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National

SBI becomes first Indian bank to have office in Australia's Victoria

- i. The **State Bank of India** opened its Melbourne office and becoming the first Indian bank to have a branch in the Australian state of Victoria. The Melbourne office will assist the growing trade and investment relations between Victoria and India and is the outcome of the state's 10-year India Strategy.
- ii. This investment by India's largest commercial bank is a testament to our thriving financial services sector and our highly skilled workforce.

Kerala tops NITI Aayog's School Education Quality Index

- i. **Kerala** has topped the "School Education Quality Index" launched by **NITI Aayog**. **Uttar Pradesh** was ranked at the **bottom of the list**. **Chandigarh** has **topped** the list of **Union Territories**.
- ii. The School Education Quality Index assesses States on the basis of learning outcomes, access, equity and infrastructure and facilities, using survey data, self-reported data from States and third-party verification.
- iii. **Tamil Nadu** was the top performer in access and equity outcomes, while **Karnataka** led in learning outcomes. **Haryana** had the best infrastructure and facilities.

Book by India's Ambassador to the Netherlands, titled 'India and the Netherlands – Past, Present and Future' released

- i. A book penned by Indian Ambassador to the Netherlands **Venu Rajamony** titled '**India and the Netherlands – Past, Present and Future**,' was released in Amsterdam.
- ii. The book gives an insight into the cross-cultural legacy between the two countries and was released at a function attended by the king and queen of the Netherlands.
- iii. The first copy of the book was received by Dutch King Willem-Alexander in presence of all high officials. The book has been published by Bombay Ink.



Amit Shah flags off Delhi-Katra Vande Bharat Express

- i. Union Home Minister **Amit Shah** flagged off **Delhi-Katra Vande Bharat Express** from the New Delhi Railway Station. The first commercial run of the train will start from 5th October.
- ii. Delhi-Katra Vande Bharat Express is a big gift for Jammu and Kashmir's development and for promoting religious tourism. This is the second Vande Bharat Express. The first one runs in between Delhi and Varanasi.



India's first floating basketball court opens in Arabian Sea, Mumbai

- i. The **National Basketball Association (NBA)** brought to India the first-ever Floating Basketball Court in the Arabian Sea in Mumbai, Maharashtra.
- ii. NBA India on December 20, 2018, had announced that the first-ever NBA game in the country would be organized on October 4 and 5 in Mumbai.
- iii. The NBA India Games 2019 will feature the Sacramento Kings and Indiana Pacers, who will play two pre-season games on October 4 and 5.



Smriti Irani Inaugurates India's Largest 'Charkha' Made of Waste Plastic in Noida

- i. Union Minister **Smriti Irani** Inaugurates India's Largest '**Charkha**' made of Waste Plastic in Noida. This 'charkha' (spinning wheel) made of used plastic waste was inaugurated the eve of Mahatma Gandhi's 150th birth anniversary.
- ii. The 'charkha', which symbolises Gandhi's dream of Swadeshi (self-sufficing and self-reliance), measures **14ft, 20ft and 8ft** and is made of **1,250 kg of used plastic**.

Nation pays homage to Mahatma Gandhi on his 150th and Lal Bahadur Shastri on his 115th birth anniversary

i. The Nation pays homage to the Father of the Nation, **Mahatma Gandhi** on his **150th birth anniversary** today i.e. 2nd October 2019. A series of activities are being organized across the country and by Indian Missions abroad.

ii. The nation is also remembering **Former Prime Minister Lal Bahadur Shastri** on his **115th birth anniversary**. Under Shastri's leadership, India won the 1965 war against Pakistan.

iii. He gave the nation the powerful slogan of **Jai Jawan, Jai Kisan** to enthuse soldiers and farmers.



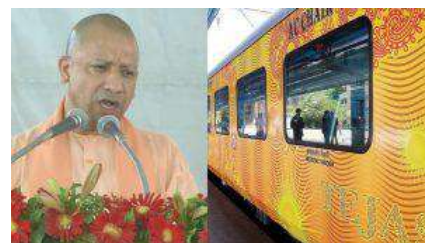
Rajasthan becomes the third state to ban certain categories of pan masala

i. **Rajasthan** became the third state in India after Maharashtra and Bihar to ban certain categories of pan masala containing magnesium carbonate, nicotine, tobacco, mineral oil and flavoured 'supari'. All such products will now be banned in the State under the Food Safety Act.

India's first private train Lucknow-Delhi Tejas Express flagged off

i. Uttar Pradesh Chief Minister Yogi Adityanath flagged off country's first private train **Delhi-Lucknow Tejas Express** started its maiden journey from Lucknow. It will be the first train of **Indian Railways that will be entirely run by Indian Railway Catering and Tourism Corporation (IRCTC)**. The new Tejas Express will cover the distance between Delhi and Lucknow in six hours fifteen minutes.

ii. All passengers travelling by Delhi-Lucknow Tejas Express will be provided free insurance of up to ₹25 lakh by IRCTC.



Vishnu Nandan among 300 researchers to join MOSAiC Expedition

i. **Vishnu Nandan**, polar researcher from **Kerala** will join largest ever Arctic expedition "**MOSAiC Expedition**". He will be the only Indian aboard among the 300 researchers for multidisciplinary drifting observatory for the **Study of Arctic Climate expedition**. Vishnu Nandan will aboard the German research vessel Polarstern, anchored on a large sheet of sea ice in the Central Arctic, drifting along with it during the pitch-black Polar winter.



ii. Led by the **Alfred Wegener Institute in Germany**, MOSAiC, the largest ever Arctic expedition in history, will be the **first to conduct a study** of this scale at the **North Pole for an entire year**. The expedition will help the researchers better understand the **impact of climate change** and aid in improved weather projections.

India's first e-waste clinic to be set up in Bhopal

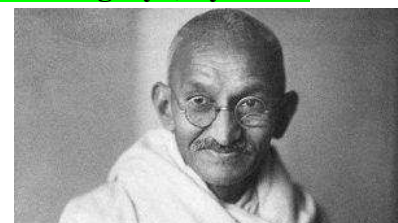
i. The **Bhopal Municipal Corporation (BMC)** and the **Central Pollution Control Board (CPCB)** have joined hands to set up the country's first e-waste clinic in Bhopal, Madhya Pradesh. This clinic would enable segregation, processing and disposal of waste from both household and commercial units.

ii. The electronic waste will be collected door-to-door or can be deposited directly at the clinic in exchange for a fee.



A new book titled "150 Years of Celebrating the Mahatma the South African Legacy", by Fakir Hassen launched

i. A new book titled "**150 Years of Celebrating the Mahatma the South African Legacy**", by **Fakir Hassen** launched in Johannesburg, South Africa. This book released on the occasion of Mahatma Gandhi's 150th



birth anniversary.

ii. The book chronicles commemorations of Gandhi's activities, including his birth and death anniversaries & his visit in South Africa, which was stifled by the apartheid-era minority white government and revived after former president Nelson Mandela.

India receives 1st Rafale fighter jet built for Indian Air Force

i. India has got the 1st **Rafale** fighter jet "**RB-001**" built for the **Indian Air Force (IAF)** in France. Defence Minister Rajnath Singh received the 1st Rafale combat jet aircraft at Production Unit of **Dassault Aviation in France**.

ii. However, the first batch of jets will arrive in India only in May 2020. Defence Minister also held the **Annual Defence dialogue** with his French counterpart Florence Parly.

iii. The **RB** in the aircraft designation stands for IAF Chief Air Chief Marshal **R.K.S. Bhadauria** who as then Deputy Chief of IAF led the Indian negotiation team and had a major role in the contract negotiations.



PM Modi becomes most followed leader on Instagram

i. Prime Minister **Narendra Modi** has become the most-followed elected world leader on **photo-sharing app Instagram**.

ii. He is ahead of US President Donald Trump, Indonesian President Joko Widodo and former president Barack Obama. With **30 million followers**, PM Modi leads the list of world leaders on Instagram, with Joko Widodo coming in a close second with 25.6 million followers on the popular app.

iii. Barack Obama comes in third with 24.8 million followers while, Donald Trump, trails behind with 14.9 million followers.



India ranked 102 in Global Hunger Index 2019

i. The **2019 Global Hunger Index (GHI)** indicates that the level of hunger and under nutrition worldwide falls into the serious category. As per the index, India ranks **102nd out of 117** qualifying countries, with a score of 30.3.

ii. India has slipped from **95th rank in 2010 to 102nd in 2019** on the Global Hunger Index (GHI), with the increase in the prevalence of wasting (low weight for height) among children with score under 5 contributing the most to the country's poor performance.

iii. Seventeen countries, including **Belarus, Ukraine, Turkey, Cuba and Kuwait**, shared the top rank with GHI scores less than 5.

iv. The aim of the GHI is to trigger action to reduce hunger around the world.

J&K's Chenani-Nashri Tunnel to be renamed after Dr Shyama Prasad Mukherjee

i. India's longest Tunnel Chenani- Nashri on NH 44, in Jammu and Kashmir will be named after Bhartiya Jansangh Founder **Dr Shyama Prasad Mukherjee**.

ii. Prime Minister Narendra Modi in **2017** had dedicated to the nation this **9.2 km long tunnel** that reduces the distance between **Jammu and Srinagar by 31 km**.

PM Modi releases book titled 'Bridgital Nation'

i. Prime Minister Narendra Modi unveiled a book titled '**Bridgital Nation**' in New Delhi.

ii. The book has been authored by **N Chandrasekaran**, Chairman, Tata Sons and **Roopa Purushothaman** Eminent industrialist.

iii. He presented books' first copy to eminent industrialist and philanthropist **Ratan Tata**.

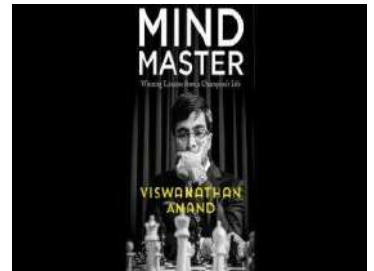


iv. The cutting edge digital tools can act as a bridge between aspirations and achievements – hence the term ‘bridgital’.

A book titled “Mind Master: Winning Lessons from a Champion’s Life” penned by Viswanathan Anand

i. Indian Chess player, **Viswanathan Anand** has penned a book titled “**Mind Master: Winning Lessons from a Champion’s Life**”. The book, published by Hachette India, is releasing on December 11.

ii. The book is based on the experience he had in the game of Chess. In the book, he revisits his greatest games and worst losses, his unique experiences of playing against the best minds, and the methods he employs to prepare for wins, cope with disappointments and, simply, stay in the game.



Kiran Uniyal, w/o a serving Colonel of Indian Army sets Guinness World Records

i. **Kiran Uniyal**, w/o a serving Colonel of Indian Army has created Individual Guinness World Records for “**The most full contact knee strikes in three minutes (one leg) (female), 263 strikes**” & “**The most full contact knee strikes alternate legs in one minute(female),120 strikes**”. The earlier records were of 177 strikes and 102 in female category respectively.

ii. The objective of both her records were to promote martial arts for girls and women safety and self-defence.

iii. While creating the record for the most full contact knee strikes for three minutes, she surpassed the existing male category record of 226 knee strikes. She has so far achieved 15 World Records, including 10 Guinness World Records in Martial Arts, Fitness and Social Work.



India ranked 82 in the 2019 World Giving Index

i. **India ranked 82** spots among the **128 countries** surveyed in the World Giving Index (WGI).

ii. The average figures for India over the past decade show that 34 per cent people helped a stranger, 24 per cent donated money and 19 per cent volunteered or donated their time.

iii. According to the WGI, the **USA** stood at the top followed **Myanmar, New Zealand and Australia**.



