

GENERAL AWARENESS-CURRENT AFFAIRS

MONTH OF DECEMBER-2019

List of Important Days

- December 01 - World AIDS Day. (Theme - "Communities Makes The difference")
- December 01 - Border Security Force (BSF) personnel celebrated the 55th raising day.
- December 02 - International Day for the Abolition of Slavery.
- December 02 - National Pollution Control Day.
- December 03 - International Day of Persons with Disabilities. (Theme - Promoting the participation of persons with disabilities)
- December 04 - Indian Navy Day. (Theme - "Indian Navy-Salient, Strong and Swift")
- December 05 - International Volunteer Day.
- December 05 - World Soil Day.
- December 05 - 2nd Nagaland Honey Bee Day. (Theme - "Save Bee Save Life")
- December 06 - Civil Defence Day.
- December 07 - Armed Forces Flag Day.
- December 07 - International Civil Aviation Day.
- December 09 - International Anti-Corruption Day. (Theme - "United Against Corruption")
- December 09 - International Day of Commemoration and Dignity of the Victims of the Crime of Genocide and of the Prevention of this crime.
- December 10 - Human Rights Day.
- December 11 - International Mountain Day. (Theme - "Mountains Matter for Youth")
- December 11 - International Mountain Day. (Theme - "Mountains Matter for Youth")
- December 12 - International Universal Health Coverage Day. (Theme - "Keep the promise")
- December 12 - International Day of Neutrality.
- December 14 - World Energy Conservation Day.
- December 16 - Vijay Diwas.
- December 18 - World Arabic Language Day.
- December 18 - International Migrants Day.
- December 20 - International Human Solidarity Day.
- December 22 - National Mathematics Day.
- December 23 - National Farmers Day or Kisan Diwas.

Reserve Bank of India

- Reserve Bank of India (RBI), the apex body, released the **fifth bi-monthly monetary policy** statement for 2019-20.
 - Rates remained unchanged in RBIs 5th Monetary Policy.
 - **Repo rate** remains the same as **5.15%**.
- Reserve Bank of India (RBI) said that the online **money transfer** allowed online money transfer through **National Electronic Funds Transfer (NEFT)** will be available **24x7** from 26 December 2019.

- Reserve Bank of India (RBI) released Guidelines for 'on tap' licensing of **Small Finance Banks (SFBs)** in the Private Sector after making few changes.
- The Reserve Bank of India (RBI) has instructed banks to make all online payments done through **National Electronic Funds Transfer (NEFT) and Real-time gross settlement (RTGS)** free of cost for **savings account holders**.
- **Google** searches for **Operation Twist surge in India**.
 - The announcement came after the central bank announced its version of the U.S. Federal Reserve unconventional monetary policy.
 - The searches for the term came from Delhi, Maharashtra.

State Bank of India

- **State Bank of India (SBI)** announced reduced 1-year **marginal cost-based lending rates (MCLR)** by **10 bps**.

Other Banks

- The **Kerala Bank**, the biggest in the State, was launched by Chief Minister Pinarayi Vijayan.
 - Under this, 13 district co-operative banks (DCBs) of Kerala were amalgamated with Kerala State Co-operative Bank to form the Kerala Bank.
- **Bank Of Baroda** Partners With **Gujarat Govt** To Provide **MSME Loans**.

Insurance

- **HDFC ERGO General Insurance Company** launched **my:health Woman Suraksha** policy to address all health-related concerns.

Supreme Court

- The **Supreme Court (SC)** ruled that an employee will become **ineligible for a pension** when he resigns because he **forfeits his past** service.

Election Commission

- The **Election Commission of India (ECI)** has launched the **Political Parties Registration Tracking Management System (PPRTMS)**.
 - ECI has reviewed the system and process of registration of political parties. The new guidelines will be effective from **1 January 2020**.

Central Government

- The government has introduced the **Independent Director's Databank**.
 - It has commanded that all the existing independent directors should register themselves in the databank within three months from **1 December 2019**.
- **Ministry of Home Affairs** reported that more than **14,500 Non-Governmental Organizations (NGOs)** have been banned in the last five years.
- Government has approved **seven** projects to set up **Frequency Modulation (FM)** transmitters in the premises of Sashastra Seema Bal (SSB).
- The Centre has decided to deploy **drones** with an aim to **destroy marijuana** plantations before the crop is harvested and finds its way into the hands of the drug cartels.

States

- The **Indigenous Faith Day (IFD) 2019** was celebrated on 1 December in **Tezu, Arunachal Pradesh**.
- **Maharashtra** Chief Minister **Uddhav Thackeray** approved **Rs.606 crores** to monitor all schemes related to **farmers** on a regular basis.
- **Nagaland** celebrated its **57th statehood day** on 1 December 2019.

- **Kerala** State government implemented the High Court directives of making **helmets mandatory** for **pillion riders**.
- The government is to establish a **National Maritime Heritage Museum**, at Lothal, a Harappan site on the Saurashtra coast in **Gujarat**.
- **National Disaster Management Authority** (NDMA), in collaboration with the Government of **Karnataka**, organized a two-day national workshop titled on Preparedness, Mitigation, and Management of Heat Wave in Bengaluru, Karnataka.
- The **Odisha** government is to **merge** the **State's Krushak Assistance for Livelihood and Income Augmentation** (Kalia) scheme with the **Centre's Pradhan Mantri Kisan Samman Nidhi** (PM-Kisan) yojana due to financial constraint.
- The 14 million litres per day (MLD) **Sewage Treatment Plant** (STP) **Sarai** in Haridwar, **Uttarakhand** started its functioning.
- **Assam** State government has launched **anti Depredation Squads of the Forest Department** in the State.
- The First **Pashu Kisan credit cards** in India were distributed to 101 animal farmers in Bhiwani, **Haryana**.
- The Union Minister for food processing Harsimrat Kaur Badal inaugurated **Avantee mega Food Park** in Dewas, **Madhya Pradesh**. The cost of the Food park is about 150 crore rupees.
- **Karnataka** conducted a **Human Library event** in Mysuru.
- The **Odisha** State government has planned to set up **45 fast-track special courts** (FTSC) in the State. It aims to ensure speedy trial of cases involving crime against women and children.
- **Andhra Pradesh** is to set up a **virtual police station** (VPS) in the Andhra University (AU).
- Haryana Police has adopted Trakea, a unique barcoding software to make forensic reports tamper-proof.
- The **Andhra Pradesh** Cabinet approved the draft **Disha Act** to ensure rape verdicts in 21 days.
- **Puducherry** unveiled a startup policy of the **Industries Department**.
- The **Kerala** state government launched **two** social welfare schemes to honour **differently-abled people** and NSS, NCC and Student Police Cadet (SPC) units working for their care and welfare.
 - The schemes are Vijayamritham and Sahachari.
- **Kerala** sets **2024** deadline for Semi High-Speed Rail project.
- **Uttar Pradesh** government targeting **MSME** loans worth **Rs 62,000 cr** in 2019-20.

Place in the News

- **Geneva** is to hold the first-ever **Global Refugee Forum**.

Defence and National Security

- **Indian Navy** successfully test-fired the 290 km strike range **Brahmos** supersonic cruise missile.
 - The supersonic cruise missile was test-fired in the Arabian Sea.
- The seventh edition of Exercise **Mitra Shakti-VII** 2019 commenced on 1 December 2019 at Aundh Military Station, **Pune**.
 - The exercise is held between **Indian** and **Sri Lanka**.
- Exercise **HAND-IN-HAND 2019** was conducted at Umroi, **Meghalaya**.
 - The 8th **India-China** joint training is held under the United Nations mandate.
- Sub-Lieutenant **Shivangi** of the **Indian Navy** became the first **naval woman pilot** in India.

- **India** successfully conducted a night test-trial of the indigenously developed nuclear-capable surface-to-surface **Prithvi-II** missile off complex-3 of Integrated Test Range in Chandipur, **Odisha** coast.
- **Exercise INDRA 2019** is a joint, tri-services exercise held between **India** and **Russia**.
 - It will hold simultaneously at **Babina, Pune, and Goa**.
- **North Korea** carried out a very important test at its long-range rocket launch site, **Sohae Satellite Launching Station**.
- Exercise **Hand-in-Hand-2019** commenced at Umroi, **Meghalaya**.
 - The exercise is held between **India** and **China**.
- The **Russian Federation Navy** (RuFN) Ships namely Yaroslav Mudry, Viktor Konetsky, and Elyna, have arrived in **Goa** to participate in the second edition of a tri-services exercise **INDRA 2019**.
- Exercise **Iron Union 12** commenced on 10 December 2019. It is a joint military exercise between the ground forces of the **UAE** and the **United States**.
- **North Korea** conducted another crucial test.
- **DRDO** successfully test-fired a **BrahMos** supersonic cruise missile on the coast of **Odisha**.
- Garden Reach Shipbuilders and Engineers (GRSE) delivered a **Landing Craft Utility** (LCU) to the **Indian Navy**.
- Joint military exercise **SURYA KIRAN-XIV** between **India** and **Nepal** was conducted at Salijhandi, Rupendehi district of **Nepal**.
- The **Indian Navy** conducted **Exercise Apharan**, a large scale Anti Hijacking Exercise off the Port of **Kochi**.

Schemes/Initiatives

- **Nagaland** CM Neiphiu Rio inaugurated the **Multi-Media Exhibition** at the **World War II museum** at the Hornbill festival, Kisama, Nagaland.
- **Andhra Pradesh** Chief Minister YS Jagan Mohan Reddy launched the **YSR Law Nestham scheme** at Tadepalli, Andhra Pradesh.
- Jammu and Kashmir Lt Governor Shri Girish Chandra Murmu opened 72-metre-long Bridge over **Draj nallah** connects Draj Area with Tehsil Kotranka area under District Rajouri.
- Ministry of Civil Aviation (MoCA) has invited bids after the launch of the **fourth** phase of **UDAN** in December 2019.

Summit/Conference

- The **UN Climate Change Conference COP 25** held in Madrid, **Spain**.
 - This is the first time **India** has ranked among the **top 10** among the list.
- The 2nd edition of the **Startup India Global Venture Capital Summit** held in **Goa**.
- The 4th India **Water Impact Summit** was held at the Vigyan Bhawan, **New Delhi**.
- The **annual summit** between Prime Minister **Narendra Modi** and his **Japanese** counterpart **Shinzo Abe** is to take place in Guwahati, **Assam**.
- The 37th **National Symposium of Heads of Police Training Institutions** was held at BPR&D Headquarters, **New Delhi**.
- The **International Seminar on Climate Smart Farming Systems** for BIMSTEC countries held in **New Delhi**.
- Indonesia foreign minister **Retno L P Marsudi** attends the Delhi Dialogue XI.

- **India** is to host the 36th **International Geological Congress (IGC)** in **New Delhi** during the first week of March 2020.
- Ministry of **Railways** organized the third edition of the **Conference on Wagon Development** for New Commodities.

Agreement/Deal/Signed

- **Maharashtra's** Savitribai Phule Pune University (STPU) and **Qatar's** Milestone International Education signed a memorandum of understanding (MoU) to enable the **University** to set up its campus in **Doha**.
- The Union Cabinet chaired by Prime Minister Narendra Modi approved the proposal of the **Election Commission** to enter into the Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) with the **Election Commission of Maldives** on cooperation in the area of electoral management and administration.
- The Union Cabinet assessed and approved the Joint Declaration of Intent (JDI) between **India** and **Germany**.
 - The JDI was aimed at strengthening the cooperation on strategic projects in the field of **Railways**.
- The **Himachal Pradesh** State Cabinet approved to sign the memorandum of understanding (MoU) to sell the **water of River Yamuna** from Maharashtra's share at **Tajewala corridor**.
- **Investor Education & Protection Fund Authority (IEPFA)** signs MOU with **Bank of Baroda** for information dissemination and reaching out to investors and stakeholders.
- **Punjab** State government partnered with the **World Economic Forum (WEF)** to design a Public-Private pilot on shared, **clean and electric mobility**.
- **Council of Scientific & Industrial Research (CSIR)** signed an MoU with **Bharat Heavy Electricals Limited (BHEL)** to push Make in India initiative.
- The **Institute of Chartered Accountants of India (ICAI)** signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) with the **Kuwait Accountants and Auditors Association (KAAA)**.
- A Memorandum of understanding (MoU) was signed between **National Small Industries Corporation (NSIC)** and **Aramco Asia** for the development of Ministry of MSME.
- The Union Cabinet approved the bilateral **Social Security Agreements (SSAs)** between **India** and **Brazil**.
- The European Union (EU) left **Poland** out of a **2050 climate neutrality agreement**.
- **Dell Technologies** has signed an agreement with **UNESCO Mahatma Gandhi Institute of Education for Peace (MGIEP)** to enable school teachers to adopt technology in **classrooms** by using **Information Communication Technology (ICT)** tools.
- **State Bank of India (SBI)** has signed a loan agreement with **KfW**, the German development bank, worth \$277 million.
- The **Government e-Marketplace (GeM)** signed two memorandum of understandings (MoU) with **Bank of Maharashtra** and **UCO Bank**.
- **Railway Ministry** signed MoU with **Birmingham University** to establish **Centre of Excellence**.
- **Russia** and **Ukraine** Sign **Preliminary Gas Transit Deal**.
- **UAE** and **Oman** sign MoU to enhance trade and **economic cooperation**.

Meet/Visit

- An **India-Sweden** High-Level Dialogue on **Innovation Policy** was held in **New Delhi**.
- Indian Prime Minister **Narendra Modi** is to visit **Brussels** in 2020 for the **India-EU Summit 2020**.

- **India** and the **US** are planning to sign a **defence technology-sharing pact**.
- The 18th **India-Myanmar Foreign Office Consultations** was held in **New Delhi**.
- **India, Maldives** to review bilateral cooperation at Joint Commission Meeting.
- The second 2+2 dialogue between **India** and the **US** was held in **Washington**.
- PM led the first meeting of the **National Ganga Council** was held in **Kanpur**.

