Rajnath Singh Surya passes away



i. **Former BJP Rajya Sabha MP** and senior journalist **Rajnath Singh 'Surya'** passed away in Lucknow. He was 82 years old.

ii. Singh became a Rajya Sabha MP in **November 1996** and retired in **November 2002**.

Former Puducherry CM R V Janakiraman passed away

i. Former Puducherry Chief Minister between 1996 and 2000, a senior Dravida Munnetra Kazhagam leader R V Janakiraman, who headed the coalition government of DMK and the Tamil Maanila Congress died after a brief age-related illness.

Important Takeways

from above news-

- Current CM of Puducherry: Velu Narayanasamy



Goa freedom fighter Mohan Ranade passes away

i. **Veteran freedom fighter** from Goa and **Padmashri winner Mohan Ranade** passes away after a prolonged illness.

ii. **Mohan Ranade** was a member of the **Azad Gomantak Dal**, a group of revolutionaries who believed in the doctrine of armed attacks against the Portuguese colonial rule and participated in ambushes on several Portuguese installations in Goa.



Actor-director Vijaya Nirmala passes away

i. Veteran **actor-filmmaker Vijaya Nirmala** passed away in Hyderabad.

ii. Vijaya Nirmala, born in **Tamil Nadu**, was **one of the most accomplished women** in the **south Indian film industry**.

iii. She acted in more than 200 films in Tamil, Telugu and Malayalam.



Writer Abburi Chaya Devi passes away

i. Telugu story writer and the Sahitya Akademi award winner **Abburi Chaya Devi** passes away.

ii. Some of her popular stories are Bonsai Bathuku, Prayanam Sukhantam, Akhariki Aidu Nakshatralu, and Wood Rose.



Maharaja Ranjit Singh honoured on his 180th death anniversary

i. A statue of **Maharaja Ranjit Singh**, the legendary ruler of Punjab, was unveiled at the **Lahore Fort** on his 180th death anniversary.

ii. Around 500 people crossed the Wagah border to attend the unveiling event.

iii. The sculpture is the **result of collaboration** between **Fakir Khana Museum** and **Sarkar Khalsa Foundation**.



Eminent Gandhian Jharna Dhara Chowdhury Passes Away

i. Jharna Dhara Chowdhury, an Eminent Social Activist and secretary of the Gandhi Ashram Trust in Jayag, Noakhali, Bangladesh passes away in Dhaka.

ii. She devoted her whole life to promoting peace, communal harmony and social justice. In recognition of her work, she was honored with Padma Shri in 2013. She was awarded Jannalal Bajaj award in 1998.

Important Takeways from above news-

- **Bangladesh Capital:** Dhaka, **Currency:** Taka, **PM:** Sheikh Hasina.



Important Days with theme

World Milk Day: 01st June

i. The Food and Agriculture Organisation of the United Nations (FAO) selected June 1st as World Milk Day, which celebrates the important contributions of the dairy sector to sustainability, economic development, livelihoods, and nutrition.



ii. The theme for World Milk Day 2019 is “Drink Milk: Today & Everyday.” The aim is to educate people about the importance of milk in our life and society. Milk is one of the global foods, which is celebrated as a superfood all around the globe, figuratively and literally.

International Day of Innocent Children Victims of Aggression: 4th June

i. The **International Day of Innocent Children Victims of Aggression** is a United Nations observance each on **04th June**. It was established on **19th August 1982**.

ii. Originally focused on victims of the **1982 Lebanon War**, its purpose expanded to acknowledge the pain suffered by children throughout the world who are the victims of physical, mental and emotional abuse.



World Bicycle Day: 03rd June

i. The **United Nations General Assembly** declared **3 June** as **International World Bicycle Day**.

ii. The resolution for World Bicycle Day recognizes the uniqueness, longevity, and versatility of the bicycle, which has been in use for two centuries.



World Environment Day: 5th June

i. Since its inception in 1974, **World Environment Day** is celebrated every year on **June 5th** in more than 100 countries.

ii. The theme for World Environment Day 2019 is '**Beat Air Pollution**'.

