NATIONAL NEWS
OCTOBER

DUTCH KING AND QUEEN ARRIVE IN INDIA

The Netherlands King Willem-Alexander and Queen Maxima arrived in New Delhi on Oct 13 on a five-day visit. Besides New Delhi, they also visited Mumbai, and Kochi in Kerala. The visit aimed at boosting economic and political cooperation between the two countries.

The Netherlands, also known as Holland, is a very beautiful country known for its traditional windmills and captivating natural scenery. The locals are called Dutch, speaking Dutch language.

Prime Minister: Mark Rutte
Capital: Amsterdam
Currency: Euro

INDIA WELCOMES CHINESE PRESIDENT

Chinese President Xi Jinping arrived in Chennai on October 11 for a two-day visit to India. From there he moved to Mamallapuram (also known as Mahabalipuram), some 60 kms south of Chennai, to hold the second informal summit with Prime Minister Modi. Both the leaders agreed to explore ways of further expanding mutual trade and investments. They vowed to jointly combat terrorism and radicalisation, signalling a recalibration of bilateral ties.

Mamallapuram is a UNESCO World Heritage site, popular for its historic stone carvings and rock-cut temples that date back to the Pallava dynasty period.

Official Name: The People’s Republic of China
Premier (Prime Minister): Li Keqiang
Capital: Beijing
Currency: Renminbi
BANGLADESH PM VISITS INDIA

Ms. Sheikh Hasina, Prime Minister of Bangladesh arrived in India on Oct 3 for a three-day official visit. She attended the India Economic Summit of the World Economic Forum in Delhi. The two countries signed a MoU to set up a coastal surveillance radar system in Bangladesh to harness bilateral defence cooperation and to build a closer maritime security partnership between the two countries.

PRESIDENT VISITS PHILIPPINE AND JAPAN

President Ram Nath Kovind embarked on a week-long visit to the Philippines and Japan on the 17th October. The Philippines visit is taking place on the occasion of 70 years of establishment of diplomatic relations between the two countries.

Mr Kovind held restricted and delegation level talks with President Rodrigo Duterte in the capital town of Manila and also participated in business and community events.

On the second leg of the tour, he visited Japan on the 21st Oct. There he attended the Enthronement Ceremony of the Emperor of Japan, His Majesty Naruhito in capital Tokyo.

Philippine’s currency: Philippine Peso
Japan’s currency: Japanese Yen

V P VISITS COMOROS, SIERRA LEONE

Vice President M Venkaiah Naidu embarked on a five-day visit to Comoros and Sierra Leone from Oct 10 to 15. This is the first high-level visit from India to the two African countries. The visit started from Moroni, the capital of Comoros where he met country’s President Azali Assoumani. India approved a concessional line of credit of $ 41.6 million for setting up an 18 MW power plant in Moroni.

On the second leg of his journey, he visited Free Town, capital of Sierra Leone and had a meeting with country’s President Julius Maada Wonie Bio. India extended a credit line of $ 30 million for rice cultivation in Sierra Leone.

Comoros is a tiny island country in Indian Ocean, near north eastern end of Mozambique. Sierra Leone is a country in Western Africa having vast coastline opening to South Atlantic Ocean.

Currency of Sierra Leone is Sierra Leonean Leone while Comorian Franc is the currency of Comoros.

STAMPS RELEASED IN HONOUR OF GANDHI

France released a commemorative postage stamp on Mahatma Gandhi, honouring his legacy and values, to mark the 150 birth anniversary of the world leader. Some other countries including Palestine, Uzbekistan and Turkey also issued such special stamps.

‘FEED OUR FUTURE’ CAMPAIGN LAUNCHED

The United Nations World Food Program launched the ‘Feed Our Future’ campaign in association with UFO Movies of Mumbai to create awareness and take steps against hunger and malnutrition in India.

UNWFP believes that this ad campaign will help them to spread the message of zero hunger among Indians. The ad shows that the world has to face great loss when children’s voices are silenced due to hunger. The visual content shows the group of Syrian refugee children of the local community playing in the ruins of bombed-out buildings.

RAILWAYS TO GO ‘GREEN’ BY 2030

Indian Railways has announced that it will become a net-zero carbon emitter by 2030. The move is a part of India’s strategy to combat climate change. India is the biggest emitter of greenhouse gases after the US and China, and is among the countries most vulnerable to climate change.

JAIPUR IS THE CLEANEST RAILWAY STATION

Under Swachh Rail, Swacch Bharat cleanliness assessment 2019, carried out by the Ministry of Railways, Jaipur Junction in Rajasthan topped the tally among 720 major stations covered all over the country. Jodhpur, also from Rajasthan, bagged second place. Both these stations fall under North Western Railway Zone. The survey was conducted on the basis of performance under parameters as availability and cleanliness of toilets, waste management, drinking water and sanitation management, etc.
TRAFFIC OFFENCES CAN BE TRIED UNDER IPC

Supreme Court has ruled that road traffic offences can be prosecuted under the Motor Vehicles Act as well as the Indian Penal Code (IPC). The apex court also set aside a Gauhati High Court order to prosecute offenders of road accidents under motor vehicle act only. It may be noted that the punishment for offenders of motor vehicle accidents under the IPC is stricter compared to the Motor Vehicles Act.

IIT BOMBAY TOPS QS RANKINGS

As per the latest Quacquarelli Symonds (QS) India University Rankings 2020, Indian Institute of Technology, Bombay has again topped all Indian Institutes in the list with an overall score of 88.5, followed by IISc- Indian Institute of Science, Bangalore and Indian Institute of Technology, Delhi at second and third rank, respectively.

INDIA JUMPS IN “EASE OF DOING BUSINESS”

The World Bank released “Ease of Doing Business” for 2019-20. India’s ranking has improved by 14 places to 63rd place from 77th in 2018-19 rankings. India has joined the top-10 reforming countries in terms of economy for the third consecutive year. The 190 country rankings are topped by New Zealand, followed by Singapore and Hong Kong at 2nd and 3rd place, respectively. Ease of Doing Business rankings are decided on the basis of factors such as how easy it is -- to start a business, to obtain a construction permit, to get property registration, to get an electricity connection, etc. It is also considers how easy it is for a company to pay taxes and foreign trade.

INDIA UP IN DIGITAL COMPETITIVENESS

India was ranked 44th in the IMD World Digital Competitiveness Ranking 2019 compiled for 63 countries surveyed by the IMD World Competitiveness Center, Switzerland. India improved its ranking by 4 places as the country has made improvement in terms of knowledge and future readiness to adopt and explore digital technologies.

The USA was ranked at number one, followed by Singapore at second spot.

INDIA FARES VERY LOW IN HUNGER INDEX

India ranked 102 out of 117 countries in the Global Hunger Index (GHI) 2019. India ranked below Pakistan (94), Bangladesh (88), Nepal (73) and Sri Lanka (66) among other South Asian countries. The GHI report pointed out that "India is suffering from a serious hunger problem." The Index measures countries on a 100 point scale under four indicators, Child Mortality, Child Wasting (low weight for height), Child Stunting and Undernourishment.

The report highlights that the climate crisis is bringing alarming levels of hunger in the world. Some countries that are facing alarming situation are - Yemen, Chad, Madagascar and Zambia. The 17 best countries with a score of less than 5 were not ranked individually. They include countries like Belarus, Bulgaria, Cuba, Kuwait, Romania, Turkey and Ukraine. The Index has been generated jointly by Irish aid agency Concern Worldwide and German organization Welt Hunger Hilfewas.

INDIA SLIPS 10 RANKS IN COMPETITIVENESS

India slipped to 68th rank in the annual Global Competitiveness Index 2019, down by 10 places from its 58th rank in 2018. At the top, Singapore pushed the United States to second position. The Index has been compiled by Geneva-based World Economic Forum.

The Index ranks 140 nations on the basis of 98 indicators, organised into 12 pillars that include parameters like infrastructure, institution, ICT adoption, macroeconomic stability, health, skills, product market, labour market, financial system, market size, business dynamism, and innovation capability.

INDIA LAGS BEHIND IN CHARITY

Apart from several other parameters of a developed society, we Indians also lag behind when it comes to do charity. India ranks 82nd among the 128 countries surveyed by the Charities Aid Foundation (CAF), an international organisation that promotes giving to transform lives and communities across the world. The CAF formulated World Giving Index (WGI) after surveying some 1.3 million people worldwide. The Index is an aggregate of trends for each country that emerged in surveys conducted by CAF over the past decade (2009 to 2018). The WGI placed the USA at the top, followed by Myanmar, New Zealand and Australia.
INDIA HOME TO 535 MILLION LIVESTOCK

As per the 20th Livestock Census -2019 conducted by the Department of Animal Husbandry and Dairying under Ministry of Agriculture and Farmers Welfare, India's livestock population has increased to over 535 million showing an increase of 4.6 per cent over last census conducted in 2012. India has the largest cattle inventory in the world, accounting for roughly one third of the total, followed by Brazil and China.

As per census data, the share of cattle is around 36 per cent, goat is over 27 per cent, buffaloes is over 20 per cent, sheep around 14 per cent and pigs around two per cent. The cow population is over 145 million, increasing by 18 per cent.

50 LAKH CRIMES REPORTED IN 2017

The 'Crime in India 2017' annual crime report released by the National Crime Records Bureau (NCRB) has once again reminded how unsafe Indian cities are for women and children. The report reveals that 50 lakh cases of cognizable crime were registered across the country during 2017.

Of the 3.59 lakh cases of crime reported against women, Uttar Pradesh recorded the maximum number - 56,011 cases. Maharashtra and West Bengal appear on the second and third position with 31,979 and 30,002 number of cases respectively, while Madhya Pradesh registered the highest number of rape cases at 5562.

NEWSPAPER DNA STOPS IT's PRINT EDITION

A popular daily newspaper of western India -the Daily News & Analysis (DNA), decided to stop its print edition from Mumbai and Ahmedabad from Oct 10. A note from the editor said that it was “turning digital” to match changing reader preferences and will launch a mobile application soon. The 14-year-old morninger is owned by Zee media of Subhash Chandra’s Essel Group.

Prime Minister Modi made a two-day visit to Saudi Arabia on 28-29 October. He attended the session of Future Investment summit in Riyadh. He also launched the RuPay card in Saudi Arabia.

UNESCO and Doordarshan joined hands to telecast a bilingual TV programme ‘Mahatma Lives’ or ‘Bapu Zinda Hain’ on 1-2 October 2019.

To celebrate 550th Birth Anniversary of Guru Nanak Dev, the Nepal Rastra Bank has issued commemorative coins of 2,500, 1,000 and 100 Nepali rupees, in Kathmandu.

Carpet Export Promotion Council organized 38th India Carpet Expo in Varanasi from October 11 to 14.

The 50th International Film Festival of India-IFFI announced the theme for Open Air Screenings for 50th IFFI- ‘The Joy of Cinema’. The IFFI will be held in Goa from Nov 20 to 28.

INDIA WELCOMES PRESIDENT OF MONGOLIA

President of Mongolia Khaltmaagiin Battulga arrived in New Delhi on a five day State visit. The two sides reviewed ongoing cooperation in the fields of infrastructure, energy, disaster management, defence, security, culture and capacity building. He took part in an India-Mongolia Business Forum in New Delhi. During his stay, he visited Agra, Bodh Gaya and Bengaluru.

Capital: Ulaanbautar  Currency: Mongolian Tugrik

PRESIDENT MAKES 9 DAYS TRIP TO EUROPE

President Ram Nath Kovind embarked on an official nine-day (8 to 16 Sep) visit to Iceland, Switzerland and Slovenia to enhance India’s political and economic ties with the three European countries. The tour started with visit to Iceland. From there he moved to Switzerland and finished the tour with a visit to Slovenia, the first by any Indian President.

Iceland President: Guðni Th. Jóhannesson
Capital: Reykjavik  Currency: Icelandic Krona

Switzerland President: Ueli Maurer
Capital: None (Bern is regarded as capital)  Currency: Swiss Franc

Slovenia President: Borut Pahor
Capital: Ljubljana  Currency: Euro
PM MODI MAKES A TWO DAY VISIT TO RUSSIA

Prime Minister Narendra Modi made a two day (Sep 4-5) visit to Russia to attend the 20th India-Russia Annual Summit and the 5th Eastern Economic Forum (as chief guest) in Vladivostok, a metro port city in East end of Russia. This was the first visit by an Indian prime minister to the Far East Region of Russia. India announced a line of credit of Dollar one billion for the development of the Far East region of Russia as part of her “Act Far-East” policy.

He visited the Zvezda shipbuilding complex along with Russian President Vladimir Putin. India seeks to take Russian support in the supply of oil and gas and benefit of Russia’s deep expertise in ship building. The two countries signed a number of agreements for strengthening cooperation in the strategic fields of defence, civil nuclear energy and peaceful uses of space. An MoU was also signed to have a full-fledged maritime route between Chennai and Vladivostok.

President: Vladimir Putin   Capital: Moscow
Currency: Russian ruble

INDIANS FORM LARGEST DIASPORA

United Nations latest report says that India is the leading country of origin of international migrants in 2019 with a 17.5 million-strong diaspora from among the total number of migrants, globally estimated at 272 million. Country wise, the USA is home to the largest number of migrants (5.1 crore). The International Migrant Stock 2019 report was released by the Population Division of the UN Department of Economic and Social Affairs. The report was prepared with the help of population censuses, population registers and nationally representative surveys.

INDIA JOINS ANTIMICROBIAL RESISTANCE HUB

India, which is among the countries with the highest bacterial disease burden in the world, has become a part of the Global Antimicrobial Resistance Research and Development Hub. India’s first National Antimicrobial Resistance (AMR) Hub was inaugurated in Kolkata. The centre would be the hub for research on antibiotic resistance, not only for the country but for the entire South Asia. According to the WHO data, more than 700,000 people die from AMR infections and the number is expected to spike to more than 10 million deaths each year, if proper action is not taken.

INDIAN FILM RANKED 59th IN TOP 100

The film “Gangs of Wasseypur” by Anurag Kashyap became the only Indian film to feature in “The Guardian” list of the 100 Best Films of the 21st century. The film was placed at the 59th position. The two film “Gangs Of Wasseypur” series was released in 2012 and narrated the saga of a coal mafia family in the town of Wasseypur in Dhanbad district of Jharkhand.

DOORDARSHAN COMPLETES 60 YEARS

On September 15, Doordarshan, India’s only general TV channel, celebrated 60 years of its existence. Over the years, Doordarshan has grown into a network operating 34 satellite channels, besides providing free-to-air DTH service. Entertainment shows like Chitrahaar, Mahabharat, Dekh Bhai Dekh, Fauji, Malgudi Days, among others, captured the imagination of the Indian public in the late 80s and early 90s, and still remains etched in people’s minds as pure entertainment that brought people together.

4 NEW JUDGES IN SUPREME COURT

President Ram Nath Kovind on Sep 18 signed warrants of appointment of four judges for their elevation to the Supreme Court. This created a history of sorts as the apex court will have 34 judges for the first time since it came into being in 1950. The new judges include Punjab and Haryana High Court Chief Justice Krishna Murari, Himachal HC Chief Justice V Ramasubramanian, Rajasthan HC Chief Justice S Ravindra Bhat and Kerala HC Chief Justice Hrishikesh Roy.
INDIA HOSTS COP14 TO UNCCD

India hosted over 3000 participants from 196 nations for moving towards Sustainable Development for the next two years in the 14th Conference of Parties, COP14, to the UN Convention to Combat Desertification (UNCCD) held in Greater Noida, adjoining New Delhi, from Sep 2 to 13. The main objective of the convention is to combat desertification and mitigate the effects of drought in countries experiencing serious drought or desertification. The Conference provides a framework for countries to restore the land and protect human health. It will present sustainable solutions for better land management.

THE WORLD UNIVERSITY RANKINGS

The London based Times Higher Education society released the World University Ranking 2020 on September 11. No Indian institute figured in the top 300 rankings. From India, the Indian Institute of Technology (IIT) Ropar, and the Indian Institute of Science (IISc) Bengaluru are the best institutes and stand among the top 301-350 universities of the world. The rankings are topped by the University of Oxford for the fourth time in a row. The California Institute of Technology stands at the second place and the University of Cambridge fell to the third rank this year.

INDIA’s FIRST PRIVATELY RUN TRAIN

In the history Indian Railways, for the first time, a train will not be operated by the Railways, instead, the Indian Railway Catering and Tourism Corporation (IRCTC), a government of India undertaking, has been asked to run two trains - the Delhi-Lucknow Tejas Express will be the first, and the second, the Mumbai-Ahmedabad Tejas Express. To make the travel attractive, the IRCTC will offer free travel insurance worth Rs. 25 lakh, on-board infotainment services, doorstep baggage collection, local food and no tatkal quota and several other facilities and amenities as are available in airlines.

INDO-NEPAL PETRO PIPELINE INAUGURATED

South Asia’s first cross-border petroleum pipeline was inaugurated in Nepal. It runs from Motihari in Bihar to Amlekhgunj in Nepal, covering a length of 69 kms, having a capacity of 2 million metric ton per annum. The pipeline will considerably reduce the transportation cost of petroleum. Nepal is keen to name the pipeline “Ram Janaki Petroleum Pipeline”.

INDIA RANKS 9th IN HAPPINESS

According to a “Global Happiness Survey” by Ipsos, Indian has been ranked 9th on the happiness index among 28 global markets. Australia and Canada have emerged as the happiest nations of the world. Living conditions, physical well-being, personal safety and security, friends, emerged as some of the top determinants of happiness. Ipsos, a Paris based global market research firm.

INDIA RANKED 34th IN TOURISM

As per the World Travel & Tourism Competitiveness Index 2019 released by the World Economic Forum (WEF), India has jumped 6 places to claim 34th spot. Over 1.5 crore international tourists arrived in India in the year. Spain topped the ranking index followed by France and Germany. The Index ranked 140 countries on their relative strengths in global tourism and travel.

- A new bus service between Kathmandu and Siliguri in West Bengal has been started. The 44-seater AC deluxe bus will complete 650 km journey in 18 hours.

TO ENSURE A GOVT JOB
JOIN GOVT JOBS

GYANM
HOSHIARPUR

BEST COACHING
BY BEST TEACHERS
BANK PO | CLERK
SSC | PUNJAB JOBS

1ST FLOOR, GARG COMPLEX,
OPP. GOVT. COLLEGE

GYANM GENERAL AWARENESS – DECEMBER 2019
Film “Gully Boy” by Zoya Akhtar, has been selected as India’s official entry in the International Feature Film category at the 92nd Academy Awards (Oscars).

The 5th International Ramayana Festival organized by the Indian Council for Cultural Relations was held in New Delhi.

The UNESCO has decided to translate and publish an anthology of the writings of Guru Nanak Dev in world languages to mark his 550th birth anniversary.

The 72nd Session of the WHO Regional Committee for South-East Asia held in New Delhi. The committee is the highest decision making and governing body of WHO in the region.

A documentary film titled ‘Moti Bagh’, based on the life of an Uttarakhand farmer, has been nominated for Oscars.

India’s first-ever helicopter summit was held in Dehradun, Uttarakhand. The Indian Air Force talked about role of IAF helicopters in medical evacuation at the national level.

AUGUST

DAWN OF A NEW ERA IN KASHMIR

In a far reaching historical move, the Parliament revoked Article 370 and the special status of Kashmir on August 5. The President gave his assent to the Jammu and Kashmir Reorganisation Act, 2019 on August 9.

Now, people from other states may also buy or purchase land and settle there. Consequent to passage of the act, India now has 28 states and 9 Union Territories (from 29 states and 7 UTs earlier).

Now Jammu & Kashmir is no longer a state, instead it has been made a Union Territory with a legislature while Ladakh will be a Union Territory without legislature w.e.f. October 31, 2019, the 144th birth anniversary of the 'Iron Man of India' Sardar Vallabhbhai Patel. Both the UTs will have their own Lt. Governor.

With the removal of Article 370, Article 35A that provided special rights and privileges to ‘permanent residents’, also stands scrapped. Article 370 gave Jammu and Kashmir its own constitution and decision-making rights for all matters barring defence, communications and foreign affairs. It made it necessary for the centre to get the state legislature’s approval for introducing any policies or constitutional powers to the state. The removal of this part of the constitution ends special status for Kashmir, which was key to its accession to India in 1947.

As a precautionary measure, internet and phone lines were shut down in parts of Jammu and Kashmir. The Amarnathji Yatra was suspended and pilgrims, tourists and outsiders were asked to leave the state. Thousands of additional paramilitary troops were deployed to deal effectively with any untoward incident that might occur.

<table>
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<tr>
<th>MAJOR CHANGES</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Then - Before August 05, 2019</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td>Jammu &amp; Kashmir was a state with special status.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Only citizens of Jammu and Kashmir were allowed to buy land in the state.</td>
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<tr>
<td>No ‘outsider’ could settle in the state.</td>
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<td>RTI could not be filed</td>
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<tr>
<td>Period of Legislative assembly was 6 years</td>
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<tr>
<td>Jammu &amp; Kashmir had a separate flag.</td>
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<td>J&amp;K had a separate constitution.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Ladakh was a part of Jammu &amp; Kashmir</td>
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<tr>
<td>The constitutional head was Governor</td>
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PRESIDENT OF ZAMBIA VISITS INDIA

Zambian President Edgar Chagwa Lungu arrived in India on a three-day official visit. The two countries signed six MoUs in several areas including geology, defence, arts and culture. Republic of Zambia is a landlocked country in South Africa.

Capital: Lusaka  
Currency: Zambian Kwacha
Prime Minister Narendra Modi made a three nation visit from Aug 22 to 26, covering France, United Arab Emirates and Bahrain. The tour began with meeting with French President Emmanuel Macron in Paris. Later he attended the 45th G7 summit in Biarritz, France. From France he moved to UAE where he was conferred their highest civilian honour ‘Order of Zayed’. The trip ended with a visit to Bahrain, a first visit by any Indian Prime Minister. King of Bahrain honoured him with “The King Hamad Order of the Renaissance.” There he inaugurated the renovated Krishna Temple in Manama.

DRIVE AGAINST MISUSE OF STATION PARKING
Railway Protection Force (RPF) launched a special drive code named “Operation Number Plate” from Aug 9 to 11 at 466 major railway stations to identify and verify all vehicles parked in Railway premises, circulating area, and parking even in the ‘No Parking’ areas for a longer duration. The drive was aimed at removing encroachments and avoiding security risks associated with unclaimed vehicles. Around 4,000 vehicles were found violating the norms.

FIRST INDIAN FLIGHT OVER THE NORTH POLE
On August 15, Air India became the first Indian airline to fly over the North Pole while connecting New Delhi to San Francisco in south west USA. Before this, the flights took the route passing over Bangladesh, Myanmar, China and Japan before crossing the Pacific Ocean to enter USA.
Passengers will benefit from the reduced flight times, the airline by conserving fuel, reduce travel times, improve aircraft utility and reduce carbon emission. Flights over Polar region face certain typical challenges like the area of magnetic unreliability, limited choices for diversion to alternative airports, solar radiation, fuel freezing, etc.

PM ATTENDS G-7 SUMMIT IN FRANCE

STERN LAW TO DEAL WITH TERRORISM
The Parliament passed the Unlawful Activities (Prevention) Amendment (UAAPA) Bill, 2019. The Bill amends the Unlawful Activities (Prevention) Act, 1967. The amendment gives special powers to the government to deal with terrorist activities in the country. The main contentious issue of this bill is the power to designate a person as a terrorist.

NATIONAL CONFERENCE ON E-GOVERNANCE
The Department of Administrative Reforms & Public Grievances (DARPG) in association with Ministry of Electronics & Information Technology (MeitY) and Meghalaya government hosted the 22nd National Conference on e-Governance at Shillong on August 8-9.

WORLD YOUTH CONFERENCE
The UNESCO Mahatma Gandhi Institute of Education for Peace and Sustainable Development (MGIEP) organised the first-ever World Youth Conference in New Delhi. The theme of the conference was Vasudhaiva Kutumbakam: Gandhi for the Contemporary World: Celebrating the 150th birth anniversary of Gandhi.

THE TRIPLE TALAQ BILL BECOMES LAW
The President of India gave his consent to the recently passed the Triple Talaq Bill or the Muslim Women (Protection of Rights on Marriage) Bill, 2019. The bill has now become a law. It makes instant triple talaq or talaq-e-biddat illegal and void. It makes the practice of instant triple talaq punishable by a jail term of 3 years. The law will come into force from September 19, 2019.

INDIA: LARGEST PRODUCER OF SO2
According to an analysis of a NASA data released by environmental watchdog NGO Greenpeace, India is the world’s largest emitter of anthropogenic sulphur dioxide, which is produced from coal burning, and greatly contributes to air pollution. India forms more than 15 percent of all anthropogenic sulphur dioxide (SO2) hotspots in the world detected by OMI (Ozone Monitoring Instrument) satellite.
Prime Minister Modi visited Bhutan on a two-day (17-18 August) state visit to promote the “time-tested friendship” between the two countries.

Vice President M. Venkaiah Naidu made a visit to three Baltic countries - Lithuania, Latvia and Estonia to advance India’s outreach to these countries.

The 7th Community Radio Sammelan was held in New Delhi (27-29 August). The theme of this year’s Sammelan was ‘Community Radio for SDGs’.

The 3rd edition of India’s largest education brainstorming event, the ScooNews Global Educators Fest was held in Udaipur, Rajasthan, August 9-10.

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4 NEW GOVERNORS APPOINTED
President of India approved appointment of two governors and two Lt. Governors as under:-

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Girish Chandra Murmu</th>
<th>Lt. Governor of Jammu-Kashmir</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>R K Mathur</td>
<td>Lt. Governor of Ladakh</td>
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<tr>
<td>P.S. Sreedharan Pillai</td>
<td>Governor of Mizoram</td>
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<tr>
<td>Satya Pal Malik</td>
<td>Governor of Goa</td>
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Kerala/CHD TOP IN SCHOOL EDUCATION
Kerala has emerged on top among 20 large states in terms of quality of school education, followed by Rajasthan and Karnataka, while the most-populous Uttar Pradesh was ranked at the bottom position during 2016-17, as per the School Education Quality Index released by the Niti Aayog. Of the seven UTs, Chandigarh came at the top position. The index is part of a report, jointly released by the Niti Aayog, HRD ministry and the World Bank, alongside sectoral experts.

AYODHYA CREATES WORLD RECORD
In Uttar Pradesh, Grand Diwali celebrations at Ayodhya have set a world record as over 5 lakh 51 thousand earthen lamps (Diyas) were lit altogether on Oct 27. The Diyas were lit on the banks of the holy river Saryu and other places in Ayodhya town.

UP LAUNCHES SCHEME FOR GIRLS
U P government launched ‘Mukhyamantri Kanya Sumangala Yojana’ to provide a fund worth Rs 15000 to every family where a girl child is born. The amount will be released to the family in a phased manner. All girl children born after April 1, 2019 are eligible for the full fund.

ANDHRA SAYS NO TO INTERVIEWS
The Andhra Pradesh government has decided to do away with personal interviews for recruitment of staff and limit the process only to written examination. The final selection will be done the merit basis as per the marks obtained in the written exam alone.

HIGHWAY NAMED AFTER GURU NANAK
The 53 km long road starting from Kapurthala connecting Goindwal Sahib and terminating near Tarn Taran in Punjab has been declared as new National Highway, number 703 A A and has been named as “Shri Guru Nanak Dev Ji Marg”. The decision has been taken to mark the 550th Birth Anniversary of Shri Guru Nanak Dev on Kartik Purnima on Nov 12.

UP TO PREPARE FOR KHON RAMLILA
Uttar Pradesh government is going to organise the country’s first training and performance programme of world famous KHON (खोन) Ramlila, in collaboration with Thai government.

KHON Ramlila of Thailand is a form of masked dance depicting the scenes of Ramlila. It has no dialogues instead background voices narrate the whole story of Ramayana. The performance is also a visual delight famous for its beautiful attire and golden masks. It is included in the list of UNESCO’s Intangible cultural heritage.
INDIA’s FIRST E-WASTE CLINIC LAUNCHED

The Bhopal Municipal Corporation and the Central Pollution Control Board have joined hands to set up the country’s first e-waste clinic in Bhopal, Madhya Pradesh to facilitate proper collection and disposal of various e-waste items. The electronic waste will be collected door-to-door or can be deposited directly at the clinic in exchange for a fee.

What is e-waste? Electronic waste includes items such as TVs, computers, circuit boards, mobile phones, and a wide variety of other digital and electronic equipment. Most of these items contain heavy metals like mercury, lead, lithium, and other hazardous materials that can pollute the air when incinerated or contaminate our ecosystem if thrown into landfills.

ADB TO FUND ROAD IMPROVEMENT IN R' THAN

India and Asian Development Bank, ADB signed $ 190 million loan agreement for funding improvement of road connectivity in Rajasthan. It will cover 754 kilometres of state highways which will benefit about 26 million people in 14 districts of Rajasthan.

Madhya Pradesh hosted the 10th edition of the Rashtriya Sanskriti Mahotsav-National Cultural Festival organized by the Union Ministry of Culture from Oct 14 to 21 under the ‘Ek Bharat, Shreshtha Bharat’ campaign.

Government has decided to name India’s longest tunnel Chenani- Nashri on NH 44, in Jammu and Kashmir, after Bhartiya Jansangh (presently BJP) founder Dr Shyama Prasad Mukherjee. The tunnel is 9.2 km long.

HP LAUNCHES SERVICE NUMBER 1100

Himachal Pradesh launched the Mukhyamantri Seva Sankalp Helpline number ‘1100’ to provide timely help to the residents of the state. The helpline aims to enable people to resolve their complaints and problems by calling on this helpline.

5 STATES GET NEW GOVERNORS

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<th>Name of Governor</th>
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<td>Bhagat Singh Koshyari</td>
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<td>Arif Mohammed Khan</td>
<td>Kerala</td>
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<td>Bandaru Dattatreya</td>
<td>Himachal Pradesh</td>
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<td>Kairaj Mishra</td>
<td>Rajasthan</td>
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<td>Dr Ms. T Soundararajan</td>
<td>Telangana</td>
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SHONDOL DANCE CREATES WORLD RECORD

Shondol dance, which is known as the royal dance of Ladakh, has created history by entering into the Guinness Book of World Records as the largest Ladakhi dance. As many as 408 women attired in traditional dresses and beautiful headgears performed the dance, which broke the previous record of 299 artists in the 2018 festival. The event was held on the concluding day of the Buddhist carnival Naropa festival held near the Hemis Monastery in Ladakh.

J&K TOPS IN AYUSHMAN BHARAT

Jammu and Kashmir has become the first state to distribute the highest number of golden cards under Ayushman Bharat-Pradhan Mantri Jan Arogya Yojana (AB-PMJAY). More than 11 lakhs of golden cards have been issued under the scheme within 90 days of the launch of the scheme. Around 60% of families are having at least 1 golden card, highest in the country.

INDIA’s TALLEST ATC TOWER

India’s tallest ATC (air traffic control) tower started functioning at Delhi’s Indira Gandhi International Airport. With a height of 102 metres, it will enhance the safety and boost the efficiency of air transport management services.
INDIA’s HIGHEST SKY CYCLING TRACK

The highest sky cycling track of the country has been built at an altitude of 9,000 feet at Gulaba, a tourist destination at Manali, Himachal Pradesh. This track has been made by Atal Bihari Vajpayee Mountaineering Sports Institute.

GUJARAT JOINS HANDS WITH DELAWARE, USA

Gujarat Government and Delaware State of America signed MoU for sister state. Sectors like Biotechnology University, bio sciences, financial services, animal husbandry and dairy, port services have been shortlisted for future cooperation.

MEGA SOLAR POWER PLANT IN LADAKH

The Centre has finalised the site for a 7,500 MW mega solar project at Pang, about 117 km from Leh, Ladakh. The Rs 50,000 crore grid-connected solar photovoltaic project spread across Leh and Kargil districts is the single biggest investment proposal in the region, after it became UT. The renewable energy ministry plans to eventually scale it up to 23,000 MW grid-connected Ultra Mega Solar PV - Photovoltaic project.

‘WALK TO WORK’ LAUNCHED IN MEGHALAYA

Meghalaya state launched the ‘Walk to Work’ campaign in the state as a part of ‘Fit India Movement’ launched in the country by the Prime Minister. The campaign has multiple benefits like cost cutting of fuel including reduction of CO2 emission, reduction in congestion in the cities and the most important "health and fitness" for the citizens.

- UNESCO has tied up with the Rajasthan government to promote music, art and craft forms, and other intangible cultural heritage of the state to spur socio-economic growth of several local artist communities.
- Kerala Tourism has won three prestigious Pacific Asia Travel Association (PATA) Gold awards in Nur-Sultan (Astana), Kazakhstan.
- Tamil Nadu government launched its exclusive 24x7 education channel ‘Kalvi Tholaikkatchi’ for school students of classes I to XII.
- Tamil Nadu’s Dindigul locks and Kandangi sarees have been granted Geographical Indication (GI) tags.
- Madhya Pradesh government has appointed film star Govinda as brand ambassador to promote the state’s traditions and tourist places.
- Asian Development Bank approved a $ 200 million loan for upgrading rural roads in 34 districts of Maharashtra to improve road safety.

AUGUST

COMPOSITE WATER MANAGEMENT INDEX 2.0

The NITI Aayog released the Composite Water Management Index 2.0 for 2017-18 to rank the states & UTs on the basis of their performance in efficient management of water resources. Lead by Gujarat (first) Andhra Pradesh, Karnataka and Tamil Nadu were ranked as top performers in various categories. The index is an important tool to assess and improve the performance of States/ UTs in efficient management of water resources.

KARNATAKA TOPS IN SOLAR POWER

Karnataka has topped the SARAL index, which evaluates the Indian states on the basis of their attractiveness for rooftop solar development. Other states Telangana, Gujarat and Andhra Pradesh were ranked 2nd, 3rd and 4th respectively. The State Rooftop Solar Attractiveness Index (SARAL) was released by Power and New & Renewable Energy Ministry. The index aims to incentivise rooftop solar power plants by creating healthy competition among the states.
BUNKER MUSEUM OPENED IN MUMBAI
A one of its kind underground Bunker Museum has been opened at Raj Bhavan, Mumbai. The British-era bunker was discovered in 2016 and has 13 rooms such as Shell Store, Gun Shell, Cartridge Store and Central Artillery Store. The museum has virtual reality booths in which visitors can “time travel” to the 19th century.
A bunker is a heavily fortified structure, usually underground, made to protect people from bombings during war time.

“AADI MAHOTSAV” HELD IN LEH
A 9 day National Tribal Festival “Aadi Mahotsav” was held in Leh, Ladakh to showcase traditional art and handicrafts and cultural heritage of the country. The theme of the festival was “A celebration of the spirit of Tribal Craft, Culture and Commerce”.

UP CREATES WORLD RECORD IN PLANTATION
In Uttar Pradesh, a series of world records were made on August 9 in the massive plantation drive ‘Vriksharopan Mahakumbh’ on the occasion of 77th anniversary of Quit India Movement. More than 22.59 crore saplings were planted at 12.2 lakh locations under the drive in state.

GI TAG FOR PALANI ‘ABHISHEKAM PRASADAM’
The ‘abhisheka prasadam’ Panchamirtham of Murugan temple, Palani, Tamil Nadu has been bestowed with the Geographical Indication tag. The panchamirtham is prepared with five natural items — bananas, jaggery, cow ghee, honey and cardamom.

GI TAG FOR PATHAMADAI MATS
Tamil Nadu’s Pathamadai mats have been granted Geographical Indication (GI) tag. These mats are made especially for wedding ceremonies and have the bride’s and groom’s names as well as the wedding date woven in it.

MAKRANA MARBLE GETS HERITAGE STATUS
Renowned worldwide for its fine quality that glorifies the Taj Mahal and the Victoria Memorial, Kolkata, marble from Makrana in Rajasthan is now Asia’s first Global Heritage Stone Resource. This has been confirmed by the International Union of Geological Sciences, an international non-governmental organisation devoted to international cooperation in the field of Geology.

GI TAG FOR ODISHA RASAGOLA
The Chennai-based GI Registry issued a formal certification for the ‘Odisha Rasagola’ also, less than two years after West Bengal won its own GI tag for the similar sweet in Nov. 2017. This mouthwatering culinary delight made of cottage cheese, softer and juicier than Bengali Rasgulla, is offered to Lord Jagannath as part of bhog since centuries.

WORLD’s LONGEST DOCUMENTARY
A documentary titled “100 Years of Chrysostom” based on life of Padma Bhushan awardee 101 year old Philipose Mar Chrysostom has been selected for the Guinness Award in the category of longest documentary, running for 48 hrs and 8 minutes. He is a Metropolitan Emeritus of the Malankara Mar Thoma Syrian Church of Malabar, Kerala.

- Indian Railways started its second double-decker train “Uday Express” (Utkrisht Double-Decker Air Conditioned Yatri) that will run between Visakhapatnam and Vijayawada in Andhra Pradesh.
- India’s first Central Institute of Chemical Engineering & Technology will be set up in Gujarat. It will facilitate the chemical industry with research and innovations.
- Rajasthan state won the “best innovation and initiative leadership award” in the World Education Summit-2019 held in New Delhi, for its achievements in higher education.
- Asian Development Bank (ADB) has approved a $200 million loan for improving road infrastructure in 34 districts of Maharashtra.
GOVT. INITIATIVES
OCTOBER

FSSAI LAUNCHES ‘FOOD SAFETY MITRA’

In a bid to improve the ease of doing business, apex food regulator Food Safety and Standards Authority of India (FSSAI) on the occasion of the World Food Day (Oct 16) launched a scheme --Food Safety Mitra (FSM) to sensitise street food vendors on hygiene aspects and assist businessmen to comply with standards and facilitate licensing and registration. The initiative is aimed at scaling up the government’s “Eat Right India” movement. The FSM would undergo training and certification by FSSAI to do their work and get paid by food businesses for their services. This way the scheme would also create new employment opportunities for youth, particularly with food and nutrition background.

KARNATAKA TOPS IN INNOVATION

The NITI Aayog released its first-ever India Innovation Index to promote competitiveness among the states. Karnataka emerged as the topper among major states, followed by Tamil Nadu and Maharashtra at 2nd and 3rd spot. Among the North-Eastern states, Sikkim and among Union Territories Delhi occupied the top spot. The study examines the innovation ecosystem of Indian states and UTs. The aim is to create a holistic tool which can be used by policymakers across the country to identify the challenges to be addressed while designing their economic growth policies.

INTERNATIONAL TRADE FAIR FOR COOPS.

The first ever India International Cooperatives Trade Fair was held in New Delhi from Oct 11 to 13 to enhance the role of small farmers and cooperative organisations in export. The Trade fair aims at bridging the gap between small farmers and the international market via technology. It is expected that the small farmers and cooperative organisations will play a vital role in achieving the goal of doubling exports in agriculture sector by 2022. More than 150 cooperative organisations and representatives from around 35 countries participated in the Fair.

APP LAUNCHED FOR DENTAL HEALTH CARE

Ministry of Health and Family Welfare launched the eDantseva website and mobile application, the first ever national digital platform on oral health information and knowledge dissemination. This marks an important milestone as the service is expected to reach out to more than one billion people with one click in the form of a dedicated website and mobile application.

HONORARIUM HIKED FOR ASHA WORKERS

The Union Cabinet has approved the proposal to double the honorariums for ASHA workers to Rs 2000 per month. Earlier, the honorarium amount was Rs 1000 per month. The hike is expected to benefit around 10 lakh ASHA workers across the country. ASHA - ‘Accredited Social Health Activist’ are community health workers, who have been trained to work as an interface between the public health system and the community.

‘SUMAN’ TO CURB MATERNAL/INFANT MORTALITY

With a view to bring down maternal and infant mortality rates in the country, the government launched Surakshit Matritva Aashwasan, SUMAN, initiative in New Delhi under which pregnant women, mothers up to 6 months after delivery, and all sick newborns will be able to avail free healthcare benefits. The programme aims to end all preventable maternal and newborn deaths. The government will also provide free transport from home to health institutions.

GOOGLE TO SUPPORT PM JAN AROGYA YOJANA

National Health Authority signed a Statement of Intent with Google to collaborate and strengthen the implementation of Ayushman Bharat-Pradhan Mantri Jan Arogya Yojana (PMJAY). Google will support NHA in improving digital presence of PMJAY and showcasing relevant content to the 50 crore entitled beneficiaries.

APP LAUNCHED TO PROMOTE PLANTATION

Ministry of Housing & Urban Affairs launched the mobile app ‘mHariyali’ to promote plantation of trees. Through this app, people can upload photos of plantation done by them, which will be directly displayed @ epgc.gov.in. The app also offers automatic geo tagging of plants.
“YOUTH CO:LAB” LAUNCHED

In the latest initiative to recognize young people as critical drivers of sustainable development, Atal Innovation Mission (AIM), NITI Aayog and United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) India joined hands to launch “Youth Co:Lab” which aims at accelerating social entrepreneurship and innovation in young Indians. Through Youth Co:Lab, young entrepreneurs and innovators will get a chance to connect with governments, mentors, incubators and investors, who will help equip them with entrepreneurial skills.

LOGO LAUNCHED FOR “TRANS FAT FREE” FOOD

The Food Safety & Standards Authority of India (FSSAI) launched a special logo to indicate “Trans Fat Free” food items. This marked an important milestone in the movement against Trans-Fats and also promoted the ‘Eat Right India’ movement of FSSAI.

What are trans-fats?

Trans Fat is the worst type of fats with known health risks. Each year about 5,40,000 people die globally of cardiovascular diseases caused by the consumption of trans fats. Industrial trans-fats are made by adding hydrogen to liquid vegetable oils to make them more solid, and to increase the shelf life of foods. Trans-fats are largely present in partially hydrogenated vegetable fats/oils, vanaspati, margarine and bakery shortenings, and can be found in baked and fried foods. The food establishments which use trans-fat free oil and do not have industrial trans-fat more than 0.2g/100g of food, can display “Trans-fat free” logo at their outlets and on their food products. The use logo is voluntary.

NATIONAL E-ASSESSMENT SCHEME LAUNCHED

With a view to eliminate human interface between income taxpayers and assessing officers, the govt has launched the National e-Assessment Scheme. This will usher in a paradigm shift in the present system by introducing faceless e-assessment by imparting greater efficiency, transparency and accountability in the assessment process. In the new setup there will now be no physical interface between taxpayers and tax officers. Over 5.65 crore income tax returns were filed by taxpayers for the Assessment Year 2019-20 by August 31 this year.

FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE UP FOR THE KIN OF BC

The govt approved a four-fold increase in the monetary assistance provided to the next of kin of all battle casualties, from existing Rs 2 lakh to 8 lakh. The amount will be provided from the Army Battle Casualties Welfare Fund (ABCWF). The families of all categories of battle casualties will be able to avail this monetary assistance.

The ABCWF was instituted in July 2017 and was implemented with effect from April 2016. It was set up under Department of Ex-Servicemen Welfare (ESW) after a large number of people offered to provide monetary assistance to the families of battle casualties following an incident in February 2016 at Siachen where 10 soldiers were buried in an avalanche. Any person can donate to support this fund.

AUDIO APP LAUNCHED FOR MONUMENTS

Tourism Ministry has launched the Audio Guide facility “Audio Odigos” for 12 sites of India. It will offer government verified content, with visuals and voice over support. With Audio Odigos, tourists will now enjoy a more enriching experience and take back historical insights of the Indian culture and heritage.

DELHI-KATRA VANDE BHARAT EXPRESS

The second Vande Bharat Express started its run on the Delhi-Katra route from 5th October. It is a big gift for Jammu and Kashmir’s development and for promoting religious tourism as lakhs of people visit the famous Shri Mata Vaishno Devi shrine near Katra. The first Vande Bharat Express runs between Delhi and Varanasi. It is a semi high speed ultra modern train with best in class passenger amenities.

