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INTERNATIONAL NEWS

1. New Zealand bans single-use plastic shopping bags

-Under the new rules, thin plastic single-use shopping bags can no longer be supplied, but reusable carriers are allowed. Companies that break the ban will face heavy penalties, including fines of up to 100,000 New Zealand dollars.

2. 4. Iraq's Babylon listed as World Heritage Site by UNESCO's World Heritage Committee

- Babylon is developed as a walled city of mud-brick temples and towers, constituting the Tower of Babel, and the Ishtar Gate. The city was the centre of the ancient Babylonian empire more than 4,000 years ago.

3. USA designates Baloch Liberation Army as terror group

The Department of State of USA has designated the Balochistan Liberation Army (BLA) and Hizballah operative Husain Ali Hazzima as Specially Designated Global Terrorists. The USA has also blamed the organizations for the attacks on Chinese assets amid an ongoing civil war like situation in Pakistan's biggest province Balochistan.

4. U.S. Senate passes provision to give India NATO ally-like status

-The U.S. Senate has passed a legislative provision **National Defense Authorisation Act** for India.

- The act will bring India at par with America's NATO allies which will increase U.S.-India defence cooperation in the Indian Ocean in the areas of humanitarian assistance, counter terrorism, counter-piracy and maritime security. The act has been passed for the fiscal year 2020.

5. IMF approves \$6 billion loan over a period of 3 years for cash-strapped Pakistan

-The USD 6 billion financial aid includes an immediate disbursement of USD 1 billion to help Pakistan address its balance of payment crisis. The approved loan aims to support Pakistan's economic plan, which aims to return sustainable growth to the country's economy and improve the standards of living.

6. Kyriakos Mitsotakis becomes Greece's new PM

7. Sharjah issues 1st permanent residency visa to Lalu Samuel

-Sharjah's first Golden Card visa was issued to an Indian expat businessman Lalu Samuel. The move is a part of the permanent residency system tailored for investors. The Golden Card is a 10-year long-term visa eligible for investors and entrepreneurs to engage them in the renaissance and development of the UAE.

8. Tropical Storm Barry hits Louisiana in US.

9. France to impose green tax on plane tickets from 2020

- France will impose green tax up to €18 on plane tickets from 2020. The move aims to fund less-polluting transportation projects. A similar tax was introduced in Sweden in April 2018, which imposed an added charge of up to €40 on every ticket in a bid to lessen the impact of air travel on the climate.

10. Sri Lanka eliminates measles

-Sri Lanka has become fifth country in the World Health Organisation (WHO) Southeast Asia region to eliminate measles. The other countries in the region which have achieved this feat are Bhutan, Maldives, DPR Korea and Timor-Leste.

11. Ukraine inaugurates world's largest Metal Dome

-Ukraine has inaugurated the world's largest movable metal dome encasing the destroyed reactor at the infamous Chernobyl plant. It is a 108-meter high dome which weighs 36,000 tonnes.

12. North Korea revises constitution

-North Korea has revised its constitution to make Kim Jong Un as official head of state, a promotion that could help normalise the isolated country's diplomatic relations with the rest of the world. Earlier Kim ruled as a chairman of state Affairs Commission. The previous constitution stated that the chairman of SAC served as a Supreme Leader.

13. France celebrates 14th july as its "National day"

- The day is also known as Bastille Day. This is the 230th anniversary of the storming of the Bastille prison which took place in Paris on 14 July 1789.

14. Sri Lanka signs agreement with India to upgrade railway lines

15. China gifts warship 'P625' to Sri Lanka

- 'P625' frigate will be mainly used for offshore patrol, environment monitoring and anti-piracy combats.

16. Palau Becomes 76th Country to Join ISA

-Palau, an archipelago of over 500 islands in Oceania, became the 76th signatory country to join the International Solar Alliance.

-The International Solar Alliance is a group of 121 solar resource-rich countries with headquarters in **Gurugram**, India. The organisation aims to deploy over 1,000 gigawatts of solar energy and mobilise more than USD 1,000 billion into solar power by 2030, according to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC).

17. U.S. Federal Trade Commission sets \$5 bn fine for Facebook for lapses in privacy and data protection.

18. Boris Johnson of Conservative party announced as Britain's next prime minister

19. Plastic-like Jute material developed in Bangladesh

- Scientists in Bangladesh have developed a method to convert Jute fibre into low cost bio-degradable cellulose sheets named "Sonali". The Eco-friendly jute poly bags made up of Sonali can be used in garments and food packaging work and they are not harmful for human health.

20. Non Aligned Movement Ministerial Meeting held in Caracas,Venezuela

21. Pakistan to send its first man to space in 2022

- It will be using close ally China's satellite launching facilities to execute the mission.

22. U.S. celebrates 50 years of the Apollo 11 mission

-U.S. celebrates the Apollo 11 mission's 50th year anniversary. In the celebrations, new statues of Astronaut Neil Armstrong were unveiled and an education centre was dedicated to him in Ohio, US.

23. IBM acquired American software company Red Hat Inc in \$34 billion

NATIONAL NEWS

1. 'Tribes India' & 'Go Tribal Campaign' of Tribes India launched

- 'Go Tribal Campaign' of Tribes India launched to promote the use of tribal handicrafts, handicrafts and natural products.

- 'Tribes India' launched globally through Amazon Global Selling to step up Exports of Tribal Products.

2. 'One nation one ration card' scheme from July 1, 2020

- The scheme will allow portability of food security benefits according to which the poor migrant workers will be able to buy subsidised rice and wheat from any ration shop in the country as long as their ration cards are linked to Aadhaar.

3. YouTube Introduces 'Learning Playlists' for Educational Videos on topics like math, science, music and language.

4. UGC approves a scheme "STRIDE" to boost research culture in India

- It will provide support to research projects that are socially relevant, locally need-based, nationally important and globally significant.