Bills

- Rajya Sabha passed the **Prohibition of Electronic Cigarettes Bill, 2019**.
- Lok Sabha passed the **Recycling of Ships Bill, 2019**.
- Rajya Sabha passed the **Dadra & Nagar Haveli and Daman & Diu (Merger of Union Territories) Bill, 2019**.
 - The Bill aims to merge two Union territories Daman & Diu, and Dadra & Nagar Haveli into one unit.
- The Union Cabinet headed by PM Modi cleared the **Citizenship (Amendment) Bill, 2019**. The bill amends the Citizenship Act, 1955.
- The Union Cabinet chaired by Prime Minister Narendra Modi approved the **Personal Data Protection Bill, 2019**.
- Rajya Sabha passed the **Special Protection Group (Amendment) Bill, 2019**.
- The Lok Sabha passed **International Financial Services Centres Authority Bill**.
- Lok Sabha passed the **Sanskrit Central Universities Bill, 2019**.
- The Cabinet approved the introduction of the **Aircraft (Amendment) Bill, 2019**.

Fund

- The 2nd Annual **India-Bhutan Development Cooperation Talks** have held **New Delhi**.
 - India announces the assistance of **Rs.4500 Crore** for the implementation of development projects and **Rs. 400 Crore** for transitional Trade Support Facility.
- **Asian Development Bank (ADB)** and the Government of India signed a **\$206 million** loan for develop water supply and sewerage infrastructure in 5 cities of Tamil Nadu.
- **Japan** has decided to invest an amount of **Rs.13,000 crore** in several ongoing and new projects in the North-Eastern states of India.
- **International Finance Corporation (IFC)**, an arm of World Bank Group, has anchored an investment round of **\$200 million** in **Mahindra and Mahindra Financial Services**.
- The central government has sanctioned a sum **Rs.100 crores** from **Nirbhaya Fund** to set up and strengthen **Women Help Desks** in Police Stations.
- The Cabinet Committee on Economic Affairs (CCEA) chaired by Prime Minister Narendra Modi approved for the creation of the **Bharat Bond Exchange Traded Fund (ETF)**.
- **India** provided a **\$500 million** Line of Credit (LoC) to **Bangladesh**. Under the agreement out of the total credit by **Exim Bank**.
- **Madhya Pradesh** State government sanctioned a sum of **Rs.156 crore** for the development of Omkareshwar.
- The **Asian Development Bank (ADB)** and the Government of India signed a **\$490 million** loan for public-private partnership (PPP) projects in the state of **Madhya Pradesh**.
- Govt approved projects worth **Rs 7000 cr** under **Nirbhaya fund**.
- Govt proposes to invest **50 lakh crore** rupees for modernization of **Railways**.

- **ADB 490 million dollars loan to upgrade Indian state roads.**

Economy

- Ministry of Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises reported that **Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises sector** has contributed **over 29%** of Gross domestic product (GDP) and **over 49%** of Indian exports.
- **Asian Development Bank (ADB)** reduced **India's** economic growth forecast for FY 2019-20 to **5.1%**.

Companies/Industry

- **Cipla Foundation** has introduced a **mobile science lab (MSL)** under its corporate social responsibility (CSR) with its **Agastya International Foundation**.
- The **Australian** company, Harbour Air and magniX flight-tested an **all-electric powered seaplane**.
- French-based company **Suez** won a contract to extend, rehabilitate and operate the drinking water distribution system in **Mangaluru**.
- **HDFC Bank** crossed the **\$100 billion** market capitalization became the **third** firm in the country to achieve this milestone.
- **Wipro** to launch skilling platform to train **10,000 engineering students**.

Agriculture/Production

- **Over 1,65,000 lakh** farmers across India have been registered on National Agriculture Market (e-NAM) platform.

Space

- **ISRO** has planned to launch sharp-eyed surveillance satellite **RISAT-2BR1** (Radar Imaging Satellite-2) with synthetic aperture radar (SAR) on 11 December 2019.
- The **Indian Space Research Organization (ISRO)** announced the setting up of five **Space Technology Cells (STCs)** at India's premier engineering and science colleges.
- Three youngsters, Alon Abramovich, Meitav Assulin and Shmuel Aviv Levi, from an **Israeli** school, will travel to India to launch a satellite, **Duchifat 3**.
- **ISRO** launched the **RISAT-2BR1** satellite.
 - India's Polar Satellite Launch Vehicle (PSLV) launched RISAT-2BR1, the fiftieth flight (PSLV-C48), along with nine commercial satellites from Satish Dhawan Space Centre (SDSC) SHAR, Sriharikota.
- The International Astronomical Union (IAU) has accepted to name a white-yellow star in **Sextans** constellation and its Jupiter-like exoplanets.
 - The star will be named **Bibha** and the orbiting exoplanet will be named Santamasa, a Sanskrit term for clouded.

Health/Diseases/Drugs

- **Government** has launched **Intensified Mission Indradhanush (IMI) 2.0**.
 - Aim - The drive aims to prevent eight diseases under the mission.
- **Malaysia** reported the first **polio case** in 27 years. This is the first case reported in the Asia-Pacific country in 27 years.
- The **World Health Organization (WHO)** has now approved a **biosimilar** medicine that is derived from living sources instead of the chemicals. The aim is to make **breast cancer** treatment.

Energy/Gas/Oil

- **Organization of the Petroleum Exporting Countries (OPEC)** group of oil-producing countries and their allies including **Russia is to cut oil production** by 500,000 barrels per day.
- Ministry of Petroleum and Natural Gas stated that the **United States** has surpassed **Kuwait** to become India's **sixth**-largest oil supplier.
- **Indian Renewable Energy Development Agency (IREDA)** is planning to set up a dedicated **Green Window** with an aim to serve the unserved segments of renewable energy.

Environment

- **Minister of Jalshakti** said that **Ganga** has become one of **10 cleanest rivers** in the world among the major rivers category.
 - 4th India Water Impact Summit 2019 held in **New Delhi**.

Education

- The All India Council for Technical Education (AICTE) Executive Committee approved the **India Rankings Society (IRS)** to develop and evolve methodologies and systems to rank higher educational institutions.
- The **University of Mysore (UoM)** is to set up a separate **Department of Disabilities and Rehabilitation Studies (DDRS)** on its campus at Manasagangotri.
- Centre is has introduced **Artificial Intelligence (AI)** as a **subject in class IX** from the session 2019-20 in the schools affiliated with the Central Board of Secondary Education (CBSE).
 - Centre has also launched a twelve hours Inspire module in which schools can take up with the students of class VIII.
- Oxford Dictionaries has named **climate emergency** as the 2019 **Word of the Year**.

Transport/Cars/Scooters

- Food Safety and Standards Authority of India (FSSAI) certified **Mumbai Central railway station** as India's first **Eat Right Station**.
- **Jharkhand's Mahuamilan railway station** has become the **5,500th** station to get the facility **free WiFi** provided by the Railways has provided across the country.
- The **Kempegowda International Airport** in **Bengaluru** started its operations on the new **South Runway**.
- The Ministry of Road Transport and Highways had announced that **FASTags** was mandatory for all vehicles, private and commercial from **15 December**.

Films and Film Festival

- The French-Swiss co-produced drama film **Particles** directed by Blaise Harrison and produced by Estelle Fialon won the **Golden Peacock Award** at the **50th International Film Festival of India (IFFI)**.
 - Best Director Award - Lijo Jose Pellissery
 - Best Actor-Male Award - Seu Jorge
 - Best Actor-Female Award - Usha Jadhav
- The Awards for the first-ever **VATAVARAN-2019** Short Film Competition and Festival on Environment was presented in **New Delhi**.

Festival

- The 10-day-long **Hornbill Festival** of **Nagaland** held in Kisama, **Nagaland**.
- A three-day **National Tribal Dance Festival** was held in Raipur, **Chhattisgarh**.

- The State-level **Orange Festival** began in **Manipur**.
- The Music festival **Tansen Samaroh** began in **Gwalior, Madhya Pradesh**.

Media /I.T / Telecommunication

- Bharti **Airtel** launched the **Wi-Fi calling** service for its subscribers. The service is currently rolling out in **Delhi-NCR**, gradually implemented in other cities.
 - This service will significantly enhance indoor calling services without incurring any extra charges.

Appointments/Election (or) Latest who is who?

- The government appointed **Soma Roy Burman** as the new **Controller General of Accounts (CGA)**.
- Senior officer **Hari Mohan** took charge as the chairman of the **Ordnance Factory Board (OFB)**.
 - He replaced Saurabh Kumar who was superannuated from the services.
- **Ursula von der Leyen** took charge as the **President** of the **European Commission**.
 - She replaced **Jean-Claude Juncker**.
- Lt Gen **Podali Shankar Rajeshwar** took charge as the **Commander-in-Chief of the Andaman & Nicobar Command (CINCAN)**.
- **Mauritius** Lawmakers selected former arts and culture minister **Pritivirajsing Roopun** as the President of the country.
- **Pichai Sundararajan** has been appointed as the **CEO of Alphabet**.
- Vice Admiral **Ravneet Singh** took charge as the **Chief of Personnel** of the **Indian Navy**.
- **Masatsugu Asakawa** has been elected as the **President** of the **Asian Development Bank (ADB)** by the Bank's Board of Governors.
- **K Vijay Kumar** is appointed as a **Senior Security Advisor** in the **Union Home Ministry**.
- **Ripu Daman Bevli** has been appointed as the **Plogging Ambassador of India**.
- **Sanna Marin** has been elected as the **Prime Minister** of **Finland**.
- Brigadier **Suresh Sallay**, former director of Military Intelligence appointed as head of the **Sri Lanka State Intelligence Service (SIS)**.
- Public Interest Director **Girish Chandra Chaturvedi** has been appointed as the new **chairman** of the leading stock exchange **National Stock Exchange (NSE)**.
- **National Anti-Doping Agency (NADA)** appointed Bollywood actor **Suniel Shetty** as the brand ambassador for the agency in New Delhi.
- Senior diplomat **Vikas Swarup** is appointed as the **Secretary (West)** in the **Ministry of External Affairs**.
- **C. Sugandh Rajaram** has been appointed as the next High Commissioner of India to the Republic of **Ghana**.
- **Ravi Mittal** has been appointed as the new **Information and Broadcasting Secretary**.
- Food and beverage giant **PepsiCo** has partnered with Bollywood actor **Salman Khan** as the brand ambassador of Pepsi brand of carbonated beverage in India.
- **TV Somanathan** appointed as **expenditure secretary** in the finance ministry.
- **Fifteen** Indian-origin candidates elected to House of Commons in **UK**.
- **Ankur Garg** was appointed as chief commercial officer of **AirAsia India**.
- Air Marshal **D Choudhury** is the new Commandant of **National Defence College**.

- **Sridhar Patra** was appointed as the CMD of **National Aluminium Company (NALCO)**.
- **Richard Ventre** has been appointed as the **Adani Ports & Special Economic Zone (APSEZ)** as its Chief Information Officer (CIO).
- **Anita Praveen** is appointed as the additional **secretary** in the **Department of Telecommunications (DoT)**, Ministry of Communications.
- Former PM **Abdelmadjid Tebboune** has been elected as the **President of Algeria**.
- Nagaland Governor **R N Ravi** has been given additional charge of the State **Meghalaya**.
- **Lt Gen Manoj Mukund Naravane** has been appointed as the next **Chief of Army Staff**.
- Justice **Gulzar Ahmed** sworn-in as 27th Pakistan **Chief Justice**.
- Indian-American **Dr Monisha Ghosh** appointed as the first woman Chief Technology Officer at the US government's powerful **Federal Communications Commission (FCC)**.
- **Shiv Das Meena** appointed as Chairman of **Patna Metro Rail Corporation**.

Resignation/Dismissed/Retired/Quit

- **Anuranjita Kumar**, MD & Head of HR, at the **Royal Bank Of Scotland** has announced her exit from the **UK bank**.
- **Sanjiv Kapoor** stepped down as the Chief Commercial Officer of **Vistara**.
– **Vinod Kannan**, Vistara's Chief Strategy Officer will replace as the CCO.

Deaths

- **Tara Sinha**, the founder of ad agencies Clarion and Tara Sinha Associates, passed away.
- **George Laurer**, the US engineer who helped develop the barcode, has passed away.
- Former Union minister **Ishwar Dayal Swami** passed away.
- Veteran actor **Shriram Lagoo** passed away in Pune.

Awards/Honours

- **Ajit Doval**, the National Security Advisor (NSA), was awarded the honorary doctorate at the **Hemwati Nandan Bahuguna Central University (HNBCIJ)** convocation ceremony held at Srinagar.
- **Lionel Messi** was named the best player and was awarded the **2019 Ballon d'Or award in Paris**.
– He created a world record by receiving the award for the **sixth time**.
- The President of India Shri Ram Nath Kovind presented the **National Florence Nightingale Awards** to nursing personnel in **New Delhi**.
- **New Zealand cricket team** was awarded with the Marylebone Cricket Club's (MCC) Christopher Martin-Jenkins (CMJ) **Spirit of Cricket Award** for 2019.
- South Africa's **Zozibini Tunzi** was crowned as the **Miss Universe 2019**, at the event held in Atlanta.
- **Abu Dhabi** is selected as the **world's leading Sports tourism Destination** for the seventh consecutive time. The decision was made at the 26th edition of the **World Travel Awards (WTA)** that is being held in Muscat, **Oman**.
- **Four** people won the **Right Livelihood Award** for the year 2019. The awardees are **Greta Thunberg, Aminatou Haidar, Guo Juanmei and Davi Kopenawa Yanomami**.
- Ethiopian Prime Minister **Abiy Ahmed Ali** received the **Nobel Peace Prize**.
- Author **Peter Handke** was conferred the **Nobel Literature Prize**.
- The news magazine **Time** has named the teenage climate activist **Greta Thunberg** in **2019 Person of the Year**.
- **Odisha State** government was honoured with the 2019 **World Habitat Award**.

