FreshersLive Current Affairs
Weekly Edition (26th August'19 - 2nd September'19)

175+ MCQs

4 major bank mergers announced

Defence Minister Arun Jaitley passed away

National Sports Day Awards 2019

5th Week Current Affairs August 2019

Deswal won gold at ISSF World Cup
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Canara Bank introduced OTP facility for ATM withdrawals

Canara Bank has launched India's first one-time password (OTP) facility for ATM withdrawals. The OTP will be activated for cash withdrawals over Rs.10,000 per day at its ATMs to protect its cardholders from unauthorized withdrawal. Indian bank also taking this process as soon.

Need for ATM OTP:
The plan aims to avoid robbery in a banks ATM that affects ATMs users. The State-owned bank has introduced the OTPs for the safe use of ATMs. It has two vital options for the advantage of account holders. Any customer can use the geographic area MServe app to change off their Debit or Mastercard once not in use. The OTP authentication for withdrawals higher than Rs.10,000 per day to avoid such malpractice.

SBI:
SBI customers have already initiated the cash withdrawal process on the YONO app on setting a six-digit PIN for the transaction. They will also get a six-digit reference number for the transaction on their registered mobile numbers via SMS. The cash withdrawal has to be completed within the next 30 minutes at an ATM using both the PIN and the reference number.

RBI issues guidelines on Interest Subvention Scheme for Kisan Credit Card (KCC)
The Reserve Bank of India (RBI) issued guidelines on Interest Subvention Scheme (ISS) for Kisan Credit Card (KCC) to Fisheries and Animal Husbandry farmers during the year 2018-19 and 2019-20. RBI directed the Central Government to operate the interest subvention guidelines. The farmers involved in activities related to Animal Husbandry and Fisheries, through a separate KCC will get at a concessional interest rate of 7% per annum during the years only 2018-19 and 2019-20 for the short loan up to Rs. 2 lakh. The Interest subvention is available for animal husbandry and fisheries farmers at the rate of 2% per annum at the time of disbursal of loan. The additional interest subvention of 3% per annum given to farmers, who repay in time up to the due date.
fixed by the banks for repayment of the loan. This subvention will also provided to the farmers repaying promptly would get short-term loans at the rate of 4% per annum during 2018-19 and 2019-20. The interest subvention will be provided on a maximum limit of Rs 2 lakh short-term loan to farmers involved in animal husbandry & fisheries. The farmers already possessing KCC for raising crops and involved in animal husbandry and fisheries activities can avail a sub-limit for such activities. The interest subvention & prompt repayment incentive benefits will be available only on an overall limit of 3 lakh per annum on availing short term loan for the crop, animal husbandry, and fisheries activities. The RBI directed the banks to make Aadhar linkage mandatory for availing short-term loans for Animal Husbandry and Fisheries in 2018-19 and 2019-20. The ISS will be placed on the ISS portal / DBT (Direct Benefits Transfer) platform & it will be put on DBT mode on In-Kind/services basis. The banks are asked to make aware of the people about scheme so that the eligible farmers can avail the benefits. The interest subvention scheme will be launched by the Ministry of Agriculture and Farmers Welfare for settling claims arising from 2018-19. The banks also directed to submit the category wise data of beneficiaries under the scheme to RBI and report the same on ISS portal. Kisan Credit Card (KCC) extended by the Government to fisheries and animal husbandry farmers in order to assist them to meet their working capital needs. **Kisan Credit Card (KCC)** KCC is a credit scheme introduced in August 1998 by Indian banks. This model scheme was prepared by the National Bank for Agriculture and Development (NABARD) on the recommendations of R.V. Gupta committee to provide term loans and meet agricultural needs. **Indian Bank and Tata AIG General Insurance signed an MoU** The public sector Indian Bank signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) with Tata AIG General Insurance to offer a variety of general insurance products to its customers. The MoU was signed in the presence of Ms Padmaja Chunduru MD and CEO of Indian Bank and Mr Saurabh Maini, Senior Vice President and Business Head.
The partnership will see around 2,900 branches of the bank spread across India range of insurance policies benefiting its customers by way of protection, wealth creation and savings.
Tata AIG General Insurance will work with the bank for sales training, product support and ensuring smooth operational processes, all leading to seamless service to customers.

Indian Bank
Headquarters: Chennai
CEO: Padmaja Chunduru

India and Nepal organize training programme on EXIM Bank's guidelines

The Embassy of India in Nepal and National Reconstruction Authority (NRA) of Nepal organized a two-day training programme in Kathmandu on the Export-Import (EXIM) Bank of Indias Line of Credit guidelines and procedures.
The EXIM Bank of India conducted the training programme attended by 27 officials from Government of Nepal.
The first day of the training covered a general introduction to the EXIM Bank of Indias Line of Credit (LOC) modality including project identification, pre-qualification and tendering process, evaluation of tender documents, empanelment process, project implementation and monitoring.
The second-day training included a session by Nepal Government officials on Import/Export and domestic tax for Indian contractors involved in LoC projects in Nepal. A total of 28 Indian contractors attended this training session.

Training program
The training programme organized as part of a bilateral understanding reached between the Government of Nepal and Government of India during the 7th Line of Credit (LOC) Review Meeting held on June 2019 in India.
The two sides also agreed to collaborate on future capacity building efforts of the Government of Nepal officials who would be working on the Government of Indias Line of Credit supported projects.

Government announced four major bank mergers

The government announced that the four major bank mergers. The merger of 10
public sector banks to be merged into four was announced by Finance Minister Nirmala Sitharaman. After the merger, there will now be 12 public sector banks after the latest round of consolidation of PSU banks. In 2017, there were 27 public sector banks. After the amalgamation, the consolidation of public sector banks will be giving the scale.

**Banks to be merged:**
Under the scheme of amalgamation,
1) **Indian Bank** will be merged with **Allahabad Bank**. In this merger, anchor bank will be the **Indian Bank**
2) **Punjab National Bank (PNB)**, **Oriental Bank of Commerce (OBC)** and **United Bank** will be merged and **PNB** will be the anchor bank
3) **Union Bank of India**, **Andhra Bank**, and **Corporation Bank** are to be merged and the anchor bank will be **Union Bank of India**
4) **Canara Bank** and **Syndicate Bank** will be merged. **Canara Bank** will be the anchor bank

The first merger with PNB will create a banking total business of **Rs.17.9 lakh crore**. After this merging, PNB entity will have **11,437 branches**.
In the second merger, **Canara Bank** will create the fourth-largest public sector lender with total business size of **Rs.15.2 lakh crore** and **9,609 branches**.
**BUSINESS & ECONOMY**

**Microsoft to train 5000 govt employees on AI cloud**

Microsoft India launched a scheme to provide *5000 government employees* over the next year on AI (artificial intelligence) and cloud computing skills. The program, called 'Digital Governance Tech Tour', will comprise of physical and virtual workshops.

The program was inaugurated by Amitabh Kant, chief executive of NITI Aayog, the governments policy think-tank and Ajay Prakash Sawhney, secretary, MeITY (The Ministry of Electronics and Information Technology).

The program will be open to technocrats and IT professionals across the government, including employees of Public Sector Undertakings (PSUs). The government partners as well as solutions/systems integrators. Under the program, developers can earn the AZ-900 Certification, which demonstrates foundational level cloud computing skills on the spot at no cost, after clearing an exam.

The power of AI, cloud services, and data analytics needs to be brought to bear in core sectors for inclusive economic growth. As we move beyond pilots and understand how to scale AI implementation and cloud adoption across states and sectors, it is vital to equip the ecosystem with the right knowhow and skills. Collaboration with academia and industry, and initiatives such as this will help build the foundation towards an AI enabled future.