Objectives of STRIDE: To identify young talent, strengthen research culture, build capacity, promote innovation and support trans disciplinary research for India's developing economy and national development. To fund multi institutional network high impact research projects in humanities and human sciences.

5. No charges on NEFT, RTGS money transfers from 1 July

- This has been done to provide an impetus to digital funds movement.

(The real time gross settlement (RTGS) system is meant for large value (above 2 lakh Rs instantaneous fund transfers and the national electronic funds transfer (NEFT) system is used for fund transfers of up to Rs 2 lakh.)

6. 'Tamil yeoman' declared Tamil Nadu's state butterfly

These butterflies are also known as Tamil Maravan, which means warrior, are found mainly in the hilly areas. Tamil Nadu is only the fifth state in the country to declare its state butterfly.

7. Jal Shakti Abhiyan

- Union Jal Shakti Minister has launched a water conservation campaign 'Jal Shakti Abhiyan' with an emphasis on 1592 stressed blocks in **256 districts**. The campaign will run through citizen participation during the monsoon 1st July-15th September. An additional phase II will run from 1st October-30th November for states receiving the northeast retreating monsoons.

- The campaign will focus on five aspects: water conservation and rainwater harvesting, renovation of traditional and other water bodies, reuse of water and recharging of structures, watershed development, and intensive afforestation.

8. India to contribute USD 5M in 2019 to UN Palestine refugee agency

9. High Powered Committee for 'Transformation of Indian Agriculture'

Maharashtra chief minister Denender Fadnavis will be the convenor of the committee. The committee has been asked to submit its report within two months.

The other members of the committee include:

- H.D. Kumaraswamy, Chief Minister, Karnataka
- Manohar Lal Khattar, Chief Minister, Haryana
- Pema Khandu, Chief Minister, Arunachal Pradesh
- Vijay Rupani, Chief Minister, Gujarat
- Yogi Adityanath, Chief Minister, Uttar Pradesh

- Kamal Nath, Chief Minister, Madhya Pradesh
- Narendra Singh Tomar, Minister, Agriculture Rural Development and Panchyati Raj.
- NITI Aayog member Ramesh Chand will be the member secretary of the committee.

10. Govt hikes MSP of Kharif crops for 2019-20 season

-The Cabinet Committee on Economic Affairs has approved the increase in the Minimum Support Prices for all Kharif crops for 2019-20 Season.

11. Indian Railways to install CCTV cameras in over 7,000 train coaches of mainline passenger trains by March 2021.

- Also, CCTV cameras have already been installed in coaches of premium, mail, express and suburban trains.

12. Jagannath Rath Yatra 2019 begins in Puri, Odisha.

-The Rath Yatra marks the journey of Lord Jagannath along with his siblings Lord Balabhadra and Devi Subhadra from Jagannath temple to Gundicha temple. The journey covers a distance of around 17 km in Puri.

13. India's first Design Development Centre 'Fashionova' launched in Surat, Gujarat

- The centre will promote the city in the field of the fashion design sector. .

14. Longest electrified railway tunnel in India commissioned

-The South Central Railway has commissioned the longest electrified tunnel of India. The tunnel which is **between Cherlopalli and Rapuru stations** is **6.6 km long**, is built at a total cost of ₹460 crore. The **horse shoe shaped tunnel** is of 6.5 metres height with ballastless track and LED lighting provided at 10 metre intervals inside.

15. Army Chief General Bipin Rawat has released a Kargil Tribute Song to honour, salute and pay homage to the Kargil

martyrs and war veterans. The song has been composed by eminent Hindi lyricist Sammer Anjaan and sung by Shatadru Kabir. The song was released as part of the celebration of the 20th anniversary of Kargil Vijay Diwas to be celebrated on 26th of July.

61. UAE Foreign minister 'Sheikh Abdullah bin Zayed Al Nahyan' arrives in India

-He will hold talks with his Indian counterpart S Jaishankar to boost cooperation in key sectors such as trade and energy.

17. Tata Steel Kalinganagar joins WEF's Global Lighthouse Network

-Tata Steel Kalinganagar (TSK) has been included in World Economic Forum's Global Lighthouse Network. TSK in Odisha's Jajpur district is the first and the only Indian manufacturing plant to be included in the WEF's Lighthouse Network.

18. Indian Haj mission in Saudi Arabia adopts Digital India, equality of women

-It aims to reach out to a large number of pilgrims as part of the Government of India's initiative of Digital India. The App 'Indian Haj Information System' developed by the consulate will receive feedback and grievances from Hajis. Another app E-MASIHA will retrieve pilgrims' health information to apply appropriate treatment whenever he or she visits Indian medical facilities during Haj.

19. 2nd India-Russia Strategic Economic Dialogue held in New Delhi.

(The first Dialogue was held in St. Petersburg in November 2018.)

20. Phase-II DBT in fertilizer subsidy launched

Union Minister for Chemicals and Fertilizers D.V. Sadananda Gowda launched the Phase-II of the Direct Benefit Transfer of Fertilizer Subsidy.

21. "Operation Thirst" launched by RPF (Railway protection force)

-RPF launched "Operation Thirst" to crack down selling of unauthorised Packaged Drinking Water in the railway premises.

22. Government waives duty on products imported for nuclear plants

-All goods for use in generation of nuclear power" and "all forms of uranium ores and concentrates for generation of nuclear power" will now have to pay no basic customs duty.

23. Rajya Sabha passed the Central Universities (Amendment) Bill, 2019

The Bill aims the establishment of a Central University and Tribal University in Andhra Pradesh. The Tribal University will offer research facilities in the fields of art, culture and technology to the tribal population.

24. Health Ministry to launch a "Jan Jagrukta Abhiyaan" in Delhi

It aims to accelerate measures for prevention and control of Vector Borne Diseases like Malaria, Dengue and Chikungunya.

