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# CURRENT AFFAIRS AUGUST-2019

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## WORLD / INTERNATIONAL AFFAIRS

### **1. Netherlands imposed ban on burqa and niqab in public places**

The cabinet of Netherlands imposed a ban on Burqa or niqab in public places, including public transport, government buildings and at health and education institutions. It is not applied to public streets. Anyone found guilty will have to pay a fine of 150 Euros.

### **2. 8th RCEP Inter-Sessional Ministerial Meeting 2019 held in Beijing, China**

It is held before the 7th RCEP ministerial meet which will be convened in Bangkok, Thailand on September 2019. In this meeting, all partner countries agreed to finalize trading deal negotiations.

( RCEP- Regional comprehensive economic partnership)

### **3. China labeled as a currency manipulator for the first time in 25 years by the US**

China allowed its yuan to fall below the politically sensitive level of 7 to the US dollar and Chinese firms have reportedly stopped buying US farm produce.

### **4. Nigeria, the fourth African Nation joins global coalition to protect pollinators**

Nigeria joined the Global coalition group of the willing on pollinators as the fourth African nation to protect pollinators and their habitats by developing and implementing National pollinator strategies, where currently the world's pollinator species are on the decline. The other African nation members in this group are Ethiopia, the first nation to join in 2017 followed by Burundi and Morocco.

### **5. Sri Lankan government exempted visa fees for Indian tourists**

### **6. Nagar Kirtan (Sikh religious procession) from Pakistan reaches India for the first time since Partition**

To mark the 550th birth anniversary of Guru Nanak Dev ( the Sikhism founder), Nagar Kirtan , a Sikh religious procession was taken out for 1st time after Independence from Nankana Sahib, district (birthplace of Guru Nanak Dev) of Pakistan's Punjab province to Attari village in Amritsar, Punjab Indian side through the Attari-Wagah land route.

### **7. Kajin Sara lake in Nepal is likely to set a new record of being the world's highest**

A newly discovered Kajin Sara lake in Manang district of Nepal is all set to record the world's highest lake. It will replace the Tilicho lake, which is the current world's highest lake situated at an altitude of 4,919 metres in Nepal (also in Manang) measures 4 km long, 1.2 km wide and around 200 metres deep.

### **8. \$ 1 million dollar contributed to the UN Special Purpose Trust Fund (SPTF ) by India**

It is a specific fund established mainly to receive, consolidate, manage and account for all contributions and financial transactions in an efficient and transparent way. It is housed within the UN secretariat.

### **9. 5th Meeting of BRICS Minister of Environment held in Sao Paulo, Brazil**

The Indian delegation was led by Union Minister of Environment, Forest and Climate Change, Shri Prakash Javadekar.

### **10. 28th BASIC Ministerial Meeting 2019 on Climate Change held in Sao Paulo, Brazil**

The 28th session of BASIC (Brazil, South Africa, India, and China) Ministerial meeting 2019 on Climate Change was held in Sao Paulo, Brazil from 14 – 16 August 2019.

### **11. Prime Minister Narendra Modi Visited Bhutan at the invitation of Prime Minister of Bhutan Dr. Lotay Tshering**

He inaugurated the **Mangdechhu hydroelectric power plant**, one of the major projects under Bhutan's initiative to

generate **10,000 MW (Megawatt)** hydropower by 2020 with the Indian government's support.

**Iceland commemorates first glacier lost due to climate change**

The glacier lost was, Iceland's Okjokull glacier.

**12. Saudi Arabia permits women over the age of 21 to travel abroad without male guardian's permission**

**13. India and the United States held a bilateral 2+2 Intersessional meeting in Monterey, California**

**14. FATF blacklisted Pakistan against terror financing and money laundering**

The Asia Pacific Group (APG) of the Financial Action Task Force (FATF) has blacklisted Pakistan for non-compliance and non-enforcement of safeguards against terror financing and money laundering. The action was taken in the FATF APG meeting held in Canberra, Australia.  
-Previously, Pakistan was greylisted by FATF for failing to curb anti-terror financing.

**15. India extends \$500,000 assistance to Gambia**

During the President Ram Nath Kovind's visit to Gambia, India has promised to extend an assistance of USD 500,000 to Gambia (West African country).

**16. Bangladesh signs uranium supply deal with Russia**

Bangladesh signed a deal with Russia for the supply of uranium for its 2400 MW Rooppur Nuclear Power Plant (RNPP).

**17. South Korea has decided to remove Japan from its preferred trade list.**

South Korea has taken this decision because Japan has failed to uphold international principles while managing its export controls on sensitive materials. Preferred trade list is a list of nations receiving preferential treatment in trade.

**18. Japanese ship "JS Sazanami", visited Kochi on a 2 day goodwill visit. JS Sazanami, a Japanese Maritime Self Defence Force Ship is a missile destroyer.**

## NATIONAL NEWS

**1. Maharashtra Govt launches Automated Multi-modal Biometric Identification System (AMBIS) for crime detection**

-it will soon be expanded across the country. It is an updated version of Automated Fingerprint Identification System (AFIS), which has limited utility.

**2. Pilot basis of one Nation one ration card scheme launched in 4 States : Telangana , Andhra, Maharashtra, Gujarat**

-Families holding this card can buy subsidized rice and wheat from any ration shop in these four states.

**3. Water Stress Index : India is the 46th highest risk country in the world**

**4. Nepali and Santhali languages to be included in the Scheme for grant of Senior/Junior Fellowships of Culture Ministry**

**5. Clean air initiative launched by India and UK in Bengaluru**

**6. Air Force specification-cum-publicity Pavilion inaugurated by Ramesh Pokhriyal "Nishank" in National Bal Bhawan, New Delhi to motivate students to join Indian Air Force.**

**7. The Parliament passed the Insolvency and Bankruptcy Code (IBC) (Amendment) Bill, 2019.**

It provides a 330-day timeline for insolvency resolution process and specifies minimum payouts to operational creditors in any resolution plan.

### **8. Parliament passed the Banning of Unregulated Deposit Schemes Bill, 2019**

It will help to tackle the threat of illicit deposit taking activities in the country like exploiting regulatory gaps and lack of strict administrative measures to dupe poor and gullible people of their hard-earned savings.

### **9. Court infrastructure facilities topped by Delhi ((90%)) and Kerala (84%)), based on the report by independent legal think tank Vidhi Centre**

- Bihar (26%) and Manipur (29%) have the poorest infrastructure in lower judiciary.

### **10. 150 million workers aimed by the govt. to be enrolled under PM pension scheme**

Over the next 3 years under the pension scheme Pradhan Mantri shram Yogi Maan-dhan (PM-SYM), the Union government aims to enroll 150 million workers to bring them under the social security net. About 50-60 million workers will be from the construction sector and Agriculture workers and self-employed retailers will also be part of this pension scheme.

### **11. Home minister Amit Shah will head a 4-member panel of ministers to combat mob violence and lynchings**

The panel was headed by then Home minister Rajnath Singh when it was formed. The Group of Ministers (GoM) will have the members including S. Jaishankar, Nitin Gadkari, Ravi Shankar Prasad, and Thawar Chand Gehlot.

### **12. President Ram Nath Kovind gives assent to the Muslim Women (Protection of Rights on Marriage) Bill, 2019**

President of India, Ram Nath Kovind gave his assent to the Muslim Women (Protection of Rights on Marriage) Bill, 2019. With this, the Bill became an Act. It criminalizes instant 'triple talaq' among Muslims and attracts a jail term of 3 years for the husband.

### **13. A report Grain by Grain 2019 on Indian fertilizer industry conducted by the CSE released**

It is a Green Rating Project (GRP) on the Indian fertilizer industry conducted by the Centre for Science and Environment (CSE). It is regarded as India's only independent, rigorous and credible programme of its kind.

### **14. President Ram Nath Kovind gives assent to Right to Information (Amendment) Act, 2019**

President of India Ram Nath Kovind gave his assent to Right to Information (Amendment) Act, 2019. It will amend the Right to Information Act (RTI), 2005. Amendments are made in Section 13, Section 16 and Section 27 of the Right to Information Act, 2005.

The Bill seeks to **empower the Centre to make rules to decide the tenure, salary, allowances and other terms of service of Information Commissioners of the Central Information Commission and also of State Information Commissions**

### **15. Lok Sabha to become paperless from next session**

Speaker of Lok Sabha, Om Birla announced that the Lower House (Lok Sabha) will become paperless from the next session. It will save crores of rupees to the exchequer/ national treasury.

### **16. Parliament passed the Protection of Children from Sexual Offences (Amendment) Bill, 2019**

it amends the Protection of Children from Sexual Offences (POCSO) Act, 2012. The new bill seeks to enhance punishment for sexual offences against children with a provision of death penalty.

### **17. Gujarat CM launches a cash incentive scheme called 'Vhali Dikri Yojna' for the welfare of the girl child**

The scheme launched in order to improve the child sex ratio in the state, which currently stands at 890 girl child per 1000 male child.

### **18. Indus Valley inscriptions were written logographically**

Research has found that a majority of the Indus Valley inscriptions were written logographically i.e. by using word signs and not by using phonograms i.e. speech sounds units. It was published in a Nature group journal Palgrave Communications. The research paper was titled as "Interrogating Indus inscription to unravel their mechanism of meaning conveyance".

### **19. Indian Army in partnership with EESL launches a batch of 10 electric cars in New Delhi to combat air pollution**

( Energy Efficiency Services Ltd (EESL) is 100 % govt owned joint venture of state-owned NTPC Limited, Power Finance Corporation, Rural Electrification Corporation and Powergrid under the Ministry of Power.)

### **20. World's first ultra-fast Hyperloop project granted to Maharashtra**

The infrastructure project status worth \$10billion (Rs. 70,0000 crore) was granted to Maharashtra by India, to establish the world's first ultra-fast Hyperloop project. This project stretching over 117.5km, will link Mumbai with the neighboring city of Pune and travels to the destination in about 35 minutes.