TRAIN RENAMED IN HONOUR OF GURU NANAK

Government has renamed New Delhi-Ludhiana Intercity Express as ‘Sarbat Da Bhala Express’ as a tribute to Shri Guru Nanak Dev ji’s 550th Parkash Purb. The renamed train will ply from New Delhi to Lohian Khas via holy city Sultanpur Lodhi, near Jalandhar. The phrase ‘Sarbat Da Bhala’ is part of the last line of the ‘Ardaas’ (prayer) offered by the Sikhs and means - welfare or blessings for all. Sultanpur Lodhi is the place where Guru Nanak Dev is said to have attained enlightenment by immersing in the local Bein rivulet and stayed here for about 14 years.
NCERT TO REVISE NATIONAL CURRICULUM

The National Council of Educational Research and Training (NCERT) has decided to review the 14-year-old National Curriculum Framework for the 5th time in accordance with new national education policy. Soon a committee will be set up for this purpose. The NCF has been revised four times so far – in 1975, 1988, 2000 and 2005. With the new education policy coming into place, the curriculum will also need a thorough revision as per the new NEP. The curriculum was last revised 14 years back. The NCERT is headed by its Director.

UMMID’ TO FIGHT GENETIC DISEASES

Govt launched a new health initiative named ‘UMMID’ (Unique Methods of Management and treatment of Inherited Disorders) to tackle inherited genetic diseases of newborn babies. The initiative will help the future generations in treating and preventing the diseases caused by genetic disorders. Further, National Inherited Diseases Administration (NIDAN) kendras have been established under UMMID scheme to create awareness about normalizing the life of children suffering from genetic disorders.

AWARD FOR UNITY AND INTEGRITY

The union government has instituted the highest civilian award in the name of Sardar Vallabhbhai Patel, for rewarding the outstanding contribution to the unity and integrity of India. The “Sardar Patel Unity Award” seeks to recognize notable and inspiring contributions in promoting the cause of national unity and integrity and to reinforce the value of a strong and united India. No cash reward would be attached to the award and not more than three awards will be given in a year.

BETI BACHAO BETI PADHAO” SHOWS RESULTS

The Beti Bachao Beti Padhao campaign has shown encouraging results in improving sex ratio and awareness generation in the country. The national sex ratio made remarkable 13 points jump from 918 to 931 in last 5 years. The campaign was launched on Jan 22, 2015, initially in 100 districts having most adverse sex ratio. Later, it was extended to cover entire India.

SHAGUN’ TO IMPROVE SCHOOL EDUCATION

HRD ministry launched one of the world’s largest Integrated Online Junction for School Education ‘Shagun’ in New Delhi. The term Shagun has been coined from two different words- Sha from ‘Shala’ meaning Schools and gun from ‘Gunvatta’ meaning quality.

BUILD FOR DIGITAL INDIA” LAUNCHED

The Ministry of Electronics and Information Technology (MeitY) has partnered with Google to roll out a programme that will give engineering students a platform to develop market-ready, technology-based solutions that address key social problems. The programme will cover areas like healthcare, agriculture, education, smart cities and infrastructure, women’s safety, smart mobility and transportation, environment, accessibility and disability and digital literacy.

FIT INDIA MOVEMENT’ LAUNCHED

Prime Minister Narendra Modi launched the ‘Fit India Movement’ on the occasion of National Sports Day - August 29. It is a nationwide campaign and it aims to encourage people to inculcate physical activity and sports in their everyday lives.

APP LAUNCHED FOR HIRING FARM MACHINERY

Ministry of Agriculture launched a multilingual mobile app 'CHC Farm Machinery' to allow farmers to avail the services of CHCs (Custom Hiring Service Centres) located in a radius of 50 km. Now the farmers can custom hire various latest farm machinery and equipment from the CHCs. The app can be downloaded on any android phone from Google Play Store.
SWACHHTA HI SEVA 2019 CAMPAIGN

The nationwide mass campaign against the use of ‘single use plastics’ was launched from Mathura on Sep 11. The theme of the campaign is ‘plastic waste awareness and management’ and it will continue till October 2, 2019. During the campaign, several activities will be organised to create mass awareness on plastic waste management.

THE CURSE OF SINGLE USE PLASTICS
(Based on a report on ‘Single Use Plastics’ by UN Environment Programme, 2018)

The benefits of plastic are undeniable. It is cheap, lightweight, durable and easily moldable. The world produces more than 400 million tons of plastic every year. The production is likely to skyrocket over the next 10 to 15 years. However, our inability to cope with the amount of plastic waste we generate has made it one of the biggest environmental scourges of our time. According to recent estimates, 79% of the plastic waste ever produced now sits in landfills, dumps or in the environment, while about 12% has been incinerated and only 9% has been recycled.

SINGLE USE PLASTICS
Single-use plastics, often also referred to as disposable plastics, are commonly used for plastic packaging and include items intended to be used only once before they are thrown away or recycled. The most common examples are: used cigarette butts, plastic drinking bottles, plastic bottle caps, food wrappers, plastic grocery bags, plastic lids, straws and stirrers, other types of plastic bags, and thermocol made take-away containers.

WHY WE NEED TO CHANGE
Much of the plastic we produce is designed to be thrown away after being used only once. Plastic packaging accounts for about half of the plastic waste in the world. Only 9% of the 9 billion tonnes of plastic the world has ever produced has been recycled. Unfortunately, most of it ends up in landfills, dumps or in the environment. If current consumption patterns and waste management practices continue, then by 2050 there will be around 12 billion tonnes of plastic litter in landfills and the environment.

India uses about 14 million tonnes of plastic annually but lacks an organized system for management of plastic waste, leading to widespread littering.

PROBLEMS WITH PLASTICS
Plastic waste causes a plethora of problems when it gets scattered into the environment as most of it is not biodegrade. Instead, it slowly breaks down into smaller fragments known as microplastics. Plastic bags and containers made of Styrofoam/Thermocol can take up to thousands of years to decompose and till then, they continue contaminating soil and water.
- Plastic bags block waterways and exacerbate natural disasters. They cause artificial flooding in cities by choking the drains.
- By clogging sewers and providing breeding grounds for mosquitoes and pests, plastic bags increase the transmission of vector-borne diseases like dengue, malaria.
- Thrown away plastic bags and other packing materials have been found blocking the airways and stomachs of thousands of livestock and marine life in oceans.
- There is evidence that the toxic chemicals added during the manufacture of plastic get transferred to animal tissue, eventually entering the human food chain, harming the humans.
- Styrofoam products, which contain carcinogenic chemicals like styrene and benzene, are highly toxic if ingested, damaging the nervous systems, lungs and reproductive organs. The toxins in Styrofoam containers can leach into food and drinks.
- In poor countries, plastic waste is often burned for heat or cooking, exposing people to toxic emissions. Disposal of plastic waste by burning it in open-air releases harmful gases like Furan and Dioxin.

WHAT'S THE WAY OUT
To reduce plastic pollution, action should be taken to ensure its proper disposal. Further, we need to focus on three R’s – Refuse/reduce – Reuse – Recycle to minimize plastic waste generation. There is dire need to improve the state of solid waste collection services, strengthen the recycling industry and ensure safe disposal of waste to controlled landfills.
Plastic is not the problem. It’s what we do with it that makes it a problem. And that means the onus is on us to be far smarter in how we use this miracle material.
SEPTEMBER IS THE ‘POSHAN MAAH’

Ministry of Women and Child Development has decided to observe the entire month of September as the Rashtriya Poshan Maah (month). POSHAN (Prime Minister’s Overreaching Scheme for Holistic Nourishment) Abhiyaan is devoted to improve nutritional outcomes for children, adolescents, pregnant women and lactating mothers by leveraging technology and a targeted approach. This year the theme is “Complementary Feeding”.

SAILORS TO GET BIOMETRIC IDENTITY

India has become the first country in the world to issue a Biometric Seafarer Identity Document (BSID) to its seafarers. The new document will give a foolproof identification to our seafarers which will facilitate their movement, provide ease of getting jobs and help in identifying them from any location in the world. There are about two lakh sailors from India working in different locations.

NITI AAYOG SEEKS McKinsey SUPPORT

Niti Aayog has selected McKinsey & Company to set up India’s first Digital Capability Centre. It is a unique digital manufacturing learning centre that offers company leaders and their workforces hands-on experience and workshops in next-generation technology to help them advance their operations, design and productivity.

COUNTRY’s FIRST POLICE UNIVERSITY

The Union home ministry plans to set up country’s first central police university in Greater Noida, Uttar Pradesh. The university will help in improving police personnel training, skills, research and policymaking with regard to policing in India.

FAMILY PENSION HIKE TO 50%

The government has decided that the government servant, who dies within seven years of joining service, his family will now be eligible for family pension at an enhanced rate of 50 per cent (from earlier 30 percent) of last pay drawn during the last 10 years. The enhanced rates will be effective with effect from 1st of October, 2019.

INDIA TO FUND RESEARCHERS FROM ASEAN

India formally launched an initiative to fund 1,000 scholars from ASEAN (Association of Southeast Asian Nations) countries to pursue PhD at its 23 Indian Institutes of Technology (IITs). It is a joint initiative of the HRD and the ministry of external affairs. Under the Rs. 300 crore project, students from the 10 ASEAN countries will get funding for the entire cost of study and living expenses for up to 5 years of their PhD programme.

STEEP HIKE IN TRAFFIC VIOLATION PENALTIES

The government has notified that the provisions of the Motor Vehicles Act 2019 will be implemented from September 1. Change in penalties, licences, registration and National Transport Policy are part of the 63 new clauses that will become effective from Sep 01. The penalty for drunken driving has been increased to 6 months imprisonment and/or Rs 10,000 fine for the first offence and 2 years imprisonment and/or fine of Rs 15,000 for second offence. The current penalty is Rs 2,000. Racing and speeding will attract imprisonment of up to 1 month and/or fine up to Rs 500 for first offence and imprisonment of up to 1 month and/or a fine of up to Rs 10,000 for second offence.

BAN ANNOUNCED ON E-CIGARETTES

Finance Minister announced that the government has decided to put a complete ban on e-cigarettes. This means that import/export, transport, sale, distribution, storage and advertising related to e-cigarettes are banned. E-cigarettes are generally known as battery-operated devices that produce vape by heating nicotine mixed solution, which is the addictive substance in combustible cigarettes.
FIRST FUN ZONE AT PLATFORM BY RAILWAYS

With an aim to cut down the monotony of prolonged waiting periods on railway stations and to make it an enjoyable experience, particularly for children, in a first of its kind initiative, a fun zone has been set up by the Railways at the Visakhapatnam railway station in Andhra Pradesh. Setup by the South Coast Railway Zone, it has all the high-tech gaming activities at par with other video game parlours.

‘INSTITUTE OF Eminence’ Status to 5

The HRD Ministry has awarded the ‘Institute of Eminence’ status to 5 public institutions. The Ministry took the decision based on the recommendations from the University Grants Commission (UGC). The five institutions are:

IIT Madras, IIT Kharagpur, Delhi University, Benares Hindu University and University of Hyderabad.

All these institutions will sign an MoU with the HRD Ministry and will lay out its plan to achieve the objective of becoming a world-class institution. Every institute will then be eligible for a government grant of Rs 1,000 crore each.

PROJECT LAUNCHED FOR ANIMALS

The National Animal Disease Control Programme was launched from Mathura in Uttar Pradesh. The programme aims at vaccinating over 500 million livestock including cattle, buffalo, sheep, goats and pigs against foot and mouth disease.

The programme also aims at vaccinating 36 million female bovine calves annually in its fight against Brucellosis disease.

ININDIAN INSTITUTE OF SKILLS AT MUMBAI

Government plans to establish Indian Institute of Skills (IIS) at Mumbai to provide skill training in highly-specialised areas to students who want to pursue technical education after completing Class X and XII. The IIS will be a tertiary care institute in the skills ecosystem and offer best of required courses in emerging and high demand areas such as deep technology, aerospace, among others.

❖ Government has set up a three-member panel headed by Former Defence Secretary Sanjay Mitra to oversee the bifurcation of Jammu and Kashmir into two Union Territories - Jammu and Kashmir and Ladakh.

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“JAL JEEVAN MISSION” FOR PIPED WATER

The Prime Minister in his Independence Day speech announced the launch of “Jal Jeevan Mission” to provide piped water supply to every house by 2024. The mission also aims to create local infrastructure for rainwater harvesting, groundwater recharge and management of household wastewater for reuse in agriculture. The government will spend more than Rs. 3.5 Lakh crore in coming years on this project.

ATAL COMMUNITY INNOVATION (AIM) CENTRE

Atal Innovation Mission (AIM) at Niti Aayog launched the Atal Community Innovation Centre Programme in New Delhi to encourage the spirit of innovation at the community level through solution-driven thinking. The programme aims at spurring community innovation in underserved and unserved areas of the country. It will focus on the 484 backward districts where the innovation infrastructure is very weak.
DTC TASK FORCE SUBMITS ITS REPORT

The Task Force headed by Akhilesh Ranjan for review of Income Tax Act and drafting of new Direct Tax Code - DTC, submitted its report to Union finance minister Nirmala Sitharaman. It is reported that the Taskforce has recommended a substantial cut in personal income taxes and corporate tax rate.

NEW WARNING FOR TOBACCO PACKS

Centre has notified new sets of health warnings for all tobacco products by making an amendment in the Cigarettes and other Tobacco Products (Packaging and Labeling) Rules, 2008. With effect from Sep 01, the text message that will be printed on the packs is - “Tobacco causes painful death”. A national toll-free number - 1800-11-2356 will also be printed on packs to assist the users to quit.

ARMY EXPERIMENTS WITH GREEN CARS

The Indian Army launched electric cars on August 1 for use of its officials in New Delhi with a view to avoid air pollution. The initiative has been launched in partnership with Energy Efficiency Services Ltd (EESL) in a joint venture of the Central PSU’s under the Ministry of Power. Air pollution has been a major challenge in Delhi.

RAILWAYS TO BAN SINGLE USE PLASTIC ITEMS

Ministry of Railways has directed all its units to enforce ban on single use plastic material (disposable items, bottles), with less than 50 micron thickness from October 2nd this year. The move came in the wake of Prime Minister Narendra Modi’s clarion call to eliminate single use plastic in the country. All vendors and staff across will be encouraged to use reusable bags to reduce plastic footprint.

PINK COLOUR COACHES FOR WOMEN

The Northeast Frontier Railway zone has started a unique initiative to earmark a special portion of the SLR coach with pink colour with a view to provide better safety and security to women passengers.

LOK SABHA TO GO PAPERLESS

Lok Sabha Speaker Om Birla has announced that the Lok Sabha will become paperless from the next session by converting almost all the proceedings of the house in the digital mode. However, if any member needed hard copy, he or she will be provided. The move is expected to save crores of rupees to the exchequer.

HELMETS MADE MANDATORY FOR CHILDREN

Central government has made “Headgear” (wearing a helmet) mandatory for children above 4 years while travelling on a motorcycle/scooter in public place. Necessary provisions have been included in the Motor Vehicles (Amendment) Act 2019, section 129, for this purpose. However, Sikhs wearing turban have been exempted from this provision.

- ‘Samagra Shiksha-Jal Suraksha’ mission launched by the HRD ministry to create awareness about Water Conservation among all school students.
- Government launched mobile app “Janaushadhi Sugam” that will enable people to easily search for Janaushadhi generic medicines and the stores.

ECONOMY & INDUSTRY

IMF LOWERS GROWTH RATE TO 6.1%

The IMF downgraded global growth in 2019 to 3%, the slowest since the global financial crisis. Accordingly, India’s growth projections were also downgraded to 6.1% and 7.0% for 2019 and 2020, respectively, due to weaker than expected domestic demand and slow down in consumption, investment and exports.

WORLD BANK LOWERS GROWTH RATE TO 6%

In its latest edition of the South Asia Economic Focus, the World Bank said that India’s growth rate is projected to fall to 6 per cent this fiscal (2019-20) as it has been relatively hit hard by the recent global slowdown resulting in sharp dip in its projected growth. However, it said that the country was expected to gradually recover to 6.9 per cent in 2021 and 7.2 per cent in 2022, as it’s still a fast-growing economy with a lot of potential.
MSP HIKED FOR RABI CROPS

The Cabinet Committee on Economic Affairs (CCEA) chaired by Prime Minister approved the increase in the Minimum Support Prices (MSPs) for all mandated Rabi Crops of 2019-20 to be marketed in Rabi Marketing Season 2020-21. The increase in MSP is in line with the principle of fixing the MSPs at a level of at least 1.5 times of the all India weighted average cost of production.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Sr. No</th>
<th>Crops</th>
<th>MSP for RMS 2020-21</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>Wheat</td>
<td>1925</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>Barley</td>
<td>1525</td>
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<tr>
<td>3</td>
<td>Gram</td>
<td>4875</td>
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<tr>
<td>4</td>
<td>Lentil</td>
<td>4800</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5</td>
<td>Rapeseed &amp; Mustard</td>
<td>4425</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6</td>
<td>Safflower</td>
<td>5215</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

MERGER APPROVED OF BSNL & MTNL

The Union Cabinet approved the merger of loss-making public sector telecom firms BSNL (Bharat Sanchar Nigam Limited) and MTNL (Mahanagar Telephone Nigam Limited) as part of a revival package. The revival package includes raising sovereign bonds, monetising assets and voluntary retirement scheme (VRS) for employees. Under the package, 4G spectrum worth Rs 20,000 crore will be administratively allotted to the two firms.

HANDICRAFTS FAIR HELD AT NOIDA

48th edition of the Indian Handicrafts and Gifts Fair (IHGF) was held at the India Expo Centre & Mart at Greater Noida, near Delhi. More than 3,200 Indian exhibitors participated in the fair. Around 110 overseas buyers from 110 countries also participated in the fair. The handicrafts earn around Rs 43,000 crores annually, including Rs. 10,000 crore by exports. The theme of the Fair this year was “Reduce, Reuse, Recycle”.

AIR INDIA FIRST TO USE TAXIBOT

Air India became the first airline in the world on October 15 to use a Taxibot on an A320 aircraft with passengers on board at the terminal 3 at Indira Gandhi International Airport Delhi. Taxibot is a robot-used aircraft tractor for taxiing an aircraft from parking bay to runway and vice versa with aircraft’s engines shut down, thereby leading to sizeable fuel savings.

BAJAJ FINANCE BEATS SBI IN MARKET CAP

Bajaj Finance Ltd, a leading NBFC in the field of consumer finance, on Oct 01, surpassed State Bank of India (SBI) in terms of market capitalisation for the first time, with shares of the former having surged over 50% so far this year as against 13 % fall suffered by the SBI in the same period.

RELIANCE MARKET CAP CROSSES 9 TRILLION

Shares of Reliance Industries (RIL) touched a 52-week high of Rs 1,428 on October 18. As a result, the company became the first Indian company to cross the total market capitalisation of Rs 9 lakh crore and is now the most valued Indian company in terms of market cap. RIL’s market capitalization (m-cap) stood at Rs 9,01,490.09 crore during late morning trade on BSE.

SEPTEMBER

GDP GROWTH SINKS DOWN TO 5%

Sharp deceleration in manufacturing output and subdued farm sector activity pulled down India’s gross domestic product (GDP) growth to a seven-year low of 5 per cent in the April-June quarter of 2019-20, according to official data released on August 30 by the National Statistical Office - NSO.

The gross value added (GVA) growth in the manufacturing sector tumbled to 0.6 per cent in the first quarter of this fiscal from 12.1 per cent expansion a year ago. Similarly, farm sector GVA growth remained subdued at 2 per cent as compared to 5.1 per cent in the corresponding period of the previous fiscal.

CORPORATE TAX CUT TO BOOST GROWTH

In a major bonanza for corporate and as part of measures to promote growth and investment, on Sep 20 Finance Minister announced to slash corporate tax rate from 30 percent to 22 percent, without any exemption or incentives, for domestic companies and from 25 percent to just 15 per cent for new domestic manufacturing companies. Also, such companies shall not be required to pay Minimum Alternate Tax (MAT) @ 18 percent. This reduction is estimated to cost Rs. 1,45,000 crore revenue loss to the government.
Rs. 60,000 CRORE BOOST FOR THE ECONOMY
Union Finance Minister announced a set of measures to boost the export sector in the form of provision of Rs 50,000 crore for various incentives for exporters mainly from the small and medium segment.
In a relief for around 3.5 lakh dwelling units that have not been completed but whose builders are not in non-performing asset category and not before the NCLT, the government will set up a special vehicle with a contribution of Rs 10,000 crore to ensure early completion of these houses.

INDIA AT 10th SPOT FOR GOLD RESERVES
According to the World Gold Council, India with gold reserves totalling 618.2 tonnes, has surpassed the Netherlands to move into the list of top 10 countries in terms of total gold reserves. USA leads the list with total gold reserves of 8,133.5 tonnes followed by Germany with 3,366.8 tonnes.

PETRONET TO IMPORT 5 MN TON LNG
India’s largest LNG (Liquefied natural gas) importer Petronet LNG Ltd announced investment of $2.5 billion to acquire nearly 20 per cent equity stake in the Driftwood project of US energy major Tellurian Inc to support the purchase of 5 million tonne of gas per annum from them, for the next 40 years.

HORTICULTURE TO CROSS 313 MN TON
The total horticulture production in the country is estimated to be over 313 million tonnes which is 0.69 per cent higher than the production in 2017-18. The production covers fruits, vegetables, spices, flowers and honey, plantations and aromatics and medicinal crops.

MULTI MODAL TERMINAL AT SAHIBGANJ
India’s second riverine Multi Modal Terminal was inaugurated at Sahibganj on River Ganga in Jharkhand. The terminal facilitates convergence of road, rail and river waterways. The terminal has been developed under the Jal Marg Vikas Project. It will open up industries in Jharkhand and Bihar to the global market.

AIR INDIA TO STOP USE OF PLASTICS
Air India will completely ban the use of plastic in Alliance Air and Air India Express from 2nd October. Plastic tea cups will be replaced with sturdy paper cups and plastic tumblers will be replaced with paper tumblers. Wherever feasible, wood based alternatives will be used for cutlery.

Honda Cars India launched car leasing services in association with transportation solutions provider Orix to enable customers to enjoy the use of the latest cars without having to purchase it.
National Thermal Power Corporation Limited (NTPC) plans to set up a 5-gigawatt solar park in Gujarat, which would be the largest in the country.
The World Bank has approved Rs 3,000 crore fund to finance mini and mega food parks across the country, mainly in the Northeastern part of India.
Bharti Airtel launched the Airtel Xstream Fibre that will offer users access to broadband services a speed of 1 GBps for Rs. 3,999 a month.

NEW COMPANY FOR CRITICAL MINERALS
Government has set up a joint venture company "Khanij Bidesh India Limited" - KABIL with the participation of three Central Public Sector Enterprises, to ensure supply of 12 critical minerals to Indian domestic market. The three CPSEs are National Aluminium Company Ltd, Hindustan Copper Ltd, and Mineral Exploration Company Ltd. To begin with, KABIL will focus on Lithium and Cobalt minerals.
RELIANCE TO RECEIVE $75 BILLION FDI

World’s largest Petro giant - Saudi Aramco, national petroleum and Oil Company of Saudi Arabia, is set to acquire a 20 percent stake in Reliance oil refinery and chemical business at a value of $75 billion or over 5.3 lakh crore. It would be one of India’s largest ever foreign direct investment deals to date.

SEBI TO REWARD INSIDER TRADING INFO

The Securities and Exchange Board of India-SEBI has announced a new mechanism to reward insider trading informants to uncover insider trading cases. The reward amount will be 10 percent of the money collected, subject to a maximum amount of Rs 1 crore. These benefits would only be available to individuals and corporates and not applicable for professionals like auditors who are duty-bound to report any wrongdoing.

Insider trading refers to the illegal practice of trading on the stock exchange to one’s own advantage by having access to some confidential information.

E-commerce major Amazon inaugurated its largest campus in the world, in Hyderabad. Spread over three million sqft, it has 15,000 work points.

BANKING & FINANCE

REPO RATE CUT DOWN TO 5.15%

Announcing its fourth bimonthly monetary policy for the current fiscal on Oct 04, the Monetary Policy Committee - MPC of RBI, in a bid to boost the flow of credit and support economic growth, decided to cut the repo rate by 25 basis points, from 5.40% to 5.15%, with immediate effect. It is the lowest level since March 2010. Repo is the rate at which RBI provides short term funds to the schedule banks. Consequently, Reverse repo rate has been adjusted to 4.90% and the Marginal Standing Facility alongwith Bank Rate have been revised at 5.40 %.

The MPC also decided to continue with an accommodative stance as long as it is necessary to revive growth, while ensuring that inflation remains within the target of 4 percent. The RBI also revised the GDP outlook for 2019-20 to 6.1%, from 6.9% mentioned in previous MPC meet on August 7.

RBI GUIDELINES FOR PAYMENT SYSTEMS

RBI has issued guidelines for on-tap authorisation of three payment systems - Bharat Bill Payment Operating Unit (BBPOU), White Label ATMs (WLAs) and Trade Receivables Discounting System (TReDS). The interested entities for BBPOU and WLAs should have a minimum of 100 crore rupees net worth and Rs. 25 cr. for TReDS and it should be maintained at all times.

CONTESTS FOR PAYMENT SYSTEMS

RBI has announced two contests to promote innovations and ideas in the payment and settlement systems. While individuals, groups, entrepreneurs, companies, start-ups and similar entities can participate in ‘Payment and Settlement Systems Innovation Contest’, students at the undergraduate or above levels can participate in ‘Payment and Settlement Systems Innovative Ideas Competition’. The contest will be organised through Institute for Development and Research in Banking Technology (IDRBT), Hyderabad.

NEW VERSION OF BHIM LAUNCHED

The Ministry of Information Technology launched BHIM 2.0 payment mobile app on October 21. The new version includes additional languages, new functionalities and increased transaction limits among other features. BHIM (Bharat Interface for Money) was developed by National Payments Corporation of India in December 2016 to allow real-time fund transfer using UPI - Unified Payments Interface. BHIM is already available in 13 languages and now it will be available in three additional languages – Haryanvi, Bhojpuri and Konkani.

MDR CHARGES WAIVED

In a move that may boost digital payments, businesses with an annual turnover of more than Rs.50 crore will have to mandatorily offer electronic mode of payments to their customers from November 1 this year. Besides, no charges or merchant discount rate (MDR) -- charge that payment systems and banks impose on commercial transactions-- will be levied on either customers or merchants. The cost of transactions shall be borne by the RBI and Banks.
KERALA TO RUN ITS OWN BANK
RBI has given its final nod to the Kerala Government for the formation of the ‘Kerala Bank’ by amalgamating all the District Co-operative Banks (DCBs) with Kerala State Co-operative Bank. The proposed Kerala Bank will be the largest banking network in the state.

LIMITS RAISED FOR NBFC-MFIS
The RBI has announced to raise loan limit for the borrowers of NBFC-MFIs to Rs. 1.25 lakh from Rs. one lakh earlier. Further, the household income limit to be eligible to borrow from for NBFC-MFIs has been raised to Rs. 1.25 lakh from the current Rs. 1 lakh for rural areas. In urban areas, limit will be increased from Rs. 1.6 lakh to Rs. 2 lakh.
A NBFC is a unit that is licensed by the RBI to carry out limited specified banking like activities like giving certain type of loans, accepting certain types of deposits, etc. An MFI is Micro Finance Institution that primarily deals in giving small amount loans.

SBI LAUNCHES CONTACTLESS PAYMENT
SBI Card announced the launch of ‘SBI Card Pay’, a facility that allows contactless payment using mobile phones at PoS (Point of Sale) terminals. Using SBI Card Pay, customers can make contactless payments at near field communication (NFC) enabled PoS terminals with just one tap of their mobiles, without using the physical credit card or entering any PIN.

❖ The State Bank of India opened its office in Melbourne on Sep 30, becoming the first Indian bank to have a branch in the Australian state of Victoria.

NOTEBANDI FAILED TO CURB CASH: RBI
The Annual Report of RBI for 2019 reveals that despite the enormous efforts to shift to digital payments and usher in a digital payment economy, the currency in circulation has jumped by a hefty 17 per cent to Rs 21.10 lakh crore as of March 31, 2019. There was 6.2% jump in the number of pieces to 1,08,759 million. The demand for the Rs. 500 note, soared the highest and now accounts for over 51 per cent of the value of currency in circulation.
However, there was a sharp fall in the instance of fake currency detections in FY19 to 3.17 lakh pieces down from 7.62 lakh in 2016-17.

10 PUBLIC SECTOR BANKS MERGED
The government announced the merger of ten public sector banks into four banks. After the merger of banks, the country will now have 12 public sector banks instead of 27 some two years ago.
Among the 12 PSUs, 8 will be the national level banks while 4 will be strengthened to operate as regional banks. The merger is to be effective from April 01, 2020.
Finance Minister Nirmala Sitharaman said that government wants a strong financial system to make the country a five trillion economy. She also clarified that no retrenchment will take place and the staff will be redeployed suitably.

SCHEDULED BANKS MERGED IN 2019

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Sr. No.</th>
<th>Anchor Bank</th>
<th>Amalgamating banks (s)</th>
<th>Business size As on 31-03-19</th>
<th>PSB rank by size</th>
<th>CBS</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>Punjab National Bank</td>
<td>Oriental Bank of Commerce</td>
<td>Rs. 17.94 lakh cr.</td>
<td>2nd largest</td>
<td>Finacle by Infosys</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>Canara Bank</td>
<td>Syndicate Bank</td>
<td>Rs. 5.20 lakh cr.</td>
<td>4th largest</td>
<td>IFlex</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3</td>
<td>Union Bank of India</td>
<td>Andhra Bank Corporation Bank</td>
<td>Rs. 16.59 lakh cr.</td>
<td>5th largest</td>
<td>Finacle</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4</td>
<td>Indian Bank</td>
<td>Allahabad Bank</td>
<td>Rs. 8.08 lakh cr.</td>
<td>7th largest</td>
<td>BaNCS by TCS</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5</td>
<td>SBI</td>
<td>Amalgamated earlier</td>
<td>Rs. 52.05 lakh cr.</td>
<td></td>
<td>BaNCS</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6</td>
<td>Bank of Baroda</td>
<td>Amalgamated earlier</td>
<td>Rs. 41.13 lakh cr.</td>
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<td>Finacle</td>
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<tr>
<td>7</td>
<td>Bank of India</td>
<td></td>
<td>Rs. 9.03 lakh cr.</td>
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<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8</td>
<td>Central Bank of India</td>
<td></td>
<td>Rs. 4.68 lakh cr.</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9</td>
<td>Indian Overseas Bank</td>
<td></td>
<td>Rs. 3.75 lakh cr.</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10</td>
<td>UCO Bank</td>
<td></td>
<td>Rs. 3.75 lakh cr.</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>11</td>
<td>Bank of Maharashtra</td>
<td></td>
<td>Rs. 2.34 lakh cr.</td>
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<tr>
<td>12</td>
<td>Punjab and Sind Bank</td>
<td></td>
<td>Rs. 17.1 lakh cr.</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

RBI ASKS BANKS TO FOLLOW REPO RATE
The RBI has made it mandatory for banks to link interest on all their new loan products, be it personal, housing or auto to an external benchmark like the policy repo rate with effect from 1st October 2019. RBI mentioned that transmission of policy rate benefits under the current framework has not been satisfactory.

‘NIRVIK’ LOAN SCHEME LAUNCHED
Ministry of Commerce & Industry has introduced a new Export Credit Insurance Scheme called NIRVIK - “Niryat Rin Vikas Yojana” in tie up with the Export Credit Guarantee Corporation to enhance loan availability to exporters and to ease the lending process. Under the scheme, up to 90 per cent of the principal amount and interest will be covered through insurance.
INDIA TO GET INFO ON SWISS ACCOUNTS

India will start getting details of bank accounts held by its citizens in Switzerland from September, ending the era of Swiss bank secrecy. This is being seen as a major success of the government’s fight against black money ever since 2014. The first automatic exchange of financial account information (AEOI) under Common Reporting Standard (CRS) would start from next month.

RETURN OF ‘LOAN MELAS’ FOR MSME SECTOR

Union Finance Minister announced a country-wide loan disbursement initiative from public sector banks (PSBs) with a view to facilitate easy credit availability to the MSME sector. The PSBs will hold public meetings with non-banking-finance companies and retail borrowers in 400 districts.

The meetings will be held in two phases, both a week long. First meet will be held from Sep 24 to 29 in 200 districts while second meet will be held in remaining 200 districts from Oct 10 to 15. Further, to provide relief to the stressed MSMEs, their sticky loans will not be declared non-performing assets till the end of the current fiscal (March 31, 2020).

ANY BANK CUSTOMER CAN USE IPPB SERVICES

India Post Payments Bank, IPPB, launched Aadhaar Enabled Payment System (AEPS) Services for expanding access to financial services for millions of unbanked and underbanked customers. Now, IPPB has become single largest platform in the country for providing interoperable banking services to customers of any bank by leveraging the last mile unprecedented reach of the Postal network.

RBI TO TRANSFER 1.76 LAKH CRORE RUPEES

The RBI has decided to transfer 1.76 lakh crore rupees as dividend and surplus reserve to the government. The amount includes over 1,23,000 crore rupees of surplus for the year 2018-19 and 52,637 crore rupees of excess provisions identified as per the revised Economic Capital Framework.

The decision has been taken by accepting the recommendations of a high-level panel headed by former RBI Governor Bimal Jalan on transfer of excess reserves to the government.

RBI ALLOWS E-MANDATE ON CARD PAYMENTS

The Reserve Bank has permitted processing of e-mandate on credit and debit cards and e-wallets for recurring transactions (merchant payments) with a cap of Rs 2,000 per transaction. The transactions will be carried out with Additional Factor of Authentication (AFA) during e-mandate registration and first transaction.

No charges would be levied or recovered from the cardholder for availing the e-mandate facility. E-mandate refers to standing instructions to the bank for making recurring payments such as fees, rent, insurance premiums, etc.

REPO RATE SLASHED BY 35 BPS TO 5.40

The Monetary Policy Committee of RBI in its third bi-monthly policy review on August 7, decided to reduce the policy repo rate by 35 basis points (bps) from 5.75 per cent to 5.40 per cent with immediate effect, in order to give a boost to the slowing economy.

Consequently, the reverse repo rate stands revised to 5.15 per cent, and the marginal standing facility (MSF) rate and the Bank Rate to 5.65 per cent. The rate cut is expected to have a lower rate of interest on bank loans, thereby facilitating more funds for the businesses.
REGISTRY TO TRACK ONLINE FRAUDS

The RBI plans to set up a central payment fraud registry, which will monitor digital payment frauds on real-time basis. The move is expected to boost customer confidence in the payments systems. Payment system participants like Paytm, Google Pay, Bhim will be provided access to this registry for near-real time fraud monitoring. The aggregated fraud data will be published to educate customers on emerging risks.

REVISED GUIDELINES FOR ATM TRANSACTIONS

RBI has asked banks that transactions failed due to technical reasons at ATMs or due to non-availability of cash, should not be included in the “free ATM transactions” permitted every month. Similarly, use of ATMs for balance enquiry and fund transfers too, should not be part of the free transactions facility given to a customer.

Banks provide five free transactions at ATMs to their customers and beyond that impose charges. At ATMs of other banks, three free transactions are allowed in metro centres and five in all other centres.

NEFT TO BE AVAILABLE 24X7

The RBI has decided to allow round-the-clock fund transfers through National Electronic Funds Transfer (NEFT) from December this year in order to promote digital transactions. Currently, this facility is available for customers from 8 am to 7 pm on all working days with the exception of the second and fourth Saturdays of the month. There is no restriction of any minimum or maximum amount for use of NEFT.

MASTERCARD Launches ID Solution

Mastercard has launched a next-generation, mobile-first authentication solution, “Identity Check Express” that aims to redefine the e-commerce journey for Indian consumers. It combines the latest technology, including device intelligence and - behavioural biometrics, with the latest EMV 3-D Secure and FIDO (Fast ID online) authentication standards to deliver an uninterrupted mobile payment experience.

POST BANK TO BECOME SMALL FINANCE BANK

The Department of Posts has decided to convert the India Post Payments Bank into a Small Finance Bank, enabling it to offer small loans to customers. Necessary permission for this purpose shall be obtained from the RBI. (Payment banks cannot give loans, while Small Finance Banks are allowed to do so)

- Bandhan Bank launched a co-branded credit card in association with Standard Chartered Bank.

DEFENCE, SCIENCE & TECHNOLOGY

OCTOBER

DEFENCE MINISTER RECEIVES 1St RAFALE JET

On the occasion of the 87th anniversary of IAF on Oct 8, Defence Minister Rajnath Singh formally received the first of 36 most modern Rafale fighter jets in Merignac, France, from aerospace firm Dassault Aviation. He performed the ‘Shastra Puja’ of the aircraft. However, the first batch of four aircraft will come to India only by May next year. The IAF has bought 36 Rafale aircrafts for over 61,000 crore rupees.

IAF CELEBRATES ITS 87TH RAISING DAY

The Indian Air Force, IAF celebrated its 87th anniversary on Oct 8. The IAF was founded on this day in 1932. A grand function was held at the Air Force Station Hindan near Ghaziabad to celebrate the day. A scintillating air display by various aircraft was the hallmark of the Air Force Day Parade-cum-Investiture Ceremony.

It saw debut participation from the most advanced Apache AH-64E and Chinook CH-47F helicopters from Boeing Inc., USA that were inducted recently in the IAF.

Air Chief Marshal Rakesh Kumar Singh Bhadauria is the present and 26th Chief of the IAF. Its headquarters are at New Delhi and motto is Nabhaḥ Spṛṣham Diptam (Touch the sky with glory).
SIACHEN OPENED TO TOURISTS

To boost tourism in Ladakh, area from Siachen Base Camp to Kumar Post, has been opened for tourism purposes. The Kumar Post is at height of more than 15,000 ft. Tourists will be able to travel from the base camp at Partapur at 11,000 feet to the Kumar Post. Located at an altitude of around 20,000 ft in the Karakoram Range, the Siachen Glacier is known as the highest militarised zone in the world where the soldiers have to battle frostbite and high winds in temperatures below minus 30 degree celsius or even more.

COUNTRY’s HIGHEST BRIDGE OPENED

The Border Road Organization completed the construction of 1400 feet long Col. Chewang Rinchen Setu (Bridge) across Shyok River at an altitude of 14,650 feet in the forward area of Eastern Ladakh region. The bridge is strategically located on the 255-km Darbuk-Shayok-Daulat Beg Oldie section of the road between Leh and Karakoram Pass and is the highest all weather bridge in India.

It is named in honour of Colonel Chewang Rinchen who was one of the highly decorated officers in Indian Army from Ladakh. He was decorated twice with Maha Vir Chakra; the nation’s second highest Gallantry Award.

JOINT MILITARY EXERCISE WITH JAPAN

A joint military exercise named ‘Dharma Guardian’ was held between India and Japan in Vairengte, Mizoram from 19th of October to 2nd of November to improve the interoperability between the two forces and enhance coordination in dealing with various security challenges including counter-terrorism.

INDIA-B’DESH HOLD JOINT NAVAL EXERCISE

The second edition of Coordinated Patrol (CORPAT) of the navies of India and Bangladesh commenced in Bay of Bengal, off the coast of Visakhapatnam. The exercise aims at the development of mutual communication and sharing of best practices between the two navies. Indian Navy is headed by Admiral Karambir Singh.

EXERCISE NOMADIC ELEPHANT–XIV

The 14th edition of Indo-Mongolian joint military training exercise Nomadic Elephant–XIV was held at Bakloh, cantonment town in district Chamba, Himachal Pradesh, from Oct 05 to 18. The joint training aims at evolving various tactical drills in counter-terror environment.

KAZIND-2019 EXERCISE

A joint military exercise named KAZIND-2019 was held between India and Kazakhstan in Pithoragarh district, Uttarakhand from 3-15 October. The exercise included nearly 100 soldiers from both Indian and Kazakhstan Army for sharing their experience gained during conduct of various counter insurgency and counter terrorism operations in the past.

JOINT MILITARY EXERCISE WITH US FORCES

The 10th edition of the joint military exercise ‘Vajra Prahar’ was held between India and the US forces at Joint Base Lewis-McChord (JBLM) in Seattle, USA from October 13-28. The exercise facilitated sharing of best practices and experience in areas such as joint mission planning capabilities and operational tactics.

- The India-Myanmar Naval Exercise named IMNEX-2019 was held off the coast of Visakhapatnam, Andhra Pradesh.
- Indian Air Force and Japanese Air Self Defence Force (JASDF) held a joint exercise named ‘Shinyuu Maitri’ at the Arjan Singh air force station in Panagarh, West Bengal from October 17 to 23.
- Indian Air Force and Royal Air Force of Oman held a joint air warfare exercise named “Ex-Eastern Bridge-V” at Masirah in Oman from 17 to 26 October.
- A geo-strategically vital maritime exercise “Malabar”, involving India, US and Japan, was held off the Japan coast from Sep 27 to Oct 4.
MI-24V COPTERS GIVEN TO AFGHANISTAN

India handed over the second pair of Mi-24V helicopters to war-torn Afghanistan, boosting the capability of the Afghan Air force to counter the local Taliban militants. The helicopters are a replacement for the four attack helicopters previously gifted by India to Afghanistan in 2015 and 2016.

STAMP IN HONOUR OF MARSHAL ARJAN SINGH

A commemorative stamp was released in honour of Marshal of the Indian Air Force late Arjan Singh. He served as the Chief of Indian Air Force from August 1964 to July 1969. He remains the only officer of the IAF to be given a Five-Star rank.

WORLD’s MOST POWERFUL MISSILE

China unveiled the Dongfeng-41 (DF-41) intercontinental-range ballistic missile, touted to be the most powerful missile on the planet. It has a strike range of up to 15,000 kilometres, within 30 minutes, more than any other missile on Earth. It also displayed new stealth DR-8 drones that are able to fly up to five times the speed of sound.

SATURN HAS HIGHEST NUMBER OF MOONS

A team of astronomers from USA discovered 20 previously unknown moons of ringed planet Saturn, boosting the tally of known satellites to 82 — three more than Jupiter. The moons were discovered using the Subaru telescope on Mauna Kea, Hawaii. All 20 moons are tiny, measuring about 5 kilometers across. Seventeen of them have retrograde orbits, meaning they move around Saturn in the opposite direction to the planet’s rotation. The other 3 orbit in a prograde direction, same direction as Saturn rotates.

Saturn is the second largest planet of the Solar system, having the lightest density among planets. It is predominantly composed of Hydrogen and Helium gases. If a spacecraft attempted to touch down on Saturn, it would never find solid ground.

FIRST WOMAN DUO TO CARRY SPACEWALK

The two US astronauts Christina Koch and Jessica Meir became the first all-woman pair to carry out a spacewalk on Oct 18. The duo worked for 7 hrs 17 minutes to replace a faulty battery charge/discharge unit used for storing solar energy for the International Space Station-ISS. The ISS is a joint project of space agencies of five nations launched way back in November 1998. The space lab orbits the earth every 92 minutes at an average height of around 400 km above the Earth.

LOUDEST SOUNDING BIRD DISCOVERED

As per a study published in the USA’s prestigious journal ‘Current Biology’, the male white bellbird is the world’s loudest bird whose shrieks can hit 125.4 decibels, as loud as the hooting siren of an ambulance. It was recorded by biologists in Brazil in the mountains of the northern Amazon. The call by the bird is made as part of their mating rituals and it’s mating call is about three times louder than screaming phias.

Japan launched an unmanned H-2B rocket to carry cargo vessel Kounotori-8 to deliver about 5.3 tonnes of supplies to astronauts at the International Space Station.

NASA and the International Astronomical Union named a minor planet discovered 13 years ago, after the great Indian classical singer Pandit Jasraj. He is the first Indian artist to receive this honour.

AEWC NETRA INDUCTED IN AIR FORCE

The DRDO handed over the second Airborne Early Warning and Control (AEWC) aircraft - ‘Netra’ to the Indian Air Force. It is useful for surveillance, tracking, identification and classification of airborne and sea surface targets and is useful in detecting incoming ballistic missile threats.
INS KHANDERI JOINS INDIAN NAVY

India’s second Scorpene-class attack submarine INS Khanderi was commissioned into the Indian Navy on September 28, at Mumbai. The diesel-electric submarine has been manufactured by Mazagon Dock Shipbuilders, Mumbai.