Important Takeways from above news-

- Dr Harsh Vardhan is the present Minister of Earth Sciences.

International Day For The Fight Against Illegal, Unreported And Unregulated Fishing: 5 June

i. **International Day for the Fight against Illegal, Unreported and Unregulated Fishing** is organized every year on **5th June**.

ii. According to the **UN Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO)** illegal, unreported and unregulated fishing activities are responsible for the loss of 11–26 million tonnes of fish each year, which is estimated to have an economic value of **US\$10–23 billion**.



Important Takeways from above news-

- The Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO) is a specialized agency of the United Nations that leads international efforts to defeat hunger.
- **FAO Founded in:** October 1945, **Headquarters:** Rome, Italy, **Current Director-General:** José Graziano da Silva.

World Food Safety Day: 7 June

i. **World Food Safety Day** is observed every year on **7th June**.

ii. The theme for World Food Safety Day 2019 is '**Food Safety, Everyone's Business**'.



World Oceans Day: 8th June

i. World Oceans Day takes place every 8 June. We celebrate World Oceans Day to remind everyone of the major role the oceans have in everyday life. They are the lungs of our planet, providing most of the oxygen we breathe. The theme of World Oceans Day 2019 is 'Gender and the Ocean'.

World Day Against Child Labour: 12 June

i. The **International Labour Organization (ILO)** launched the **World Day Against Child Labour in 2002** to focus attention on the global extent of child labour and the action and efforts needed to eliminate it.

ii. Each year on 12 June, the World Day brings together governments, employers and workers organizations, civil society, as well as millions of people from around the world to highlight the plight of child labourers and what can be done to help them. The theme for World Day Against Child Labour 2019 is '**Children shouldn't work in fields, but on dreams!**'



World Blood Donor Day: 14th June

i. **World Blood Donor Day** celebrated by **World Health Organization** on **14th June**. The host country for World Blood Donor Day 2019 is **Rwanda**.

ii. The event serves to thank voluntary, unpaid blood donors for their life-saving gifts of blood and also to raise awareness of the need for regular blood donations to ensure that all individuals and communities have access to affordable and timely supplies of safe and quality-assured blood and blood products.

Important Takeways from above news-

- **Rwanda Capital-** Kigali, **Currency-** Rwandan franc
- **WHO Headquarters:** Geneva, Switzerland, **Director general:** Tedros Adhanom

World Elder Abuse Awareness Day: 15th June

i. **World Elder Abuse Awareness Day** is being observed on **15th June**. This day is observed on the 15th of June every year to voice opposition to the abuse and suffering inflicted on elderly people.

World Day to Combat Desertification

i. In 1994, the United Nations General Assembly declared **June 17** the "**World Day to Combat Desertification and Drought**" to promote public awareness of the issue.

ii. The slogan for World Day to Combat Desertification 2019 is **Let's grow the future together!**. India will host the **14th session of Conference of Parties (COP-14) of the United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification (UNCCD)**, from 7 to 18 October 2019, in New Delhi.



Autistic Pride Day: 18th June

i. **Autistic Pride Day** is being observed on **18th June** every year. Autistic pride recognizes the importance of pride for autistics and understands it not as a disease but as a difference.

ii. Autistic Pride Day was initiated by **Aspies For Freedom**, a group that raises public awareness about autism rights.

International Day for the Elimination of Sexual Violence in Conflict

i. **International Day for the Elimination of Sexual Violence in Conflict** is celebrated around the world on **19th June** to raise awareness of the need to put an end to conflict related sexual violence.

ii. Panel Discussion: "**The Importance of a Survivor Centred Approach**".

Important Takeways from above news-

- United Nations Headquarters in **New York, USA**. It was founded on **24 October 1945**.
- **Mr Antonio Guterres** of Portugal is the Secretary-General of the United Nations.



Sustainable Gastronomy Day: 18 June

i. **Sustainable Gastronomy Day** is celebrated around the world on **18th June**.

ii. It emphasizes the need to focus the world's attention on the role that sustainable gastronomy can play.