### **21. Two new vaccines launched by the Indian Council of Medical Research (ICMR) to conduct India's first tuberculosis preventive trial**

The two drugs are IMMUVAC and VPM1002. The TB vaccine trial will be carried out in 6 States involving more than 12000 healthy household contacts of newly diagnosed TB patients with 2000 participants from each state. The six states are: Delhi, Maharashtra, Odisha, Telangana and Karnataka and will be implemented over the next 7-8 months.

### **22. Lok Sabha passes Jallianwala Bagh National Memorial (Amendment) Bill 2019**

This bill seeks to remove the Congress chief from being a permanent member of Jallianwala bagh memorial trust established in 1951 in Amritsar, Punjab. ( The bill amends Jallianwala Bagh National Memorial Act, 1951.)

**23. Parliament passed the Repealing and Amending Bill, 2019** which repeals 58 obsolete ( outdated) and irrelevant laws. It includes the Beedi Workers Welfare Fund Act, 1976, and the Motor Vehicles (Amendment) Act, 2001.

### **24. Parliament Passed Airports Economic Regulatory Authority Of India (Amendment) Bill 2019**

The new bill increases the threshold of annual passenger traffic for major airports to over 35 lakh from 15 lakh. It is increased as the number of air traffic passengers has been increased 117 million from 2008 to 345 million in 2019.

### **25. Centre Repealed Article 370 And 35A That Grants Special Status To J&K**

The state of J&K is bifurcated into 2 Union Territories – Jammu and Kashmir, which will have a legislature like Delhi and Puducherry, and Ladakh, which will be without a legislature like Chandigarh.

**26. Road transport and highways ministry exempts armed force's armoured, specialised vehicles from BS-VI (Bharat Stage – VI ) emission norms** from April 1, 2020, onwards. The exemptions are granted to these vehicles because special engines are required for high-security operations and requirements, engines suitable for the specialised vehicles will require considerable time.

### **27. India's first 3-D smart traffic signal 'Intelights' designed by Chitkara University students launched**

It is designed by the students of Chitkara University Incubated Start-up - Anukai Solutions. On a pilot project basis, the wireless system is installed at the traffic crossing near Quark City on Airport Road, Chandigarh, Punjab.

**28. MoEFCC approved Rs.4900 Crore project for interlinking of Kosi-Mechi rivers in Bihar**

With the approval, it became the second major river interlinking project in India after the Ken-Betwa project in Madhya Pradesh.

**29. Union environment ministry unveiled a draft 'Nation Resource Efficiency Policy' to save the natural resources**

The policy suggests the institutional mechanism and a three-year action plan through the principle of 6R and 'green public procurement'. The 6R stands for Reduce, Reuse, Recycle, Redesign, Re-manufacture and Refurbish.

**30. Lok Sabha passed the Supreme Court (Number of Judges) Amendment Bill 2019**

It seeks to increase the number of judges in the Supreme Court (SC) from the present 30 to 33, excluding the Chief Justice of India (CJI). It amends the Supreme Court (Number of Judges) Act, 1956. It was introduced in the Lok Sabha by the Law Minister Ravi Shankar Prasad.

**31. Lok Sabha Passed The Surrogacy (Regulation) Bill, 2019 to prohibit commercial surrogacy in India.**

India has emerged as a surrogacy hub for couples from other countries and there have been reports concerning unethical practices, exploitation of surrogate mothers, abandonment of children born out of surrogacy, and rackets involving intermediaries importing human embryos and gametes.

**32. Udaipur hosts 3rd edition of India's largest education brainstorming event "ScooNews Global Educators Fest 2019"**

Theme - 'Education for Sustainability: Moving on from conformity to creativity'

**33. Lok Sabha passed the Transgender Persons (Protection of Rights) Bill, 2019**

The Bill defines a transgender person as one whose gender does not match the gender assigned at birth. The Bill prohibits any kind of discrimination against a transgender person.

**34. Parliament Passed The Consumer Protection Bill, 2019 which replaces the Consumer Protection Act, 1986**

Acc to this bill, the central government will set up a Central Consumer Protection Authority (CCPA) to promote, protect and enforce the rights of consumers.

**35. 22nd National Conference on e-Governance 2019 inaugurated in Shillong , Meghalaya**

The theme of this Conference was "Digital India: Success to Excellence".

**36. Samagra Siksha -Jal Suraksha drive launched by MHRD**

It aims to create awareness among school children about water conservation.

**37. Swedish software Urkund to be accessed for free by Indian Universities**

Urkund is an anti-plagiarism (anti-piracy, anti-theft) Swedish software. It has been chosen to be accessed for free by Indian Universities through global tender process. On August 2, 2019 trial access to the Urkund software was provided. The previously used software was Turnitin but it was found to be 10 times more expensive without a proportionate increase in features or reliability.

**38. Manipur tops the rank in breastfeeding report released by health minister**

The states are ranked based on Breastfeeding and Infant and Young Child Feeding Practices in the country. The ranking was topped by Manipur. The worst performing states were Uttar Pradesh, Rajasthan and Bihar. The national capital Delhi is also one among the worst- performing states.

**39. India's first underwater train will be launched in Kolkata under the Hooghly river**

It is a 16-kilometer long Kolkata Metro project. It will connect Salt Sector 5 with Howrah Maidan.

#### **40. Department of Heavy Industry sanctions 5,595 e-buses for 64 cities under FAME India- Phase II**

Under the Scheme of Faster Adoption and Manufacturing of (Hybrid and) Electric vehicles (FAME) India- Phase II, the Department of Heavy Industry under the Ministry of Heavy Industry and Public Enterprises sanctioned 5,095 e-buses to 64 cities/state transport corporations for intra- city operations, 400 e-buses for intercity operation and 100 e-buses for last-mile connectivity to the Delhi Metro Rail Corporation.

#### **41. President Ram Nath Kovind give assent to 'National Medical Commission Bill, 2019'**

NMC Act 2019 will repeal the Indian Medical Council Act, 1956. Within 6 months, MCI ( Medical council of India ) will be replaced by **National Medical Commission ( NMC)**. NMC will frame policies for regulating medical institutions and medical professionals.

#### **42. President Ram Nath Kovind Gives Assent To Arbitration And Conciliation (Amendment) Act 2019**

it aimed to make India hub of domestic and global arbitration for settling commercial disputes. It will amend Arbitration and Conciliation Act, 1996. It provides a mechanism to deal time-bound settlement of disputes and ensures accountability of the arbitrator.

#### **43. President Ram Nath Kovind Gives Assent To The Motor Vehicles (Amendment) Act, 2019**

President of India Ram Nath Kovind gave his assent to the Motor Vehicles (Amendment) Act, 2019, to improve road safety and facilitation of the citizens while dealing with transport departments. The Act will amend the Motor Vehicles Act, 1988.

##### **Some main features of the act are:**

- The Bill proposes a scheme to allow cashless treatment of victims in a road accident during the golden hour. The golden hour is defined as the time period of up to one hour following a traumatic injury, during which the likelihood of preventing death through prompt medical care is the highest.
- The Bill proposes to increase the minimum compensation for hit and run cases. In case of the death, the compensation has been raised from Rs. 25,000 to Rs. 2,00,000, and in case of grievous injury it will be from Rs. 12,500 to Rs. 50,000.
- The new law also allows the centre to ask manufacturers to recall vehicles in case of defects that cause harm to the environment.
- The law has proposed stiffer penalties for traffic rule violations such as over-speeding, dangerous driving, driving under the influence of alcohol and other offences such as not wearing a helmet or driving without licence.

#### **44. CBDT increases the monetary threshold limit for IT department for filing appeals**

The Central Board of Direct Taxes (CBDT) increased the monetary limit for an appeal before the Income Tax Appellate Tribunal (ITAT) to Rs 50 lakh from Rs 20 lakh. This is done to reduce litigation. In case of high courts, the limit has been doubled to Rs 1 crore.

#### **45. President Ram Nath Kovind approves J&K Reorganisation Act, 2019**

The Act seeks to make J&K a Union Territory (UT) with legislature and Ladakh, a UT without legislature.

#### **46. Rotavirus Vaccination Extended Across All States And UTs By September 2019**

It aims to achieve the goal of ending morbidity and mortality in children due to diarrhoea by 2022. Rotavirus is the most common cause of severe diarrhoea in children of less than 2 years of age.

#### **47. Indian Army launches 'Mission Reach Out' post Article 370 revocation in Jammu division**

It aims to ensure the availability of basic necessities and essential services in the region including providing water in locations where supply is disrupted and mobile medical care units with essential medicines, giving essentials including rations, assistance in transportation of patients to hospitals, etc.



#### **48. President Ram Nath Kovind give assent Unlawful Activities (Prevention) Amendment Bill 2019**

Under UAPA act, individuals can be declared as terrorists, their properties can be seized and travel ban can be imposed once they are declared as terrorists. Lashkar-e-Taiba (LeT) founder Hafiz Saeed and Jaish-e-Mohammad chief Masood Azhar are likely to be the first 2 individuals to be designated as terrorists.

( The Bill amends the Unlawful Activities (Prevention) Act, 1967. )

#### **49. 33% Of India's Skilled Youth Are Jobless: Periodic Labour Force Survey (PLFS) 2017-18,**

#### **50. Govt. Makes Headgear Compulsory For Children Aged Above 4 Years**

The govt. has made a significant move on safety measures by making it mandatory for children above 4 years of age to wear headgear of prescribed standards. This safety measures for the children has been included in the Motor Vehicles (Amendment) act 2019 which was passed by the government recently.

#### **51. Japanese defense ship "JS Sazanami", visits Kochi on a 2-day goodwill visit**

#### **52. Indian Institute of Skills (IIS) will be set up in Mumbai in association with the Tata Trust**

It aimed at scaling up of skill training enabling the young generation to acquire skills at par with global standards.