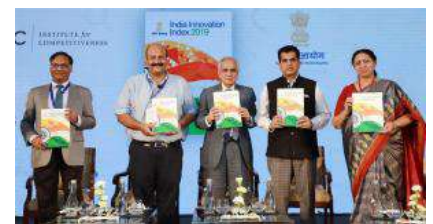
NITI Aayog launches India Innovation Index 2019

i. **NITI Aayog** with Institute for Competitiveness as the knowledge partner released the **India Innovation Index (III) 2019**. **Karnataka** is the most innovative major state in India.

ii. **Tamil Nadu, Maharashtra, Telangana, Haryana**, form the remaining top five major states respectively.

iii. **Sikkim and Delhi** take the top spots among the northeastern & hill states, and union territories/city-states/small states respectively.

iv. **Delhi, Karnataka, Maharashtra, Tamil Nadu, Telangana, and Uttar Pradesh** are the most efficient states in translating inputs into output.



NH No. 703AA in Punjab named as Guru Nanak Dev Ji Marg

i. Union Road Transport and Highways Minister **Nitin Gadkari** has announced the naming of new **National Highway No. 703AA** as “**Shri Guru Nanak Dev Ji Marg**.”

ii. The road starting from **Kapurthala** connecting **Goindwal Sahib** and terminating near **Taran Taran** in **Punjab**. The naming would be effective from next month.

iii. The decision has been taken to mark the 550th Birth Anniversary of **Shri Guru Nanak Dev**.

Odisha's first Robot Restaurant opens in Bhubaneswar

i. Odisha's smart city **Bhubaneswar** gets its **1st Robo Chef Restaurant** in Odisha.

ii. The Robot Restaurant opened at the Infocity DLF tower of Bhubaneswar claims to be the first restaurant in Eastern India where two indigenously developed robots, '**Champa**' and '**Chameli**' are engaged.

iii. The robots are developed at a Jaipur-based startup using SLAM technology, and it automatically navigates like humans, follows the routes and instructions.

iv. Not only this, after serving the food, the robots will also ask you for feedback in Odia that 'Are you happy'.

v. Earlier Chennai and Bengaluru had introduced smart restaurants with robots machines imported from China.



Siachen base camp to Kumar Post opened for tourism purposes

i. **Government of India** has decided to open the entire area from **Siachen base camp** to **Kumar Post** for tourism purposes. The step has been taken to **boost tourism** in **Ladakh**.

ii. It will also give people a window to appreciate the tough work done by Army jawans and engineers in extreme weather and inhospitable terrains.

iii. The Siachen Glacier at the height of around 20,000 ft in the Karakoram range is known as the highest militarised zone in the world where the soldiers have to battle frostbite and high winds

iv. The Glacier came under the strategic control of India in 1984 following 'Operation Meghdoot'.



No govt. jobs in Assam for people with more than two children

i. The State Cabinet of **Assam** has decided to make **government jobs out of bounds** for people with **more than 2 children**.

ii. The policy will come into effect from **January 1, 2021**.

iii. The Cabinet also adopted a new land policy that will make the landless indigenous people eligible for 3 bighas (43,200 sq. ft.) of land for farming and half a bigha for constructing a house. The beneficiary will be able to sell the given land only after 15 years of use.



Union Cabinet approves merger of BSNL and MTNL

i. The **Union Cabinet** chaired by Prime Minister **Narendra Modi** has approved the **merger** of loss-making telecom firms **BSNL** and **MTNL** as part of a revival package.

ii. The Cabinet has also given in-principle nod to the merger of BSNL and MTNL and till modalities are in place, MTNL will be a subsidiary of BSNL

iii. The revival package includes raising **sovereign bonds**, **monetising assets** and voluntary retirement scheme (**VRS**) for employees.

iv. The revival package for BSNL and MTNL includes raising of **Rs 15,000 crore sovereign bonds** and monetising **Rs 38,000 crore** of assets in next 4 years. Under the package, 4G spectrum worth Rs 20,000 crore will be administratively allotted to the two firms.

Deepika Padukone, PV Sindhu named as ambassadors for 'Bharat Ki Laxmi' initiative

i. Bollywood actress **Deepika Padukone** and Indian badminton player **PV Sindhu** were named the ambassadors for **Bharat Ki Laxmi**. It is an initiative by Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi.

ii. The aim of this initiative is to celebrate the contribution & accomplishments of women of the nation for the public good. The hashtag for the initiative is **#BharatKiLaxmi**.



Chenani-Nashri Tunnel renamed as Shyama Prasad Mukherjee Tunnel

i. J&K's **Chenani-Nashri Tunnel**, a 9 km-long tunnel that reduces the distance between Jammu and Srinagar by 31 km has been **renamed** as **Shyama Prasad Mukherjee Tunnel**.

ii. The 'Chenani-Nashri Highway Tunnel' is not only India's longest highway tunnel but also Asia's longest bi-directional highway tunnel.

iii. The renaming of the tunnel aims to preserve Mukherjee's heritage and memory as well as a tribute for his sacrifice for the nation.

IIT-Bombay again tops this year's QS India University Rankings 2020

i. The latest 2 edition of Quacquarelli Symonds (QS) India University Rankings 2020 released.

ii. The **Indian Institute of Technology Bombay (IITB)** has again topped all Indian Institutes in the list with an overall score of 88.5 followed by **IISc- Indian Institute of Science, Bangalore** (ranked 2 with 84.7 score) & **Indian Institute of Technology Delhi (IITD)**, which has improved a notch to rank 3 with 82.2 scores.



Do You Know-

- Headquarters of Quacquarelli Symonds (QS): London, United Kingdom
- Founded: 1990
- Founded by Nunzio Quacquarelli, QS is a British company specialising in education.

India ranked 63rd in World Bank's Ease of Doing Business Ranking

i. **World Bank** has released **Ease of Doing business Rankings** which includes **190 countries**. As per the rankings, **India** has jumped 14 places and has been **ranked at 63rd** among 190 countries.

ii. **New Zealand** and **Somalia** retained their **1st** and **190th spot** respectively.

The indicator **measures the performance** of countries across **10 different dimensions** in the **12-month period** ending May 1, 2019.

iii. From 2020, the World Bank has expanded its ease of doing business survey to 2 more cities: **Bengaluru** and **Kolkata** in addition to **Delhi** and **Mumbai** that are currently surveyed. The World Bank has decided to have four cities from every country with a population above 100 million.



'Maharatna' status granted to state-owned HPCL & PGCIL

i. 'Maharatna' status has been granted by the Government to state-owned **Hindustan Petroleum Corporation Limited** and **Power Grid Corporation of India Limited**. The status also comes with greater **operational** and **financial autonomy**.

ii. The grant of Maharatna status to the PSUs will impart enhanced powers to their Boards to take financial decisions.

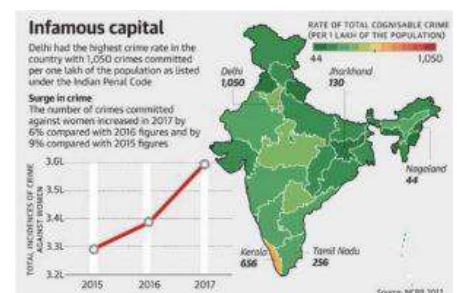
iii. The Boards can structure and implement schemes relating to personnel and human resource management and training. They can also enter into technology joint ventures or other strategic alliances, among others.

NCRB releases Crime in India Report 2017

i. **National Crime Records Bureau** has released the annual "**Crime in India Report 2017**". The report has been released after a delay of 2 years.

Key findings of the report are:

- According to the report, **3.59 lakh cases of crime against women** were reported in the country. **Uttar Pradesh topped the list** with 56,011 cases followed



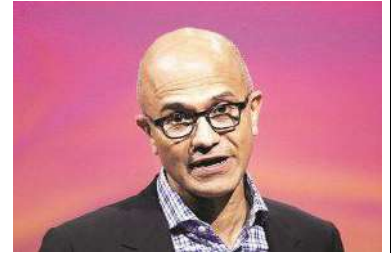
by Maharashtra with 31,979 cases and West Bengal 30,002 in cases of crime against women.

- Majority of cases under crimes against women were registered under '**Cruelty by Husband or his Relatives**' (27.9%) followed by '**Assault on Women with Intent to Outrage her Modesty**' (21.7%), '**Kidnapping & Abduction of Women**' (20.5%) and '**Rape**' (7.0%).

HBR's list of 10 best performing CEOs has 3 Indian-origin CEOs

i. The Best-Performing CEOs in the World, 2019' list compiled by the **Harvard Business Review** (HBR) features **100 CEOs**. The list has been **topped** by American technology company **NVIDIA's CEO Jensen Huang**. Among the top 10 chief executives on the list, **3 spots** have been occupied by the **Indian-origin CEOs**.

ii. **Adobe CEO Shantanu Narayen** was ranked **6th**, followed by **MasterCard CEO Ajay Banga** was ranked **7th** and **Microsoft chief Satya Nadella** on the **9th spot**. The list also features India-born CEO of **DBS Bank Piyush Gupta** on the **89th spot**. Apple CEO Tim Cook was ranked 62nd in the list. The 2019 list has 4 female CEOs in the top 50 of the rankings.



India now has 28 states and 9 UTs

i. According to the Jammu and Kashmir Reorganisation Act, 2019, the appointed day for the two Union Territories **J&K and Ladakh** was October 31.

ii. This is for the first time that a state is converted into two Union Territories. The total number of states in the country will now be 28 while the total Union Territories will go up to nine.



TN becomes first State to enact law on contract farming

i. President of India Ram Nath Kovind has approved the **Tamil Nadu Agricultural Produce and Livestock Contract Farming and Services (Promotion and Facilitation) Act, 2019**.

ii. Now **Tamil Nadu** has become the first state in the country to enact a law on contract farming.

iii. The aims of this Act is to set a policy framework and institutional mechanism on agricultural produce and livestock contract farming.



IIIT Hyderabad create first ever Indian Brain Atlas

i. Researchers from the **Indian Institute of Information Technology Hyderabad (IIIT-H)**, Telangana have created the **first-ever 'Indian brain atlas' (IBA)**.

ii. The Indian brain atlas was constructed in collaboration with the Department of Imaging Sciences and Interventional Radiology, Sree Chitra Tirunal Institute for Medical Sciences and Technology, Thiruvananthapuram, Kerala.

iii. The study has revealed that the Indian brain, on an average, is smaller in height, width and volume when compared to Western and other Eastern populations. This will help in early diagnosis of Alzheimer's and other brain-related ailments.



Air India becomes first airline to use Taxibot on A320 aircraft

i. **Air India** became the first airline in the world to use a **Taxibot** on a **A320 aircraft** with passengers on board. Taxibot is a robot-used aircraft tractor for taxiing an aircraft from parking bay to runway and vice versa.

ii. The national carrier's Chairman and Managing Director Ashwani Lohani flagged off flight AI665, which was carried to runway using Taxibot at terminal 3 of the Delhi airport to Mumbai.

iii. It is a pilot-controlled semi-robotic towbarless aircraft tractor used as



alternate taxiing equipment. **iv.** Taxibots will also help in decongesting boarding gates and the apron area by providing efficient pushbacks. it is the first such usage on any Airbus aircraft worldwide.

India-China 2nd Informal Summit begins in Tamil Nadu

i. The 2nd “India-China Informal Summit” between Prime Minister Narendra Modi and China’s President Xi Jinping begins at **Mamallapuram, Tamil Nadu.**

ii. The 1st summit took place in Wuhan in the wake of the Doklam crisis in April, 2018.

Reliance MF renamed as “Nippon India Mutual Fund”

i. **Reliance Mutual Fund** has been renamed as “**Nippon India Mutual Fund**“. The organization was renamed following the **purchase of 75% stake** in Reliance Nippon Life Asset Management by Nippon Life Insurance.

ii. Nippon India Mutual Fund has become the largest foreign-owned Asset Management Company in India. Sundeep Sikka will continue to lead company as the CEO.

Pope Francis elevates Indian nun Mariam Thresia to sainthood

i. Indian nun **Mariam Thresia** from Kerala and four other nuns were declared **Saints** by **Pope Francis** at a grand ceremony at the Vatican City.

ii. The other four nuns are English Cardinal John Henry Newman, Swiss laywoman Marguerite Bays, Brazilian Sister Dulce Lopes and Italian Sister Giuseppina Vannini.

iii. Mariam Thresia, who founded the Congregation of the Sisters of the Holy Family in Thrissur in May 1914, was raised to the highest position within the centuries-old institution during the ceremony at the St Peter’s Square.