Microsoft India present at the event path-breaking innovation and drive the next phase of India's growth. Continuous focus on learning and improving skill sets for all are a must to make this a reality. Microsoft first-of-its-kind Digital Governance Tech Tour for government officials reiterates our commitment to be a trusted partner to the government by enabling and empowering officials to do more with technology in the service of the citizens.
INTERNATIONAL

PM Modi inaugurated Shreenathji Temple in Bahrain

Prime Minister Narendra Modi launched the $4.2 million improvement project on Shreenathji Temple and offered prayers.

Shreenathji Temple:
It is a 200-year-old Lord Sri Krishna avatar temple in Manama, Bahrain. It is the oldest temple with a land measure of 16,500 sq. feet and a new four-floor structure covering 45,000 sq. feet with an overall height of 30m civilized with the qualities of peace, faith. The temple has 80% more capacity to host devotees.

The temple mainly has facilities for ancient Hindu wedding ceremonies and different rituals, promoting Bahrain as a marriage destination and boosting touristry. The temple corridors are adorned with paintings by varied Indian and Bahraini artists and folks of all faiths unit welcome. Around 3,50,000 Indian nationals live in Bahrain. The Indian community comprises a 3rd of Bahrain's total population of 1.2 million.

US to launch 6th branch of US Space Command to defend Space interests

US President Donald Trump announced that it is to launch the space Command to defend America's interests in the next war-fighting domain. The US is to unveil the new Space Command called SPACECOM. It will be the US's sixth branch of the military, U.S. Space Force, for space defense.

SPACECOM, the newest combatant command, is expected to defend America's vital interests in space in the next warfighting domain.

Need for US space command:
The Trump administration has known that Russia and China will cause a threat to the US. To challenge them, the USA has announced its new space command SPACECOM.

The protection of America's interests tends to apply the mandatory focus, energy, and resources to space tasks. It is the restoration of the USA Space Command which existed between 1985 and 2002.

In February 2019, the Defense Intelligence Agency of US said that Russia and China are developing jamming and cyberspace capabilities, on-orbit capabilities,
directed energy weapons, and ground-based anti-satellite missiles which are capable of achieving a range of reversible to non-reversible effects.

Pakistan test fired ballistic missile Ghaznavi

Pakistan has successfully test-fired nuclear-capable surface-to-surface ballistic missile Ghaznavi from Sonmiani test range near Karachi located in Balochistan. The missile was built with a capability to deliver different types of warheads including nuclear and conventional up to a range of 290 km. It will be placed under the medium-range ballistic missiles. During the test, Ghaznavi was tracked by the National Development Complex (NDC) ground control station. It is located at a 220 km distance from the test range.

Reason:
The move comes after the address of the Prime Minister Imran Khan who said that Pakistan will go to any extent for Kashmir. In his address he asserted that Islamabad would not be afraid of using its nuclear power for Kashmir. Pakistan has been disturbed by the unexpected move of India to strip the special status accorded to Jammu and Kashmir. Pakistan has found itself completely isolated after its several attempts to internationalize the issue has failed. About repealing Article 370, India has said the decision to scrap J&K's special status under Article 370 was its internal matter.

China to start 27 new CPEC projects in Pakistan

China is planning to launch 27 new projects in Pakistan below the second phase of the $60 billion China-Pakistan Economic passageway (CPEC). The bold CPEC links China's Kashgar town in Xinjiang province with Pakistan's Gwadar port in Balochistan through a network of roads, railways, and highways. The linguistic communication of understanding between China and Pakistan leads to CPEC.

China-Pakistan relationship:
The China-Pakistan relations began in 1951 in Taiwan on confirming the special relationship. Both the countries have high-level visits leading to a spread of economic, military, and technical help.
The second new investment trade between China and Pakistan includes Agriculture,
education, vocational training, industry, increase in water supply, etc. Both countries are eager to invest to know the investments will make sound, they will earn money, also for a fine transport system for the transportation of goods, new airports, etc.
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INDIAN AFFAIRS

Shah Rukh Khan launches heritage postal stamp of Bandra station

Actor Shah Rukh Khan launched heritage postal stamp of Bandra station on the completion of 150 years of the railway station. Ashish Shelar, minister of School Education, Sports and Youth Welfare of Maharashtra present at the Bandra station. King Khan shared his fetish of writing letters. Indian actor, film producer, Shah Rukh Khan (SRK) introduced heritage postal stamp of Bandra station in Mumbai, Maharashtra on the completion of 150 years of the railway station.

Prakash Javadekar inaugurates National Centre for Avian Ecotoxicology in Coimbatore, Tamil Nadu

Union Environment, Forest and Climate Change and Information and Broadcasting Minister Prakash Javadekar inaugurated the National Centre for Avian Ecotoxicology at Salim Ali Centre for Ornithology and Natural Sciences ((SACON)) in Coimbatore, Tamil Nadu. The centre study the movement of chemical contaminants such as pesticides, heavy metals, polycyclic aromatic hydrocarbons, polychlorinated biphenyls and drugs through the food chain. The impacts on bird species. The ministry funded an amount of Rs 4 crore to the centre for modernization and to handle the challenges posed by the continued entry of newer chemicals into the environment.

Slim Ali Centre for Ornithology and Natural History (SACON)

Slim Ali Centre for Ornithology and Natural History (SACON) is a national centre for information, education and research in ornithology and natural history in India. It was inspired by and named in honour of Salim Ali, the leading pioneer of ornithology in India. It is an autonomous organisation established in 1990 as a public- NGO partnership between the MoEF&CC, and the Bombay Natural History Society(BNHS) under the Centre of Excellence Scheme and registered under the Indian Societies Registration Act. Its headquarters are at Anaikatti, Coimbatore, Tamil Nadu, India.
CM Pinarayi Vijayan inaugurated new regional office Norka Roots

Kerala Chief Minister Pinarayi Vijayan inaugurated the associate workplace of the Norka Roots at the underground station business building on the MG Road Metro Station, Kochi. This project aims to implement a lot of welfare schemes for the non-resident Keralites (NRK). The Chief Minister also inaugurated the primary business venture being started by a non-resident Keralite at the Edapally underground station.

Under the Santhwana scheme, Norka-Roots has already spent around Rs.25 crore in 2018. It provided financial support to NRKs returning to their native place.

Aim:
NORKA Roots has been established by Non-Resident Keralites' Affairs (NORKA). Norkas theme to provide opportunities for the Keralites living abroad to involve with the govt. within the case of an emergency and conjointly helped to ascertain their own business within the State. The Kochi railroad line Rail Ltd (KMRL) and Norka Roots can be part of hands to produce investment opportunities to Non-Resident Keralites (NRK) in railroad line stations.

NORKA:
The Non-Resident Keralites Affairs NORKA was established in 1996. The department aimed at redressing the grievances of Non-Resident Keralites (NRKs). It also aims to strengthen the connection between the NRKs and the government. It will also address the NRKs drawback, safeguarding their rights and rehabilitating the returnees.

Centre plans to provide WiFi to all villages

Centre plans to provide Wi-Fi to all villages with connectivity between 10Mbps to 100 Mbps speed under the GramNet initiative. The announcement was made by Minister of State for Communications Shamrao Dhotre at the 36th Foundation Day celebrations of Centre for Development of Telematics (C-DOT), Delhi on 26 August.

Other Launches:
Dhotre also launched the latest innovations of C-DOT including:
C-Sat-Fi (C-DOTSatellite WiFi)
XGSPON (10 G Symmetrical Passive Optical Network)
C-DOTs Interoperable Set-Top Box (CiSTB)

**BharatNet:**
Bharat Broadband Network Limited (BharatNet) has also announced that it is to provide **1 GBPS connectivity.** It can expand up to **10 GBPS.**

BharatNet has been set up by the Government of India. It functions under the Department of Telecommunications. It aims to establish, manage, and operate the National Optical Fibre Network to provide a minimum of 100 Mbit/s broadband connectivity to all **250,000-gram panchayats** in the country.