25. Cabinet approves setting up of NMC

-The Union Cabinet has approved National Medical Commission Bill, 2019. The bill provides for setting up of a National Medical Commission in place of Medical Council of India and repeal the Indian Medical Council Act 1956. The features of the bill include, the Common final year MBBS Exams will be known as National Exit Test(NEXT) which would serve as Licentiate Exam, for entrance to Post Graduate medical course and as screening test of foreign medical graduates.

26. Panel to prevent extinction of Great Indian Bustard and the Lesser Florican

-The Supreme Court of India has constituted a high powered committee to urgently frame and implement an emergency response plan for the protection of two Indian birds- Great Indian Bustard and the Lesser Florican.

- The 3 member panel constitutes **Dr Deepak Apte, Dr Asad R Rahmani and Dr Dhananjai Mohan.**

27. INS Sagardhwani embarks on mission Sagar Maitri Mission-2 from Kochi.

- INS Sagardhwani is an oceanographic research vessel of the Defence Research and Development Organisation (DRDO).

(Chief of DRDO: G Satheesh Reddy , HQ- New Delhi)

28. Union HRD Minister launches "Deeksharambh" (UGC Guide to Student Induction Programme)

- The guide to Student Induction Programme is to help new students adjust and feel comfortable in the new environment, inculcate in them the ethos and culture of the institution, help them build bonds with other students and faculty members, and expose them to a sense of larger purpose and self-exploration.

29. Culture Minister inaugurates architectural illumination of Safdarjung Tomb in New Delhi

- A total of 213 technologically advanced LED lights have been used to highlight the 17th century monument. The consumption of LED lights is approximately 62 percent less than conventional light fixtures.

(Archaeological Survey of India has taken up the project to illuminate the important monuments of Delhi to highlight the archaeological magnificence of historical monuments.)

30. India to give scholarships to heirs of Muktiyodhas

-Government of India will provide 10,000 scholarships for heirs of the liberation war fighters of Bangladesh called 'Muktiyodhas' over the next five years under the Nutan India-Bangladesh Maitree Muktiyodha Sontan Scholarship Scheme.

31. The government has set a target for the installation of Rooftop Solar projects of 40,000 MegaWatt by 2022 in the country.

32. Kaiga Atomic Energy station (Karnataka) sets a World record in continuous operation of 962 days

33. IPS officer Aparna Kumar completes Seven Summit challenge

-She becomes first IPS officer to complete Seven Summit challenge by scaling Mt Denali. (Mt Denali is the tallest mountain in North America.)

34. Duty Free shops at Dubai airports to accept Indian currency

-Dubai Duty Free has announced that Indian Rupee will now be an accepted currency at all the retail outlets of the Dubai airport. The move makes the Indian rupee the 16th international currency to be accepted at Dubai's airports.

35. First 'Aadhaar Seva Kendra' in Delhi and Vijayawada

-Unique Identification Authority of India has opened its first 'Aadhaar Seva Kendra' in Delhi and Vijayawada. The Aadhaar card issuing authority has an ambitious plan to set up 114 such centres by the year end. These centres will provide the facility to apply for a new Aadhaar card or update the existing ones. These centres are similar to Passport Seva Kendras run by the Ministry of External Affairs.

36. Isha Kanth bags ICJ internship programme

-Indian girl, Isha Kanth is one of the two persons in the world to have bagged an internship programme at the International Court of Justice.

37. Baba Guru Nanak University Foundation stone laid in Pakistan (at Nanakana Sahib)

-The University was dedicated to Guru Nanak Dev at his birth place. This university would be spread over 10 acres.

38. JATAN: Virtual Museum software for Digitization of Archaeological Museum

- JATAN: Virtual Museum software has been developed by Human Centres Design and Computing Group, C-DAC, Pune, Maharashtra for the Digitization of Archaeological Museum.

39. Union Ministry signs MoU with Ministries of Ayush, Defence and Railways to strengthen the efforts towards a TB-Free India by 2025.

(Around 28 lakh people contract the disease every year in the country and four lakh people die every year.)

40. Reliance Jio ties up with Facebook for digital literacy initiative 'Digital Udaan'

-The initiative will have audio-visual training in 10 regional languages. The initiative is announced for the first-time Internet users in the country. The programme is being launched in nearly 200 different locations across 13 states.

APPOINTMENTS AND RESIGNATION

1. K. Natarajan has sworn in as the 23rd chief of ICG (Indian Coast Guard)

2. P.K. Purwar appointed as the CMD of BSNL

3. N S Vishwanathan gets extension by one year as RBI deputy governor

4. Manoj Kumar Nambiar elected chairman of MFIN (Microfinance Institutions Network).

5. Ursula von der Leyen elected as next president of European Commission

- She will replace Jean Claude Juncker. She has become the first woman to be elected to lead the EU's executive arm.

(Headquarters of European Commission: Brussels, Belgium.)

6. Nalin Shinghal appointed CMD of BHEL

7. B Harideesh Kumar appointed as Director of IBPS

8. Lieutenant General Shailesh Tinaikar assumes charge as Force Commander of UN mission in South Sudan

9. Rahul Dravid appointed NCA's Head of Cricket

-BCCI has formally appointed Rahul Dravid as the National Cricket Academy's Head of Cricket.

10. Arun Kumar appointed as DGCA chief

-Arun Kumar has been appointed as the Director General in the Directorate General of Civil Aviation / DGCA. He will replace BS Bhullar.

11. M Nageswar Rao appointed DG of Fire Services, Civil Defence and Home Guard

12. LinkedIn appoints Ashutosh Gupta as country manager for India

13. Vikas Swarup appointed as Secretary of Overseas Indian Affairs

14. Former India wicket keeper-batsman Kiran More appointed USA cricket team's interim coach

15. President appointed Kalraj Mishra as Himachal Pradesh Governor

- Acharya Devvrat has been transferred from Himachal Pradesh and appointed as the governor of Gujarat.

16. Chandrakant Kavlekar to be the new Deputy CM of Goa

17. Ursula von der Leyen elected EU commission president

-Ursula von der Leyen has been confirmed as the European commission's first female President and the first German in the job for more than 50 years.