India ranks 68th on WEF’s Global Competitiveness Index

i. **World Economic Forum** has released the **Global Competitiveness Index** report. In total, there are 103 indicators distributed across the **12 pillars** on which the performance of the countries was evaluated.

ii. As per the WEF’s released report, **India** has moved down 10 places to **rank 68th** on an annual **global competitiveness index** which was **topped by Singapore.**

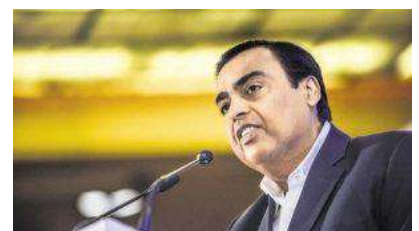
iii. India is among the worst-performing BRICS nations along with Brazil which is ranked 71st this year.



Forbes India Rich List 2019

i. The business magazine **Forbes** has released “**The Forbes India Rich List 2019**” which has been **topped by** Reliance Industries chairman **Mukesh Ambani** with net worth of **\$51.4 billion**. Mukesh Ambani remained the richest Indian for the 12th year in a row.

ii. Industrialist Gautam Adani jumped 8 spots on the list to become the 2nd richest Indian with net worth of \$15.7 billion. The magazine stated that it was ‘a challenging year’ for the Indian economy.



• 5 of the Richest Indians in Forbes India Rich List 2019 are:

1. Mukesh Ambani with net worth of \$51.4 billion
2. Gautam Adani with net worth of \$15.7 billion
3. Hinduja Brothers with net worth of \$15.6 billion
4. Pallonji Mistry with net worth of \$15 billion

International

Typhoon Hagibis strikes northern Japan

- i. **Typhoon Hagibis** strikes **Tokyo**, capital of **Japan** after fierce rain and wind paralysed the capital. The cyclone Hagibis which caused floods, landslides and emergency disaster warnings, could be the **strongest to hit Tokyo since 1958**.
- ii. Authorities issued evacuation advisories and orders for more than 6 million people across the country as the storm unleashed the heaviest rain and winds in years. Train operators has suspended bullet train services extensively.
- iii. “**Hagibis**” means “**speed**” in the Philippine language Tagalog.



India to host Interpol General Assembly in 2022

- i. **India** will host the **91st Interpol General Assembly in 2022** after a proposal received the overwhelming support of member countries at this year's congregation at Santinago in Chile.
- ii. The **International Criminal Police Organisation (Interpol)** had hosted the general assembly, where representatives of all member countries converge, in India in 1997. The general assembly of Interpol is an annual exercise hosted by member countries.
- iii. All major decisions affecting general policy, the resources needed for international cooperation, working methods and finances are deliberated and discussed by representatives.



Do You Know-

- Interpol is an international police cooperation organisation with 194 member states and 100 years of experience of international cooperation in policing.
- Headquarters of Interpol: Lyon, France.

Nirmal Purja climbs world's 14 highest peaks in record-breaking 189 days

- i. The mountaineer from Nepal, **Nirmal Purja**, created a new speed record by climbing the world's 14 highest peaks over 8,000 metres (26,250 feet) in just 189 days.
- ii. The 14th peak which he climbed was **Shishapangma**, located at Nyalam County, China. The other 13 peaks are Annapurna, Dhaulagiri, Kanchenjunga, Everest, Lhotse, Makalu, Nanga Parbat, Gasherbrum I, Gasherbrum II, K2, Broad Peak, Cho Oyu and Manaslu.



United Nation General Assembly Elects 14 Member States to Human Rights Council

- i. The **United Nation General Assembly** has elected 14 States to the 47 member body of UN Human Rights Council (UNHRC). The UNHRC is responsible for promoting and protecting all human rights around the globe.
- ii. The Assembly elected **Armenia, Brazil, Germany, Indonesia, Japan, Libya, Marshall Islands, Mauritania, Namibia, Netherlands, Poland, Republic of Korea, Sudan and Venezuela**.
- iii. All 14 members will serve three-year terms beginning on 1 January 2020.
- iv. The 14 new members were elected according to the following pattern: 4 seats for the African States; 4 seats for the Asia-Pacific States; 2 seats for the Eastern European States; 2 seats for Latin American and Caribbean States; and 2 seats for Western European and other States.



Do You Know-

- President of UNHRC: Coly Seck; Formation: 15 March 2006.
- Headquarters: Geneva, Switzerland.

Amazon's male white bellbird is the world's loudest bird

i. The male **white bellbird** is the **world's loudest bird** which hits **125.4 decibels**. This study was published in the journal Current Biology. This was recorded by Biologist Jeff Podos at Brazil in the mountains of the northern Amazon.

ii. The call by the bird is made as part of their mating rituals and it's mating call is about three times louder than screaming phias.

iii. The screaming phias (*Lipaugus vociferans*), also an Amazonian species, previously held the record of being the world's loudest bird.



Saturn overtakes Jupiter as planet with most moons

i. A team of **astronomers** has discovered a haul of **20 new moons** orbiting the ringed planet, **Saturn**. This discovery has brought its total to **82 moons**, while **Jupiter**, by contrast, has **79 natural satellites**.

ii. The moons were discovered using the Subaru telescope on Maunakea, Hawaii.

iii. **Dr Scott Sheppard** of the Carnegie Institution for Science in Washington DC led the team of astronomers including David Jewitt of University of California, Los Angeles (UCLA), and Jan Kleyna of the University of Hawaii.



Pak releases coin to commemorate 550th birth anniversary of Baba Guru Nanak

i. The government of Pakistan released a new coin to commemorate the **550th anniversary of Baba Guru Nanak**.

ii. The coin worth **Pakistan Rupees 50** will be available at the Kartarpur Sahib along with a **postal stamp** worth **Pakistan Rupees 8** to the travelling pilgrims.

NASA Astronauts complete All-Woman Spacewalk

i. Nasa astronauts **Christina Koch** and **Jessica Meir** have made history by completing the first-ever all-female spacewalk. They spent **7 hours** **outside the International Space Station (ISS)** replacing a failed power control unit.

ii. Ms Koch had already carried out four spacewalks but it was the first such mission for Ms Meir, who became the **15th woman to walk in space**.



UAE announces establishment of world's 1st AI university

i. UAE announced the establishment of the **Mohamed bin Zayed University of Artificial Intelligence (MBZUAI)** in Abu Dhabi.

ii. This is the first graduate-level, research-based AI university in the world. MBZUAI will enable graduate students, businesses and governments to advance the artificial intelligence field.

iii. The University is named after **Sheikh Mohamed bin Zayed Al Nahyan**, Crown Prince of Abu Dhabi and Deputy Supreme Commander of the UAE Armed Forces, who has long advocated for the UAE's development of human capital through knowledge and scientific thinking to take the nation into the future.



Italy set to introduce web tax on digital giants from 2020

i. **Italy** approved a new tax on digital companies, including U.S. tech giants, as part of its 2020 draft budget on October 16.

ii. The levy, due to be introduced from next year, will oblige companies such as **Facebook, Google and Amazon**, to pay a 3% levy on internet transactions, according to a text of the draft budget.

iii. The Italian scheme is expected to yield about **600 million euros (\$662 million)** a year.

Do You Know-

- President: Sergio Mattarella; Prime Minister: Giuseppe Conte.
- Capital: Rome; Currency: Euro.

World's oldest pearl 'Abu Dhabi Pearl' discovered on Abu Dhabi Island

i. The world's oldest natural pearl named '**Abu Dhabi Pearl**' has been discovered on an island off Abu Dhabi, the capital of the United Arab Emirates.

ii. The **8,000-year-old pearl** was found during excavations at **Marawah Island** which also revealed the earliest architecture in the UAE.

iii. Archaeologists used radiocarbon dating to determine that the pearl dated back to between **5800 and 5600 BC**, during the **Neolithic period**.



The 18th NAM Summit to be held in Baku, Azerbaijan

i. The **Non-Aligned Movement (NAM) Summit** has been scheduled to be held between **25 October and 26 October 2019** in **Baku, Azerbaijan**.

ii. The 18th Summit Conference of the NAM will be hosted by H.E. Mr Ilham Aliyev, President of the Republic of Azerbaijan. Nepal PM Oli and Bangladesh PM Sheikh Hasina will be attending the summit.

iii. The Non-Alignment Movement was founded in **1961**. **India** is a founding member of the NAM summit.

iv. The 17th NAM Summit was held in 2016 at the Island of **Margarita, Venezuela**.



Bill Gates overtakes Jeff Bezos as the world's richest person

i. Microsoft co-founder **Bill Gates** overtook **Jeff Bezos** to become the **world's richest person**. Amazon founder and CEO **Jeff Bezos** lost the title as the world's richest man to Bill Gates, after losing nearly \$7 billion in stock value leaving his net worth to **\$103.9 billion**.

ii. Microsoft co-founder **Bill Gates** is currently worth **\$105.7 billion**.

iii. Bezos ended Gates' 24-year run as the richest man in 2018 and became the first man on earth with a net worth of \$160 billion.

iv. Bill Gates debuted on Forbes' first ever billionaire list in 1987 with a net worth of \$1.25 billion.



Bill Gates book on climate change to be released in 2020

i. The founder of Microsoft Corporation and American philanthropist **Bill Gates**' new book titled "**How to Avoid a Climate Disaster: The Solutions We Have and the Breakthroughs We Need**" will be released on June 2020.

ii. It will be published by UK-based **Allen Lane** publishers. The book is about climate change and the possible solutions to prevent an environmental crisis.



World fastest ant "Saharan silver ant" found in northern Sahara

i. The **Saharan silver ant** is the fastest of the world's 12,000 known ant species, clocking **855 millimetres** nearly a **metre per second**. Its scientific name is **Cataglyphis bombycina**.

ii. Silver ants travel 108 times their body length per second and have a stride rate 10 times that of Usain Bolt.

iii. A team of German researchers from the University of Ulm and Freiburg (Germany) discovered the ant in Douz area of Tunisia in Northern Sahara.



Defence

Land-attack version of BrahMos supersonic missile successfully test-fired

- i. **India** successfully test-fired a land-attack version of **BrahMos supersonic missile** from Chandipur coast in Odisha's Balasore district.
- ii. DRDO conducted the test-fire successfully. The missile, with a strike range of 290km, can be fired from land as well as sea-based platforms. BrahMos is a joint venture between the DRDO and the NPOM of Russia.

Do You Know-

- DRDO Chairman: G Satheesh Reddy, Established: 1958; Headquarters: New Delhi.



China unveiled DF-41 the most powerful intercontinental-range ballistic missile on the planet

- i. **China** unveiled the **Dongfeng-41 (DF-41)** intercontinental-range ballistic missile, touted to be the most powerful missile on the planet at the National Day parade, as China observed its 70th anniversary of Communist rule. DF-41 has a range of up to 9,320 miles (15,000 kilometres), more than any missile on Earth.
- ii. The missile capable of carrying 10 independently targeted nuclear warheads and could theoretically, hit the United States in 30 minutes, according to the Missile Defense Project at the Center for Strategic and International Studies. China has also displayed its underwater vehicles and new stealthy DR-8 drones thought to be able to fly up to five times the speed of sound.



10th edition of Indo-US joint military exercise 'Vajra Prahar 2019' begins in Seattle, US

- i. The 10th edition of the joint military exercise '**Vajra Prahar 2019**' between **India and the US** will be held at Joint Base Lewis-McChord (JBLM) in Seattle, US.
- ii. 'Vajra Prahar' is a Special Forces joint training exercise conducted alternately in India and the US. Last year, the exercise had taken place in Jaipur. These exercises will enable the sharing of best practices and experience in areas such as joint mission planning capabilities and operational tactics.
- iii. Bilateral military exercises and defence exchanges are an important aspect of deepening bilateral defence cooperation between India and the US.