The announcement by the BharatNet will highly support and achieve the Centre's plan 'Wi-Fi to all villages' under the GramNet initiative.

**Banjari village of Katni district in MP to become an integral part of the digital map of the country**

Prime Ministers initiative among the of **Digital India is the Banjari village** of Katni district becomes the 1st village in Madhya Pradesh(MP) to become an integral part of the digital map of the country.

The Union **Ministry of Electronics and Information Technology (MEiTY) won** the Digital Village Project . It has planned to build 1000 digital villages across India in this phase starting from Banjari Gram Panchayat of MP.

The project provides connectivity in every village & bridge the digital gap between rural and urban areas of the country.

Akodara village of Sabarkantha district of Gujarat is the 1st digital village in India. The MEiTY planned to create one lakh digital villages of this kind in the **next 5 years.**

**About Digital India campaign:**
The program launched by Prime Minister Narendra Modi on 1 July 2015 The services are made available to citizens electronically by improved online infrastructure and by increasing Internet connectivity or by making the country digitally empowered in the field of technology.

**Brainstorming Session on Technological Innovations and Strategies for Farmers Prosperity in Madhya Pradesh & Chhattisgarh begins in New Delhi**
Every farmer of the country to be a progressive farmer Union Agriculture Minister Shri Narendra Singh Tomar said that the farmers should adopt new technologies and advancements in the field and must have frequent engagements with scientists and local Krishi Vigyan Kendras. Inaugurating the two-day Brainstorming Session on Technological Innovations and Strategies for Farmers Prosperity in Madhya Pradesh and Chattisgarh in the presence of the Ministers of State Shri Parshottam Rupala and Shri Kailash Choudhary in New Delhi. The Minister emphasized that Gaon, Garib, Kisan is always at the centre of Prime Ministers thoughts and actions and all these initiatives are aimed at fulfilling the vision of doubling farmers income by 2022.

The important sector Agriculture should play a stabilising role in the economy and for this modernisation and technological advancements are required in the field to which the ICAR can contribute immensely. The Minister added that this series of discussions with Farmers that started with Rajasthan in July should continue with every other state as this initiative will definitely help in the prosperity of the farming community. Calling on the farmers to adopt modern technologies, the Minister said that the discussions and learning from the two day session shall be taken forward to practising in the agricultural fields.

**Farmers - Agricultural Sector**

Urging every farmer of the country to be a progressive farmer Union Agriculture Minister Shri Narendra Singh Tomar said that farmers should adopt new technologies and advancements in the field and must have frequent engagements with ascientists and local Krishi Vigyan Kendras. Inaugurating the two day Brainstorming Session on Technological Innovations and Strategies for Farmers Prosperity in Madhya Pradesh and Chattisgarh in the presence of the Ministers of State Shri Parshottam Rupala and Shri Kailash Choudhary in New Delhi today the Minister emphasized that Gaon, Garib, Kisan is always at the centre of Prime Ministers thoughts and actions and all these initiatives are aimed at fulfilling the vision of doubling farmers income by 2022.

Agriculture should play a stabilising role in the economy and for this modernisation and technological advancements are required in the field to which the ICAR can contribute immensely. The discussions with Farmers that started continue with every other state as this initiative will definitely help in the prosperity of the farming community. The farmers to adopt modern technologies, the Minister said
that the discussions and learning from the two day session shall be taken forward to practising in the agricultural fields.

The agriculture sector such as providing market connectivity and promoting agricultural exports are major challenges for farmers not getting proper value for their produce. The better coordination between the farmers and researchers in the field for improvement of agricultural produce. Indian products should be able to compete with products from across the world and thereby fetch the best market value. Although farmers get subsidies. The main aim should be to not solely rely on Government support but to take initiatives on their own to improve productivity. The thought of farming as just growing grains should be changed to adoption of integrated farming wherein fisheries, poultry, animal husbandry and beekeeping become part of farming.

Shri Sanjay Agarwal, Secretary, (DAC&FW) Ministry of Agriculture the Central Government is holding State specific discussions and that too directly with the farmers. The Secretary banking formalities have now been reduced and farmers can easily open accounts. The farmers to join for the new Farmers Pension scheme- PM Maan Dhan Yojana. The farmers who have already registered for PM Kisan scheme will now start getting all information on their registered mobile phones.

The outlining few issues in Madhya Pradesh and Chhattisgarh, Dr. Mohapatra said that discussions shall be on how proper value for product can be ensured, market intervention through FPOs, role of Scientists & Institutes.

Jio GigaFiber that offers 1000Mbps at Rs.700 per month to be unveiled on 5 September

Mukesh Ambani-led Reliance Industries Ltd Jio has announced that it is to GigaFiber. It is expected to offer high-quality services at lower-than-average industry prices. The rate will start from Rs.700 per month and offer minimum 100Mbps speeds as standard. It will be officially unveiled on 5 September 2019. The plans are yet to be announced.

The subscription will offer a lot of new-age smart services to its subscribers, including a TV service with a feature-rich Set Top Box and fixed-line landline connection. Jio won't charge any installation fee for new subscriptions in its new phase.

Availability:
Jio GigaFiber connections are currently available in places like Delhi, Mumbai, Kolkata, Jaipur, Hyderabad, Surat, Vadodara, Chennai, Noida, Ghaziabad, Bhubaneshwar, Varanasi, Allahabad, Bengaluru, Surat, Agra, Meerut, Vizag, Lucknow, Jamshedpur, Haridwar, Gaya, Patna, Port Blair, Punjab and some more states.

Ministry of Chemicals and Fertilizers launched Janaushadhi Sugam was launched

The Ministry of Chemicals and Fertilizers launched a mobile application Janaushadhi Sugam. It was launched by the Union Minister for Chemicals and Fertilizers, Shri D.V. Sadananda Gowda. The Ministry has also announced that Jan Aushadhi Suvidha Oxo-Biodegradable Sanitary Napkin will now be available at only One Rupee per pad.

Aim:
The Janaushadhi Sugam app will help the people to search for Janaushadhi generic medicines and the stores in the nearby location. A report said that in India about 28 million girls are leaving education because of lack of availability of good quality Sanitary Napkin pads at a reasonable cost. It ensures the health security of underprivileged Indian women who still use unhygienic aids during menstrual period due to non-affordability of sanitary pads available in the market.

IIP sets up plant to turn plastic waste into diesel

The Indian Institute of Petroleum (IIP) has set up a plant turn plastic waste into diesel. The plant was inaugurated by the Union Science and Technology Minister Harsh Vardhan on 27 August.

The plant setting up of the plant is a good move towards freeing the environment from plastic. It will also reduce the country's dependence on other countries for petroleum products. The plant will produce diesel out of plastic waste on a large scale.

Aim:
The move aims to protect the environment from plastic pollution. The plant will also boost economic growth. It is expected to produce 800 litres of diesel from one tonne of plastic waste which will be collected with the help of NGOs.
It is the first of its kind in setting up by a government research institute in the country.

Shri Dharmendra Pradhan meets Australian Minister for Resources and Northern Australia, Senator Matthew Canavan

Minister of Petroleum and Natural Gas & Steel Shri Dharmendra Pradhan held a meeting with Australian Minister for Resources and Northern Australia, Senator the Hon. Matthew Canavan. Both Ministers stressed on the importance of energy and resources in the bilateral relationship, and agreed to expand the scope of cooperation given that India offers a large energy market and Australia is rich in natural resources, particularly coal and LNG, apart from Uranium.