"ARRESTED LANDING" DONE BY TEJAS

In a major milestone in the development of a naval version of the Tejas aircraft, the Indian Navy successfully carried out the first ever "arrested landing"— a key performance demonstrating its ability to land on board an aircraft carrier. The test was carried out at the INS Hansa in Goa. The Indian Air Force has already inducted a batch of Tejas aircraft.

ICGS 'VARAHA' INDUCTED IN COAST GUARD

The Indian Coast Guard commissioned the offshore patrol vessel (OPV) ‘Varaha’ at the Chennai Port Trust. It also has some of the most advanced sensors and machinery as well as a 33-millimetre (mm) gun. Built indigenously by Larsen and Toubro, the ship will be based at New Mangalore.

NAVY’s BIGGEST DRY DOCK INAUGURATED

The Indian Navy’s biggest dry dock with capacity for accommodating even an aircraft carrier, was inaugurated in Mumbai. Built at a cost of Rs 1,000 crore, it can accommodate India’s aircraft carriers INS Vikramaditya and the under-construction INS Vikrant. Dry docks are mainly used for the repair and maintenance of ships.

AH-64E APACHE HELICOPTERS JOIN AIR FORCE

In a major boost to India’s air defence capabilities, the Indian Air Force (IAF) inducted eight AH-64E Apache helicopters at the Pathankot Air Base in Punjab. Apache is the most advanced attack helicopter in the world.

FIRST BATCH OF WOMEN SOLDIERS

The Indian Army has announced that the first batch of 100 women soldiers in the Army is likely to be commissioned by March 2021. They will be commissioned into the Corps of Military Police to take up the duties of policing cantonments and other Army establishments.

Wing Commander Shalija Dhami became the first female officer in the country to become Flight Commander of a flying unit. She will head a Chetak helicopter unit at Hindon airbase, UP, near Delhi.

- The Indian Air Force (IAF) recreated its 17 Squadron ‘Golden Arrows’ based at the Air Force Station Ambala Cantt, Haryana. It will operate the first squadron of Rafale fighter jets in the near future.
- The DRDO successfully flight tested indigenously developed Man Portable Anti-tank Guided Missile (MPATGM) in Kurnool, Andhra Pradesh.
- A multilateral military exercise TSENTR 2019 was held in Central Russia from September 9-23. Apart from several neighbouring countries of Russia, contingents from India, China and Pakistan took part in the exercise.
- India and Thailand conducted Joint Military Exercise MAITREE-2019 at Foreign Training Node, Umroi (Meghalaya) from 16-29 Sep 2019.
- The Indian Army conducted a massive rare exercise ‘Chang Thang’ in Eastern Ladakh bordering China.
- A naval exercise SITMEX was held near Port Blair, involving navies of Singapore, Thailand and India to enhance the overall maritime security in the region.
- SLINEX 2019: The annual Joint Indo-Lanka maritime fleet exercise was held off the coast of Visakhapatnam, Andhra Pradesh.
- Exercise “Yudh Abhyas 2019” was held between army units of India and USA at Joint Base Lewis McChord, Washington, in the far north west USA from 05-18 September.
**DRONES TO MAP THE COUNTRY**

The Survey of India, the country’s official mapping agency, has decided to use, for the first time, drones to map the country. The mapping will create high-resolution maps of the land in villages facilitating the digitisation of land titles in villages.

**JOLT TO CHANDRAYAAN 2 MISSION**

In a major setback to India’s Chandrayaan 2 mission, the lander Vikram lost contact with the command center just minutes before its planned softlanding near the moon’s South Pole in the wee hours of Sep 7. The lander’s normal performance was observed up to an altitude of 2.1 km from the moon's surface. However, since the orbiter is still functioning normally, 90 percent of mission is still safe. The Rs 978 crore Chandrayaan-2 mission was launched on July 22. On September 2, Vikram separated from the orbiter. It was expected programmed to launch rover “Pragyan” - the 6 wheeled robotic vehicle on to the surface of Moon for conducting various experiments.

**‘SAMUDRAYAAN’ TO STUDY DEEP OCEAN**

India’s is planning to explore the deep sea region with the ‘Samudrayaan’ project by 2021-22. The project undertaken by the National Institute of Ocean Technology proposes to send men into the deep sea in a submersible vehicle for conducting ocean studies.

**LARGEST FLYING BIRD REMAINS DISCOVERED**

Paleontologists have identified a new species, named Cryodrakon Boreas, and declared that it could be one of the largest flying animals that lived some 77 million years ago in what is western Canada today. With a wingspan of over 10 metres, it is believed to have flown over the heads of dinosaurs.

**Indian Institute of Petroleum has set up a plant in Dehradun that can turn plastic waste into diesel. The plant has the capacity to produce 800-litre diesel from one tonne of plastic.**

**CHIEF OF DEFENCE STAFF FOR ARMED FORCES**

The Prime Minister in his Independence Day speech announced that the country will now have a Chief of Defence Staff, CDS, who will ensure synergy among the three Services and provide effective leadership to them. The CDS coordinates the three services during the war, emergency situations or anything crucial.

**NAVY GETS LANDING CRAFT UTILITY SHIP**

Indigenously built INS LCU L-56, the sixth of the Landing Craft Utility (LCU) MK IV class ships, was commissioned into the Indian Navy at Visakhapatnam, Andhra Pradesh. This is the 100th ship built by the Garden Reach Shipbuilders and Engineers, Kolkata.

**ARMY SIGNS MoU WITH TATA HOUSING**

The Indian Army and Tata Realty & Housing signed a Memorandum of Understanding as per which the Indian Army personnel will immediately take over dwelling units in 13 ‘Ready to Move in’ pan-India projects of Tata Realty across 10 cities including Gurugram, Chennai, Bengaluru and Pune at a discount from 11%-27%.

**R-27 AIR-TO-AIR MISSILES FROM RUSSIA**

India has signed a deal worth around Rs 1,500 crore to acquire R-27 air-to-air missiles from Russia. These missiles will be loaded on the Su-30MKI combat aircraft. The R-27 missile is a medium-to-long-range air-to-air missile having a strike range of 60 to 110 kms with hypersonic speed of 4.5 mach.

**FIRST WINGSUIT SKYDIVE JUMP**

Wing Commander Tarun Chaudhri has become the first Indian Air Force pilot to perform a wingsuit skydive jump. The jump was accomplished from a Mi-17 helicopter from an altitude of 8,500 feet during the Kargil Diwas celebrations at Air Force Station in Jodhpur, Rajasthan.
ARMY SCOUT MASTERS COMPETITION
The 5th International Army Scout Masters Competition was held at Jaisalmer, Rajasthan from July 24 to August 17. The show facilitated sharing of best practices and developed military and technical cooperation between the participating nations.

RUSSIA LAUNCHED HUMANOID ASTRO ROBOT
Russia launched an unmanned rocket carrying a life-size humanoid robot named Fedor (Final Experimental Demonstration Object Research) that will work with astronauts in the International Space station. It is a silvery anthropomorphic robot that stands 5 foot 11 inches tall and weighs 160 kilogrammes.

THINNEST EVER GOLD CREATED
Scientists at the University of Leeds, UK have created a new form of gold which is just two atoms thick – the thinnest unsupported gold ever created, measuring just 0.47 nanometres – one million times thinner than a human fingernail. It could have wide-scale applications in the medical device and electronics industries, and also as a catalyst to speed up chemical reactions in a range of industrial processes.

18th NAM SUMMIT HELD IN BAKU
The Non-Aligned Movement (NAM) Summit was held on 25-26 October in Baku, capital of Azerbaijan. The Non-Alignment Movement was founded in 1961 in Belgrade, Yugoslavia. India is a founding member of the NAM summit. 120 countries that are not formally aligned with or against any major power bloc are members of NAM.

S. ARABIA ALLOWS WOMEN IN ARMED FORCES
In a series of measures aimed at increasing the rights of women in Saudi Arabia, the latest is the announcement made on Oct 9 to allow women in the kingdom to serve in the armed forces. Saudi Arabia, the world’s largest crude exporter, is pushing to improve its image and attract tourists as part of a plan to diversify its economy away from oil.

UNICEF TO ACCEPT CRYPTOCURRENCY
United Nations Children’s Fund (UNICEF) has become the first UN organisation to transact in cryptocurrency as it decided to receive and disburse donations in cryptocurrency through the newly launched UNICEF Cryptocurrency Fund. UNICEF will be carrying out transactions on Ether and Bitcoin platforms.

UNICEF works in over 190 countries and territories to save children’s lives, to defend their rights, and to help them fulfil their potential, from early childhood through adolescence. It was formed on 11 December, 1946, with headquarters in New York, USA. Its current President is Omar Hilale, a senior diplomat from Morocco.

Cryptocurrency is a digital currency in which encryption techniques are used to regulate the generation of units of currency and verify the transfer of funds, operating independently of a central bank. Decentralized cryptocurrencies such as Bitcoin now provide an outlet for personal wealth that is beyond restriction and confiscation. However, most countries still do not recognise cryptocurrencies.
PEOPLE’s REPUBLIC OF CHINA TURNS 70

China celebrated on Oct 01 its 70th anniversary of the founding of the People’s Republic of China (PRC) with a massive military parade, showcasing its most advanced weapons, missiles and fighter aircrafts. It was China’s most important and high-profile event of the year.

On 1st October 1949, Mao Zedong - or Chairman Mao - announced the formation of the PRC, after communist forces won a bloody civil war against the Nationalist Government.

WORLD’s LONGEST NONSTOP FLIGHT

A Qantas flight QF7879 took 19 hours and 16 minutes to fly direct non-stop from New York to Sydney, covering 16,200 km, creating a record for the longest non-stop flight. Quantas is the national airline of Australia and is the largest airline of the world in terms of fleet size.

- UAE announced the establishment of Mohamed bin Zayed University of Artificial Intelligence in Abu Dhabi. This is the first graduate-level, research-based AI university in the world.

SEPTEMBER

GLOBAL PROTESTS AGAINST CLIMATE CHANGE

Millions of people around the world held a global climate strike on Sep 20, inspired by Swedish student activist Greta Thunberg. Protesters across continents waved placards and chanted slogans in what could be the biggest ever demonstration over global warming caused by humans.

It comes ahead of a UN climate summit on Sep 23 in Manhattan. Ms Thunberg first started skipping school to protest against inaction on climate change in 2018. Her actions have inspired schoolchildren and adults around the world to take up the fight.

FRANCE TO DOWNSIZE PARLIAMENT BY 25%

France has decided to reduce the country’s parliament by 25 per cent as part of an overhaul of the country’s institutions. As a result, the number of seats in the lower house of parliament, the National Assembly, will be reduced to 433 from 577ent. The Senate would go down from 348 to 261 members.

THOMAS COOK ENDS ITS JOURNEY

The world’s oldest travel firm Thomas Cook UK collapsed (declared bankrupt) on Sep 23, stranding hundreds of thousands of holidaymakers around the globe. The tour operator's failure puts 22,000 jobs at risk worldwide.

One major factor stated behind failure is that now-a-days anybody can easily play the role of travel agent due to easy online access to availability of all the airline seats, availability of hotel beds, various tariffs, car rentals etc. They can put things together themselves, thereby sidelining the travel agents.

EXTRADITION BILL WITHDRAWN IN HK

Hong Kong’s Chief Executive Carrie Lam announced on Sep 4 the scrapping of an extradition bill that triggered months of unrest and threw the Chinese-ruled city into its worst crisis in decades. The protests against the bill in the former British colony began in March but snowballed in June and have since evolved into a push for greater democracy. The bill would have allowed extraditions to mainland China where courts are controlled by the Communist Party.

JAPAN TO START POLICING OF EAST CHINA SEA

Japan has decided to launch a special police unit equipped with submachine guns and helicopters to patrol disputed isles in the East China Sea. The uninhabited islets are at the centre of a festering row between Tokyo and Beijing, considering instances of illegal landings on remote islands by armed groups.
USA TO HAVE ‘SPACE FORCE’
The U.S. President announced the formation of “Space Command” or SpaceCom, a force that will combine skills and assets from all U.S. military branches. It would be a new, sixth branch of the U.S. armed forces. Although there is already an Air Force focused on space warfare, the new command will be developing specialised systems and preparation for “Star Wars”-type showdowns.

ABU DHABI HOSTS WORLD ENERGY CONGRESS
The 24th World Energy Congress was held in Abu Dhabi, UAE from Sep 9 to 12. The Congress brought together international energy stakeholders, including governments, private and state corporations, academia and the media, from around the world.

S. ASIA’s TALLEST TV TOWER IN COLOMBO
South Asia’s tallest tower, standing 350 meter high ‘Lotus Tower’ was thrown open to public in Colombo, Sri Lanka. Costing over $100 million, 80% of which has been funded by China under the controversial Belt and Road Initiative, the tower comprises of a television tower, a hotel, a telecommunications museum, restaurants, auditorium, an observation deck, a shopping mall and a conference centre.

PLAIN CIGARETTE PACKAGING IN THAILAND
Thailand became the first Asian nation to unveil plain cigarette packaging to reduce the appeal of smoking and to comply with the WHO guidelines. In 2012, Australia became the first country to require tobacco products to be sold without colourful brand logos to discourage their consumption.

JAIPUR LITERATURE FESTIVAL IN USA
The second edition of the Jaipur Literature Festival (JLF) was held in Houston, USA from September 13-14 as part of the larger umbrella of the literary event in the US. Hailed as one of the greatest literary shows globally, the JLF after Houston was held in New York from September 17-18 and in Colorado from Sept. 21-22.

TOKYO RANKED AS SAFEST CITY
According to a report of the Economist Intelligence Unit, London, the “Safe Cities Index (SCI) 2019” ranked Tokyo at the top spot, while Singapore and Osaka came 2nd and 3rd in the list. The Index ranks 60 countries worldwide and measures the multi-faceted nature of urban safety, with parameters categorised as digital, infrastructure, health and personal security. In India, Mumbai has been ranked as the 45th while Delhi stood at the 52nd position.

- Saint Vincent and the Grenadines became the 79th country to join the International Solar Alliance (ISA), an initiative by India aimed at combating the threats of climate change and global warming. The ISA is a group of 121 solar resource-rich countries located between the tropics, and has its headquarters in Gurugram (Haryana), India.
- Indonesia’s president announced that the country’s capital will move from overcrowded, sinking and polluted Jakarta to a site in sparsely populated East Kalimantan province on Borneo island.

AUGUST
BRAZIL SUFFERS WORST EVER WILDFIRES
Hundreds of wildfires flared up in the rain forests of the Amazon in Brazil. The government has deployed huge military cargo aircraft to dump water over hard-hit areas. Smoke choked Port Velho city as fires raged in the northwestern state of Rondonia. Widespread fires are devouring large chunks of world’s largest rain-forest, which is seen as crucial to keeping climate change in check as it contributes roughly 20 percent of world’s total Oxygen. It (Amazon forests) is often referred to as the “Lungs of the Earth”
PAKISTAN BLACKLISTED BY FATF
Pakistan has been placed on the blacklist of the Financial Action Task Force’s (Paris) Asia Pacific Group for non-compliance and non-enforcement of safeguards against terror financing and money laundering. Now, this will make it difficult for Pakistan to receive financial aid from various international agencies such as World Bank, IMF, ADB, etc. Of total 40 parameters set by the regional grouping, Pakistan failed on around 36, while it passed on only one of the total 11 ‘effectiveness’ parameters.

BANGLADESH ATTACKED BY DENGUE
The Bangladesh suffered widespread outbreak of Dengue as the number of people infected with dengue this year reached almost 25,000 across the country by the first week of August. The disease claimed several lives in the country. Government has made extensive arrangements to cope up with the calamity.

LONDON IS THE BEST CITY FOR STUDENTS
The QS Best Student Cities Ranking compiled by the London based global education consultancy QS-Quacquarelli Symonds has ranked London as the world’s best city for students for the 2nd consecutive year, beating Tokyo and Melbourne that came 2nd and 3rd, respectively.

BURQA/NIQAB BANNED BY NETHERLANDS
The Netherlands banned face-covering clothing, such as a burqa or niqab, in public buildings and on transport as a contentious law on the garment came into force. The law also applies to other face coverings such as full-face helmets, balaclavas or ski mask.

SAUDI WOMEN ALLOWED FREE MOVEMENT
Saudi Arabia passed new laws to remove age old restrictions on independent movement of women. Now Saudi women will be allowed to obtain passports and travel abroad without approval from a male "guardian". The new changes are part of a modernization drive initiated by Saudi Arabia’s liberal Crown Prince Mohammed bin Salman.

PERSONS IN NEWS

OCTOBER

Narendra Modi: The Prime Minister has become the world’s most-followed leader on Instagram with more than 30 million followers. He left behind all the celebrities and world leaders in terms of number of followers on Instagram.

Deepika Padukon & PV Sindhu: Bollywood actress and badminton star were named the ambassadors for Bharat Ki Laxmi, an initiative by Prime Minister Modi. The aim of this initiative is to celebrate the contribution & accomplishments of women of the nation for the public good. The hashtag for the initiative is #BharatKiLaxmi.

Saint Mariam Thresia: Indian nun and four others were declared Saints by Pope Francis at a grand canonisation ceremony at the Vatican City. Born on April 26, 1876, she founded the Congregation of the Sisters of the Holy Family in Thrissur in May 1914. She was declared venerable on June 28, 1999, and beatified or Blessed on April 9, 2000, by Pope St John Paul II in Rome. She left for heavenly abode on June 8, 1926. According to Christian belief, a saint is a person in heaven who intervenes for the faithful with God. A canonisation is an official act with the Roman Catholic Church or Eastern Orthodox churches, which declares one of their deceased faithful, who led a life of sanctity or shed blood for the faith, a saint worthy of being venerated. The miracle attributed to Thresia is that “she saved the life of a baby born prematurely in Amala Hospital in Thrissur in 2009”.

SEPTEMBER

Narendra Modi: Indian Prime Minister crossed the mark of 50 million followers on his twitter account, becoming the third most followed world leader after Barack Obama (108.2 million) and Donald Trump (64 million).
Rajnath Singh: The Defence Minister on Sep 19 flew in the Tejas fighter aircraft from the HAL airport in Bengaluru, becoming the first defence minister to fly in the indigenously-built light combat aircraft (LCA). He was accompanied by Air Vice Marshal N Tiwari.

Wing Commander Anjali Singh: She became India’s first female military diplomat to be posted in any of the Indian missions abroad. A trained MiG-29 fighter aircraft pilot, she joined the Indian Embassy in Russia as the Deputy Air Attache.

Rohit Sharma: Indian Cricket team vice-captain launched “Rohit4Rhinos” campaign, in partnership with WWF India and Animal Planet to build awareness for the need to conserve the Greater One-Horned Rhinoceros or the Indian Rhino. It is listed as Vulnerable on the IUCN Red List. The state animal of Assam, Indian rhino faces several threats, including poaching, habitat loss and mass mortality from in-breeding and disease.

Jack Ma: Founder of Chinese e-commerce giant - Alibaba, stepped down as chairman of the world’s biggest e-commerce company on Sep 10, his 55th birthday. This was as per his succession plan announced a year ago.

Greta Thunberg: Teenage climate campaigner school girl from Sweden sailed from Plymouth in the UK to New York on a zero-emissions yacht in order to minimize the carbon footprint of her travel. Later she addressed the participants of the Climate Action Summit in the UN General Assembly.

Sarah Thomas: American breast cancer survivor became the first person to swim across the English Channel four times in a non-stop 54-hour feat of endurance. She was diagnosed with cancer a year ago.

Justice Madan B Lokur: Retired Supreme Court judge has been appointed a judge of the nonresident panel of the Supreme Court of Fiji, a tiny island nation in the South Pacific Ocean. This is a rare honour for the Indian judiciary. He will hold office for three years.

Akshay Kumar: As per Forbes’ list of highest-paid actors, Bollywood star secured the fourth position with earnings of $65 million (about Rs 450 crore). He is the only Bollywood actor to figure in the list. Dwayne Johnson of Hollywood (popularly known as The Rock) topped the list with earnings of $ 89.4 million, from June 1, 2018 to June 1, 2019.

Scarlett Johansson: Hollywood star has topped the Forbes’ list of highest-paid female actors in the world. Spurred by the success of her summer Marvel film Avengers: Endgame, the 34-year-old actor’s earnings reached $ 56 million.

Taylor Swift: As per the Forbes list of highest paid women in music, the 29 year old American singer has been ranked at the top, with earnings of $ 185 million (over Rs 1,300 crore).
5 STATES GET NEW GOVERNORS

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<tr>
<td>Maharashtra</td>
<td>Bhagat Singh Koshiyari (Former Uttarakhand CM)</td>
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<td>Kerala</td>
<td>Arif Mohammed Khan (Former Union Minister)</td>
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<td>Himachal Pradesh</td>
<td>Bandaru Dattatreya (Former Union Minister)</td>
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<td>Rajasthan</td>
<td>Kalraj Mishra (Former Governor of HP)</td>
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<td>Telangana</td>
<td>Dr Ms. T Soundararajan (Former Tamil Nadu BJP chief)</td>
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Air Marshal Rakesh Kumar Singh Bhadauria will be the next chief of Indian Air force w.e.f Sep 30, 2019 in the rank of Air Chief Marshal.

Pradeep Kumar Sinha: Appointed as the Principal Advisor to Prime Minister. He is a former Cabinet Secretary.

Dr. Pramod Kumar Mishra: Appointed as the Principal Secretary to the Prime Minister

V K John: Senior IPS officer appointed as the new Director General of the Border Security Force (BSF)

Sunit Arora: India’s Chief Election Commissioner elected as the Chairman of Association of World Election Bodies (AWEB) for the term 2019-21. AWEB is a global body of Election organisations of the world, based in Song-do, South Korea.

Kristalina Georgieva: Noted economist from Bulgaria has been selected as the new head of the International Monetary Fund (IMF). A former chief executive of the World Bank, she succeeds Christine Lagarde as Managing Director for a five-year term from October this year.

AWARDS & HONOURS

OCTOBER

The 31st Indira Gandhi Award for National Integration- 2017 and 2018
Awarded to the pioneer of the Chipko Movement in Uttarakhand, Chandi Prasad Bhatt for his services in promoting and preserving the national integration. He has also received the Ramon Magsaysay award, Padma Shri, Padma Bhushan and the Gandhi Peace Prize. The award constituted by the Indian National Congress consists of a citation and a cash prize of Rs 10 lakh. It is given on October 31, the death anniversary of former Prime Minister Indira Gandhi.

Sachin Tendulkar: Former Indian cricketer selected as the most effective Swachata Ambassador.

India’s Most Powerful Women in Media: Kallie Puri, Vice-Chairperson of the India Today Group, received this prestigious award in British Parliament.

Saraswati Samman - 2018: Won by famous Telugu poet K Siva Reddy for his collection of poems “Pakkaki Ottigilite”.

Kavitha Gopal has become the first girl student of IIT Madras, in its history of 60 years, to be honoured with the President of India Gold Medal for outstanding academic performance.

The Vayoshreshtha Samman 2019
President conferred The Vayoshreshtha Samman 2019 on eminent senior citizens on Oct 3. The awards have been instituted by the Social Justice and Empowerment Ministry, having status of National Awards, for individuals/institutions involved in rendering distinguished service for the cause of elderly persons. These awards are presented as part of the celebration of the International Day of Older Persons on 1st October.
Changemaker Award 2019: Payal Jangid, 17 year old girl from Rajasthan became the first Indian to receive this award at the Goalkeepers Global Goals Awards 2019 for her continuous dedication towards the abolition of child marriage in her village. The award is given by the Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation, USA.

NOBEL PRIZES - 2019

ALFRED NOBEL, a famous scientist, inventor, businessman and founder of the Nobel Prizes was born on October 21, 1833 in Stockholm, Sweden. He died in San Remo, Italy on December 10, 1896.

In his last will and testament, he wrote that much of his fortune should be used to give prizes to those who have done their best for humanity in the field of physics, chemistry, physiology or medicine, literature and peace.

The Nobel Prize amount for 2019 is set at Swedish Kronor 9.0 million (about Rs 7 crore) for one full Nobel Prize.

Nobel Prize 2019 in Physiology/Medicine
Awarded jointly to William G. Kaelin Jr, Sir Peter J. Ratcliffe and Gregg L. Semenza “for their discoveries of how cells sense and adapt to oxygen availability. Kaelin is cancer expert from Harvard Medical School, USA. Ratcliffe is a cancer specialist from UK, and Semenza is professor from Johns Hopkins Institute for Cell Engineering, Baltimore, USA.

The prize is decided by the Nobel Assembly, consisting of 50 senior professors at Karolinska Institute, a top university of medical science in Stockholmes, Sweden.

Nobel Prize 2019 for Chemistry
Scientists John Goodenough, Stanley Whittingham, both from the USA, and Akira Yoshino from Japan, won the Nobel Prize for Chemistry in equal share for the development of lithium-ion batteries, an important technology in enabling the world to move away from fossil fuels. The advantage of lithium-ion batteries is that they are not based upon chemical reactions that break down the electrodes, instead they work upon lithium ions flowing back and forth between the anode and cathode, enabling hundreds of recharging cycles. Whittingham developed the first functional lithium battery in the early 1970s. Goodenough doubled the battery’s potential in the following decade and Yoshino eliminated pure lithium from the battery, making it much safer to use.

This prize is decided by the Royal Swedish Academy of Sciences, Stockholm, Sweden. Goodenough, at 97, became the oldest winner of a Nobel Prize.

The Nobel Prize in Literature - 2019
Austria’s Peter Handke won the prize “for an influential work that with linguistic ingenuity has explored the periphery and the specificity of human experience”. His bibliography contains novels, essays, note books, dramatic works and screenplays. Handke is known to pay extra attention to landscapes and all the material presence and cinema and painting have been his biggest inspiration. The award is decided by the Swedish Academy, Stockholm, Sweden.

The Nobel Prize in Literature - 2018
Awarded to the Polish author Olga Tokarczuk “for a narrative imagination that with encyclopedic passion represents the crossing of boundaries as a form of life.” This award was not declared in 2018 due to some internal issues at the Swedish Academy. Tokarczuk is popularly known to view reality as something that is not stable or everlasting. Her novels are also based on cultural opposites such as male vs female, nature versus culture, reason versus madness and home versus alienation. Her best work so far has been a historical novel - ‘Księgi Jakubowe’, which was published in 2014. The novel showcases something beyond human understanding.

Nobel Prize for Economics
The Royal Swedish Academy of Sciences decided to award the Sveriges Riksbank Prize in Economic Sciences in Memory of Alfred Nobel 2019 to Abhijit Banerjee and his wife Esther Duflo, both from the Massachusetts Institute of Technology, Cambridge, USA and Michael Kremer, Harvard University, Cambridge, USA for their experimental approach to alleviating global poverty. They have introduced a new approach to obtaining reliable answers about the best ways to fight global poverty.
Banerjee is an Indian-American economist, born in Kolkata and a postgraduate in Economics from JNU, New Delhi, in 1983. Later, he did his PhD from Harvard University in 1988.

This award was not mentioned in the will of Alfred Nobel. The prize was established in 1968 by a donation from Sweden’s central bank Sveriges Riksbank to the Nobel Foundation to commemorate the bank’s 300th anniversary. However, it is administered and referred to along with the Nobel Prizes by the Nobel Foundation.

Nobel Peace Prize-2019: Ethiopian Prime Minister Abiy Ahmed Ali was selected for the prestigious prize for his efforts to achieve peace and international cooperation, and in particular for his decisive initiative to resolve the border conflict with neighbouring Eritrea.

This year’s prize is also the 100th Nobel Peace Prize. The Nobel Peace Prize is decided by a five member Nobel committee appointed by the Parliament of Norway on the basis of nominations received. Unlike other Nobel prizes, the Peace prize is not given in Stockholm, instead, it is delivered in Oslo, capital of Norway, by the Chairman of the Norwegian Nobel Committee on Dec 10.

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Sakharov Prize: Awarded by the European Parliament to Uighur intellectual Ilham Tohti for his attempts to “foster dialogue” between Chinese people and the Uighur. Tohti has been a fierce critic of China’s treatment of the Uighur people and has been sentenced to life imprisonment in China for “separatism”.

Booker Prize-2019: Prestigious literary prize was awarded jointly to Margaret Atwood for her novel ‘The Testament’ and Bernardine Evaristo for her novel ‘Girl, Woman, Other’. As a rule, booker prize is not given to two persons but the jury this time decided to flout the rules by declaring both the novels equally good. The GBP 50,000 award will be split equally among the two winners.

Atwood is a Canadian poet, novelist, literary critic, essayist, inventor, teacher, and environmental activist. She has published 17 books of poetry, 16 novels, 10 non-fiction books, eight collections of short fiction, eight children’s books, and one graphic novel, as well as a number of small press editions in poetry and fiction.

Evaristo is a British author of eight works of fiction. Her writing also includes short fiction, drama, poetry, essays, literary criticism, and projects for stage and radio. She is the first black woman to win this prize.

SEPTEMBER

Global Goalkeeper Award: Prime Minister Narendra Modi will be honoured with a special award by Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation, USA for his outstanding work in the Swachh Bharat Abhiyan. The award will be given in the USA.

Dada Saheb Phalke Award: Veteran actor Amitabh Bachchan has been named for this most prestigious award for his outstanding contribution to the Indian film industry. This is the highest award conferred by the Government for outstanding contribution to the growth and development of Indian Cinema. It consists of a Swarn Kamal and a cash prize of ten lakh rupees.

The SASTRA Ramanujan Prize-2019: Awarded to Adam Harper, an Assistant Professor with the University of Warwick, England. The prize is conferred annually on mathematicians from across the world who is less than 32 years of age and working in an area influenced by the genius Srinivasa Ramanujan. The prize carries a citation and an award of $10,000.

The 20th IIFA (International Indian Film Academy) Awards ceremony was held on Sep 18 for the first time in India, in Mumbai.

Best Actor (Male): Ranveer Singh for Padmaavaat
Best Actor (Female): Alia Bhatt for Raazi
Best Film: Raazi by Meghna Gulzar
Best Director: Sriram Raghavan for Andhadhun
Lifetime Achievement Award: Legendary actor and comedian Jagdeep Jaffery

SKOCH Governance Gold Award: Presented to Deendayal Antyodaya Yojana-National Urban Livelihoods Mission (DAY-NULM) for its initiative “Portal for Affordable Credit and Interest Subvention Access (PAiSA)”. DAY-NULM is a flagship mission under the Ministry of Housing and Urban Affairs.

Magnificent Performing Arts Award: Given to popular Bollywood playback singer Sonu Nigam in London.

1st Gauri Lankesh National Award for Journalism: Given to senior TV journalist Ravish Kumar

Eminent Engineers Award: Vinod Kumar Yadav, Chairman of Railway Board was felicitated with this award on the occasion of the 52nd Engineers’ Day.

Dr Kalam Smriti International Excellence Award-2019: Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina of Bangladesh was conferred this award in Dhaka. The award has been instituted in the memory of former Indian President Dr. A.P.J. Abdul Kalam.
Breakthrough Prize 2020
Popularly known as the “Oscars of science”, they are awarded by the US based Breakthrough Prize Foundation, every year, in three fields for disciplines that ask the biggest questions and seek the deepest explanations. Considered as the world’s most generous science prize, each Breakthrough Prize carries an award of $3 million.

**Fundamental Physics:** Awarded to 347 Members of the Event Horizon Telescope Collaboration who collectively produced the world’s first image of a black hole.

**Life Sciences (4):** Awarded to Jeffrey M. Friedman, F. Ulrich Hartl and Arthur L. Horwich, David Julius, and Virginia Man-Yee Lee, each for different achievements.

**Mathematics:** Awarded to Alex Eskin, University of Chicago, USA, for revolutionary discoveries in the dynamics and geometry of moduli spaces of Abelian differentials.

**Right Livelihood Award 2019:** Conferred upon Swedish teenage climate activist Greta Thunberg for her activism against climate change. Besides her, three more persons were given the award.

**AUGUST**

**Vir Chakra:** India’s third highest wartime gallantry award was conferred upon Wing Commander Abhinandan Varthaman who became the face of a tense military confrontation between India and Pakistan when he downed an F-16 fighter of Pakistan on Feb. 27 in a straight dog fight in which his MiG-21 was shot down and he was captured by the Pakistani forces, though released later.

**The 66th National Film Awards** were announced on August 9 by the jury headed by veteran film director Rahul Rawail. The awards are given in 31 categories. The award for most film friendly state was given to Uttarakhand.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Best Feature Film</th>
<th>Hellaro, a Gujarati film directed by Abhishek Shah</th>
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<td>Best Popular Film</td>
<td>Badhaai Ho by Amit Sharma</td>
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<td>Best Film on Social Issues</td>
<td>Padman by R Balki</td>
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<td>Best Director</td>
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<td>Best Actor</td>
<td>Ayushmann Khuranna for Andhadhun and Vicky Kaushal for Uri : The Surgical Strike</td>
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<tr>
<td>Best Actress</td>
<td>Keerthy Suresh for Mahanati (Telugu and Tamil)</td>
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**Right Livelihood Award 2019**

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The Indian team created history by winning one gold, one silver and two bronze medals at the 45th World Skills 2019 competition in Kazan, Russia. It is the world championship of vocational skills, held every two years.

**Miss England-2019:** Bhasha Mukherjee, an Indian-origin doctor won the title in a pageant held in London.

**Miss World Diversity 2019:** Naaz Joshi, India’s transsexual woman won the crown at a pageant held in Port Louis, Mauritius.

**BOOKS & AUTHORS**

**OCTOBER**

**Mind Master: Winning Lessons from a Champion’s Life** by Viswanathan Anand, India’s veteran Chess star

**Bridgital Nation: Solving Technology’s People Problem** by N. Chandrasekaran (Chairman, Tata Sons), Roopa Purushothaman (Author)

**150 Years of Celebrating the Mahatma—the South African Legacy**’ by Fakir Hassen

**Reset: Regaining India’s Economic Legacy** by Subramanian Swamy, BJP MP

**The Tech Whisperer** by Jaspreet Bindra, noted digital transformation expert

**Ducks, Newburyport** by Lucy Ellmann

**An Orchestra of Minorities** by Chigozie Obioma

**10 Minutes 38 Seconds in this Strange World** by Elif Shafak

**Quichotte** by Salman Rushdie
SEPTEMBER

**Being Gandhi** by Paro Anand

**Savarkar: Echoes from a forgotten past** by Vikram Sampath, noted historian

**Loktantra Ke Swar and The Republican Ethic** : Both the books are a compilation of speeches of the President Ram Nath Kovind

**A Short History of Indian Railways** by Rajendra B Aklekar.

**India’s Lost Frontier** by Raghvendra Singh, veteran civil servant

**The Testaments** by Margaret Atwood

**The Institute** by Stephen King

**Here to Stay** by Mark Edwards

**Obama: The Call of History** by Peter Baker

AUGUST

**Whispers of Time** by Dr. Krishna Saksena

**Sridevi: Girl Woman Superstar** by Satyarth Nayak

**The Diary of Manu Gandhi** by Dr Tridip Suhrud

**Big Billion Startup: The Untold Flipkart Story** by Mihir Dalal

**The Turn of the Key** by Ruth Ware

**The Art of Loving** by Erich Fromm

OCTOBER

**Viju Khote**: Veteran Hindi and Marathi actor, who feebly mouthed the iconic dialogue ‘Sardar, maine aapka namak khaya hai’ as Kaalia to Amjad Khan’s notorious Gabbar in cult classic ‘Sholay’, passed away due to multiple organ failure in Mumbai, at the age of 77.

**Subir Vithal Gokarn**: Noted economist and former RBI Deputy Governor (2009-12) passed away at the age of 60, after a brief illness. He was appointed by the government as Executive Director on the board of the International Monetary Fund (IMF) in November 2015.

**Sushma Swaraj**: Former External Affairs Minister and former Chief Minister of Delhi, one of the BJP’s most popular women leaders, passed away in New Delhi on August 6 after suffering a massive cardiac arrest. She was 67. In 1977 she became the youngest cabinet minister at the age of 25. She will always be remembered for excellent oratory skills and her eveready helpful nature. With 1.31 crore followers on Twitter, she was the most popular of women politicians.

**V G Siddhartha**: Founder of the Café Coffee Day chain, was in the news due to his mysterious suicide. His body was fished out from the backwaters of the Netravati River near Ullal, Mangalore in Karnataka, his home state. He was instrumental in popularising Indian coffee worldwide.

**Vidya Sinha**: Veteran Bollywood actress passed away after a brief lung-cum-heart disease. She was 72. She was well known for her roles in Basu Chatterjee’s film “Rajnigandha” (1974) and “Choti si Baat”.

**Ram Jethmalani**: Veteran lawyer and former Union Law Minister passed away in New Delhi at the age of 96. He fought many important cases and hit national headlines when he decided to represent the killers of former prime ministers Indira Gandhi and Rajiv Gandhi.

**Robert Mugabe**: Zimbabwe’s former president died aged 95 in Singapore, where he had often received medical treatment in recent years. He ruled the country as Prime Minister and as President for 37 long years.

**Arun Jaitley**: Former Union minister and top BJP leader passed away after prolonged illness. He was 66. He served the Vajpayee government as Minister of Information and Broadcasting and later as Law Minister, and then during 2009-2014 as the Leader of the Opposition in the Rajya Sabha. He served as Finance Minister and as Defence Minister in Modi government. A brilliant strategist and communicator with a worldview on all issues, he was among the best spokespersons in the BJP.

**Khayyam**: Veteran Bollywood composer and music director, best known for his music in classic films such as Kabhi Kabhie and Umrao Jaan, Noorie, Trishul, passed away after a prolonged illness at the age of 92. His actual name was Mohammed Zahur Hashmi and Khayyam was his popular name. He was honoured with Padma Bhushan in 2011 for his glorious contribution to Indian cinema.

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J Om Prakash: Veteran director and maternal grandfather of actor Hritik Roshan, passed away in Mumbai at the age of 93. He produced several box office hits like Ayee Milan Ki Bela, Aaye Din Bahar Ke, Aya Sawan Jhoom Ke, Aap Ki Kasam, and Aandhi.

Toni Morrison: The first Afro-American Nobel laureate in literature (1993), passed away in New York. She was the author of several novels, children’s books and essays. Her famous books include The Bluest Eye, Beloved, Paradise and Love.

Russi Taylor: The voice of Minnie Mouse since the mid-1980s, died in Glendale, California, USA. She was 75. Other prominent Disney roles assumed by her included Nurse Mouse, Donald Duck’s nephews Huey, Dewey and Louie; and characters on Disney television show like “Kim Possible” and “Buzz Lightyear of Star Command.

PLACES IN NEWS

OCTOBER

Typhoon Hagibis: A severe tropical storm made landfall on eastern face of Tokyo in Japan on October 12 as Japan’s “worst storm in sixty years”. At least 58 people were killed and many are missing.

The storm smashed outskirts of Tokyo with wind speeds up to 225km/h accompanied with very heavy rainfall flooding vast areas. More than seven million people were urged to leave their homes at the peak of the storm.

SEPTEMBER

Shri Mata Vaishno Devi Shrine

In a list released by the Department of Drinking Water and Sanitation, Ministry of Jal Shakti to select the best ‘Swachh Iconic Place’ Shri Mata Vaishno Devi Shrine near Katra in Jammu and Kashmir has been adjudged as the “Best Swachh Iconic place” in the country.

Qutb Minar, Delhi: UNESCO World Heritage Site, the historic Qutb Minar in the Mehrauli area of Delhi witnessed its 1st ever architectural LED illumination on August 31. The Minar is a 73-metre (239.5 feet) tall tapering tower of five storeys, having a spiral staircase of 379 steps inside it.

Typhoon Faxai: One of the strongest storms to hit Tokyo in the last several years, with winds of up to 210km/h. About 100 bullet trains and 100 flights were cancelled in the region paralysed by the storm.

Hurricane Dorian slammed into the Bahamas on Sep 1, the strongest on record to hit the northwestern part of the archipelago, located in southeast of Florida. The islands were smashed with torrential rains and wind gusts up to 350 km per hour.

SPORTS WORLD

OCTOBER

Priyanshu Rajawat claimed the men’s singles title at the Bahrain International Series Badminton at Isa Town, Bahrain.

Lakshya Sen clinched his maiden BWF (Badminton World Federation) World Tour title by winning the Dutch Open men’s singles at Almere in the Netherlands.

R Praggnanandhaa, the 14-year-old Grand Master from Chennai won the coveted gold in the U-18 Open category in the World Youth Chess Championships held in Mumbai.

Sumit Nagal won the men’s singles title of ATP Challenger Tournament at Buenos Aires in Argentina.

Riya Bhati won the ITF women’s tennis tournament in Lagos, Nigeria.

Para-athlete Anandan Gunasekaran won 2 gold medals at the 7th CISM World Military Games held in Wuhan, China. He won the medal in the disabled men’s 100m and 400m IT1 events.

Kaushal Dharmamer clinched the men’s singles title at the Maldives International Challenge (Badminton) in Male, the capital of the Maldives.
Deepak Punia jumped to world number one position in 86 kilogram category in the latest rankings issued by the International Wrestling Federation.

15 year old Tanishbir Sandhu won the gold in light heavyweight (80kg) category in the Asian junior boxing championship in Fujairah, UAE.

Praveen Kumar became the 1st Indian to win a gold medal at the 15th Wushu World Championships in Shanghai.

Surender Singh of India created three world records at the World Powerlifting Championship in Berlin, Germany. He bagged gold medal in 110 kg category, Classic Raw and the Best Lifter Award in Classic Raw and Single Ply.

Ronaldo Singh bagged a gold medal in the men's junior Keirin event at the Asian Track Cycling Championships held at Incheon in South Korea.

Raunak Sadhwani, 13 year old boy from Nagpur became India’s 65th GrandMaster in Chess. He crossed the required mark for achieving this feat by earning over 2500 game points.

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

N Wilson Singh and Satish Kumar Prajapati won gold medal in 10 metres platform synchronised swimming event at the 10th Asian Age Group Championships in Shanghai.

59th NATIONAL OPEN ATHLETICS CHAMPIONSHIPS

Star sprinter Dutee Chand smashed her own national record, clocking 11.22 seconds, in the women’s 100m semifinals at the 59th National Open Athletics Championships in Ranchi, Jharkhand. Later, she also won gold in finals with timings of 11.25 seconds. She also won gold in 200 m sprint and the award for best athlete. 23 year old Dutee Chand hails from Odisha.

Shot putter Tejinderpal Singh Toor, who also broke his own national record, was named the best athlete in the men’s category.

INDIA FINISHED 9th IN WORLD BOXING

Manju Rani won silver in her debut run at the women’s World boxing championships held at Ulan Ude, Russia. She lost gold to Russia’s Ekaterina Paltceva. Six-time champion M.C. Mary Kom (51kg), Jamuna Boro (54kg) and Lovlina Borgohain (69kg), each finished with bronze medals.

Mary Kom now has total 8 world championship medals, 6 gold and one silver and one bronze, highest ever among both men in women in the world.

Russia topped the medal tally with 6 medals, including 3 gold. India could secure 9th rank with 4 medals that included one silver.

India defeated Bangladesh to win the SAFF U-15 Women's Football Championship at Thimphu, Bhutan.

India defeated Bangladesh to win the SAFF Under-18 Men’s Football Championship in Kathmandu.

Vijay Hazare Trophy: Karnataka won the trophy by beating Tamil Nadu by nine wickets in the finals played at Bengaluru.

It is ‘A’ class championship approved by BCCI and is also known as One day Ranji Trophy. It is named after Vijay Hazare, a veteran allrounder from Maharashtra who played cricket for India from 1946 to 1953.

Mumbai teenager Yashasvi Jaiswal created history as he became the youngest cricketer in the world to score a double century in List A One Day cricket. The 17-year-old scored 203 off 154 balls against Jharkhand at Alur, Karnataka playing in the Vijay Hazare Trophy.

Vivo Pro Kabaddi League: Bengal Warriors won their first title by defeating Dabang Delhi in the finals played in Ahmedabad, Gujarat.

Virat Kohli on Oct 11 eclipsed legendary Sachin Tendulkar and Virender Sehwag by amassing a record seventh double hundred, the highest in Indian cricket history.

Rohit Sharma became the first player to score a century in both innings of a debut test match, scoring 176 in first inning and 127 in second inning, playing against South Africa in Visakhapatnam.