(European Union Headquarters: Brussels, Belgium).

18. President appoints Governors for Chhattisgarh, Andhra Pradesh

- Anusuiya Uikey - Governor of Chhattisgarh.

-Biswa Bhusan Harichandan - Governor of Andhra Pradesh.

19. Justice AK Sikri appointed as judge in SICC by President of Singapore.

-Former Supreme Court judge, Justice AK Sikri, has been appointed as an international judge of the Singapore International Commercial court (SICC). It currently has 16 international judges as part of its panel.

(The SICC is a division of the Singapore high court and part of the Supreme Court of that country, designed to deal with transnational commercial disputes.)

20. Christine Lagarde resigns as IMF chief

- She had served as the IMF chief since 2011. She was the first woman to head the IMF.

21. Upender Singh Rawat named India's next Ambassador to Panama

22. Sanjeev Kumar Singla appointed as India's Ambassador to Israel

23. IFS officer Vivek Kumar appointed private secretary to PM

24. Ajay Bhadoo appointed as Joint Secretary to the President

25. Chandrayaan-2, India's second moon mission launched

- Indian Space Research Organisation launched Chandrayaan 2 from Satish Dhawan Space Center at Sriharikota. It was launched by **GSLV MkIII-M1 Vehicle** at 14:43 hours IST.

The lander-Vikram will land near South Pole of the moon on Sep 7, 2019.

- 1st Chandrayaan mission of India was launched on 22 oct 2008 from Sriharikota.

(ISRO Director: K. Sivan; Headquarters: Bengaluru; Established in: 1969.

26. New governors appointed to 6 Indian States :

Madhya Pradesh: Lalji Tandon will replace Anandiben Patel.

Uttar Pradesh: Anandiben Patel will replace Ram Naik.

West Bengal: Jagdeep Dhankhar will replace Keshari Nath Tripathi.

Bihar: Phagu Chuhan will replace Lalji Tandon.

Nagaland: R.N. Ravi will replace P.B. Acharya.

Tripura: Ramesh Bais will replace Kaptan Singh Solanki.

27. M.M. Naravane to be next Vice-Chief of Army Staff

- He will replace Lt. Gen. D. Anbu.

28. Ehsan Mani named chief of ICC committee

- Pakistan Cricket Board's chairman Ehsan Mani has been appointed as the head of the ICC's Finance and Commercial Affairs committee.

29. Former soldier Mark Esper appointed as Pentagon chief (Secretary of Defence).

30. Dejan Papic appointed as India's table tennis coach

31. Priti Patel appointed as Britain's Home Secretary

- She has become the Britain's first Indian-origin Home Secretary.

32. Ajay Bhalla appointed as Home Secretary

He will succeed Rajive Gauba.

33. Adhir Ranjan Chowdhury appointed as PAC chairman

-The leader of the Congress party in Lok Sabha, Adhir Ranjan Chowdhury was appointed as the Chairman of the Public Accounts Committee (PAC).The PAC has 15 members from Lok Sabha and seven from Rajya Sabha.

- The term of office of members of the committee does not exceed one year at a time.

34. Sunil Kumar given charge as Mahanagar Telephone Nigam Limited / MTNL chief

35. Kapil Dev led CAC to pick Team India's head coach

Cricket Advisory Committee (CAC) led by World Cup-winning former captain Kapil Dev entrusted with the responsibility of selecting India's new coach. Apart from Kapil, former women's captain Shantha Rangaswamy and former men's coach Anshuman Gaekwad have also in the panel.

36. India's Anshula Kant is World Bank MD and CFO

-The World Bank Group announced that Anshula Kant, an Indian national, has been appointed Managing Director and Chief Financial Officer. Ms. Kant will be the first woman CFO of the Bank.

37. BS Yeddyurappa (BJP) to take oath as karnataka CM for 4th time

AWARDS AND HONOURS

1. 'Gully Boy' wins NETPAC award in Bucheon film festival

2. NALCO to get President's award for excellent CSR

- National Aluminium Company Limited has been selected for President's award for utilisation of Corporate Social Responsibility (CSR) fund in social development.
- NALCO started a scheme "**Aliali Jhia**" in 2015 to promote the education of Girls of BPL families. NALCO is an Odisha based Navaratna Company.

3. Sports Journalists Federation of India 2019 Awards

Sports Journalists Federation of India (SJFI) 2019 Awards:

- SJFI Medal (Highest Honour): Prakash Padukone (Badminton).
- Sportsperson of the Year Award: Pankaj Advani (Billiards and Snooker) and Bajrang Punia (Wrestling).
- Emerging Talent of the Year Award: Saurabh Choudhary (Shooting).
- Team of the Year Award: Vidarbha Cricket Team.

4. Ajay Banga, Azim Premji to receive excellence awards from USISPF

-The US-India Strategic Partnership Forum has announced that Mastercard CEO and President Ajay Banga and Wipro Chairman Azim Premji will receive the 2019 Global Excellence Awards.

5. Filmmaker Zoya Akhtar's directorial 'Gully Boy' has won the Network for the Promotion of Asian Cinema (NETPAC) Award at the 23rd Bucheon International Fantastic Film Festival (BIFAN) in South Korea.

6. 'Best Innovation Award' won by NEFR

-Northeast Frontier Railway has won the 'Best Innovation Award' for unique strategy adopted to keep wild elephants away from train tracks. The cash prize awarded of Rs 3 lakh. The NEFR, in a bid to tackle the problem, came up with '**Plan Bee**' in 2017.

7. India Football Federation's AIFF Awards announced

Emerging Women's Footballer 2018-19: Dangmei Grace (Manipur).

Emerging Men's Footballer of the Year: Abdul Sahal (Kerala).

Women's Footballer of the Year: Ashalata Devi.

Men's Footballer of the Year: Sunil Chhetri.