Indo-Mongolian Joint Exercise Nomadic Elephant 2019

- i. 14th edition of **Indo – Mongolian joint military training**, Exercise **Nomadic Elephant-XIV** started.
- ii. The Mongolian Army is being represented by officers and troops of the **elite 084 Air Borne Special Task Battalion**, while the Indian Army is being represented by a contingent of a battalion of **RAJPUTANA RIFLES**.
- iii. Nomadic Elephant-XIV is aimed at training troops in counter-insurgency & counter-terrorism operations under United Nations mandate.
- iv. The Joint Exercise will enhance defence co-operation and military relations between the two nations. It is an ideal platform for the armies of both nations to share their experiences & best practices and gain mutually during the joint training.



Do You Know-

- Mongolia Capital: Ulaanbaatar; Currency: Mongolian togrog.

India, Japan joint Air Force exercise 'Shinyuu Maitri' 2019 began in West Bengal

- i. **Indian Air Force and Japanese Air Self Defence Force (JASDF)** carrying out a joint military air force exercise named '**Shinyuu Maitri**' began from October 17 to 23, at the air force station, Arjan Singh in Panagarh town in West Bengal.
- ii. **C-130 J aircraft** of the Special Operations Squadron of IAF and **C-130 H** of Tactical Airlift Squadron of

JASDF will participate in the exercise.

iii. The focus of the exercise will be to undertake Joint Mobility and Tactical interoperability among the two forces.

Do You Know-

- Motto of the Indian Air Force: Nabha Sprsham Deeptam (The Glory that touches the sky).
- Air Chief Marshal: Rakesh Kumar Singh Bhadauria.

India-Myanmar Naval Exercise: IMNEX-2019

i. The **India-Myanmar Naval Exercise** called **IMNEX-2019** is being organised in Visakhapatnam, Andhra Pradesh.

ii. The opening ceremony of the second edition of Indo-Myanmar joint naval exercise was conducted onboard **INS Ranvijay**.

iii. Myanmar naval ships **UMS Sin Phyu Shin (F-14)** and **UMS Tabinshweti (773)** arrived at Visakhapatnam. The exercise would be conducted in two phases: **Harbour phase and Sea Phase**.

iv. The joint exercise will encompass a variety of operations including anti-air and surface firing exercises, flying exercises using integral helicopter and seamanship evolutions at sea.



Indo-French joint exercise 'Shakti-2019'

i. The bilateral '**Exercise SHAKTI**' between the armies of **India and France** will be conducted from 31st October to 13th November 2019 at Foreign Training Node in Mahajan Field Firing Ranges, Rajasthan. The joint exercise will focus on counter-terrorism operations in semi-desert terrain.

ii. The exercise aims at enhancing understanding, cooperation and interoperability between the two armies.

iii. While a contingent of the Sikh Regiment of Sapta Shakti Command will represent Indian Army in this exercise, the French Army delegation will be represented by troops of 21st Marine Infantry Regiment of 6th Armoured Brigade.



Do You Know-

- Chief of the Army Staff: General Bipin Rawat.

Appointments or Resign/Retired

Former Indian cricketer, Kapil Dev resigned as chairman of CAC

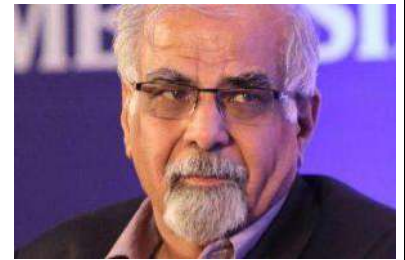
i. The former Indian captain **Kapil Dev** decision to resign from the **Cricket Advisory Committee (CAC)** of **BCCI**.

ii. This decision comes after the Board of Control for Cricket in India (BCCI) Ethics Officer D.K. Jain sent a notice to the panel comprising of Kapil, Anshuman Gaekwad and Shantha Rangaswamy with regards to allegations of conflict of interest as claimed by Madhya Pradesh Cricket Association MPCA life member Sanjeev Gupta.

Surjit S Bhalla appointed as Executive Director for India at IMF

i. The government has appointed **economist Surjit Bhalla** as the executive director of the **International Monetary Fund** for a period of three years.

ii. The post was lying vacant after the death of **Dr. Subir Gokarn** in July. Bhalla earlier served as a member of the **prime minister's economic advisory council** but resigned earlier this year.



Jai Bhagwan Bhorla appointed as new administrator for PMC Bank

i. The **Reserve Bank of India** has superseded the **Board of Punjab and Maharashtra Cooperative Bank Limited**, Mumbai and appointed **Jai Bhagwan Bhorla** as the bank's administrator with all powers of the board.

ii. The amount of withdrawal from the bank allowed to depositors has been increased from one thousand to ten thousand rupees. The RBI's directives will remain in force for a period of **six months**.

KS Dhatwalia appointed as PIB's Principal DG

i. Senior Indian Information Service officer, **KS Dhatwalia**, has been appointed as the **Principal Director General of Press Information Bureau**. He will succeed Sitanshu Kar and will be the 28th Principal Spokesperson of the government.

ii. He has worked in key positions in various Media Units of the Ministry of Information and Broadcasting.

Sushil Chandra appointed as MD & CEO of Oil India Limited

i. **Oil India Limited** has appointed **Sushil Chandra Mishra** as the new **Managing Director and Chief Executive Officer (CEO)** of the company. He will replace Utpal Bora. Sushil Chandra Mishra started his professional journey as an executive trainee with OIL in 1984 and developed deep expertise in commercial matters.

ii. He also played a key role in framing and implementing procurement policies and procedures for inventory management, vendor development, framework agreement and its related strategies.



Vijay Patil elected President of Mumbai Cricket Association

i. **Vijay Patil** has been elected the president of **Mumbai Cricket Association (MCA)**, while **Sanjay Naik** and **Amol Kale** were elected as **secretary and vice-president** respectively.

ii. Vijay Patil is the son of former Governor of Bihar Dr DY Patil.

Kais Saied elected as new President of Tunisia

i. **Kais Saied** is elected as the new **President of Tunisia** after a landslide victory in recently concluded Presidential runoff. The Independent law professor Kais Saied won against his rival, **Nabil Karoui**.

ii. He won Tunisia's presidential election with 73% of votes. The elections followed the death of President **Beji Caid Essebsi** in July 2019.



Do You Know-

- Capital of Tunisia: Tunis; Currency of Tunisia: Tunisian Dinar.

Justice Vinod Kumar Sharma is new Punjab lokpal

i. The Punjab government has appointed **Justice Vinod Kumar Sharma (retired)** as the new **Lokpal**. The post was lying vacant since April 23, 2018, after Justice Satish Kumar Mittal (retd) had resigned. The Lokpal holds the office for a term of 6 years.

ii. Justice Sharma had served as Punjab and Haryana high court judge from March 22, 2006, to October 26, 2010. Thereafter, he was transferred to the Madras high court from where he retired on May 24, 2013.



Do You Know-

- CM of Punjab: Amarinder Singh; Governor: VP Singh Badnore.

President Kovind appoints Chief Justices to 7 high courts

i. President **Ramnath Kovind** appoints Chief Justices to seven high courts. Those chief justices have been appointed to **Kerala, Andhra Pradesh, Punjab and Haryana, Gauhati, Rajasthan, Himachal Pradesh and Sikkim High Courts**.

Name	High court
Lingappa Narayana Swamy	Himachal Pradesh High Court
Ravi Shanker Jha	Punjab and Haryana High Court
Indrajit Mohanty	Rajasthan High Court
J.K. Maheshwari	Andhra Pradesh High Court
S. Manikumar	Kerala High Court
Arup K. Goswami	Sikkim High Court
Ajai Lamba	Gauhati High Court

Four of the new Chief Justices would fill the vacancies left by Justices V. Ramasubramanian, Krishna Murari, S. Ravindra Bhat and Hrishikesh Roy, who were elevated to the Supreme Court recently from the Himachal Pradesh, Punjab and Haryana, Rajasthan, and Kerala High Courts, respectively.

Mexican actress Yalitza Aparicio named UNESCO Goodwill Ambassador

i. The Director-General of UNESCO, Audrey Azoulay, has named Mexican actress **Yalitza Aparicio** as a **UNESCO Goodwill Ambassador for Indigenous Peoples**.

ii. Yalitza Aparicio is committed to the fight against racism and for the rights of women and indigenous peoples. She was chosen to play in Alfonso Cuarón's film Roma while studying to be a teacher.

iii. She is the first indigenous Mexican woman to be so recognized by the US Academy Awards.

iv. TIME magazine (USA) listed her as one of the 100 most influential people in the world in 2019.



Antonio Costa re-elected as the PM of Portugal

i. Antonio Costa has been re-elected as the **Prime Minister** of **Portugal** after winning the **general elections**.

ii. Antonio Costa, the Socialist leader and incumbent prime minister, got the most votes in Portugal's general election, leaving it poised to continue leading the government for another four years.

World Steel Association elected Sajjan Jindal as vice Chairman

i. The **World Steel Association (Worldsteel)** has elected **Sajjan Jindal**, Chairman and Managing Director, JSW Steel, as Vice-Chairman of the association for one year.

ii. The association has also appointed Tata Steel CEO and MD **T V Narendran** and Arcelor Mittal Chief **L N Mittal** as its members. The board also elected a 14-member Executive Committee.



Do You Know-

- Chairman of World Steel Association: Andre Johannpeter; Formed: 10 July 1967.
- Headquarters: Brussels, Belgium.

Anup Kumar Singh appointed as Director-General of NSG

i. A senior 1985-batch IPS officer of Gujarat cadre **Anup Kumar Singh** has been appointed as **Director-General of the National Security Guard (NSG)**.

ii. The appointment of Mr Singh as the DG of the 'black cats commando' force was approved by the **Appointments Committee of the Cabinet (ACC)** led by Prime Minister Narendra Modi.

iii. The appointment will be from the date of joining the post and up to September 30, 2020. The NSG was raised as the federal contingency force to counter-terrorists.



Do You Know-

- The National Security Guard (NSG) was formed on September 22, 1986 to save the country from terror activities.
- The National Security Guard (NSG) comes under the control of Ministry of Home Affairs, Government of India.

Former IMF chief Christine Lagarde appointed head of European Central Bank

i. European Union leaders confirmed the appointment of **Christine Lagarde** as the new chief of the **European Central Bank**.

ii. She will be replacing Mario Draghi (Italy) from November 1. Lagarde's confirmation for a non-renewable term of 8-years. She served 8-years as the head of IMF since 2011.

Do You Know-

- ECB headquarters: Frankfurt, Germany; Currency: Euro.



SBI chairman Rajnish Kumar elected as the new chairman of IBA

i. SBI chairman **Rajnish Kumar** has been appointed as the new chairman of **Indian Banks' Association**.

ii. He will succeed **Sunil Mehta**, who was the MD & CEO of Punjab National Bank.

iii. The MD & CEO of IDBI Bank **Rakesh Sharma** will be honorary **secretary of IBA** for 2019-20.

Do You Know-



- CEO of the Indian Banks' Association: V. G. Kannan; Headquarters: Mumbai.

Ashok Malik appointed as Policy Advisor in MEA

- Ashok Malik has been appointed as the **Policy Advisor** in the **External Affairs Ministry** in the rank of **Additional Secretary**.
- The Distinguished Fellow of the prominent think tank Observer Research Foundation (ORF) will have a 2-year tenure.
- Ashok Malik has previously served as the Press Secretary to President Ram Nath Kovind from August 1, 2017 to July 31, 2019.



Pankaj Kumar appointed as new CEO of UIDAI

- The Government of India appointed IAS officer **Pankaj Kumar** as the new CEO of the **Unique Identification Authority of India (UIDAI)**.
- He is currently Additional Secretary in the Ministry Of Electronics and IT.
- The UIDAI is a statutory authority established under the provisions of the Aadhaar Act, 2016 by the government under the Ministry of Electronics and Information Technology, with the mandate to issue Unique Identification numbers (UID), or Aadhaar, to all residents of India to eliminate duplicate and fake identities.



Do You Know-

- Headquarters of UIDAI: New Delhi.

Sourav Ganguly take Charges as new BCCI President

- One of India's most decorated captains **Sourav Ganguly** takes over as the **39th President** of the **Board of Control for Cricket in India (BCCI)**.
- Ganguly is the unanimous nomination for the post of BCCI President along with Union Home Minister Amit Shah's son **Jay Shah** as the Secretary.
- Mahim Verma** of Uttarakhand is the new Vice President of BCCI.