Rohit scores his maiden test double

Rohit Sharma, India’s famous ‘hitman’ scored his maiden Test double hundred (212) playing against South Africa in Ranchi, Jharkhand, thereby joining the company of Sachin Tendulkar, Sehwag and Chris Gayle as the only batsmen to score double centuries in both Tests and ODIs.

Further, with a total 19 sixes in the series, Rohit now also holds the record of most sixes in a Test series. With his double ton, Rohit’s Test average in India rose to 99.84 surpassing the 71-year-old record previously held by Sir Don Bradman (98.22) in Australia.

Harmanpreet Kaur, India’s women’s cricket captain, became India’s first cricketer (among both men and women) to play 100 T20 Internationals. She achieved this feat playing against South Africa at Surat, Gujarat.

Mithali first to complete 20 years in cricket

India women’s cricket team captain Mithali Raj became the first female player to last more than 20 years in international cricket. She achieved the feat while leading India to an emphatic eight-wicket win over South Africa in the first ODI at Vadodara on Oct 10.
36 year old Mithali made her ODI debut against Ireland on June 26, 1999. The right-handed batswoman has played 204 ODIs till now, the most by a female cricketer in the world. She also holds the world record for the highest runs in ODIs amassing 6731 runs.

ODI - One Day International.

Ganguly to head BCCI
One of India's most decorated captains, Sourav Ganguly will take over as the 39th President of the Board of Control for Cricket in India (BCCI), ending the 33-month reign of the Supreme Court-appointed Committee of Administrators (CoA).

The National Basketball Association (NBA) of USA brought to India the first-ever Floating Basketball Court in the Arabian Sea near Mumbai. The first-ever NBA game in the country was held between Sacramento Kings and Indiana Pacers on October 4 and 5 on this floating court anchored near Gateway of India in Mumbai. NBA is North America’s men’s major professional basketball league, composed of 30 teams.

INTERNATIONAL

Biles - the most decorated gymnast

Simone Biles, the 22 year old star US gymnast broke the all-time record for most international medals – 25 by any gymnast (male or female) at the world championships by securing her 18th gold by winning the floor exercise competition the World Gymnastics Championship in Stuttgart, Germany, raising her medal tally to 25 that includes 18 gold (4 from Olympics), 3 silver and 4 bronze in various events.

Kipchoge first to run under 2 hr marathon
Eliud Kipchoge of Kenya created history by finishing a marathon in less than two hours time. It is for the first time when an athlete has completed a marathon in less than two hours. He completed the 42.195 km race in 1hr 59min 40.2 sec.

Kipchoge already holds the men's world record for the marathon with a time of 2hr 01min 39sec, which he made in the flat Berlin marathon on 16 September, 2018. Earlier, he won gold in the 2016 Olympics marathon.

Japan’s Naomi Osaka won the China Open Tennis tournament held in Beijing, China.

Novak Djokovic clinched the Japan Open tennis title by defeating Australian John Millman

Lewis Hamilton of Britain won the Russian Grand Prix in Sochi for the team Mercedes.

Valtteri Bottas from Finland won the Japanese Grand Prix for team Mercedes at Suzuka circuit, Japan.

Sultan of Johor Cup: Indian hockey men’s junior team lost to Great Britain in the finals played at Johor Bahru, Malaysia on Oct 19.

Lionel Messi, Barcelona forward player from Argentina was awarded ‘European Golden Shoe’ for being the top goalscorer in league football across Europe.

ICC amends super over rule
The International Cricket Council (ICC) has changed the super over rule for all its major events following the uproar over the outcome of the men's World Cup final this year when England were declared winners against New Zealand on boundary count basis. As per new rule, if a super over ends in a tie, the super over will be repeated until one team has more runs than the other.

SEPTEMBER

Pankaj Advani clinched a record 22nd world title by winning the IBSF World Billiards Championship in Mandalay, Myanmar.

Pankaj Advani and Aditya Mehta won the IBSF World Snooker Team title at Mandalay, Myanmar, making it record 23rd world title for Pankaj.

Ronaldo Laitonjam won four gold in the Track Asia Cup cycling championship in New Delhi. Overall, India topped the medals tally, with 10 gold, 8 silver and 7 bronze.

Sourabh Verma clinched the Vietnam Open Super 100 badminton title, defeating China’s Sun Fei Xiang at the Ho Chi Minh City in Vietnam.

Kaushal Dharmamer of India clinched the Myanmar International Badminton Series beating Indonesia’s Karono Karono in Yangon, Myanmar.

Lakshya Sen stunned Victor Svendsen of Denmark to clinch men’s singles title at the Belgian International Badminton Challenge in Leuven, Belgium.

V K Vismaya clinched the gold medal in the 400m run at the Josef Seckar Memorial International Athletic Meet - in Brno, Czech Republic.

Koneru Hampi from Andhra Pradesh clinched Fide World Grand Prix (Chess) 2019 title held in Skolkovo, Russia.
Mayank Vaid became the first Indian origin person to complete Enduroman triathlon in a new record time of 50 hours and 24 minutes. 42 year old Mayank is a lawyer by profession and lives in Hong Kong. It is one of the toughest endurance competitions around the world. It starts in London with 140 km of running, followed by 34 km swimming for crossing English Channel to reach France to undertake 290 km cycling to finish the race in Paris.

WORLD WRESTLING CHAMPIONSHIPS
Indian wrestlers for the first time won five medals in the World Wrestling Championships held in Nur-Sultan, capital of Kazakhstan. Deepak Punia settled for a silver medal while four other - Rahul Aware, Bajrang Punia, Ravi Dahiya and Vinesh Phogat, won the bronze.

WORLD BOXING CHAMPIONSHIPS
Amit Panghal (52kg), Asian Games gold medallist, created history at the World Boxing Championships in Ekaterinburg, Russia by winning India's first ever silver medal in men’s boxing at the international level. He lost gold to Uzbekistan’s reigning Olympic gold medallist Shakobidin Zoirov. Further, for the first time, two Indian boxers finished on the podium at a single edition of the World Championships as Manish Kaushik also won a Bronze medal, placing team India at 6th rank.

ISSF WORLD CUP RIFLE/PISTOL CHAMPIONSHIP
India finished at the top of the ISSF Championship in Rio De Janeiro (Brazil) with 5 gold, 2 silver and 2 bronze medals. Manu Bhaker, Saurabh Choudhary, Abhishek Verma, Yashswini, Apurvi Chandela and Deepak Kumar were the top performers at the meet.

India clinched the U-19 Asia Cup title with a thrilling five-run win over Bangladesh in Colombo, Sri Lanka.

India lifted the SAFF Under-15 Football title at Kolkata, West Bengal with a 7-0 win over Nepal.

Manipur defeated Railways team to win the 25th Senior Women's National Football Championship held in Pasighat in Arunachal Pradesh.

Duleep Trophy: India Red beat India Green to lift the trophy in the finals played in Bengaluru.

Virat Kohli surpassed Mahendra Singh Dhoni to become India’s most successful captain in test matches after the team recorded its 28th win under his leadership, against the West Indies.

Deepti Sharma created history on September 24 by becoming the first Indian cricketer to take a hat-trick in Test cricket during India’s second Test against West Indies at Sabina Park.

Rishabh Pant broke MS Dhoni’s wicket-keeping record for India by becoming the fastest Indian wicket-keeper to claim 50 dismissals in Test cricket.

Mithali Raj, former India T20 captain, announced her retirement from T20 internationals. However, she will continue to be India’s ODI captain.

Rani Rampal, India’s ace hockey star will lead the 18-member Indian Women’s team which will take on England in a five-match series.

The 8th edition of Ladakh Marathon (42km race) was held in Leh. It is the highest marathon in the world, held at over 11,000 feet above the mean sea level.

The DDCA (Delhi and Districts Cricket Association) unveiled a new pavilion stand named after Virat Kohli in the recently renamed Feroz Shah Kotla stadium as Arun Jaitley Cricket Stadium in New Delhi.

INTERNATIONAL

LOGO OF 2022 FIFA WORLD CUP RELEASED
The official logo of Qatar 2022 FIFA world cup was unveiled in the capital Doha. It is based on 3D symbol of infinity in a vertical position. The design is based on a stylised Arabic white unisex shawl with maroon patterning. The swooping curves of the emblem represent the undulations of desert dunes and the unbroken loop depicts both - the number eight - highlighting the eight stadiums that will host the World Cup matches - and the infinity symbol, which reflects the interconnected nature of the event.

MASCOTS FOR BEIJING WINTER OLYMPICS
A smiling panda and a walking Chinese lantern will be the mascots for the 2022 Winter Olympics and Paralympics in Beijing, China. The mascot, named Bing Dwen Dwen, a chubby giant panda wearing a suit of ice, will be the mascot for Winter Olympics 2022 while the Chinese lantern Shuey Rhon Rhon was declared as the official mascot for Winter Paralympics 2022.

Sebastian Vettel of team Ferrari won the Singapore Grand Prix F1 championship.
Charles Leclerc (from Monaco) won the Belgian Grand Prix F1 race for team Ferrari in Stavelot, Belgium. He also won the Italian Grand Prix at Monza, Italy.

Rory McIlroy, noted golfer from Ireland was named the PGA Tour Player of the Year for a third time, in London.

**US Open Grand Slam** Tennis Championship held in New York, USA  
**Men's singles**: Rafael Nadal of Spain won the title by beating Daniil Medvedev of Russia  
**Women's singles**: 19-year-old Bianca Andreescu of Canada defeated the six-time champion 38 year old Serena Williams of USA.

**China Open Badminton Championship** at Shanghai, China  
**Women's singles** won by thrice world champion Carolina Marin  
**Men's singles** won by Kento Momota of Japan

**FIFA Best Player 2019 Awards**  
**Best Men's Player Award**: Football legend Lionel Messi, (of Argentina) for 6th time  
**Best Women's Player Award**: Megan Rapinoe of USA, first time

Spain defeated Argentina to win the Basketball World Cup held in Beijing, China  
Sri Lanka paceman Lasith Malinga became the highest wicket-taker in T-20 internationals with his 99th scalp in the first match against New Zealand.

**BWF - WOLRD BADMINTON CHAMPIONSHIP**  
P V Sindhu scripted history as she became the first Indian to win badminton’s World Championships as she defeated arch-rival former world champion Nozomi Okuhara of Japan in finals played at Basel, Switzerland. 359 players from 45 countries competed for the title.  
**Kento Momota** of Japan won the men's singles title.  
B Sai Praneeth won the Bronze in men's singles, a first after a gap of 36 years, when Prakash Padukon won bronze in 1983.  
**Manasi Joshi**, India’s para badminton star won the gold in para badminton category. Joshi lost her left leg in an accident in 2011.  
**Indian sprinters** Hima Das and Mohammad Anas won gold in 300m races in women and men's category, respectively, at the Athleticky Mitink Reiter event in Czech Republic.  
**Komalika Bari** defeated Sonoda Waka of Japan to become the recurve cadet world champion at the World Archery Youth Championships in Madrid, Spain.  
**Jerlin Anika**, 15 year Tamil Nadu girl won the gold medal in the World Deaf Youth Badminton Championships held in Taipei. She also won two silver and one bronze in other events.

**THE NATIONAL SPORTS AWARDS 2019**  
The Selection Committee headed by Justice Mukundakam Sharma, Retired Judge, Supreme Court announced the awards on August 19.

**RAJIV GANDHI KHEL RATNA AWARD**  
- Sh. Bajrang Punia: Wrestling  
- Ms. Deepa Malik: Para Athletics

**DRONACHARYA AWARD FOR OUTSTANDING COACHES**  
- Sh. Vimal Kumar: Badminton  
- Sh. Sandeep Gupta: Table tennis  
- Sh. Mohinder Singh Dhillon: Athletics  
- Sh. Merzban Patel: Hockey  
- Sh. Rambir Singh Khokhar: Kabaddi  
- Sh. Sanjay Bhardwaj: Cricket

**ARJUNA AWARD**  
- Sh. Tajinderpal Singh Toor: Athletics  
- Mohammed Anas Yahiya: Athletics  
- Sh. S. Bhaskaran: Body Building  
- Ms. Sonia Lather: Boxing  
- Sh. Ravindra Jadeja: Cricket  
- Sh. Chinglensana Singh Kangujam: Hockey  
- Sh. Ajay Thakur: Kabaddi  
- Sh. Gaurav Singh Gill: Motor Sports  
- Sh. Pramod Bhagat: Para Sports (Badminton)  
- Ms. Anjum Moudgil: Shooting  
- Sh. Harmeet Rajul Desai: Table Tennis  
- Ms. Poja Dhanda: Wrestling  
- Sh. Fouaad Mirza: Equestrian  
- Sh. Gurpreet Singh Sandhu: Football  
- Ms. Pooja Dhanda: Wrestling  
- Sh. Swapna Barman: Athletics  
- Sh. Sundar Singh Gurjar: Para Sports (Athletics)  
- Sh. Bhamidipati Sai Praneeth: Badminton  
- Sh. Simran Singh Shergill: Polo

**DHYANCHAND AWARD (Life Time Achievement)**  
- Sh. Manuel Fredricks: Hockey  
- Sh. Arup Basak: Table Tennis  
- Sh. Manoj Kumar: Wrestling  
- Sh. Nitten Kirtane: Tennis  
- Sh. C. Lalremsanga: Archery

**RASHTRIYA KHEL PROTSAHAN PURUSKAR**  
(i) Gagan Narang Sports Promotion Foundation  
(ii) GoSports Foundation  
Rayalaseema Development Trust: Sports for Development

**Tenzing Norgay National Adventure Award**  
- Land Adventure: Aparna Kumar, Shri Dipankar Ghosh, Shri Manikandan K  
- Water Adventure: Prabhat Raju Koli  
- Air Adventure: Rameshwer Jangra  
- Life Time Achievement: Wangchuk Sherpa

Deepak Punia, the 20 year old wrestler from Haryana, became India’s first junior World Champion in last 18 years, claiming a gold medal at the Junior World Championships at Tallinn, Estonia.
Aishwarya Pissay became the first Indian to claim a world title in motorsports, winning the FIM World Cup in Várpalota in Hungary.

Ace wrestler Bajrang Punia won the fourth gold of the season by defeating Mehran Nasiri of Iran at Tbilisi Grand Prix in the capital of Georgia.

Vinesh Phogat, star Indian grappler bagged gold in women’s 53kg category in Poland Open wrestling tournament in Warsaw. This is her third international gold in past one month.

Satwiksairaj Rankireddy and Chirag Shetty created history by becoming the first Indian pair to win a BWF Super 500 badminton tournament, stunning reigning world champions Li Jun Hui and Liu Yu Chen in the final of the Thailand Open in Bangkok.

Indian Sumit Nagal, 22 year old tennis prodigy created a sensation when he defeated the 20 grand slam winner 38 year old Roger Federer in first round match in US Open Grand Slam in New York. Though, finally, Roger won the match after four sets.

Virat Kohli became the first ever batsman in the world to score 20,000 international runs in a single decade. He achieved the feat on August 14 playing against the West Indies in Port of Spain.

P V Sindhu: India’s badminton star is the only athlete from the country to find a place in the Highest-Paid Female Athletes 2019 list released by Forbes of USA. With total earnings of 5.5 million dollars, she is at 13th spot in the list topped by tennis great Serena Williams with earnings of 29.2 million dollars.

Durand Cup 2019: In the oldest Football Tournament of Asia, Gokulam Kerala FC defeated Mohun Bagan in the finals played in Kolkata.

Indian men’s hockey team won the Olympic Test event beating New Zealand 5-0 in Tokyo. Women’s team also won their Olympic Test event beating Japan.

Indian cyclists team won the gold medal in the Team Sprint event at World Junior Track Cycling Championships held in Frankfurt, Germany.

India defeated England to win the inaugural T20 Physical Disability World Cricket Series 2019 held in England.

India defeated China to win the gold medal at the Under 12 Asian Tennis Team championship held in Kazakhstan.

India’s junior women boxers clinched 12 medals at the third Nation’s Cup in Vrbas, Serbia. The team won four gold, four silver and four bronze medals and claimed the runners-up trophy.

Ravi Shastri was re-appointed as the head coach of the Indian men’s cricket team by the Cricket Advisory Committee of BCCI.

Former opener Vikram Rathour has been selected as the new batting coach for the Indian Cricket team.

Legendary Football club East Bengal Club celebrated its 100 years of existence on August 01 in Kolkata.

**INTERNATIONAL**

American gymnast Simone Biles made history with a never-before-seen “triple-double” floor exercise landing. She performed the landing featuring “two flips and three twists” in U.S. Gymnastics Championships held in Kansas City, USA.

Britisher Lewis Hamilton won the Hungarian Grand Prix for Team Mercedes for a record-extending seventh time in Budapest.

Ellyse Perry, the 28 year old Australian woman all-rounder became the first cricketer of either gender in the world to reach the rare milestone of scoring 1000 runs and taking 100 wickets in the T20 format.

Dalilah Muhammad, 2016 Olympic champion from USA shattered one of the longest standing records in women’s athletics in the 400m hurdles by clocking 52.20 seconds at US Athletics Championships, to beat Russian Yuliya Pechonkina’s 2003 mark of 52.34 seconds.

The First ICC World Test Championship started on August 1 in Birmingham, UK with the first match being played between Australia and England. Played by top nine teams, the finals will be played in June, 2021.

Hashim Amla, South African batsman announced his retirement from all formats of international cricket.

In a historic move, the International Cricket Council and Commonwealth Games Federation confirmed the inclusion of women’s T20 cricket in the Birmingham 2022 Commonwealth Games.
October 01: National Voluntary Blood Donation Day
Observed annually at national level to share the need and importance of the blood in the life of an individual. It aims at motivating people to come forward for voluntary blood donation so that more and more lives can be saved. Please note that “World Blood Donor Day” is observed on June 14.

October 1: International Coffee Day
Observed to recognize and celebrate the efforts of all those people who are associated with coffee business. This day is also celebrated to create awareness about issues of coffee farmers across the globe.

October 1: International Day of Older Persons
Observed every year with UN support to highlight the important contribution that older people make to society and to raise awareness of the opportunities and challenges of ageing in today’s world. The theme for this year’s celebrations is “The Journey to Age Equality”.

October 2: International Day of Non-Violence
Observed every year on the occasion of birth anniversary of Mahatma Gandhi, legendary leader of the Indian independence movement and pioneer of the philosophy and strategy of non-violence. The Day is an occasion to disseminate the message of non-violence, including through education and public awareness.

October 4-10: World Space Week
The United Nations (Office for Outer Space Affairs) observes this week every year as an international celebration of science and technology and their contribution to the betterment of the human condition. The dates were in recognition of the launch of the first man-made Earth satellite, Sputnik-1 on October 4, 1957. The theme for 2019 is: “The Moon: Gateway to the Stars”.

October 5: World Teachers Day
This day is observed every year with an aim to improve teachers’ situation in the world. It is an occasion when we should understand the values, challenges, roles and duties of a teacher in our daily life. The Theme for this year is “Young Teachers: The Future of the Profession”.

October (7): World Habitat Day
The United Nations designated the first Monday of October every year as World Habitat Day to reflect on the state of our towns and cities, and on the basic right of all to adequate shelter. It supports UN-Habitat’s mission towards transformative change in cities and human settlements – to leave no one and no place behind. This year’s theme is “Frontier Technologies as an innovative tool to transform waste to wealth”.

October 9: World Cotton Day (first)
The World Trade Organisation, WTO hosted the celebrations for the first World Cotton Day in its headquarters in Geneva. WTO decided to celebrate this day on the formal request of the Cotton-4 countries (Benin, Burkina Faso, Chad and Mali) to the United Nations General Assembly for its official recognition of a World Cotton Day, reflecting the importance of cotton as a global commodity. The day celebrates the many advantages of cotton, from its qualities as a natural fibre, to the benefits people obtain from its production, transformation, trade and consumption.

WTO is a UN organ established on Jan 1, 1995 for dealing with the rules of trade between nations across the world. It acts as a forum for negotiating trade agreements, settlement of trade disputes between its members and supporting the trade needs of developing countries. It is the successor to the General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade (GATT) established in 1947 in the wake of the Second World War. It has 164 members, with headquarters at Geneva and its headed by Director General, presently Roberto Azevedo, a senior diplomat from Brazil.

October 9: World Post Day
The day aims to highlight the role played by the postal department in society. The day is commemorated with different programmes and exhibitions and the postal departments usually launch new products and services to mark the occasion. The day marks the anniversary of the Universal Postal Union, which started in 1874 in Switzerland. First World Post Day was declared at the 1969 UPU Congress in Tokyo, Japan.

October 10: World Mental Health Day
Observed across the world with support from WHO– World Health Organisation. The day aims to raise awareness regarding mental health issues and mobilize efforts to support mental health. The theme for 2019 is suicide prevention.

According to WHO, almost every 40 seconds, someone loses his life by committing suicide. Hence, WHO has launched an awareness campaign called “40 seconds of action” to raise awareness against suicide around the world and the role that each of us can play to help prevent it.

October 11: International Day of Girl Child
Observed globally to highlight the challenges faced by girls worldwide. The day aims to promote the empowerment of girls and realisation of their human rights. This year’s theme was ‘Girl Force: Unscripted and unstoppable’.

It may be noted here that the National Girl Child Day is celebrated in India on January 24 every year, the day on which Indira Gandhi was sworn in as the first woman PM of India in 1966.

October 11 (2nd FRIDAY): THE WORLD EGG DAY
The day aims to help raise awareness of the benefits of eggs and their importance in human nutrition. Eggs are a source of low calorie, high-quality protein besides several vitamins and minerals. It was decided at the International Egg Commission, Vienna 1996 conference to observe this day every second Friday of October.
October 12: World Migratory Bird Day
It is an annual awareness-raising campaign highlighting the need for the conservation of migratory birds and their habitats. The theme for 2019 is “Protect Birds: Be the Solution to Plastic Pollution”!

October 13: International Day For Disaster Reduction
Observed across the world every year with support from the UN Office for Disaster Risk Reduction, to promote a global culture of risk-awareness and disaster reduction. The day celebrates how people and communities around the world are reducing their exposure to disasters and raising awareness about the risks associated with them. This year’s focus is on “Reduce disaster damage to critical infrastructure and disruption of basic services”.

October 14: World Standards Day
Also called International Standards Day, it is celebrated globally to raise awareness among regulators, industry and consumers as to the importance of standardization to the global economy. It is an opportunity for paying tribute to the collaborative efforts of thousands of experts worldwide who develop the voluntary technical agreements that are published as International Standards. The theme for 2019 is “Video standards create a global stage”.

October 15: International Day of Rural Women
The day recognizes the crucial role of women and girls in ensuring the sustainability of rural households and communities, improving rural livelihoods and overall wellbeing. This year’s theme is “Rural Women and Girls Building Climate Resilience”.

October 15: World Students’ Day
Celebrated every year to commemorate the birthday of former president APJ Abdul Kalam. He was dedicated to teaching and identified himself first as a teacher and then as anything else. He was the 11th President, who served the nation from 2002 to 2007. Known as the ‘Missile Man of India’, he was decorated with Bharat Ratna, Padma Bhushan and Padma Vibhushan.

October 15: Rashtriya Mahila Kisan Diwas
Supported by the Agriculture and Farmers Welfare Ministry, this day is observed to recognize the contribution of women farmers in various aspects of agriculture including sowing, planting, fertilizing, plant protection, harvesting, weeding, and storage.

October 16: World Food Day
Celebrated every year around the world to commemorate the founding of the Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO) of the United Nations on this day in 1945. This day generates awareness globally for those who suffer from hunger and to ensure the need for food security and nutritious diets for all. The main focus of this day is that food is a basic and fundamental human right. The theme for WFD 2019 is “Our Actions Are Our Future - Healthy Diets for a #Zero Hunger World”. Headquarters of FAO are located in Rome, Italy.

October 17: International Poverty Eradication Day
The day is observed across the world to raise awareness about the efforts being made to eradicate poverty in the world community. The day emphasizes the effort to bring people out of poverty through an active partnership with them and to ensure a respectful life for them. This year’s theme for the day is - Acting together to empower children, their families and communities to end poverty.

October 20: World Statistics Day
Celebrated every 5 years with UN support to show that good data and statistics are indispensable for informed decision-making by all actors in society. The day acknowledges the fundamental importance of sustainable national statistical capacity. Last Day was observed in 2015 and so next celebration will be in 2020 with the theme “Better Data, Better Lives”.

Please note that “National Statistics Day” is celebrated in India on June 29.

October 24: The United Nations Day
Observed to mark the anniversary of the establishment of the UN Charter on this day in 1945. The day aims to bring attention to the work, role and achievements of the UN and its family of specialized agencies. At present, 193 countries are members of UNO. Its headquarters are in New York, USA and the head is António Guterres, Secretary-General.

October 31: Rashtriya Ekta Diwas
Observed to celebrate the birthday of Sardar Vallabhbhai Patel, the first Deputy Prime Minister and the Home Minister of India. Popular as the ‘Iron Man’, he is the symbol of India’s unity as he brought the country’s 562 principalities under the fold of the union and had achieved this task within a very short span of 70 days through a bloodless revolution. This also happens to be the martyrdom day of Indira Gandhi.

October 31: World Cities Day
Observed across the world to work together for planned and sustainable urban life in the wake of rapid growth of population and problems. This year, the United Nations has selected the theme “Changing the world: innovations and better life for future generations” to discuss how urbanization can be used to achieve sustainable development.

September 5: International Day of Charity
The United Nations observes this day with the objective of sensitizing and mobilizing people, NGOs all around the world to help others through voluntary philanthropic activities. The date commemorates the death anniversary of Saint Mother Teresa, the Nobel Peace Prize awardee of 1979.
September 5: Teachers' Day
The day marks the birth anniversary of Dr Sarvepalli Radhakrishnan. He was the first Vice President of India (1952–1962) and second President of India (1962–1967). He was a staunch believer of the value of education. The day honours the contribution of teachers and educators for their significant role in students’ lives.

September 8: International Literacy Day
Celebrated all over the world with UN support. The issue of literacy is a key component of the UN’s Sustainable Development Goals and the UN’s 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development. The theme for this year is “Literacy and Multilingualism”.

September 10: World Suicide Prevention Day
Supported by the WHO and International Association for Suicide Prevention, it is a day dedicated to raising awareness of the risks of suicide and the challenges faced in trying to prevent suicide. It is among the top 20 leading causes of death globally. It is responsible for over 800,000 deaths every year. The theme for this year is “Working together to prevent suicide”.

September 14: Hindi Divas
Hindi Diwas commemorates the adoption of Hindi as an official language of India. On this day in 1949, Hindi written in Devanagari script was adopted as the official language of India by the Constituent Assembly of India.

September 15: World First Aid Day
Observed on every second Saturday of September to raise awareness about how first aid can prevent injuries and save lives in everyday situations. The theme for this year is “First Aid and Excluded People”.

September 15: International Democracy Day
The day provides an opportunity to recall that democracy is about people. The theme for this year is ‘Participation’. According to UN, democracy is built on inclusion, equal treatment and participation.

September 15: Engineer’s Day
The day is observed to mark the birth anniversary of acclaimed civil engineer M Visvesvaraya. Decorated with Bharat Ratna, he had extraordinary skills for designing dams and several water related projects.

September 16: World Ozone Day
Also known as the International Day for the preservation of the Ozone Layer, it is observed annually to commemorate the signing of the Montreal Protocol on Substances that Deplete the Ozone Layer, in 1987. The theme for this year’s celebrations is “32 Years and Healing”.
The ozone layer is a fragile shield of gas that protects the Earth and its ecosystem from the harmful ultraviolet rays of the sun, thus helping preserve life on the planet.

September 18: World Bamboo Day
It is observed every year by the World Bamboo Organization to generate awareness about conserving and promoting the bamboo industry. Also known as poor man’s timber, bamboo is omnipresent in tribal cultures and community living. India is the world’s second-largest cultivator of bamboo after China.

September 21: International Day of Peace
Observed around the world as a day devoted to strengthening the ideals of peace, both within and among all nations and peoples.
The theme for this year is “Climate Action for Peace”. The theme draws attention to the importance of combating climate change as a way to protect and promote peace throughout the world.

September 22: World Rivers Day
It is celebrated on the fourth Sunday of September to highlight the importance of waterways in our life. This day encourages people to improve and save water, rivers around the world. This year’s theme is “Day of Action for Rivers”.

September 23: International Day of Sign Languages
The day is observed to raise awareness of the importance of sign language in the full realization of the human rights of people who are deaf or dumb. The theme of the day for 2019 is - Sign Language Rights for All!

September 26: World Maritime Day
It is observed to celebrate the maritime industry’s contribution in supporting and promoting the global economy. It emphasizes the importance of maritime security, marine environment and shipping safety. The theme for this year’s day is “Empowering Women in the Maritime Community”.

September 27 - World Tourism Day
Observed to highlight the importance of tourism which helps in generating employment and build future for millions of people around the world. This year’s theme is “Tourism and Jobs: A Better Future for All”.

September 28: World Rabies Day
The day is celebrated annually to raise awareness about rabies prevention and to highlight progress in defeating this horrifying disease. The day is the anniversary of Louis Pasteur’s death, the French chemist and microbiologist, who developed the first Rabies vaccine.

September 29 – World Heart Day
Observed to spread awareness about heart disease and stroke which is the world’s leading cause of death. The day promotes preventative measures to reduce the risk of cardiovascular diseases (CVDs).

September 30: International Translation Day
The day is supported by the UNO to pay tribute to the work of language professionals, which plays an important role in bringing nations together, facilitating dialogue for development and strengthening world peace.
NATIONAL NEWS

JULY

- Government of India will provide 10,000 scholarships for heirs of the liberation war fighters of Bangladesh called 'Muktijodhas' (freedom fighters).
- The 7th Economic Census started from Tripura on July 29. The census is conducted by the Ministry of Statistics and Programme Implementation, every 5 years.
- The Supreme Court ordered the central government to make a special court in each district having more than 100 cases pending under POCSO Act.
- The United States Senate has passed a legislative provision that gives India status of ally of NATO for increased defence cooperation.
- India signed an agreement with Sri Lanka for upgradation of over 100 year old railway tracks in the northern part of the country.

JUNE

- Mr. Modi reached the Japanese city of Osaka to attend the G20 Summit on June 28-29.
- Mr. Modi made his first foreign tour in his new tenure to Maldives, June 8-9 and received Maldives' highest award, the Order of the Distinguished Rule of Izzudeen.
- Prime Minister Modi attended the meeting of Council of Heads of States of Shanghai Cooperation Organization -SCO in Bishkek, the capital of Kyrgyzstan.
- India’s first specialised hydrotherapy centre for elephants suffering from arthritis, joint pain and foot ailments was opened in Mathura, Uttar Pradesh.

MAY

- India was re-elected as Observer to the Arctic Council, an intergovernmental forum based at Tromso, Norway.
- India has been selected to the Consultative Group (CG) of Global Facility for Disaster Reduction and Recovery (GFDRR) for the fiscal year 2020.
- The Bharat Sanchar Nigam Ltd. partnered with Google to increase access to its WiFi footprint in the country.
- India’s first engineless train, ‘Vande Bharat Express’, completed 1 lakh running kms on May 16, without missing a single trip in just 3 months.
- A postage stamp was released to commemorate the 750th birth anniversary of Sri Vedanta Desikan, a great 14th century saint from Tamil Nadu.

NEWS FROM STATES

JULY

- The world famous ‘Pink City’ Jaipur has been inducted by the UNESCO in its World Heritage Site list.
- Telangana has become the first state to implement Central government’s proposal for introducing “one-nation-one-card” project.
- In Rajasthan, Kalu police station in the Bikaner district bagged the first rank among 15,666 police stations across the country.
- Country’s first state-of-the-art Space Systems Park, is to be set up at Knowledge City in Thiruvananthapuram, Kerala.
- Maharashtra achieved first rank in the “Agricultural Marketing and Farmer Friendly
Reforms Index” (AMFFRI) released by NITI Aayog.

- A team of researchers in Assam has discovered Dracaena cambodiana, a dragon tree species in West Karbi Anglong district of state.
- Meghalaya became the first state in India to ensure the conservation of water and to have its own water policy.
- Kerala plans to open the country's first elephant rehabilitation centre at Kottoor, an ecotourism village near its capital Thiruvananthapuram.
- The South Central Railway commissioned the country’s longest electrified tunnel, running 6.6 km between Cherlopalli and Rapuru in Andhra Pradesh.
- The Lok Sabha on June 28 approved the extension of President’s rule in Jammu and Kashmir for another six months, beginning July 3.
- The Parliament passed the Central Universities (Amendment) Bill, 2019 to set up a Central University and Tribal University in Andhra Pradesh.
- Ministry of Home Affairs has extended The Armed Forces (Special Powers) Act - AFSPA for another six months in Nagaland, till December end.
- Gujarat topped in the installation of rooftop solar projects with an installed capacity of 261.97 megawatts.

JUNE

- In the health index report released by the Niti Aayog, Kerala topped on overall health performance, while U P and Bihar were the worst performer.
- Meghalaya’s ruling National People's Party (NPP) became the first party from the Northeast to be given national status by the Election Commission.
- Bihar has decided to take punitive action against those who fail to take care of their elderly parents.
- A new dinosaur museum and fossil park, located in Raiyoli village of Gujarat’s Mahisagar district has been thrown open to public.
- Devi Ahilya Bai Holkar airport in Indore, Madhya Pradesh was officially declared as an international airport by the Central government.
- The WHO selected Rajasthan’s Medical & Health Deptt. for its award in recognition of its achievements in the field of tobacco control.

MAY

- Kerala became the first state to issue masala bond worth of $312 million in London Stock Exchange.
- The Chhattisgarh police inducted an all women platoon of 30 commandos in its frontline anti-Naxal force.
- The force is named ‘Danteshwari Ladaake’ (fighters of Goddess Danteshwari)
- Results For 4 State Assembly Elections

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>State</th>
<th>Chief Minister</th>
<th>Party</th>
</tr>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Odisha</td>
<td>Naveen Patnaik (re-elected)</td>
<td>Biju Janata Dal</td>
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<tr>
<td>Sikkim</td>
<td>Prem Singh Golay (Tamang)</td>
<td>Sikkim Krantikari Morcha</td>
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<td>Andhra Pradesh</td>
<td>Jagan Mohan Reddy</td>
<td>YSR Congress</td>
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<td>Arunachal Pradesh</td>
<td>Pema Khandu (re-elected)</td>
<td>BJP</td>
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- The Geological Survey of India, GSI, has revealed that 35 per cent of the country’s Graphite deposits are available in Arunachal Pradesh.
- Mangaluru City Police in Karnataka has launched an all-women police patrol unit named ‘Rani Abbakka Force’

GOVT INITIATIVES

JULY

- A high powered Committee of Chief Ministers headed by Maharashtra Chief Minister Devendra Fadnavis formed for ‘Transformation for Indian Agriculture’.

MSP HIRED FOR KHARIF CROPS

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>CROP</th>
<th>(Rs. per quintal)</th>
<th>2019-20</th>
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<tr>
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<td></td>
<td>1815</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Jowar (Hybrid)</td>
<td></td>
<td>2550</td>
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<tr>
<td>Bajra</td>
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<td>2000</td>
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<tr>
<td>Maize</td>
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<td>1760</td>
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<tr>
<td>Tur (Arhar)</td>
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<td>Moong</td>
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<td>Urad</td>
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<td>5700</td>
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<tr>
<td>Groundnut</td>
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<td>5090</td>
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<tr>
<td>Sunflower Seed</td>
<td></td>
<td>5650</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cotton (Medium Staple)</td>
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<td>5255</td>
</tr>
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</table>
The UGC approved “Scheme for Trans-disciplinary Research for India’s Developing Economy” (STRIDE) to boost research culture in the country.

The Deptt. of Higher Education of HRD Ministry released a 5 year vision plan Education Quality Upgradation and Inclusion Programme - EQUIP.

The programme aims to upgrade the overall quality of education to global standards with a focus on promoting research.

The Group of Ministers (GoM) looking after the issues on how to prevent sexual harassment at workplace reconstituted under Home Minister Amit Shah.

The Parliament passed the Aadhaar and Other Laws (Amendment) Bill, 2019 to make use of Aadhaar number voluntary.

Now use of Aadhaar as proof of identity for opening bank accounts, getting mobile phone connections, will not be mandatory.

It also provides stiff penalties of fine up to Rs. one crore for unauthorised use of Aadhaar related data.

Government has announced that persons, who do not have PAN card, can now use Aadhaar card in its place.

Government has decided to declare all lanes at the toll plaza on national highways as 'FASTag lanes' from December 1, 2019.

The Unique Identification Authority of India (UIDAI) has opened its first 'Aadhaar Seva Kendra' in Delhi and Vijayawada.

A working group headed by Prof. Ramesh Chand, Member, Niti Aayog formed for the revision of the current series of Wholesale Price Index.

Cabinet has approved the extension of the term of 15th Finance Commission up to 30th November this year.

The Union Cabinet approved the extension of Pradhan Mantri Kisan Samman Nidhi (PM-KISAN) scheme to all the farmers in the country.

Pradhan Mantri Kisan Pension Yojana to provide a min pension of Rs 3,000 pm after the age of 60 years. Marginal farmers (18 to 40 years) are eligible.

P M Laghu Udyami Maandhan Yojna to provide a min pension of Rs 3,000 pm after the age of 60 years.

All shopkeepers, retail traders and self employed aged 18-40 years with annual GST turnover below Rs 1.5 crore are eligible.

Govt formed a new ‘Jal Shakti’ (water power) Ministry by merging the erstwhile Ministries of Water Resources and Drinking Water and Sanitation.

Jal Shakti Abhiyan launched to ramp up rainwater harvesting and conservation efforts in 255 water-stressed districts from July 1 to Sep 15.

Foreigners (Tribunals) Order, 1964 amended to empower district magistrates in all States/ UTs to set up tribunals to decide whether a person staying illegally in India is a foreigner or not.

The government has developed a National Strategic Plan that aims to end Tuberculosis (TB) by 2025.

MAY

The Indian Council of Medical Research (ICMR) launched the Malaria Elimination Research Alliance to eliminate Malaria from India by 2030.

Government has asked the state transport departments to make it mandatory for all EVs (electric vehicles) to use the green number plates.

The UGC has directed universities and higher education institutions to introduce hologram and QR code in certificates and degrees issued by them.

ECONOMY

JULY

Government has announced the merger of three public sector insurance companies given below:

National Insurance Company, United India Assurance Company and Oriental India Insurance Company.

The Kalinganagar plant of Tata Steel in Jaipur district of Odisha has been included in World Economic Forum’s Global Lighthouse Network.

Hyundai India launched the country's first all-electric premium crossover – Kona, priced at Rs 25.30 lakh (ex-showroom, India).

JUNE

As per CSO data, country’s per-capita income for 2018-19 is estimated at Rs 1,26,406.

Kirit Parikh committee formed to review the existing marketing structure of LPG to examine the scope for entry of new players.

The Ministry of Agriculture has estimated food grains production for the agricultural year 2018-19 at over 283 million tonnes.
- ONGC replaced IOC to regain the crown of being the country’s most profitable public sector company, earning a profit of Rs.26,716 crore in 2017-18.

- For the second year in a row, Iraq remained India’s top crude oil supplier, meeting over 20% of our oil needs in 2018-19.
- Reliance Industries toppled govt owned Indian Oil Corporation to become the country’s biggest company in terms of revenue.

**BANKING & FINANCE**

- RBI finalised a three-year roadmap named “Utkarsh 2022” to improve regulation and supervision, and other functions of the central bank.
- The recruitment examination of RRBs will now be conducted in 13 regional languages, in addition to English and Hindi.
  - These are: Assamese, Bengali, Gujarati, Kannada, Konkani, Malayalam, Manipuri, Marathi, Oriya, Punjabi, Tamil, Telugu and Urdu.

**DEFENCE, SCIENCE & TECHNOLOGY**

- INS Sagardhwani conducted a scientific mission named ‘Marine and Allied Interdisciplinary Training and Research Initiative’ (MAITRI).
- DRDO successfully tested anti tank Nag missiles in Pokhran ranges in Rajasthan.
- Indian Army has placed an order for Israeli anti-tank Spike missiles. This missile is known for its ability to pierce even bunkers, up to four kilometers.
- Israel Aerospace Industries of Israel to supply complementary Naval MRSAM (medium range surface-to-air missile) systems to the Indian Navy.
- The first lot of four Boeing AH-64E Apache attack helicopters arrived in India from USA. They will be stationed at Pathankot Airbase in Punjab.
- The Indian Navy commissioned its new Dornier Aircraft Squadron in Chennai.
- NASA has developed a Deep Space Atomic Clock in their Jet Propulsion Laboratory. It is about 50 times more stable than average GPS satellite clock.
- The Russian space agency, Roscosmos, in a joint effort with Germany, launched a space telescope named Spektr-RG to be parked at L2 Lagrange point.
Kaiga Atomic Energy station (North Karnataka) set a world record for continuous operation as its unit-1 functioned un-interrupted for 962 days.

ISRO signed a contract with Russia’s Glavkosmos to seek their expertise in selection, medical examination and space training of Indian astronauts.

Indian Navy signed a contract with Bharat Dynamics Ltd for supply of heavyweight torpedo Varunastra.

DRDO has developed herbal drug ‘lukoskin’ for treatment of Leucoderma.

Govt approved setting up of a new “Defence Space Research Agency” headed by a senior defence scientist.

Ministry of Shipping signed a MoU with IIT Kharagpur for setting up the Centre for Inland and Coastal Maritime Technology at the institute.

The National Geographic Society has established world’s highest operating weather station near Mount Everest.

- The Balcony weather station is the first one to be installed at an elevation above 8,000 metres.

Indian Navy launched Operation Sankalp in the Persian Gulf, Gulf of Oman to ensure safety of Indian flagged ships passing through the area.

NASA’s robot named Bumble became the first Astrobe robot to fly under its own power in space.

Russia launched the world’s largest and most powerful nuclear icebreaker ship named Ural.

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

The world’s largest burn and plastic surgery institute started functioning in Dhaka, Bangladesh, named Sheikh Hasina National Burn and Plastic Surgery Institute.

UAE has decided to offer to its incoming tourists free mobile phone SIM cards with 20 MB data as a gift without providing any documentation.

Hong Kong has been named the world's most expensive city for expatriates according to an annual report by consulting firm Mercer.

South Africa has passed a law to impose carbon tax to cut down emissions of greenhouse gases in the country.

According to the Copernicus Climate Change Service, a European climate agency, June 2019 was recorded as the hottest June ever.

Palau, a tiny country in the Micronesia region in the western Pacific Ocean, signed International Solar Alliance Framework to become 76th country to join the International Solar Alliance.

The World Health Organisation (WHO) has declared that Sri Lanka has become the fifth country in the Southeast Asia region to eliminate measles disease.

Saudi Arabia has become the first Arab country to be granted full membership of the Paris based Financial Action Task Force.

Russia launched its first tourist train travelling through Arctic region and on to Norway.

As per the ‘100 Top BrandZ Report’ by Kantar, Amazon has become the world’s most valuable brand with a brand value of $315 billion.

The World Health Organization has identified addiction to video games on smartphones and other devices as a “disorder”.

Lt. Bhawana Kanth became the first woman pilot of the Indian Air Force to qualify to undertake missions by day on a fighter aircraft, flying MiG-21 Bison.

Researchers at Jamia Millia Islamia, New Delhi, have developed an ultrasensitive quantum thermometer using graphene quantum dots.

It can precisely measure temperatures changes from 27 degree C to –196 degree C in extreme quick response time of just about 300 milliseconds.
The meeting of Finance Ministers of G20 countries was held in the Japanese city of Fukuoka.

The 14th summit of the Organisation of Islamic Cooperation (OIC) was held in Mecca, Saudi Arabia. OIC is a group of 57 Islamic countries.

The 10-member Association of Southeast Asian Nations (ASEAN) held its annual summit in Bangkok, Thailand on June 23.

France and New Zealand launched a new initiative named “Christchurch Call” aimed at curbing extremism online.

The WHO has certified Algeria and Argentina as malaria-free as no new cases of the deadly disease have been reported there for 3 consecutive years.

Emperor Akihito of Japan formally stepped down on April 30, marking the end of ‘Heisei’ era in Japan.