8. 'Nagarkirtan' wins big at SAARC film fest

-Director Kaushik Ganguly's Bengali film 'Nagarkirtan', has won 4 awards in SAARC film festival. The movie was honoured with 'Best Feature Film', 'Best Director', 'Best Actor' and 'Best Original Score' awards.

- Two other Indian films have won awards at the fest, 'Na Bole Wo Haram', a 20-minute film by debutant director Nitish Patankar, bagged the 'Best Short Film' award, while 'Walking With the Wind' by Praveen Morchhale received the Special Jury award for direction and story.

9. Tennis player Rohan Bopanna and Women cricketer Smriti Mandhana got Arjuna Award

-Bopanna won the Gold medal in tennis men's double category in Asian Games 2018 and Mandhana was the ICC women's player of the year 2018.

10. Govt's "Find the Incredible You" campaign wins PATA award

- The "Find the Incredible You" campaign of the Tourism Ministry, has won the Pacific Asia Travel Association (PATA) Gold Award, 2019.

11. Sachin Tendulkar 6th Indian to be inducted into ICC Hall of Fame

- International Cricket Council has inducted India's batting icon Sachin Tendulkar, South African pace legend Allan Donald and two-times World Cup-winning Australian woman cricketer Cathryn Fitzpatrick into the ICC's Hall of Fame.

- Other Indians on the list are Bishan Singh Bedi, Sunil Gavaskar, Kapil Dev, Anil Kumble, Rahul Dravid.

(Sachin Tendulkar has 34,357 runs across formats and is the only batsman to record 100 internationals hundreds).

12. Vocalist S Sowmya wins Sangita Kalanidhi award

IMPORTANT DAYS

- 1. July 1st : 2nd anniversary of GST to be celebrated as "GST Day"**
- 2. National Doctors' Day: 1 July**
- 3. International Day of Parliamentarism: 30 June**
- 4. International Asteroid Day: 30 June**
- 5. International Day of Cooperatives: 6 July (Theme : COOPS 4 DECENT WORK.)**
- 6. World Population Day: 11 July**
- 7. World Youth Skills Day: 15th July**
- 8. Nelson Mandela International Day: 18 July**
- 9. World Day for International Justice: 17th July**
- 10. National Broadcasting day: 23 July**
- 11. CBDT celebrates 159th Income Tax Day (AaykarDiwas) on 24th July.**
- 12. Kargil Vijay Diwas: 26 July**

OBITUARIES / DEATHS

1. Professional motorcycle racer, Carlin Dunne passes away due to a fatal crash.

He was also known as "The King of the Mountain".

2. US auto industry legend Lee Iacocca passes away

-He was known for creating the iconic Ford Mustang and saving Chrysler from bankruptcy.

3. Birla Group patriarch and an ace of the Indian industry Basant Kumar Birla passed away in Mumbai.

4. Former India goalkeeper from Tamil Nadu A. U. Celestine passes away

5. The legendary Brazilian musician and songwriter Joao Gilberto passed away. He was the pioneer of the lilting, melodious and famous music known as Bossa Nova.

6. Raja Dhale co-founder of the the radical outfit Dalit Panther passes away

7. American computer scientist & Computer genius Fernando Corbató passes away

8. 1971 war hero Lt Gen Gharaya passes away

9. American Boxing legend 'Sweet Pea' Whitaker passes away

-Former Olympic boxing gold medallist and four weight World champion "Pernell whitaker" passed away.

10. 3-time Delhi CM and senior Congress leader Sheila Dikshit passes away

11. Lok Janshakti Party MP from Bihar's Samastipur Ram Chandra Paswan passed away.

12. Australian tennis champion Peter McNamara passes away

13. IAEA chief Yukiya Amano who oversaw Iran deal dies

-He led the International Atomic Energy Agency for a decade and was extensively involved in negotiations over Iran's nuclear program.

14. Former Chinese premier Li Peng passes away

15. 'Blade Runner' actor Rutger Hauer passes away

16. Tunisia's first democratically elected president Essebsi passes away

17. Bangladesh former military dictator H.M. Ershad passes away

-He became the president of Bangladesh in December 1983 and ruled the country till 1990.

SPORTS

1. Indian Pro Boxer Wins WBC Asia Title

-Indian pro boxer Vaibhav Yadav has become the WBC Asia Silver Welterweight Champion. He defeated Thailand's Fahpetch Singmanassak in the title bout held in Pattaya, Thailand.

2. Indian cricketer Ambati Rayudu retires from international cricket

3. India loses to Pakistan in the IBSF Snooker World Cup finals in Doha (Qatar).

4. Hima bags gold in Poznan Athletics Grand Prix

-Hima Das, the under-20 World champion has won the gold medal in women's 200m in the Poznan Athletics Grand Prix (Poznan, Poland).

5. 21st Commonwealth Table Tennis C'ship to be hosted in Cuttack, Odisha

-The tournament has received entries from 14 associations, consisting of India, Singapore, Malaysia, Bangladesh, Sri Lanka, England, Scotland, Wales, Jersey, Australia, Cyprus, South Africa, Nigeria, Pakistan.

6. U.S. wins FIFA Women's World Cup 2019 held in Lyon, France

-They defeated the Netherlands with a score of 2-0. This is the 4th world cup title for the US's women football team.

7. Rohit Sharma records maximum hundreds in the single World Cup

- He has become the first batsman in the world to score five hundreds in a single World Cup and break the record of Former Sri Lankan skipper Kumar Sangakarra. He has also equalled Sachin Tendulkar's record of the total number of World Cup hundreds.
(Venue of ICC World Cup 2019 : England and Wales.)

8. 4 Gold medals for India in Kutno Athletics Meet held in Poland

-Indian athletes have won 4 gold medals in the Kutno Athletics Meet held in Poland.

Following is the list of winners in the different categories:

Hima Das won the gold while V.K. Vismaya bagged the silver in the women's 200m race.

Muhammed Anas won the gold in men's 200 m race.