Manohar Lal Khattar sworn in as CM of Haryana for a second term

- Senior BJP leader **Manohar Lal Khattar** was sworn in as the **chief minister of Haryana** for second straight time, with the support of Dushyant Chautala led Jannayak Janta Party.
- Dushyant Chautala** took oath as **deputy chief minister of Haryana**. Governor administered him the oath of office and secrecy at a function at Raj Bhavan in Chandigarh.



Justice Sharad Arvind Bobde Appointed as 47th Chief Justice of India

- Justice **Sharad Arvind Bobde** was appointed as the **47th Chief Justice of India**. Justice Bobde will take oath as the CJI on November 18th, a day after incumbent Ranjan Gogoi demits office. He will have a tenure of **17 months** and would demit office on **23rd April 2021**.
- A judge since **2000**, Justice Bobde joined the Bombay High Court as an additional judge. He was appointed as the chief justice of the Madhya Pradesh High Court on October 2012. In April 2013, he was elevated to the Supreme Court.



G C Murmu and R K Mathur appointed as new Lt Governors of J&K and Ladakh respectively

- The Union Government has appointed former Indian Administrative Service (IAS) officers **Girish Chandra Murmu** and **Radha Krishna Mathur** as the first **Lieutenant (Lt) Governors of Jammu and Kashmir (J&K)** and



Ladakh respectively. These newly appointed governors succeed Satya Pal Malik. These Union Territories will come into existence on October 31, 2019.

ii. **Satya Pal Malik** has been transferred and appointed as **Governor of Goa**, succeeding Mridula Sinha. Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP) Kerala state president **P S Sreedharan Pillai** was appointed as the 15th governor of **Mizoram** succeeding Jagdish Mukhi.

Rafael Grossi elected as the new IAEA head

i. **Rafael Mariano Grossi** of Argentina has been elected as the new **Director-General of the International Atomic Energy Agency**.

ii. He succeeds Yukiya Amano of Japan, who passed away in July. He will be the 6th head of IAEA since it was founded more than six decades ago in 1957.

Do You Know-

- Headquarters IAEA: Vienna, Austria; Membership: 171 Member States.

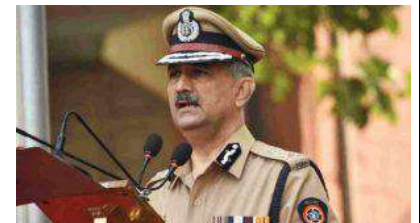


Former Mumbai Police Commissioner Datta Padsalgikar appointed as Deputy NSA

i. Former Mumbai Police Commissioner and Maharashtra DGP **Datta Padsalgikar** have been appointed as **Deputy National Security Advisor (NSA)**.

ii. The 1982-batch IPS officer had earlier served in the Intelligence Bureau (IB).

iii. He had also served as DCP (Detection) in crime branch, and in EOW (Economic Offences Wing). He retired as the Director-General of Police (DGP) in 2018.



Honours/ Awards

Sachin Tendulkar gets most effective Swachhata Ambassador award

i. President Ram Nath Kovind presented the most effective **Swachhata Ambassador award** to Former Indian cricketer **Sachin Tendulkar** on the occasion of 150th birth anniversary of Mahatma Gandhi.

Ben Stokes named PCA player of the year

i. England all-rounder **Ben Stokes** has been voted **Professional Cricketers' Association player of the year** at the Professional Cricketers' Association awards. All-rounder Stokes played a starring role in England's maiden World Cup win before repeating his heroics to help salvage an Ashes draw with Australia.

ii. **Tom Banton** of Somerset picked up the **PCA young player of the year**, while **England** bowler **Sophie Ecclestone** collected the **women's player of the summer** award.

iii. The 50th NatWest PCA Awards were held at the Roundhouse in Camden. The event, organised by the PCA in conjunction with the England and Wales Cricket Board.



Kyrgyz lawyer Azizbek Ashurov wins 2019 UNHCR Nansen Refugee Award

i. Human rights lawyer from Kyrgyzstan **Azizbek Ashurov** was awarded the 2019 **UN High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR) prestigious Nansen Award**. Ashurov will receive the award comprising of a commemorative medal and a cash prize of USD 150,000 prize money at a ceremony in Geneva on October 7, 2019.

ii. The UNHCR hailed Azizbek Ashurov for helping Kyrgyzstan become the world's first country to end statelessness, working through his organisation Ferghana Valley Lawyers Without Borders (FVLWB).

iii. He and his organisation have helped more than 10,000 people gain Kyrgyz nationality after they became stateless following the dissolution of the Soviet Union.



Nobel Prize Winners 2019 –

i. The **Nobel Prize 2019** were announced recently in 6 different fields viz. Physiology or Medicine, Physics, Chemistry, Literature, Peace, and Economic Sciences.

ii. The Nobel Prize distribution was first done on 1901. The winners will receive a full cash prize, valued this year at 9-million kronor (\$918,000), a gold medal and a diploma.

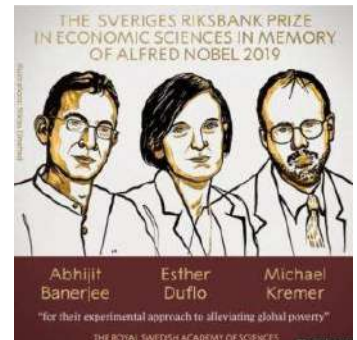
Chronicle of the Nobel Prize:

- On **November 27, 1895**, Alfred Nobel signed his 3rd and last will at the Swedish-Norwegian Club in Paris in which he specifically designated the institutions responsible for the prizes he wished to be established: The **Royal Swedish Academy of Sciences** for the Nobel Prize in **Physics** and **Chemistry**, **Karolinska Institutet** for the Nobel Prize in **Physiology or Medicine**, the **Swedish Academy** for the Nobel Prize in **Literature**, and a Committee of five persons to be elected by the **Norwegian Parliament** (Storting) for the Nobel **Peace** Prize.
- In 1968, the Sveriges Riksbank established the **Sveriges Riksbank Prize in Economic Sciences** in Memory of Alfred Nobel.
- The Nobel Foundation, a private institution established in 1900, has the ultimate responsibility for fulfilling the intentions in Alfred Nobel's will. Each year, thousands of members of academies, university professors, scientists, previous Nobel Laureates and members of parliamentary assemblies and others, are asked to submit candidates for the Nobel Prizes for the coming year.



The Nobel Prize in Economics 2019

- i. The Royal Swedish Academy of Sciences has decided to award the Nobel Prize in Economics 2019.
- ii. The Sveriges Riksbank Prize in Economic Sciences in Memory of Alfred Nobel 2019 was awarded jointly to **Abhijit Banerjee, Esther Duflo and Michael Kremer** “for their experimental approach to alleviating global poverty.” Indian-born Abhijit Banerjee is an American citizen while Esther Duflo is French-American.
- iii. Michael Kremer is also from the US. Abhijit Banerjee, 58, was born in India and has a PhD from Harvard University.
- iv. He is a Professor of Economics at Massachusetts Institute of Technology in the US.



The Nobel Peace Prize for 2019

- i. The Norwegian Nobel Committee has decided to award the Nobel Peace Prize for 2019 to **Ethiopian Prime Minister Abiy Ahmed Ali**. He has been awarded for his efforts to achieve peace and international cooperation, and in particular for his decisive initiative to resolve the border conflict with neighbouring Eritrea.
- ii. The prize is also meant to recognise all the stakeholders working for peace and reconciliation in Ethiopia and in the East and Northeast African regions.
- iii. He will receive a full cash prize, valued this year at 9-million kronor (\$918,000), a gold medal and a diploma.



The Nobel Prize in Literature 2018 and 2019

- i. The Nobel Prizes in Literature 2018 and 2019 were announced at The Swedish Academy in Stockholm. Both winners will receive a full cash prize, valued this year at 9-million kronor (\$918,000), a gold medal and a diploma.
- ii. The Nobel Prize in Literature for 2018 is awarded to the Polish author **Olga Tokarczuk**. She has been awarded “for a narrative imagination that with encyclopedic passion represents the crossing of boundaries as a form of life.”
- iii. The Nobel Prize in Literature for 2019 is awarded to the Austrian author **Peter Handke**. He has been awarded “for an influential work that with linguistic ingenuity has explored the periphery and the specificity of human experience.”



The Nobel Prize in Physiology or Medicine 2019

- i. The Nobel Assembly has announced the 2019 Nobel Prize in Physiology or Medicine at Karolinska Institutet. The prize will be awarded jointly to **William G. Kaelin, Sir Peter J. Ratcliffe and Gregg L. Semenza**. They have been nominated for the prize for their discoveries of how cells sense and adapt to oxygen availability.
- ii. The prize committees are currently working carefully and independently to select the recipients of the 2019 Nobel Prize and the laureates for other fields: Physics, Chemistry, Literature, Peace Prize and the Sveriges Riksbank Prize in Economic Sciences in Memory of Alfred Nobel.
- iii. The recipient for above prizes will be announced as per the schedule between 8th to 14th October, 2019.



The Nobel Prize in Physics 2019

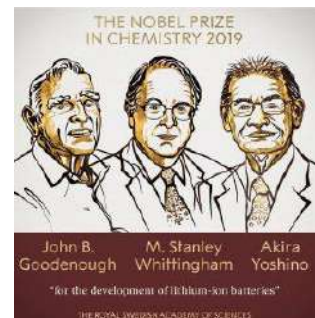
- i. The Nobel Assembly has announced the 2019 Nobel Prize in Physics. The prize will be awarded to **James Peebles, Michel Mayor and Didier Queloz**.
- ii. **James Peebles** was honoured for his contributions to the understanding of the evolution of the Universe and Earth's place in the cosmos. **Michel**



Mayor and **Didier Queloz** were awarded the prize for finding 51 Pegasi b, a gas giant orbiting a star 50 light-years away.

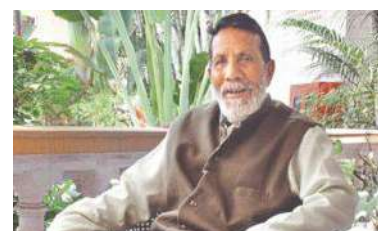
The Nobel Prize in Chemistry 2019

- i. The **Royal Swedish Academy of Sciences** has decided to award the Nobel Prize in **Chemistry 2019**.
- ii. The prize will be awarded jointly to **John B. Goodenough, M. Stanley Whittingham** and **Akira Yoshino**. They have been nominated for the prize for the development of **lithium-ion batteries**.
- iii. This lightweight, rechargeable and powerful battery is now used in everything from mobile phones to laptops and electric vehicles.



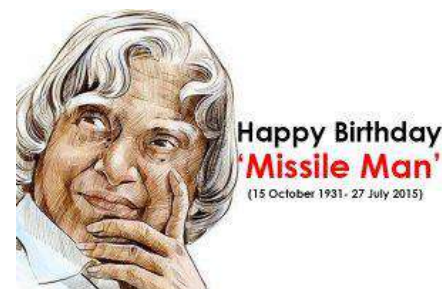
Chandi Prasad Bhatt to get Indira Gandhi award for national integration

- i. The **31st Indira Gandhi Award** for National Integration for the years 2017 and 2018 will be awarded to the pioneer of the Chipko Movement **Chandi Prasad Bhatt** for his services in promoting and preserving the national integration.
- ii. He is a Ramon Magsaysay award recipient for the year 1982. He was also awarded Padma Shri in 1986, the Padma Bhushan in 2005 and the Gandhi Peace prize in 2013.
- iii. The award consists of a citation and cash of Rs 10 lakh to be given to the awardee by Congress president Sonia Gandhi on October 31, the death anniversary of former Prime Minister Indira Gandhi.