- Federation of Indian Chambers of Commerce and Industry (FICCI) India **Sports Awards 2019** was presented to the **Railway Sports Promotion Board** under the category of Best Company Promoting Sports (Public Sector).
- **Blue Sky Analytics** won the **Space Oscars** awards on the international competition Copernicus Masters. The ceremony held at Helsinki, Finland.
- World Economic Forum (WEF) has announced 4 winners for the 26th **Crystal Award**.
 - The chosen winners are **Deepika Padukone**, Jin Xing, Theaster Gates, and Lynette Wallworth.
- **Jamaica's Toni-Ann Singh** was crowned **Miss World** at an annual beauty pageant held at the 69th annual beauty pageant held in ExceL **London, UK**.
 - India's Suman Rao became the second runners-up.
- Around **850 Indian troops** who serve in South Sudan have received the **United Nations Medal**.
- **Ellyse Perry** was named as **women's Best cricketer** and ODI player of 2019.
- **Jammu and Kashmir** has been selected by the **Union Ministry of Rural Development** for the national award in the best performing category for implementing the Pradhan Mantri Gram Sadak Yojana (PMGSY).
- UWW named **Deepak Punia** as the Jr Freestyle Wrestler of the Year.

42. Sports/Game

- British racing driver **Lewis Hamilton** won the **Abu Dhabi Grand Prix 2019**.
- **Guwahati** is to host the third edition of the **Khelo India Youth Games**.
 - The third edition of Khelo India Youth Games 2020 **Logo** was launched by the Assam Chief Minister Sarbananda Sonowal.
- The 13th **South Asian Games (SAG)** began at the newly constructed Dasharath Stadium in **Kathmandu, Nepal** on 1 December 2019.
 - **India** topped the championship with a medal tally of 312 medals, of which 174 gold, 93 silver, and 45 bronze.
 - It was followed by Nepal, Sri Lanka, and Pakistan.
- **New Delhi** is to host the **National Sikh Games (NSG) 2020**.
- Former India cricketer **GS Lakshmi** has become the **first woman match referee** to oversee a men's One Day International (ODI). She officiated the opening match of the third series of the World Cup League 2 in the United Arab Emirates (UAE).
- The **World Anti-Doping Agency (WADA)** banned **Russia** for a four-year term from all major sporting events.
- **Wasim Jaffer**, the former India opener, became the first player in Indian cricket to feature in **150 Ranji matches**.
- The Polynesian island of **Tahiti** will host the **surfing** events at the **2024 Paris Olympics**. The events will take place at **Teahupoo**.
- **Abid Ali** becomes first Pakistan batsman to score **centuries** in his first two Tests.

Report

- Reliance Industries (RIL) chief **Mukesh Ambani** ranked as the **9th richest person** globally in the **Real-Time Billionaires List of Forbes**.
 - Top 5: Jeff Bezos, LVMH Moet Hennessy Louis Vuitton, Warren Buffett, and Mark Zuckerberg.
- **India** ranked **73rd** in the **United Nations Conference on Trade and Development's (UNCTAD) Business-to-Consumer (B2C) E-commerce Index 2019**. The **Netherlands** topped the index for the second consecutive year.

- A report by Lancet Global Health said **India** recorded the highest estimated number of cervical **cancer deaths** in 2018.
- The Britain-based tech research firm Comparitech reported that **India** is the **fifth worst country** in terms of extensive and invasive use of **biometric data**.
 - Before India stands **China, Malaysia, Pakistan, and the US**.
 - India shared the fifth position along with **Taiwan, Indonesia, and the Philippines**.
- **India** ranked **5th** in the 15th edition of the **Global Climate Risk Index 2020**. It was released by Bonn-based think-tank Germanwatch. **Japan** topped the list as the most vulnerable of 181 countries to the effects of climate change, with its poorest being the most at risk.
- Ministry of Ayurveda, Yoga & Naturopathy, Unani, Siddha, Sowa Rigpa and Homoeopathy (AYUSH) reported that the **diabetic population** in the country is close to hitting the alarming marks of **69.9 million** by **2025**. It is expected to witness an increase of 266%.
- According to a report by the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP), **India** climbed one spot to **129** among 189 countries in the 2019 **human development index**.
- The **India Skills Report** said that nearly **half** of the **professional degree holders** are **employable** now. The report was released by Wheebox, People Strong, CII.
 - Earlier, nearly 70% of the professional degree holders were found to be unemployable.
- German Chancellor **Angela Merkel** has been named as the **world's most powerful woman** by Forbes in the 2019 list of the 100 most powerful women in the world. Union Finance Minister **Nirmala Sitharaman** ranked 34th in the list.
- **India** ranked **112th** on the World Economic Forum's **Gender Gap Report 2019**. The list was topped **Iceland**.
- **Virat Kohli** Becomes First Sportsperson to **Top Forbes India Celebrity 100 List**. **Akshay Kumar** rose in the rankings to the **second** spot and **Salman Khan** completed the top **three**.

General - National

- Government launched the **Operation Clean Art** across India. The operation aimed to crackdown illegal trade in the mongoose hair.
- **India** constructs **Girls Hostel** for **Nepal Armed Police Force School** at Kirtipur.

General - International

- **Thailand** has been elected as a member of the **World Heritage Committee**. It was selected during the 22nd session of the **General Assembly** of States Parties to the World Heritage Convention in **Paris**.
- Russian President **Vladimir Putin** and Chinese President **Xi Jinping** launched the **Siberia pipeline** project.
- **Switzerland** is to serve as a partner for **BioAsia 2020** has scheduled to be held between 17-19 February 2019 in Hyderabad, **Telangana**.
 - Theme - Today For Tomorrow.
- The **United States** imposed new sanctions on **Iran's biggest airline** and its shipping network.
- The United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (**UNESCO**) removed '**Racist**' the **Belgian carnival** from the **heritage list**.
- **Portugal** is to launch a **Gandhi Citizenship Education Prize** with an aim to promote Mahatma Gandhi's ideals.

Books and Authors

- **Viswanathan Anand** launched his autobiography titled **Mind Master**.

TO THE POINTS: DECEMBER-2019

- The World AIDS Day was observed annually on **December 1**.
- National Pollution Control Day was observed every year on **December 2**.
- **India** has become the first to make the entire Haj process digital.
- **Indian Institute of Corporate Affairs (IICA)** will maintain the independent directors' databank launched by the Government.
- India has decided to import 110 lakh kg onions from **Turkey** amid rising prices.
- China has suspended **US** from visiting Hong Kong.
- **Saudi Arabia** has become the 1st Arab country to take over the G20 presidency.
- **Vijayawada** railway station has bagged the ISO-14001 certification.
- The state level program of Mission Indradhanush will begin in **Rajasthan**.
- **Ajit Doval** has been recently conferred with an honorary degree from HNBGU.
- **Shivangi** has become the first woman pilot for Indian Navy.
- **Hari Mohan** has taken over as the Chairman of the Ordnance Factory Board.
- **HR Khan** has become the chairman of Code for Responsible Lending (CRL) in micro-credit.
- UN Climate Change Conference to be held in **Spain**.
- **Gandhipedia**, a one-stop repository on the life and times as well as the contributions of Mahatma Gandhi, is being created with the help of Artificial Intelligence (AI), by Indian researchers.
- The 13th South Asian Games will formally begin in **Nepal**.
- **Lewis Hamilton** has won the season ending of Abu Dhabi Grand Prix 2019.
- Vinesh Phogat, Sakshi Malik clinched gold at the Senior Wrestling National Championships held in **Jalandhar**.
- World Computer Literacy Day observed on **December 2**.
- International Day for the Abolition of Slavery is observed on 2nd December. It was adopted by the UNGA in the year **1949**.
- **Santhosh Gangwar** inaugurated the Pension Week from 30th November to 6th December 2019.
- Theme of International Day of Persons with Disabilities is **Promoting the Participation of Person with Disabilities and their leadership: Taking Action on the 2030 Development Agenda**.
- Russian President Vladimir Putin and his Chinese counterpart Xi Jinping launched a natural gas pipeline from **Siberia** to northeastern China.
- FASTags have been developed by **National Payments Corporation of India (NPCI)**.
- The **Ministry of Health and Family Welfare** has launched Intensified Mission Indradhanush (IMI) 2.0 from December 2019 to March 2020.
- Konark Festival, International Sand Art Festival was held in **Odisha**.
- **Punjab** has created land in rural areas to boost industrial development.
- **Dewan Housing Finance Corp. Ltd (DHFL)** has become the first financial services firm to be taken to National Company Law Tribunal (NCLT).
- **Masatsugu Asakawa** has been elected as the 10th President of Asian Development Bank (ADB).
- **Tony Joseph** has won the Shakti Bhatt First Book Prize 2019.

- India is holding its first 'two-plus-two' dialogue with **Japan**.
- **Lionel Messi** has claimed the 6th Ballon d'Or overtaking Cristiano Ronaldo.
- Tukaram Dighole was the former Minister of **Maharashtra**.
- Odisha's Paramananda Sahu was a famous **Theatre Artist**.
- Freedom fighter and former MP **Laxminarayan Nayak** passed away. He represented Khajuraho Lok Sabha seat from 1997 -1980.
- **December 4** was observed as the Indian Navy Day to commemorate the attack on Karachi harbour during the Indo-Pakistan war of 1971.
- **Venkaiah Naidu** has launched the 'Bharatiya Poshan Anthem' to deliver the message of making India malnutrition free.
- As per the YSR Arogya Asara scheme launched in Guntur, **Rs. 225** will be patients be provided per day.
- Crisil growth outlook for India is **5.1%** for FY20.
- Asian Development Bank will advance Tamil Nadu **\$206** million for civil infrastructure.
- **International Finance Corp.** (IFC) will lead \$200 million debt financing in Mahindra & Mahindra Financial Services Ltd.
- **Pritivirajsing Roopun** has been elected as the new President of Mauritius by parliament.
- **Podali Shankar Rajeshwar** has been appointed as the Commander-in-Chief of Andaman & Nicobar Command.
- **Sundar Pichai** has been promoted as the CEO of Alphabet.
- Walmart India has tied up with **HDFC** to launch co-Branded Credit Card.
- MobiKwik and **Aditya Birla** health insurance have entered into a strategic alliance to offer affordable Cancer Protect Cover.
- The Hand-in-Hand exercise will be held in Meghalaya between India and **China**.
- India successfully test-fired its indigenously developed surface-to-surface nuclear-capable Prithvi-II missile off Odisha coast. The missile weighs about **4,600 kg**.
- International Volunteer Day observed annually on **5th December**.
- World Soil Day observed annually on **December 5**. The theme of 2019 IVD is "Volunteer for an inclusive future".
- Election Commission is to implement 'Political Parties Registration Tracking Management System' from **1st January**.
- India's first maritime museum will be setup in **Gujarat**.
- World Economic Forum (WEF) has partnered with **Punjab** to design pilot on Electric Vehicles ecosystem.
- **Uttar Pradesh** has announced 25% subsidy & full stamp duty waiver for defence industry.
- Odisha launched '**Madhu**' app, an e-learning mobile phone application for school students to understand their subjects in a better and efficient way.
- 3-day-long North East Food Show which is dubbed to the biggest will begin in **Meghalaya**.
- Resent repo rate - **5.15 %**.
- Karnataka Vikas Grameena Bank signs bancassurance pact with **Canara HSBC Oriental Bank of Commerce Life Insurance** for selling insurance products.

- **Upender Singh Rawat** will be the next Ambassador of India to the Republic of Costa Rica.
- Trai revamps mobile number portability, bringing down the time period of requests to **3 days**.
- **Joaquin Phoenix** has been named as PETA Person of the Year, 2019.
- **Arun Jaitley** has won the ET Lifetime of Public Service Award for Public Service.
- **Uttar Pradesh** has been awarded with National Award for Excellence for rehabilitation of persons with disabilities.
- **Mumbai** railway station has got the first 'Eat Right Station' certification from FSSAI.
- **Uk India Business Council** (Ukibc) has launched the Aerospace and Defence Industry Group.
- 'YuWaah' youth skilling initiative to provide jobs to 300 million has been launched by **Unicef**.
- CM Y S Jagan Mohan Reddy launches YSR Law Nestham scheme where stipend of Rs. **5000** will be credited into accounts of beneficiary junior lawyers.
- Country's first aqualab to be set up in **Dehradun**.
- The **Odisha** government has decided to merge its flagship scheme to provide assistance to farmers with the Centre's Pradhan Mantri Kisan Samman Nidhi (PM-Kisan) yojana, apparently due to financial constraint.
- The RBI proposes new prepaid card for transactions up to **10,000** amount on goods and services.
- Insurance provider **HDFC ERGO** has launched my:health Woman Suraksha - A special health insurance for women.
- IDFC Bank & YES Bank have partnered with **Black Buck** Company to offer free FASTags to truckers.
- **Priyanka Chopra** has been honored by UNICEF with Danny Kaye Humanitarian Award.
- **Roger Federer** has become the first living Swiss to have coin minted in his honor.
- Tamil Nadu, Gujarat & Madhya Pradesh were bestowed with awards for organ donation by **NOTTO**.
- Famous celebrity's **Shilpa Shetty** app has emerged to Be The Best In Google Play Awards 2019.
- 2019 Summit of the North Atlantic Treaty Organization (NATO) will be held in **London**.
- President of India presents the National Florence Nightingale Awards on the occasion of **International Nurse Day**.
- Armed Forces flag Day observed every year on **December 7**.
- Theme of the International Civil Aviation Day (ICAD) is **75 years of connecting the world**.
- Theme of the 4th India Water Impact Summit which was inaugurated by Union Minister of Jal Shakti, Shri Gajendra Singh Shekhawat is **Valuing Water , Transforming Ganga**.
- Rural areas in all States and UTs have become Open Defecation Free. **10 crore** household latrines were constructed under Swachh Bharat Mission - Gramin.
- The Government has approved **7** projects to strengthen FM coverage along the Indo- Nepal border.
- 15th Finance Commission has submitted its report for FY21 to FM Sitharaman. **NK Singh** is the chairman of the 15th FC.
- **Punjab** has launched s Enable Startup Track Acceleration (ESTAC) programme for startups.
- **Ram Nath Kovind** has laid the foundation stone for Paika Rebellion memorial in Odisha.