His son Naruhito took over the Chrysanthemum Throne to usher in a new era, named ‘Reiwa’.

USA exited from the UN Arms Trade Treaty, in response to concerns from gun rights activists that it could impinge on Americans’ right to bear arms.

Pope Francis, the head of the Catholic Church, on May 9 passed a landmark law to make reporting sex abuse obligatory.

Ireland has declared climate emergency in their country, to be the second country after Britain did so on May 1.

Singapore has passed a controversial bill that equips the government with extensive powers to police online media and free speech.

A report from Stockholm International Peace Research Institute ranked India as the world’s fourth biggest military spender in 2018.

Benjamin Netanyahu: He became Israel’s longest-serving prime minister, leading the country for 4,876 days (over 13 years, four months).

Christine Lagarde: The MD of IMF resigned ahead of a decision on her nomination to become President of the European Central Bank, ECB, at Frankfurt, Germany.
V K Johri: Sr. IPS officer has been appointed as the next Director General of Border Security Force.

Adhir Ranjan Chowdhury: The leader of the Congress party in Lok Sabha, was appointed as the Chairman of the Public Accounts Committee (PAC).

Dr. Ajay Bhalla: IAS officer of 1984 batch appointed as the new Union Home Secretary

Vivek Kumar: A senior officer of Indian Foreign Service was appointed as private secretary to Prime Minister Narendra Modi.

Anshula Kant: A former MD of State Bank of India has been appointed as the next MD and CFO of the World Bank. She will report to President, David Malpass.

B Harideesh Kumar: Appointed as the new Director of the IBPS - Institute of Banking Personnel Selection, Mumbai.

Boris Johnson: A leader of Conservative party, elected as the new Prime Minister of Britain.

Kyriakos Mitsotakis: Elected as the new Prime Minister of Greece.

Om Birla: Unanimously elected as the Speaker of 17th Lok Sabha. He is a BJP MP from Kota, Rajasthan.

Samant Goel: Appointed as the new head - Secretary of the Research and Analysis Wing (R&AW), foreign intelligence agency of India.

Arvinda Kumar: Appointed as the new head, Director of the Intelligence Bureau, internal intelligence agency of India.

K Natarajan: Appointed as the new Director General of the Indian Coast Guard.

National Security Advisor: Sh. Ajit Doval has been re-appointed as the National Security Advisor

Admiral Karambir Singh Nijjar took charge as the 24th Navy chief on May 31

Sun Weidong: Veteran diplomat from China appointed as its new envoy to India.

Gianni Infantino: 49 year old sports professional re-elected as the President of FIFA, football’s global governing body.

Sanjiv Puri: Managing Director of ITC (Indian Tobacco Company), Kolkata, has been appointed as the new Chairman of the company with the designation as the Chairman and Managing Director.

Mueenul Haq: Pakistan appointed the senior diplomat as the High Commissioner to India.

Prof. Tijjani Mohammed Bande: Appointed as the new President of the United Nations General Assembly for 2019-20. He is a senior statesman and diplomat from Nigeria.

NALCO gets President award for CSR National Aluminium Company Limited – NALCO has been selected for this award.

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

Suman Rao was crowned Femina Miss India 2019 while Shivani Jadhav and Shreya Shanker were crowned Femina Miss Grand India and Miss India United Continents, respectively.

"Orden Mexicana del Aguila Azteca": Highest civilian award of Mexico was conferred upon former President of India, Pratibha Patil.

Rabindranath Tagore Literary Prize: Awarded to author Rana Dasgupta for his 2010 novel "Solo". The prize carries cash reward of $10,000, a Tagore statue and a certificate.

Chevalier de l’Ordre national de la Legion d’Honneur: Former ISRO chairman A S Kiran Kumar was conferred with France’s highest civilian honour for his contribution to India-France space cooperation.

Order of the Rising Sun, Gold and Silver Star: Japan’s second highest national award conferred upon Shyam Saran, former Foreign Secretary of India.

Palme d’Or: The prize for the best film at the 72nd Cannes Film Festival in France was won by the South Korean director Bong Joon Ho’s film "Parasite".
**Man Booker International Prize:** Jokha Alharthi, an author from Oman won the prestigious literary award for "Celestial Bodies". She is the first Arabic-language writer to take the 50,000 pounds prize, half of which will go to her UK-based translator, Marilyn Booth.

**OBITUARY**

**JULY**

**Jaipal Reddy:** Senior Congress leader and former Union Minister passed away in Hyderabad age of 77. He was 7-time MP and four-term MLA.

**Sheila Dixit:** Three-time Delhi Chief Minister and senior Congress leader passed away in New Delhi, at the age of 81. She was Delhi’s chief minister for 15 years.

**Basant Kumar Birla:** Eminent industrialist and Birla Group patriarch passed away in Mumbai. He was 98.

**Lee Iacocca:** A leader in the American automobile industry, died in California at the age of 94. He is remembered mostly as the businessman who saved the Chrysler Corporation and made it profitable.

**JUNE**

**Girish Karnad:** The 81-year-old veteran actor and playwright died in Bengaluru after multiple organ failure. He was known for his critically-acclaimed plays like "Yayati", "Hayavadana" and "Tughlaq". He was decorated with Padma Sri, Padma Bhushan and prestigious literary award Jnanpith.

**Dinyar Contractor:** Veteran Parsi comedian and actor died in Mumbai fighting with several age related ailments. He was 79.

**Jaspal Inder Singh Kalra:** Popularly known as Jiggs Kalra, famous restaurateur who was known as the czar of Indian cuisine, died in Mumbai after fighting a long illness. He was 72.

**MAY**

**Y C Deveshwar:** Noted industry leader and ITC chairman, passed away on May 11 after a brief illness in a hospital in Gurugram, Haryana. He was 72.

**Veeru Devgan:** Bollywood’s famous stunt and action choreographer, father of popular actor Ajay Devgan passed away in Mumbai at the age of 77.

**Niki Lauda:** The former Formula One driver and three-time world champion from Austria, passed away at the age of 70. He was hugely admired, respected and liked within F1 circles.

**PLACES IN NEWS**

**JULY**

**Connaught Place, New Delhi:** The commercial business district (CBD) of Delhi is the 9th most expensive office markets around the globe, according to a report by CBRE.

**JUNE**

**Muzaffarpur:** City in Bihar was in news as over 160 children lost their lives due to outbreak of the Acute Encephalitis Syndrome, locally known as ‘chamki bukhar’.

**MAY**

**Surat:** In a tragic incident, at least 23 students of a private coaching class were killed — several of them literally jumping to their death — in a devastating fire in a four-storeyed commercial complex in Sarthana locality of Surat on May 24.

**Cyclone Fani:** Extremely severe cyclonic storm Fani made landfall on the eastern coast wreaking havoc in Odisha on morning of May 03.

**SPORTS WORLD**

**JULY**

**Indian sprint runner Hima Das** won the women’s 200m gold at the Star Poznan Athletics Grand Prix in Poland, clocking 23.56 seconds. Already a world champion, she is popularly known as ‘Dhing Express’ as she hails from Dhing, Assam. Later, she won four more gold medals as under:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Event</th>
<th>Location</th>
</tr>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>200 m</td>
<td>Kutno Athletics Meet in Poland.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>200 m</td>
<td>Kladno Memorial Athletics Meet in Czech Republic</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>200 m</td>
<td>Tabor Athletics Meet in Czech Republic.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>400 m</td>
<td>Nove Mesto in the Czech Republic.</td>
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**National record holder Muhammed Anas** won the gold in the men’s 200m race while MP Jabir won the gold in the men’s 400m hurdles at the Kutno Athletics Meet in Poland.
MC Mary Kom claimed the gold medal in the 23rd President’s Cup Boxing Tournament in Labuan Bajo, Indonesia. Simranjit Kaur also won the Gold, in 60 kg category.

Veer Chotrani of India won the Gold at the Asian Junior Squash Championship in Macau, China.

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

Shiva Thapa became India’s first gold-medalist at the President’s Cup boxing tournament held in Astana, Kazakhstan.

Dutee Chand, National record holder clinched a gold medal in the World Universiade in 100 m dash event at Napoli in Italy.

Sunil Chhetri, the charismatic footballer was named as the AIFF Men’s Footballer of the Year for a record sixth time.

Virat Kohli became the fastest batsman to reach 20,000 international runs, eclipsing batting greats Sachin Tendulkar and Brian Lara.

Sharath Kamal, star tennis player, national champion for record nine times, was voted the Sportsperson of the Year in the annual Indian Oil Sports Conclave.

BCCI has appointed Rahul Dravid as Head of Cricket at its National Cricket Academy at Bengaluru.

The third edition of Khelo India Youth Games will be held in Guwahati in January, 2020.

INTERNATIONAL

Kristof Milak, Hungarian teenager shattered Michael Phelps’ 2009 world record of 1:51.51 minutes in the 200 metres butterfly at the World Aquatics Championships in Gwangju, S Korea by clocking a timings of 1:50.73 minutes.

Adam Peaty, the British swimmer became the first person in the world to complete men’s 100 metre breaststroke in under 57 seconds. He finished the race in 56.88 seconds at the World Championships in Gwangju, South Korea.

Egan Bernal became the first person from Colombia to win the challenging Tour de France cycle race in Paris. He retained the overall leader’s yellow jersey. 22-year-old Bernal is also the youngest rider to win the race in 110 years.

ICC WORLD CUP CRICKET

England lifted their maiden trophy beating New Zealand in a nerve-wracking final that was decided after a dramatic Super Over in Lord’s stadium in London.

Kane Williamson, New Zealand’s skipper was adjudged “Player of the Tournament”

Rohit Sharma scored highest - 648 runs and Mitchell Starc of Australia claimed highest wickets – 27.

Women’s FIFA World Cup: United States secured a record-extending fourth win by beating the Netherlands 2-0 in the finals played at Lyons, France.

The International Cricket Council - ICC has granted the hosting rights for 13th ICC Cricket World Cup 2023 to India. This is for the first time that India will be hosting this event all alone.

JUNE

P U Chitra, Asian champion ran her season’s best to win the women’s 1500 mtr gold at the Folksam Grand Prix in Sollentuna, Sweden.

Joshna Chinappa created a new record for winning the most number of national titles in Squash.

Yuvraj Singh, the 37 year old charismatic hard hitting batsman and all-rounder announced his retirement from international cricket.

Sunil Chhetri became the most capped Indian football player by playing 108 international matches.

French Open Tennis Tournament held in Paris

Women’s singles title: Australian Ashleigh Barty won her first Grand Slam singles title after defeating Czech teenager Marketa Vondrousova

Men’s singles title: Rafael Nadal (Spain) lifted the title for the 12th time, beating Dominic Thiem of Austria

Lee Chong Wei: Cancer-hit Malaysian badminton star announced his retirement after remaining at the world number one position for a total of 348 weeks during his playing career of 19 years.

The IAAF (International Association of Athletics Federations) Council approved its new name as ‘World Athletics’.

Tennis Grand Slam Wimbledon concludes in London

Novak Djokovic of Serbia won his fifth title after defeating Swiss player Roger Federer.

Women’s title was won by Simona Halep of Romania by defeating Serena Williams of USA.

INTERNATIONAL

Lee Chong Wei: Cancer-hit Malaysian badminton star announced his retirement after remaining at the world number one position for a total of 348 weeks during his playing career of 19 years.

The IAAF (International Association of Athletics Federations) Council approved its new name as ‘World Athletics’.

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### OCTOBER GK TEST - 01

1) Which two states have decided to form a panel to resolve water sharing issues?
   a) Karnataka, Tamil Nadu  
   b) Andhra Pradesh, Telangana  
   c) Tamil Nadu, Kerala  
   d) Kerala, Karnataka  
   e) Tamil Nadu, Karnataka

2) The Delhi University and Zoological Survey of India recently discovered a new species of frog in which state?
   a) Arunachal Pradesh  
   b) Assam  
   c) Nagaland  
   d) Himachal Pradesh  
   e) Tripura

3) The MSP for Wheat for Rabi season 2019-20 has been fixed at what rate?
   a) 1900  
   b) 1850  
   c) 1925  
   d) 1975  
   e) 2050

4) Who is the current president of the UN General Assembly?
   a) Tijjani Muhammad-Bande  
   b) María Fernanda Espinosa  
   c) Antonio Guterres  
   d) Kyriakos Mitsotakis  
   e) Jerry Matthews Matjila

5) The majority stake holder in the capital of Regional Rural Banks (RRBs) is
   a) Reserve Bank  
   b) Central Government  
   c) Sponsor Bank  
   d) Corporates  
   e) State Government

6) In which of the following types of banking, the banks offer all types of financial services to expand their business?
   a) Narrow banking  
   b) Social banking  
   c) Universal banking  
   d) Wholesale banking  
   e) Retail banking

7) What is the name of the govt. scheme launched for establishment of residential schools for girls and rural areas?
   a) Kasturba Gandhi Balika Vidyalaya  
   b) Beti Bachao Balika Vidyalaya  
   c) Indira Gandhi Awaas Vidyalya  
   d) Kasturba Gandhi Aawasiya Vidyalaya  
   e) Indira Awaasi Shikshan Kendra

8) Under the Pradhan Mantri Laghu Vyapari Maan-dhan Yojana 2019, which of the following can register for receiving pension of Rs. 3000/- and above?
   i) Small traders  
   ii) Retailers  
   iii) Self Employed  
   iv) Doctors  
   a) only I  
   b) only ii  
   c) only iii  
   d) only iv  
   e) all of the above

9) Which country has announced to give online tourist visa for the first time?
   a) Qatar  
   b) Jordan  
   c) Saudi Arabia  
   d) South Africa  
   e) Sweden

10) Who has been selected for the ‘India’s most powerful women in media’ award given in British Parliament?
    a) Barkha Dutt  
    b) Sagarika Ghose  
    c) Shweta Singh  
    d) Kallie Puri  
    e) Nidhi Kulpati

11) Who among the following won the gold medal in the 100m race of 2019 IAAF World Championships held in Doha?
    a) Dina Asher-Smith  
    b) Marie-Josee Ta Lou
c) Elaine Thompson
d) Dafne Schippers
e) Shelly-Ann Fraser-Pryce

12. The International Astronomical Union (IAU) has named an asteroid, formally known as a minor planet located between Mars and Jupiter, after which Indian classical singer?
a) Pandit Jasraj  b) Kumar Gandharva
c) Bhimsen Joshi  d) Kishori Amonkar
e) Manna Dey

13. When more than one banks are allowing credit facilities to one party in coordination with each other under a formal arrangement, the arrangement is generally known as
a) Participation  b) Consortium
c) Syndication  d) Multiple banking
e) None of these

14. Magnetic Ink Character Recognition Code (MICR Code) is a character recognition technology used mainly in the _______.
a) Insurance Industry  b) Banking Industry
c) Stoke Brokerages  d) Mutual Fund Industry
e) Investment Brokerage

15. Veteran Bollywood actor Amitabh Bachchan has recently been honoured with Dada Saheb Falke Award. What is the cash component of this award?
a) Rs. 10 lakh  b) Rs. 20 lakh
c) Rs. 5 lakh  d) Rs. 7 Lakh
e) No cash reward

16. Tracking and maneuvering of the satellites launched by ISRO is done by ISRO Telemetry, tracking and Command Network - ISTRAC. Where are the headquarters of ISTRAC?
a) New Delhi  b) Bengaluru
c) Mumbai  d) Chennai
e) Hyderabad

17. Name the Indian tennis player who recently won the men’s singles title at the ATP Challenger Tournament held in Buenos Aires, Argentina.
a) Rohan Bopanna  b) Somdev Devvarman
c) Leander Paes  d) Sumit Nagal
e) Mahesh Bhupathi

18. Name the Veteran Bollywood actor who passed away recently and is remembered for his role as Kalia in the classic movie Sholay.
a) Dinesh Hingoo  b) Mac Mohan
c) Satyen Kappu  d) Viju Khote
e) Shehzad Khan

19) Who has been appointed as executive director for India at IMF?
a) Rajiv Gopalachari  b) Surjeet Bhalla
c) S. Nariman  d) Vivek Mohan
e) Anshula Kant

20) Which PSU company has announced to launch an initiative to turn plastic into bitumen?
a) IOC  b) NTPC
c) SAIL  d) GAIL
E. BHEL

21) Which of the following is the regulator of the credit rating agencies in India?
a) Reserve Bank of India  b) SEBI
c) SIDBI  d) IRDA
e) NABARD

22) If any change is made in the amount, date of the cheque or the name of the beneficiary, such a change in the cheque is known as
a) Material Alteration  b) Special Alteration
c) Inadvertent Alteration  d) Technical Alteration
e) None of these

23. What is the name of the ISRO's mission to send 3 Indian astronauts in space by 2022?
a) Gaganyaan  b) Antrikshyaan
c) Gagangyan  d) Nabh Yatri
e) Antrikshmaan

24) To focus on water resources, govt. merged Ministry of Water Resources, River Development & Ganga Rejuvenation and Ministry of Drinking Water and Sanitation to form which new ministry?
a) Jal Sansadhan  b) Jal Avm Nadi
c) Jal Shakti  d) Jal Vikas
e) Jal Sanvardhan

25. Which Indian cricketer has become the first Indian player who played 100 T20 internationals?
a. Smriti Mandhana  b. Harmanpreet Kaur
c. Virat Kohli  d. Rohit Sharma
E. Shikhar Dhawan

26. What is the name of audio guide facility app launched by the Ministry of Tourism to enable tourists to hear the story of selected monument?
a) Audio Odigos  b) Radio Guide
c) Mobile Guide  d) Guide on Drive  e. Odio guide
27. Which US fast-fashion retailer filed for bankruptcy recently?
   a) Forever 21       b) H&M
   c) Zara            d) Topshop
   e) Polo
28. Which medal was won by Indian boxer Manju Rani in the 48-kilogram weight category of the Women’s World Boxing Championships?
   a) Gold       b) Silver
   c) Bronze  d) Runner-up momento
   e) None of the Above
29. Which of the following is the most appropriate explanation for the fact that young people are charged lesser life insurance premium as compared to old people?
   a) Mortality is inversely related to age
   b) Other family members may help old people
   c) Young people are mostly dependant
   d) Old people can afford to pay more
   e) Mortality is related to age
30. Consider the following financial transactions:
   1. Purchase of banker cheques for Rs. 50,000 and above
   2. Application for issue of credit card
   3. Securities transaction of more than Rs. 2,00,000
   4. Cash deposit of more than Rs. 50,000 in any bank account in one day
   During which of these transactions is it compulsory to quote Income Tax PAN (Permanent Account Number)?
   a) 1 and 2  b) 1, 2 and 4
   c) 2, 3 and 4  d) All of these
   e) None of these
31. What is the name of the new chief of Indian Air Force?
   a) Karambir Singh Nijjar
   b) Rakesh Kumar Singh Bhadauria
   c) Harjeet Singh Arora
   d) Rajesh Kumar
   e) Rajiv Dayal Mathur
32. Where are the headquarters of National Green Tribunal located?
   a) New Delhi       b) Gwalior
   c) Nagpur            d) Bengaluru
   e) Hyderabad
33. On which social media platform, Prime Minister Modi has become the world’s most-followed global leader?
   a) Twitter       b) Facebook
   c) Instagram  d) YouTube
   e) None of these
34. What is the name of Indian nun who was declared a saint by Pope Francis recently?
   a) Norah Williams
   b) Jenifer Gobalchar
   c) Vandana Narayan
   d) Mariam Thresia
   e) None of these
35. Which Indian player has won Dutch Open Badminton 2019?
   a) Harshit Chaudhary
   b) Arpit Gupta
   c) Vivek Joshi
   d) Lakshya Sen
   e) None of these
36. Which Social Media Platform has launched Going Online As Leaders (GOAL) programme to provide digital training to tribal women of India?
   a) Twitter  b) Snapchat
   c) Google  d) Facebook
   e) None of these
37. Which country has become the 2nd fastest growing economy in South Asia after Bhutan, according to a recent World Bank Report?
   a) Bangladesh       b) Nepal
   c) Pakistan            d) Maldives
   e) None of these
38. Bank Holidays are declared under which of the following?
   a) As per the order of the GOI
   b) As per the orders of the IBA
   c) Negotiable Instruments Act
   d) Banking Regulation Act
   e) RBI Act
39. In order to achieve financial inclusion goals, RBI has permitted opening of USBs. What is the full form of USB?
   a) Urban Small Branch
   b) Unique Safety Branch
   c) Ultra Small Branch
   d) United Smaller Branches
   e) None of these
40. Which of the following is not a Rabi Crop?
   a) Wheat  b) Barley
   c) Oilseeds   d) Maize
   e) Gram
41. The famous Manas Biosphere Reserve is located in which state?
   a) Manipur       b) Nagaland
42) Which private sector bank has launched a new fixed deposit scheme ‘FD Health’?
   a) HDFC Bank  
   b) Kotak Mahindra  
   c) ICICI Bank  
   d) HSBC  
   e) None of these

43) Who is the President of the United Nations Human Rights Council (UNHRC)?
   a) Tijjani Muhammad-Bande  
   b) María Fernanda Espinosa  
   c) António Guterres  
   d) Coly Seck  
   e) None of these

44) Government is planning to set up a new Nuclear Power Plant in ______, Haryana.
   a) Gurugram  
   b) Ambala  
   c) Gorakhpur  
   d) Jhajjar  
   e) None of these

45) Where did the Ministry of Defence conducted a pilot project for the admission of girl children in Sainik School, Chhingchhip, 2 years ago?
   a) Mizoram  
   b) Assam  
   c) Uttar Pradesh  
   d) Bihar  
   e) None of these

46) ’Buy now pay now’ is related to which of the following?
   a) Affinity Card  
   b) Smart Card  
   c) Business Card  
   d) Credit Card  
   e) Debit Card

47) The term ‘CASA’ is used in which of the following industries?
   a) Machine Manufacturing  
   b) Travel and Tourism  
   c) Textile Industry  
   d) Software Industry  
   e) Banking and Finance

48) To celebrate 550 Birth Anniversary of Guru Nanak Dev, central bank of which country has decided to issue commemorative coins of 2,500, 1,000 and 100 rupee?
   a) Nepal  
   b) Bangladesh  
   c) Bhutan  
   d) Sri Lanka  
   e) Mauritius

49) Which country launched an unmanned H-2B rocket to carry cargo vessel Kounotori-8 to deliver about 5.3 tonnes of supplies to astronauts at the International Space Station?
   a) China  
   b) USA  
   c) Japan  
   d) Russia  
   e) India

50) Which of the following became the first Indian bank to have a branch in Melbourne in Australian state of Victoria?
   a) Indian Bank  
   b) Punjab & Sind Bank  
   c) Bank of Baroda  
   d) State Bank of India  
   e) Punjab National Bank

1) Kalbelia & Ghoomer are the popular folk dance forms of which state?
   a) Rajasthan  
   b) Gujarat  
   c) Madhya Pradesh  
   d) Haryana  
   e) Chhattisgarh

2) As per the School Education Quality Index released by the Niti Aayog, which state emerged on top among 20 large states in terms of quality of school education?
   a) Karnataka  
   b) Kerala  
   c) Tamil Nadu  
   d) Rajasthan  
   e) Odisha

3) Kavitha Gopal has become the first girl student of which apex educational institute in its history of 60 years, to be honoured with the President of India Gold Medal for outstanding academic performance.
   a) IIT Bombay  
   b) IIT Madras  
   c) IIM Ahemdabad  
   d) JNU Delhi  
   e) IIM Kolkata

4) Which neighbouring country of India celebrated its 70th founding day on Oct 01, this year?
   a) China  
   b) Myanmar  
   c) Bhutan  
   d) Nepal  
   e) Sri Lanka

5) Government has renamed New Delhi-Ludhiana Intercity Express as a tribute to Shri Guru Nanak Dev ji’s 550th Parkash Purb. What is the new name of the train?
   a) Guru Nanak Dev Express  
   b) Guru Nanak Express  
   c) Sarbat Da Bhala Express  
   d) Ek Onkar Express  
   e) Sarbat Khalsa Express

6) Which of the following institutions is a credit information Bureau owned by Banks and other lending institutions?
   a) ARCIL  
   b) CARE  
   c) ARSEC  
   d) CIBIL  
   e) CRISIL

7) Which of the following organizations is the nodal agency in the Ministry of Finance for gathering and disseminating intelligence related to Finance in India?
   a) Financial Intelligence Unit  
   b) Enforcement Directorate  
   c) Intelligence Bureau  
   d) Central Bureau of India  
   e) Directorate General of Revenue Intelligence

8) Vinod Sharma’s cheques/instruments have been lost in transit/in clearing process or at the paying bank’s branch. What happens now?
   a) He should immediately bring the same to the notice of concerned bank
b) The bank should inform the drawer to record stop payment

c) The onus of such loss does not lie with Vinod Sharma
d) Vinod Sharma is not entitled for costs incurred for obtaining duplicate instruments
e) All of the above

9) As per Indian constitution, what is the maximum permissible interval between two sessions of parliament or state assembly?
a) 2 months   b) 3 months

c) 4 months   d) 6 months
e) No such limit

10) Under Swachh Rail, Swacch Bharat cleanliness assessment 2019, which railway station was declared cleanest among 720 major stations covered all over the country?
a) Lucknow   b) Jaipur
c) Jodhpur   d) Nagpur
e) Secunderabad

11) The Monetary Policy Committee - MPC of RBI, decided to cut the repo rate by 25 basis points, from 5.40% to 5.15%, with immediate effect to achieve which of the following?
a) to boost the flow of credit
b) to support economic growth
c) to support lending by banks
d) all of these
e) None of these

12) Recently China unveiled its intercontinental-range ballistic missile, touted to be the most powerful missile on the planet. What is its name?
a) Dongfeng-42 (DF-42)   b) Dongfeng-41 (DF-41)
c) Dragonfire-43 (DF-43)   d) Dengfong-44 (DF-44)
e) None of these

13) The second Vande Bharat Express started its run between which two cities from 5th October?
a) Delhi-Katra (Jammu)   b) Chennai-Bengaluru
c) Delhi-Gwalior   d) Mumbai-Pune
e) Varanasi-Patna

14) Which of the following is not considered a money market instrument?
a) Treasury Bills
b) Repurchase Agreement
c) Commercial Paper
d) Certificate of Deposits
e) Shares and Bonds

15) Kristalina Georgieva has recently been appointed Managing Director of IMF. She hails from which country?
a) Bulgaria   b) Rumania
c) Serbia   d) Austria
e) Turkey

16) Which International Day is observed every year on October 05 with an aim to improve teachers’ situation in the world?
a) International Teachers Day
b) World Teachers Day
c) World Education Day
d) International Schools Day
e) None of these

17) The National Basketball Association (NBA) of USA brought to India the first-ever Floating Basketball Court at which place?
a) Near Kochi coast
b) Opposite sea waters in Goa
c) In the Arabian Sea near Mumbai
d) Opposite sea waters in Chennai
e) In Bay of Bengal near Kolkata

18) The Indian Air Force, IAF, is celebrated its 87th anniversary on which date?
a) October 8
b) October 12
c) October 16
d) October 18
e) October 24

19) Veteran Scientists William G. Kaelin Jr, Sir Peter J. Ratcliffe and Gregg L. Semenza have been honoured with Nobel Prize in which field?
a) Chemistry
b) Physics
c) Medicine
d) Biology
e) None of these

20) The Nobel prize in Physics and Chemistry is decided by which of the following?
a) Royal Swedish Academy of Sciences
b) Royal Swedish Academy
c) Swedish Academy of Sciences
d) University of Sweden
e) National Science Institute, Sweden

21) Which of the following types of accounts are known as ‘Demat Accounts’?
a) Account which are Zero Balance Accounts
b) Accounts which are opened to facilitate repayment of a loan taken from the bank.
c) Accounts which are opened for recording shares sales / purchase transactions
d) Accounts which are operated through internet facility
e) None of these

22) Which country hosted the recent G-7 Summit 2019 at Biarritz?
a) Portugal
b) France
c) Italy
d) Greece
e) Spain

23) The 18th Non-Aligned Movement (NAM) Summit was held on 25-26 October in Baku in which country?
a) Azerbaijan
b) Kazakhstan
c) Mongolia
d) Uzbekistan
e) Ukraine
24) Scientists John Goodenough, Stanley Whittingham and Akira Yoshino won the Nobel Prize for Chemistry for which popular product?
   a) Lithium Ion Battery
   b) Lithium Carbon Battery
   c) Lithium Hydrogen Battery
   d) Lithium Zinc Battery
   e) Lithium Oxy Battery

25) For the first time, the World Cotton Day was observed on October 09. It was supported by which UN organization?
   a) GATT
   b) WTO
   c) ILO
   d) FAO
   e) WHO

26) The 14th edition of joint military training exercise Nomadic Elephant–XIV was held at Bakloh, cantonment town in district Chamba, Himachal Pradesh with which country?
   a) Mongolia
   b) Nepal
   c) Bangladesh
   d) Japan
   e) Afghanistan

27) Which city set up the country’s first e-waste clinic to facilitate proper collection and disposal of various e-waste items?
   a) Mumbai
   b) Gurugram
   c) Bhopal
   d) Mohali
   e) Pune

28) Which of the following set of financial instruments are traded in the derivatives Market?
   a) Commodities and Receivables
   b) Bond and Debentures
   c) Equity Shares
   d) Futures and Options
   e) Commercial Paper and CD

29) The Border Road Organization completed the construction of 1400 feet long Col. Chewang Rinchen Setu (Bridge) across Shyok River at an altitude of 14,650 feet in which state/UT?
   a) Uttarakhand
   b) Ladakh
   c) Nagaland
   d) Sikkim
   e) J & K

30) What was the theme of the 50th International Film Festival of India held in Goa from November 20-28?
   a) Glory of Cinema
   b) Me and My Cinema
   c) The Joy of Cinema
   d) Cinema: Pride of India
   e) Cinema through times

31) India slipped 10 places from 2018 to which rank in the annual Global Competitiveness Index 2019?
   a) 58th
   b) 68th
   c) 38th
   d) 70th
   e) 60th

32) Vice President M Venkaiah Naidu embarked on a five-day visit to which two African countries?
   a) Nigeria and Kenya
   b) Comoros and Sierra Leone
   c) Comoros and Kenya
   d) Sierra Leone and Nigeria
   e) Sudan and Algeria

33) RBI recently granted its final approval to which state to run its own bank by merging all the cooperative banks in the state?
   a) Kerala
   b) Jharkhand
   c) Odisha
   d) Sikkim
   e) Nagaland

34) The United Nations designated which day of October every year as World Habitat Day to reflect on the state of our towns and cities?
   a) Second Monday
   b) First Monday
   c) Second Tuesday
   d) Third Saturday
   e) First Tuesday

35) As per the ‘Crime in India 2017’ annual crime report released by the National Crime Records Bureau, which state reported highest number of crimes against women?
   a) Uttar Pradesh
   b) Maharashtra
   c) West Bengal
   d) Madhya Pradesh
   e) Bihar

36) Peter Handke, who won the Nobel Prize for literature for the year 2019, hails from which country?
   a) Serbia
   b) Venezuela
   c) Austria
   d) Peru
   e) Mexico

37) Announcement of Nobel Prizes this year included one prize for 2018 also. It was from which field?
   a) Physics
   b) Chemistry
   c) Medicine
   d) Literature
   e) Economics

38) With a view to bring down maternal and infant mortality rates in the country, The government launched Surakshit Matritva Aashwasan, SUMAN initiative to offer free healthcare benefits to which of the following?
   i) Pregnant women
   ii) Mothers up to 6 months after delivery
   iii) All sick newborns
   a) Only I
   b) Only ii
   c) Only iii
   d) All i, ii and iii
   e) None of these

39) Abiy Ahmed Ali, selected for the Nobel Peace Prize 2019 is the Prime Minister of which country?
   a) Brazil
   b) South Africa
   c) Sudan
   d) Mongolia
   e) Ethiopia

40) Which UN agency has become the first UN organisation to transact in crypto currency as it
41) As we all know Ministry of Finance prepares Union Budget every year and presents it to the Parliament. Which of the following is/are the elements of the Union Budget?
1. Estimates of revenue and capital receipts
2. Steps taken to raise the revenue
3. Estimates of expenditure
a) Only 1
b) Only 2
c) Only 3
d) All of these
e) None of these

42) The International Day of Girl Child is observed on which date?
a) October 10
b) October 11
c) October 12
d) October 13
e) October 14

43) Chinese President Xi Jinping arrived in Chennai on October 11 for a two-day visit to India. He visited which heritage city?
a) Madurai
b) Tiruchirapallli
c) Chidambaram.
d) Mahabalipuram
e) Kanchipuram

44) Eliud Kipchoge created history by finishing a standard marathon in less than two hours time. He hails from which country?
a) Kenya
b) Uganda
c) Jamaica
d) West Indies
e) Ethiopia

45) King Willem-Alexander and Queen Maxima arrived in New Delhi on Oct 13 on a five-day visit. They represent which country?
a) Finland
b) Sweden
c) Netherlands
d) Norway
e) Serbia

46) Typhoon Hagibis, a severe tropical storm made landfall on which sea town causing widespread damage?
a) Tokyo
b) Manila
c) Sydney
d) Shanghai
e) Jakarta

47) Which country defeated India to lift the Sultan of Johar Cup in Men’s Junior Hockey?
a) Germany
b) Poland
c) Holland
d) Britain
e) Spain

48) If a company intends to issue shares to the public, it will require prior permission from which of the following organizations?
a) Forward Market Commission
b) Securities Exchange Board of India
c) Shares Issue Authority of India
d) Ministry of Finance
e) None of these

49) Name the 22 year old star gymnast who broke the all-time record for most medals - 22 by any gymnast (male or female) at the world championships?
a) Catalina Ponor
b) Nastia Liukin
c) Aly Raisman
d) Simone Biles
e) Aliya Mustafina

50) R Praggnanandhaa, the 14-year-old Grand Master from ____ won the coveted gold in the World Youth Chess Championships held in Mumbai:
a) Chennai
b) Kochi
c) Madurai
d) Patna
e) Tirupati

**ANSWER KEY - OCTOBER GK TEST 1**

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**ANSWER KEY - OCTOBER GK TEST 2**

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QUANTITATIVE APTITUDE

Direction (1-5): In the following question, two equations numbered I and II are given. You have to solve both the equations & find out the relationship between the variables:

1) I. $12x^2 + 82x + 140 = 0$
   II. $16y^2 + 48y + 32 = 0$
   a) $x > y$
   b) $x \geq y$
   c) $x < y$
   d) $x \leq y$
   e) $x = y$ or the relationship cannot be established

2) I. $5x^2 - 35x + 60 = 0$
   II. $2y^2 + 13y + 20 = 0$
   a) $x > y$
   b) $x \geq y$
   c) $x < y$
   d) $x \leq y$
   e) $x = y$ or the relationship cannot be established

3) I. $8x^2 + 56x + 80 = 0$
   II. $6y^2 + 36y + 48 = 0$
   a) $x > y$
   b) $x \geq y$
   c) $x < y$
   d) $x \leq y$
   e) $x = y$ or the relationship cannot be established

4) I. $4x - y = 30$
   II. $6x + y = 35$
   a) $x > y$
   b) $x \geq y$
   c) $x < y$
   d) $x \leq y$
   e) $x = y$ or the relationship cannot be established

5) I. $12x^2 - 40x + 32 = 0$
   II. $9y^2 - 63y + 90 = 0$
   a) $x > y$
   b) $x \geq y$
   c) $x < y$
   d) $x \leq y$
   e) $x = y$ or the relationship cannot be established

Directions (Q.6-10): In each of the following question a wrong no. is given. Find out the wrong no.

6) 1 4 9 16 25 37 49
   a) 4
   b) 16

7) 7 20 37 61 91 127
   a) 20
   b) 37
   c) 61
   d) 91
   e) None

8) 1 2 6 24 121 720
   a) 24
   b) 2
   c) 6
   d) 121
   e) None

9) 16/32 15/33 17/31 14/35 18/30 13/35
   a) 14/35
   b) 17/31
   c) 18/30
   d) 15/33
   e) None

10) 51 62 50 49 65 48 65
    a) 48
    b) 63
    c) 49
    d) 65
    e) None

Directions (Qs. 11-15): Study the radar graph carefully and answer the questions that follow.

Number of students (in thousand) in two different universities in six different years

Number of students
- = University 1
= University 2

2007 2008
2009 2010 2011 2012

GENERAL AWARENESS - DECEMBER 2019
11) What was the difference between the number of students in university 1 in the year 2010 and the number of students in university 2 in the year 2012?
   a) 0  b) 5000
   c) 15000  d) 1000
   e) 1000

12) What is the sum of the number of students in university 1 in the year 2007 and the number of students in university 2 in the year 2011 together?
   a) 50000  b) 55000
   c) 45000  d) 57000
   e) 40000

13) If 25% of the students in university 2 in the year 2010 were females, what was the number of male students in university 2 in the same year?
   a) 11250  b) 12350
   c) 12500  d) 11500
   e) 11750

14) What was the per cent increase in the number of students in university 1 in the year 2011 as compared to the previous year?
   a) 135  b) 15
   c) 115  d) 25
   e) 35

15) In which year was the difference between the number of students in university 1 and the number of students in university 2 highest?
   a) 2008  b) 2009
   c) 2010  d) 2011
   e) 2012

Directions (16-20): Study the following table carefully. Some values are missing. Complete that based on given information in each question to answer the question.

The table shows the number of employees in an organization in 5 different cities with total employees being 2130 in the organization. Table also shows the percentage of employees working in 4 departments – HR, Finance, Software and Accounts with each employee in only 1 department.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Class</th>
<th>Employees</th>
<th>HR</th>
<th>Finance</th>
<th>Software</th>
<th>Accounts</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Delhi</td>
<td>450</td>
<td>18%</td>
<td></td>
<td>28%</td>
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<tr>
<td>Mumbai</td>
<td>380</td>
<td>15%</td>
<td></td>
<td>30%</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bengaluru</td>
<td></td>
<td>18%</td>
<td>20%</td>
<td>32%</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hyderabad</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>25%</td>
<td>18%</td>
<td>35%</td>
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<tr>
<td>Gurgaon</td>
<td>350</td>
<td>20%</td>
<td>22%</td>
<td>20%</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

16) What is the total number of employees in Mumbai and Gurgaon who work in Software department?
   a) 292  b) 226
   c) 285  d) 247
   e) None of these

17) If in Delhi, employees who work in Accounts department are 40% more than employees who work in HR department, then what is the number of employees who work in Software department in Delhi?
   a) 133  b) 153
   c) 176  d) 147
   e) None of these

18) If the number of employees in Bengaluru is 10% less than number of employees in Hyderabad, then what is the difference between number of employees who work in Accounts department in these 2 cities and who work in Finance department in these 2 cities?
   a) 122  b) 104
   c) 97   d) 135  e) 116

19) If a same criterion as taken in previous question is taken, in which city the total employees who work in Finance and Accounts departments is more?
   a) Delhi  b) Mumbai
   c) Bengaluru  d) Hyderabad
   e) Gurgaon

20) If in Mumbai, number of employees who work in Accounts department is 19 more than the number of employees who work in Software department in Gurgaon, then what is the number of employees who work in Finance department in Mumbai?
   a) 57  b) 60
   c) 49  d) 62
   e) 55

Directions (21-25): The following bar graph shows the production (in thousands) of different products in a company in 6 different months.

21) In how many months in the percentage rise/fall in production of Erasers from the previous month less than 10%?
   a) 1  b) 3

22) The total production of Pensils in June is approximately what percent of total production of Erasers in April?
   a) 86  b) 77
   c) 72  d) 82
   e) None of these

23) What is the average production of Scales in February and April?
   a) 42.25  b) 41.5
   c) 43.5  d) 42.5
   e) None of these

24) What is the total production of Pensils in January and February?
   a) 91  b) 92
   c) 93  d) 94
   e) None of these

25) In which month the production of Erasers was highest?
   a) January  b) February
   c) March  d) April
   e) May

Directions (21-25): The following bar graph shows the production (in thousands) of different products in a company in 6 different months.
22) The production of pencils for the given period is approximately what percentage of the total production of all the three products during the given period?
   a) 23%  
   b) 45%  
   c) 17%  
   d) 31%  
   e) None of these

23) What is the difference between the average production of scales in April, May and June and the average production of erasers from January to June?
   a) 1.22  
   b) 1.67  
   c) 1.97  
   d) 1.35  
   e) 1.16

24) If in July, the production of pencils get increased by 12%, that of erasers get increased by 8% and that of scales get decreased by 5% over the previous month, find the total production of all the 3 products in July.
   a) 123.45 thousand  
   b) 178.48 thousand  
   c) 132.56 thousand  
   d) 142.42 thousand  
   e) 138.67 thousand

25) If selling price of one pencil is Rs 8 and that of one scale is Rs 11, then what is the difference between the revenues of pencils and scales during the given months?
   a) 1174 thousand  
   b) 1438 thousand  
   c) 1624 thousand  
   d) 1238 thousand  
   e) 1168 thousand

Directions (26 - 30): Study the following carefully and answer the questions that follow:

### Departments

<table>
<thead>
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<th>Percentage of employees in 7 departments</th>
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<td>G, 10%</td>
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<tr>
<td>F, 21%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>E, 11%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>D, 16%</td>
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<tr>
<td>A, 16%</td>
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<td>B, 15%</td>
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<td>C, 11%</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

### Departments | % of Males |
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<td>52</td>
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<tr>
<td>C</td>
<td>42</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

26) If the number of male employees in department A is 12160, what is the number of employees in department D?
   a) 29800  
   b) 28000  
   c) 32700  
   d) 34000  
   e) 32000

27) In the number of employees in department D is 32000, then find the number of male employees in department B.
   a) 16800  
   b) 14300  
   c) 15600  
   d) 14000  
   e) 11600

28) Find the ratio of male employees in department F to that in department C.
   a) 21 : 11  
   b) 23 : 11  
   c) 25 : 13  
   d) 27 : 16  
   e) 19 : 9

29) If the number of male employees in department A is 12160, then find the number of employees in department E.
   a) 29100  
   b) 20100  
   c) 23400  
   d) 21000  
   e) 22000

30) The number of employees in department B is 30,000. If next year, the number of employees in departments B and G increase by 10% each, then find the number of male employees in department G next year.
   a) 11560  
   b) 12760  
   c) 18340  
   d) 12540  
   e) 14360

Directions (31-40): What will come in place of question mark (?) in the given questions?

31) \[7410 + ? - 3652 - 1479 = 11820\]
   a) 9451  
   b) 9527  
   c) 9441  
   d) 9541  
   e) None of these

32) \[32\% \times 860 \times ? = 61920\]
   a) 252  
   b) 255  
   c) 215  
   d) 205  
   e) None of these

33) \[7426 + 3393 + ? + 2061 = 14027\]
   a) 1087  
   b) 1147  
   c) 1156  
   d) 1136  
   e) None of these

34) \[16 \times 12 - 672 \div 21 = ? - 211\]
   a) 381  
   b) 347  
   c) 372  
   d) 311  
   e) None of these
35) \((\sqrt{5} - 2)^2 = ? - \sqrt{80}
\begin{align*}
a) & \ 4\sqrt{5} + 4 & b) & \ 4\sqrt{5} \\
c) & 9 - 4\sqrt{5} & d) & \ 9 \\
e) & \text{None of these}
\end{align*}

36) \(\frac{12}{17} \text{ of } 25\% \text{ of } 1020 = 120 + ?
\begin{align*}
a) & \ 60 & b) & \ 40 \\
c) & \ 80 & d) & \ 120 \\
e) & \text{None of these}
\end{align*}

37) \(\sqrt{12544 ÷ 64} \times ? = 43.75
\begin{align*}
a) & \ 30 & b) & \ 15 \\
c) & \ 25 & d) & \ 40 \\
e) & \text{None of these}
\end{align*}

38) \(444 ÷ (16 \times 1.5) = ?
\begin{align*}
a) & \ 41.625 & b) & \ 222 \\
c) & \ 18.5 & d) & \ 185 \\
e) & \text{None of these}
\end{align*}

39) \((16)^2 ÷ [(16)^4 \times (16)^3] = (16)^?
\begin{align*}
a) & \ 6.75 & b) & \ 8 \\
c) & \ 10 & d) & \ 12 \\
e) & \text{None of these}
\end{align*}

40) \(0.08 \times ? \times 2.5 = 1.12
\begin{align*}
a) & \ 6.5 & b) & \ 6.6 \\
c) & \ 5.6 & d) & \ 5.9 \\
e) & \text{None}
\end{align*}

Direction (41 - 45): Study the information carefully to answer the questions that follow:

In a school there are total 120 staff members and 800 students. 65 per cent of the number of staff members are teachers and the remaining staff members are administrative officials. Out of the total number of students 45 per cent are girls. Twenty per cent of the number of girls can speak only Hindi. The remaining girls can speak both Hindi and English. Three-fourths of the number of boys can speak only Hindi. The remaining boys can speak both Hindi and English. Two-thirds of the number of teachers are males. Five-fourteenths of the number of administrative officials are females.