M P Jabir won the gold while Jithin Paul bagged the bronze medal in the men's 400m hurdles.

P Saritaben (gold), Sonia Baishya (silver) and R Vithya (bronze) won the women's 400 m race.

9. World Youth Cup: Arinjeeta Dey wins silver medal

-Arinjeeta Dey, a 10-year-old girl, has won a silver medal in the World Youth Cup held in Umag, Croatia. The tournament was organised by World Karate Federation affiliated to the International Olympic Association.

10. Magnus Carlsen of Norway won the 2019 Croatia Grand Chess Tour title.

11. Dutee Chand wins gold in Summer University Games

Dutee Chand from Odisha has won the gold medal in the women's 100 metre sprint at the 30th Summer University Games in Naples, Italy. This is the first time an Indian has won a 100-metre gold at this global event.

12. Gold medals for India in Commonwealth Championships

-Rakhi Halder and Davinder Kaur has won a gold medal each in the senior women's section of weightlifting in the Commonwealth Championships taking place in Apia, Samoa.

13. India will host ISSF World Cup 2020

World Cup will be held in New Delhi from March 15 to 26 ,2020. The last edition of ISSF World Cup was held in Munich, Germany.

14. 21st Commonwealth Table Tennis C'ship begins

-Odisha Governor inaugurated the 21st edition of Commonwealth Table Tennis Championship at the Jawaharlal Indoor Stadium in Cuttack, Odisha.

15. Vijayveer Sidhu picked up his third gold medal of the ongoing ISSF Junior World Cup in Suhl, Germany.

16. Anish Bhanwala claims gold medal in ISSF Junior World Cup

-Shooter Anish Bhanwala claimed gold in 25m rapid fire pistol competition to continue India's dominance in the tournament in Suhl, Germany.

17. Hima Das wins gold in "Tabor Athletics" Meet in Czech Republic.

18. Sarabjot Singh wins gold medal in ISSF Junior World Cup (men's 10 metres air pistol) in Suhl, Germany.

19. ICC suspends Zimbabwe Cricket

- International Cricket Council has suspended Zimbabwe for failing to ensure there is no government interference in its running of the sport. ICC funding has been withdrawn and the country will be barred from participating at ICC events. Zimbabwe's Test status was suspended by the ICC in June 2004.

20. Both Indian Men & Women's teams defeated England in finals and won Commonwealth Table Tennis title held in Odisha.

21. North Korea wins Intercontinental Cup football tournament

- North Korea beats Tajikistan in the finals held in Ahmedabad. North Korea, Tajikistan, India and Syria participated in the event.

22. Sports Minister has launched the All India Football Federation's Golden Baby Leagues handbook 2019-20.

23. Adam Peaty breaks 57 seconds barrier & 100m breaststroke world record

The Britain swimmer Adam Peaty has break the world record in the men's 100 metre breaststroke at the World Championships in Gwangju, South Korea. He smashed the previous record of 57.10 seconds that was set by him at last year's European Championships, after winning the semi finals in 56.88 seconds.

24. Shiva Thapa became first Indian boxer to win gold at President's Cup in Astana, Kazakhstan

25. Indian bodybuilder Ravinder Malik clinches Mr South Asia title at 12th South Asian Bodybuilding and Physique Sports Championship in Kathmandu.

26.: Aishwarya Pratap Singh Tomar clinches gold at Shooting Junior World Cup in Suhl Germany

27. Japan's Akane Yamaguchi wins Indonesia Open

-She defeated India's P.V. Sindhu in the title clash by 21-15, 21-16.

28. Irishman Shane Lowry wins British Open (Golf)

29. Abhay, Tanvi win Bengal Open squash titles

30. Kristof Milak of Hungary breaks the Michael Phelps' long-standing world record in the 200 metres butterfly at

the World Aquatics Championships in Gwangju. He won the final in 1:50.73, breaking the previous record of 1:51.51, set by Phelps in 2009.

31. Dressel breaks the Phelps record in 100m butterfly stroke

- American star Caeleb Dressel destroyed Michael Phelps's World record in the 100 metres butterfly at the World Aquatics Championships 2019 in Gwangju (South Korea).
- Caeleb Dressel take 49.50 seconds in the semi-final event and breaking the old record of 49.82 seconds set by Michael Phelps.

32. Chandigarh gets BCCI affiliation

-Chandigarh received affiliation from the Board of Control for Cricket in India(BCCI) after nearly four decades.

33. Serbian Novak Djokovic won his fifth Wimbledon title after defeating Swiss tennis player Roger Federer. This is Djokovic's 16th Grand Slam and 5th Wimbledon title.

34. England scripts history, claims maiden ICC World Cup title 2019 at the Lord's cricket stadium in London.

-England defeated New Zealand with more number of boundaries in the Super Overthriller in the grand finale of ICC Cricket World Cup Trophy 2019.

-Player of the tournament: Kane Williamson (New Zealand).

-Player of the Match Award: Ben Stokes (England).

-Highest run scorer of the tournament: Rohit Sharma (India).

-Highest wicket taker of the tournament: Mitchell Starc (Australia).

(ICC Chairman: Shashank Manohar, Headquarters: Dubai, United Arab Emirates.)

-The 13th edition of ICC Cricket World Cup will be held in India from February 9 to March 26, 2023.

35. The Championships, Wimbledon 2019

-The Championships, Wimbledon, commonly known as Wimbledon is the oldest tennis tournament (since 1877) in the world. It is played on outdoor grass courts.

-Men's Singles final : N. Djokovic (Serbia) defeated Roger Federer (Switzerland)

-Women's Singles : S. Halep (Romania) defeated Serena Williams (USA).

36. Team India gets a new sponsor

-The Board of Control for Cricket in India (BCCI) has announced that Bengaluru-based education and learning app Byju's, which is owned by Think and Learn Private Limited, has replaced Oppo India as the official Team India sponsor.