#### **53. First Ever 'Space Museum' Of India Inaugurated At Hyderabad.**

#### **54. CORAS of Indian railways launched by railway minister Piyush Goyal**

CORAS (Commandos For Railway Security), a special railway unit for the Indian railways and a new establishment manual for the Railway Protection Force(RPF) was launched by union Railway Minister Shri Piyush Goyal.

#### **55. Reconstitution Of Inter-State Council; PM Modi Is The Chairman**

The Inter-State Council was reconstituted with Prime Minister Narendra Modi as its chairman and 6 Union ministers and chief ministers as members. The Union ministers who will be members of the reconstituted council are Amit Shah, Nirmala Sitharaman, Rajnath Singh, Narendra Singh Tomar, Thaawar Chand Gehlot, and Hardeep Singh Puri.

#### **56. Jal Shakti Minister Gajendra Singh Shekhawat launches 2nd Edition of Swaccha Survakshan Grameen for 2019**

The 45-day long survey will take place in 18 thousand villages of 698 districts.

#### **57. 'Operation Number Plate' Launched By RPF In All Railway Premises Ahead Of Independence Day**

It aimed to check and verify unauthorised parking in the railway premises. Unauthorized parking of unidentified vehicles are considered as a threat to the safety and security of passengers. Owners of the vehicles should have to contact helpline number 182 if their vehicles have been seized by the RPF from railway station premises.

#### **58. 16 State Governments And The Textile Ministry Signs MoU On Skill Training**

Ministry of textiles and a total of 16 states from the country have signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) at a function in New Delhi to take **project Samarth**- which is Scheme for Capacity Building In Textile Sector (SCBTS) to impart skill based training to workers. There is a gap of 16 lakh trained skill worker in the textile industry.

#### **59. World's 1st museum dedicated to the life of Sri Chaitanya Mahaprabhu (a 16th-century saint and social reformer ) opened in Kolkata**

#### **60. Lucknow's iconic Hazratganj Chauraha renamed as Atal Chowk**

Late Atal Bihari Vajpayee was a five-time Member of Parliament (MP) from Lucknow. A memorial named "Atal Smriti Upvan" will also be built on his name.

**61. Government assured that the Ceiling price of orthopaedic Knee implants not to increase beyond 10% a year**

**Under Swachh Bharat Mission, DEPwD launches 'San-Sadhan' Hackathon for Divyang accessible toilets**

, DEPwD - the Department of Empowerment of Persons with Disabilities

**62. Rajnath Singh approves a 12-member high-level Committee headed by the Director-General (Acquisitions), Apurva Chandra to review Defence Procurement Procedure to strengthen 'Make in India' initiative**

**63. 2019 'Aadi Mahotsav' - 9 day long national tribal festival begins at Leh-Ladakh**

-The theme of this year's festival is "A celebration of the spirit of Tribal Craft,Culture and Commerce".

**64. Supreme Court Clears Chardham Project, Which Will Connect 4 Holy Places In Uttarakhand**

-4 holy places of Uttarakhand (Badrinath, Kedarnath, Gangotri and Yamunotri) will be connected through 900 km all-weather roads by modifying an NGT(National Green Tribunal) order to form a committee to look into environmental concerns.

**65. SERB's new scheme called "Supra" will fund cutting-edge research**

In a bid to promote research in cutting edge areas of science, the Science and Engineering Research Board (SERB) plans to launch a new scheme called "Supra" (Scientific and Useful Profound Research Advancement) to fund scientists.

**66. Gujarat to get country's first Central Institute for chemical engineering and technology (CICET)**

The CICET would be built either at Ahmedabad or Surat.

**67. Panel to examine illegal sand mining in river Yamuna formed by NGT**

The National Green Tribunal(NGT) has formed a committee/ panel to look into the issues of illegal sand mining in the Yamuna river and sought a report within a month. The bench is headed by NGT chairperson Justice Adarsh Kumar Goel and the panel consists of Delhi district magistrate, Delhi Pollution Control Committee (DPCC), and Central Pollution Control Board.

**68. President Ram Nath Govind inaugurates Bunker Museum at Raj Bhavan in Mumbai**

It is a bunker of the British era in the 19th century and was discovered in 2016. It was used to fire cannons at enemy

ships and the other section depicts the history of Raj Bhavan.

**69. National Conference of Tourism Ministers organised by the tourism ministry in New Delhi**

**70. FASTags will be mandatory for all vehicles from December 2019:**

**FASTag** is an electronic toll connection device attached to the windscreen of the vehicle to enable drivers to pass through toll plazas without having to stop for a cash transaction.

**71. Karnataka tops in State Rooftop Solar Attractiveness Index(SARAL) 2019**

Karnataka got the top spot with SARAL score of 78.8 as the best state for setting up a rooftop solar project followed by Telangana(72.2), Gujarat(67.9) and Andra Pradesh(66.1).

**72. Union HRD Minister launches world's largest teachers' training programme NISHTHA**

It was launched at Dr Ambedkar International Centre in New Delhi.

NISHTHA stands for 'National Initiative for School Heads and Teachers Holistic Advancement'. It is the largest teachers' training programme of its kind in the world with an aim to motivate and equip teachers to encourage and foster critical thinking in students.

**73. Two-day National Conference on Varmam Science (part of the Siddha system of medicine ) inaugurated in Tamilnadu**

**74. Indian Railways directs all units to ban single-use plastic with less than 50-micron thickness, from October 2, 2019**

**75. First World Youth Conference on Kindness inaugurated by Indian President at Vigyan Bhawan in New Delhi.**

**76. Mr. Edgar Chagwa Lungu, President of the Republic of Zambia visited India (August 20-22, 2019)**

**77. All CAPFs to adopt uniform retirement age of 60 years**

According to the order of the Union Home Ministry, all Central Armed Police Forces (CAPFs) personnel will now retire at a uniform age of 60 years.

**78. The second Uday Express between Visakhapatnam and Vijayawada to be launched**

In order to cater to the busy route in the East Coast Railway zone, The Indian Railways' second luxury double-decker Uday(Utkrisht Double-decker Air-conditioned Yatri) Express is to be run between Visakhapatnam and Vijayawada.

**79. MoU between India & Maldives on training and capacity building programme for Maldivian Civil Servants operationalised**

**80. Committee headed by CBDT submits report on replacing I-T Act with DTC**

A group of experts panel headed by Central Board of Direct Taxes (CBDT) legislative member Akhilesh Ranjan who was appointed as the convener of the task force in November 2018 by the finance ministry, submitted a report to Nirmala Sitharaman(Finance Minister), to replace the Income Tax Act with a new Direct Tax Code(DTC).

**81. Chhattisgarh state government increases reservation for sc and obc categories in state jobs and education**

The Chhattisgarh government announced an increase in reservation for Scheduled caste (SC) from 12% to 13% and for Other Backward Classes (OBC) from 14% to 27%. With the increase in quota, the state's reservation becomes a total of **72 percent**, which is the highest in the country and far above the reservation limit of 50 percent mandated by the Supreme court.

**82. Blue Waves At Chennai Beaches bad for fishes: Marine Experts**

A beautiful Bioluminescent waves were spotted along the shore of Thiruvanmiyur and Palavakkam beaches in Chennai, Tamil Nadu. According to marine experts of National Centre for Coastal Research (NCCR) of Chennai, the **Noctiluca scintillans algae** (unicellular organism), popularly known as **sea tinkle** were behind this phenomenon. It is an indication of climate change, impact on deep-sea fishing, and disruption of the long term health of an ecosystem.

**83. Tarun Chaudhri becomes first IAF pilot to complete wingsuit skydive jump**

The jump was accomplished from a Mi-17 helicopter from an altitude of 8,500 feet.

**84. KABIL set up to ensure supply of critical Minerals to Indian market**

- A joint venture company Khanij Bidesh India limited has been set up with the participation of 3 Central Public Sector Enterprises. These CPSEs are National Aluminium Company Limited, Hindustan Copper Limited and Mineral Exploration Company limited. KABIL will ensure supply of critical Minerals to Indian domestic market.

### **85. Bureau of Indian Standards (BIS) to set up Pashmina (wool) testing centre in Leh**

### **86. Virasat-e-Khalsa Museum in Punjab sets record**

The Virasat-e-Khalsa Museum in Punjab's Anandpur Sahib town is all set to find a place in the Asia Book of Records for becoming the most visited museum in the Indian sub-continent in a single day. The museum had witnessed a record footfall of 20,569 visitors on a single day on March 20, becoming the most visited museum in the Indian sub-continent in a single day.

### **87. 'One Nation, One Ration Card' to be rolled out in India by June 1, 2020**

- "One Nation One Ration Card" scheme to be rolled out in India from June 1, 2020. To implement the scheme successfully, the centre has kick started inter state portability of ration card pairing two states each.

- The pairs are made between Telangana-Andhra Pradesh as well as Maharashtra-Gujarat. This means that beneficiaries living in Telangana and Andhra Pradesh can buy their quota of ration from the Public Distribution System (PDS), also called ration shops, in either of the states.

### **88. KVIC launches "Leather Mission" on World Tribal Day**

- The Khadi and Village Industry Commission has launched "Leather Mission" on World Tribal Day. Under this mission, the commission will give leather kits to the leather artisans across the nation.

- KVIC also distributed 50 leather kits and 350 bee-boxes in Rajasthan's Sirohi district on the World Tribal Day.

### **89. Doordarshan produced a patriotic song "Watan" to mark the occasion of Independence Day, 2019.**

-The song is sung by singer Javed Ali,

### **90. Wing Commander Abhinandan Varthaman will be honoured with the Vir Chakra on Independence Day.**

### **91. Govt Launched mobile app "Janaushadhi Sugam"**

- Union Minister for Chemicals and Fertilizers launched a mobile application "Janaushadhi Sugam". This app will enable people to search for Janaushadhi generic medicines and the stores at the tip of their fingers.