41) What is the difference between the number of boys (student) who can speak both Hindi and English and the number of girls (student) who can speak both Hindi and English?
\begin{align*}
a) & \ 164 & b) & \ 178 \\
c) & \ 188 & d) & \ 174 \\
e) & \text{None of these}
\end{align*}

42) The total number of girls (student) is what Percent of the total number of staff members in the school?
\begin{align*}
a) & \ 350 & b) & \ 300 \\
c) & \ 400 & d) & \ 450 \\
e) & \text{None of these}
\end{align*}

43) The total number of female administrative officials and female teachers are how much more than the number of male administrative officials?
\begin{align*}
a) & \ 16 & b) & \ 12 \\
c) & \ 18 & d) & \ 14 \\
e) & \text{None of these}
\end{align*}

44) What is the ratio of the total number of teachers to the number of boys (student) who can speak Hindi only?
\begin{align*}
a) & \ 11 : 56 & b) & \ 13 : 54 \\
c) & \ 13 : 56 & d) & \ 11 : 54 \\
e) & \text{None of these}
\end{align*}

45) What is the total number of male administrative officials, female teachers and girls (student) who can speak Hindi only?
\begin{align*}
a) & \ 125 & b) & \ 115 \\
c) & \ 127 & d) & \ 117 \\
e) & \text{None of these}
\end{align*}

46) 4 boys and 5 girls plan to go to a movie. But 4 girls are stubborn that they will sit together. How many ways can the 9 sit in the movie?
\begin{align*}
a) & \ 86,400 & b) & \ 17,280 \\
c) & \ 3,62,880 & d) & \ 3,45,600 \\
e) & \text{None of the above}
\end{align*}

47) A skilled worker can do a certain job in 3 days and an unskilled worker takes 8 days to finish the similar job. If both start working together with their respective speeds and are paid according to the amount of work they do then what will be the ratio of the wages of skilled worker to wages of unskilled worker.
\begin{align*}
a) & \ 5:3 & b) & \ 6:3 \\
c) & \ 7:4 & d) & \ 8:4 \\
e) & \ 8:3
\end{align*}

48) As per the new pattern of SBI PO exam paper contains 100 questions. Three marks are awarded for every correct answer, 1 mark is deducted for every wrong question and half mark is deducted for every unattempted question. Jai gets 112.5 marks and he left as many questions as those he had answered wrongly. Find the number of questions he had answered correctly.
\begin{align*}
a) & \ 75 & b) & \ 50 \\
c) & \ 40 & d) & \ 65 \\
e) & \ 70
\end{align*}

49) Deepika invested an amount of INR 10600 at the simple interest rate of 23% p.a. and another amount at the simple interest rate of 25% p.a. The total interest earned by Deepika at the end of the 1st year on the total amount invested by her became 24% p.a. Find the total amount invested by her.
50) The sum of the present ages of a mother and a daughter is 54 years and the difference between their present ages is 30 years. What will be the ratio of the age of mother to that of daughter after 8 years?

a) 5 : 3  

b) 7 : 3  

c) 3 : 1  

d) 2 : 1  

e) 5 : 2

51) Which of the following best states the central idea of the passage?

a) The establishment of literary salons was a response to reformers’ demands for social rights for women.

b) For women, who did not have access to higher education as men did, literary salons provided an alternate route to learning and a challenge to some of society’s basic assumptions about women.

c) The literary salons provided a sounding board for French and English women who called for access to all the educational institutions in their societies on an equal basis with men.

d) In England, as in France, the general prejudice against higher education for women limited women’s function in literary salons to a primarily social one.

e) University where women exchanged ideas with educated persons

52) According to the passage, a significant distinction between the salonnieres and Bluestockings was in the way each group regarded which of the following?

a) The value of acquiring knowledge.

b) The role of pleasure in the activities of the literary salon.

c) The desirability of a complete break with societal traditions.

d) The inclusion of women of different backgrounds in the salons.

e) The thought of women, tough somewhat puritanical

ENGLISH LANGUAGE

Directions (51-58): Read the following passage carefully and answer the questions given below it. Certain words are given BOLD to help you to locate them while answering some of the questions.

In eighteenth-century France and England, reformers rallied around egalitarian ideals, but few reformers advocated higher education for women. Although the public decried women’s lack of education, it did not encourage learning for its own sake for women. In spite of the general prejudice against learned women, there was one place where women could exhibit their erudition: the literary salon. Many writers have defined the woman’s role in the salon as that of an intelligent hostess, but the salon had more than a social function for women. It was an informal university, too, where women exchanged ideas with educated persons, read their own works and heard those of others, and received and gave criticism.

In the 1750’s, when salons were firmly established in France, some English women, who called themselves “Bluestockings” followed the example of the salonnieres (French salon hostesses) and formed their own salons. Most Bluestockings did not wish to mirror the salonnieres; they simply desired to adapt a proven formula to their own purpose - the elevation of women’s status through moral and intellectual training. Differences in social orientation and background can account perhaps for differences in the nature of French and English salons. The French salon incorporated aristocratic attitudes that exalted courtly pleasure and emphasized artistic accomplishments. The English Bluestockings, originating from a more modest background, emphasized earning and work over pleasure. Accustomed to the regimented life of court circles, salonnieres tended toward formality in their salons. The English women, tough somewhat puritanical, were more casual in their approach. At first, the Bluestockings did imitate the salonnieres by including men in their circles. However, as they gained cohesion, the Bluestockings came to regard themselves as a women’s group and to possess a sense of female solidarity lacking in the salonnieres, who remained isolated from one another by the primacy each held in her own salon. In an atmosphere of mutual support, the Bluestockings went beyond the salon experience. They travelled, studied, worked, wrote for publication, and by their activities challenged the stereotype of the passive woman. Although salonnieres were aware of sexual inequality, the narrow boundaries of their world kept their intellectual pursuits within conventional limits. Many salonnieres, in fact, camouflaged their non-traditional activities behind the role of hostess and deferred to men in public.

Though the Bluestockings were trailblazers when compared with the salonnieres, they were not feminists. They were too traditional, too hemmed by their generation to demand social and political rights. Nonetheless, in their desire for education, their willingness to go beyond the confines of the salon in pursuing their interests, and their championing of unity among women, the Bluestockings began the process of questioning women’s role in society.
53) The author refers to differences in social background between salonnieres and Bluestockings in order to do which of the following?
   a) Criticize the view that their choices of activities were significantly influenced by male salon members.
   b) Discuss the reasons why literary salons in France were established before those in England.
   c) Question the importance of the Bluestockings in shaping public attitudes toward educated women.
   d) Explain the differences in atmosphere and style in their salons.
   e) Motivate the atmosphere and style significantly.

54) Which of the following statements is most compatible with the principles of the salonnieres as described in the passage?
   a) Women should aspire to be not only educated but independent as well.
   b) The duty of the educated women is to provide an active political model for less educated women.
   c) Devotion to pleasure and art is justified in itself.
   d) Substance, rather than form, is the most important consideration in holding a literary salon.
   e) Hammed by their generation to demand social and political rights.

55) The passage suggests that the Bluestockings might have had a more significant impact on society if it had not been for which of the following?
   a) Their unwillingness to defy aggressively the conventions of their age.
   b) Competitiveness among their salons.
   c) Their emphasis on individualism.
   d) The limited scope of their activities.
   e) The aggressive individualism.

56) Which of the following could best be considered a twentieth-century counterpart of an eighteenth-century literary salon as it is described in the passage?
   a) A social sorority
   b) A community centre
   c) A lecture course on art
   d) A humanities study group
   e) An egocentric centre

57) To an assertion that Bluestockings were feminists, the author would most probably respond in which of the following way?
   a) Admitted uncertainty
   b) Qualified disagreement
   c) Complete indifference
   d) Strong disparagement
   e) Mild indifference

58) Which of the following titles best describes the content of the passage?
   a) Eighteenth — Century Egalitarianism
   b) Feminists of the Eighteenth Century
   c) Eighteenth Century — Precursors of Feminism
   d) Intellectual Life in the Eighteenth Century
   e) Life Precursors

Directions (Q.59-68): Read each sentence to find out whether there is any grammatical error or idiomatic error in it. The error if any, will be in one part of the sentence. The number of that part is the answer. If there is “No error” the answer is ‘e’. (Ignore errors of punctuation if any.)

59) The couple's work in a) upgrading rural technicians b) has set a benchmark c) for future generations. d) No errors e)
60) It has taking almost a) a year for India b) to let its pessimism c) translate into fewer jobs. d) No errors e)
61) The city needs an airport a) that can efficiently manage b) a constantly flow of c) passengers and flights. d) No errors e)
62) This group of a) rural achievers is very b) different than the c) ones in the past. d) No error e).
63) The government has announced a) plans to creating b) one million new c) training places. d) No error e).
64) The argument assumes that a) early detection of the disease b) will lead to an immediate drop in c) the mortality rating from this disease. d) No error e).
65) The two most important numbers a) which the mandarins of an b) economy have to watch c) are inflation and unemployment. d) No error e).
66) Witnessed the young soldier's ability a) to repeatedly hit bull's eye at b) arms training, instructors pushed him c) to participate in the Army marksmanship competition. d) No error e).
67) It is all well known that a) women are generally in favour of b) light topics like jokes and expressions c) that causing laughter all around. d) No error e).
68) The evening breeze a) won't carrying the poetry b) of peace beyond c) the school building . d) No error e).

Directions (69-78): In the following passage there are blanks, each of which has been numbered. These numbers are printed in the passage and against each, five words are suggested, one of which fits the blanks appropriately. Find out the appropriate word in each case.
Something has happened in the last twenty years that surely must .....69...... anything that has happened before. Some historians are already saying that thrust .....70...... space represents a vital turning point in history. Moon flights are considered .....71...... less than steps in human evolution .....72...... to the time when life on earth emerged from the sea and established itself on land. Of course, not everyone .....73...... enraptured by space. Critics have often said that space flight has been an .....74...... use of resources that should have .....75...... to feeding, clothing and housing people. There is, however, no proof that if we had .....76...... been working on space we would have done anything of great human value. In fact, research and exploration have a .....77...... spin-offs, quite apart from the fact that they demonstrate that .....78...... is alive and insatiably curious.

69) a) terminate c) precede e) no change
b) transcend d) recede

d) a) nothing c) sufficiently e) no change
b) certainly d) probably

72) a) exceeding c) comparable e) no change
b) contrasting d) matching

73) a) was c) had been e) no change
b) has been d) being

74) a) economical c) appropriate e) no change
b) extravagant d) benevolent

75) a) devoted c) reserved e) no change
b) allotted d) gone

76) a) not c) seldom e) no change
b) occasionally d) possibly

77) a) renowned c) remarkable e) no change
b) renounced d) relevant

78) a) one c) human e) no change
b) man d) individual

Directions (79-83): In each of the following questions given below, a sentence is given with some bold words which may contain errors. Below each of the sentence, a table is given with two columns in which column 'A' contains the list of bold words, and in column 'B' the suggested corrections are listed. You have to choose the best alternate among the four given options. If no correction is required against the given bold words, mark (e) .i.e. “None of the above” as your answer.

79) The Indian telecom sector has witnessed a Paranoid shift—crossing the billion-user mark and rolling out new technologies along with other leading markets. Just four years ago, it faced multiple challenges—falling revenues and increasing debt were wreaking triumph.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>COLOUNM A</th>
<th>COLOUNM B</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>(1) Paranoid</td>
<td>(5) Paradigm</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>(2) Rolling</td>
<td>(6) Rolled</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>(3) Faced</td>
<td>(7) Face off</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>(4) Triumph</td>
<td>(8) Havoc</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

a) Both (1) - (5) and (4) - (8)
b) (2) - (6) c) (1) - (5)
d) (3-7) e) None of the above

80) The government launched Tarang Sanchar portal to correct misleading around electromagnetic emissions from towers. It allows people to check emission (EMF) consensus status of mobile towers, giving information about any site, on request, via email.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>COLOUNM A</th>
<th>COLOUNM B</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>(1) Mislead</td>
<td>(5) Misconceptions</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>(2) Emissions</td>
<td>(6) Eminences</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>(3) Consensus</td>
<td>(7) Compliance</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>(4) Information</td>
<td>(8) Informed</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

a) (4) - (8) b) (2) - (6)
c) (1) - (5) d) Both (1) - (5) and (3-7)
e) None of the above

81) India has told messaging platform WhatsApp to get serious about hawkings the purveyors of fake news and variance rumours. In a meeting with one of its top hosts, the law minister stressed that over 20 lives had been lost in India due to this rumour-mongering.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>COLOUNM A</th>
<th>COLOUNM B</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>(1) Hawking</td>
<td>(5) Tracking</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>(2) Variance</td>
<td>(6) Vicious</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>(3) Hosts</td>
<td>(7) Honchos</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>(4) Stressed</td>
<td>(8) Guessed</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

a) (4) - (8) b) (2) - (6)
c) (1) - (5) d) (1) - (5), (2) - (6) and (3-7)
e) None of the above
82) **Preserving**, changing social structures, **raising** disposable incomes, industrial growth and infrastructure expansion, **coupled** with the easy availability of housing loans, are the drivers of decorative paints industry, which accounts for 75% of the estimated $8.2-billion Indian market.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>COLUMN A</th>
<th>COLUMN B</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>(1) Preserving</td>
<td>(5) Urbanisation</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>(2) Raising</td>
<td>(6) Rising</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>(3) Coupled</td>
<td>(7) Caused</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>(4) Estimated</td>
<td>(8) Estimation</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

a) (4) – (8)  
b) (2) – (6)  
c) Both (1) - (5) and (2) – (6)  
d) (1) - (5), (2) – (6) and (3-7)  
e) None of the above

83) It is important to measure the **outstanding** risk of a company and find the best possible solution to **hedge** and manage it. Had locked in a major portion of the costs can give paint manufacturers a significant margin boost to achieve compete pricing and hence healthy functioning.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>COLUMN A</th>
<th>COLUMN B</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>(1) Outstanding</td>
<td>(5) Outdated</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>(2) Hedge</td>
<td>(6) Wedge</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>(3) Had</td>
<td>(7) Having</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>(4) Compete</td>
<td>(8) Competitive</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

a) (4) – (8)  
b) (2) – (6)  
c) Both (3) - (7) and (4) – (8)  
d) (1) - (5), (2) – (6) and (3-7)  
e) None of the above

Directions (84-85): In each of the questions below, there is a word given in bold which is followed by five options. In each of the options, a pair of words is given which is either the pair of synonyms or antonyms or synonym & antonym of the word given in bold. Choose that pair as your answer.

84) **ABERRANT**  
a) Inane: Systematic  
b) Anomalous: Amulet  
c) Abusive: Amoral  
d) Abstain: Abandon  
e) Deviant: Abnormal

85) **METICULOUS**  
a) Conscientious: Nemesis  
b) Scrupulous: Slapdash  
c) Obligatory: Scrutinize  
d) Skeptic: Stringent  
e) Sloppy: Subservient

86) **Taken a leaf from** China, the government should create clusters so that overheads are reduced.

a) Taking a leaf from  
b) Taking a leaf of  
c) Take a leaf out of  
d) Taking a leaf out of  
e) No Improvement

87) With surplus liquidity from banks abating, the RBI **saved interest outgo and increased** its income by 27 per cent in FY18.

a) saved for interest outgo and increased  
b) saved on interest outgo and increased  
c) saved over interest outgo and increased  
d) saved in interest outgo and increased  
e) No Improvement

88) Although most economists make a good living, **few have become rich by its** knowledge of economics.

a) few have become rich from their  
b) few have become rich by their  
c) few have become rich with their  
d) few have become rich their  
e) No Improvement

89) India’s **single-minded efforts to promote** domestic manufacture of solar modules may not reap economic gains.

a) single-mind efforts for promoting  
b) single-minded efforts for promoting  
c) single-minded efforts to promote  
d) single-mind efforts to promoting  
e) No Improvement

90) Our foreign policy mandarins have the electorate in neighbouring countries **thank that the situation** hasn’t worsened for India.

a) to thank if the situation  
b) thank if the situation  
c) to thank that the situation  
d) to thank how the situation  
e) No Improvement

### REASONING ABILITY / COMPUTER AWARENESS

Directions (91-95): Study the following information carefully to answer these questions.

A, B, C, D, E, F, G, and H are eight family members. They all leave for shopping mall in a same day but on different time viz. 1pm, 2pm, 3pm, 4pm, 5pm, 6pm, 7pm and 8pm but not necessarily in the same order.

A leaves for mall after 5pm. Three persons leave for mall between A and H. Two persons leave for mall between B and D. Three persons leave for mall between B and D. One person leaves for mall between B and C. Three persons leave for mall between C and F. Two persons leave for mall between F and G. E leaves for mall after 8pm.

91) Who among following leaves for mall on 1pm?  
a) D  
b) A  
c) E  
d) B  
e) C
92) Who among following leaves for mall immediately after A?
   a) D            b) F            c) E            d) No one            e) C

93) Which of the following combinations of person-timing is definitely correct?
   a) G-3pm        b) H-5pm        c) E-6pm        d) A-7pm        e) None of these

94) How many persons leave for mall between G and D?
   a) One            b) Three            c) More than three            d) Two            e) No one

95) Who among leaves for mall on 4pm?
   a) H            b) D            c) E            d) B            e) None of these

Directions (96-98): Study the following information and answer the questions given below:

There are AB axis in such a way that A is in north and B is in south direction. There is XY axis in such a way that X is in west direction and Y is in east direction. AB axis and XY axis intersect at a point Q in such a way that AQ is 14m, QB is 25m, QX is 23m, QY is 18 m.

While facing towards south direction on point A, Daksh takes his left and walks 15m and then he takes a right turn and walks 34m and reached to point C. While facing towards south direction from point C, Sonam takes her right and walks 38m and reached point D.

96) Point X is in which direction with respect to Daksh's final point?
   a) South            b) South-East            c) South-West            d) West            e) North-West

97) Point D is in which direction with respect to Daksh's starting position?
   a) North            b) East            c) North-East            d) North-West            e) South-West

98) What is the distance between point D and point X?
   a) 20m            b) 23m            c) 18m            d) 14m            e) 21m

Directions (99-100): In these questions, relationship between different elements is shown in the statements. The statements are followed by conclusions. Give answer

99) Statements: X ≥ G = H ; G > J ≥ L ; J ≥ K < Y
Conclusions I. X ≥ L  II. L < H  III. L > Y
   a) if only conclusion I is true            b) if only conclusion II is true            c) if only conclusion III is true            d) if all conclusion I, II, III are true            e) if no conclusion is true

100) Statements: A < B = R ≥ S ≥ T ; X < J ≤ K < T
Conclusions: I. T ≤ B  II. X > A  III. J > B
   a) if only conclusion I is true            b) if only conclusion II is true            c) if only conclusion III is true            d) if all conclusion I, II, III are true            e) if no conclusion is true

Directions (101-102): Study the following information and answer the questions given below:

There are eight family members i.e A, B, C, D, E, F, G and H. B is the brother of C who is mother of E. F is the sister of E. E is married to A. A is sister in law of F. F married to H who is son of D. A is daughter of G.

101) How is E related to G?
   a) Son            b) Daughter            c) Son in law            d) Daughter in law            e) None of these

102) How is F related to B?
   a) Son            b) Daughter            c) Niece            d) Nephew            e) Son in law

Directions (103-107): Study the following information carefully and answer the questions given below.

There are eight persons namely A, B, C, D, E, F, G and H who all are sitting around a square table facing towards the center. They all like different genres of movies i.e. horror, comedy, action, animation, suspense, drama, sci-fi & historical but not necessarily in the same order. Four of them are sitting at the corners and rest in the middle of the sides.

G does not like historical or action. C, who likes comedy sits 2nd to left of the one who likes horrors. Three people sit between the one who likes horror and D, who likes suspense. B does not like action genre movies. H sits immediate left of D. E sits diagonally opposite to G. The one who likes action sits diagonally opposite to the one who likes animation. H does not like action. The one who likes sci-fi sits immediate left to the one who likes comedy. A does not sit next to C and he does not like horror. The one who likes drama sits 2nd to the left of D.

103) Who among the following sits diagonally opposite to the one who likes sci-fi?
   a) The one who likes animation            b) The one who likes suspense            c) The one who likes comedy            d) The one who likes historical            e) None of these
104) Four of the following five are alike in a certain way and thus form a group. Which is the one that does not belong to that group?
   a) The one who likes comedy
   b) G
   c) F
   d) The one who likes historical
   e) H

105) Which among the following genres does A like?
   a) Sci-Fi
   b) Drama
   c) Comedy
   d) Animation
   e) None of these

106) Who among the following pair represents those who are the immediate neighbors of B?
   a) The one who likes animation, the one who likes horror
   b) The one who likes suspense, the one who likes action
   c) The one who likes comedy, the one who likes suspense
   d) The one who likes historical, the one who likes comedy
   e) None of these

107) If all of them are made to sit in an alphabetical order starting from A in clockwise direction, then how many persons remain at their original positions (excluding A)?
   a) Two
   b) No one
   c) One
   d) Three
   e) Four

Directions (108-110): Each of the following questions below consists of a question and two statements numbered I and II given below it. You have to decide whether the data provided in the statements are sufficient to answer the question. Read both the statements and give answer.
   a) if the data in statement I alone are sufficient to answer the question, while the data in statement II alone are not sufficient in answer the question.
   b) if the data in statement II alone are sufficient to answer the question, while the data in statement I alone are not sufficient to answer the question.
   c) if the data in either in statement I alone or in statement II alone are sufficient to answer the question.
   d) if the data in both the statements I and II together are not sufficient to answer the question.
   e) if the data in both the statements I and II are together necessary to answer the question.

108) How is ‘pink’ written in a code language?
   I. ‘pink and blue’ is written as ‘ho po da’ in that code language.
   II. ‘spread pink carpet’ is written as ‘na da ka’ in that code language.

109) In a row of boys facing north who is on the immediate right of N?
   I. N is third to the left of S and third to the right of R.
   II. D is the immediate neighbour of S.

110) Who has secured the maximum marks among six friends A, B, C, D, E and F?
   I. B secured less marks than A and F but not less than C, D and E.
   II. F secured more marks than B but not as much as A.

Directions (111-115): Study the information and answer the given questions:
Eight boxes namely M, N, O, P, R, S, T and U are placed from top to bottom but not necessarily in the same order. They contain different types of items i.e Medicine, Pen, Vegetable, Fruit, Cloth, Ice-cream, book and Mobile but not necessarily in the same order. Boxes are of different materials i.e Gold, Steel, Silver and Copper material. Exactly two boxes are there of each material. Consider top as 1st position and so on. The following information is known about them.
There is gap of one box between the box T which is Steel material and box R and both are in the top 4 positions when boxes are arranged from top to bottom. The box containing Fruit item is kept immediately below the Silver material box and is of same material as T. Box S is kept somewhere between N and O. Box O is below S. The two Copper boxes are kept vertically adjacent to each other. The box which contain Vegetable is kept exactly between M and the box containing Ice-cream. O doesn’t contain Medicine. There is gap of one box between the box U and box N, which is kept immediately below the box containing Fruit. Box U is below the box N. The box R is not of gold material. The box containing Mobile is placed at even numbered place but is not placed at the bottom. The box which is of Gold material is kept at top and contains either Medicine or book. Box U is not of Copper material. Box M which contains Cloth is of Silver material. The box containing Pen is of Silver material. S doesn’t contain any of Medicine or Mobile. Box R does not contain Pen and mobile.

111) Which box contains Pen?
   a) P
   b) R
   c) T
   d) O
   e) S

112) Which box is of Silver material?
   a) S
   b) O
   c) U
   d) P
   e) T

113) Which box is placed at top?
   a) The box which contains book
   b) R
   c) U
   d) O
   e) P

114) Which box is placed at bottom?
   a) P
   b) R
   c) S
   d) O
   e) T
115) N contains which of the following item?
   a) Book       b) Ice-cream
   c) Vegetable  d) Fruit
   e) Mobile

Directions (116-118): Study the information and answer the following questions:
In a certain code language
‘but why he drink’ is written as ‘ca by ta zb’,
‘and when can used’ is written as ‘lo cn ku dv’,
‘why can they think’ is written as ‘jm ta xb lo ’,
‘he think and came’ is written as ‘xb yq by cn ’,

116) What is the code for ‘drink’ in the given code language?
   a) ca       b) by
   c) ta
   d) Cannot be determined  e) zb

117) What is the code for ‘he’ in the given code language?
   a) ca
   b) by
   c) ta
   d) zb
   e) None of these

118) What is the code for ‘they’ in the given code language?
   a) jm
   b) lo
   c) xb
   d) ta
   e) None of these

Directions (119-123): Study the following information carefully and answer the questions.
There are eight persons – A, B, C, D, E, F, G and H. They all lives in the eight-storey building in which the ground floor is numbered one and the topmost floor is numbered eight.
A lives on even numbered floor but above the floor numbered four. Three persons live between A and E. Only one person lives between E and H. Two persons live between H and B. Three persons live between B and G. Only one person lives between C and G. D does not live on first, second and top floor. C does not live on first floor. Three persons live between C and F.

119) D lives on which of the following floor?
   a) Fifth       b) Fourth
   c) Sixth
   d) Third
   e) First

120) Who among following lives immediately below the floor on which G lives?
   a) B       b) A
   c) C
   d) No one
   e) D

121) F lives on which of the following floor?
   a) Seventh       b) Sixth
   c) Fifth
   d) Fourth
   e) None of these

122) Who among following lives exactly between D and E?
   a) A       b) B
   c) F
   d) G
   e) C

123) How many persons live above the floor on which B lives?
   a) One       b) Two
   c) Three
   d) No one
   e) More than three

Directions (124-125): Question consists of five statements followed by five conclusions. Consider the given statements to be true even if they seem to be at variance with commonly known facts. Read all the conclusions and then decide which of the given conclusions does not logically follow from the given statements using all statements together.

124) Statements: All book are copy. Some copy are kite. No kite are hour. Some hour are time. All time are month.

   Conclusions: a) Some month are hour.
   b) All book being kite is a possibility.
   c) Some copy is not hour.
   d) All copy being book is a possibility.
   e) None of these.

125) Statements: Some fly are high. No high is world. All world is large. Some large is Note. All note is pen.

   Conclusions: a) All large being world is a possibility.
   b) All pen being world is a possibility.
   c) All note being world is a possibility.
   d) All fly being note is a possibility.
   e) None of these.

Directions (126-130): A word and number arrangement machine when given an input line of words and numbers rearranges them following a particular rule in each step. The following is an illustration of input and rearrangement.
Input : troop 34 gold 22 84 51 land model 67 sleep.
Step I : gold troop 34 22 51 land model 84 67 sleep
Step II : land gold troop 34 22 51 model sleep 84 67
Step III : model land gold troop 34 22 sleep 84 67 51
Step IV : sleep model land gold troop 22 84 67 51 34
Step V : troop sleep model land gold 84 67 51 34 22
And step V is the last step of the arrangement.
As per the above rule followed in the above steps, find out in each of the following questions the appropriate step for the input given below;
Input: 45 kitten war 7 71 viking Broad Trail 27 alarm 94 52

126) How many steps would be needed to complete the arrangement?
   a) VI  b) V
c) IV  
d) VII  
e) None of these

127) Which Step number would be the following output?  
Trail kitten Broad alarm war 7 viking 27 94 71 52 45.  

a) III  
b) II  
c) VII  
d) IV  
e) There will be no such step

128) Which of the following would be the step III?  
a) Broad alarm 45 kitten war 7 viking Trail 27 94 71.  
b) kitten Broad alarm 45 war viking 7 Trail 27 94 71 52.  
c) 52 Broad alarm 45 kitten war 7 viking Trail 27 94 71.  
d) kitten Broad 45 alarm war 7 viking Trail 27 94 71 52.  
e) None of these

129) In step V, which of the following word/number would be on the 6th position (from the right)?  
a) Viking  
b) 7  
c) 27  
d) war  
e) None of these

130) In step V, 'Viking ' is related to '27' and 'Trail' is related to '45'. In the same way 'Broad' is related to?  
a) 7  
b) 94  
c) 71  
d) 52  
e) 45

131) What is the position of W with respect to the one who wear Mufti brand?  
a) Third to the right  
b) immediate left  
c) Fourth to the left  
d) Third to the left  
e) Immediate right

132) How many persons are there between R and T, when counted from left of R?  
a) One  
b) Two  
c) Three  
d) None  
e) None of these

133) Who among the following sits second to the left of the one who sits opposite the one who wear Levis brand?  
a) T  
b) Q  
c) U  
d) V  
e) S

134) Who among the following sits third to the right of S?  
a) The one who wear Raymond brand  
b) The one who wear Mufti brand  
c) The one who wear Woodland brand  
d) The one who wear Zara brand  
e) None of these

135) What is the position of P with respect to V?  
a) Second to the left  
b) Third to the right  
c) Fifth to the right  
d) Can’t be determined  
e) Third to the left

136) UNIVAC  
a) Universal Automatic Computer  
b) Universal Array Computer  
c) Unique Automatic Computer  
d) Unvalued Automatic Computer  
e) None of these

137) The basic operations performed by a computer are  
a) Arithmetic operation  
b) Logical operation  
c) Storage and relative  
d) All the above  
e) None of these

138) Which of the following produces the best quality graphics reproduction?  
a) Laser printer  
b) Ink jet printer  
c) Plotter  
d) Dot matrix printer  
e) None of these

139) Which of the following is not a type of Software?  
a) System Software  
b) Application Software  
c) Utility Software  
d) Entertainment Software  
e) None of these

140) What was the nick name of the computer used by the Americans in 1952 for their H-bomb project?
a) ENIAC  
       b) EDSAC
       c) MANIAC  
       d) UNIVAC
       e) None of these

**ANSWER KEY**

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**SOLUTION**

1)  $12x^2 + 82x + 140 = 0$
    
    \[x = \frac{-7/2, -10/3}{-1.2, -2}\]
    
    $Y > X$

2)  $5x^2 - 35x + 60 = 0$
    
    $5x^2 - 20x - 15x + 60 = 0$
    
    $x = 4, 3$
    
    $y = 13y + 20 = 0$
    
    $y = 4, -5/2$
    
    $So \ x > Y$

3)  $1.8x^2 + 56x + 80 = 0$
    
    $8x^2 + 16x + 40x + 80 = 0$
    
    $x = -5, -2$

4)  After solving the both equation got values of $x = 6.5 \ and \ y = -4$
    
    $So \ X > Y$

5)  $I. 12x^2 - 40x + 32 = 0$
    
    $3x^2 - 10x + 8 = 0$
    
    $3x^2 - 6x - 4x + 8 = 0$
    
    $x = 2/3, 2$

6)  $II. 9y^2 - 63y + 90 = 0$
    
    $y^2 - 7y + 10 = 0$
    
    $y = 5, 2$
    
    $So \ X \leq Y$

7)  $Sequence = Squares \ of \ numbers \ i.e. \ 1^2, 2^2, 3^2, ..........$
    
    Hence 37 is wrong and should be replaced by 36.

8)  $In \ the \ sequence: \ 7, 7+12 - 19, 19 + 18 - 37,$
    
    $37 + 24 = 61, 61 + 30 = 91, 91 + 36 = 127$
    
    Hence 20 is wrong and should be replaced by 19.

9)  $In \ the \ sequence: \ 1; (x2) = 2; (x3) = 6;$
    
    $6x(4) = 24; 24(x5) = 120; 120(x6) = 720$
    
    Hence 121 is wrong and should be replaced by 120.

10)  $The \ numerators \ follow \ the \ sequence \ -1, +2, -3, +4,$
     
     $and \ the \ denominators \ follow +1, -2, +3, \ldots, -4, ...$
     
     $16/32, 16 - 1/32 + 1 = 15/33,$
     
     $15 + 2/33 - 2 = 17/31,$
     
     $17 - 3/31 + 3 = 14/34,$
     
     $14 + 4/34 = 18/30$
     
     $18 - 5/30 + 5 = 13/35$
     
     Hence 14/35 is wrong and should be replaced by 14/34

11)  $Explanations: \ 1. Number \ of \ students \ in \ university \ 1 \ in \ 2010 = 20000$
     
     Number \ of \ students in university 2 in 2012 = 20000
     
     Required \ difference = 20000 - 20000 = 0
     
     Hence, option A is correct.

12)  $Number \ of \ students \ in \ university \ 1 \ in \ 2007 = 10000$
     
     Number \ of \ students in university 2 in 2011 = 30000
     
     Required \ sum = 10000 + 30000 = 40000.
     
     Hence, option E is correct.

13)  $Total \ students \ in \ university \ 2 \ in \ 2010 = 15000$
     
     \[\therefore \ Number \ of \ girls = \frac{15000 \times 25}{100}; \ Number \ of \ boys = \frac{15000 - 3750}{11250}.\]
     
     Hence, option A is correct.

14)  $Number \ of \ students \ in \ university \ 1 \ in \ 2011 = 25000$
     
     Number \ of \ students in university 2 in 2010 = 20000
     
     Required \ percentage \ of \ students = \frac{25000 \times 20000 \times 100}{20000}$

     \[\therefore \ Number \ of \ students \ in \ university \ 2 \ in \ 2007 = 2000 - 1000 = 1000$

     Difference \ number \ of \ students \ in \ 2008 = 25000 - 15000 = 10000.

GENERAL AWARENESS - DECEMBER 2019
Difference in number of students in 2009 = 35000 – 25000 = 10000
Difference in number of students in 2010 = 20000 – 15000 = 5000
Difference in number of students in 2011 = 30000 – 25000 = 5000
Difference in number of students in 2012 = 35000 – 20000 = 15000
It is clear from above that the difference between the number of students in university 1 and the number of students in university 2 is highest in the year 2012. Hence, option E is correct.

16) In Gurgaon, Software % = 100 – (20 + 22 + 20) = 38%
Required Ans = (30/100) * 380 + (38/100) * 350

17) Let % of employees who work in HR in Delhi is x%.
So [(28/100 * 450 – x/100 * 450)/x/100 * 450] * 100 = 40
Which is [(28 - x)/x] * 100 = 40
Solve, x = 20
So % of employees who work in Software is 100 – (20 + 18 + 28) = 34%
So required ans = 34/100 * 450

18) Total employees in Bengaluru and Hyderabad = 2130 – (450 + 380 + 350) = 950
So if in Hyderabad, employees is x, then in Bengaluru – 90/100 * x
So x = 90x/100 = 950
Solve, x = 500, so in Hyderabad = 500, and in Bengaluru = 90/100 * 500 = 450
So required answer = [32/100 * 450 + 35/100 * 500] – [20/100 * 450 + 25/100 * 500]
Or = 12/100 * 450 + 10/100 * 500

19) Delhi – (18+28)/100 * 450 = 207
Mumbai – 55/100 * 380 = 209
Bengaluru – (20+32)/100 * 450 = 234
Hyderabad – (25+35)/100 * 500 = 300
Gurgaon – (22+20)/100 * 350 = 147

20) % of employees who work in Software in Gurgaon = 100 – (20+22+20) = 38%
Number of employees who work in Software in Gurgaon = 38/100 * 350 = 133
So number of employees who work in Accounts in Mumbai = 133+19 = 152
So number of employees who work in Finance in Mumbai = 380 – [152 + ((15+30)/100 * 380)] = 57

21) For Feb = (50-48)/48 8 100 = 4.17%
Similarly find for all months
For March = -8%, April = 17.40%, May = 3.7% and June = 7.14%
So 4 months

22) Production of pencils = 283 thousand
Total production of all = 909
So % = 283/909 * 100 = 31%

23) Average Scales in April, May, June = 54
Average erasers in all months = 52.33
Difference = 1.67

24) Pencils in July = 112/100 * 54 = 60.48
Erasers in July = 108/100 * 60 = 64.80
Scales in July = 95/100 * 56 = 53.20

So total = 178.48

25) Total revenue of pencils = 283 * 8 = Rs 2264 thousands
Total revenue of scales = 312 * 11 = Rs 3432 thousands
Difference = Rs 1168 thousands

26) 38/100 * x = 12160
So total employees in department A, x = 32000
Since % of employees in departments A and D is same
So employees in department D = 32000

27) 16/100 * x = 32000
So total employees in company, x = 200,000
So employees in department E = 11/100 * 200,000 = 22,000

28) 46 * 21 : 42 * 11

29) 38/100 * 16/100 * x = 12160
So total employees in company, x = 200,000
So employees in department E = 11/100 * 200,000 = 22,000

30) 15/100 * x = 30,000
So total employees in company in present year, x = 200,000
So total employees in G in present year = 110/100 * 200,000 = 22,000

31) 38/100 × 16/100 × x = 12160
So total employees in company, x = 200,000
So employees in department E = 11/100 × 200,000 = 22,000

32) 32% of 860 × ? = 61920

33) 7426 + 3393 + ? + 2061 = 14027

34) 10 × 12 – 672 + 21 = ? – 211
P = 192 – 32 + 211
= 371

35) (\sqrt{5} – 2)^2 = P – \sqrt{80}

36) 12 \times \frac{25}{17} of 25% of 1020 = 120 +?

37) \sqrt{12544} + 64 \times ? = 43.75

38) 444 ÷ (16 \times 1.5) = ?
= 18.5
39) \((16)^3 \div (16)^4 (16)^3 = (16)^?\)  
\(16^9\) = (16)\(^?\)  
? = 2  
40) \(0.08 \times ? \times 2.5 = 1.12\)  
\(? = \frac{1.12}{0.08 \times 2.5} = 5.6\)  
41) Number of Students = 800  
Number of girl students = \(\frac{800 \times 45}{100} = 360\)  
Number of boy students = 800 - 360 = 440  
Number of girls who speak only Hindi = \(\frac{360 \times 20}{100} = 72\)  
Number of girls who speak both Hindi and English = 360 - 72 = 288  
Number of boys who speak only Hindi = \(\frac{440 \times 75}{100} = 330\)  
Number of boys who speak both Hindi and English = 440 - 330 = 110  
\(\text{Difference} = 288 - 110 = 178\)  
42) Total number of Staff members = 120  
Total number of Students = 800  
Number of girl students = \(\frac{800 \times 45}{100} = 360\)  
\(\text{Required Percentages} = \frac{360 \times 100}{120} = 300\%\)  
43) Staff members = 120  
Administrative officers = 120 - 78 = 42  
\(\therefore\) Number of female administrative officers = \(\frac{5}{14} \times 42 = 15\)  
\(\therefore\) Number of male administrative officers = 42 - 15 = 27  
Number of teachers = \(\frac{120 \times 65}{100} = 78\)  
\(\therefore\) Number of male teachers = \(\frac{78 \times 2}{3} = 52\)  
\(\therefore\) Number of female teachers = 78 - 52 = 26  
\(\therefore\) Difference = 26 + 15 - 27 = 14  
44) Total number of Staff members = 120  
\(\therefore\) Number of teachers = \(\frac{120 \times 65}{100} = 78\)  
Total number of Students = 800  
Number of girl students = \(\frac{800 \times 45}{100} = 360\)  
\(\therefore\) Number of boy students = 800 - 360 = 440  
\(\therefore\) Number of boys who speak only Hindi = \(\frac{440 \times 75}{100} = 330\)  
\(\therefore\) Ratio = 78 : 330 = 13:55  
45) Total number of Staff members = 120  
Total number of teachers = \(\frac{120 \times 65}{100} = 78\)  
Total number of Administrative officers = 120 - 78 = 42  
\(\therefore\) Number of female administrative officers = \(\frac{5}{14} \times 42 = 15\)  
\(\therefore\) Number of male administrative officers = 42 - 15 = 27  
\(\therefore\) Number of male teachers = \(\frac{78 \times 2}{3} = 52\)  
\(\therefore\) Number of female teachers = 78 - 52 = 26  
Total number of Students = 800  
Number of girl students = \(\frac{800 \times 45}{100} = 360\)  
\(\therefore\) Number of girls who speak only Hindi = \(\frac{360 \times 20}{100} = 72\)  
\(\therefore\) Total number of male administrative officials, female teachers and girls (student) who can speak Hindi only = 27 + 26 + 72 = 125  
46) __O__O__O__O__O__O = seats occupied by the remaining 5 (4 boys + 1 girl)  
__ = Gaps where the 4 girls can sit together  
Assuming 4 girls to be 1, total people to be seated = (5+1) = 6  
Combinations amongst these 6 people = 6!  
Combinations amongst the girls = 4!  
Therefore, total combinations = 6! \times 4! = 17,280  
47) Let the total work to be done to finish the job be W  
Speed of skilled worker = \(\frac{W}{3}\)  
Speed of unskilled worker = \(\frac{W}{8}\)  
Time taken by them to finish the job together = \(\frac{W}{\frac{W}{3} + \frac{W}{8}} = \frac{1}{\frac{8+3}{8}} = \frac{8}{11}\)  
\(\text{days} = \frac{24}{11}\)  
Work done by skilled worker = \(\frac{W}{3} \times 24/11 = 8W/11\)  
Work done by unskilled worker = \(\frac{W}{8} \times 24/11 = 3W/11\)  
Wages skilled: unskilled = \(8w/11 \div 3w/11 = 8:3\)  
48) Let the number of correct, wrong and unattempted questions be a, b, c respectively. Total no. of questions a + b + c = 100  
Jai awarded marks as 3a - b - (c/2) = 112.5  
Given b = c (unattended = wrong) 3a - (3b/2) = 112.5 and a + 2b = 100  
By solving you get a = 50  
49) Let the total amount invested by her be INR x  
One part of the amount which is invested at 23% p.a. = INR 10600  
Second part of the total amount which is invested at 25% p.a. = -10600  
The total interest earned by Deepika at the end of 1st year on the total amount invested by her
tation = 2 * 10600 = 21200
Hence, total amount invested by Deepika is INR 21200

50) Let the present age of mother be x years. And that of daughter be y years. Then x + y = 54 ... (i)
Again, x – y = 30 ... (ii)
Solving (i) and (ii), we get x = 42 years; y = 12 years
Now, the ratio after 8 years \( \frac{42 + 8}{12 + 8} = \frac{50}{20} = 5 : 2 \)

51) Passage states that – For women, who did not have access to higher education as men did, literary salons provided an alternate route to learning and a challenge to some of society's basic assumptions about women, which is mentioned in option B.

52) A significant distinction between the salonieres and Bluestockings was the role of pleasure in the activities of the literary salon, that is answer is option B. All other options are not suited for a significant distinction between the salonieres and Bluestockings. Hence, the answer is option B.

53) As it is mentioned in the passage that – In an atmosphere of mutual support, the Bluestockings went beyond the salon experience. They travelled, studied, worked, wrote for publication, and by their activities challenged the stereotype of the passive woman, therefore, option D is an answer. Hence, the answer is option D.

54) Option C is the answer, as it is most compatible with the principles of the salonieres as described in the passage. Whereas, option A, is incorrect as it is not related to the principles. Similarly, options B and D are incorrect. Hence, the answer is option C.

55) The answer is option A, as it is satisfying with question. Other options are not related to the question. Hence, the answer is option A.

56) Answer is option D, as it is considered a twentieth-century counterpart of an eighteenth century literary salon as it is described in the passage. Other options are not related to the counterpart and therefore, not correct. Hence, the answer is option D.

57) As it is mentioned in the last passage that women's are not feminists, and as per the question – To an assertion that Bluestockings were feminists, the author would most probably respond in a qualified disagreement way. Hence, the answer is option D.