37. G. Sathyan, Anthony Amalraj win bronze in Australian Open

- In Table Tennis, Indian pair G. Sathyan and Anthony Amalraj won the bronze at the World Tour Platinum Australian Open.

BANKING AND ECONOMY NEWS

1. Ola Electric gets \$250m funding from SoftBank

-Japanese company SoftBank has invested around \$250 million in Ola Electric Mobility. With this investment, Ola Electric has become the newest unicorn of India, joining the list of companies like Flipkart, Zomato and Paytm.
(CEO of Ola Electric: Bhavish Aggarwal.)

2. Ola gets green light for London taxi business

-India's biggest ride-hailing platform Ola Cabs, has received approval from London's transport regulator to start private hire vehicles (PHV) in the capital city of the UK.
(CEO of OLA: Bhavish Aggarwal; Headquarters: Bengaluru.)

3. Karnataka Bank Ltd has launched the web tool 'Vasool So-Ft' (Vasool So-Fast) for digitalising the Non Performing Asset recovery process of the bank.

4. RBI board finalises a three-year roadmap 'Utkarsh 2022'

- It is a three-year road map for medium term objectives to be achieved for improving regulation and supervision of the RBI.

5. Deposits in Jan Dhan Yojana accounts crosses Rs 1 lakh crore

(The PMJDY was launched on August 28, 2014, with an aim to provide universal access to banking facilities to the people in the country.)

6. Finance Ministry has cut the rate of General provident fund (GPF) by 10 basis points from 8% to 7.9%.

7. Asian Development Bank cuts India's GDP growth rate forecast from 7.2% to 7% for FY20

8. IMF lowers India's growth outlook from 7.3% to 7% for FY20

BOOKS AND AUTHORS

1. "Vivekadeepini" book released in ten languages by the Vice President of India

-It is a concise book of aphorisms that contains glimpses of India's wisdom. The book will be published by Vedanta Bharati.

2. "Kargil: Untold stories from the War" Book - Rachna Bisht Rawat (published by Penguin Random House)

3. PM Modi releases book on former PM Chandra Shekhar - The Last Icon of Ideological Politics" . it is written by Deputy Chairman in the Rajya Sabha, Harivansh and Ravi Dutt Bajpai in New Delhi.

SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY

1. NASA to send "first woman and next man" on Moon in 2024

-U.S. space agency NASA prepares to send "first woman and next man" on Moon as part of its ambitious Artemis programme in 2024. NASA has marked the 50th anniversary of the historic first Moon landing.

2. China launches first private rocket capable of carrying satellites

- Beijing-based startup "Interstellar Glory Space Technology" also known as iSpace successfully launched the china's first commercial rocket. The 20 m (66-foot) rocket designed by iSpace named Hyperbola-1 reached an altitude of 300 kilometres (186 miles). The rocket is capable of carrying satellites into orbit.

3. ISRO ties up with Russian agency to select, train Indian astronauts

-Indian Space Research Organisation has signed a contract with Russia's Glavkosmos for selection support, medical examination and space training of Indian astronauts.

4. Russia launched Soyuz Carrier Rocket with 33 satellites

-Russia successfully launched Soyuz-2.1a carrier rocket with 33 satellites (a hydrometeorological satellite and 32 small satellites). The satellite will provide images of clouds, the surface of the Earth, ice and snow covers in the visible, infrared and microwave ranges.

5. Russia launches space telescope Spektr-RG

6. 'Robot umpires' debut in U.S. baseball league

DEFENCE NEWS

1. Indo-French Joint Air Exercise Garuda-VI Begins at Mont de Marsan in France.

2. DRDO successfully tested Nag missiles in Pokhran

- The system includes a third generation Anti-Tank Guided Missile, the NAG, along with the Missile Carrier Vehicle (NAMICA). The Nag Missile has top attack capabilities that can effectively engage and destroy all known enemy tanks.

3. Operation 'Sudarshan' launched along the Pakistan border

-BSF has launched the operation 'Sudarshan' to fortify the 'anti-infiltration grid' along the Pakistan border in Punjab and Jammu.

4. India, China to carry out major military exercise 'Hand in Hand' in December, 2019

- The exercise will take place at Umroi, Meghalaya.
(Capital of China: Beijing; Currency: Renminbi)

5. India to launch first-ever space war exercise 'IndSpaceEx'

6. Indian Naval Ship Tarkash arrives in Morocco

-The visit is part of an ongoing Overseas Deployment by the Indian Navy to the Mediterranean Sea, Africa and Europe.

7. India successfully tests 'vertical steep dive' version of Brahmos supersonic cruise missile

8. AFSPA extended in Nagaland till december end

Ministry of Home Affairs have extended The Armed Forces (Special Powers) Act(AFSPA) for another six months in Nagaland.

9. ISALEX19 Exercise Kicks-off in Abu Dhabi

-The International Security Alliance's first Joint Exercise ISALEX19 started in Abu Dhabi.
-The exercise is hosted by the UAE Ministry of Interior (MoI). The exercise witnessed the participation of 50 representatives from law enforcement agencies of the International Security Alliance (ISA) countries.
(Headquarters of International Security Alliance: Abu Dhabi, UAE.
Founded: February 2017.)

SUMMITS & CONFERENCES

1. 19th Commonwealth Foreign Affairs Ministers Meeting in London

-The 19th Commonwealth Foreign Affairs Ministers Meeting was held in London. External Affairs Minister S. Jaishankar represented India in this meet.

2. 43rd session of the World Heritage Committee of UNESCO held in Baku, Republic of Azerbaijan from 30 June to 10 July 2019.

- In the meeting, UNESCO named 29 new World Heritage sites for 2019 in which Jaipur City, Rajasthan is also listed.

3. Lucknow to host DefExpo 2020

-The focus of the Expo will be on "Digital transformation of defence".
- Theme - "India: the emerging defence manufacturing hub".