### **92. President Kovind inaugurates exhibitions on M. Gandhi and Khadi at the "Ebunjan Theatre" in Gambia to commemorate the 150th birth anniversary of the Mahatma Gandhi.**

## **APPOINTMENTS / RESIGNATIONS**

1. S V Ranganath- interim chairman of Cafe Coffee Day.
2. Civil Aviation DG, Rakesh Asthana - given additional charge as Narcotics control Bureau secretary.
3. Girraj Prasad Gupta - Controller General of Accounts (CGA).
4. Guruprasad Mohapatra - Secretary, Department for Promotion of Industry and Internal Trade (DPIIT)
5. Ravi Capoor - Secretary , Ministry of Textiles
6. R N Ravi - 20th governor of Nagaland
7. Abhay Thakur - next permanent representative of India to the economic Community of West African States (ECOWAS).
8. Atish Dabholkar - an Indian theoretical physicist from Kolhapur, Maharashtra has been appointed as the new director of Italy based International Centre for Theoretical Physics (ICTP) for a five year term starting in November 2019 with the rank of Assistant Director-General of the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO).
9. E L S N Bala Prasad ( senior IAS officer ) - Special Secretary to President Ram Nath Kovind in the rank under Central Staffing Scheme.
10. Madhumita Hazarika Bhagat - next High Commissioner of India to the Republic of Cyprus
11. **Sonia Gandhi - Interim president of Congress**

14. Shri Ghotu Ram Meena - next Ambassador of India to the Republic of Congo
15. Anurag Adlakha - appointed as YES bank CFO replacing Ahuja
16. Chandrima Shaha - to become first woman president of INSA (Indian National Science Academy) from 2020
17. **Madan Lokur** - Former SC judge of India sworn in as Supreme Court (SC) judge of Fiji.
18. Alejandro Giammattei - new president of Guatemala
19. VG Somani - new DCGI of CDSCO (Central Drugs Standard Control Organisation)
20. P T Usha (Pilavullakandi Thekkeparambil Usha) from Payyoli (Kerala) - appointed as one of the six members of the Asian Athletics Association's (AAA) Athletes Commission.
21. Elangbam Valentina Devi (9 year old girl) - Brand ambassador for the Chief Minister's Green Manipur Mission.
22. Rumesh Ratnayake - Sri Lanka's Interim Cricket coach.
23. **Prime Minister Narendra Modi** - Chairman of the Inter State Council.
24. Home Minister Amit Shah - Chairman of the Standing Committee of the Inter State Council.
25. VG Somani - Drug Controller General of India (DCGI)
26. **Manmohan Singh** - Elected to the Rajya Sabha from **Rajasthan**
27. **Madhu Deora ( CFO of the Paytm) - Paytm President**
28. Ravinder Takkar - CEO of Vodafone Idea
29. Dutee Chand - Brand ambassador for Puma
30. Russell Domingo - Head coach of Bangladesh Cricket
31. **Ajay Kumar Bhalla - Union home secretary**
32. **Ajay Kumar - Defence Secretary**
33. **Rajeev Gauba (Home Secretary) - appointed as the next Cabinet Secretary**
34. Abdalla Hamdok - Sudan's new Prime Minister
35. Giuseppe Conte - Italian PM resigned from his post.
36. **Vikram Rathour** - Batting coach of India men's cricket team
37. Ms. Padmaja - High Commissioner of India to the Cook Islands
38. General Shavendra Silva - Commander Of Sri Lankan Army
39. Lionel Aingimea - New President of Nauru
40. Pavan Kapoor - India's Ambassador to the UAE
41. Pramod Agarwal - Chairman of Coal India
42. Sitanshu Kotak - head coaches of India A
43. Paras Mhambrey - head coaches of India U-19
44. Amit Nayyar- ex-Goldman Sachs executive appointed as new Paytm president. His appointment comes a week after Madhur Deora, the Chief Financial Officer(CFO) was also elected as the President of Paytm.
45. As **PM's principal secretary Nripendra Misra decided to Retire, PK Sinha is Appointed** as Officer on Special Duty (OSD) in the Prime Minister's Office(PMO).
46. CBDT Chairman P C Mody's tenure extended by the Govt for 1 year.
47. Harshad Pandurang Thakur has been appointed as the director of National Institute of Health and Family Welfare.
48. Suparna Singh, interim CEO of NDTV has resigned with immediate effect.
49. The Central Vigilance Commission has constituted a **4-member Advisory Board for Banking Frauds**. The ABBF will be **headed by former Vigilance Commissioner T.M. Bhasin**.

## AWARDS AND HONOURS

1. Ravish Kumar- Ramon Magsaysay Award 2019 (for 'ethical journalism'). Five other individuals were declared winners of this award along with Ravish Kumar. ( Ramon Magsaysay Award is regarded as the Asian version of the Nobel Prize. The awardees are presented with a medallion with a right side facing profile image of Ramon Magsaysay- former Philippine president along with a certificate.)
2. Bhasha Mukherjee (India-born doctor) - Miss England 2019
3. Ram Nath Kovind - Order of Merit (highest award of Republic of Guinea)
4. Naaz Joshi - a transsexual woman from India won the beauty pageant title of Miss World Diversity 2019 held in Port Louis, Mauritius .(she won this title for 3rd Consecutive time)
5. Kapil Dev (Former cricketer )- Bharat Gaurav Award 2019

6. Andy Serkis (English Actor and film Director) - He will receive the International Broadcasting Convention's (IBC) highest award "International Honor for Excellence" for bringing extraordinary humanity to computer-generated characters.
7. Dr Vinayak S Hiremath- the youngest doctor (aged 30), of Gulbarga, Karnataka felicitated with 'Pride of Nation Award' by Mr Rajnath Singh on the occasion of Kargil Vijay Diwas (July 26). He is the first South Indian doctor to offer free insulin consultation and treatment to gestational (pregnancy) diabetic mothers and family members of the Indian Army.
8. Ruhan Rajput - Co-founder and director of Einfoolge Technologies Pvt Ltd, was honoured entrepreneur of the Year award 2019 for his excellence in the service sector and for his contributions and achievements in the business industry.
9. The Indian Space Research Organisation (ISRO) has instituted "Vikram Sarabhai Journalism Award in Space Science, Technology and Research" to recognize and reward journalists who have actively contributed towards the field of space science, applications and research. The nominations are open to all Indians who have a good experience in journalism.
10. UP govt creates world record by planting over 22 cr saplings in one day on 77th anniversary of the Quit India Movement.
11. Bollywood star "Shah Rukh Khan" felicitated with an honorary doctorate degree by Melbourne's La Trobe University.
12. **Priyam Chatterjee** becomes **first Indian** chef to be awarded the "**Chevalier de l'Ordre du Merite Agricoleto**" (Order of Agricultural Merit) by the govt of France. He is from Kolkata (West Bengal).
13. Indresh Tripathi, a MIG police station in-charge in Indore (Madhya Pradesh) will be conferred with the National Award on January 26, 2020, in New Delhi by the central Government for his excellent services at the national level.
14. Chairman of Indian Space Research Organisation (ISRO) **K.Sivan**, under whose leadership the Chandrayaan- 2 mission (mission to moon) is launched, was conferred with Tamil Nadu Government's **Dr.A.P.J. Abdul Kalam award** (award carries 8 gm gold medal, Rs. five lakh in cash).
15. Actor Steve Coogan to be honoured with 2019 Charlie Chaplin award constituted by BAFTA LA (Britannia Award for Excellence in Comedy".)
16. Rajasthan was awarded "best innovation and initiative leadership award" at the 14th World Education Summit-2019, held at New Delhi for its achievement in higher education.
17. Veteran journalist and consulting editor at India Today TV (television), **Mr. Rajdeep Sardesai** was awarded the **2019 Prem Bhatia Award** (prize money Rs. 2 lakh) for his Outstanding Political Reporting with a career spanning over three decades.
18. 2019 award for Environmental reporting was given to Down to Earth's Ishan Kukreti and independent journalist Sharada Balasubramaniam.
19. Lionel Messi got UEFA's Goal of the Season prize (for his free-kick against Liverpool in the first leg of the Champions League semi-final).
20. The Department for Promotion of Industry and Internal Trade (DIPP), Government of India (GoI) has granted Geographical Indication (GI) tag for 3 new products from two states. Tawlhlohpuan (a woven fabric) and Mizo Puanchei (a colourful Mizo shawl) from the State of Mizoram and Tirur betel vine from Kerala are the latest addition in the GI list.
21. Dr K Thangaraj - got JC Bose Fellowship
22. Biopic '100 years of Chrysostom,' by filmmaker Blessy - entered in Guinness world book of records as longest documentary with its duration of 48 hours and 8 minutes.
23. Meeta Narain (JNU Professor) - 'Pushkin Medal 2019' ( highest honour given to an Indian scholar by the Russian government).
24. A 20-year-old Chinmay Prabhu from Mumbai has created a world record for the 2nd time under his name of solving 176 pyraminx (pyramid-shaped Rubik's cube) puzzles while riding a bicycle in 1 hour and 7 minutes. He broke the record of solving 111 pyraminx puzzles.
25. Prasara Bharati will introduce 2 awards namely '**Neelum Sharma Tejaswini award**' & '**Achyutananda Sahoo Award**' in honor of Neelum Sharma, DD News Former anchor, who passed away due to cancer on August 17, 2019.

26. Indian-American teen Navneeth Murali wins 2019 South Asian Spelling Bee competition (cash prize of USD 3,000.).
27. Biologist and wildlife conservationist, Vivek Menon wins Clark Bavin Award 2019.
28. Forbes ranks Akshay Kumar in the 4th spot in 2019 highest paid actors list with worth \$65million. The list was topped by American actor, producer and former wrestler Dwayne Johnson (also known as The Rock) with worth \$89.4 million.
29. Former Manchester United forward player Eric Cantona will be honoured with the 2019 UEFA President's Award.

### 29. **66th National Film Awards**

The 66th National Film awards were announced by Rahul Rawail, head of the Jury for feature films. The national film awards are given in 31 categories.