India is already an importer of LNG from Australia. Given Indias major initiatives to move into a gas-based economy, there is significant scope for expanding LNG imports from Australia. He also mentioned that Indian consumer is price sensitive, and therefore affordability of LNG imports from Australia will be an important factor in enhancing cooperation in this area. Minister Canavan underlined Australias commitment to expand its ties with India, and highlighted its position as a reliable partner in meeting Indias energy security needs. Shri Pradhan called for greater investment flow from Australia to India and sharing of best practices. The greater cooperation in the area of coking coal. He said there is need for coordination between the two countries by bringing together Ministries responsible for Coal, Mines, Petroleum and Natural Gas and Steel of each side to achieve greater synergy and enhance bilateral energy cooperation. India is the largest importer of Australian metallurgical coal, a favourable differential pricing mechanism should be worked out. The opportunities for collaboration will continue to expand as Indias energy mix evolves.

The two dignitaries agreed to build further on a wide range of energy resources, which have a multiplier effect on the economy, in the coming months so that the energy pillar of bilateral engagement.

India Launches Worlds First Ever Facial Biometric Data Based Seafarer Identity Document

India became the first country in the world to issue Biometric Seafarer Identity
Document (BSID), capturing the facial biometric data of seafarers. Shri Mansukh Mandaviya, MoS (I/C) Shipping and Chemical & Fertilizers launched the project in New Delhi. He also handed over the new BSID cards to five Indian seafarers.

The new facial biometric technology is a marked improvement over the two finger or iris based biometric data, with modern security features. It will make the identification of the SID holder more reliable and efficient, while protecting their dignity and privacy. India made a presentation on this technology at ILO.

The country is moving ahead rapidly under the leadership of Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi. The shipping sector is seeing major developments in the areas of coastal shipping, inland waterways and other maritime activities. The generation of employment in the sector, which is evident in the growing number of Indian seafarers in the international shipping industry. The total number of Indian seafarers who were employed on Indian or foreign flag vessels increased from 154349 in 2017 to 208799 this year, showing an unprecedented increase of 35%.

The development is very significant against the backdrop of the increase in seafaring activities. 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.

The International Labour Organisation on BSID. India ratified the Convention in October 2015. The BSID introduces modern security features. It will have a biometric chip embedded in it. The security of the BSID card is ensured at various levels and through different methods. At the time of data capturing the live face is cross matched through passport photo using a face matching software.

The card two optical security features- Micro prints/micro texts and Unique Guilloche pattern. A software has been developed for capturing the facial biometrics and its authentication through the public key infrastructure.

A record of each SID issued will be maintained in a national database and its related information will be internationally accessible.

The BSID project has been taken up in collaboration with the Centre for Development of Advanced Computing (CDAC), Mumbai. The Government notified the Merchant Shipping (Seafarers Biometric Identification Document) Rules in 2016. The issuance of SID involves the collection of biometric and demographic details of the seafarers, their verification and then issuance of the card.
to them.
The nine data collection centers have been setup at Mumbai, Kolkata, Chennai, Noida, Goa, New Mangalore, Kochi, Vizag & Kandla for issue of BSID. Every Indian seafarer who possesses a valid Continuous Discharge Certificate issued by Govt. of India will be eligible for issue of a BSID.
The total number of existing Indian seafarers who will be required to be issued BSIDs is around 3,50,000 . All the existing seafarers will be given BSID within the next 2 years. After this, it is estimated that around 15000 new seafarers will be issued BSIDs annually.

**RDSO organizes Mega trafficker Meet in Lucknow**

The **Research arm of Indian Railways analysis styles and Standards Organization (RDSO)** is organizing a special Mega trafficker Meet in Lucknow on **30th August**. Industries across the country invited for this trafficker meet to encourage their participation in Indian Railways to offer chain development. No participation fee for attending the meet.

**Aim:**
The aim of the meet is to show-case larger business opportunities in the **Railway sector in Lucknow**. It also aims to create a platform for direct matched interaction and discussions of business with RDSO. RDSO will unveil its special offers at the meeting venue.

**Registration :**
RDSO has already initiated some measures to encourage vendors to register RDSO controlled things with 3 sources registration. The charges have been reduced from Rs.1,50,000/- to Rs.10,000/- for micro/small enterprises and from Rs.2,50,000/- to Rs.50,000/- for others.

**India Israel to develop new crop varieties**

**India and Israel** plan to develop **new crop varieties and share post-harvest technology** in the success of the **10 years Indo-Israeli Agriculture Project (IIAP)**. The project has accomplished growing **cherry tomatoes in Haryana** and **rejuvenating mango orchards** demonstrating to Indian farmers progressive irrigation technologies.
**Indo-Israel agriculture cooperation:**
The Indo-Israel agriculture cooperation project was launched in 2008. The implementing partners are Israel’s agency for international development cooperation and Indian state governments that facilitate discovered centers of excellence as per their native desires.
Every year about 10,000 and 20,000 farmers visit these centers. Around 8.6 million hectares area is below the micro-irrigation projects compared to a possible 69.5 million hectares.
In India, the unit water-stressed areas like Karnataka, Telangana, and Gujarat are currently using these techniques for simple water handiness. The 2018 budget for this technique claimed an **Rs.5,000 crore for micro-irrigation fund.**

**Union Government mulling Rs 5,400 crores funding to Northeast gas grid**
The second instance of providing funds for a gas pipeline the government considering shelling out about **5,400 crore** in viability gap funding for a proposed Northeast gas grid.
The 1,656-km North-East Natural Gas Pipeline Grid connect Guwahati in Assam to major cities in the region such as Itanagar, Dimapur, Kohima, Imphal, Aizawl, Agartala, Shillong, Silchar, Gangtok, and Numaligarh.
The absence of anchor customers, the 9,000 crore pipeline is not economically viable.
A viability gap funding of 60% of the project cost.
The oil ministry is supporting the proposal and it is likely to be considered by the Cabinet soon, he said.
The Northeast pipeline grid is to be implemented by Indradhanush Gas Grid, a joint venture of state-owned GAIL India, Indian Oil Corp (IOC), Oil and Natural Gas Corp (ONGC), Oil India Ltd (OIL) and **Numaligarh Refinery Ltd (NRL).**
The consortium pitched for a 60% funding support from the government and would raise the rest via equity and debt, the official said.
This is the second time that a gas pipeline project in the country would be funded by the government.
The government provided a capital grant of 5,176 crore, or 40% of the project cost, of the 2,655-km Jagdishpur-Haldia and Bokaro-Dhamra (JHB-DPL) gas pipeline project, which GAIL is currently executing.
GAIL
GAIL a 750-km line from Barauni to Guwahati as part of the 12,940 crore JHBDPL project. It is also known as the 'Pradhan Mantri Urja Ganga' project. This is proposed to be connected to the Northeast via the Indradhanush grid.
All other pipelines in the country have been funded by public or private sector companies.
The oil companies will not be able to execute the Northeast grid project without the viability gap funding.
The project is critical towards implementing the government's Hydrocarbon Vision 2030 for Northeast. The Vision envisages the development of the region by leveraging its hydrocarbon potential, enhancing access to clean fuel and accelerating the growth.
This is a part of a broader goal of the government to raise the share of natural gas in the country's energy mix to 15% by 2030 from current 6.2%.
The government has envisaged developing the National Gas Grid. At present, about 16,788 km natural gas pipeline is operational and about 14,239 km gas pipelines are being developed to increase the availability of natural gas across the country.