Nation pays homage to former President Dr A P J Abdul Kalam on his 88th birth anniversary

- i. The nation pays homage to former President **Dr A P J Abdul Kalam** on his **88th birth anniversary** and remembered his contributions to the country.
- ii. The birthday of Dr APJ Abdul Kalam the most popular President of India is celebrated as **World Students Day**.
- iii. **Avul Pakir Jainulabdeen Abdul Kalam**, better known as the 'Missile Man of India' for his contributions towards the development of the country's missile projects was born on October 15, 1931, at Rameshwaram in Tamil Nadu.
- iv. In 2002, Dr Kalam became the 11th President of India and famously became the 'People's President' for his friendly nature to one and all. The former President suffered a cardiac arrest on July 27, 2015, and passed away while giving a lecture at the Indian Institute of Management Shillong.



"Spirit Of Kerala" wins People's Choice Award

- i. Short film from Kerala "**Spirit Of Kerala**" has won the **People's Choice Award** at the recently concluded **My Rode Reel film competition**. The film won the honour beating 1,680 entries. The short film is based on a boat race and directed by **Arun Joseph**.
- ii. My Rode Reel film competition is touted as the 'world's largest short film competition'.



Ashleigh Barty wins 'The Don' Award

- i. **Ashleigh Barty** has been awarded **Australian sport's** highest individual honour '**The Don' Award** at the annual Sport Australia Hall of Fame.
- ii. With the award, she has joined legends like Cathy Freeman and Ian Thorpe in lifting the prestigious prize.
- iii. Barty was the first Australian to win the French Open in 46 years and is now aiming to become the first Australian woman to end the season with the No.1



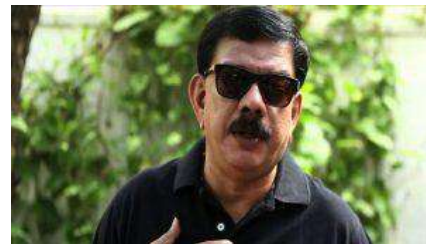
ranking since Margaret Court in 1973.

Director Priyadarshan gets MP govt's Kishore Kumar award

i. Noted director and producer **Priyadarshan**, who has made several blockbuster Malayalam and Hindi films, was conferred the **Madhya Pradesh government's National Kishore Kumar Samman** for 2018-19 at a function in Khandwa, MP.

ii. The award, instituted by MP Department of Culture, carries a cash prize of Rs 2 lakh and a citation

iii. Khandwa is the birthplace of the legendary singer-actor Kishore Kumar and he had expired on October 13, 1987, in Mumbai.



Margaret Atwood and Bernardine Evaristo jointly win Booker Prize

i. **Margaret Atwood and Bernardine Evaristo** have jointly won the **2019 Booker Prize** after judges flout the rules by declaring a tie.

ii. The Booker rules say the prize must not be divided, but the judges insisted they could not separate Atwood's – **'The Testament'** and **'Girl, Woman, Other'** by Evaristo, who is the first black woman to win the prestigious award since its creation in 1969.

iii. British Indian novelist **Salman Rushdie's** tragicomic **'Quichotte'** was among the six books shortlisted for the prize.

iv. This was the fifth time that the Mumbai-born novelist was shortlisted, including the 1981 win where he bagged the award for "Midnight's Children".



Vice President M Venkaiah Naidu presents Most Eminent Senior Citizen Award to K Parasaran

i. The Vice President Shri Venkaiah Naidu presented the **"Most Eminent Senior Citizen Award"** to the scholar, legal luminary and former Attorney General of India **K Parasaran**.

ii. He was honoured with the award on the occasion of **Elder's Day celebration** organized by **Age Care India**. He was awarded Padma Bhushan in 2003 and Padma Vibhushan in 2011.



Hong Kong's orchestra wins "Orchestra of the year award 2019" at Gramophone Awards

i. **Hong Kong Philharmonic Orchestra** has been named **orchestra of the year** at the **2019 Gramophone Awards**.

ii. The group is the first Asian orchestra to win the award, a fact noted by its Dutch-born conductor Van Zweden, who has been its Music Director since 2012.



Lionel Messi wins 3rd straight Golden Shoe as top scorer in European Leagues

i. Barcelona captain **Leo Messi** received his **6th Golden Shoe** as the top scorer in the **European leagues**. Messi won the trophy for a 3rd straight year after scoring **36 goals**, 3 more than his closest challenger, Kylian Mbappe of Paris Saint-Germain.

ii. Messi now has two more Golden Shoes than his great rival Cristiano Ronaldo. The award was created in **1967** when it was won by Eusebio.

Jennifer Aniston to receive People's Icon Award 2019

i. **Jennifer Aniston** to receive **People's Icon Award 2019** at the **2019 People's Choice Awards**. The actress would be the 2nd-ever recipient of the title. 50-year-old Aniston has played the most iconic, unforgettable characters and has conquered comedy and drama on both the small and big screen. She is a 7-time People's Choice Award winner.

India wins four UNESCO heritage awards

i. The UNESCO Asia-Pacific Awards for Cultural Heritage Conservation awards were announced at a ceremony held in Penang, Malaysia. 4 heritage landmarks from India were chosen for the UNESCO Asia-Pacific Awards for Cultural Heritage Conservation 2019.



Heritage landmark	Award category	Place
Flora Fountain	Honourable mention	Mumbai
Keneseth Eliyahoo Synagogue	Award of Merit	Mumbai
Our Lady of Glory Church	Award of Merit	Mumbai
Vikram Sarabhai Library from (IIM)	Award of Distinction	Ahmedabad

- Renewal of **Tai Kwun Centre** for Heritage and Arts in Hong Kong received the Award of Excellence, which is the highest award among all categories.

“Gully Boy” & “Delhi Crime” wins at Asian Academy Creative Awards

i. “Gully Boy” & “Delhi Crime” have won awards at the Asian Academy Creative Awards.

ii. Ranveer Singh and Alia Bhatt-starrer “Gully Boy” won the **best film from India** award in the regional finals at the Asian Academy Creative Awards ceremony.

iii. Netflix series “Delhi Crime” has won in a number of categories at the Asian Academy Creative Awards. Delhi Crime won for Best **Actress**, Best **Direction**, Best **Drama Series**, Best **Editing** and Best Original Programme.



Mohun Bagan confers life membership to Abhijit Banerjee

i. The Mohun Bagan Athletic Club has conferred **life membership** to Nobel laureate **Abhijit Banerjee**.

ii. The club handed him the First Day Cover of 1911 and the maroon green jersey with his name written on it. He was also given a book on the history of the club.

iii. In 1911, Mohun Bagan became the first Indian club to win the Indian Football Association (IFA) Shield beating the East Yorkshire Regiment of the British Army in the final.



Sports

Wilson-Satish pair wins gold at Asian Age Group Championships

i. India's **N. Wilson Singh** and **Satish Kumar Prahapati** won the gold medal in the **10m** platform synchronised **diving event** at the **Asian Age Group Championships** held in Bengaluru.

ii. The duo of Wilson and Satish scored 290.19 score to beat Uzbekistan's Zaynetdinov Marsel and Khasanov Botir, who scored 280.53 points. The bronze medal went to Mojtaba Valipour and Masood Vakili of Iran with a score of 266.16.



Fraser-Pryce wins World Championship 100m gold

i. Jamaican sprint legend **Shelly-Ann Fraser-Pryce** won **gold medal** in **100m** race of 2019 **IAAF World Championships** held in **Doha**.

ii. This was her 4th women's 100 metres world title. She defeated Britain's European champion Dina Asher-Smith who took silver medal while Marie-Josée Ta Lou finished 3rd.



Mercedes' Lewis Hamilton won 2019 Russia F1 Grand Pri

i. Formula One world champion **Lewis Hamilton** of Mercedes won the 2019 Russia F1 Grand Prix (Formula 1 GP) at Sochi Autodrom race track in Russia.

ii. Mercedes **Valtteri Bottas** (Finland) and Ferrari's **Charles Leclerc** (Monaco) won the second and third spot respectively. The victory was the 82nd of Hamilton's career, and ninth of the season, leaving him nine short of Michael Schumacher's all-time record of 91.

Abdul Quadir Khan Wins Silver Medal in Asian Body Building & Physique Sports Championship 2019

i. Maj **Abdul Quadir Khan** of the Corps of Signals has won the **Silver medal** at the **53rd Asian Body Building and Physique Sports Championship** held at Batam, **Indonesia**.

ii. His accomplishment in the sport has brought glory to the Indian Army and Corps of Signals.



Eliud Kipchoge becomes 1st athlete to run sub 2-hour marathon

i. Kenya's **Eliud Kipchoge** has become the **1st athlete** to run **sub 2-hour marathon**. He busted the mythical 2-hour barrier for the marathon on a specially prepared course in a huge Vienna park.

ii. He finished the marathon with an unofficial time of **1 hr 59 min 40.2 sec** and became the first ever to run a marathon in under 2 hours.

iii. **Eliud Kipchoge** already holds the men's world record for the distance with a time of 2 hr 01 min 39 sec, which he set in the flat Berlin marathon on September 16, 2018.



M C Mary Kom wins bronze in World Women's Boxing Championships

i. **M C Mary Kom** has won the **bronze medal** in the **51kg** event of **World Women's Boxing Championships** held in Ulan-Ude, **Russia**.

ii. She lost in an intense semifinal bout to Turkey's Busenaz Cakiroglu. This bronze is her first world medal in the 51kg category.

Novak Djokovic wins Japan Open title

i. **Novak Djokovic** defeated Australia's John Millman in the finals to win the **Japan Open title**. He defeated Millman with a score of 6-3, 6-2 and secured a **76th career singles** tournament win.

Christine Wolf wins Hero Women's Indian Open

i. Austria's **Christine Wolf** has won the **Hero Women's Indian Open** at Gurugram, Haryana.

ii. It was Christine's first title after six years on the Ladies European Tour. Norway's Mariaane Skarpnord finished as runner-up while England's Meghan MacLaren finished third in the competition.

iii. Among the Indian players, Anika Varma finished at 5th position while Tvesa Malik was at 6th position.



Harmanpreet Kaur becomes first Indian to play 100 T20Is

i. **Harmanpreet Kaur** has become the **1st Indian** to play **100 T20 International matches**. She has joined the club of 10 female players who have reached the three figure mark in terms of appearances.

ii. New Zealand's Suzie Bates and Australia's Ellyse Perry are on top of the list with 111 appearances.

iii. Harmanpreet Kaur has 2 more appearances in T20Is than MS Dhoni and Rohit Sharma, who have played the highest number of matches for India in men's cricket.



Simone Biles wins 15th world title

i. **Simone Biles** has clinched a record-extending **15th World Gymnastics Championship title** in Stuttgart, **Germany**. With the victory, she has become the event's **most decorated woman**.

ii. Simone Biles won a record 21st medal at the world gymnastics championships as the United States retained their women's team all-around title.

iii. Biles played a key role in a commanding performance by the USA, earning the most points in three of the four disciplines: the vault, balance beam and floor.



Manju Rani wins silver medal in World Women's Boxing C'ships

i. **Manju Rani** settled for silver medal in World Women's Boxing Championships at Ulan-Ude in Russia. Russian **Ekaterina Paltceva** defeated Rani 4 -1 in the 48-kilogram category in the final match of the tournament.

Lakshya Sen wins maiden BWF World Tour title

i. Indian shuttler **Lakshya Sen** clinched his maiden BWF World Tour title by winning the **Dutch Open men's singles** at Almere in the Netherlands.

ii. He rallied from a game deficit to defeat Yusuke Onodera of Japan 15-21, 21-14, 21-15 in a final.



ICC changes super over rule for all its major events

i. The **International Cricket Council (ICC)** has changed the **super-over rule** for all its major events following the uproar over the outcome of the men's World Cup final this year when England was declared winners against New Zealand on boundary count.

ii. As per new rule, in case of a super over tie, there will be a repeated super over until one team has more runs than the other.



Zimbabwe, Nepal readmitted as ICC members

- i.** Zimbabwe and Nepal were re-admitted as ICC members in a meeting held in Dubai.
- ii.** Zimbabwe will now be able to take up their place in the ICC Men's U19 Cricket World Cup in January and the ICC Super League later in 2020.
- iii.** Zimbabwe Cricket had been suspended from membership of the International Cricket Council (ICC) with immediate effect in July this year. Nepal had been banned in 2016 for "governmental interference" as well.