- An Award for **film friendly state** has been instituted this year. **Uttarakhand** won this year.
- Best non feature film : Son Rise by Vibha Bakshi and The Secret Life of Frogs by Ajay and Vijay Bedi.
- Best Feature Film : Hellaro (Gujarati film) directed by Abhishek Shah
- Best Director : Aditya Dhar for "Uri : The Surgical Strike".
- Best Actor : Ayushmann Khuranna for Andhadhun and Vicky Kaushal for "Uri : The Surgical Strike"
- Best Actress : Keerthy Suresh for Mahanati.

30. Scarlett Johansson tops in Forbes world's highest-paid actresses list 2019 for the 2nd consecutive year with the earning of \$56 million.
31. Mobile app that connect old-age homes and orphanages, called Maitri, win tech prize in US developed by Class XII Students of Amity International School in Noida.
32. Forbes ranks singer Taylor Swift as the highest-paid woman in music for the year 2019.
33. At the 14th edition of 2019 'We Care Film Festival on Disability Issues', an Indian documentary film named "**I'm Jeeja**" directed by Swati Chakraborty bagged the top award in the 30-minute category short film documentary. It is a documentary about disabled activist Jeeja Gosh (46) suffering from cerebral palsy, who in real life made headlines back in 2012 for being asked to deboard a plane owing to her condition.
34. Wing Commander Shalija Dhami of the Indian Air Force (IAF), became the first-ever female officer to be appointed as flight commander(second in command) of a flying unit. She took over as flight commander of a Chetak helicopter unit at Hindon airbase, Ghaziabad, Uttar Pradesh.
35. Tamil Nadu's 150-year-old Dindigul locks and Kandangi sarees secure GI tag.
36. the Deendayal Antyodaya Yojana - National Urban Livelihoods Mission (DAY-NULM) bagged 2019 SKOCH Governance Gold Award for its Portal for Affordable Credit and Interest Subvention Access (PAiSA) portal.
37. The Prime Minister (PM) of India, Shri Narendra Modi conferred Yoga awards for the year 2019 to the winners of PM's Award for Outstanding Contribution for Promotion and Development of Yoga at New Delhi.
  - Individual-National category - Swami Rajarshi Muni of Life Mission, Gujarat
  - Individual-International category - Ms. Antonietta Rozzi, Italy
- He also launched 12 commemorative postal stamps on 12 modern AYUSH masters.
38. Vivek Menon - 2019 Clark R Bavin Wildlife Law Enforcement Award
39. **PM Narendra Modi- 'The King Hamad Order of the Renaissance' by Bahrain**
40. **PM Narendra Modi - UAE's highest civilian award 'Order of Zayed'**
41. Prabhakar Singh - 2019 Eminent Engineer Award
42. DD News channel bagged with "Champions of Empathy Award" for spreading awareness about hepatitis.

## **SPORTS**

1. Aishwary Pratap Singh Tomar wins gold in Men's Rifle 3 Positions (3P) at Sardar Sajjan Singh Sethi memorial shooting in New Delhi

2. Tinjit Dhanota and Esha Singh won the Men's and Women's 10 metres Air Pistol gold medal at Sardar Sajjan Singh Sethi memorial shooting in New Delhi
3. Pakistan's 34-year-old pacer Wahab Riaz is set to retire from Test cricket
4. Lewis Hamilton (Mercedes driver) has won the Formula 1 Hungarian Grand Prix 2019
5. Vinesh Phogat has won the gold in women's 53kg category at Poland Open wrestling tournament in Warsaw
6. Dwayne Johnson, popularly known as 'The Rock', has officially announced his retirement from WWE
7. Former New Zealand all-rounder Daniel Vettori's jersey number 11 has been retired
8. South Africa bowler Dale Steyn has announced his retirement from Test cricket
9. Franky Zapata crossed the English Channel on Jet powered hoverboard on 2nd Try
  
10. Women's singles ranking released by Badminton World Federation- India's star players PV Sindhu and Saina Nehwal have retained 5th spot and 8th spot respectively. The ranking is topped by Japan's Akane Yamaguchi. In men's ranking Japan's Kento Momota is ranked first whereas India's Kidambi Srikanth and Sameer Verma are ranked 10th and 13<sup>th</sup> respectively.
  
11. Satwiksairaj Rankireddy and Chirag Shetty became the first Indian doubles pair to win a BWF (Badminton World Federation) **Super 500 title** in Men's Category.
  
12. Former New Zealand Captain Brendon McCullum announces retirement from all forms of cricket.
13. Former Olympic champion and Australia's most awarded athlete, Sally Pearson(32) has announced her retirement.
14. Former Australian captain Steve Smith has overtaken Indian Skipper Virat Kohli to become the second-fastest batsman to score 25 test centuries during the second innings of the first Ashes test match against England. The chart is topped by Australian cricketer, Sir Don Bradman. Smith recorded this feat in his 119th innings whereas Sir Don Bradman achieved this feat in just 68 innings.
  
15. The ICC (International Cricket Council) Test rankings were released. The list was topped by India followed by New Zealand (2nd) and South Africa(3rd) respectively.
  - ICC Test batsmen rankings - Virat Kohli (India)
  - ICC Test bowler rankings - Pat Cummins - Indians in the top 10 spots are- Ravindra Jadeja placed at 6th and Ravichandran Ashwin placed at 10th spot.
  - ICC test all rounder rankings - Jason Holder(West Indies) - while Ravindra Jadeja is placed 3rd and Ravichandran Ashwin is in sixth place.
  
16. Germany's cancer researcher Fiona Kolbinger, aged 24, became the first woman to win cycling's Transcontinental Race 2019 (No.7) from Bulgaria to France. She cycled for more than 2,485 miles across Europe in just over 10 days, 2 hours and 48 minutes.
  
17. The World Archery (WA) has suspended the Archery Association of India (AAI) due to the internal factionalism (dispute and disagreements within the body).
18. BCCI has agreed to come under the jurisdiction of the anti-doping watchdog, National Anti Doping Agency (NADA).
19. Chennai Lions beats Dabang Delhi in final to lift UTT (Ultimate Table Tennis )Season 3 Trophy 2019
20. The Cricket Association of Uttarakhand (CAU) have been granted full membership in the BCCI (Board of Control for Cricket in India) by the Committee of Administrators (CoA).
  
21. Former Uruguay captain Diego forlan announces retirement from football
22. Mary Kom and Lovlina Borgohain selected for world boxing Championship
23. Serena Williams topped the Forbes annual list of best-paid female athlete for a fourth consecutive year



24. South Africa's Colin Ackermann becomes the first bowler to get 7 wickets in T-20
25. South Africa batsman Hashim Amla has announced his retirement from all formats of international cricket
26. Mary Kom and Bhaichung Bhutia included in 12-member selection panel for national sports awards
27. India's top wrestlers Bajrang Punia wins gold at Tbilisi Grand Prix
28. Surya Shekhar Ganguly won the Belt and Road China Hunan International chess tournament at Tongguanyao.
29. Aishwarya Pissay (Bangalore) became the first Indian to claim a world title in motorsports.
30. Vinesh Phogat settles for silver after she lost to N Malisheva of Russia in the 53kg final of the Medved event in Minsk, Belarus.
31. Women's Twenty20 cricket, beach volleyball and Para-table tennis have been included in the 2022 Commonwealth Game
32. Netherlands' most-capped player Wesley Sneijder announced his retirement from football
33. Wimbledon 2019 champion Novak Djokovic remains to be at the top of the ATP rankings
34. India's U-19 cricket team defeated Bangladesh in finals by 6 wickets at the County Ground, Hove in the United Kingdom (UK) and clinched the Under-19 Tri-Series 2019 Title.
35. Cricket Australia has launched new transgender inclusive policy
36. India won the T20 Physical Disability (PD) World Cricket Series 2019 after defeating England by 36 runs in the final held at the New Road Stadium in Worcester, England.
37. 22-year-old American Artistic gymnast Simone Biles became the first woman in the world to make a "triple-double" floor exercise landing.
38. ATP (Association of Tennis Professionals) rankings - Serbian professional tennis player, Novak Djokovic remains at the top position by collecting 12,325 points in the list. ( 2nd place - Rafael Nadal with 7,945 points.)
39. Rogers Cup/Canadian Open 2019 ( Lawn Tennis)  
Men's Singles – winner : Rafael Nadal (Spain) , Runner up : Daniil Sergeyevich Medvedev (Russia)  
Women's Singles- winner : Bianca Vanessa Andreescu (Canada). Runner up : Serena Williams (America).
40. Virat Kohli become the first batsman to score 20,000 international runs in a decade.
41. Deepak Punia becomes India's first Junior Wrestling World Champion in 18 years.
42. Liverpool beat Chelsea 5-4 on penalties to win the UEFA Super Cup in Istanbul.
43. Cricket Advisory Committee (CAC) headed by Kapil Dev, unanimously re-appointed Ravi Shastri as the head coach of the Indian men's cricket team for 2 years.
44. BCCI announces a reduction in ban period to 7 years ending in 2020 for cricketer S Sreesanth ( earlier , he was banned for life time ).
45. Former Australian fast bowler Mitchell Johnson has been made an honorary life member of MCC (Marylebone Cricket Club).
46. "Op-Blue Freedom" flagged off by Kiren Rijiju and Baichung Bhutia. It is a a nation-wide adaptive scuba diving programme for people with disabilities as well as for able-bodied persons.
47. Former opener Vikram Rathour, aged 50, was appointed as India's new batting coach. He succeeds Sanjay Bangar. Bharath Arun and R Sridhar retained as bowling and fielding coaches respectively.
48. The 28-member Advisory Committee under the chairmanship of sports minister Kiren Rijiju was formed for Fit India Movement which aims to encourage people to inculcate physical activity and sports in their everyday lives. It will be launched by Prime Minister Narendra Modi on August 29, 2019.
49. Paytm will continue as the title sponsor of the Indian cricket board's domestic and international matches for the next five years i.e till 2023.
50. The World Anti-Doping Agency (WADA) suspended the accreditation of the National Dope Testing Laboratory (NDTL) of India for 6 months due to non-conformities with the International Standard for Laboratories (ISL),
51. Lieutenant General Anil Puri (56) has become the first serving Lieutenant General-rank officer of the Indian Army to complete 1200 km of France's oldest and toughest cycle competition. He achieved this feat by cycling non-stop for 90 hours without sleeping