World Refugee Day: 20 June

i. **World Refugee Day** is celebrated around the world on **20th June** to raise awareness about the precarious condition of refugees around the world who have been forced to leave their homes due to war, persecution and conflict.

ii. Theme for 2019: **Step With Refugees — Take A Step on World Refugee Day**

Important Takeways from above news-

- UN Headquarters: **New York, USA**; Founded: **24 October 1945**.
- **Mr Antonio Guterres** of Portugal is the Secretary-General of the United Nations.



International Day of Yoga: 21 June

i. The **International Day of Yoga** is being observed on **21st June** every year.

ii. The International Day of Yoga aims to raise awareness worldwide of the many benefits of practicing yoga. This is the **5th Edition of International Day of Yoga**.

iii. Theme: **Yoga for Climate Action**

Important Takeways from above news-

- On **11 December 2014**, the **United Nations** proclaimed **21 June** as the International Day of Yoga.



World Music Day: 21 June

i. **World Music Day** is observed every year on **June 21**.

ii. Each year there are events in over 120 countries and 700 cities around the world, not including France where there were too many events to count.

iii. The event is also known as Fête de la Musique (or World Music Day) and was originated in France in 1982.

United Nations Public Service Day: 23 June

i. **United Nations Public Service Day** is celebrated around the world on **23rd June**.

ii. The day celebrates the value and virtue of public service to the community; highlights the contribution of public service in the development process; recognizes the work of public servants, and encourages young people to pursue careers in the public sector.



International Day Against Drug Abuse and Illicit Trafficking: 26 June

i. The **United Nations** observe **26 June** as the **International Day against Drug Abuse and Illicit Trafficking**.

ii. The day is celebrated by the United Nations as an expression of its determination to strengthen action and cooperation to achieve the goal of an international society free of drug abuse.

iii. **Theme:** Health for Justice, Justice for Health.



Important Takeways from above news-

- United Nations Headquarters: **New York, USA**. It was founded on **24 October 1945**.
- **Secretary General of the United Nations:** Antonio Guterres.

Day of the Seafarer: 25 June

i. The **International Maritime Organization** observes **25 June** as the **Day of the Seafarer**. This year the day will be celebrated to highlight the opportunities for women in a wide range of maritime careers and professions, but the focus will be very firmly on one aspect of that community i.e. seafarers.

ii. The **2019 campaign** for the day: **I Am On Board**



Micro, Small and Medium sized Enterprises Day: 27 June

i. The **United Nations** observe **27 June** as the **Micro, Small and Medium sized Enterprises Day**.

ii. Since **2017**, Micro, small and Medium-sized businesses celebrate this day in recognition of their work in local and global economies. These enterprises, which generally employ fewer than 250 persons, are the backbone of most economies worldwide.

iii. **International Trade Center, United Nations** will launch its flagship report: "**The SME Competitiveness Outlook 2019: Big money for small businesses**".



International Day of the Tropics : 29 June

i. The **United Nations** observe **29 June** as **International Day of the Tropics**.

ii. The International Day of the Tropics celebrates the extraordinary diversity of the tropics while highlighting unique challenges and opportunities the Tropical nations face.



Important Takeways from above news-

- United Nations Headquarters in **New York, USA**. It was founded on **24 October 1945**. **Mr Antonio Guterres** of Portugal is the Secretary General of the United Nations.

Statistics Day: 29 June

i. The **GoI** celebrates the **Statistics Day** to popularize the **use of Statistics in everyday life** and sensitize the public as to how Statistics helps in shaping and framing policies.

ii. The day is celebrated on the **birth anniversary** of **Prof. P C Mahalanobis**, on **29th June**.

iii. **Ministry of Statistics and Program Implementation (MoSPI)** announced that it will institute the **Prof. P.C. Mahalanobis National Award** in Official Statistics to recognise and honour the work of **Official Statisticians** working in the Central Government, State Governments and their Institutions.

iv. **Theme of Statistics Day for year 2019: Sustainable Development Goals.**



Important Takeways from above news-

- **Minister of State (Independent Charge) of MoSPI:** Rao Inderjit Singh.