- RBI has tightened the norms for **asset reconstruction companies** (ARCs) to acquire financial assets from their sponsor firms and lenders on a bilateral basis.
- NEFT money transfer facility to be available round the clock from December 16. Timing for NEFT on working days is **8 am to 7 pm**.
- Canada Pension Plan Investment Board (CPPIB) will invest up to **600 million** in Indian infrastructure fund.
- **200 crore** is the net worth requirement of setting up Small Finance Banks as per RBI Guidelines.
- 7th OPEC (Organization of the Petroleum Exporting Countries) and non-OPEC ministerial meeting was held in **Austria**.
- **Zozibini Tunzi** has been crowned as Miss Universe 2019.
- **Girish Chandra Chaturvedi** will succeed Ashok Chawla as the chairman of National Stock Exchange (NSE).
- **Andaman & Nicobar** police station in the country has been judged as the best performing one.
- According to the UNDP report India now ranks **129** among 189 countries in the UN's human development index.
- **Sanna Marin** has become the world's youngest prime minister at the age of 34.
- Caroline Wozniacki is related to **Tennis**.
- Indian junior women's team wins 3-nation hockey tournament against Australia held in **Canberra**.
- **Shashini Puvi** has won gold in National Schools Chess Championship held in Aurangabad.
- Bhawani Mukherji is related with **Table Tennis**.
- Bhagabat Mohanty who passed away recently was the chief minister of **Odisha**.
- International Anti-Corruption Day observed annually on **December 9**.
- Govt disbursed **36,000 crore** to farmers under PM-Kisan Samman Nidhi scheme.
- Human Library event, which seeks to replace books with humans, was organized in **Mysuru**.
- **Manohar Lal Khattar** has inaugurated the Integrated Command and Control Centre in Gurgaon.
- The Odisha government has reduced Kalia assistance reduces from Rs. 10000 to **Rs. 4000**.
- Exim Bank which provide **500 million** credit to Bangladesh for defence procurement.
- Xiaomi partnered with Zestmoney Partners to launch Small Ticket Loans, **MiCredit**.
- **Arnab Goswami** has been elected by the News Broadcasters Federation as the governing board's president.
- **C.Sugandh Rajaram** has been appointed as the next High Commissioner of India to the Republic of Ghana.
- The Golden Target award is presented in **Shooting**.
- **Priyanka Chopra** has been honored at Marrakech Film Festival for 20 years in cinema.
- **Vishwanath Prasad Tiwari** will be honored with the Gangadhar National Award.
- 2nd edition of startup India Global Venture Capital Summit 2019 was held in **Goa**.
- **R. Praggnanandhaa** has won the FIDE open category of the London Chess Classic.
- **Manav Thakkar** has won the U-21 ITTF Challenge Series title in Canada.

- Braj Bihari Kumar who passed away recently was the chairman of **Indian Council of Social Science Research**.
- World Human Rights Day is celebrated annually on **December 10**.
- **Himachal Pradesh** has decided to sell water of the river Yamuna.
- **Abu Dhabi** has been selected as the world's leading sports tourism destination.
- Government bonds have been launched with interest rate options on 10-year government bonds. The unit of trading is set at **2 lakh** value of government securities.
- Theme of International Mountain Day celebrated on 11 December every year is **Mountains matter for Youth**.
- **Girish Chandra Murmu** has inaugurated a 72-metre long bridge in Rajouri district.
- UP Cabinet has given the nod to set up **218** fast-track courts for rapes, crimes against children.
- **V Vishwanathan** has been appointed on Dhanlaxmi Bank's Board as additional director.
- An MOU signed Between NSIC & **Aramco Asia** for development in Oil & Gas Sectors in India.
- Right Livelihood Award has honored **4** activists working for justice in Stockholm, Sweden.
- The book Nalak which examines the journey of Buddha has been written by **Abanindranath Tagore**.
- The 'Iron Union 12' joint military exercise is held between **UAE and US**.
- 13th South Asian Games recently concluded in **Nepal**.
- UNICEF (United Nations Children's Fund) Day celebrated every year on **December 11**.
- **Prahlad Patel** has launched the web portal showcasing heritage of India in New Delhi.
- **US** has shutdown the World Trade Organization appeals court in response to WTO's decision against trade rules.
- The amount of loans sanctioned under MUDRA Yojana stands at **10 lakh crore**.
- **65 lakh** patients have availed treatment worth Rs 9,549 crore under the Centre's flagship Ayushman Bharat Pradhan Mantri Yojana (AB-PMJAY).
- **Haryana** has distributed 101 Pashu Kisan Credit Cards.
- **Maharashtra** has the most employable talent in the country.
- **Sunil Chhetri** has become the brand ambassador of Global sports brand PUMA.
- **Salman Khan** has become the new brand ambassador for Pepsi brand in India.
- **Sunil Shetty** has become the brand ambassador for the National Anti-Doping Agency (NADA).
- Vakrangee has partnered with **Union Bank of India** for 20,000 banking BC points for Pan India Nextgen Vakrangee Kendras.
- **Asian Development Bank** (ADB) has scaled down India's GDP growth forecast from 6.5% to 5.1% for FY20.
- **Dell** has announced a New Initiative with UNESCO MGIEP to Enable School Teachers With Technology.
- **Odisha** has won Bronze at World Habitat Awards.
- **Switzerland** will be the partner country for BioAsia 2020 scheduled to be held in February 2020.
- 11th edition of DefExpo 2020 was held in **Uttar Pradesh**.

- 'The World's first' fully-electric commercial flight has been tested in **Canada**.
- International Day of Neutrality observed annually on **December 12**.
- Theme of the International Universal Health Coverage Day is **Keep the Promise**.
- The 2019 4th International Seminar Cum Exhibition on Naval Weapon Systems will be held in **New Delhi**.
- **India** has announced a "Green Window" to Catalyze Climate Finance.
- The Indian citizenship amendment is not applicable to the tribal areas of Assam, Meghalaya, **Mizoram** and Tripura as included in the Sixth Schedule to the Constitution and in the areas covered under the Inner Line Permit.
- The Inner Line Permit regime is applicable in Arunachal Pradesh, Nagaland and Mizoram. 6th Indian Ocean Dialogue, Delhi Dialogue XI was held in **New Delhi**.
- India-US dialogue Two plus 2 dialogue will be held in **Washington DC**.
- **IBM** has come out with a weather forecast system to improve accuracy of forecasts in India.
- **Boris Johnson** has been elected as the new British Prime Minister.
- Activist **Licypriya Kangujam** from India has addressed leaders at COP25 to act on climate change.
- **Bougainville** is all set to become the World's Newest Country by gaining independence.
- **Vipin Sondhi** has become the new MD & CEO of Ashok Leyland.
- **Nirmala Sitharaman** name has been featured among world's 100 most powerful women by Forbes.
- **Blue Sky Analytics** has won the Copernicus masters award under social entrepreneurship category.
- **Greta Thunberg** has won Time's Person of the Year award.
- **Padmeswar Gogoi** has won the Siu-Ka-Pha Award for contribution in the field of botany and science.
- ISRO has launched a surveillance satellite **RISAT-2BR1** on the PSLV C-48 rocket.
- NASA scientists have developed maps showing presence of water ice on **Mars**.
- Symposium on Scope of Science of Ayurveda in Global Health will be held in **New Delhi**.
- Workshop on Bamboo cultivation was held in **J&K** on the month of December, 2019.
- Mastercard has tied up with **Federal Bank** for identity check security for digital transactions.
- The Government has decided to sell 100 per cent stake in **Air India**.
- **Tech Mahindra** has bagged the smart city project from Pune's PimpriChinchwad Municipal Corporation.
- Moody's cuts India's GDP growth forecast to **5.6** per cent for 2019.
- **Rani Rampal** has won Female sportsperson of the year at the FICCI India Sports Awards 2019.
- **Rohit Sharma** has become the new Indian brand ambassador for La Liga.
- **Mushtaq Ahmed** has been appointed as the spin bowling consultant by the Pakistan Cricket Board.
- **Wassim Jaffer** has become the first Indian to play 150 Ranji matches.
- **Ashleigh Barty** has been named as the WTA Player of the Year.
- Gollapudi Maruti Rao who passed away recently was related to **Acting**.
- **Ram Nath Kovind** has laid down the foundation stone for Paika Vidroh memorial at Khurda.

- **TV Somanathan** has been appointed the expenditure secretary of the Finance Ministry.
- **7th** round of economic census has been launched in the national capital.
- Women in **Bihar** are set to outlive males by 2035.
- National Centre for Sustainable Coastal Management was set-up in **Chennai**.
- 37th National Symposium of Heads of Police Training Institutions will be held in **New Delhi**.
- India will host **36th** edition of the International Geological Congress in March 2020.
- “Namaste Orchha” festival marking the cultural landscape of **Madhya Pradesh** will be held in the ancient town in March 2020.
- Virtual Police stations is set to become a reality. It will be launched at **Andra University**.
- **Odisha** will set up 45 new fast track courts.
- **Andhra Pradesh** has cleared Disha Act to provide harsh punishments to those guilty of heinous crimes against women.
- Odisha govt has brought in **Agriculture and Farmers Empowerment Department** under the ‘Mo Sarkar’ scheme.
- **15** Indian origin politicians have been elected to the House of Commons in UK.
- IRDAI forms a **10** member working group to study loss prevention and loss minimization in the general insurance industry.
- RBI will provide new intraday liquidity window to make NEFT 24×7 from **December 16**.
- **Sushil Modi** has replaced FM Nirmala Sitharaman as Head of GOM on Integrated Goods and Services Tax (IGST).
- Ministry of HRD is implementing the Scheme of Vocationalisation of School Education to promote vocational education among children under **Samagra Shiksha** scheme.
- The Public Enterprise Selection Board has shortlisted **Shrikant Madhav Vaidya** to be the next Chairman of Indian Oil Corporation Ltd.
- **Ravi Mittal** has been appointed as Information and Broadcasting Secretary.
- **Rahul Adhikari** has won the “Oscars” of education in London.
- Famous journalist **Shireen Dalvi** has returned an award to protest against the Citizenship (Amendment) Bill.
- Food Safety and Standards Authority of India (FSSAI) has inked an MoU with **NASSCOM** to prevent food wastage.
- Indian Council of Agricultural Research (ICAR) and **NABARD** have signed an MoU to facilitate the action research and up-scaling of the various technologies and innovative farmer models.
- India and **Indonesia** have decided to strengthen defence and security ties.
- **Rajnath Singh** has chaired a meeting of the Consultative Committee of Parliament for the Ministry of Defence in New Delhi.
- **Garden Reach Shipbuilders and Engineers (GRSE)** has handed over a Landing Craft Utility amphibious ship to Indian Navy.
- **US** has replaced Kuwait as India’s 6th biggest oil supplier.
- International Hockey Federation (FIH) unveils new world ranking system for 2020. The Headquarter of FIH is in **Switzerland**.
- Tara Sinha who passed away recently was related to **Advertising**.

- The National Energy Conservation Day is celebrated every year on **December 14**.
- **Abdelmadjid Tebboune** has been declared as the new President of Algeria.
- The Sustainable Development Cell for Environmental Mitigation Measures has been established under **Ministry of Coal**.
- International tea day observed every year on **December 15**.
- Cricketer **Ben Stokes** has been voted BBC Sports Personality of the Year 2019.
- Vijay Diwas celebrated on **16 December** to commemorate India's victory over Pakistan in the 1971 war.
- **Uttarakhand** will soon get a 'Centre of Excellence for Skilling' in Uttarkashi district.
- **Kerala** has launched two welfare schemes to support differently-abled persons as well as NSS, NCC and Student Police Cadet unit.
- **West Bengal** has topped in a 100-day work programme for promoting livelihoods.
- **Edelweiss Asset Management Company (AMC)** has launched India's 1st corporate bond 'Bharat Bond ETF'.
- Wholesale Price Index inflation rises to **0.58 percent** in November amid rising food prices.
- The Indian Embassy has signed an agreement with **Nepal** for reconstruction of cultural heritage sites.
- **R.N. Ravi** has been given additional charge as the Governor of Meghalaya.
- Toni Ann Singh from **Jamaica** has taken the crown of miss world 2019.
- **Ram Nath Kovind** will present the Visitor's awards 2019 to promote research, innovation & entrepreneurship.
- **Deepika Padukone** has received the Crystal Award 2020 for spreading awareness about mental health.
- **Viswanathan Anand** has launched his autobiography 'Mind Master' in Chennai.
- BEL & HAL will organize a roadshow urging active participation in Def Expo 2020. Def Expo 2020 was held in **Uttar Pradesh**.
- India has donated solar-powered lamps to marginalized children in **Palestine**.
- UNESCO has recently removed **Belgian Carnival** from its Intangible heritage list.
- Moody's slashes FY20 growth forecast to **4.9 %** citing weak household consumption.
- **India** has joined the elite club to enable free 24x7 NEFT funds transfer facility.
- Fifth Economic Advisory Council (EAC) meeting of 15th Finance Commission was held in **New Delhi**.
- Centre has released **35000 crore** GST compensation to states and UTs.
- **RAMCO** has entered into an agreement with China Aircraft Services to manage its end to end line and base maintenance operations.
- Arcelor Mittal and Nippon steel has completed acquisition of **Essar Steel**.
- **Mukund Naravane** is set to become the next Indian Army Chief after General Bipin Rawat.
- **Vinod Kannan** will take over as Vistara CCO after the resignation of Sanjiv Kapoor.
- **Gujarat** police will become the 7th police force to get 'President's Colours'.