52. Feroz Shah Kotla Cricket Ground in Delhi is set to be renamed as Arun Jaitley Stadium. Mr Jaitley served as the president of the DDCA from 1999 to 2013.
53. West Indies bowler Cecil Wright announces retirement at the age of 85.
54. SL cricketer Ajantha mendis retires from all forms of cricket. He was Famous for his "carrom ball".
55. Jalaj Saxena (32), an Indian cricketer who plays as an all-rounder for Kerala has set a big record in first-class cricket by becoming the only cricketer to score 6044 runs in first-class cricket, as well as 305 wickets and still not have played for Team India.
56. PV Sindhu beats Nozomi Okuhara to win a gold medal in the World Championships 2019.
57. . Gokulam Kerala defeated Mohun Bagan to win their maiden Durand Cup finals at the Salt Lake Stadium in Kolkata.
58. Sumit Nagal became the first Indian to win a set against Roger Federer
59. Ashish Kasodekar has become the first Indian to complete the 555 kms long "La Ultra The High" marathon in Ladakh
60. The Indian Team finished 13th among 63 countries in the overall standings at the WorldSkills International Competition 2019 in Kazan, Russia.
61. India's Elavenil Valarivan claims maiden World Cup gold medal in Rio de Janerio
62. 25th Senior Women's National Football Championship to be held in Arunachal Pradesh
63. Aswatha Narayana wins first gold for India at WorldSkills event in Russia 64. Indian sprinter V K Vismaya clinched the gold medal in the women 400m run at Josef Seckr Memorial (MJS) in Brno, Czech Republic.
65. Abhishek Verma won the gold medal in the men's 10m air pistol event of the World Cup in Rio.
66. Legendary Uruguay striker Diego Forlan has announced his retirement from professional football. He had won the Golden Ball award after being adjudged the best player of the 2010 FIFA World Cup.
67. "**IndTokyo**" App launched to help Paralympians in Tokyo

## **BOOKS & AUTHORS**

1. "Tools and Weapons: The Promise and The Peril of the Digital Age" - co-authored by Microsoft President Brad Smith & Carol Ann Browne.
2. "The Book of gutsy Women" – authored by Hilary Clinton and her daughter Chelsea Clinton.
3. The book 'Listening, Learning and Leading' marking Shri Venkaiah Naidu's two years of service as vice president was launched by Union Home minister Amit Shah.
4. "Sridevi: Girl Woman Superstar" - by author-screenwriter Satyarth Nayak.
5. "Second Night"- Rajiv Dogra
6. 'Kashmir's Untold Story: Declassified' - Iqbal Chand Malhotra & Maroof Raza
7. The Diary of Manu Gandhi' (originally written in Gujarati language)- Edited and translated by Dr. Tridip Suhrud.
8. "Flawed: The Rise and Fall of India's Diamond Mogul Nirav Modi"- Pavan C Lall
9. 'Big Billion Startup – The Untold Flipkart Story' - Mihir Dalal "
10. Obama: The Call of History"- Peter Baker '
11. Jin Dhoondha Tin Paaiyan' (Hindi)- OP Singh

12. "A Short History of Indian Railways", - Rajendra B Aklekar

## **OBITUARIES / DEATHS**

1. Subir Gokarn - Economist and former RBI deputy governor
2. V G Siddhartha - Founder of largest coffee chain in India, Cafe Coffee Day
- 3. Malcolm Nash** - Former England county cricketer and coach
4. Devadas Kanakala - Noted Telugu actor
5. Anant Setalvad - Cricket commentator of All India Radio.
6. Kanti Bhatt - Gujarati journalist

**7. Sushma Swaraj** - She was 67. She hailed from Ambala Cantt town of Haryana. She served as the Minister of Information and Broadcasting from 30 September 2000 – 29 January 2003 in Atal Bihari Vajpayee govt. Then from 29 January 2003 – 22 May 2004, she served as the Minister of Health and Family Welfare. She also served as the Leader of the Opposition in the 15th Lok Sabha 21 December 2009 – 26 May 2014. From 26 May 2014 – 7 January 2016, she was the Minister of Overseas Indian Affairs. Then her last post was as the well-respected Minister of External Affairs 26 May 2014 – 30 May 2019 in Narendra Modi govt.

8. Jennifer Chandran - Former Tamil Nadu fisheries Minister
9. D.A. Pennebaker - the Oscar-winning documentary maker of America
- 10. Situ Mallick** (aged 16)- died in a road accident. He had saved his uncle from the jaws of a crocodile and was awarded National Bravery Award 2019.
11. Jean Arasanayagam- Srilanka's famous poet
12. YG Rajalakshmi Parthasarathy - Renowned journalist and educationist.
13. Bjorg Lambrecht - Belgian cyclist died in a crash in Tour of Poland 2019.
14. J. Om Prakash - Veteran Bollywood filmmaker and also the maternal Grandfather of Bollywood actor Hritik Roshan.
- 15. Toni Morrison** - Nobel Prize winning American novelist ( she died at the age of 88 ).
16. Karpuri Devi - Madhubani painting and Sujni artist.
17. Steve Sawyer- famed wind energy campaigner and a founder of the Global Wind Energy Council (GWEC)
18. Sarat Saikia - Former Congress MLA from Assam
- 19. Dayanidhi Nayak** - Freedom Fighter from Odisha
20. Takis (Panayiotis Vassilakis) - Greek sculptor, known for kinetic artworks
21. Amarendra Sharan - Former Additional Solicitor General (ASG) and senior advocate
22. Vidya Sinha, aged 71 - Veteran Bollywood actor
23. José Luis Brown - Argentina's football legend
24. Madan Mani Dixit - Nepal's veteran Journalist
25. DJ Arafat - Ivory Coast music star
26. Harley Race - American wrestler (known as 'King of the Ring')
27. VB Chandrasekhar- Former India cricket player
- 28. Neelum Sharma** - Veteran journalist and senior anchor at Doordarshan (DD) News
29. Ranjit Guru - journalist and columnist from Odisha
- 30. Richard Williams** - Three-time Oscar-winning Animator, who was best known for creating Roger Rabbit.
- 31. Jagannath Mishra** - Former Bihar Chief Minister and Janata Dal (United) leader
32. Sahura Mallick - Former Odisha MLA and Senior Congress leader
33. Umesh Bhat Bhavikeri - former MLA of Ankola, Karnataka
34. Zahur Khayyam Hashmi - Music Composer
- 35. Babulal Gaur** - Former Madhya Pradesh chief minister ( party- BJP )
36. Peter Fonda - Hollywood actor
37. Rizia Rahman - Noted Bangladeshi novelist
38. Damodar Ganesh Bapat - Padma Shri awardee and renowned social worker
39. Professor Niranjan Singh Tasneem - Eminent Punjabi writer and Sahitya Akademi (1999) award winner

**40. Kanchan Chaudhary Bhattacharya** : India's first woman Director General of Police (DGP). She was born in Himachal Pradesh and lived in Amritsar, Punjab and Delhi. She was the second woman IPS (Indian Police Service) officer of India after Kiran Bedi.

41. Nimu Bhowmik - Veteran Bengali actor

42. Ajjikuttira Kariappa Subbaiah - first president of BJP in Karnataka

43. Valerie Harper - American comedian and four-time Emmy winner

**44. Noel Kelman** – Indian Navy Commander. He was also awarded the king's commendation (for brave conduct) in the Second World War (WW II), for sinking a Japanese submarine.

## SCIENCE & TECHNOLOGY

1. Prakash Javadekar inaugurates National Centre for Avian Ecotoxicology at Salim Ali Centre for Ornithology and Natural Sciences ((SACON) in Coimbatore, Tamil Nadu.

2. NASA named a rock on Mars in honour of the iconic English band, **The Rolling Stones**

3. North Korea tests new '**super-large**' multiple rocket launcher

4. Intel launched its first artificial intelligence chip '**Spring Hill**'

5. Critical components to India's Gaganyaan mission (for the year 2021) to be supplied by Russia

6. American aerospace company Boeing has delivered its 11th C-17 Globemaster III Transport Aircraft to the Indian Air Force (IAF) in order to boost the airlift requirements. It can carry large combat equipment, troops and humanitarian aid across long distances in all weather conditions.

7. IIT-Guwahati Researchers developed lab grown meat in their Biomaterial and Tissue Engineering laboratory.

8. Arhan Bagati, Awareness and Impact Ambassador of Paralympic Committee of India has launched a mobile application called "IndTokyo" to help para-athletes to look up accessible places in Tokyo Japan during their visit to the city for the 2020 Paralympics Games.

9. Akademik Lomonosov: World's first floating nuclear reactor of Russia launched in Arctic

10. The Pakistan army successfully test-fired its 290km range surface to surface (SSM) missile "Ghaznavi".

11. Scientists at the Massachusetts Institute of Technology (MIT), Cambridge, USA, have developed the biggest-ever computer chip 'RV16X-Nano' using carbon nanotubes (CNT).

12. A team of researchers led by Asokan Thondiyath at Indian Institute of Technology Madras (IITM) have developed a new class of Robotic System called "**GraspMan**", which has a human hand like grasping, manipulation and locomotion abilities.

13. The United States (US) Food and Drug Administration (FDA) gave approval to a new drug named **Pretomanid**, for treating extensively drug-resistant Tuberculosis (XDR TB) which is estimated to have a mortality rate of 60%.

14. China successfully launched a new rocket for commercial use named **Smart Dragon-1**

15. Karnataka Government categorised Nicotine as "class A poison" in order to strengthen the enforcement of the ban on production and sale of electronic cigarettes. The new rules are called the Karnataka Poisons (Possession and Sale) Rules, 2019.