58) The title that best describes the content of the passage is option C, that is Eighteenth Century – Precursors of Feminism. Option A is not correct as it is generalized, therefore cannot be the answer.

59) Replace 'benchmarking' with 'benchmark'
60) Replace 'taking' with 'taken'
61) Replace 'constantly' with 'constant'
62) Replace 'than' with 'from'
63) Replace 'creating' with 'create'
64) Replace 'rating' with 'rate'
65) No error
66) Replace 'witnessed' with 'having witnessed'
67) Replace 'causing' with 'cause'
68) Infinitive without 'to' follows wouldn't/shouldn't
69) transcend-surpass (a person or achievement).
70) thrust into means drive, propel.
71) Nothing less than.
72) Comparable is the correct option
73) has been (Paragraph is in present tense)
74) extravagant-exceeding what is reasonable or appropriate; excessive or elaborate.
Hence Option B is the correct choice.
75) gone
76) not
77) remarkable-worthy of attention; striking.
78) Option B is the correct choice because 'man' here means generalize form of human. Hence the, most appropriate choice.
79) The sentence is describing about a shift in the technology in the telecom industry. It has also mentioned about the challenges faced by the industry few years ago. Therefore, to adhere to the context of the sentence “paranoid” should be replaced by “paradigm” while “triumph” should be replaced by “havoc”. Hence, option (a) is the most suitable answer choice. Paranoid means unreasonably or obsessively anxious, suspicious, or mistrustful. Triumph means a great victory or achievement. Paradigm means a typical example or pattern of something; a pattern or model. Havoc means widespread destruction.
80) Words “mislead” and “consensus” create a contextual error in the sentence and thus should be replaced by “misconceptions” and “compliance” respectively. Hence, option (d) is the most suitable answer choice. Emissions means the production and discharge of something, especially gas or radiation. Consensus means a general agreement. Eminences means to fame or acknowledged superiority within a particular sphere. Compliance means the action or fact of complying with a wish or command.
81) The words given in bold “hawkings”, “variance” and “hosts” create either grammatical or contextual error in the sentence. To correct the sentence, replace these words by “tracking”, “vicious” and “honchos” respectively. Hence, option (d) is the most
suitable answer choice. Hawking means (of a person) hunt game with a trained hawk. Variance means the fact or quality of being different, divergent, or inconsistent. Vicious means deliberately cruel or violent. Honchos means a leader or manager; the person in charge.

82) Since the sentence is describing about the developments and advancements made in the recent time, the bold words “preserving” and “raising” create grammatical as well as contextual errors in the sentence. To make the sentence correct, replace these words by “urbanization” and “rising” respectively. Therefore, option (c) becomes the most suitable answer choice.

83) The words given in bold “had” and “compete” create either grammatical or contextual error in the sentence. To correct the sentence, replace these words by “having” and “competitive” respectively. The sentence is given in the present tense [...can give paint manufacturers], it requires a gerund [Having] that works as a subject in the sentence, therefore, “had” should be replaced to frame a grammatically correct structure of the sentence. Moreover, to describe the quality of “pricing” an adjective [competitive] is required rather than a verb [compete]. Hence, option (c) is the most suitable answer choice.

84) “Aberrant” means departing from an accepted standard or diverging from the normal type. Therefore, “Deviant: Abnormal” is the set of words that expresses the meaning of the given highlighted word. Hence, option (e) is the most suitable answer choice. Inane means lacking sense or meaning; silly. Anomalous means deviating from what is standard, normal, or expected. Amulet means an ornament or small piece of jewellery thought to give protection against evil, danger, or disease.

85) “Meticulous” means showing great attention to detail; very careful and precise. Therefore, the set of words that consists of its synonym and antonym is “Scrupulous : Slapdash”. Hence, option (b) is the most suitable answer choice. Conscientious means wishing to do one’s work or duty well and thoroughly. Nemesis means the inescapable agent of someone’s or something’s downfall. Scrupulous means (of a person or process) careful, thorough, and extremely attentive to details. Slapdash means done too hurriedly and carelessly. Sloppy means careless and unsystematic; excessively casual. Subservient means prepared to obey others unquestioningly.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Timing</th>
<th>Persons</th>
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<tr>
<td>1pm</td>
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(91-95):

(96-98):

98) 20m

99) Conclusions
I. X ≥ L (Not true)
II. L < H (true)
III. L > Y (Not true)

100) Conclusions
I. T ≤ B (true)
II. X > A (Not true)
III. J > B (Not true)

(101-102)
From both statements, A > F > B > C/D/E

Students let us understand the Logic behind this Question and let’s understand how to solve it. When we see each step, then we can find that there is numbers and words are arranged in each step.

1) For words arrangement- All the words are arranged in alphabetical series in descending order from left to right in each step. That means the word which comes first in alphabetical series arranges first and so on till the last word arranges.

2) For number arrangement- The largest number arranges in first step, followed by the second largest in next step and so on till the smallest number which is arranged at the right end.

In the final step, All the number are arranged in ascending order from right to left.

Input: 45 kitten war 7 71 viking Broad Trail 27 alarm 94 52.

Step I: alarm 45 kitten war 7 71 viking Broad Trail 27 52 94.

Step II: Broad alarm 45 kitten war 7 viking Trail 27 52 94 71.

Step III: kitten Broad alarm war 7 viking Trail 27 94 71 52.

Step IV: Trail kitten Broad alarm war 7 viking 27 94 71 52 45.

Step V: viking Trail kitten Broad alarm war 7 94 71 52 45 27.

Step VI: war viking Trail kitten Broad alarm 94 71 52 45 27 7.
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>OCTOBER 2019</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1) _______ appointed as the new CEO of the Unique Identification Authority of India (UIDAI): <strong>Pankaj Kumar</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td>2) Where are the headquarters of the Unique Identification Authority of India? <strong>New Delhi</strong></td>
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<td>3) _______ topped the latest Quacquarelli Symonds (QS) India University Rankings 2020: <strong>IIT Bombay</strong></td>
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<td>4) Which day is observed around the world to mark the anniversary of the establishment of the UN Charter on this day in 1945? <strong>International Day of Non-Violence</strong></td>
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<td>5) The United Nations World Food Program launched the ‘Feed Our Future’ campaign in association with which Indian organization? <strong>UFO Movies of Mumbai</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td>6) What is the objective of the ‘Feed Our Future’ campaign? <strong>To create awareness and take steps against hunger and malnutrition in India.</strong></td>
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<td>7) Name the government authority that approves revision of MSP of foodgrains: <strong>The Cabinet Committee on Economic Affairs (CCEA)</strong></td>
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<td>8) The CCEA recently approved hike in MSP of Rabi crops for which marketing season? <strong>2020-21</strong></td>
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<td>10) India’s ranking improved by how many steps in 2019-20 Ease of Doing Business rankings? <strong>14</strong></td>
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<td>11) What was India’s ranking in 2019-20 Ease of Doing Business rankings? <strong>63rd</strong></td>
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<td>12) Which country topped the 2019-20 Ease of Doing Business rankings? <strong>New Zealand</strong></td>
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<td>13) Which state launched ‘Mukhyamantri Kanya Sumangala Yojana’ to provide a fund worth Rs 15000 to every family where a girl child is born? <strong>Uttar Pradesh</strong></td>
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<td>14) With the allotment of 1,000 LPG connections to rural women under the Ujjwala Yojana, _______ has become first Kerosene-free district of Gujarat. <strong>Gandhinagar</strong></td>
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<td>15) Sakharov Prize is awarded by the European Parliament for honouring outstanding contribution in which field? <strong>Fight for restoration of human rights</strong></td>
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<td>16) Who is the winner of the 2019 Sakharov Prize? <strong>Uighur intellectual Ilham Tohti from China for his attempts to “foster dialogue” between Chinese people and the Uighur.</strong></td>
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<td>17) _______ became the 1st Indian to win a gold medal at the 15th Wushu World Championships in Shanghai: <strong>Praveen Kumar</strong></td>
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<td>18) Which bird was recently found to be the world’s loudest bird whose shrieks can hit 125.4 decibels? <strong>Male white bellbird of Brazil</strong></td>
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<td>19) Name the Bollywood actress and badminton star who were named the ambassadors for Bharat Ki Laxmi, an initiative by Prime Minister Modi: <strong>Deepika Padukon &amp; PV Sindhu</strong></td>
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<td>20) The Union Cabinet approved the merger of loss-making public sector telecom firms BSNL &amp; MTNL. Write their full form: <strong>Bharat Sanchar Nigam Limited and Mahanagar Telephone Nigam Limited</strong></td>
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<td>21) Para-athlete Anandan Gunasekaran won 2 gold medals at the 7th CISM World Military Games in which event? <strong>100mt and 400mt race</strong></td>
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<td>22) Which team won the 2019 edition of the Vivo Pro Kabaddi League? <strong>Bengal Warriors</strong></td>
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<td>23) Girish Chandra Murmu has been appointed as the _____ of Jammu-Kashmir: <strong>Lt. Governor</strong></td>
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<td>24) R K Mathur has been appointed as the Lt. Governor of which union territory? <strong>Ladakh</strong></td>
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<td>25) Who has been appointed as the new Governor of Mizoram? <strong>P.S. Sreedharan Pillai</strong></td>
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<td>26) Satya Pal Malik, till recently Governor of J&amp;K, has been shifted to which other state as Governor? <strong>Goa</strong></td>
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<td>27) Prime Minister Modi made a two-day visit to which country on 28-29 October? <strong>Saudi Arabia</strong></td>
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<td>28) In Uttar Pradesh, Grand Diwali celebrations at which place set a world record as over 5 lakh 51 thousand earthen lamps (Diyas) were lit altogether on Oct 27? <strong>Ayodhya</strong></td>
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<td>29) Vijay Hazare Trophy is associated with which sport? <strong>Cricket</strong></td>
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<td>30) Vijay Hazare Trophy is played in which format of cricket? <strong>One day</strong></td>
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<td>31) Which team won the 2019 edition of the Vijay Hazare Trophy? <strong>Karnataka</strong></td>
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<td>32) The United Nations Day is observed on which date? <strong>October 24</strong></td>
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<td>33) The United Nations Organization was formed in which year? <strong>1945</strong></td>
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<td>34) Who is the current Secretary General of the UNO: <strong>António Guterres</strong></td>
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<td>35) As per the latest Quacquarelli Symonds (QS) India University Rankings 2020, which Indian institute was ranked no. 1: <strong>IIT Bombay</strong></td>
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<td>36) Who has been appointed as the new CEO of the Unique Identification Authority of India (UIDAI): <strong>Pankaj Kumar</strong></td>
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<td>37) Which state has decided to make government jobs out of bounds for people with more than 2 children? <strong>Assam</strong></td>
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<td>38) “Mind Master: Winning Lessons from a Champion’s Life” is the autobiography of which chess champion? <strong>Viswanathan Anand</strong></td>
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</table>
83) The NCERT has decided to review the 14-year-old NCF for the 5th time in accordance with new national education policy. What is NCF? **National Curriculum Framework**

84) With which country’s Air Self Defence Force, Indian Air Force conducted the ‘Shinyuu Maitri exercise’? **Japan**

85) The Shinyuu Maitri exercise was conducted at which place? **Panagarh, West Bengal**

86) With which country India conducted a joint military exercise named ‘Dharma Guardian’: **Japan**

87) Joint military exercise named ‘Dharma Guardian’ was conducted at which place? **Vairengte, Mizoram**

88) Which Indian corporate recently became the first Indian company to cross the total market capitalisation of Rs 9 lakh crore? **Reliance Industry Industries Ltd.**

89) Which Union Ministry recently conducted the 20th Livestock Census - 2019? **Ministry of Agriculture and Farmers Welfare**

90) What is the rank of India in terms of number of life stock population? **1st**

91) Which category of animals forms largest part of livestock? **Cattle**

92) What is the new name of the National Highway number 703 A? **Shri Guru Nanak Dev Ji Marg**

93) Shri Guru Nanak Dev Ji Marg runs from which place to which place? **From Kapurthala connecting Goindwal Sahib and terminating near Tarn Taran in Punjab**

94) Which state has decided to do away with personal interviews for recruitment of staff and limit the process only to written examination? **Andhra Pradesh**

95) The NITI Aayog released it’s first-ever India Innovation Index to promote competitiveness among the states. Which state emerged as the topper? **Karnataka**

96) Government has decided to name India’s longest tunnel Chenani- Nashri after Bhartiya Jansangh (presently BJP) founder. What is his name? **Dr Shyama Prasad Mukherjee**


98) India recently handed over a second pair of Mi-24V helicopters to which country? **Afghanistan**

99) India ranks at which place among the 128 countries surveyed by the Charities Aid Foundation? **82nd**

100) Which country topped the World Giving Index: **USA**

101) 48th edition of the Indian Handicrafts and Gifts Fair (IHGF) was held at the India Expo Centre & Mart in which city? **Greater Noida, UP**

102) Which country announced the establishment of world’s first research based Artificial Intelligence University? **UAE**

103) Indian Air Force and Royal Air Force of Oman held a joint air warfare exercise named _____: **Ex-Eastern Bridge-V**

104) The Ex-Eastern Bridge-V exercise was hosted by which country? **Oman**

105) In the fond memory of which great Indian leader World Students’ Day is observed on October 15: **APJ Abdul Kalam**

106) Govt. of India honoured Sh. APJ Abdul Kalam with three of its highest civil awards on different occasions. Name these three awards: **Bharat Ratna, Padma Bhushan and Padma Vibhushan**

107) Kais Saied has been elected as the new President of which country? **Tunisia**

108) Which star footballer was awarded ‘European Golden Shoe’ for being the top goalscorer in league football across Europe? **Lionel Messi**

109) Lionel Messi hails from which country? **Argentina**

110) Indian Railways has announced that it will become a net-zero carbon emitter by which year? **2030**

111) India is the biggest emitter of greenhouse gases after which two other countries? **USA and China**

112) Recently how many heritage landmarks from India were chosen for the UNESCO Asia-Pacific Awards for Cultural Heritage Conservation: **Four**

113) The world observes International Poverty Eradication Day on which date? **October 17**

114) Among 117 countries surveyed in the Global Hunger Index (GHI) 2019, India secured which rank? **102**

115) Which airline became the first airline in the world on October 15 to use a Taxibot on an A320 aircraft with passengers on board? **Air India**

116) RBI has issued guidelines for on-tap authorisation for how many payment systems? **Three**

117) Name the three payment systems for which RBI allowed on tap authorization? **Bharat Bill Payment Operating Unit (BBPOU), White Label ATMs (WLAs) and Trade Receivables Discounting System (TReDS)**

118) Which state plans to organise the country’s first training and performance programme of world famous KHON (खोन) Ramilala: **Uttar Pradesh**

119) The world famous KHON (खोन) Ramilala is associated with which country? **Thailand**

120) What is the single unique feature of the KHON Ramilala? **It has no dialogues**

121) Which International Day is observed to commemorate the founding of the Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO) on October 16, 1945? **World Food Day**

122) Headquarters of FAO are located in which city? **Rome, Italy**

123) Name the apex food safety organization that launched the Food Safety Mitra on October 15 to use a Taxibot on an A320 aircraft with passengers on board? **Reliance Industries Ltd.**

124) What is the main objective of the recently launched Food Safety Mitra scheme? **To sensitize street food vendors and other food businesses on hygiene and
| 125 | President Ram Nath Kovind embarked on a week-long visit to which two East Asian countries in 3rd week of October: **Philippines and Japan** |
| 126 | Who is the President of Philippines? **Rodrigo Duterte** |
| 127 | Indian President attended the Enthronement Ceremony of the Emperor of Japan. What is the name of the new Emperor? **HM Naruhito** |
| 128 | Priyanshu Rajawat claimed the men’s singles title at the Bahrain International Series of which sport? **Badminton** |
| 129 | Valtteri Bottas won the Japanese Grand Prix for team Mercedes. He hails from which country? **Finland** |
| 130 | The 10th edition of the Rashtriya Sanskriti Mahotsav-National Cultural Festival was hosted by which state? **Madhya Pradesh** |
| 131 | Booker Prize-2019, prestigious literary prize was awarded jointly to which two authors? **Margaret Atwood and Bernardine Evaristo** |
| 132 | Margaret Atwood won the Booker Prize-2019 for which novel? **The Testament** |
| 133 | For which novel Bernardine Evaristo won the Booker Prize: **Girl, Woman, Other** |
| 134 | What is the cash award of the Booker Prize: **GBP 50,000** |
| 135 | Who is the first black women to win the prestigious Booker Prize? **Bernardine Evaristo** |
| 136 | The nation celebrates Rashtriya Mahila Kisan Diwas on which date? **October 15** |
| 137 | International Day of Rural Women is celebrated across the world on which day of October: **15th** |
| 138 | Which day is celebrated globally on October 14 to raise awareness among regulators, industry and consumers as to the importance of standardization: **World/International Standards Day** |
| 139 | A commemorative stamp was released in honour of the sole Marshal of the Indian Air Force. Give his name? **Marshal of IAF Arjan Singh** |
| 140 | India and the US forces held a joint military exercise in Seattle, USA. What was its name? **Vajra Prahar** |
| 141 | What is the name of the award constituted by the Indian National Congress to honour promoters of National Integration: **Indira Gandhi Award for National Integration** |
| 142 | Name the noted social worker honoured with the 31st Indira Gandhi Award for National Integration: **Chandi Prasad Bhatt** |
| 143 | Shh. Chandi Prasad Bhatt is known for promoting which movement? **Chipko Movement in Uttarakhand to save trees** |
| 144 | What is the actual name of the Nobel Prize for Economics? **The Sveriges Riksbank Prize in Economic Sciences** |
| 145 | Out of six Nobel Prizes announced every year, which one was not listed in the will of Alfred Nobel? **Economics** |
| 146 | Abhijit Banerjee and his wife Esther Duflo, co-winner of Nobel Prize for economics, are associated with which university? **Massachusetts Institute of Technology, Cambridge, USA** |
| 147 | Prime Miniter Narendra Modi has become the world’s most-followed leader on which social media with more than 30 million followers? **Instagram** |
| 148 | “Protect Birds be the Solution to Plastic Pollution” is the theme of which International Day? **World Migratory Bird Day** |
| 149 | Which Indian won his maiden BWF (Badminton World Federation) World Tour title by winning the Dutch Open men’s singles at Almere in the Netherlands: **Lakshya Sen** |
| 150 | Name the 22 year old star US gymnast broke the all-time record for most medals by any gymnast (male or female) at the world championships by securing 25 of them: **Simone Biles** |
| 151 | R Pragnanandhaa, the 14-year-old Grand Master from Chennai won the coveted gold in the U-18 Open category in which event: **The World Youth Chess Championships held in Mumbai** |
| 152 | India and ADB signed $ 190 million loan agreement for funding improvement of road connectivity in which state? **Rajasthan** |
| 153 | Name the great Indian Nun who was canonised as Saint by the Pope Francis: **Mariam Thresia** |
| 154 | Name the sole woman boxer who won silver in the women’s World boxing championships: **Manju Rani** |
| 155 | Name the city that hosted the women’s World boxing championships: **Ulan Ude, Russia** |
| 156 | Typhoon Hagibis, a severe tropical storm made landfall on which city in Japan on October 12? **Tokyo** |
| 157 | The king and queen of which European country visited India in second week of October on a five day visit? **The Netherlands** |
| 158 | What is the popular name of the country The Netherlands? **Holland** |
| 159 | People of Netherlands are popularly known by which name? **Dutch** |
| 160 | Name the star Indian athlete who created a new national record in the women’s 100m race: **Dutee Chand** |
| 161 | Who was declared best female athlete at the 59th National Open Athletics Championships in Ranchi? **Dutee Chand** |
| 162 | Who was declared best male athlete at the 59th National Open Athletics Championships in Ranchi? **Tejinderpal Singh Toor** |
| 163 | Tejinderpal Singh Toor created new national record in which event of athletics? **Shot Put** |
| 164 | Which athlete created world history by finishing a marathon in less than two hours time? **Eliud Kipchoge** |
| 165 | Eliud Kipchoge hails from which country? **Kenya** |
| 166 | Which ministry launched the mobile app ‘mHariyali’ to promote plantation of trees? **Ministry of Housing & Urban Affairs** |
| 167 | The second edition of Coordinated Patrol (CORPAT) of the navies was conducted between navies of which two countries? **India and Bangladesh** |
| 168 | Who is the present Chief of Indian Navy? **Admiral Karambir Singh** |
| 169 | The first ever India International Cooperatives Trade Fair was held in which city from Oct 11 to 13? **New Delhi** |
| 170 | Carpet Export Promotion Council organized 38th India Carpet Expo in which city? **Varanasi** |
| 171 | Chinese President Xi Jinping arrived in which city on October 11 for a two-day visit to India? **Chennai** |
| 172 | Chinese President held the second informal summit with Prime Minister Modi at which heritage city? **Mamallapuram** |
| 173 | What is the name of the China’s currency? **Renminbi** |
| 174 | National Voluntary Blood Donation Day is observed on which date? **October 1** |
| 175 | Which international day aims to help raise awareness of the benefits of eggs and their importance in human nutrition? **The World Egg Day** |
| 176 | Which day is observed globally to highlight the challenges faced by girls worldwide? **International Day of Girl Child** |
| 177 | International Day of Girl Child is observed on which date? **October 11** |
| 178 | Which UN agency has become the first UN organisation to allow transactions in cryptocurrency? **UNICEF** |
| 179 | Where are the headquarters of UNICEF? **New York** |
| 180 | Which Arabian country has recently allowed recruitment of women in its armed forces? **Saudi Arabia** |
| 181 | Which batsman recently recorded his seventh double hundred, the highest in Indian cricket history? **Virat Kohli** |
| 182 | Which Nobel Prize this year had its 100th delivery? **Peace Prize** |
| 183 | Abiy Ahmed Ali was selected for the prestigious prize for his efforts to achieve peace and international cooperation. He is Prime Minister of which country? **Ethiopia** |
| 184 | Who decides the winner of Nobel peace prize? A five member Nobel committee appointed by the Parliament of Norway |
| 185 | The government launched Surakshit Matrievta Aashwasan, SUMAN with what objective? **To bring down maternal and infant mortality rates** |
| 186 | Who are the targeted beneficiaries of SUMAN? **Pregnant women, mothers up to 6 months after delivery, and all sick newborns** |
| 187 | A team of astronomers from USA discovered 20 previously unknown moons of which planet? **Saturn** |
| 188 | After this discovery, which planet now has largest number of moons-82? **Saturn** |
| 189 | Saturn planet is predominantly composed of which two gasses? **Hydrogen and Helium** |
| 190 | Which Nobel Prize has been announced this year for 2018 also? **Literature** |
| 191 | Who is the winner of the 2018 Nobel Prize in literature? **Olga Tokarczuk, Poland** |
| 192 | The 2019 Nobel prize for literature has been won by which Austrian author? **Peter Handke** |
| 193 | Which authority decides the Nobel Prize in literature? **The Swedish Academy, Stockholm** |
| 194 | The Union Cabinet has approved the proposal to double the honorariums for ASHA workers to Rs 2000 per month. Expand the acronym ASHA: **Accredited Social Health Activists** |
| 195 | What is the name of the first ever national digital platform and app launched on oral health information? **eDantseva** |
| 196 | Which UN agency supports the celebrations of the World Mental Health Day on October 10? **WHO- World Health Organisation** |
| 197 | Where are the headquarters of WHO? **Geneva, Switzerland** |
| 198 | Antonio Costa has been re-elected as the Prime Minister of which European country? **Portugal** |
| 199 | Who became the first Indian female cricketer to complete more than 20 years in international cricket? **Mithali Raj** |
| 200 | RBI has given its final nod to which state to form its own bank by merging existing district cooperative banks? **Kerala** |
| 201 | Which Indian statesman embarked on a five-day visit to Comoros and Sierra Leone from Oct 10 to 15? **Vice President M Venkaiah Naidu** |
| 202 | India slipped to which place in the Global Competitiveness Index 2019, down by 10 places from its rank in 2018? **68th** |
| 203 | Which country topped the Global Competitiveness Index 2019? **Singapore** |
| 204 | Atal Innovation Mission and NITI Aayog joined hands with which UN agency to launch “Youth Co:Lab” programme? **United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) India** |
| 205 | What is the objective of the “Youth Co:Lab” programme? **To accelerate social entrepreneurship and innovation in young Indians** |
| 206 | Central Pollution Control Board joined hands with which municipal corporation to set up the country’s
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<th>Question</th>
<th>Answer</th>
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<tr>
<td>Which global IT giant has agreed to promote the Ayushman Bharat-Pradhan Mantri Jan Arogya Yojana?</td>
<td>Google</td>
</tr>
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<td>Japan’s ________ won the China Open Tennis tournament held in Beijing, China:</td>
<td>Naomi Osaka</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Which Indian organization launched a special logo to indicate “Trans Fat Free” food items?</td>
<td>The Food Safety &amp; Standards Authority of India (FSSAI)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>A joint military exercise named KAZIND-2019 was held between India and which other country?</td>
<td>Kazakhstan</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>The KAZIND-2019 exercise was held in which district of Uttarakhand?</td>
<td>Pithoragarh</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>With which country India conducted the Nomadic Elephant-XIV military exercise?</td>
<td>Mongolia</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Which cantonment town of Himachal hosted the Nomadic Elephant-XIV military exercise?</td>
<td>Bakloh</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>The govt launched the National e-Assessment Scheme for what purpose?</td>
<td>To eliminate human interface between income taxpayers and assessing officers</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Which popular daily English newspaper of western India stopped its print edition and shifted to digital version?</td>
<td>DNA-Daily News Analysis</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Which UN agency hosted the first celebrations of the World Cotton Day on October 09?</td>
<td>World Trade Organisation (WTO)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Where are the headquarters of the WTO?</td>
<td>Geneva, Switzerland</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Scientists John Goodenough, Stanley Whittingham and Akira Yoshino won the Nobel Prize for Chemistry for their work in development of which daily use product?</td>
<td>Lithium ion battery</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Which authority in Sweden decides the winner of Nobel Prize for Physics and Chemistry?</td>
<td>The Royal Swedish Academy of Sciences, Stockholm</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>How many scientists shared this year’s Nobel Prize in Physiology/Medicine?</td>
<td>Three</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>The Nobel Prize in Physiology 2019 has been awarded for research in which field?</td>
<td>How cells sense and adapt to oxygen availability</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>The Indian Air Force, IAF celebrated its___ anniversary on Oct 8: 87th</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>What is the motto of the Indian Air Force?</td>
<td>Nabhaḥ Sprśhain Diptam (Touch the sky with glory)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>The govt approved a four-fold increase in the monetary assistance provided to the next of kin of all battle casualties, from existing Rs 2 lakh to ___ lakh: 8</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>The National Basketball Association (NBA) of USA brought to India the first-ever Floating Basketball Court in which place?</td>
<td>In the Arabian Sea near Mumbai</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>___ of India created three world records at the World Powerlifting Championship in Berlin, Germany:</td>
<td>Surender Singh</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>India signed an MoU to set up a coastal surveillance radar system in which country?</td>
<td>Bangladesh</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Supreme Court has ruled that road traffic offences can also be prosecuted under ______ , apart from the Motor Vehicles Act:</td>
<td>Indian Penal Code (IPC)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>The World Teachers Day is observed on which day of October:</td>
<td>5th</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Which ministry launched the Audio Guide facility “Audio Odigos” for 12 sites of India?</td>
<td>Tourism Ministry</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>The second Vande Bharat Express train started its run on which route from 5th October?</td>
<td>Delhi-Katra route</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>The first Vande Bharat Express runs between Delhi and which other station:</td>
<td>Varanasi</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Govt. has appointed Surjit Bhalla, a senior economist as Executive Director of which international organization?</td>
<td>IMF</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Who has been appointed as the MD and CEO of the Punjab National Bank:</td>
<td>SS Mallikarjunan Rao</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>What is the name of the China’s recently launched intercontinental-range ballistic missile, touted to be the most powerful missile on the planet?</td>
<td>Dongfeng-41 (DF-41)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Which is the official body that decides the changes in the key policy rates of RBI?</td>
<td>Monetary Policy Committee</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Under Swachh Rail, Swachh Bharat cleanliness assessment 2019, carried out by the Ministry of Railways, which railway station topped in cleanliness:</td>
<td>Jaipur</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Government has renamed New Delhi-Ludhiana Intercity Express to commemorate the 550th birthday of Guru Nanak Dev Ji. What is the new name?</td>
<td>Sarbat Da Bhala Express</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>The phrase “Sarbat Da Bhala” has been taken from which ritual of Sikh religion?</td>
<td>It is the last line of the ‘Ardaas’ (prayer) offered by the Sikhs</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>The Sarbat Da Bhala Express train will run from which place to which place?</td>
<td>New Delhi to Lohian Khas via holy city Sultanpur Lodhi</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Birth anniversary of Mahatma Gandhi, October 02, is observed as which International Day across the world:</td>
<td>International Day of Non-Violence</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Which day is observed every year with UN support to highlight the important contribution that older people make to society?</td>
<td>October 1: International Day of Older Persons</td>
</tr>
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<td>Ms. Sheikh Hasina, ___ of Bangladesh arrived in India on Oct 3 for a three-day official visit:</td>
<td>Prime Minister</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Which neighbouring country of India celebrated on Oct 01 its 70th anniversary of its founding:</td>
<td>China</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Who is popularly known as Founding Father of Republic of China?</td>
<td>Mao Zedong - or Chairman Mao</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>President conferred The Vayoshreshtha Samman 2019 on October 03. This award is given to which category of</td>
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<td>Name the great scientist who developed the first Rabies vaccine?</td>
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<td>What is the theme for this year’s World Tourism Day celebrated on September 27?</td>
<td>Tourism and Jobs: A Better Future for All</td>
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<td>Which country topped the IMD World Digital Competitiveness Ranking 2019 for 63 countries?</td>
<td>India</td>
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<td>Who is the noted economist from Bulgaria who has been selected as the new head of the IMF?</td>
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<td>Which Indian Bank opened its office in Melbourne on Sep 30, becoming the first Indian bank to have a branch in the Australian state of Victoria?</td>
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<td>The payment and settlement systems</td>
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<td>Institute for Development and Research in Banking Technology</td>
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<td>Pandit Jasraj</td>
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<td>Gen. Bipin Rawat</td>
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<td>Name the veteran Hindi and Marathi actor, famous for his iconic dialogue ‘Sardar, main aapka namak khaya hai’, who passed away recently?</td>
<td>Viju Khote</td>
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<td>Which Indian wrestler was ranked number one in 86 kg category in the latest rankings issued by the International Wrestling Federation?</td>
<td>Deepak Punia</td>
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<td>Kaushal Dharmamer is a upcoming star player in which sports?</td>
<td>Badminton</td>
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<td>Malabar</td>
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<td>Second Sunday</td>
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<tr>
<td>Which International Day is observed on September 27:</td>
<td>World Tourism Day</td>
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<td>Which day is celebrated across the world to promote the popularity of which beverage?</td>
<td>International Coffee Day</td>
</tr>
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<td>As per the School Education Quality Index released by the Niti Aayog, which state was ranked at No. 1?</td>
<td>Kerala</td>
</tr>
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<td>As per the School Education Quality Index released by the Niti Aayog, which UT was ranked at No. 1?</td>
<td>Chandigarh</td>
</tr>
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<td>Which apex energy giant plans to set up a 5 gigawatt solar park in Gujarat, the largest in the country?</td>
<td>National Thermal Power Corporation Limited (NTPC)</td>
</tr>
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<td>What is the theme of this year’s International Day of Peace? on which date?</td>
<td>Peace and Climate Action: A Better Future for All, September 21</td>
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<td>The International Day of Peace is observed around the world on which date?</td>
<td>September 21</td>
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<td>Peace and Climate Action: A Better Future for All</td>
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<td>The Indian Navy’s biggest dry dock with capacity to accomodat an aircraft carrier was inaugurated recently at which place?</td>
<td>Mumbai</td>
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<tr>
<td>Which naval force commissioned the offshore patrol vessel (OPV) ‘Varaha’?</td>
<td>Indian Coast Guard</td>
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<td>Who won 2019 FIFA best player men’s award?</td>
<td>Lionel Messi</td>
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<td>Who won 2019 FIFA best player women’s award?</td>
<td>Megan Rapinoe of USA</td>
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<td>Name the veteran actor honoured with this year’s Dada Saheb Phalke award:</td>
<td>Amitabh Bachchan</td>
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President of Mongolia did not visit which of these cities in India – Hyderabad, Agra, Bodh Gaya, Bengaluru, New Delhi? Hyderabad

What is the name of the capital of Mongolia? Ulaanbaatar

Finance Minister recently announced that the government has decided to put a complete ban on which type of cigarettes? E-cigarettes

United Nations latest report says that ___ is the leading country of origin of international migrants in 2019? India

Which state launched the Mukhyamantri Sava Sankalp Helpline number ‘1100’ to provide timely help to the residents of the state? Himachal Pradesh

Which ministry has introduced a new Export Credit Insurance Scheme called NIRVIK to facilitate easy availability of loan to exporters? Ministry of Commerce & Industry

What is the full form of “NIRVIK”? Niryat Rin Vikas Yojana

What is the full form of ECG? Export Credit Guarantee Corporation

India’s first National Antimicrobial Resistance (AMR) Hub was inaugurated in which city? Kolkata

A documentary film titled ‘___’, based on the life of a Uttarakhand farmer, has been nominated for Oscars: Moti Bagh

Mayank Vaidhas become the first Indian origin person to complete which triathlon in a new record time? Enduroman

What are the three physical activities included in the Enduroman triathlon? Running, Swimming and Cycling

Which country lifted the Basketball World Cup held in Beijing, China? Spain

Name the film that became the only Indian film to feature in “The Guardian” list of the 100 Best Films of the 21st century: Gangs of Wasseypur

Who is the director of the film “Gangs of Wasseypur”? Anurag Kashyap

Name the country’s official mapping agency that has decided to put a complete ban on which type of cigarettes? Himachal Pradesh

What is the theme for this year’s World Ozone Day? The role of Ozone in the ecosystem from the harmful ultraviolet rays of the sun? Ozone

The World Ozone Day is observed on which day of September? 16 September

What is the world record time for the Enduroman triathlon? 35 hours

What is the capital of Mongolia? Ulaanbaatar

What is the category of the fighter aircraft Tejas? Light Combat Aircraft - LCA

President of Mongolia, Khaltmaagiin Battulga arrived on a five day State visit. Mongolia
which day? September 15

355) The DRDO handed over the second Airborne Early Warning and Control (AEWC) aircraft to the Indian Air Force. Name the aircraft? Neutra

356) According to World University Ranking 2020 released by Times Higher Education society on September 11, ______ university secured top rank for the 4th successive year: Oxford

357) Government plans to establish Indian Institute of Skills (IIS) at ______ to provide skill training in highly-specialised areas to students: Mumbai

358) Govt. announced that on Gandhi Jayanti, 1,070 special courts will be set up all over the country for dealing with POCOSO cases. This relates to which type of cases? Sexual offences against women and children

359) Name the India’s ace hockey star who will lead Indian Women’s team in England in a five-match series: Rani Rampal

360) On which railway station railways have established their first ever fun zone? Visakhapatnam

361) Name the senior bureaucrat who has been appointed as the Principal Advisor to Prime Minister: Pradeep Kumar Sinha

362) ______ became the first Asian nation to unveil plain cigarette packaging to reduce the appeal of smoking and to comply with the WHO guidelines: Thailand

363) ______ became the first country in 2012 to require tobacco products to be sold without colourful brand logos: Australia

364) In the history of Indian Railways, for the first time, a train will not be operated by the Railways. Name this train: Tejas Express

365) Indian Railways has outsourced running of the Tejas Express to which agency? IRCTC

366) What is the full form of IRCTC? Indian Railway Catering and Tourism Corporation

367) The DDCA (Delhi and Districts Cricket Association) unveiled a new pavilion stand named after which cricketer in the Arun Jaitley Cricket Stadium in New Delhi: Virat Kohli

368) The Centre has finalised the site for a 7,500 MW mega solar project at which place in Ladakh region: Pang

369) The nationwide mass campaign against the use of ‘single use plastics’ was launched from Mathura on Sep 11. What is its name: Swachhta hi Seva 2019

370) Dr. Pramod Kumar Mishra has been appointed as the ______ to the Prime Minister: Principal Secretary

371) Niti Aayog has selected which global management consultancy to set up India’s first Digital Capability Centre? McKinsey & Company

372) National Animal Disease Control Programme was launched from ______ in Uttar Pradesh: Mathura

373) What was the name of one of the strongest storms to hit Tokyo in the last several years, with winds of up to 210km/h? Typhoon Faxai

374) India’s second riverine Multi Modal Terminal was inaugurated at Sahibganj on River Ganga in which state? Jharkhand

375) India’s first multi modal terminal was opened up in Nov 2018 at which place: Varanasi

376) Bharti Airtel launched which new broadband service that will offer a speed of 1 Gbps for Rs. 3,999 a month: AirtelXstreamFibre

377) Name the noted golfer from Ireland who was named the PGA Tour Player of the Year for a third time: Rory McIlroy

378) Name the Indian cyclist who won four golds in the Track Asia Cup cycling championship in New Delhi: Neutra

379) DRDO successfully flight tested indigenously developed MPATGM in Kurnool, Andhra Pradesh: Expand the term MPATGM: Man Portable Anti-tank Guided Missile

380) Ministry of Agriculture launched a multilingual mobile app ‘CHC Farm Machinery’ to allow farmers to hire farm equipment locally. Here CHC stands for what? Custom Hiring Service Centres

381) Indian Prime Minister crossed the mark of 50 million followers on his twitter account, becoming the third most followed world leader. Who is the first ranked leader with 108.2 million followers: Barack Obama

382) World Suicide Prevention Day observed on September 10 is supported by which UN organization? WHO: World Health Organization

383) The Ministry of Civil Aviation organised India’s first-ever helicopter summit in which city: Dehradun

384) South Asia’s first cross-border petroleum pipeline was inaugurated between which two countries? India and Nepal

385) Government has set up a three-member panel headed by former Defence Secretary Sanjay Mitra for what purpose: To oversee the bifurcation of Jammu and Kashmir into two Union Territories

386) The Indian Air Force (IAF) recreated its 17 Squadron ‘Golden Arrows’ based at which Air Force Station? Ambala Cantt, Haryana

387) The recently formed 17 Squadron ‘Golden Arrows’ is likely to fly which aircraft? Rafale fighter jet

388) Charles Leclerc won the Italian Grand Prix at Monza, Italy. What is this sport? F1 car racing

389) What is the name of the highest marathon in the world, held at over 11,000 feet above the mean sea level? Ladakh Marathon

390) Asian Development Bank approved a $ 200 million loan for upgrading rural roads in 34 districts of ______ to improve road safety: Maharashtra

391) Which payment bank recently launched Aadhaar Enabled Payment System (AEPS) Services for expanding access to financial services for millions of unbanked and underbanked customers? India Post Payments Bank

392) UNESCO has tied up with which state to promote music, art and craft forms, and other intangible cultural heritage of the state? Rajasthan

393) US Open Grand Slam Tennis Championship was held in which city? New York

394) Name the player who won the Men’s singles title of the US Open Grand Slam: Rafael Nadal

395) Name the 19 year old Canadian girl who won the Women’s singles title of the US Open Grand Slam? Bianca Andreescu

396) Which science based awards are popularly known as “Oscars of Science”: Breakthrough prizes

397) The Breakthrough prizes are given in how many fields? 3

398) Name the 3 fields in which Breakthrough Prizes are given? Fundamental Physics, Life Sciences and Mathematics

399) Each Breakthrough Prize carries an award of what amount? $3 million

400) As per the World Travel & Tourism Competitiveness Index 2019 released by the World Economic Forum (WEF), India has jumped 6 places to claim which spot: 34th

401) Which country was placed at no. 1 spot in the World Travel & Tourism Competitiveness Index 2019? Spain

402) As per the impact of “BetiBachao, BetiPadhao” campaign, national sex ratio made remarkable 13 points jump from 918 to 931 in last 5 years. It covers how many districts of India? All districts

403) Rohit Sharma, Indian Cricket team vice-captain launched “Rohit4Rhinos” campaign. They are the “state animal” of which state? Assam

404) Name the Zimbabwe’s former president / Prime Minister for 37 years, who died aged 95: Robert Mugabe

405) Which Indian state signed an MoU for sister state with the Delaware State of America: Gujarat

406) What was the name of the annual Joint Indo-Lanka maritime fleet exercise that was held off the coast of Visakhapatnam? SLINEX 2019

407) In an official survey to select the best ‘Swachh Iconic Place’ in the country, which place was adjudged as the “Best Swachh Iconic Place”? Shri Mata Vaishno Devi Shrine near Katra
408) The Indian Army has announced that the first batch of 100 women soldiers will be commissioned by March 2021. They will join which corps? **Corps of Military Police**

409) Exercise "YudhAbhyas 2019" was held between army units of India and which other country? **USA**

410) Exercise "YudhAbhyas 2019" was held at which place? **Washington, USA**

411) The RBI has made it mandatory for banks to link interest on all their new loan products to which policy rate of RBI? **Repo Rate**

412) The official logo of Qatar 2022 FIFA world cup is based on 3D version of which arithmetical symbol? **Infinity**

413) Which city in USA hosted the second edition of the Jaipur Literature Festival on September 13-14? **Houston**

414) Name the India’s Chief Election Commissioner who has been elected as the Chairman of Association of World Election Bodies? **Sunil Arora**

415) The 20th India-Russia Annual Summit was held in which city? **Vladivostok**

416) Which Indian Cricketer recently broke MS Dhoni’s wicket-keeping record for India by becoming the fastest Indian wicket-keeper to claim 50 dismissals in Test cricket? **Rishabh Pant**

417) From September 1, govt. has imposed steep hike in the traffic violation fines. Which act has been amended for this purpose? **Motor Vehicles Act 2019**

418) According to a “Global Happiness Survey” by Ipsos, Indian has been ranked ____ on the happiness index. **9th**

419) As per the “Global Happiness Survey” by Ipsos, which two countries have been ranked as the happiest in the World? **Australia and Canada**

420) Virat Kohli surpassed which cricketer to become India’s most successful captain in test matches? **Mahendra Singh Dhoni**

421) Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation honored which Indian statesman for his outstanding work in the Swachh Bharat Abhiyan? **Prime Minister Narendra Modi**

422) India’s is planning to explore the deep sea region with which project by 2021-22? **Samudrayaan**

423) The highest sky cycling track of the country has been built at an altitude of 9,000 feet in which state? **Himachal Pradesh**

424) Indian Institute of Petroleum has set up a plant in ____ that can turn plastic waste into diesel: **Dehradun**

425) Which state launched its exclusive 24x7 education channel ‘KalviTholakkatchi’ for school students of classes I to XII? **Tamil Nadu**

426) HRD ministry launched one of the world’s largest Integrated Online School for Education named ______ in New Delhi: ‘Shagun’

427) Dindigul locks and Kandangi sarees of which state have been granted Geographical Indication (GI) tags? **Tamil Nadu**

428) The DeendayalAntyodayaYojana-NULM won the SKOCH Governance Gold Award 2019. What is the full form of NULM? **National Urban Livelihoods Mission**

429) Which state launched the ‘Walk to Work’ campaign in the state as a part of ‘Fit India Movement’ launched in the country by the Prime Minister? **Meghalaya**

430) V K Johri, senior IPS officer has been appointed as the new Director General of which para-military force? **Border Security Force (BSF)**

431) Which country lifted the SAFF Under-15 Football title at Kolkata, West Bengal with a 7-0 win over Nepal? **India**

432) Which country recently announced her decision to patrol disputed isles in the East China Sea? **Japan**

433) Who has been appointed as the new Governor of Maharashtra? **Bhagat Singh Koshyari**

434) Arif Mohammed Khan has been made Governor of which southern state? **Kerala**

435) What is the name of the new Governor of Rajasthan? **Kalraj Mishra**

436) Name the former union minister who now is the Governor of Himachal Pradesh? **BandaruDattatreya**

437) Name the lady who has been appointed the Governor of Telangana? **Dr Ms. T Soundararajan**

438) What is the full form of ‘POSHAN’? **Prime Minister’s Overreaching Scheme for Holistic Nourishment**

439) What is the theme of this year RashtriyaPoshanMaah? **Complementary Feeding**

440) India recently hosted the 4th Conference of Parties, COP14, to the UNCCD at which place? **Greater Noida, UP**

441) What is the full form of UNCCD? **United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification**

442) Prime Minister Narendra Modi launched which campaign to promote fitness on National Sports Day- August 29? **‘Fit India Movement’**

443) The U.S. President announced the formation of which new space force that will combine skills and assets from all U.S. military branches? **“Space Command” or SpaceCom**

444) Name the teenage climate campaigner school girl from Sweden who sailed from UK to New York on a zero-emissions yacht to highlight the ecological crisis earth is facing because of climate change: **Greta Thunberg**

445) The total horticulture production in the country, is estimated to be around? **313 million tones**

446) Which Indian airline has announced to completely ban the use of plastic in its catering operations? **Air India**

447) The government announced the merger of ten public sector banks into four banks. Now how many public sector banks will be there? **12**

448) Which two banks will now be merged with the Punjab National Bank? **Oriental Bank of Commerce and United Bank**

449) As per recent announcement by the Finance Minister, which bank will be merged with Canara Bank? **Syndicate Bank**

450) Government has decided to merge which bank with the Indian Bank? **Allahabad Bank**

451) Under the recently announced bank merger plan, which two banks are to be merged with the Union Bank of India? **Andhra Bank and Corporation Bank**

452) The Union Cabinet recently approved 100 percent FDI under automatic route in which two sectors? **Coal mining and in contract manufacturing**

453) Which European country has decided to reduce the country’s parliament by 25 per cent as part of an overhaul of the country’s institutions? **France**

454) India recently started a new bus service from Siliguri in West Bengal to which place? **Kathmandu**

455) India has become the first country in the world to issue a Biometric Seafarer Identity Document. What is the common word for Seafarer? **Sailors**

456) Government launched mobile app “Janaushadhi Sugam” for what purpose: **Toenablepeople to search Janaushadhi generic medicines stores**

457) As per the Forbes list of highest paid women in music, who has been ranked no. 1 in world: **Scarlett Johansson**

458) Name the Hollywood star who topped the Forbes’ list of highest paid actors in the world: **Taylor Swift, USA**

459) Bandhan Bank launched a co-branded credit card in association with: **Standard Chartered Bank**

460) What is the name of the National Sports Awards given for excellence in adventure sports? **Tenzing Norgay National Adventure Award**

461) Name any two adventure sports categories for which national sports award is given: **Wateradventure, Air Adventure**

462) The RBI decided to transfer 1.76 lakh crore rupees as dividend
and surplus reserve to the government. The decision is based on recommendations of which committee: Bimal Jalan Committee

463) Dense rain forest of which region are often referred to as “Lungs of the Earth”: Amazon Forests in Brazil

464) Why Amazon forests are referred to as “Lungs of the Earth”: They contribute over 20 per cent of world’s oxygen content

465) The Amazon forests were in news recently for what reasons: They were stuck by hundreds of wildfires causing wide spread devastation of green cover

466) The Delhi and District Cricket Association, DDCA has decided to rename the Feroz Shah Kotla Stadium as what? Arun Jaitley Stadium

467) Abdalla Hamdok, a prominent economist has been sworn in as Prime Minister of which African country? Sudan

468) Which apex national organization released the Composite Water Management Index 2.0 for 2017-18: NITI Aayog

469) Which state has been ranked as No. 1 in the Composite Water Management Index 2.0: Gujarat

470) Which International Day is observed on August 21 to raise awareness about the condition of older people: World Senior Citizens Day

471) On August 26, which international day is celebrated across the world to promote gender equality: Women’s Equality Day

472) What is the name of the oldest Football Tournament of Asia, finals of which were played recently in Kolkata: Durand Cup

473) Komalika Bari became the recurve cadet world champion in which sports? Archery

474) P V Sindhu scripted history as she became the first Indian to win badminton’s World Championships. She defeated which player? Nozomi Okuhara of Japan

475) Who won the Men’s singles title of the BWF- World Badminton Championship at Basel, Switzerland? Kento Momota of Japan

476) Which Indian player won the Bronze in men’s singles at the World Badminton Championships? B Sai Praneeth

477) The Indian Army has entered into an arrangement with which real estate firm to take over dwelling units in 13 ‘Ready to Move in’ pan-India projects? Tata Realty & Housing

478) The Financial Action Task Force’s Asia Pacific Group recently blacklisted which country for non-compliance and non-enforcement of safeguards against terror financing and money laundering? Pakistan

479) Where are the headquarters of the Financial Action Task Force? Paris

480) Which apex Indian organization has announced a new mechanism to reward insider trading informants to uncover insider trading cases? SEBI - Securities and Exchange Board of India

481) Which country launched an unmanned rocket carrying a life-size humanoid robot named Fedor? Russia

482) The humanoid robot Fedor will function at which place? International Space Station

483) Which two Indian places have been featured in the Time’s list of the 100 greatest places in the world? ‘Statue of Unity’ in Gujarat and ‘Sohu House’ in Mumbai

484) Who has been selected as the new batting coach for the Indian Cricket team? Vikram Rathour

485) Which state topped the SARAL Index, which evaluates the Indian states on the basis of their attractiveness for rooftop solar development? Karnataka

486) Which ministry launched the SARAL Index: Power and New & Renewable Energy Ministry

487) What is the expansion of the acronym SARAL? State Rooftop Solar Attractiveness

488) As per Forbes’ list of highest-paid actors, which Bollywood star secured the fourth position with earnings of $65 million (about Rs 450 crore)? Akshay Kumar

489) Indian Railways started its second double-decker train “Uday Express”. It will run between which two stations: Visakhapatnam and Vijayawada in Andhra Pradesh

490) What is the full form of UDAY? Utkrisht Double-decker Air-conditioned Yatri

491) RBI has permitted processing of e-mandate on credit and debit cards and e-wallets for recurring transactions (merchant payments) with a cap of Rs ______ per transaction: 2,000

492) The RBI has ruled that registration and first transaction of e-mandate will require AFA. What is AFA? Additional Factor of Authentication

493) The centre has notified new sets of health warnings for all tobacco products. What it is? Tobacco causes painful death

494) Ministry of Railways has directed all its units to enforce ban on which type of plastic material from October 2 this year: Single use plastics

495) Give some common examples of single use plastic items? Disposable items, glasses, bottles, etc.