- 3 days “International Seminar on Climate Smart Farming Systems” for BIMSTEC countries will be held in **Delhi**.
- Mukesh Ambani’s RIL has replaced **Indian Oil Corporation Limited** at the top of Fortune India 500 list.
- As per the WEF rankings on gender gap, India has been ranked at **112th** position.
- **Virat Kohli** has achieved the top spot in ICC Test rankings.
- Gita Siddharth who passed away recently was related to **Actor**.
- Former Union Minister ID Swami passed away recently. He was a parliamentarian from **Karnal, Haryana**.
- Peter Snell who passed away recently was related to **Running**.
- The International Migrants Day is celebrated annually on **December 18**.
- **Dalai Lama** has written the book Beyond Religion: Ethics for a Whole World.
- As per the National Broadband Mission, the Government has promised broadband access in all villages by **2022**.
- GEM has launched **GEM Samvaad** to facilitate on-boarding of local sellers on the marketplace.
- **Japan** has launched the World’s first liquid hydrogen carrier ship.
- India has signed an agreement with **Asian Development Bank (ADB)** for \$250 million loan to expand energy efficiency investments in India.
- Axis Bank and **Indian Oil Corporation Ltd (IOCL)** Company have launched a co-branded credit card for cashless payments.
- Five-day music festival ‘TansenSamaroh’ was organized in **Gwalior**.
- 16th Orange Festival has been organized in **Manipur**.
- The Rajasthan government has set up **1000** crore Farmers Welfare Fund to boost agricultural produce and income.
- **Sridhar Patra** has been appointed as the new CMD of NALCO.
- **Venkaiah Naidu** presented the National Safety Awards to develop a culture of prevention and safety for all workers.
- **Amitabha Bagchi** has won the 2019 DSC Prize for South Asian Literature 2019.
- CSIR and the National Centre for Scientific Research (CNRS) have inked an MoU for Promotion and Support of Scientific and Technological Research with **France**.
- Indra 2019 was held between India and **Russia** in Pune and Gwalior for Air Force elements.
- The Kargil to Kohima Ultra Marathon named as K2K Ultra Marathon-Glory Run was flagged off from Kargil War Memorial at **Drass**.
- Laura Marsh recently announced international retirement. She played for **England**.
- The International Astronomical Union has announced the name of a white yellow star in the Sextans constellation as **Bibhā**.
- **Samanth Subramanian** has written the book ‘A Dominant Character’ that captures the thoughts of British-Indian scientist JBS Haldane.
- Concerned Citizens’ Group (CCG) headed by **Yashwant Sinha** has suggested restoration of statehood to Jammu and Kashmir.

- Indian Railways has installed the first atmospheric water generator called **Meghdoot** to harvest water directly from air through a series of steps.
- Minorities Rights Day observed all across the country on **December 18**.
- **Om Birla** has inaugurated the 79th Conference of Presiding Officers of Legislative Bodies.
- **Google** has been fined with USD 327 million tax bill in Australia.
- The 136 km international rail link will connect Raxaul, Bihar to **Kathmandu**.
- **Madhya Pradesh** police has launched e-cop app for women's safety.
- **Thaawarchand Gehlot** has released the braille edition of the Book "Exam Warriors".
- **Roy Jorgen Svenningsen** has become the oldest person ever to complete in the Antarctic Ice Marathon.
- **Canada Pension Plan Investment Board** will invest \$225 million in the India Resurgence Fund.
- The first Agro-Based Food Processing SEZ will be set up in **Tripura**.
- Theme of the 11th Regional Quality Conclave (RQC) is **Advance manufacturing with quality, innovation & technology Interventions** held at Rudrapur, Uttarakhand.
- Patanjali Ayurved has made its first big acquisition of Rs. 4350 crore. It has acquired **Ruchi Soya**.
- **RajniKanth** has been bestowed with the Icon of the Jubilee award at the Golden Jubilee edition of the International Film Festival of India.
- The Book "Exam Warriors" has been written by **Narendra Modi**.
- **HDFC** has crossed \$100 billion in market cap, becoming the third firm in the country.
- 11th Regional Quality Conclave will be held in **Uttarakhand**.
- Madhya Pradesh police has launched **e-cop** app to facilitate girls to get immediate backup just by the push of a button.
- The GST Council has fixed a uniform tax rate of **28 percent** on both states and private lotteries.
- **India** is the largest contributor of troops to UN peacekeeping operations.
- **Kamal Nath** has inaugurated the 5th Khajuraho International Film Festival.
- **Goa** has organized the Golden Jubilee edition of the International Film Festival of India (IFFI).
- **Odisha** has launched the 'Jalsathi' program.
- **Rajasthan** has started Janta Clinic to provide free primary healthcare to people living in slums.
- **Goa's Liberation Day** was observed on December 19.
- **Germany** has signed a new law to ban gay 'conversion therapy'.
- India is the world's third-largest publisher of science & engineering articles. **China** is the top publisher.
- GEM has signed two MoUs with **Bank of Maharashtra and UCO Bank** for payment related services.
- **Ministry of Commerce and Industry** Ministry has notified the setting up of First ever Special Economic Zone (SEZ) in Tripura.
- The Future Skill Prime programme to train professionals in futuristic skills will be jointly rolled out by the Information Technology ministry and **Nasscom**.
- BP Raju from **CBI** has won the "India Cyber Cop of the Year" award.

- Sahitya Akademi has announced the annual Sahitya Akademi Awards in **23** languages.
- Roy Jorgen Svenningsen has become the oldest person ever to complete in the Antarctic Ice Marathon. He is from **Canada**.
- Shriram Lagoo who passed away recently was a famous **Actor**.
- Gitanath Ganguly who passed away recently was the president of **Mohun Bagan AC**.
- Online portal to exchange reusable products launched in **Chennai**.
- The Canada Pension Plan Investment Board (CPPIB) is headquartered in **Ontario**.
- First Global Refugee Forum was held in **Geneva**.
- **Nityanand Rai** inaugurated the Second national conference on 'Uniformed Women in Prison Administration' being held in Bhopal.
- The Chairman of Tractors and Farm Equipment Limited, Mallika Srinivasan, has been appointed to the global board of **US Chamber of Commerce's U.S.-India Business Council (USIBC)**.
- Pinaka Missile System was successfully flight-tested from the Integrated Test Range, Chandipur off the Odisha coast. It has a capacity of striking up to a range of **75 kms**.
- International Astronomical Union headquartered in **France**.
- **Ram Nath Kovind** chaired the second meeting of the National Committee for Commemoration of the 150th Birth Anniversary of Mahatma Gandhi.
- **Harsh Vardhan** has inaugurated the CGHS Wellness Centre to improve the delivery of health services.
- **66000 crore** amount has been allotted by the Central Government for the Kerala semihigh speed rail project.
- RBI has recently conducted a special OMO (Similar to 'Operation Twist' of US) for **Simultaneous sale & purchase of bonds**.
- **Madhya Pradesh** has signed a \$ 490 Million Loan with ADB India for PPP to state highways and major district roads.
- **Cuba** will resurrect the position of the Prime Minister after more than 40 years.
- As per the list from Forbes, **Ryan Kaji** has become the highest-paid YouTuber with 26 million dollars.
- **Afghanistan** has become the first country to recognize Indian Pharmacopoeia.
- **Devesh Srivastava** has been elevated to CMD's position of General Insurance Corporation of India (GIC Re).
- **Mallika Srinivasan** has been appointed to the global board of the US India Business Council.
- **Cyrus Mistry** has been restored by NCLAT as the chairman of Tata Sons.
- Second national conference on 'Uniformed Women in Prison Administration' was held in **Madhya Pradesh**.
- Indian Navy has conducted an anti-hijacking exercise by the name of **Apharan** at the Kochi coast.
- **DRDO** successfully test fired the Pinaka Missile System off Odisha coast.
- India got **108th** position on the latest FIFA ranking list.
- Zeena Khitta has won the women's national 10m Air Rifle. The event was held in **Bhopal**.
- **International Human Solidarity Day** was observed on December 20.

- Atal Mission for Rejuvenation and Urban Transformation (AMRUT) Mission extended by 2 years to 2022. Scheme launched by the government on **2015**.
- Dr. Harsh Vardhan recently inaugurated the CGHS Wellness Centre in New Delhi. CGHS services have now been extended to **100** cities.
- Central Government has given approval for the Kerala semi-high-speed project. It will be run between **Thiruvananthapuram - Kasaragod**.
- J&K administration has inked an MoU with **United Nations Development Programme** (UNDP) to strengthen the immunization supply chain system.
- Parliament has passed the bill to merge UTs of Daman & Diu and Dadra & Nagar Haveli. The number of UTs in India after the merger is **8**.
- DRDO established on **1958**.
- **Jignesh Patel** has launched India's first 'Vaccination Clinic' in collaboration with the Gates Foundation.
- Thomas Chandy has died recently. He was the Former minister of **Kerala**.
- **Abhinav Lohan** has won the Bengaluru Open Golf Championship.
- Pat Cummins has become the most expensive overseas IPL player. He plays for **Kolkata Knight Riders**.
- The Skill Development and Entrepreneurship Ministry has decided to set up **500** skills hub and labs in govt schools.
- PM Modi addressed the annual general meeting of ASSOCHAM Annual Conference held in **New Delhi**.
- African country **Ethiopia** has launched its first satellite from China.
- India, Afghanistan, Iran met to monitor the implementation of the Chabahar pact. This is their **2nd** meeting after the 2016 agreement.
- Wipro has partnered with **Nasscom** to up skill 10,000 engineering students in India.
- Fitch Ratings has reduced India's GDP growth forecast to **4.6 percent** in FY20.
- Debt-ridden Air India has received **500 crore** amount of guarantee from the Central Government.
- Asian Infrastructure Investment Bank (AIIB) has announced USD **210** million loan for irrigation & solar energy projects in India.
- RBI will simultaneously buy and sell government bonds worth **10000** crore under special Open Market Operation (OMO).
- **CV Ramulu** has been named the new Lokayukta of Telangana.
- **Ankit Gupta** has been appointed as the Chief Operating Officer of OYO Hotels & Homes.
- **Anand Mahindra** has decided to step down from the position of Mahindra Group's executive chairman.
- Indian-American scientist **Sethuraman Panchanathan** has been selected by the US president to lead the National Science Foundation in the US.
- **Belgium** has won the FIFA Team of the Year.
- India has ranked at **7th** on the World Anti-Doping Agency list for violations.
- Virat Kohli, Salman Khan and **Akshay Kumar** have been featured in Forbes India's 2019 Celebrity 100 list.

- The Indian Air Force is planning 'swift trials' in 114 fighter jet deal worth **1.5 lakh crore** deal.
- The government has proposed to invest **50 lakh crore** rupees for modernization of Railways over the next 12 years.
- World's oldest fossil trees been recently discovered on **New York**.
- ICC has partnered with **UNICEF** for 2020 Women's T20 World Cup.
- **Saikhom Mirabai Chanu** has bagged the Gold medal in the 6th Qatar International Cup, Doha.
- **Pat Cummins** has become the most expensive overseas IPL player after being bought for a whopping 15.50 crore.
- Avtar Singh Makkar, who passed away recently, was the former president of **Shiromani Gurdwara Parbandhak committee**.
- Prof LS Sheshagiri Rao was associated with **Writing**.
- IIT Hyderabad Center for Healthcare Entrepreneurship (CfHE) Fellow has launched India's first **Vaccination on wheels** concept in Pune in collaboration with Gates Foundation.
- PM Modi recently addressed the ASSOCHAM Annual Conference. Theme - **New India Aspiring for a USD 5 trillion economy**.
- RBI has planned to buy, sell govt bonds worth Rs 10,000 crore. Participants will submit their bid on **E-Kuber** platform.
- The National Mathematics Day was observed annually on **December 22**.
- **Miguel Díaz-Canel** has been named as Cuba's first prime minister.
- India get **4th** position in the ICC Women's T20 Team Ranking.
- Maisnam Luwang has won the Bangladesh Junior International Badminton Series. The Series 2019 held in **Dhaka**.
- China-Brazil Earth Resource Satellite-4A (CBERS-4A) earth resource satellite has been launched into space from **China**.
- Dr G Nanjundan, who passed away recently, was an eminent **Translator**.
- 'Oxygen Parlour' has set up in **Nashik** railway station to combat the rising air pollution.
- Integral Coach Factory has made a record by producing **3000** coaches in 215 days.
- Regional Conference on 'Improving Public Services Delivery - Role of Governments' was held in **Nagpur**.
- S Jaishankar co-chairs 19th Joint Commission meeting with Iran's Foreign Minister. The meeting was held in **Tehran, Iran**.
- The Central government has planned to organize **100** 'HunarHaats' in the next five years.
- **8** West African nations have decided to have a common currency 'Eco'.
- **Ecuador** has declared an emergency after fuel spill in the Galapagos Islands.
- YSR NeetannaNestham scheme has been launched in **Krishna** district of Andhra Pradesh.
- India's First 'Water From Air' System generator has been installed at **Secunderabad** railway station.
- Telangana Express adorned with "Singareni Colours" has started its run between Hyderabad and **New Delhi**.
- Foreign Portfolio Investors (FPIs) flocked to the Indian capital market with a net inflow of over **1.3 lakh crore** rupees.

- Reliance Infrastructure has won an arbitration award against Damodar Valley Corporation (DVC) for **1250** crore.
- The Competition Commission of India has received **3** Green Channel combinations for automatic approval under the competition law.
- **Anish Shah** has been replaced PawanGoenka as Mahindra Group,'s MD and CEO.
- **MonishaGhosh** has become the 1st woman CTO at the Federal Communications Commission (FCC) in the US.
- RamchandraBabu has died recently. He was related to **Cinematography**.
- Renowned Archaeologist R. Nagaswamy was honored for his contribution to art, archaeology, history, and culture by **Bangladesh**.
- **Aditya K** has won the Bharat Award for bravery for rescuing people from a burning bus.
- UAE and **Oman** have signed an MoU to enhance trade & economic cooperation.
- **Bengaluru** city has the Maximum Number Of Young Billionaires In India.
- Army looks into the signing a deal for six AH-64E Apache attack helicopters. The helicopters are expected to be delivered by **2022**.
- **Remote sensing satellite** CBERS-4A has been jointly developed by China & Brazil earth.
- One of **Sierra Leone's** top football clubs has picked a woman to coach its main squad, in a first for the West African country's professional league.
- MaisnamMeirabaLuwang has won the Bangladesh Junior International Badminton Series by beating **Ken Yong Ong**.
- **RadhaYadav** has retained the 2nd position in the bowlers' list of the ICC T20I rankings.
- VidushiSavita Devi passed away recently, she was a renowned **Hindustani Classical Vocalist**.
- **Arpit Chug** has been appointed as the new CFO of Razorpay.
- The National Farmers day or KisanDiwas is celebrated across the country on **December 23**.
- **Harsh VardhanShringla** has been appointed as the new foreign secretary replacing Vijay Gokhale.
- Indian Railways is planning to modernize its Signalling system, with trials of over a route of **640** kilometre.
- Urban India has been declared Open defecation free. Urban areas of **35** states and Union Territories have become ODF.
- Govt has notified the rules for fixation of microdots. Purpose of microdots is **Prevent vehicular theft**.
- **Chillai-Kalan**, a 40-day long period of extreme cold in Kashmir, began on December 21 and will continue till January 31 followed by Chillai-Khurd and Chillai-Bachha.
- **Arunachal Pradesh** will have schools be marked into 'hard', 'soft' and 'medium'.
- According to Government data, only **15** percentage of new tax payers have paid taxes.
- **6.1** % is the forecasted GDP growth rate of India by IMF.
- **Andhra Pradesh** has laid down the foundation stone for Rs 15,000 crore steel plant.
- **Sangeeta Reddy** has been taken over as the new President of FICCI.
- Govt has extended the tenure of NABARD chief Harsh Kumar Bhanwala by six months. Headquarters of NABARD located in **Mumbai**.