16. NASA confirms Europa Clipper Mission - an interplanetary mission to Jupiter's smallest moon Europa, with the target to launch by 2023.
17. Russia launched its first unmanned rocket carrying a life-size humanoid robot named 'Fedor' (Final Experimental Demonstration Object Research) in Soyuz MS-14 spacecraft from Russia's Baikonur cosmodrome in Kazakhstan. It will spend 10 days learning to assist astronauts on the International Space Station (ISS).
18. Amid increasing tensions with US, Iran unveils its new home-grown missile defence system, "Bavar-373". It is a mobile surface-to-air missile system which means "believe" in Farsi.
19. Ocean Power Classified As Renewable Energy By The Govt - all forms of ocean energy, such as tidal, wave, ocean thermal energy conversion, will now be considered as renewable energy and also be eligible for meeting non-solar renewable purchase obligations (RPO).
20. India test-fired a sophisticated all-weather and all-terrain two Quick Reaction Surface-to-Air Missile (QRSAM) from a mobile truck-based launch unit at complex 3 of the Integrated Test Range (ITR) at Chandipur in Odisha, which was developed by the Defence Research and Development Organisation (DRDO) for the India Army.
21. Ministries of Earth Sciences and Agriculture launched a mobile app called "Meghdoot" to help farmers
22. ISRO Chairman Dr. K Sivan laid foundation stone for 'Space Situational Awareness Control Centre' at Peenya, Bengaluru. It will host a range of activities related to the protection of Indian space assets from inactive satellites, pieces of orbiting objects, near-earth asteroids and adverse space weather conditions.
23. Iran launched 3 new precision-guided missiles "Yasin", "Balaban" & "Ghaem"
24. World's thinnest gold created by British Scientists which is one million times thinner than fingernail of human. As it appears to be green in the water, researchers named it gold "nano sea weed".
25. Flipkart launched '**Samarth**' initiative to support weavers, artisans and makers of handicrafts to its platform
26. NASA's TESS satellite discovers first nearby super Earth : **GJ 357 d**. it is considered to be the first potentially habitable world outside our own solar system.
27. IIT Kharagpur researchers develop 'zero loss' process called Hydro Thermal Carbonization (HTC) for wet Municipal Solid Waste (MSW) management where MSW can be converted into biofuel, soil amendment, and absorbents.
28. Huawei Technologies launched its own Operating System (OS) named HongMengOS in Chinese/ HarmonyOS in English.
29. India's first-of-its-kind clinical ecotoxicology facility was inaugurated at the All India Institute of Medical Sciences (AIIMS), Delhi. It will investigate the increasing number of diseases resulting from exposure to environmental toxins contaminating water, food, and air.
30. 5th Fast Patrol Vessel- Kanaklata Barua, for Indian Coast Guard Launched By GRSE Kolkata
31. Astronomers from the Max Planck Institute for Extraterrestrial Physics, Germany discovered a Super Massive Black Hole (SMBH) with a mass of 40 billion suns (40 billion solar masses).

32. The agricultural Ministry and the centre decided to launch a farm equipment rental app '**Uber for tractors**' to aid farmers in accessing cutting-edge technology at affordable prices. Farmers can book and hire agricultural equipment and use them on rent basis. Through this initiative, small farmers will be able to make use of tools equipped with technology that are expensive to own.

33. IIT Hyderabad develops, eco-friendly solar cells using 'kumkum dye' (vermilion)

**34. Wipro** announced a strategic partnership with the **Indian Institute of Science (IISc)** to conduct advanced applied research in autonomous systems, robotics and 5G.

### IMPORTANT DAYS

Date	Important day	Theme or detail
August 1 to 7	World Breastfeeding Week	"Empower Parents, Enable Breastfeeding"
August 1	World Wide Web Day	-
August 6	Hiroshima Day	
August 7	National Handloom Day	During World War II, an American B-29 bomber had dropped the first atomic bomb nicknamed 'Little Boy' on Hiroshima on August 6, 1945.
August 8	August Kranti Diwas or Quit India movement	-This year marks the 77th anniversary of Quit India movement. -On the occasion, the President honoured and felicitated 78 freedom fighters from across the country. -On 8 aug 1942, Gandhiji gave the call to "Do or Die" in his Quit India speech delivered at the Gowalia Tank Maidan in Mumbai.
August 9	International Day of the World's Indigenous Peoples	Indigenous Languages
August 9	Nagasaki Day	On this day, the United States had dropped an atomic bomb known as "Fat Man" on Nagasaki city of Japan in 1945 during World War II. 2019 marks the 74th anniversary of the disastrous event.
August 10	World Biofuel Day	"Production of Biodiesel from Used Cooking Oil (UCO)"
August 12	International Youth Day	"Transforming education"
August 12	World Elephant Day	
August 12	Vikram Sarabhai's 100th birth anniversary observed	Vikram Sarabhai was founder of ISRO. He was born on 12 August 1919 in Ahmedabad, Gujarat. He was a Padma Bhushan and Padma Vibhushan awardee.
August 13	International Left Handers Day	
August 13	World Organ Donation Day	
August 14	73rd Independence Day of Pakistan	Pakistan observed its 73rd Independence Day as 'Kashmir Solidarity Day', after India revoked Article 370 of the Constitution.
August 15	73rd Independence Day (India)	
August 17	'Navroz' or Jamshedi Navroz'	It marks the Iranian and Persian New year. The day is dedicated to the beginning of spring. Parsis residing in India celebrate this.
August 19	World Photography Day	

August 19	World Humanitarian Day	Women Humanitarians
August 20	World Mosquito Day	
August 20	Sadbhavna Divas	
August 21	World Senior Citizen's Day	
August 21	International Day of Remembrance and Tribute to the Victims of Terrorism	
August 22	International Day Commemorating the Victims of Acts of Violence Based on Religion or Belief	
August 25-September 8, 2019	National Fortnight On Eye Donation	
August 26	Women's Equality Day	
August 29	National Sports Day	-It marks the birth anniversary of India's hockey legend, Major Dhyan Chand. -Prime Minister (PM) Shri Narendra Modi has launched a nation-wide 'Fit India' Movement on the occasion of National Sports Day in New Delhi.
August 29	International Day against Nuclear Tests	
August 30	International Day of the Victims of Enforced Disappearances	

## SUMMIT AND CONFERENCE

1. The **12th India Security Summit** was held in New Delhi. The **theme** of the summit was "**Towards New National Cyber Security Strategy**".

2.- The 4th edition of India's largest confluence of digital technology, the **Internet of Things (IoT) India Congress 2019** held in Bengaluru, Karnataka with the theme of '**Mainstreaming the Internet of Things**'.

3.-The **2019 Indo Pacific Chiefs of Defence (CHOD) Conference** will be held in Bangkok, Thailand's. In this conference, India will be represented by Chairman Chiefs of Staff Committee (COSC) and Chief of the Air Staff- Air Chief Marshal Birender Singh Dhanoa.

4.-The **7th 'Community Radio Sammelan'** will be held in New Delhi. This Sammelan will be held to raise awareness of sustainable development goals.

5.-The **Group of 7 or G7 Summit** has begun in **Biarritz, France**. It is an informal meeting between **France, the United States, the United Kingdom, Germany, Japan, Italy** and **Canada** as well as the European Union. These world powers, which represent 50% of the global economy, also share the values of freedom and democracy, as well as a collective ambition to deal with the world's major issues. **India has been invited as a special guest in the summit.** PM Narendra Modi will address sessions on the environment, climate, oceans and digital transformation at the G7 Summit.

6.- The **5th meeting of India-Nepal Joint Commission** will be held in Kathmandu, **Nepal**.

7.- The **3rd International Electric Vehicle Conclave** was inaugurated at the International Centre for Automotive Technology (ICAT) in **Manesar, Haryana**.

## **RANK & REPORTING**

1. **London named the world's best city for students** for the 2nd consecutive year

2. **India slips to 7th largest economy in 2018**

- In 2017, India had emerged as the 6th largest economy.

- The **US** remains the **top economy** with a **GDP of \$20.5 trillion in 2018**. **China** was the **2nd largest economy** with **\$13.6 trillion**, while **Japan** took the **3rd** place with **\$5 trillion** and **Germany** is at **4<sup>th</sup> place** with **\$3.9 trillion**.

- **India's GDP was at \$2.7 trillion in 2018**, while UK and France were at \$2.8 trillion.  
( **India still remains the fastest-growing major economy in the world.**)

3. The **597-ft tall 'Statue of Unity' in Gujarat** and **Mumbai's Soho House** have been featured by the Time magazine in its second annual list of the 2019 World's greatest places, in a compilation of 100 new and newly "noteworthy destinations.

## **DEFENCE**

1. An Indo-Israel joint venture's "**Astra Rafael Communication System**" was inaugurated in **Hyderabad**. The system will design, develop and manufacture tactical communication systems for Indian armed forces.

2. **Amazon India** has launched a **Military Veterans Employment programme** in the country. This programme will create employment opportunities for military veterans and their spouses across the company's fulfilment centres, sort centres and delivery centres in India.

3. The **5th edition of International Army Scout Masters Competition ('IASMC')** with teams from **8 countries (Armenia, Belarus, China, Kazakhstan, Russia, Sudan, Uzbekistan and India)** as participants was **inaugurated at the Jaisalmer Military Station under the aegis of the Southern Command**.

4. **The Indian Navy is to host naval exercise MILAN in March 2020 in Vizag**

5. **INS Tarkash (Indian Navy's stealth frigate) participates in 14th Edition of KONKAN-19 Bilateral Exercise between Indian Navy and Royal Navy of Britain** off the South Coast of the United Kingdom (UK).

6. **SCO exercise 'Tsentr (centre)**

India and Pakistan will be participating in the upcoming major exercise "Tsentr (centre) 2019" under the Shanghai Cooperation Organisation (SCO) to be held from tentatively scheduled period of September 10-21 at Orenburg, Russia. All the members of SCO will be participating in the exercise.