Rajnath Singh inaugurated 26th Ladakhi Kisan Jawan Vigyan Mela in Leh

Defence Minister Rajnath Singh inaugurated 26th Ladakhi Kisan Jawan Vigyan Mela in Leh on 29 August. The Mela was organized by Defence Institute of High Altitude Research (DIHAR).
The Ministry of Defence has asked DIHAR to work on the challenges in High Altitude Region (HAR- failure) in the coming 3 years. It is expected that DIHAR should turn the failure into JEET (Victory).

DIHAR:
The Defence Institute of High Altitude Research (DIHAR) is a constituent laboratory of Defence Research & Development Organisation (DRDO). DIHAR was set up in 1962 in Leh. It is located at an altitude of 3,500 m above the Mean Sea Level (MSL). The institute has core competence in cold arid agro-animal technology.
The institute aims to meet fresh food requirement of the soldiers at high altitude cold desert condition. It is also responsible to make the region reasonably green.
The research stations of the institute are located at Ranbirpura, Ladakh;
Prime Minister Narendra Modi to present Yoga Awards and release 12 AYUSH Commemorative Postal Stamps

Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi present Yoga awards to the winners of PMs Award for Outstanding Contribution for Promotion and Development of Yoga, announced during the International Day of Yoga, 2019 at Ranchi. The two winners of the previous year in an event organized by the Ministry of AYUSH at Vigyan Bhawan, New Delhi.

Prime Minister release **12 commemorative postal stamps** to honour eminent scholars, Practitioners and great Master Healers of AYUSH Systems. These commemorative postal stamps highlight the great work and acknowledge the achievements of the great Master Healers of AYUSH Systems.

The PMs award for outstanding contribution for Promotion and Development of Yoga institutionalized and announced during 2nd International Day of Yoga (IDY) event held at Chandigarh on 21st June 2016, The awards conferred to the notable contributors in the field. The different categories out of 79 nominations for the current year and **186 nominations** in the previous year Each of the winners won a Cash Award of Rs. 25 lakh, Trophy and a Certificate.

Winners of the year 2019 Yoga Awards are - Swami Rajarshi Muni of Life Mission, Gujarat in Individual-National category, Ms. Antonietta Rozzi, Italy in Individual-International category, Bihar School of Yoga, Munger, Bihar in Organisation-National category, and Japan Yoga Niketan, Japan in Organisation-International Organisation category and Winners of 2018 Yoga Awards are Shri Vishwas Mandalik, Nasik, Individual- National category and the Yoga Institute, Mumbai, Organisation National category.

The Prime Minister will also launch **10 AYUSH Health and Wellness Centres (AYUSH HWCs)** located in the state of Haryana and are in line with Ministry of AYUSHs commitment to making 12,500 AHWCs functional in next three years. In order to provide comprehensive primary healthcare, AYUSH components have been integrated into Health and Wellness Centres under Ayushman Bharat. The centres will be complementing the National Health Policy 2017 that insisted upon integration and mainstreaming of AYUSH services in conventional health care.
delivery system. It is a historic beginning in mainstreaming of holistic, preventive, curative, rehabilitative and palliative AYUSH care for achieving comprehensive health care. The main focus of AYUSH HWCs would be empowering the community for self-care by imbibing AYUSH based healthy food and lifestyle, social behaviour and use of medicinal plants for primary health care. Provisions will also be made for diagnostics and medicines for a wide range of health problems. These services will be in addition to the currently ongoing National Health Programs.

Cabinet approved Sugar export policy to sugar mills

The Cabinet Committee on Economic Affairs (CCEA) approved to provide Rs.10,448 per metric tonne (MT) as an export subsidy to sugar mills for the sugar season 2019-20. The entire estimated expenditure of Rs.6,268 crore will be utilized for the export subsidy. It will be used to promote prices as well as handling, upgrading, and different process prices, prices of international and internal transport and freight charges on export of up to 60 lakh metric ton (LMT) of sugar restricted to most admissible Export amount (MAEQ) that is allotted to sugar mills for the sugar season 2019-20.

Sugar Season:
The sugar season 2019-20 is predicted, to begin with, a gapping stock of concerning 142 LMT and season finish stock square measure expected to be concerning 162 LMT. The excess stock of 162 LMT of sugar would produce downward pressure resulting in the accumulation of cane value arrears of farmers.

Subsidy:
The subsidy would be directly attributable to farmer's accounts on behalf of mills against cane value dues and sequent balance. Additional amount, if any, will be transferred to the mill's account. Beneficiaries: The Cabinet's move is expected to benefit millions of farmers in Uttar Pradesh, Maharashtra, and Karnataka as well as other states. Maharashtra and Haryana are among the top sugar cane producing states in the country.

Tamil Nadu 150-year-old Dindigul locks and Kandangi sarees secure GI tag
The Geographical Indication Registry of India finally gave Geographical Indication (GI) tag to the state of Tamil Nadu for Dindigul lock and Karaikudi Kandangi sarees.

The handmade Dindigul locks are known for their traditional design, superior quality. They are manufactured in more than 3,125 units in Dindigul District of Tamil Nadu and they are concentrated in the villages of Nagal Nagar, Nallampatti, Kodaiparailpatti, Kammalapatti, and Yagappan Patti. The manufacturing unit is 150 years old. It is introduced by the Sankaralinga Acharya brothers.

There are around 50 types of locks manufactured by the industry. Each lock has its own special unique name such as Mango Lock, Almirah Lock, Export Lock, and In 2013.

An application filed by the Dindigul Lock, Hardware and Steel Furniture Workers Co-operative Society Ltd. These Sarees are the symbol of entire Karaikudi taluk of Sivaganga district. The hand-woven Kandangi sarees are characterized by brilliant color large contrast borders. These sarees have a tradition of 150 years. Rajiv Gandhi Handloom Weavers Co-operative Manufacturing & Sales Society Limited had applied for a tag for these sarees in 2013. The GI tagging help rural artisans & highly skilled weavers, who possess unique knowledge of traditional practices and methods. They can make & market their products domestically and internationally.

PM Modi launched Fit India Movement

Prime Minister Narendra Modi launched the nation-wide Fit India Movement on the National Sports day, 29 August. The event was launched at the Indira Gandhi Stadium in New Delhi. The movement has been appealed to each subject to stay healthy and work. Union Sports Minister Kiren Rijiju participated in the event.

Fit India Movement:

Fit India Movement is a nation-wide campaign. The movement aims to encourage drill physical activity and sports in their everyday lives. The entire program has been conceptualized by PM Modi. He also launched a Fitness Logo, Fitness Pledge that said I will encourage my relations and neighbors to physically work and build the nation.

To support the move, the University Grants Commission (UGC) directed everyone to steer a minimum of 10,000 steps and follow it up in their daily routine.
Committee:
Centre has set up a 28-member committee comprising government officials to advise the government on the Fit India Movement. The committee chaired by sports minister Kiren Rijiju includes members of Indian Olympic Association (IOA), national sports federations, private bodies, and fitness promoters and 12 members from the government, including Ayush, Youth Affairs, secretaries of Sports, Secondary Education, and others.

Indian railways to go 100 percent electrified in 10 years
Centre plans to achieve 100% electrification of railways in the next 10 years. The announcement was made by the Union Minister Piyush Goyal at the CII's 14th Sustainability Summit held in New Delhi on 28-29 August 2019.

Aim:
The aim of the move is a part of the efforts to curb carbon footprints. Under this move, the world's first large railways, with nearly 1,20,000 km of track, will be 100% electrified. By electrifying the railways, carbon will reduce from the entire atmosphere.

Carbon reduction:
More than half of the trains of the Indian Railways that come to New Delhi are still based on diesel. Reports said that in 2018-19, Indian Railways consumed about 3.1 billion litres of high-speed diesel (HSD) and 20.44 billion units of electricity and for its energy requirement.
Apart from this Indian Railways is taking various environment-friendly or energy-efficient measures to reduce carbon footprint and protect the environment.