- **Ashraf Ghani** has become the President of Afghanistan.
- **Venkiah Naidu** has handed out the 66th National Film Awards at VigyanBhawan, New Delhi.
- **SharadPonkshe** has received the Janakavi P Sawlaram Memorial Award for the contribution in the field of cinema and theatre.
- Army Tech Seminar 'ARTECH 2019' for 'Make in India' Defence industry took place in **New Delhi**.
- Startup India, DPIIT has partnered with **WE Hub** to launch WING Program for Women Entrepreneurs in Telangana.
- The US President has officially established the US Space Force, by signing w **National Defense Authorization Act**.
- President Kovind has released a mobile app of **Red Cross** in Hyderabad.
- Indian weightlifter **RakhiHalder** has created two new national records at the Qatar International Cup in Doha.
- **Ahmedabad** has got a Provisional Clearance to Host FIFA U-17 Women's World Cup India 2020 Games.
- National Consumer Rights Day is observed annually on December 24th every year. Theme for 2019 is **Trusted smart products**.
- Vice President Venkaiah Naidu honoured winners at 66th National Film Awards. The best feature film award was won by **Hellaro**.
- **Vernon Philander** has recently announced his retirement from International cricket.
- The Good Governance Day is observed annually on **December 25**.
- Union HRD Minister Ramesh Pokhriyal 'Nishank' has inaugurated the 65th National School Games of SGFI in **New Delhi**.
- DharmendraPradhan has unveiled India's First CNG Bus that can run around **1000** kilometers in a single fill.
- The Union Cabinet has given ex-post facto approval to agreement on Security Cooperation between India and **Saudi Arabia**.
- As per the recently released test rankings, **India** stands on top with 360 points in Test cricket.
- Cabinet has given approval to the agreement between India and Sweden related to **Recognition of maritime education & training**.
- I&B minister Prakash Javadekar has announced the launch of Digital Radio in **2024**.
- PM Modi would unveil the statue of **AtalBihariVajapayee ; 25 feet** in Lucknow.
- PM Modi has recently launched the AtalBhujalYojana. The project outlay of the scheme is **6000 crore**.
- Leaders from **China, Russia, and South Korea** have recently reiterated their commitment to ending North Korea's nuclear program.
- The RBI has capped the lending on P2P platforms. **50 lakhs** is the upper limit of the aggregate exposure of a lender to all borrowers.
- **Amazon** will open its first farm collection centre in Pune.
- The Gross NPAs of banks have declined from 11.2 percent to **9.1** percent in H1 of FY20 as per RBI.
- Astana Financial Services Authority (AFSA) has inked pact for mutual and technical cooperation with **SEBI**.

- BhartiInfratel has extended the deadline for the merger with **Indus Towers**.
- NABARD has inked an agreement under Aquaculture Development Fund (FIDF) with **Tamil Nadu**.
- Rohtang tunnel named after former Prime Minister AtalBihari Vajpayee, connects **Kullu and Lahaul Valley**.
- ESAF Small Finance Bank has appointed PR Ravi Mohan as its new chairman. He has been replaced **R Prabha**.
- **NiranjanHiranandani** will take over as the new President of Assocham.
- **HemantSoren** will be sworn in as the new Chief Minister of Jharkhand.
- **Anoop Mishra** has been felicitated by Army Chief BipinRawat for developing a bulletproof jacket.
- UNICEF has awarded the Kamareddy district of Telangana for effective Swachh Bharat implementation.
- Cabinet has approved an MoU between India and **Saudi Arabia** for cooperation in the field of Renewable Energy.
- Cabinet approves Signing of MoU between India and Brazil on Bioenergy Cooperation India has successfully test-fired Quick Reaction Surface to Air Missile system. It has been developed by **DRDO**.
- **Tamil Nadu** has topped in the maximum coverage area under micro-irrigation.
- **Researchers from Council of Scientific and Industrial Research- National Physical Laboratory (CSIR-NPL)** have developed a new ink formulation for security printing.
- HemantSoren is set to be sworn in as the new CM of Jharkhand. Governor of Jharkhand - **DraupadiMurm**.
- Manu Bhaker and AnishBhanwala have clinched five gold medals at National Shooting Championships. The event was held in **Bhopal**.
- **Tamil Nadu** government has topped the Good Governance Index launched by the Central Government.
- The Central government has planned to convert **75** hospitals into medical colleges.
- Free Wifi services will be provided in all villages across the country by **March 2020**.
- Govt has approved the updation of National Population Register. The next census will be taken place in **2021**.
- The post of Chief of Defence Staff post will be the rank of **4 star general**.
- Typhoon Phanfone Misery has hit **Philippines** on Christmas Day.
- **Delhi** has launched the Housing Scheme For Residents Of Unauthorized Colonies.
- Delhi cabinet has approved the policy on electric vehicles to curb pollution. It aims to convert **25** percent vehicles to electric vehicles.
- 11th National Street Food Festival held in **New Delhi**.
- A fan from **Tamil Nadu** has built a temple for PM Modi on his farm land.
- **Telangana** government has raised the retirement age of employees of the Road Transport Corporation.
- Rahul Gandhi is scheduled to launch tribal dance in **Chhattisgarh**.
- India's first university for transgender community has come up in **Uttar Pradesh**.

- Earliest Sanskrit inscriptions have been found in South India. They are related to **Saptamatrika**.
- GST Council has decided to setup GRC at zonal and state level. GRC - **Grievance Redressal Committee**.
- RBI has introduced a new prepaid payment instrument for purchase & sales of goods up to a limit of **10000**.
- **NTPC** has been planning to add 10GW of solar energy capacity by 2022.
- **Hubballi** has been chosen by the Ministry of Housing and Urban Affairs for certificate of merit for healthcare project under Best Smart Health Project category.
- **Chhatrapati Shivaji Maharaj Terminus** has been conferred with the 'Eat Right' station certification.
- **Virat Kohli** has been named among five Wisden cricketers of the decade.
- Tennis player **Leander Paes** retired from Tennis in 2020.
- **MS Dhoni** has been named as the captain of Cricket Australia ODI team of the decade.
- The solar eclipse of decade was observed in many parts of the country, it lasted for **2 hour and 39 minutes**.
- Researchers from **IIT Madras** have found a link between a tissue-remodelling enzyme and hypertension risk.
- Ganga Prasad Vimal, who passed away recently, was a famous **Writer**.
- The Good Governance Index has been launched by **Department of Administrative Reforms and Public Grievances (DARPG)**.
- 11th National Street Food Festival in New Delhi is being organized by FSSAI in collaboration with **National Association of Street Vendors of India (NASVI)**.
- Governor of Telangana - **Tamilisai Soundarajan**.
- Aadhaar has been made mandatory for **Pradhan Mantri Vaya Vandana Yojana**.
- Khadi and Village Industries Commission (KVIC) decided to distribute 1000 Bee Boxes, 100 Pottery Wheels and Leather Kits in **Agartala**.
- Dr. Harsh Vardhan has inaugurated the 2nd Edition of "Eat Right Mela" in **New Delhi**.
- **Venkaiah Naidu** will inaugurate the LPG bottling plant of BPCL in Bolangir, Odisha.
- HRD Minister has launched five documents developed by UGC. Purpose of the documents is **Evaluation reforms**.
- Tsunami victims were remembered on the disaster's anniversary in Tamil Nadu. A massive tsunami occurred in Tamil Nadu in **2004**.
- Massive locust invasion has been a cause of concern for farmers of **Gujarat**.
- **Dharmendra Pradhan** has flagged off Bhubaneswar-New Delhi Rajdhani Express featuring Odisha's heritage.
- **Italy** has approved a 3% Digital Tax on Large Tech Companies from next year.
- **Allahabad Bank** will get fresh capital of Rs. 2,153 crore from the government.
- National Payments Corporation of India (NPCI) is now offering recharge option for FASTag through **BHIM UPI** app.
- India will cross the 100GW renewable energy capacity mark in **2020**.
- **SBI** will introduce OTP based ATM cash withdrawal from 1st January to protect customers from unauthorized transactions.

- Pine Labs has partnered with **Kotak Mahindra Bank** to enable EMIs on debit cards.
- Dennis Muilenburg has been resigned as the CEO of **Boeing**.
- China has started a joint naval drill with **Iran and Russia** in the Gulf of Oman.
- Bowler **James Anderson** has become the first to play 150 Test matches.
- Researchers from **IIT Hyderabad** have unravelled the mechanism of action of a protein that repairs damaged DNA.
- Healthcare company **Qure.ai** has developed a software to provide fast and accurate diagnosis of Tuberculosis.
- **Boria Majumdar and Nalin Mehta** has written the book "Dreams of a Billion: India and the Olympic Games".
- **Harsh Vardhan** has inaugurated the 2nd Edition of "Eat Right Mela" in New Delhi.
- CEO of Allahabad Bank - **S. S. Mallikarjuna Rao**.
- **Ministry of Housing and Urban Affairs** will organize a consultative workshop with States & UTs to set out the framework for "Shehri Samridhi Utsav 2020".
- More than 1 cr houses have been sanctioned under PM Awas Yojana (Urban). Scheme launched in **2015**.
- Vikas Sabnis has died recently. He was a famous **Cartoonist**.
- UN has given green light for a draft treaty to combat **Cybercrime**.
- China is set to launch Beidou-3 satellites in **2020**.
- The UN has adopted a **3.07** billion operating budget for the investigation of war crimes in Syria and Myanmar.
- **Assam** Government has launched the 'Abhinandan' scheme to benefit students.
- Losar Festival which denotes the start of the New Year is being celebrated in **Ladakh**.
- First edition of the Mandu Festival held in **Madhya Pradesh**.
- The North Eastern Council with the J&K admin will organize a workshop cum exhibition related to **Bamboo**.
- According to the UIDAI, the total number of people having Aadhar cards is now over **125** crore people.
- **Karnataka Bank**, as a part of its digital initiative, launched 'KBL Xpress SB Accounts'.
- **SBI** has been appointed as the lead convener for the union territory of Ladakh.
- RBI has directed large co-op banks to report exposures above **5** crores to the Central Repository of Information on Large credits.
- **Swiggy** has launched its own digital wallet to process and credit refunds.
- Ashok Leyland has inked an MoU with **Citicorp Finance India Ltd** for commercial vehicles' financing.
- **Aayushi Dholakia** has been crowned as Miss Teen International 2019.
- **Malala Yousafzai** has been declared the 'most famous teenager' of decade by UN.
- **Ratan Tata** has emerged as India's most searched business tycoon on Google in 2019.
- Air force had decommissioned the last MiG-27 squadron. It was procured from **Soviet Union**.
- China has successfully launched the largest carrier rocket named **Long March 5**.

- **Russia** has inducted the first Avangard hypersonic missiles into service.
- Physicists from **IISER Kolkata** have accurately predicted the shape of Sun's corona 43 days ahead of eclips.
- Mars rover seeks to search for traces of ancient life on the planet. It will be launched in **2020**.
- Schools in **Uttarakhand** will introduce 'water bell' to have students consume more water.
- **Rajnath Singh** has launched the DefExpo 2020 mobile app to provide detailed information on day to day events.