4. 14th conference of Parties to be hosted by India

- India will host the 14th conference of the parties from September 02 to 13 in Greater Noida. 197 countries are expected to participate in the conference.

RANKS AND REPORTS

1. Maharashtra ranks first in NITI Aayog's AMFFR Index ('Agricultural Marketing and Farmer Friendly Reforms Index). The index ranks states based on the degree of reforms they have undertaken in agricultural marketing.

2. India ranked 86th in the Henley Passport Index 2019

Japan and Singapore holds the top spot with a score of 189.

3. Bimal Jalan panel report on surplus RBI reserves 'finalised'

-The panel has recommended that surplus reserves held by the central bank should be transferred to the government in tranches over three to five years.

4. SC Garg led panel's report on legality of cryptocurrencies and blockchain

- "Inter-Ministerial Committee" on legality of cryptocurrencies and blockchain has submitted its report to the Finance Ministry. The Committee recommends that:
All private cryptocurrencies, except any cryptocurrency issued by the state, be banned in India. It has also drafted a law, the 'Banning of Cryptocurrency & Regulation of Official Digital Currency Bill, 2019', which mandates a fine and imprisonment of up to 10 years for offences.
(The committee was set up under the Chairmanship of Economic Affairs Secretary Subhash Chandra Garg in 2017.)

5. Group of Ministers lead by on sexual harassment at workplace reconstituted

lead by Home Minister Amit Shah.

6. Taylor Swift Topped 100 highest-paid Forbes Celebrity list

- India's Akshay Kumar is placed 33rd in the list.

7. UN Report: Over 820 million people suffering from hunger

- Highest in Asia and then in Africa.

8. Money in Swiss banks: India ranked 74

- U.K. has retained its top position. India was ranked 73rd last year.

STATE NEWS

1. Campaign to eradicate AES and JES launched in UP

- Chief Minister of Uttar Pradesh have launched the IIInd phase of Communicable Disease Control and Dastak Abhiyan 2019. The campaign is launched to eradicate deadly **Acute Encephalitis Syndrome** (AES) and Japanese Encephalitis disease (JED). IT was organized under the banner of Health department and **UNICEF**. Chief Minister flagged off the **vehicles of awareness campaign** and also honored the **Dastak Yoddhas** by awarding certificates.

2. Hong Kong govt grants over \$9 million for cyclone-hit Odisha

- The grants will benefit around 45,100 victims of "Fani cyclone" and will be used to provide hygiene kits, kitchen kits, water, education, household items and shelter kits.

3. Bonalu festival begin at the Jagadamba temple in historic Golconda Fort, Telangana.

- Bonalu is celebrated every year in the state during the first month of the monsoon season. Bonalu is the **"state festival" of Telangana.**

4. 10k monthly allowance to Padma Shri awardees by Odisha govt

- Odisha government has decided to give monthly allowance of Rs 10,000 to Padma award winners of the state facing financial problems.

5. Lal Bahadur Shastri Statue unveiled by PM

- The Prime Minister unveiled the statue of former Prime Minister Sh. Lal Bahadur Shastri at the Lal Bahadur Shastri International Airport in Varanasi. It is built by Northern Coalfields, a subsidiary of Coal India.

6. Maharashtra increases aid to kin of Martyred Jawans

- Maharashtra government increased financial aid to families of jawans martyred in war or war-like situations or conflict related to national security from Rs 25 lakh to Rs 1 crore.
- Personnel wounded in conflict will get monetary compensation ranging from Rs 20 lakh to Rs 60 lakh each, depending on the severity of their injury.

7. Uttarakhand holds its first ever Himalayan states conclave on July 28

- The prime focus was on sustainable development.

ii. The conclave was attended by the Chief Ministers of the Himalayan states - Uttarakhand, Jammu and Kashmir, Himachal Pradesh, Sikkim, Assam, Arunachal Pradesh, Meghalaya, Nagaland, Tripura, Mizoram and Nagaland, along with administrators and specialists.

8. Internet Saathi' programme to be expanded to Punjab, Odisha

- Google India and Tata Trusts initiative is aimed at facilitating digital literacy among women in rural India named "Internet Saathi". This initiative will be expanded to villages in Punjab and Odisha.

- This programme has now reached 2.6 lakh villages in 20 states. In Punjab, the programme will cover around 5,000 villages. In Odisha, it will cover over 16,000 villages.

9. Cabinet approves 2,880MW hydel project in Dibang

-The Cabinet Committee on Economic Affairs (headed by PM) gave the approval to the 2,880 megawatts Dibang hydropower project in Arunachal Pradesh, approving a Rs 1,600 crore pre-investment and clearance expenditure for the Rs 28,080.35 crore strategic project.

(The Dibang river is a tributary river of the Brahmaputra that originated and flows through the Mishmi Hills & northeast India from the state of Arunachal Pradesh.)

10. Defence minister Inaugurates Ujh (in Kathua district) and Basantar Bridges (in Samba district) in J&K.

-1 Km long Ujh bridge is the longest bridge constructed by Border Roads Organisation(BRO).

11. Chengalpet, Tenkasi to be new districts in Tamil Nadu

-The number of districts in Tamil Nadu will go up to 35.

12. Andhra Pradesh has become the first state in the country to reserve jobs for locals.

The Andhra Pradesh Assembly passed the Andhra Pradesh Employment of Local Candidates in Industries/Factories Act, 2019 which provides for reservation of 75% private jobs across all categories in industrial units, factories, joint ventures as well as the project that are in public-private partnership (PPP) mode.

13. Researchers discover Dracaena cambodiana, a dragon tree species in the Dongka Sarpo area of West Karbi Anglong district in Assam. This is for the first time that a dragon tree species has been reported from India. Dragon tree species whose sap turns bright red after coming in contact with air.

14. Gujarat ranks on top in the installation of rooftop solar projects with an installed capacity of 261.97 megawatts. Gujarat is followed by Maharashtra and Tamil Nadu with 198.52 MW and 151.62 MW.