Mercedes's Valtteri Bottas won 2019 Japanese Grand Prix

- i.** Mercedes' Valtteri Bottas (Finland) won the 2019 Japanese Grand Prix held at the Suzuka International Racing Course in Suzuka in Mie Prefecture, Japan.
- ii.** Ferrari's Sebastian Vettel (Germany) and Mercedes' Lewis Hamilton (Britain) were ranked at the 2nd and 3rd places respectively.

Kuhoo Garg-Dhruv Rawat pair wins Egypt International mixed doubles title

- i.** Kuhoo Garg and Dhruv Rawat win the badminton mixed doubles title at the Egypt International 2019 in Cairo, Egypt.
- ii.** The unseeded Garg and Rawat held their nerves for a tight 21-16, 22-20 victory over the third seeds Utkarsh Arora and Karishma Wadkar in an all-Indian final.



Mumbai's Yashasvi Jaiswal becomes youngest cricketer to score double hundred in One Day cricket

- i.** The 17-year-old Mumbai teenager Yashasvi Jaiswal make history as he became the youngest cricketer in the world to score a double century in One Day cricket.
- ii.** He playing in his debut Vijay Hazare season. He scored 203 off 154 balls against Jharkhand at Alur, Karnataka. His score comprised 12 sixes and 17 fours.

Great Britain wins 9th Edition of Sultan of Johor Cup hockey Tournament 2019

- i.** Great Britain defeated India in the finals by 2-1 in the 9th edition of the Sultan of Johor Cup 2019, an international men's under-21 field hockey tournament, was held at Johor Bahru, Malaysia. It was their 3rd title.
- ii.** India's Shilanand Lakra with 5 goals emerged as a top scorer; Japan's Kosei Kawabe was named as the Best Player of the tournament and Oliver Payne of Great Britain was named as the GoalKeeper of the tournament.



Praveen Kumar wins gold in Wushu World Championship

- i.** Praveen Kumar has become the 1st Indian man to win a gold medal at the Wushu World Championships.
- ii.** He defeated Philippines' Russel Diaz by 2-1 in the men's sanda event in the 48kg category of the 15th World Wushu Championships held in Shanghai.
- iii.** Among other Indians, Poonam in women's 75kg category and Sanathoi Devi in women's 52kg category secured silver medals while Vikrant Baliyan bagged the bronze in the men's 60kg category.
- iv.** Wushu Sanda is a martial art which combines full-contact kickboxing, including close range punches and kicks, with wrestling, takedowns, throws, sweeps and kick catches.



A new book entitled "Ten Studies in Kashmir: History and Politics" released

- i.** An Indian historian, educationist and Padma Shri recipient, Kashi Nath Pandit's new book entitled "Ten

Studies in Kashmir: History and Politics", published by Academic Foundation. A new book looks at the riveting history of Jammu and Kashmir from the time of its political and geographic consolidation to the abrogation of the state's special status.

ii. The book, which comes after the scrapping of Article 370 provisions in August, will shed light on the happenings from 1947 till the revocation of the special status of the state.

Jasprit Bumrah, Smriti Mandhana win Wisden India Almanack Cricketer of the Year award

i. Indian Fast bowler **Jasprit Bumrah** and batswoman **Smriti Mandhana** won the Wisden India Almanack Cricketer of the Year award. The other 3 winners are Pakistan's Fakhar Zaman, Sri Lanka's Dimuth Karunaratne and Afghanistan's Rashid Khan.

ii. Smriti Mandhana became the third woman to win 'Cricketer of the Year', after Mithali Raj and Deepti Sharma. Former Indian cricketers **Gundappa Viswanath** and **Lala Amarnath** were inducted into the **Wisden India Hall of Fame**.

iii. Wisden India Almanack, annual cricket publication, also featured the name of Indian cricketer **Mayank Agarwal** for his splendid performance in the Test match against South Africa in a recently concluded series.

iv. The book titled "**Cricket Country: The Untold History of the First All India Team**" by Prashant Kidambi was adjudged the Wisden India Book of the Year 2019 (Published by Penguin India).



Graeme Smith has been elected as MCC Honorary Life Member

i. Former South Africa skipper **Graeme Smith** has been elected an **Honorary Life Member** of the **Marylebone Cricket Club (MCC)**.

ii. Smith has an impressive record in One-Day International, scoring 6,989 runs including ten centuries and also became South Africa's youngest ever captain at 22.

iii. Former Australian off-spinner **Tim May** was also awarded Honorary Life Membership in recognition of his outstanding achievements in cricket.

iv. The pair follows Paul Collingwood, AB de Villiers, Mitchell Johnson and Adrian Morgan in being awarded Honorary Life Membership of MCC in 2019.



Anandan wins 2 golds at the 7th CISM World Military Games

i. Para-athlete **Anandan Gunasekaran** has won **2 gold medals** at the **7th CISM World Military Games** held in Wuhan, China.

ii. He won the medal in the disabled men's 100m and 400m IT1 events. Gunasekaran finished the **100m** race in 12 seconds and won India's 1st medal in the ongoing Games.

iii. He clinched his 2nd gold clocking 53.35s in the disabled men's **400m** IT1 event.



Bengal Warriors wins 7th season of Vivo Pro Kabaddi League 2019

i. In the final of **7th season of Vivo Pro Kabaddi League 2019**, **Bengal Warriors** won their first title by defeating **Dabang Delhi** by 39-34 at the EKA Arena by TransStadia in Ahmedabad, Gujarat.

ii. Most Valuable Player award of the League was bagged by **Naveen Kumar** from Dabang Delhi, Best raider to **Pawan Kumar Sherawat** from Bengaluru Bulls; Best defender award to U Mumba's **Fazel Atrachali** and New Young Player of the season to UP (Uttar Pradesh) Yoddha's **Sumit**.



Riya Bhatia wins ITF title in Nigeria

i. **Riya Bhati** has won the **ITF women's tennis tournament** in Lagos, **Nigeria**. She defeated Slovenian

player Nastja Kolar of Slovenia 7-5, 1-6, 6-3 in the summit clash of the \$25,000 ITF women's tennis tournament.

ii. This was the 3rd singles title in the professional circuit for Riya, who had won her last two titles in 2016 and 2017.

2024 Olympic Games logo unveiled in Paris

i. The logo for the **Paris 2024 Olympic Games** unveiled at a ceremony in the French capital.

ii. The circular design with Paris 2024 in the **art deco style** which was in vogue in 1924 when Paris last hosted the Games, also incorporates the lips and outline of Marianne, the personification of the French Republic since the revolution in 1789.

Do You Know-

- President of France: Emmanuel Macron; Capital: Paris; Currency: Euro, CFP Franc.

Karnataka wins Vijay Hazare Trophy 2019-20

i. **Karnataka** has won the **2019-20 Vijay Hazare Trophy**.

Karnataka **defeated Tamil Nadu** by 9 wickets in the finals of Vijay Hazare Trophy at Bengaluru.

ii. Karnataka won their **4th Vijay Hazare Trophy** title with a dominant display against Tamil Nadu. Abhimanyu Mithun took a hat-trick in the summit clash.



Raunak Sadhwani becomes India's 65th Grandmaster

i. **Raunak Sadhwani** has become **India's 65th Grandmaster**. He defeated Russian GM Alexander Motylev to become the Grandmaster at the age of 13 years, 9 months and 28 days.

ii. Sadhwani's first GM norm came in the 2019 Aeroflot Open and the 2nd in the 2019 Porticcio Open and the final norm at FIDE-Chess Grand Swiss. With the victory, Sadhwani has joined the growing list of country's teenaged GMs that includes enormously-talented Nihal Sarin, R. Praggnanandhaa and D. Gukesh, among others.



Rohit Sharma set a record of highest average in Test cricket

i. Indian cricketer **Rohit Sharma** smashed the former **Australia cricketer Don Bradman's** record of highest average in Test cricket on home soil. He set the record on day two of the third Test match against South Africa.

ii. He broke the **71-year-old** record that was previously held by Bradman by scoring an average of **99.84**. Bradman, the legendary Australia cricketer had an average of **98.22**.

Satwiksairaj Rankireddy-Chirag Shetty bags silver medal at French Open

i. Indian men's doubles pair **Chirag Shetty** and **Satwiksairaj Rankireddy** has won the **silver** medal in the men's doubles event at **French Open**.

ii. The Indian pair lost the summit clash to the Indonesian pair of Marcus Fernaldi Gideon and Kevin Sanjaya Sukamuljo by 18-21, 16-21.

ICC bans Bangladeshi cricketer Shakib Al Hasan for 2 years

i. The **International Cricket Council** has banned Bangladesh Test and T20 Captain **Shakib Al Hasan** for **2 years** from all forms of cricket. The Bangladeshi cricketer has been banned for not reporting to the ICC that he was approached by the bookies.

ii. The cricketer was approached by the bookies during the 2018 home tri-series against Zimbabwe and Sri Lanka. One year of the punishment has been suspended after he accepted three charges of breaching the ICC Anti-Corruption Code.



Lewis Hamilton wins Mexico Grand Prix 2019

- i.**Mercedes' driver and 5-time world champion **Lewis Hamilton** clinched his 10th win of the season for Mercedes at the **Mexican Grand Prix 2019**.
- ii.**Ferrari's Sebastian Vettel, a German racing driver, and Mercedes' Valtteri Bottas, a Finnish racing driver, finished second and third respectively.

Shiva Thapa, Pooja Rani clinch gold in Olympic Test event for Boxing

- i.**Indian boxer **Shiva Thapa** and **Pooja Rani** clinched gold medals in Olympic Test Event for Boxing in Tokyo, Japan.
- ii.**While **Ashish** settled for a silver, ending India's brilliant campaign at the Olympic Test Event.
- iii.**Four-time Asian medallist Thapa outpunched Kazakhstan's national champion and Asian bronze-winner Sanatali Tolgayev 5-0 to claim the top honours in the 63-kilogram category.
- iv.**Former Asian Games bronze-medallist Pooja Rani edged past Australia's Caitlin Parker in 75-kilogram category to ensure that the Indian women's contingent also had gold in its kitty. In 69 kilogram category, Ashish, however, lost to Japan's Sewon Okazawa to sign off with a silver medal.



Obituaries

First female UN refugee chief Sadako Ogata passes away

- i. First female UN refugee chief **Sadako Ogata** passed away. She served as the Chief of the UN refugees from 1991-2000.
- ii. She had also served as the head of the Japan International Cooperation Agency (JICA) from 2003- 2012 and also as the chairman of the United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF) from 1978-1979.



INA veteran from Tamil Nadu V Ganesan passes away

- i. Indian National Army (INA) veteran **V Ganesan** passed away. He joined **Netaji's INA** at the age of 18 and received six months of military training in Singapore.
- ii. While participating in the battle against the British Army in Myanmar, he was arrested and was imprisoned for 10 months in Yangon jail and was later repatriated to India.
- iii. He was honoured by the President of India in 2012 at a function in Rashtrapati Bhavan. He also a recipient of Copper Plaques from both the central and state governments.



Legendary singer Jose Jose passes away

- i. Legendary Mexican singer **Jose Jose** who was often called 'El Principe de la Cancion' or 'The Prince of Song, passes away.
- ii. In a career of more than four-decade, the singer sold millions of albums and picked by 6 Grammy nominations.

Grammy-winning opera star 'Jessye Norman' passes away

- i. **Jessye Norman**, the renowned international **opera star** whose passionate soprano voice won her 4 Grammy awards and the national medal of arts, passed away recently. She was a trailblazing performer and one of the rare black singers to attain worldwide stardom in the opera world.
- ii. **Jessye Norman** made her operatic debut in 1969 in Berlin, wowing audiences around the world on stages in Milan, London and New York. Norman, at 52, became the youngest person to earn the Kennedy Center Honor in the organization's 20-year history.



Alexei Leonov, the first human to walk in space passes away

- i. **Alexei Leonov**, the first human to walk in space passed away. He was the legendary Soviet cosmonaut who became the first human to walk in space 54 years ago.
- ii. During this mission, on 18 March 1965, Leonov exited the spacecraft and walked for 12 minutes and 9 seconds.