MODEL QUESTIONS

List of Important Days

1. International Civil Aviation Day is being observed on which date?
(1) December 5 (2) December 6 (3) December 7 (4) December 8 (5) None of these
2. International Anti-Corruption Day is being observed on December 9,2019 under which theme?
(1) The Power of People's pressure
(2) United Against Corruption
(3) Fight Corruption
(4) End of corruption
(5) None of these
3. Human Rights Day is celebrated on which date?
(1) December 7 (2) December 8 (3) December 9 (4) December 10 (5) None of these
4. International Mountain Day is observed on which date?
(1) December 9 (2) December 8 (3) December 10 (4) December 11 (5) None of these
5. The National Energy Conservation Day is observed on which date?
(1) December 12 (2) December 13 (3) December 14
(4) December 15 (5) None of these
6. International Universal Health Coverage Day is observed on which date?
(1) December 9 (2) December 10 (3) December 11
(4) December 12 (5) None of these
7. The National Farmers Day is celebrated in honour of which Indian Prime Minister?
(1) Gulzarilal Nanda (2) Morarji Desai (3) Chandra Shekhar
(4) Charan Singh (5) None of these
8. India's National Mathematics Day is celebrated on 22 December each year. It is to commemorate which person?
(1) Aryabhata (2) C.R.Rao (3) D.R.Kaprekar
(4) Srinivasa Ramanujan (5) None of these
9. When is National Consumer Day observed?
(1) March 15 (2) December 24 (3) March 14 (4) December 25 (5) None of these
10. When is "Good Governance Day" observed?
(1) December 24 (2) December 25 (3) December 26
(4) December 27 (5) None of these

Other Banks

11. Which bank had recently received the "Best Performing Bank Award"?
(1) SBI Bank (2) ICICI Bank (3) J&K (4) Andhra Bank (5) None of these

Supreme Court

12. India's Supreme Court has decided to examine the constitutional validity of the Citizenship Amendment Act. Which part of the constitution deal with citizenship in India?
(1) Part I (2) Part II (3) Part III (4) Part IV (5) None of these

Central Government

13. Which language has recently been used for the first time in Rajya Sabha?
(1) Bodo (2) Dogri (3) Maithili (4) Santhali (5) None of these
14. The Kirtipur Girls' Hostel was constructed by the Indian Government for the armed police force of which country?
(1) Nepal (2) Bhutan (3) Tibet (4) Afghanistan (5) None of these
15. The centre is consulting with the states and UTs for the 2020 Shehri Samrirdhi Ursav - which is used to create awareness about which government initiative?
(1) DAY- NULM (2) PMKVY (3) PM KISAN
(4) National Rural Livelihood Mission (5) None of these

States

16. Which state won the Best State Award in cadaveric organ donation?
(1) Maharashtra (2) Rajasthan (3) Kerala (4) Tamilnadu (5) None of these
17. Sarai Sewage Treatment Plant was inaugurated in which state?
(1) West Bengal (2) Kerala (3) Gujarat (4) Uttarakhand (5) None of these
18. Which state has launched Anti Depredation Squads in forests to avoid human-wildlife conflicts?
(1) Arunachal Pradesh (2) Nagaland (3) Assam
(4) Sikkim (5) None of these
19. Parivara, Talwara and Siddi are the Scheduled Tribes of which Indian state?
(1) Kerala (2) Karnataka (3) Tamil Nadu (4) Bihar (5) None of these
20. Which Indian city became the first city to have an online waste exchange for municipal solid waste?
(1) Pune (2) Indore (3) New Delhi (4) Chennai (5) None of these
21. The Odisha Cabinet has approved SAMRIDHI. What is it?
(1) Agriculture policy (2) Healthcare policy (3) Education policy
(4) Trade policy (5) None of these
22. What is Andhra Pradesh's OCTOPUS?
(1) Science research institute (2) Water management authority
(3) Anti-encroachment drive (4) Counter-terrorism unit (5) None of these
23. Which state is in talks to develop 3 decentralized capitals instead of one?
(1) Telangana (2) Nagaland (3) Andhra (4) Odisha (5) None of these

24. What is Sire Directory that was recently launched by Madhya Pradesh Government?
 (1) Matrimonial record of cattle (2) Land ownership record (3) Farmers portal
 (4) Home ownership record (5) None of these
25. Which state is going to observe 2020 as Susashan Sankalp Varsh?
 (1) Uttar Pradesh (2) Gujarat (3) Haryana
 (4) Madhya Pradesh (5) None of these
26. Which government is going to conduct 'Night Walk' to promote women empowerment?
 (1) Tamil Nadu (2) Andhra Pradesh (3) Karnataka
 (4) Kerala (5) None of these
27. Which state/UT had recently approved the Electric Vehicle Policy, 2019?
 (1) Delhi (2) Punjab (3) Puducherry (4) Sikkim (5) None of these
28. Which state's urban bodies have not yet declared themselves Open Defecation Free?
 (1) Bihar (2) Uttar Pradesh (3) Jharkhand (4) West Bengal (5) None of these

Place in the News

29. Recently inaugurated Avantee Mega Food Park is located in which of the following locations?
 (1) Ujjain (2) Dewas (3) Itarasi (4) Jabalpur (5) None of these
30. Which city is host to the "BlockHash Live 2019" conclave?
 (1) Kochi (2) Ahmedabad (3) Bengaluru (4) Mumbai (5) None of these
31. The Mukhyamantri Suposhan Abhiyan is a scheme of which state?
 (1) Chhattisgarh (2) Jharkhand (3) West Bengal
 (4) Odisha (5) None of these
32. Galapagos National Park, sometimes seen in news, is located in which country?
 (1) Ecuador (2) Honduras (3) Papua New Guinea
 (4) Brazil (5) None of these
33. Shahid Beheshti Port, sometimes seen in the news, is located in which country?
 (1) Turkey (2) UAE (3) Oman (4) Iran (5) None of these
34. In which state, India's first university for transgender community will be opened?
 (1) Uttar Pradesh (2) Kerala (3) Gujarat
 (4) Andhra Pradesh (5) None of these

Personalities

35. Which pope abolished the 'pontifical secrecy' rule's applicability to sexual abuse cases?
 (1) Pope Francis (2) Pope Benedict XVI (3) Pope Pius XII
 (4) Pope Paul VI (5) None of these
36. Who is Madan Mohan Malviya, who was recently mentioned in the news?
 (1) Freedom Fighter (2) Nobel Peace Prize Winner
 (3) Wartime Gallantry Winner (4) Distinguished scientist (5) None of these

Defence and National Security

37. SURYA KIRAN, a joint military Exercise of India with which country?
 (1) Nepal (2) Sri Lanka (3) Myanmar (4) Bhutan (5) None of these

38. The sixth Dornier aircraft squadron of Indian Navy was recently commissioned in which state/UT?
 (1) Goa (2) Punjab (3) Gujarat
 (4) Andaman & Nicobar Islands (5) None of these
39. Mitra Shakti is a joint military exercise of India with which country?
 (1) Nepal (2) Bhutan (3) Sri Lanka (4) Iran (5) None of these
40. Who recently became the 1st woman of Indian Navy to fly Dornier surveillance aircraft?
 (1) Shivangi (2) Punita Arora (3) Shaliza Dhami
 (4) Minty Agarw (5) None of these
41. INDRA is a Joint tri service exercise between India and which country?
 (1) France (2) Russia (3) USA (4) China (5) None of these
42. 'Iron Union 12', a joint military exercise of USA with which other country?
 (1) India (2) China (3) Iran (4) UAE (5) None of these
43. In December, the MSME ministry launched which of these products produced by women of militancy affected areas of J&K?
 (1) Khadi Rumal (2) Kashmiri Rug (3) Papier mache crafts
 (4) Pashmina shawls (5) None of these
44. What is the name of the trilateral naval exercise held between India, the US and Japan?
 (1) Milan (2) Malabar (3) SIMBEX (4) INDRA (5) None of these
45. What is Pinaka which was recently tested in Chandipur of Odisha?
 (1) Cruise Missile (2) IED (3) Minesweeper
 (4) Artillery Missile (5) None of these
46. Many civilians were recently killed in Burkina Faso due to terror strike in the military base and a village. Where is Burkina Faso?
 (1) North Africa (2) Latin America (3) West Asia
 (4) West Africa (5) None of these
47. Which fighter aircraft, that was recently retired, is also known as Bahadur?
 (1) MiG 27 (2) Tejas (3) Mirage 2000 (4) Gulfstream (5) None of these
48. Operation Inherent Resolve, which was in news recently, is being conducted by which country's military forces?
 (1) France (2) USA (3) Canada (4) Russia (5) None of these

Schemes/Initiatives

49. The Jalasathi program was launched by which state government?
 (1) Telangana (2) Andhra Pradesh (3) Odisha
 (4) Tamil Nadu (5) None of these
50. The government recently made Aadhaar linking for Vaya Vandana Yojana mandatory. Who are the beneficiaries under this Vaya Vandana Yojana?
 (1) Widows of the armed personnel
 (2) Senior citizens
 (3) physically challenged persons
 (4) Destitute women
 (5) None of these

Summit/Conference

51. The first-ever International Conference on “Landslides Risk Reduction and Resilience” was held in which city?
(1) Geneva (2) London (3) Paris (4) New Delhi (5) None of these
52. Which city organized the 47th All India Police Science Congress?
(1) Kolkata (2) Gurugram (3) Lucknow (4) Pune (5) None of these
53. The 4th India Water Impact Summit was being organized in which city?
(1) New Delhi (2) Mumbai (3) Chennai (4) Hyderabad (5) None of these
54. Which city is to organize “Transforming Education Conference for Humanity 2019”?
(1) Vishakhapatnam (2) Chennai (3) Amravati
(4) Hyderabad (5) None of these
55. Which city organized the Symposium on Scope of Science of Ayurveda in Global Health?
(1) Dehradun (2) Haridwar (3) New Delhi (4) Panchkula (5) None of these
56. Which country is to host the 36th International Geological Congress?
(1) Russia (2) USA (3) India (4) Japan (5) None of these

Agreement/Deal/Signed

57. Which state has recently partnered with WEF to promote electric mobility?
(1) Andhra Pradesh (2) West Bengal (3) Punjab
(4) Telangana (5) None of these
58. Which port was recently brought under the Chabahar Agreement?
(1) Chennai (2) Mormugoa (3) Kolkata (4) Vishakhapatnam (5) None of these

Meet/Visit

59. Carl XVI Gustaf, who is on a visit to India, is the King of which country?
(1) Sweden (2) Switzerland (3) Turkey (4) Scotland (5) None of these
60. India and the US are going to hold 2+2 Ministerial Dialogue in Washington. India holds similar dialogue format with which other country?
(1) Japan (2) Australia (3) Russia (4) New Zealand (5) None of these

Bills

61. How many deemed Sanskrit universities will be converted into Central universities under Central Sanskrit Universities Bill?
(1) 2 (2) 3 (3) 4 (4) 5 (5) None of these
62. The Legislative Assembly of which state has passed Disha Bill, 2019 recently?
(1) Andhra Pradesh (2) Goa (3) Maharashtra
(4) West Bengal (5) None of these

Fund

63. The newly inaugurated DNA analysis centre in Chandigarh was established under which fund?
(1) National Small Savings Fund (2) Enterprise Fund (3) Nirbhaya Fund
(4) Provident Fund (5) None of these

Companies/Industry

64. Which mobile game has crossed 170 million downloads in just 2 months of its release?
(1) Diablo Immortal (2) Wild Rift (3) Call of Duty
(4) Mario Kart Tour (5) None of these
65. Which company has launched First Audio Service 'Suno' of india?
(1) Boss (2) Audible (3) Sony (4) Samsung (5) None of these
66. The Nord Stream 2 is a gas pipeline project between which two countries?
(1) Russia and Turkey (2) Germany and Turkey
(3) Russia and Germany (4) Turkey and USA (5) None of these
67. The humanoid robot capable of mirroring human actions, T-HR3, was launched by which firm?
(1) Ford (2) Volkswagen (3) Toyota Motor Corp.
(4) Honda (5) None of these
68. The South Central Railway recently adorned the Hyderabad to New Delhi Express in the colours of which company as a part of its vinyl wrapping advertisement?
(1) Mahanadi Coal Mine Limited (2) Singareni Collieries Company Limited
(3) Tata Steel (4) Eastern Coal Field (5) None of these

Space

69. Researchers of which country have recently discovered a massive black hole in the Milky Way?
(1) India (2) China (3) USA (4) Russia (5) None of these
70. Which spacecraft of NASA has recently found the crashed Indian Moon lander Vikram?
(1) CALIPSO (2) Aura (3) Landsat7 (4) LRO (5) None of these
71. What is Boeing's Starliner spacecraft that is being tested?
(1) Solar space probe (2) Mars space probe (3) Astronaut capsule
(4) Jupiter space probe (5) None of these
72. China had recently launched its heaviest satellite, Shijian-20, on which rocket?
(1) Long March 2E (2) Long March 4C (3) Long March 3B
(4) Long March 5 (5) None of these

Science and Technology

73. Schistura syngkai is the scientific name of which type of species?
(1) Elephant (2) Fish (3) Frog (4) Tortoise (5) None of these
74. How many 'Must See Monuments' have been identified by Archaeological Survey of India?
(1) 101 (2) 138 (3) 156 (4) 142 (5) None of these

Health/Diseases/Drugs

75. Which country has recently recorded the first polio case in 27 years?
(1) Vietnam (2) Singapore (3) Malaysia (4) Indonesia (5) None of these
76. The Narcotics Control Bureau is to destroy which drug plantation using drones in India?
(1) Opium poppy (2) Peyote (3) Salvia
(4) Marijuana (5) None of these

Environment

77. The Kanal Istanbul project connects the Sea of Marmara with which sea?
(1) Red Sea (2) Black Sea (3) Arabian Sea (4) Bohani Sea (5) None of these
78. Which tropical storm is also known by the name of Typhoon Ursula?
(1) Typhoon Kammuri (2) Typhoon Phanfone (3) Typhoon Nakri
(4) Typhoon Bualoi (5) None of these
79. Which archipelago did Tropical Cyclone Sarai recently hit?
(1) Indonesia (2) Solomon Islands (3) Fiji
(4) New Guinea (5) None of these

Education

80. Which education board in India is to introduce AI in schools from the session 2019-20?
(1) ICSE (2) SSC (3) CBSE (4) HBSE (5) None of these

Transport/Cars/Scooters

81. The railway station of which city has been certified as first ever 'Eat Right Station' by FSSAI for food safety and hygiene?
(1) Mumbai (2) Hyderabad (3) Amravati (4) Bhopal (5) None of these
82. Which railway station has become the 5500th station of India to get free wifi facility?
(1) Hazaribagh Railway Station (2) Arigada Railway Station
(3) Mahuamilan Railway Station (4) Ranchi Railway Station (5) None of these
83. The Ministry of Road Transport and Highways has issued a draft notification on December 15, 2019, to regulate the registration of which type of vehicles?
(1) Petrol Vehicle (2) Vintage Vehicle (3) Diesel Vehicle
(4) Luxury Vehicle (5) None of these
84. The government had recently notified rules on microdot identifiers. Microdot technology is used for what purpose?
(1) Vehicle ID (2) Surveillance (3) Navigation (4) E-Banking (5) None of these
85. Him Darshan Express that was recently launched connects which of the following sites?
(1) Sikkim - Gangtok (2) Kalka - Shimla (3) Chandigarh - Shimla
(4) Srinagar - Shimla (5) None of these

Films and Film Festival

86. 50th International Film Festival of India was recently concluded in which city?
(1) Mumbai (2) Goa (3) New Delhi (4) Chennai (5) None of these

Festival

87. Harbin Ice Festival is celebrated by which country?
(1) China (2) Japan (3) Finland (4) South Korea (5) None of these
88. The Mandu Festival is held in Madhya Pradesh. Who is organizing this event?
(1) Madhya Pradesh Tourism Board
(2) Madhya Pradesh Tribal Affairs Department
(3) UNESCO
(4) Madhya Pradesh Department of Culture
(5) None of these

Appointments/Election (or) Latest who is who?