Assam govt gears up security in view of publication of final NRC list
Assam government asserted there is no reason to be worried as the state is all set to publish the final NRC.
The Additional Chief Secretary (Home and Political) Kumar Sanjay Krishna that adequate security measures have been put into place across the state. There is a security threat on the day of publication of NRC but the security forces are to maintain peace.
The district administrations have met opinion leaders and prominent people in
confidence building measures. The people whose names do not appear in the final NRC would get opportunities to appeal in the Foreigners Tribunals. The 200 Foreigners Tribunals will become functional from 1st of next month at Nagaon, Tezpur, Guwahati, Bongaigaon, Dhubri and Nalbari. He also said that legal aid cell will provide assistance to the needy people. The social media is being monitored by the police to prevent spreading rumours.

Assam
Capital: Dispur
Governor: Jagdish Mukhi
Chief Minister : Sarbananda Sonowal

Cabinet approved the launch of international CDRI

The Union Cabinet, chaired by Prime Minister approved the international Coalition for Disaster Resilient Infrastructure (CDRI) together with its supporting Secretariat office in Delhi. The CDRI is expected to be launched at the UN Climate Action Summit in New York, the USA on 23 September 2019. The event is organized by the UN Secretary-General that will bring together the largest Heads of States to come up with commitments for combating the consequences of climate change and ensuing disasters and can offer the high-level visibility needed for the CDRI.

Other approvals:
Cabinet has approved for the establishment of the International CDRI together with its supporting Secretariat workplace in New Delhi.
Also, it also approved the establishment of the Secretariat of the CDRI as a Society under the Societies Registration Act, 1860.
Cabinet approved for the government of India's support of Rs.480 crore to CDRI to fund research projects.
It approved the formation of a charter document. It will act as the founding document of the CDRI.

CDRI:
Coalition for Disaster Resilient Infrastructure (CDRI) is a knowledge platform that is generated and changed on various aspects of disaster and climate resilience of infrastructure. CDRI produces a mechanism to help countries with relation to infrastructure development in accordance with their risk context and economic
India First Sky Cycling Park At a Height of 9000 Feet In Manali to Open Soon

Cyclists are often spotted on roads and mountains enjoying the ride, while they pedal away to glory. They will be spotted cycling through the skies of Himachal Pradesh. The main aim is to boost tourism and give an all-new experience to visitors. Forest Department and Atal Bihari Vajpayee Institute of Mountaineering and Allied Sports joined hands and developed sky cycling park in Gulaba area near Manali.

Sky Cycling Park
The eco-friendly park, which is 350-meter long, is the first sky cycling park in the country. The sky cycling path is at a height of 9,000 feet above sea level, news agency ANI quoted Neeraj Chadha, Division Forest Officer, Kullu.

Delhi Cabinet approves free rides for women in DTC from 29 October
The Delhi Cabinet has approved free rides for women on Delhi Transport Corporation (DTC) buses as well as its cluster buses from October 29. The proposal was approved by the cabinet at the Delhi Secretariat.

On August 26, Aam Aadmi Party (AAP) leader Manish Sisodia presented a sum of Rs.290 crore in the Legislative Assembly for the free ride scheme for women in metro and DTC buses.

Aim:
The approval will enable Women in Delhi able to commute on DTC buses for free from October 29. Out of the Rs.290 crore, Rs.140 crore will be used for DTC and...
its cluster buses and Rs.150 crore will be utilized for Delhi metro services.  

**Delhi Metro:**
On August, Chief Minister Arvind Kejriwal had announced that free travel in DTC buses will start from October 29. The date for Delhi Metro is yet to be fixed.

**Freeride scheme for women:**
The plan aims to **provide more safety for women.** The government made the move and said that in Delhi, all **Delhi Transport Corporation (DTC) and cluster buses** and the Delhi Metro will be free for women so that **maximum number of women can use** public transport. The raise in metro prices has reduced many women to avail of these services. The government calls to make Public transport as the safest for women.

**New logo and certificate identity of CBFC unveiled**

The **Central Board of Film Certification (CBFC)** getting a **new logo** and certificate design. It is unveiled at a first-of-its-kind film industry interaction between eminent industry leaders and CBFC board members, being held in Mumbai on August 31, 2019. The Union Minister for Information & Broadcasting, Shri Prakash Javdekar will be the Chief Guest. Secretary, Ministry of I&B, Shri Amit Khare will be the Guest of Honour. The new logo and certificate identity revealed by the Chairman, CBFC.

The new design in its approach and in sync with the new digital world. It is interactive in its design sensibility. Shri Prasoon Joshi design has been done by designer Shri Rohit Devgun, with technical support from NSDL.

**Central Board of Film Certification (CBFC)**
- Founded: 1951
- Headquarters: Mumbai
- Agency executive: Prasoon Joshi
- Parent agency: Ministry of Information and Broadcasting

**Bihar bans 12 brands of pan masala**

**Bihar state government** has **banned 12 brands** of pan masala containing **magnesium carbonate** for a period of one year. In the notice issued, it said that the manufacture, storage, distribution, transportation or sale of pan masala containing
magnesium carbonate has been banned in Bihar.

**Food and Safety department:**
The move comes after the food and safety department of the State expressed its concerns over the pan masalas. The department examined **20 samples of masala brands** and found the presence of magnesium carbonate in it. According to the research of the department, magnesium carbonate **causes heart disease** in the people. It then directed the state to ban pan masala containing magnesium carbonate.

**Brands examined:**
The brands that were examined by the food and safety department were Bahar Pan Masala, Bahubali Pan Masala, Rajnigandha Pan Masala, Raj Niwas Pan Masala, Supreme Pan Parag Pan Masala, Pan Parag Pan Masala, Rajshree Pan Masala, Raunak Pan Masala, Signature Pan Masala, Kamala likes include Pan Masala, Madhu Pan Masala.

**Bihar government** had earlier **imposed a ban on the manufacture, sale, distribution, and storage of gutka and all its variants.**

**Centre to set up 12,500 Ayush centres across India**
The Central government has set a target of setting up **12,500 Ayush centres** across India. The announcement was made by **Prime Minister Narendra Modi** at the **Yoga Award Ceremony** held in **New Delhi.** He also said that the Centre will open **1.5 lakh health, wellness centres.** The prime minister also pitched for linking technology with tradition in the **practise of Ayush medicine.**

**Implementation:**
In its first, **4000 Ayush centres** will be set up in 2019. Government is also making efforts to bring in more professionals in the field of Ayush and necessary steps are being taken to that effect. Centre also plans to create a homogenous system by creating an Ayush grid on the lines of one nation, one tax, and one nation, one mobility card.

**West Bengal passed anti lynching Bill**
The **West Bengal State Assembly** passed **West Bengal (Prevention of Lynching) Bill, 2019.** The Bill aims to **prevent and punish mob assaults** and lynching. The
state government mentioned that the Bill was passed as the Centre has failed to take the initiative. The Bill was passed by a voice vote. The Bill aims to prevent the spreading of hatred or incidents of mob lynching.

The State describes lynching as **social malice**. The State also urged the Centre and other State governments to bring similar legislation.

**Provisions of the Bill:**

The bill was passed after several cases in which the people were beaten to death over rumors of cattle smuggling and child theft. This offense will carry the punishment of a jail term for three years to life imprisonment.

In case of assault leading to injury, the penalty includes a fine of a **minimum of Rs.1 lakh to a maximum of Rs.3 lakh**.

The Bill defined terms such as **lynching and mob**. The Bill said that the **West Bengal Lynching Compensation Scheme** may be framed under this Act.