496) Which country conferred her highest civilian honour ‘Order of Zayed’ on Sh. Modi? UAE- United Arab Emirates

497) King of which country honoured our Prime Minister with “The King Hamad Order of the Renaissance”: Bahrain

498) The 45th G7 summit was held in ______, France: Biarritz

499) Which e-commerce major inaugurated its largest campus in the world, in Hyderabad: Amazon

500) Who has been appointed as the next Cabinet Secretary by the Appointments Committee of Cabinet: Rajiv Gauha

501) The Appointments Committee of Cabinet is headed by which person? Prime Minister

502) Who has been appointed as the new Union Home Secretary of India? Ajay Kumar Bhalla

503) The National Sports Awards 2019 were announced by Selection Committee headed by retired judge Justice ______: Mukundakam Sharma

504) Which is the highest recognition from the Govt. of India for outstanding achievements in sports: Rajiv Gandhi Khel Ratna

505) How many sports person were selected in 2019 for the Rajiv Gandhi Khel Ratna Award? Two

506) Name the star wrestler who won the Rajiv Gandhi Khel Ratna Award 2019: Bajrang Punia

507) Paralympian Deepa Malik has been selected for Rajiv Gandhi Khel Ratna Award for outstanding achievements in sports: Athletics - Shot-put

508) The Govt. of India honours veteran sports coaches with which award: Dronacharya Award

509) Which national sports award is given to honour the veteran sports persons for their life time achievement: Dhyanchand Award

510) India celebrates National Sports Day on which date? August 29 (birthday- Sh. Dhyanchand)

511) According to an analysis of a NASA data released by environmental watchdog NGO Greenpeace, ______ is the world’s largest emitter of anthropogenic Sulphur Dioxide: India

512) What is the main source that releases Sulphur Dioxide in the atmosphere? Coal burning

513) The HRD ministry launched the Integrated Teachers Training Programme, NISHTHA: To build and improve the capacities of around 42 lakh teachers across India

514) What is the full form of acronym NISHTHA? National Initiative for School Head’s and Teachers’ Holistic Advancement


516) A nine day National Tribal Festival “Aadi Mahotsav” was held at which place: Leh, Ladakh

517) Biographical documentary “100 Years of Chrysostom” was in news recently for what reasons: It was selected for the
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<td>Philipose Mar Chrysostom, Kerala</td>
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<td>519) World Humanitarian Day is observed across the world with UN support on which date?</td>
<td>August 19</td>
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<td>520) A one of its kind underground Bunker Museum has been opened at Raj Bhavan of which state?</td>
<td>Maharashtra (Mumbai)</td>
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<td>521) The Prime Minister in his Independence Day speech announced the launch of &quot;Jal Jeewan Mission&quot; for what purpose?</td>
<td>To provide piped water supply to every house by 2024</td>
</tr>
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<td>522) Justice Madan B Lokur, retired Supreme Court judge has been appointed a judge of the nonresident panel of the Supreme Court of which country?</td>
<td>Fiji</td>
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<td>523) Who has been re-appointed as the head coach of the Indian men’s cricket team by the Cricket Advisory Committee of BCCI?</td>
<td>Ravi Shastri</td>
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<td>524) Vice President M. Venkiah Naidu made a visit to three countries – Lithuania, Latvia and Estonia. Put together these countries are known by which other name?</td>
<td>Baltic countries</td>
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<td>525) The 5th International Army Scout Masters Competition was held at Jaisalmer, Rajasthan from July 24 to August 17.</td>
<td></td>
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<td>526) On August 15, IndiGo became the first Indian airline to fly over the North Pole connecting New Delhi to San Francisco.</td>
<td>Air India</td>
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<td>527) RBI has asked banks that transactions failed due to technical reasons at ATMs or due to non-availability of cash, should not be __________: Included in the “free ATM transactions” permitted every month.</td>
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<td>528) The ‘abhishekamprasadamPanchamirtham’ of Murugan temple, Palani has been granted GI-Tag. It is in which state?</td>
<td>Tamil Nadu</td>
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<td>529) India’s third highest wartime gallantry award was recently conferred upon __________: Wing Commander AbhinandanVarthaman</td>
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<td>530) Priyam Chatterjee became the 1st Indian to be awarded the ‘Chevalier de l’Ordre du Mérite Agricole’ by the government of France for achievement in which field?</td>
<td>Cookery</td>
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<td>531) Which state won the &quot;best innovation and initiative leadership award&quot; in the World Education Summit-2019 held in New Delhi?</td>
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<td>538) The International Cricket Council and Commonwealth Games Federation have confirmed the inclusion of which cricket event in 2022 Birmingham games?</td>
<td>Women’s T-20</td>
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<td>539) Central government has made “Headgear” (wearing a helmet) mandatory for children above ______ years while travelling on a motorcycle/scooter in public place:</td>
<td>Four</td>
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<td>540) Typhoon Lekima, a severe typhoon packing winds of nearly 190 kilometres per hour, devastated a part of which country:</td>
<td>Saudi Arabia</td>
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<td>548) World Day is observed on August 06 to focus on creating awareness for anti-war and anti-nuclear discussions and demonstrations: Hiroshima Day</td>
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<td>550) National Handloom Day is observed on which date?</td>
<td>August 07</td>
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<td>551) Tribute to workers who risk their lives in humanitarian services: World Humanitarian Day is observed across the world with UN support on which date to pay tribute to workers who risk their lives in humanitarian services:</td>
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<td>559) Which film won the national award for best feature film? Helaro(Gujarati)</td>
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<td>567) Which Arabian country passed new laws to remove age old</td>
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**Eastern Coastal China**

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<td>560) The day on which Mahatma Gandhi gave a clarion call to end the British rule and launched the Quit India Movement in 1942 is celebrated as which day on August 8: August Kranti Diwas</td>
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<tr>
<td>567) Which Apex body plans to set up a central payment fraud registry, which will monitor digital payment frauds on real-time basis? Reserve Bank of India</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Question</td>
<td>Answer</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>-------------------------------------------------------------------------</td>
<td>--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Restrictions on independent movement of women?</td>
<td>Saudi Arabia</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>What is the single most important feature of the Unlawful Activities (Prevention) Amendment (UAPA) Bill, 2019 recently passed by the Parliament?</td>
<td>Powerto designate a person as a terrorist</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>In a recent report released by the World Bank on the global GDP rankings of 2018, India has slipped down to the ___ place from fifth place last year:</td>
<td>7th</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>What is the formal name of the recently passed the Triple Talaq Bill: Muslim Women (Protection of Rights on Marriage) Bill, 2019</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>As per the Triple Talaq Bill, the practice of instant triple talaq is punishable by a jail term of how many years:</td>
<td>Three</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Which cricketer crossed a rare mile stone of scoring 1000 runs and taking 100 wickets in the T20 format:</td>
<td>Ms.Elyse Perry, Australia</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Name the senior Indian TV journalist who was one of the five persons selected for the prestigious Ramon Magsaysay award:</td>
<td>Ravish Kumar</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ravish Kumar is popular for anchoring which Hindu TV news programme:</td>
<td>Prime Time on NDTV</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Which legendary Football club celebrated its 100 years of existence on August 01 in Kolkata:</td>
<td>East Bengal Club</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Which country passed a law to ban burqa or niquab, in public buildings and on transport:</td>
<td>Netherlands</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>India signed a deal worth around Rs 1,500 crore to acquire which air-to-air hypersonic missiles from Russia:</td>
<td>R-27</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Indian Navy recently inducted indigenously built INS LCU L-56, It is which type of ship:</td>
<td>Landing Craft Utility (LCU) MK IV class ships</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>VidishaBalyan, young beauty queen from Uttar Pradesh won which international beauty crown recently:</td>
<td>Miss Deaf World 2019</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Jerlin Anika,15 year Tamil Nadu girl won the gold medal in the World Deaf Youth Championships held in Taipei:</td>
<td>Badminton</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>UNO supports celebration of July 30 as a special day devoted to raise awareness about the situation of victims of human trafficking. Name this day:</td>
<td>World Day Against Trafficking</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>After giving GI-Tag to west Bengal for Rasagola in Nov. 2017, which other state has now been given GI-Tag for Rasagola:</td>
<td>Odisha</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Which house of Parliament - Lok Sabha or Rajya Sabha - has decided to become paperless from the next session:</td>
<td>Lok Sabha</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>The Department of Posts has decided to convert the India Post Payments Bank into which type of bank:</td>
<td>Small Finance Bank</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>V G Siddhartha, founder of the India's largest coffee house chain, was in news due to his mysterious suicide. What is the name of coffee chain:</td>
<td>Café Coffee Day - CCD</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Rajiv Kumar, senior IAS officer has been appointed as the new Secretary of Finance:</td>
<td>JULY - 2019</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>The Ministry of Statistics and Programme Implementation (MoSPI) started the 7th Economic Census on July 29 from which state?</td>
<td>Tripura</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>The Economic Census is held after how many years?</td>
<td>Five</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>The Global Tiger Day is celebrated on which date?</td>
<td>July 29</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Which Indian state has largest number of tigers - 526, as per the Tiger Estimation Report 2018?</td>
<td>Madhya Pradesh</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>One of the most challenging and prestigious sports event Tour de France is associated with which sports:</td>
<td>Cycle Race</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Name the 22 years old Colombian who became the youngest sportsman to win Tour de France in its 110 years history:</td>
<td>Egan Bernal</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Name the Sr. IPS officer who has been appointed as the next Director General of Border Security Force-BSF:</td>
<td>V K Johri</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Which state secured first position in the installation of rooftop solar projects with an installed capacity of 261.97 megawatts?</td>
<td>Gujarat</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Which atomic power plant set a world record for continuous operation as its unit-1 functioned un-interrupted for 962 days?</td>
<td>Kaiga( Karnataka)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>The first lot of four Boeing AH-64E Apache attack helicopters was recently received from which country?</td>
<td>USA</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>The third edition of Khelo India Youth Games will be held in ___, in January, 2020:</td>
<td>Guwahati</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Adhir Ranjan Chowdhury, the leader of the Congress party in Lok Sabha, was appointed as the Chairman of the PAC. What is PAC? Public Accounts Committee(of Parliament)</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>What is the function of PAC? To review the reports of CAG-Comptroller and Auditor General of India:</td>
<td>Telangana</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Which state has now been given GI tag to its indigenous coffee variety?</td>
<td>Andhra Pradesh</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>The country celebrated which anniversary of Kargil victory on July 26:</td>
<td>20th</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>What was the name given to the mission to recapture Kargil from Pakistan? Operation Vijay:</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>India has improved its rank in the Global Innovation Index to______, making a significant jump of 5 places from the previous year:</td>
<td>52nd</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Which country topped the Global Innovation Index 2019:</td>
<td>Switzerland</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>In which state the Ratapani Wildlife Sanctuary has been declared as a tiger reserve for better conservation of tigers:</td>
<td>Madhya Pradesh</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Government of India has announced to provide 10,000 scholarships for heirs of the liberation war fighters of which country? Bangladesh:</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>_____ has become the first state in the country to reserve 75% jobs for locals across all categories in private sector:</td>
<td>Andhra Pradesh</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Who has been elected as the new Prime Minister of Britain? Boris Johnson:</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Boris Johnson is a senior leader of which political party? Conservative Party:</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>The book titled “Kargil: Untold stories from the War” has been written by which author? Rachna Bisht Rawat:</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>What is the title of a recent book written by former Navy Chief Admiral Sushil Kumar, based on the works of late Prime Minister Atal Behari Vajpayee? A Prime Minister to Remember:</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>The government has decided to declare all lanes at the toll</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
plaza on national highways as ‘FASTag lanes’ from which date? December 1, 2019

621) Which organization in India manages issuance of ‘FASTag’?
   National Highway Authority of India

622) Country’s first state-of-the-art Space Systems Park is expected to come up at which place: Knowledge City in Thiruvananthapuram

623) Name the British swimmer who became the first person in the world to complete men’s 100 metre breaststroke in under 57 seconds: Adam Peaty

624) India celebrates National Broadcasting Day on which date: July 23

625) India’s second moon mission Chandrayaan-2 seeks to explore which part of moon: South Pole

626) What is the name of the space Lander which is part of the Chandrayaan-2 mission: Vikram

627) What is the name of the lunar rover that will be dropped on the moon surface by Vikram: Pragyan

628) Which country won both, men and women team event at the 21st Commonwealth Table Tennis Championships? India

629) _____ won the Women’s singles titles at the 21st Commonwealth Table Tennis Championships: Ayhika Mukherjee

630) Name the paddler who won the men’s singles titles at the 21st Commonwealth Table Tennis Championships: Harmeet Desai

631) India’s star sprinter Hima Das created ripples in the sports world by winning ____ gold medals in athletics in the month of July: Five

632) What is the popular nick name for Hima Das: Dhing Express

633) Which ministry signed an MoU with Ministries of Ayush, Defence and Railways to strengthen the efforts towards a TB-Free India by 2025? Health Ministry

634) India signed an agreement with _____ for upgradation of over 100 year old railway tracks in the northern part of the country: Sri Lanka

635) The ICC recently suspended which country from its membership? Zimbabwe

636) Why Zimbabwe Cricket’s membership was cancelled by ICC: For alleged interference of govt in its elections

637) Taking serious note of alarming extinction of two Indian birds, Supreme Court constituted a high-powered committee to look into the matter: Name these two birds: Great Indian Bustard and the Lesser Florican

638) July 17 is celebrated as the World Day for International Justice. It is a platform for promoting work of which international body? ICC - International Criminal Court

639) Where are the headquarters of the International Criminal Court-ICC: The Hague, Netherlands

640) How many countries accept the jurisdiction of the ICC: 122

641) Indian Navy launched “Sagar-Maitree” mission for what purpose? For enhancing the research and strengthening relationship with Southeast Asian countries

642) Name the Indian Navy’s Ship that will undertake the mission “Sagar-Maitree”: INS Sagardhwani

643) Name the legendary Indian Cricketer who was recently inducted into the prestigious International Cricket Council’s Hall of Fame: Sachin Tendulkar

644) Which international day is celebrated around the world with UN support on July 18 to honour Nelson Mandela? International Nelson Mandela Day

645) Nelson Mandela, a great freedom fighter and apostle of peace, was associated with which country? South Africa

646) Name the former Supreme Court judge who has been appointed as an international judge at the Singapore International Commercial Court: Justice A K Sikri

647) Indian navy inked a follow-up deal worth $50 million with which country to supply complementary naval MRSAM systems? Israel

648) What is the full form of MRSAM? Medium Range Surface-to-air Missile

649) In which country World Health Organization (WHO) has declared the Ebola crisis as a public health emergency? Congo

650) Ebola fever is caused by which virus: Ebola

651) Which film bagged the Best Feature Film and Best Director award at the 9th SAARC Film Festival held in Colombo, Sri Lanka? Nagarkirtan

652) Union Minister of Health and Family Welfare released which report in the public domain related with providing health facilities to all, for inputs from various stakeholders? National Digital Health Blueprint

653) Government has announced the merger of three public sector insurance companies. Give their names: National Insurance, United India Assurance and Oriental India Insurance

654) The 13th ICC Cricket World Cup 2023 will be hosted by which country? India

655) July 15 is observed as World Youth Skills Day. It is supported by which UN organization: UNESCO

656) Which country launched a space telescope named Spektr-RG in a joint effort with Germany? Russia

657) What is the name of the Russian Space Agency: Roscosmos

658) Which state plans to open the country’s first-ever elephant rehabilitation centre? Kerala

659) Tennis Grand Slam Wimbledon is played in which city: London

660) _____ won his fifth Wimbledon title after defeating Swiss player Roger Federer: Novak Djokovic

661) Name the Romanian Tennis star who lifted the Women’s Singles title at the Wimbledon: Simona Halep

662) Who was adjudged “Player of the Tournament” for his excellent returns with the bat and inspiring leadership in ICC World Cup: Kane Williamson

663) Name the batsman and the bowler who claimed highest score in their respective category, in the recently concluded ICC World Cup: Rohit Sharma, Mitchell Starc

664) The nerve-wracking final of the ICC World Cup was played in which stadium? Lord’s, London

665) _____ became the first state in India to ensure the conservation of water and have own water policy: Meghalaya

666) Which country is the partner in this year’s International Film Festival of India? Russia

667) What is the name of the space craft that is the first one to land on an asteroid? Hayabusa-2

668) Space agency of which country launched Hayabusa-2? Japan - JAXA

669) Name the asteroid on which Japan’s space craft Hayabusa-2 landed: Ryugu

670) Who has been appointed as the next MD and CFO of the World Bank? Anshula Kant

671) The exercise ‘Garuda-VI’ was held in which country? France

672) The world’s largest movable metal structure has been unveiled as the dome covering for the destroyed reactor at Chernobyl nuclear power plant. It is in which country? Ukraine

673) Defence Ministry launched which mission to bridge the capacity shortfall and provide a major fillip in the area of innovation in defence industry: Mission Raksha Gyan Shakti

674) The Institute of Company Secretaries of India - ICSI has launched UDIN initiative. What is the full form of UDIN? Unique Document Identification Number

675) India will host the 14th CoP-14 to the UNCCD from Sept 2 to 13 in Greater Noida, UP. What is the full form of CoP and UNCCD: Conference of Parties; United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification

676) Karnataka has decided to institute solar award in memory of Late Sh.Visvesvaraya. Who was he? Legendary engineer and social worker from Mysore, Karnataka and Bharat Ratna awardee

677) A unique strategy adopted by Northeast Frontier Railway
678)  According to a report by CBRE, a Los Angeles based real estate consulting firm, ______ is the costliest office space in India: Connaught Place, New Delhi

679)  Hyundai India launched the country’s first all-electric premium crossover. Can you name it: Kona

680)  Supported by the UNO, the World Population Day is observed on which date? July 11

681)  India shares just two percent of the world’s land but accounts for ___% of world population: 16

682)  The WHO has declared that _____ has become the fifth country in the Southeast Asia region to eliminate measles disease: SriLanka

683)  Which country has decided to impose a tax of up to 18 Euros ($20) on plane tickets for all flights taking off from its airports? France

684)  ______, the charismatic footballer was named as the AIFF Men's Footballer of the Year for a record sixth time: Sunil Chhetri

685)  ______ became the first Indian to win a gold medal in the World Universiade in 100 m dash event at Napoli in Italy: Dutte Chand

686)  BCCI has appointed ______ as Head of Cricket at its National Cricket Academy at Bengaluru: Rahul Dravid

687)  Finals of the Copa América Football Championship were held in which city: Rio de Janeiro, Brazil

688)  Which country won their 9th title of the Copa América Football Championship: Brazil

689)  DRDO successfully tested anti tank ______ missiles in Pokhran ranges in Rajasthan: Nag

690)  The Border Security Force (BSF) has launched a massive exercise, code named ‘Sudarshan’, to fortify the ‘anti-infiltration grid’ along which border? Pakistan border in Punjab and Jammu

691)  The Reserve Bank finalised a three- year roadmap named “Utkarsh 2022” for what purpose: To improve regulation and supervision, and other functions of the RBI

692)  Kyriakos Mitsotakis has been elected as the new Prime Minister of: Greece

693)  As per recent amendments in Aadhaar law, stiff penalties of fine up to Rs. ______ have been provided for un-authorised use of Aadhaar related data: One Crore

694)  Government has announced that persons who do not have PAN card, can now use ______ card in its place: Aadhaar

695)  Who became the first batsman in the world to score five centuries in a single World Cup?: Rohit Sharma

696)  VineshPhogat and DivyaKakran, star sports persons of India, are associated with which sport?: Wrestling

697)  Which country lifted the Women’s FIFA World Cup?: USA

698)  Which country hosted the Women’s FIFA World Cup?: France

699)  Which country has decided to offer to its incoming tourists providing any documentation: UAE

700)  UAE - United Arab Emirates is a federation of how many emirates?: Seven

701)  Which is the capital of UAE?: Abu Dhabi

702)  Which Indian heritage city has recently been inducted by the UNESCO in its World Heritage Site list: Jaipur, Rajasthan

703)  City of Jaipur was founded by which king of Rajasthan: Sawai Jai Singh II

704)  The Unique Identification Authority of India (UIDAI) has opened its first ‘Aadhaar Seva Kendra’ in which two cities? Delhi and Vijayawada

705)  Who has been appointed as the new Director of the IBPS - Institute of Banking Personnel Selection, Mumbai? B Harideesh Kumar

706)  In which state the South Central Railway commissioned the country’s longest electrified tunnel, running 6.6 km: Andhra Pradesh

707)  The world’s largest burn and plastic surgery institute started functioning recently in which country?: Bangladesh

708)  Which apex body in India decides the MSP for Kharif and Rabi crops? Cabinet Committee on Economic Affairs

709)  The CCEA announced MSP for crops of which season in the month of July?: Kharif

710)  The recent increase in MSP of Kharif crops ensures that MSP for a crop is at least ___ times of its all India weighted average cost of production: 1.5 times

711)  The recruitment examination of Regional Rural Banks, RRBs will now be conducted in ___ regional languages, in addition to English and Hindi?: 13

712)  Amish Tripathi has been appointed as the Director of London’s Nehru Centre, the cultural outfit of Indian High Commission. Who is he?: Famous author of English novels

713)  ______ achieved first rank in the “Agricultural Marketing and Farmer Reforms Index” (AMFFRI) released by NITI Aayog: Maharashtra

714)  Which country has given India the status of its ally in North Atlantic Treaty Organization (NATO) for increased defence cooperation?: USA

715)  NALCO has been selected for President’s award for best utilisation of Corporate Social Responsibility funds. Write the full form of NALCO: National Aluminium Company Limited

716)  Which Police station has been ranked number one for the second year in running in India?: Kali, Distt Bikaner, Rajasthan

717)  Which Deputy Governor of the RBI has been given extension for a further period of one year from July 4, 2019?: N S Vishwanathan

718)  What is the name of the national professional body which certifies the Chartered Accountants in India?: Institute of Chartered Accountants of India (ICAI)

719)  Name the scheme under which beneficiaries can buy subsidised foodgrains from ration shops in any part of the country?: One Nation, One Ration Card

720)  Which global organization supports the celebration of International Day of Parliamentarism on June 30?: UNO

721)  Government has formed a high-powered Committee of Chief Ministers for ‘Transformation for Indian Agriculture’. Who is the convener of this committee?: Devendra Fadnavis

722)  June 30 is observed as International Asteroid Day. Asteroid orbit which heavenly body?: Sun

723)  Asteroids are generally found between the orbits of ___ and ___: Mars and Jupiter

724)  Veer Chotrani of India won the Gold at the Asian Junior ___ Championship in Macau, China: Squash

725)  India celebrates National Doctors’ Day on July 01 in the honour which legendary physician: Bharat RatnaDr. B C Roy

726)  RBI relaxed the leverage ratio to 4% for DSIBs and 3.5% for other banks, w.e.f. October 1, 2019. What is DSIB?: Domestic Systemically Important Banks

727)  The leverage ratio indicates the percentage of Tier-I capital to the total ___ of the bank: Loans

728)  Which international day is observed on June 29 to highlight the extraordinary diversity of the tropical areas?: International Day of the Tropics

729)  What is the formal name of the two lines of tropics?: Tropic of Cancer; Tropic of Capricorn

730)  India celebrates which day to mark the birth anniversary of renowned statistician Prof. P C Mahalanobis: National Statistics Day

731)  National Statistics Day is celebrated on which date?: June 29

732)  The RBI has allowed ARCs to buy financial assets from other ARCs. What is ARCs?: Asset Reconstruction Companies

733)  Which union ministry released a five year vision plan EQUIP - Education Quality Upgradation and Inclusion Programme?
### JUNE - 2019

**734) Which international day is devoted to recognize and celebrate social media’s impact on global communication: **Social Media Day

**735) Social Media Day is observed on:** June 30

**736) _______ has been named the world’s most expensive city for expatriates for the second year running by Mercer: **Hong Kong

**737) _______ ranked city of cities on the basis of cost of living, ranked as the cheapest city to live: **Tunis, capital of Tunisia

**738) The Government has constituted a Working Group headed by _______ for the revision of the current series of Wholesale Price Index: **Prof. Ramesh Chandra, Member, Niti Aayog

**739) _______ became the fastest batsman to reach 20,000 international runs, eclipsing batting greats Sachin Tendulkar and Brian Lara: Virat Kohli

**740) India has signed a $400 million loan agreement with the _______ to help treat and eliminate Tuberculosis from the country: **World Bank

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**741) The Central government launched which Abhiyan (mission) to ramp up rainwater harvesting and conservation in 255 water-stressed districts from July 1 to September 15: **Jal Shakti Abhiyan

**742) What is the theme of this year’s G20 Summit held on June 28-29 in Osaka, Japan: **Human-centred future society

**743) The Reserve Bank has directed that all data related to online payments must be stored in systems located in _______: India only

**744) International Day against Drug Abuse and Ilicit Trafficking is observed on which date: **June 26

**745) Which apex Indian organization has developed herbal drug ‘lukoskin’ for treatment of Leucoderma: **DRDO

**746) Leucoderma affects which part of the body: **Skin

**747) _______ became the first Indian film to win ‘Outstanding Artistic Achievement’ award at the Shanghai International Film Festival: VeyilMarangal

**748) Which committee has recommended the creation of a distressed asset fund with a corpus of Rs. 5,000 crore for MSMEs: **UK Sinha Committee

**749) K Natrajan has been appointed as the new Director General of which paramilitary force of India: **Indian Coast Guard

**750) The Niti Aayog released its second health index report recently. Which state topped the index for best performance: **Kerala

**751) Qu Dongyu has been elected as the first Chinese head of which UN organization: **Food and Agriculture Organization-FAO (Rome, Italy)

**752) _______ has become the first Arab country to be granted full membership of the Paris based Financial Action Task Force: **Saudi Arabia

**753) United Nations Public Service Day is observed globally on which day of June: **23rd

**754) Which organization launched a application - “Complaint Management System” (CMS) on its website to facilitate lodging of complaints against banks and NBFCs: **Reserve Bank of India

**755) What is the title of the autobiography of Yoga Guru Baba Ramdev: **My Life, My Mission

**756) ‘The New Delhi Conspiracy’ is recent book written by Meenakshi Lekhi. Who is she: **BJP MP from New Delhi

**757) ‘Gun Island’ is a famous novel written by which author: **Amitav Ghosh

**758) Which two states have recently been granted GI tag for the famous Kolhapuri chappals: **Karnataka and Maharashtra

**759) Where in India, country’s first specialised hydrotherapy treatment centre for elephants suffering from arthritis, joint pain and foot ailments was opened: **Mathura, UP

**760) Indian Navy launched Operation Sankalp in the Persian Gulf and the Gulf of Oman for what purpose: **To ensure the safety of Indian flagged vessels passing through the area

**761) NASA launched first Astrobee robot which fly under its own power in space: What is its name: **Bumble

**762) Which team won the women’s hockey FIH Series at Hiroshima, Japan by defeating Japan: **India

**763) Government has developed a National Strategic Plan that aims to end Tuberculosis (TB) by which year: **2025

**764) Which international day is observed on June 20 to focus on persons who have been forced to leave their homes due to war, persecution and conflict, across the world: **World Refugee Day

**765) The main event of the 5th International Day of Yoga was held in which city: **Ranchi

**766) Government constituted a committee headed by economist _______ to review the existing marketing structure of LPG in India: **Kirit Parikh

**767) Which nation recently faced massive protests against controversial “Guthi Bill” that intends to nationalise hundreds of guthis (socio-economic trusts): **Nepal

**768) The armies of India and Myanmar launched ‘Operation Sunrise 2’ for what purpose: **To flush out terrorist hideouts in their respective territories

**769) What was the theme for this year’s International Yoga Day: **Yoga for Climate Action

**770) On which day of June the world celebrates World Music Day: **June 21

**771) _______ became the fastest batsman in world to score 11,000 runs in one-day internationals cricket in just 222 innings: Virat Kohli

**772) Which global body released the “World Population Prospects Report 2019”: **UNO

**773) Om Birla has been unanimously elected as the Speaker of 17th Lok Sabha. He represents which constituency: **Kota, Rajasthan

**774) World Day to Combat Desertification and Drought is celebrated on which date: **June 17

**775) Final match of the FIH Men’s Series Hockey championship was hosted by which city: **Bhubaneswar, Odisha

**776) Which country won the FIH Men’s Series Hockey championship: **India

**777) Who created a new record for winning the most number of national titles in Squash: **Joshna Chinappa

**778) India has committed to play an active role to curb the circulation of ‘conflict diamonds’ or ‘blood diamonds’ in the international market. What are conflict diamonds: The diamonds, sale proceeds of which are used to finance wars against governments around the world, mostly in African countries

**779) Who has been crowned Femina Miss India 2019: **Suman Rao

**780) On the recommendation of which committee RBI has directed banks to ensure that their ATMs are grouted to a wall, pillar, or floor to enhance their security: **D.K. Mohanty

**781) Zuzana Caputova, the anti-corruption campaigner was sworn in as the first female President of which country: **Slovakia

**782) What is the new name approved for the global governing body for athletics-The IAAF (International Association of Athletics Federations): **World Athletics

**783) As per the Global Peace Index 2019, _______ is the most peaceful nation in the world: **Iceland

**784) As per the Global Peace Index 2019, _______ is the least peaceful nation in the world: **Afghanistan

**785) Which organization has announced the successful installation of the world’s highest operating weather stations near Mount Everest: **National Geographic Society

**786) Lexie Alford, the 21-year-old American woman who stepped in North Korea on May 31, she became the youngest person to achieve which feat: **Youngest women to travel to every country on earth, covering 196 countries in all
787) In the Forbes list of the World’s 100 Highest-Paid Athletes, who has been named as the world’s highest-paid athlete: Lionel Messi

788) The iconic football star Lionel Messi captains football team of which country and of which football club: Argentina, FC Barcelona

789) Which state has decided to take punitive action against those who fail to take care of their elderly parents, even up to imprisonment: Bihar

790) India and _____ will cooperate in the setting up of a national maritime heritage museum at the ancient city of Lothal in Gujarat: Portugal

791) What is the name of the ship-launched, electrically-propelled most advanced automatic underwater weapon, which is capable of hitting and destroying stealth submarines underwater, recently ordered by Indian Navy: Varunastra

792) According to the annual report on internet trends by venture capitalist Mary Meeker of USA, India accounts for 12% of the world’s internet users. What is India’s rank in the world: Second

793) The government has reduced the rate of the contribution made by employees and employers under the ESI Act to 4 percent from previous 6.5 per cent. What is the full form of ESI: Employees’ State Insurance

794) Govt has decided to setup a new agency entrusted with the task of creating space warfare weapon systems and technologies. What is its name: Defence Space Research Agency

795) Which Indian IT giant has surpassed US technology giant IBM in terms of market capitalization: TCS - Tata Consultancy Services

796) The DRDO launched a technology demonstrator vehicle (missile) to test functioning of which hypersonic engine: Scramjet

797) How many countries are the member of SCO: Eight

798) Which is the only political party from the North East that has won the status of national party by the Election Commission: National People’s Party

799) India’s first dinosaur museum and fossil park was recently thrown open to public in village Raiyoli of which state: Gujarat

800) The World Food Safety Day was observed for the first time on June 07. It is supported by which two UN organizations: FAO and WHO

801) Which social media site launched its first interactive game show, titled “Confetti” in India that gives participants a chance to win Rs 3 lakhs as cash prize everyday: Facebook

802) As per the ‘100 Top BrandZ Report’ by global market research agency Kantar, which company has become the world’s most valuable brand with a brand value of $315 billion: Amazon

803) The Ministry of Jal Shakti has set a target of providing clean drinking water to all by which year: 2024

804) The World Day against Child Labour is observed on which day of June: 12th

805) The RBI constituted a six-member committee headed by _____ to review the entire gamut of ATM charges and fees: V G Kanak

806) What was India’s rank in the recently released End of Childhood Index: 113th

807) The Ministry of Home Affairs has amended which act to empower district magistrates in all States and Union Territories to set up tribunals to decide whether a person staying illegally in India is a foreigner or not: The Foreigners (Tribunals) Order, 1964

808) Prayuth Chan-ocha has recently been elected as the Prime Minister of which Asian country: Thailand

809) RBI has allowed banks to offer cheque book facility and other services like ATM card in the BSBD Accounts. What is the full form of BSBD: Basic Savings Bank Deposit

810) This year’s women’s singles title in the French Open Tennis Tournament was won by which lady: Ashleigh Barty, Australia

811) _____ lifted the French Open Tennis Tournament’s men’s singles title for the 12th time: Rafael Nadal, Spain

812) What is the popular name of the French Open Tennis Tournament: Roland Garros

813) Which country conferred its highest civilian award, the Order of the Distinguished Rule of Izzudeenon Prime Minister Modi: Maldives

814) What is the theme of this year’s World Ocean Day: Gender and the Ocean

815) The World Oceans Day is celebrated on _____ June: 8th

816) In a study of congestion levels in 403 cities in 56 countries, which city was ranked at the top with congestion level of 65%: Mumbai

817) Which International Day is observed every year on June 7 to throw some light on the importance of safe food: World Food Safety Day

818) Which bank has become first bank to link its home loan interest rates to the repo rate of the Reserve Bank of India: State Bank of India

819) Which country hosted the FIFA Women’s World Cup - 2019: France

820) Prime Minister Modi is a strong supporter of SAGAR doctrine. What does it refer to: Security And Growth for All in the Region

821) Who has been re-elected as the President of FIFA, football’s global governing body: Gianni Infantino

822) Which Union Ministry launched the Swachh Survekshan League 2020 for assessment of cleanliness of Indian cities and towns on a quarterly basis, ending December, 2019: Housing and Urban Affairs Ministry

823) Which country launched its first tourist train travelling through Arctic region and on to Norway: Russia

824) With a view to boosting digital transactions, RBI has decided to do away with charges levied on which money transfer transactions: RTGS and NEFT

825) World Health Organization has selected the _____ government’s Medical & Health Dept. for its award this year in recognition of its achievements in the field of tobacco control: Rajasthan

826) Which airport in Madhya Pradesh has been declared as its first international airport: Devi Ahilya Bai Holkar airport (Indore)

827) The World Environment Day is celebrated on which day of June: 5th

828) The 14th summit of the Organisation of Islamic Cooperation (OIC) was held in Saudi Arabia. OIC is a group of _____ Islamic countries: 57

829) Who became the most capped Indian football player by playing 108 international matches, surpassing Bhaichung Bhutia’s 107 matches: Sunil Chhetri

830) Name the tribal woman from Odisha who made history by becoming the youngest Member of Parliament (MP) at the age of 25 years and 11 months: Chandrani Murmu

831) Which country topped the Sustainable Development Goals Gender Index 2019: Denmark

832) India was placed at which rank in the recently released Sustainable Development Goals Gender Index 2019: 95th

833) The World Milk Day is observed worldwide on June 01 with the support of which UN organization: Food and Agriculture Organisation-FAO

834) Who has been re-appointed as the National Security Advisor to the PM in the cabinet rank for a period of 5 years: Ajit Doval

835) The Ministry of Agriculture has estimated food grains production for the agricultural year 2018-19 at over _____ million tonnes: 283
836) Under which scheme govt. provides six thousand rupees per year in three installments (of rupees two thousand each) to all the farmers: Pradhan Mantri Kisan Samman Nidhi (PM-KISAN) scheme

837) Central government has formed a new Ministry by merging the erstwhile Ministries of Water Resources and Drinking Water and Sanitation. What is its name: ‘Jal Shakti’ (water power) Ministry

838) Who is the cabinet minister heading the Jal Shakti Ministry: Gajendra Singh Shekhawat

839) According to the Central Statistics Office (CSO) data released on June 1, the country’s per-capita income at current prices during 2018-19 is estimated at Rs _____ per annum: Rs 126,406/-

840) The central government recently announced a pension scheme for farmers. What is its name: Pradhan Mantri Kisan Pension Yojana -PMKPY

841) Under PMKPY what is the minimum amount of pension that a farmer will get after attaining age of 60 years: Rs. 3000/- pm

842) What is the eligible age group to enroll under the PMKPY scheme: 18-40 years

843) Under the new pension scheme announced by the govt. for all shopkeepers, retail traders and self-employed persons, what is the minimum amount of pension payable: Rs. 3000/-

844) To be eligible under the pension scheme for shopkeepers etc., the annual GST turnover of the beneficiary should not exceed Rs ______ crore: 1.5 crore

845) To be eligible under the pension scheme for shopkeepers etc., the beneficiary should be in which age group: 18-40

846) Admiral ______ Nijjar took charge as the 24th chief of Indian Navy on May 31: Karambir Singh

847) Which international day is observed on May 31 for highlighting the health and other risks associated with tobacco use: World No Tobacco Day

848) Which country recently launched the world’s largest and most powerful nuclear powered icebreaker ship: Russia

849) The RBI constituted a committee headed by ______, senior financial consultant, to review the existing housing finance securitisation market in India: Harsh Vardhan

850) The 2019 edition of the IMD World Competitiveness Rankings ranked India as ___ most competitive economy in the world: 43rd

851) As per the 2019 edition of the IMD World Competitiveness Rankings, ______ is country with the most competitive economy: Hong Kong

852) Mumbai based writer Annie Zaidi won which international prize for her book ‘Bread, Cement, Cactus’: Nine Dots Prize, UK

853) RBI constituted a task force headed by ______ to suggest policy and regulatory interventions required for development of secondary market in corporate loans: T.N. Manoharan

854) The Reserve Bank has announced an extension of timings for customer transactions through RTGS by how much time: 1.5 hours, (new timings are now 8 am to 6:00 pm)

855) The World Health Organization has identified addiction to video games on smartphones and other devices as: Disorder (disease)

856) Which authority directed the RBI to disclose the list of 12 big loan defaulters that it had sent to banks for resolution: The Central Information Commission (CIC)

857) The University Grants Commission (UGC) has directed universities and higher educational institutions to introduce what type of identification mechanisms in degrees issued by them: Hologram of the institute and QR code

858) Which Indian shooter created a new world record in May end in the 10 m air pistol category: Saurabh Chaudhary

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