89. Who has been appointed as chairman of microfinance panel of the Code for Responsible Lending (CRL)?
(1) H R Khan (2) R Gandhi (3) Mahesh Kumar Jain
(4) Anand Sinha (5) None of these
90. Who has been elected as the new speaker of the Maharashtra Assembly?
(1) Praful Patel (2) Nana Patole (3) Dilip Walse Patil
(4) Kisan Kathore (5) None of these
91. Who recently took charge as the new Controller General of Accounts?
(1) Giriraj Prasad Gupta (2) Archana Nigam (3) J.P.S. Chawla
(4) Soma Roy Burman (5) None of these
92. Who has been appointed as a Senior Security Advisor in the Home Ministry?
(1) C. Sylendra Babu (2) K Vijay Kumar (3) Walter Devaram
(4) Sandeep Bharadwaj (5) None of these
93. Who has been recently elected the youngest-ever as PM of Finland?
(1) Sanna Marin (2) Katri Kulmuni (3) Li Andersson (4) Antti Lindtman (5) None of these
94. National Anti-Doping Agency (NADA) has selected which Bollywood actor as its brand ambassador?
(1) Akshay Kumar (2) Salman Khan (3) Suniel Shetty
(4) Imran Hasmi (5) None of these
95. Manuel Marrero Cruz is the Prime Minister of which country?
(1) Cuba (2) Cambodia (3) Chile (4) Ecuador (5) None of these

Deaths

96. Yasuhiro Nakasone, who passed away recently, was the former PM of which country?
(1) North Korea (2) China (3) South Korea (4) Japan (5) None of these
97. Noted theatre artiste Paramananda Sahu, who passed away recently, was from which state?
(1) Madhya Pradesh (2) Odisha (3) Uttar Pradesh
(4) Rajasthan (5) None of these
98. Bala Singh, who recently passed away, was a famous personality of which profession?
(1) Actor (2) Novelist (3) Singer (4) Sculptor (5) None of these
99. Gollapudi Maruti Rao, who recently died, was a famous personality of which field?
(1) Actor (2) Musician (3) Pianist (4) Hockey Player (5) None of these
100. Da Chen, who had recently died, is well known for which of the following works?
(1) Colours of the Mountain (2) Dream of the Red Chamber
(3) To Live (4) Art of War (5) None of these

Awards/Honours

101. Akkitham Achuthan Namboothiri, who has been chosen for the 55th Jnanpith Award, is associated to which language?
(1) Kannada (2) Tamil (3) Malayalam (4) Telugu (5) None of these

102. Who was awarded 2019 Karmaveer Chakra by iCONGO and United Nations?
 (1) Manjeet Singh (2) Rahul Adhikari (3) Aman Desai
 (4) Sachin Tanwar (5) None of these
103. Which country has recently won the Christopher Martin-Jenkins Spirit of Cricket award for 2019?
 (1) India (2) Australia (3) New Zealand (4) West Indies (5) None of these
104. Which city organized the National Florence Nightingale Awards-2019?
 (1) Bengaluru (2) Ahmedabad (3) Pune (4) New Delhi (5) None of these
105. 'The Diwali - Power of One- 2019' awards were organized in which city?
 (1) New Delhi (2) London (3) Melbourne (4) New York (5) None of these
106. Who won the Miss Universe 2019 title?
 (1) Tyler Perry (2) Vartika Singh (3) Zozibini Tunzi (4) Catriona Gray (5) None of these
107. Who has been named as the 2019 Person of the Year by TIME magazine?
 (1) Virat Kohli (2) Bob Iger (3) Greta Thunberg (4) LeBron James (5) None of these
108. Which company has won the Space Oscars awards at Copernicus Masters competition?
 (1) Urthecast (2) Spatial AI (3) Blue Sky analytics
 (4) PCI Geomatics (5) None of these
109. Who has been recently crowned Miss World Asia 2019?
 (1) Suman Rao (2) Anukreethy Vas (3) Shreya Shanker (4) Shivani Jadhav (5) None of these
110. Recently, the Indian troops serving with the UNMISS received the UN Medal for their dedication and sacrifice. The UNMISS is in service to which country?
 (1) Morocco (2) South Sudan (3) Sudan (4) Syria (5) None of these
111. Who is the world's longest serving president, recently in news when IMF asked him to declare his assets before availing financial assistance?
 (1) Teodoro Mbasogo (2) Robert Mugabe (3) Hun Sen
 (4) Hassanal Bolkiah (5) None of these

Sports/Game

112. Angad Vir Singh Bajwa is associated to which sports?
 (1) Chess (2) Cricket (3) Boxing (4) Shooting (5) None of these
113. Who has become fastest man to reach 7,000 Test runs?
 (1) Virat Kohli (2) Rohit Sharma (3) Steve Smith (4) Aaron Finch (5) None of these
114. Who won the 2019 Abu Dhabi Grand Prix title?
 (1) Max Verstappen (2) Charles Leclerc (3) Valtteri Bottas
 (4) Lewis Hamilton (5) None of these
115. Who became the first Indian to play 150 Ranji matches?
 (1) Sairaj Bahutule (2) Amol Muzumdar (3) Wasim Jaffer
 (4) Devendra Bundela (5) None of these
116. Who has recently created history by scoring centuries on debut in both ODI and Test cricket?
 (1) Marnus Labuschagne (2) Abid Ali (3) Dhananjaya de Silva
 (4) Mohammad Hasnain (5) None of these

117. Which of the following versions of fast chess that was in news recently, when Koneru Humpy won the World Women's Rapid Chess Championship had more time on the clock for the White than the Black?
(1) Blitz chess (2) Armageddon chess (3) Bullet chess (4) Ulrabullet chess (5) None of these

Report

118. According to the recently released UNEP Emissions Gap Report 2019, the global temperature will rise by how many degrees till 2100?
(1) 3.2 degree Celsius (2) 4.7 degree Celsius (3) 1.9 degree Celsius
(4) 2.4 degree Celsius (5) None of these
119. According to Euro Monitor International, which one is the rank of Delhi in the list top 100 destinations of the world?
(1) 12 (2) 13 (3) 11 (4) 10 (5) None of these
120. According to a recent report, which country has recorded the highest estimated number of cervical cancer deaths in 2018?
(1) China (2) Brazil (3) India (4) Mexico (5) None of these
121. According to recent report, which police station is the best police station of India?
(1) Ajk Burhanpur Police Station (2) Balasinor Police Station
(3) Aberdeen Police Station (4) Bakani Police Station (5) None of these
122. What is India's rank in Human Development Index-2019?
(1) 95 (2) 117 (3) 129 (4) 125 (5) None of these
123. Which rank has been achieved by India in the Climate Change Performance Index?
(1) 9 (2) 7 (3) 8 (4) 12 (5) None of these
124. Who has topped the Forbes' 2019 edition of 100 World's Most Powerful Women?
(1) Nancy Pelosi (2) Ursula von der Leyen (3) Angela Merkel
(4) Christine Lagarde (5) None of these
125. Which state recorded the highest forest cover in the recently released India State of Forest Report 2019?
(1) Andhra Pradesh (2) Madhya Pradesh (3) Nagaland
(4) Meghalaya (5) None of these

National Parties/Regional Parties

126. Election Commission of India (ECI) has recognized Jannayak Janta Party (JJP) as state party of which state?
(1) Haryana (2) Jharkhand (3) Maharashtra (4) Odisha (5) None of these

General - National

127. Which country has become the first country to make entire Haj process digital?
(1) Pakistan (2) India (3) UAE (4) Kuwait (5) None of these
128. Which became the first Asian country to be the 'Guest of Honour Country' at the International Book fair, Mexico?
(1) China (2) Japan (3) India (4) Australia (5) None of these
129. India is to set up Healthcare Innovation Centre with the help of which country?
(1) Netherlands (2) USA (3) Japan (4) Sweden (5) None of these

130. Recently established trust "InvIT Trust" belongs to which Indian authority?
 (1) DRDO (2) ISRO (3) NHAI (4) CSIR (5) None of these
131. The upcoming 2020 Raisinia Dialogue is to deal with what topic?
 (1) Infrastructure Development (2) Geopolitics (3) Climate Change
 (4) Wildlife conservation (5) None of these
132. Which country recently became the first to recognize the Indian Pharmacopoeia?
 (1) Afghanistan (2) Iraq (3) Saudi Arabia (4) Qatar (5) None of these
133. What aspect does the recently launched EChO Network deal with?
 (1) Indian foreign policy (2) Indian ecology and environment
 (3) Indian military technology (4) India's satellite network (5) None of these
134. The Kuril Island is being disputed between which two countries?
 (1) Japan and South Korea (2) Japan and Russia (3) Russia and Ukraine
 (4) Russia and USA (5) None of these
135. Strategic tunnel under Rohtang Pass was recently named after which of the following individuals?
 (1) Indira Gandhi (2) Vallabhai Patel (3) Moraji Desai
 (4) Atal Bihari Vajapyyee (5) None of these
136. The followers of which religion are called the "Hynniew Trep"?
 (1) Shinto (2) Taoism (3) Seng Khasi (4) Confucianism (5) None of these
137. Pakistan, one among the three countries in the world with Polio endemic, is planning to import Polio markers from India. Which are the other two countries:
 (1) Afghanistan and Mongolia (2) Nigeria and South Africa
 (3) Afghanistan and Nigeria (4) Nigeria and Kenya (5) None of these
138. The Asian Infrastructure Investment Bank had recently announced a loan for irrigation and solar energy projects in India. It is headquartered in which of the following countries?
 (1) South Korea (2) Singapore (3) Japan (4) China (5) None of these
139. What is CAT IIIB system which has been in news recently with respect to the fog conditions in the north?
 (1) Instrument landing system
 (2) Weather monitoring system
 (3) System for classifying fog intensity
 (4) Road safety system
 (5) None of these

General - International

140. Which country has recently left 2050 Climate Neutrality Agreement of European Union?
 (1) Ethiopia (2) Sudan (3) Poland (4) Greece (5) None of these
141. Which nation has recently gained independence from Papua New Guinea?
 (1) Kiriwina (2) Manus (3) Buka (4) Bougainville (5) None of these
142. Five US tech giants are currently facing lawsuits over the death of child labourers in cobalt mines in which country?
 (1) Democratic Republic of Congo (2) Uganda (3) Angola
 (4) Sierra Leone (5) None of these

143. Which neighbouring country of India was recently criticized for providing special permits for the royal family of Qatar to hunt vulnerable species Houbara Bustards?
 (1) Nepal (2) China (3) Sri Lanka (4) Pakistan (5) None of these
144. The US has recently rejected China and Russia's call to ease sanctions on North Korea. Which country supported North Korea during the Korean War?
 (1) China (2) USSR (3) Vietnam (4) Cambodia (5) None of these
145. The 'Nine Dash Line', which is to be contested at the UN, is in which water body?
 (1) South China Sea (2) North Atlantic Ocean (3) East Philippine sea
 (4) Arctic Ocean (5) None of these
146. The International Criminal Court, which is seeking to look into war crimes in West Asia, was established by which treaty?
 (1) Geneva Convention (2) Rome Statute (3) Vienna Convention
 (4) Kyoto Protocol (5) None of these
147. The Apex court of which country recently became the first for holding the government responsible for climate action?
 (1) Netherlands (2) Denmark (3) Norway (4) Finland (5) None of these
148. USA's legislation DASKA provides for sanctions against which country?
 (1) Russia (2) China (3) Iran (4) Iraq (5) None of these
149. Who had drafted the recent UNGA-approved draft for international treaty to combat cyber-crime?
 (1) USA (2) Russia (3) France (4) China (5) None of these
150. The Stolen Works of Art Database, which was in news recently, is maintained by which organization?
 (1) UNESCO (2) WTO (3) ASI (4) INTERPOL (5) None of these

Books and Authors

151. Who is the author of the book "The Legacy of Militancy in Punjab: Long Road to Normalcy"?
 (1) Dona Suri (2) Vikram Seth (3) Arundhati Roy (4) Vani Kaushal (5) None of these
152. Who is the author of the book 'The Vault of Vishnu'?
 (1) Ashwin Sanghi (2) Amish Tripathi (3) Devdutt Pattanaik
 (4) Sunil Dalal (5) None of these

Ans: 1-3, 2-2, 3-4, 4-4, 5-3, 6-4, 7-4, 8-4, 9-2, 10-2,11-4, 12-2, 13-4, 14-1, 15-1, 16-4, 17-4, 18-3, 19-2, 20-4, 21-1, 22-4, 23-3, 24-1, 25-3, 26-4, 27-1, 28-4, 29-2, 30-1, 31-1, 32-1, 33-4, 34-1, 35-1, 36-1, 37-1, 38-3, 39-3, 40-1, 41-2, 42-4, 43-1, 44-2, 45-4, 46-4, 47-1, 48-2, 49-3, 50-2, 51-4, 52-3, 53-1, 54-1, 55-3, 56-3, 57-3, 58-2, 59-1, 60-1, 61-2, 62-1, 63-3, 64-3, 65-2, 66-3, 67-3, 68-2, 69-2, 70-4, 71-3, 72-4, 73-2, 74-2, 75-3, 76-4, 77-2, 78-2, 79-3, 80-3, 81-1, 82-3, 83-2, 84-1, 85-2, 86-2, 87-1, 88-1, 89-1, 90-2, 91-4,92-2, 93-1, 94-3, 95-1, 96-4, 97-2, 98-1, 99-1, 100-1, 101-3, 102-2, 103-3, 104-4, 105-4, 106-3, 107-3, 108-3, 109-1, 110-2,111-1, 112-4, 113-3, 114-4, 115-3, 116-2, 117-2, 118-1, 119-3, 120-3, 121-3, 122-3, 123-1, 124-3, 125-2, 126-1, 127-2, 128-3, 129-4, 130-3, 131-2, 132-1, 133-2, 134-2, 135-4, 136-3, 137-3, 138-4, 139-1, 140-3, 141-4, 142-1, 143-4, 144-1, 145-1, 146-2, 147-1, 148-1, 149-2, 150-4, 151-1, 152-1.

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