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**TamilNadu signs three agreements for healthcare collaborations in UK**

Tamil Nadu Chief Minister Edappadi K Palaniswami signed three agreements for collaboration in the healthcare sector on the first day of his UK tour. The Chief Minister is on the first leg of his three-nation tour.

The three agreements, two were Memorandums of Understanding (MoU) and one was Statement of Intent. The one MoU was signed between the **government of Tamil Nadu** and **International Skills Development Corporation**. The main aim is to develop the skills of the healthcare staff in the state. The MoU was between the government of Tamil Nadu and the Kings College London. Kings College London is looking to establish a branch of the college in Tamil Nadu.

Tamil Nadus Health Minister C Vijayabaskar and Health Secretary Dr Beela Rajesh signed a Statement of Intent with the London School of Hygiene and Tropical Medicine to improve the standards to control the spread of communicable diseases like malaria and dengue. The delegation visited the Emergency Operations Centre of the London ambulance service NHS and its call centres to study the model of emergency response and dispatch of ambulances in London. The aim is to replicate the model in Tamil Nadu.

The Chief Minister visiting Suffolk to know more about the pricing strategy for renewable energy meet English Parliamentarians in London.

In his two-week tour, Edappadi Palaniswami will also travel to the US and Dubai to
woo investors to Tamil Nadu. New York and California and meet the representatives from entrepreneurs from Tamil Nadu in the US and a few other industry leaders. He will also be a part of the Business Investors meet in Dubai, which is jointly organized by the Indian Embassy, the United Arab Emirates and the Business Leaders Forum. He is scheduled to return on September 10.

Union cabinet approves establishment of 75 new medical colleges

Union Ministers Prakash Javadekar and Piyush Goyal the government approved the establishment of 75 new medical colleges in the country. The main addition would lead to the creation of 15,700 more MBBS seats in India.

The Cabinet Committee on Economic Affairs (CCEA) the medical colleges would be established by 2021-22 will be attached with existing district and referral hospitals under Phase-3 of the ongoing Centrally Sponsored scheme.

The government plans to boost the availability of qualified health professionals, improve tertiary care in the government sector and utilise infrastructure of district hospitals and promote affordable medical education in the country with this push.

The minister announced that new medical colleges would be set up in under-served regions with no medical college or ones with at least 200 beds. The preference will be given to district hospitals with 300 beds.

The government earlier approved the establishment of 58 new medical colleges in Phase 1 and 24 colleges in Phase 2, apart from the 75 under the Phase 3. Of these, 39 medical colleges under Phase 1 have already become functional, and the rest will be made functional by 2020-21. The ministers also announced 100 per cent foreign direct investment (FDI) in coal mining and associated infrastructure and 26 percent FDI in digital media. The Cabinet has approved the establishment of an international Coalition for Disaster Resilient Infrastructure (CDRI). The CDRI during the UN Climate Summit in New York on 23rd September 2019 approved sugar export policy for the evacuation of surplus stocks during sugar season 2019-20.
SCIENCE & TECHNOLOGY

ISRO to launch Cartosat 3 in October or November

India plans to launch Cartosat-3, its advanced satellite in the month of October-November. ISRO plans to launch the Cartosat-3 using the Polar Satellite Launch Vehicle (PSLV) rocket. The announcement was made by K.Sivan, Chairman, Indian Space Research Organisation (ISRO).

ISRO was supposed to launch CartoSat-3 in May 2019. ISRO has launched 8 Cartosats so far.

Cartosat-3:
Cartosat-3 is the third series of earth observational or remote sensing satellite. It is an advanced version with better spatial with a range of view, and resolution of up to 0.25m or 25cm as compared to the Cartosat-2 series satellites. It is capable of producing images with one of the most high-resolution in the world, and certainly the highest of any satellites under ISRO's umbrella. Cartosat-3 has been developed to produce high-resolution pictures for strategic applications. It is fitted with advanced remote sensing tools that will be helpful with defence. CartoSAT-3 has been designed in a way that it will be one of the most advanced imaging satellites ever built by ISRO.

In this earth observation mission, it will have powerful capabilities in multiple different spectral characteristics including:

- panchromatic which captures all visible colors of light
- multispectral which is capable of capturing light within specific ranges in the electromagnetic spectrum
- hyperspectral that can capture light from across the electromagnetic spectrum

Polar Satellite Launch Vehicle:
The Polar Satellite Launch Vehicle (PSLV) is a medium-lift launch vehicle. It has been designed and operated by ISRO.
The PSLV was designed to be 450m high and of 2.8m diameter fitted with an associate degree direction system to accomplish navigation, steering, and angle management missions.

ISRO's Other launches using PSLV:
PSLV has launched a 62, where 27 Indian and 35 foreign, satellites together with Resource sat-2, Youthsat, X-sat, Cartosat-2B, Alsat-2A, Studsat, Ocean sat-2, six...
nanosatellites, Risat-2, Anusat, Cartosat-2A, IMS-1, DLR-Tubsat, capsule Recovery Experiment (SRE-1), KALPANA-1 and a number of other others satellites.

**Fourth edition of Internet of Things India Congress 2019 held in Bengaluru**

The 4th edition of Indias largest confluence of digital technology, the Internet of Things (IoT) India Congress 2019 held in Bengaluru, Karnataka.

The theme of Edition is **Mainstreaming the Internet of Things**.

It was inaugurated by Shri Ajay Prakash Sawhney, Secretary, Ministry of Electronics & Information Technology, Government of India(GoI). The IoT India Congress 2019 will include tracks on segments such as healthcare, manufacturing, telecom, smart cities, energy, retail, cybersecurity, skills and development, IoT Standards, legal and regulatory, and agriculture.

**Internet of Things (IoT)**

The internet of things, or IoT, is a system of interrelated computing devices, mechanical and digital machines, objects, animals or people that are provided with unique identifiers and the ability to transfer data over a network without requiring human-to-human or human-to-computer interaction.

**Fedor arrived at ISS**

A humanoid machine named **Fedor**, Russias first robot in space arrived at the International Space Station (ISS) on 27 August. **Final Experimental Demonstration Object Research (Fedor)** is officially known as **SkybotF850**.

**Aim:**

The robot was aimed to enable Russian astronauts to perform risky space experiments from a remote location. Fedor will complete its work and return to Earth on 7 September.

**Fedor:**

The **180 cm and 160Kg** Fedor flew to the ISS in an unmanned Soyuz MS-14 vehicle on 22 August. SkybotF850 is a humanoid bipedal robot, which means it resembles a human being and walks like one too. Fedor has been designed in a way it has the ability to mirror its controllers movements. This facility will enable it to conduct experiments in potentially risky environments while being
controlled from a safe distance.

**Lieu Governor launches QR Code Scheme on Himmat Plus app**

Lieutenant Governor Anil Baijal launched a **QR Code Scheme** on the Himmat Plus app which can be used by cab or auto-rickshaw passengers to verify the identity of the driver and raise an alarm.

Around 3,000 taxis and auto-rickshaws plying outside airports, railway stations and metro stations in the city have been registered under this scheme of the Delhi Police Transport Range and can be verified by scanning the QR code of the card pasted on the back of the headrest of the driver’s seat.

A user can scan the QR code using the Himmat Plus app. The '**Report Journey**' button, the app sends the location with driver's unique ID to the Himmat dashboard working at Himmat stations of the Police HeadQuarters (PHQ).

If driver is not registered, the user receives the pop-up notification on the application. In this case, the passenger can call the control room or press the SOS button from the application. On the occasion of the launch, Baijal distributed QR Codes to some of the auto and taxi drivers.

Delhi Police Commissioner Amulya Patnaik, all Special Commissioners of Police, including Nuzhat Hassan (Women Safety), other senior officers and college students attended the programme.