## **ECONOMY / BANKING**

1. The postal department has decided to convert the India Post Payments Bank into a small finance bank. This bank will provide micro credit at the doorsteps to individuals and SME's. The postal department has also target the milestone of 1 crore accounts for IPPB in 100 days.

2. SBI Shanghai becomes first Indian bank to link up with China's National Advance Payment System (CNAPS).



- 3.RBI allows Bank of China to offer regular banking services in India - 'Bank of China Limited' has been included in the 2nd Schedule to the Reserve Bank of India Act, 1934.
- 4.The Reserve Bank of India has decided to set up a "Central Payment Fraud Registry". The registry will track frauds in the payment systems.
- 5.The Reserve Bank of India will make available the National Electronic Funds Transfer system on a 24x7 basis from December 2019 as per the Payment System Vision 2021 document. Presently, the transfer of funds via NEFT can only be done during banks' working hours.
- 6.Public sector Bank, Canara Bank has launched India's first OTP facility for ATM withdrawals. This additional factor of authentication protects from unauthorized ATM cash withdrawals for cardholders. Now Canara Bank ATMs get safer and more secured with OTP facility on cash withdrawals above ₹ 10,000 in a day.
- 7.The Reserve Bank of India has approved the transfer of record Rs 1.76 lakh crore dividend and surplus reserves to the government.
- 8.Ratings agency CRISIL cuts India's GDP growth forecast to 6.9% (from 7.1%.) for FY 2019-20.
- 9.Securities and Exchange Board of India has approved Singapore Stock Exchange and National Stock Exchange of India Ltd to operate jointly in Gujarat International Finance Tec-City, Gandhinagar. The two entities will create a new platform for trading called NSE International Financial Service Centre (IFSC)-SGX Connect.
- 10.India's forex reserves has reached the highest ever valuation of \$430.57 bn.

## ENVIRONMENT

### **1.Remains of the world's largest bird "Heracles inexpectatus" on earth discovered**

Remains of the World's largest parrot that lived 19 million years ago have been discovered in New Zealand which is well known for giant birds. It is nicknamed as "**Squawkzilla**". This flightless bird has been named as Heracles inexpectatus reflecting the Herculean myth of size and strength and unexpected nature of discovery.

### **2.Gogabeel, an ox-bow lake in Bihar declared as the state's first 'Community Reserve'**

Gogabeel, an ox-bow lake (measures 88 hectares ) in Katihar district of Bihar has been declared as state's 1st 'Community Reserve'. Gogabeel, which is the 15th Protected Area (PA) in Bihar, is formed from the flow of the rivers Mahananda and Kankhar in the north and the Ganga in the south and east.

**3.According to a data released by a non-governmental environmental organization, Greenpeace, India is the world's top emitter of anthropogenic sulphur dioxide(SO<sub>2</sub>) in the world** with more than 15% of all the SO<sub>2</sub> hotspots, tracked by NASA's (National Aeronautics and Space Administration) OMI (Ozone Monitoring Instrument) satellite.

### **4.Nations around the world moved to protect giraffes as endangered species**

At the global meeting on endangered species, the Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species of Wild Fauna and Flora (CITES) 2019, in Geneva, Switzerland, CITES member nations have agreed to protect giraffes for the 1st time, which draws the praise from conservationists.

### **5.NGT panel headed by S P Garg suggests unique ID numbers for water bodies in Delhi**

The National Green Tribunal (NGT) committee headed by former high court judge Justice S P Garg suggested that all water bodies in Delhi must be provided with Unique Identification Numbers

(UID) after properly demarcating them and mapping them on GPS (Global Positioning System) platforms in order to conserve them.

### **6. Rare Peacock Parachute Spider spotted in Pakkamalai Reserve in Villupuram district of Tamil Nadu**

A team of researchers at the Puducherry-based Indigenous Biodiversity Foundation (IBF) have discovered Peacock Parachute Spider, a deeply endangered species of tarantula for the 1st time beyond its natural habitat in the Eastern Ghats. It was found resting in a cave in Pakkamalai Reserve Forests near Gingee in Villupuram district of Tamil Nadu(TN).

## **STATE NEWS**

1. Madhya Pradesh became second state to release Action Plan for Containment of Antimicrobial Resistance (MP-SAPCAR) after Kerela.
2. **Mission Shakti** which is an initiative by the Maharashtra minister Sudhir Mungantiwar to train athletes from Chandrapur and Gadchiroli for international events, like Olympics was **launched by Bollywood film actor Aamir Khan.**
3. **Rajasthan has become the second state after Manipur to pass bills against mob lynching and honour killing.**
4. Senior BJP leader Vishweshwar Hegde Kageri unanimously elected the 22nd Speaker of the Karnataka Legislative Assembly.
5. West Bengal Government launched awareness campaign 'Save Green, Stay Clean' for preserving the greenery and keeping the environment clean.
6. Mobile library bus service launched in Delhi under the "**Ghar-Ghar Dastak Ghar Ghar Pustak**" scheme of DPL (Delhi Public Library )that provide books to citizens of Delhi especially residents of slums, resettlement colonies, and rural areas.
7. Kolkata to get India's first underwater Metro below the riverbed of the Hooghly River.
8. Noida got its first 'Pink Toilet' dedicated to women with facilities for sanitary napkins and baby care.
9. **Gujarat** Chief Minister Vijay Rupani has launched the '**Vhali Dikri Yojna**' for the welfare of girl child.
10. Mohali traffic police have launched 3-D Smart Traffic Signal devised by the students of a Chandigarh university.
11. 3rd edition of ScooNews Global Educators Fest (SGEF) held in Udaipur, Rajasthan.
12. Andhra Pradesh government set to launch 'Navodayam' scheme for MSME loan restructuring
13. Delhi government has planned to install 11,000 free Wi-Fi hotspots offering 15 GB data per month
14. '**Vriksharopan Mahakumbh**' launched with target to **plant 22 crore saplings in Uttar Pradesh**
15. Haryana government to roll out Mukhya Mantri Parivar Samridhi Yojana from Aug 21
16. Jharkhand government launched direct money transfer scheme 'Mukhya Mantri Krishi Ashirwad Yojana' for small farmers.
17. 15-km long national flag unfurled by forming a human chain in Raipur, Chhattisgarh.
18. Rajasthan becomes the first state in the country to implement biofuel policy.
19. Odisha CM Naveen Patnaik dedicates 'The Rath', a steel monument, to the people in Bhubaneswar.
20. Madhya Pradesh govt waives off loans taken by tribals from non-licensed money-lenders.
21. Kolkata to get world's first museum on Chaitanya Mahaprabhu.
22. '**Panchamirtham**' of Palani temple in Tamil Nadu gets GI tag.
23. Ranipet and Tirupattur become new districts of Tamil Nadu. (these districts are carved out of Vellore. After the trifurcation, Tamil Nadu now has 37 districts.)
24. Pune based National Film Archive of India (NFAI) has acquired rare black & white footage of the historic Simla Conference which was held during the crucial period prior to India's independence (June 25 - July 14, 1945), at Viceregal Lodge (now known as the Rashtrapati Niwas), Simla, Himachal Pradesh.

25. Manipur Govt launches "School Fagadaba" scheme to improve infrastructure of government schools
26. Chhattisgarh CM Bhupesh Baghel announces formation of Lemru Elephant Reserve in the state.
27. The Chief Minister of Haryana Shri Manohar Lal Khattar, increased the family income limit of households from Rs 10,000 to Rs 15,000 per month to qualify as Below Poverty Line (BPL) beneficiary.
28. President Ram Nath Kovind inaugurated an underground Bunker Museum at Raj Bhavan Mumbai.
29. Gujarat to get country's first Chemical Engineering & Technology Institute.
30. Karnataka ranks the best among states for setting up a rooftop solar project, according to the Attractiveness Index (SARAL) released by Minister of New and Renewable Energy and Power R K Singh.
31. The Himachal Pradesh assembly passed a bill named **Himachal Pradesh Freedom of Religion Bill, 2019** which repeals the Himachal Pradesh Freedom of Religion Act, 2006. The new bill is against conversion by force, inducement or through marriages solemnised for the sole purpose of adopting a new religion.
32. Delhi Cabinet has approved free travel for women in Delhi Transport Corporation (DTC) buses and cluster buses from October 29, 2019.
33. A 10 week Special Campaign to tackle Dengue and Chikungunya launched by Delhi CM. The campaign titled **10 Hafte, 10 Baje 10 minute Har Ravivar, Dengue Par War** will be rolled out in 1st September 2019, where people were asked to spend 10 minutes at 10 am on every Sunday to check for mosquito breeding spots.
34. Under the Prime Minister's ambitious project of Digital India, the **Banjari village of Katni district** becomes the 1st village in Madhya Pradesh (MP) to become an integral part of the digital map of the country.  
(Akodara village of Sabarkantha district of Gujarat is the 1st digital village in India.)
35. Allahabad HC imposes ban on playing DJs (Disk Jockey) in Uttar Pradesh considering noise pollution as a threat to human health. Along with this, the court also ordered to impose a fine of up to Rs 1 lakh & will face a 5-year jail term, if he/she disobeyed this instruction.
36. Odisha government unveiled the 'Odisha Small Savings Incentive Scheme' for the calendar year 2019 under the notation **"AQ"** series. The aim of the scheme is to stop people from transacting with 'suspicious' non-banking private financial institutions.
37. Jharkhand state's scheme, Mukhyamantri Krishi Ashirwad Yojana launched by Shri Venkaiah Naidu under which farmers/ beneficiaries having farmlands of less than 1 acre to 5 acres will be provided financial assistance of Rs 5,000-25,000.
38. **Tamil Nadu government** launched its exclusive **24x7 education channel** for school students. This TV channel, aimed at benefiting students of classes I to XII. This is an initiative of the School Education Department. The name of the channel is **'Kalvi Tholaikkatchi'** (Education TV). The channel's content will include shows aimed at school children, besides those on jobs and related issues.