American actress, singer, and model, Diahann Carroll passes away

- i. US actress **Diahann Carroll**, who won Golden Globe and Tony awards and was nominated for an Oscar passed away.
- ii. She was also the first black woman to win the Tony Award for best actress for her role in the Broadway musical No Strings.



Legendary saxophonist Kadri Gopalnath passes away

- i. Legendary **saxophonist** and the **Padma Shri** awardee **Kadri Gopalnath** passed away. The Carnatic music

maestro won multiple awards in his illustrious career, including the Kendra Sangeetha Nataka Academy Award and Karnataka Kalashree.

ii. He had the distinction of being the first Carnatic musician to be invited in the BBC Promenade concert in the Royal Albert Hall at London in 1994.

Legendary Cuba ballet dancer Alicia Alonso passes away

i. Cuban ballet dancer **Alicia Alonso** passed away at 98. she is considered one of the greatest 20th Century ballerinas.

ii. In 1948, she founded the Alicia Alonso Ballet Company in Cuba's capital. She formed the National Ballet of Cuba after the revolution.



Renowned painter Kalidas Karmakar passes away in Dhaka

i. Internationally acclaimed painter of Bangladesh **Kalidas Karmakar** passed away in Dhaka.

ii. He was born on January 10, 1946, in Faridpur district, he completed his graduation from the Government College of Fine Arts and Crafts in Kolkata in 1969.

iii. He was awarded **Shilpakala Padak** in 2016 and the **Ekushey Padak** in 2018 by the Government of Bangladesh for his contribution to fine arts.



Belgian Paralympian Marieke vervoort ends life through euthanasia at 40

i. **Marieke Vervoort, Belgian Paralympic athlete** has ended her life at the age of 40 through **euthanasia** (the practice of intentionally ending a life to relieve pain and suffering). She was suffering from a muscle disease that caused her constant pain, paralysis in her legs.

ii. She was diagnosed with the disease at the age of 14, after which she made her life in the sport and took part in basketball, swimming and triathlon in a wheelchair.

iii. She won gold in the 100 meters and silver in the 200 meters at the 2012 London Games, while at the Rio Games 2016 she managed to win silver in the 400 meters and bronze in the 100 meters. She signed euthanasia documents in 2008, to allow a doctor to end her life.



Former Gujarat Chief Minister Dilip Parikh passes away

i. Former Gujarat Chief Minister **Dilip Parikh** passed away. He served as the 13th Chief Minister of Gujarat between October 1997 and March 1998.

ii. He was an industrialist and also served as president of the Gujarat Chamber of Commerce and Industry.

Padma Shri awardee & India's oldest Yoga teacher Nanammal passes away

i. Padma Shri awardee & India's oldest Yoga teacher **Nanammal** passed away at 99. She had bagged 150 awards, 6 national-level gold medals and Yoga Ratna award of the Government of Karnataka in 2014.

ii. She was also conferred the Padma Shri in January 2019 for her efforts to make people lead a healthy life.



Important Days with theme

International Day of Older Persons: 1 October

i. The United Nations observes 1 October every year as **International Day of Older Persons**.

ii. The International Day of Older Persons is an opportunity to highlight the important contributions that older people make to society and raise awareness of the opportunities and challenges of ageing in today's world.

iii. **2019 Theme: The Journey to Age Equality**. The theme focuses on pathways of coping with existing and preventing future old age inequalities.

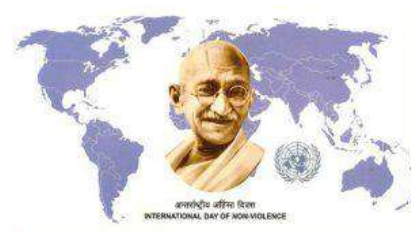
Do You Know-

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



International Day of Non-Violence: 2nd October

i. The **International Day of Non-Violence** is observed on **2 October**, the birthday of Mahatma Gandhi. According to the **UN General Assembly**, which established the commemoration, International Day is an occasion to “disseminate the message of non-violence, including through education and public awareness”.

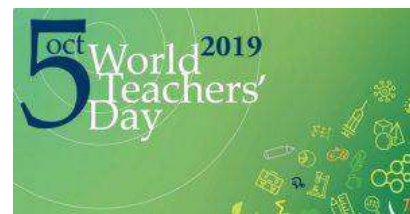


World Teachers' Day: 5 October

i. **World Teachers' Day** or **International Teachers' Days** is celebrated on **October 5**. The aim of World Teacher's Day is to acknowledge the significant role of educators across the world.

ii. It commemorates the anniversary of the adoption of UNESCO's 1966 recommendation concerning the status of teachers.

iii. This year's theme: '**Young Teachers: The future of the Profession**'.



World Habitat Day: 7 October

i. The **United Nations** designated the **first Monday of October** of every year as **World Habitat Day**. The Day is observed to remind the world that we all have the power and the responsibility to shape the future of our cities and towns.

ii. The focus of this year's World Habitat Day is promoting the contribution of innovative frontier technologies to sustainable waste management to achieve Sustainable Development Goal 11: inclusive, safe, resilient and sustainable cities.

iii. **Theme for 2019:** Frontier Technologies as an innovative tool to transform waste to wealth.

iv. This year's **Global Observance** of World Habitat Day will be held in **Mexico City**.

Air Force Day: 8th October

i. **Air Force Day** is celebrated every year by the **Indian Air Force** on **8th of October**. This year Indian Air Force celebrated its **87th anniversary**. The IAF was founded on October 8, 1932.

ii. On the occasion of **87th anniversary of Indian Air Force**, a scintillating air display by various aircraft was organized as the hallmark of the Air Force Day Parade-cum-Investiture Ceremony.

iii. The display commenced with flag bearing skydivers of the famous **AKASH GANGA** Team dropping out of an AN-32 aircraft in their colourful canopies. Indian Air Force officers who participated in the Balakot airstrike, flew three Mirage 2000 aircraft and two Su-30 MKI fighter aircraft in Avenger formation during the event.



World Post Day: 9 October

i. **United Nations** celebrates **World Post Day** every year on **9 October**.

The purpose of World Post Day is to bring **awareness to the Post's role in the everyday lives** of people and businesses, as well as its contribution to global social and economic development.

ii. The Posts in many countries use the event to introduce or promote new postal products and services.

iii. The day marks the establishment of the Universal Postal Union in 1874 in the Swiss Capital, Bern. It was declared World Post Day by the UPU Congress held in Tokyo, Japan in 1969.

World Mental Health Day: 10 October

i. **World Health Organization** observes **World Mental Health Day** on **10th of October** every year. The day is celebrated with an

objective of **raising awareness of mental health** issues around the world and mobilizing efforts in support of mental health.

ii. The Day provides an opportunity for all stakeholders working on mental health issues to talk about their work and what more needs to be done to make mental health care a reality for people worldwide.

iii. The **theme** selected for this year's Day: **Suicide Prevention**.

iv. This year's Day is supported by WHO, the International Association for Suicide Prevention, and United for Global Mental Health. World Mental Health Day is organized by the World Federation for Mental Health.



International Day of the Girl Child: 11 October

i. The **United Nations** observes **International Day of the Girl Child** on **11th of October** every year. The day aims to highlight and address the needs and challenges girls face, while promoting girls' empowerment and the fulfillment of their human rights.

ii. The **theme** for 2019: **GirlForce: Unscripted and Unstoppable**.



Do You Know-

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

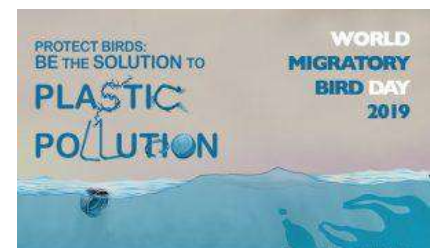
World Migratory Bird Day: 12 October

i. **World Migratory Bird Day** is observed on **12 October** every year. It is an annual awareness-raising campaign highlighting the need for the conservation of migratory birds and their habitats.

ii. It has a global outreach and is an effective tool to help raise global awareness of the threats faced by migratory birds.

iii. **Theme for 2019:** Protect Birds: Be the Solution to Plastic Pollution!

Do You Know-



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- Secretary General of the United Nations: Antonio Guterres.

World Standards Day: 14 October

i. **World Standards Day** (or **International Standards Day**) is celebrated internationally each year on **14 October**.

ii. The aim of World Standards Day is to raise awareness among regulators, industry and consumers as to the importance of



standardization to the global economy.

iii.2019 theme: **Video standards create a global stage**

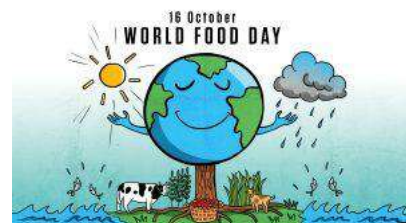
World Food Day: 16 October

i.**World Food Day** is celebrated every year around the world on **16 October** in honor of the date of the founding of the Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO) of the United Nations in 1945. The theme for WFD 2019 is **“Our Actions Are Our Future”**.

ii.This day generates awareness globally for those who suffer from hunger and to ensure the need for food security and nutritious diets for all. The main focus of this day is that food is a basic and fundamental human right.

Do You Know-

- Food and Agriculture Organization headquarters: Rome, Italy.
- Food and Agriculture Organization Established: 16 October 1945.



International Day for the Eradication of Poverty : 17 October

i.The United Nations' (UN) **International Day for the Eradication of Poverty** is observed on **October 17** each year since 1993.

ii.It promotes people's awareness of the need to eradicate poverty and destitution worldwide, particularly in developing countries.

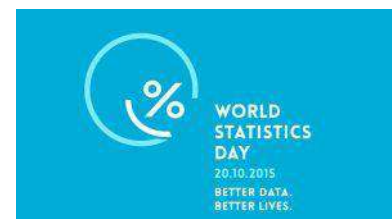
iii.2019 Theme: **Acting Together to Empower Children, their Families and Communities to End Poverty**.

World Statistics Day: 20 October

i.**World Statistics Day** is observed on **October 20**, once every 5 years. The next World statistics Day celebrates on 20 October 2020. The day acknowledges the fundamental importance of sustainable national statistical capacity.

ii.This year World Statistics day theme is **“Better Data, Better Lives”**.

iii.The first World Statistics Day was celebrated in 2010, as decided in resolution 64/267, and was deemed an overwhelming success, with activities organized in more than 130 Member States and by at least 40 international and regional organizations and entities.



United Nations Day: 24 October

i.**24th October** has been celebrated as **United Nations Day** since **1948**. UN Day marks the anniversary of the entry into force in 1945 of the UN Charter. The United Nations was founded in 1945 to support collective action to realize peace, development and human rights for all.

ii.United Nations will commemorate the **75th anniversary** of the United Nations in **2020** with inclusive global conversation on the role of global cooperation in building the future we want.

iii.The **UN75 initiative** seeks to spark dialogue and action on how we can build a better world despite the many challenges we face.



World Day For Audiovisual Heritage: 27 October

i.**World Day for Audiovisual Heritage** is celebrated all over the world on **27th of October**. The theme for World Day for Audiovisual Heritage 2019 is **“Engage the Past Through Sound and Images”**.

ii.In 2005, UNESCO (United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization) General Conference declared October 27 as World Day for Audiovisual Heritage.



India celebrates “National Unity Day” on 31st October

i.India is celebrating the **144th birth anniversary of Sardar Vallabh Bhai Patel** as **National Unity Day**. The birth anniversary of Sardar Patel i.e. **31st October** is observed as the National Unity Day every year.

ii.Prime Minister Narendra Modi paid tribute to Sardar Patel at the ‘Statue of Unity’ in Kevadiya, Gujarat and also witnessed the ‘**Rashtriya Ekta Diwas Parade**’ by personnel of Gujarat Police and central armed forces.

iii.Sardar Vallabh Bhai Patel is also known as the **Iron Man of India**. At the time of independence, Sardar Vallabhbhai Patel played an instrumental role in India’s struggle for independence, and later during the integration of the country by convincing several princely states to align with the Indian Union.