The aim of the scheme is to enhance the safety and security of women and other commuters travelling in the yellow or black taxis or auto-rickshaws from railway stations, airport and metro stations. The objective is to provide emergency assistance to the citizens of Delhi at the earliest. This service can be availed by downloading and registering on the app at zero cost.

**Himmat Plus**

Himmat Plus is a mobile app launched by the Delhi Police to ensure the safety of women. This added feature is to ensure that only genuine and verified drivers ferry passenger to their destinations from airports and railway and metro stations.

**Maitri: A mobile app to connect kids at orphanages with old age homes**

Five Indian women have developed a mobile app named **Maitri**. The app connects kids at **orphanages with old-age homes**. The app was developed for the people affected by loneliness, depression. The app permits users to volunteer and present
to old-age homes and orphanages.

**Developed by:**
The developers of the mobile app Maitri are Ananya Grover, Vanshika Yadav, Vasudha Sudhindern, Anushka Sharma and Arefa like twelve students of Amity International college in Noida. The app is available on Google play.
The girls participated in the Technovation Challenge, the world's largest technology and entrepreneurship program for ladies in the USA and won the trophy for the innovative app.

**Maitri:**
The Maitri app has seen over 1000 downloads and has thirteen old-age homes and seven orphanages connected through it. Maitri permits facilities to register and provides contact details and map locations for help to contact them.

**Technovation Challenge:**
The Technovation Challenge is the world's largest technology and entrepreneurship program for ladies to run across more than 100 countries. It was supported by Salesforce.org, Google.org, the Adobe Foundation, Uber, Samsung, BNY Mellon.

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**Chandrayaan 2 has officially gone further than Chandrayaan 1 says ISRO**

The Indian Space Research Organisation (ISRO) has announced that its Moon mission Chandrayaan-2 has officially gone further than its predecessor Chandrayaan-1.

**3rd Lunar Manoeuvre:**
ISRO also reported that the Chandrayaan-2 had completed the third lunar-bound manoeuvre. It happened using the onboard propulsion system. Currently, Chandrayaan-2 has been placed in a new orbit around Moon. The duration of the third manoeuvre was 1190 seconds. ISRO also reported that all the parameters of Chandrayaan-2 were normal.

**Separation and Landing**
Three more orbit manoeuvre will be there, before the Vikram lander's separation from the Orbiter on 2 September. The soft landing in the south polar region of the Moon has been planned on 7 September. Upon successful landing, the rover Pragyan will be rolled out from Vikram, the lander and carry out experiments on the lunar surface for a period of one lunar day.
Note: One Lunar day = 14 Earth days.

Aswatha Narayana won gold in he World Skills competition

Aswatha Narayana bagged a gold medal in the World Skills competition 2019 in Kazan, Russia. The event was held from 23-27 August. He won by beating 9 other competitors in the event. Along with him Lufeng Zeng from China also won Gold. He set a record by winning the title as this is the first time that an Indian contingent was participating in the tournament.

The other participants are from countries such as Iran, Belarus, Vietnam, Korea, Germany, Brazil, Russia and South Africa.

Narayana participated in the world skills tournament in the skill water technology.

Aswatha Narayana:
Aswatha Narayana is a B Tech graduate in Applied electronics from CV Raman Engineering College of Bhubaneswar. He had his first experience in a technical competition in 2017. He won a state-level automated robotics competition organized by International Institute of Information Technology, Bhubaneswar. In that event, he built a robot at a cost of Rs.950.

He then participated and won second in DrishTI, an Online Contest in Circuit Design & Digital Signal Processing held by Texas Instruments in 2017. In 2018, he won the State Skill Competition and then he participated in National Skill Competition which enabled him to participate in the World Skill Competition 2019.

Indian participants:
The other Indians who participated in the event are Pranav Nutalapati, Sanjoy Pramanik, and Shweta Ratanpura.

Other winners:
Pranav Nutalapati won a silver medal in web technologies
Sanjoy Pramanik won bronze medals in Jewellery
Shweta Ratanpura won bronze medals in graphic design technology

World Skills Competition:
The World Skills Competition is a biennial event. More than 1,300 competitors from all over the world participated in the event. It gives youth the chance to compete, experience, and learn how to become an outstanding performer in their skill of choice. India has been participating in this event since 2007.
Airports to get Full body scanner

Bureau of Civil Aviation Security (BCAS) has announced that all airports in the country will be equipped with full-body scanners in the next two years. BCAS has made it mandate to equip all airports with body scanners. The introduction of such scanning is to improve the security in all the airport. The current equipment at airports cannot detect non-metallic explosives. Hence such advancement of security is to be implemented.

**Full-body scanner:**
Using the full-body scanner device an individual's body will be scanned for security screening without making any physical contact. Unlike metal detectors will not be able to detect non-metals as it became an increasing concern after various airliner bombing attempts in the 2000s in the country. But the full-body scanners can detect non-metal objects. The technology in full-body scanners will help in seeing an alternate wavelength image of a person's body to detect any suspicious items.

**Bureau of Civil Aviation Security (BCAS):**
The BCAS is the regulatory authority for civil aviation security in India. It is headquartered at New Delhi. It was founded in 1978 and re-established in 1987. It develops standardized security screening procedures for all airports in the country. The head of BCAS is Kumar Rajesh Chandra.
ENVIRONMENT

Ministry of Earth Sciences plan to revive land affected by degradation

Union atmosphere Minister Prakash Javadekar has announced a project to restore **50 lakh hectare land by 2030**. The Ministry aims to save **29.3%** of land in India that was affected by degradation.

**Aim:**
The project aims to develop and adopt best practices for the restoration process. It will also ensure the monitoring protocols for the Indian states and build capacity within the 5 pilot states, namely Haryana, Madhya Pradesh, Maharashtra, Nagaland and Karnataka on **forest landscape restoration (FLR)** and **Bonn challenge**.

**COP-14:**
India is hosting the **Conference of Parties (COP) 14 of the United Nations Convention Combat geologic process (UNCCD)** from 2-13 September in Noida. It is expected that over 5,000 representatives from more than 197 will be participating in the two-week conference.

**About the land geologic process:**
One-third of the globe faces challenges in the matter of land. Several factors like over-exploitation, over-crazing, over-waterlogging, flood, and wind has destroyed the land. The centre is taking efforts to revive the devastated land into fertile land by 2030.

The plans to facilitate cut back land degradation was launched in the previous few years under various schemes and ideas like **Pradhan Mantri Fasal Bima Yojana**, **Soil Health Card theme**, **Soil Health Management theme**, **Pradhan Mantri Krishi Sinchayee Yojna (PKSY)** and **Per Drop additional Crop**.

Gorewada International Zoo to be set up at Nagpur

The Government planned to establish an **International Standard Zoo and Biopark** on the forest land at Gorewada, Nagpur. The main aim is to protect forests. The Zoo will have attractions like Bio Park, Indian Safari, African Safari, Night Safari, Research, Education and Training, facilities for tourists.

The **Government of Maharashtra** accorded permission for establishing the International Zoo, through Forest Development Corporation of Maharashtra.
Limited (FDCM. Ltd.), Nagpur. The formation of Special Purpose Vehicle of FDCM. Ltd and a Joint Venture Company of private investors under Public Private Partnership (PPP) mode of financing with government stake at 51% was approved. The Government agreed to provide Viability Gap Funding (V.G.F) of Rs. 200 crore.

The tasks of protection of forests and wildlife at the Gorewada forests and wildlife habitat development have been assigned to FDCM Ltd for which State Forest Department is providing grants and manpower at the disposal of FDCM Ltd. The task of construction of Indian Safari and ancillary activities, Water Reservoir, and Gorewada Reserve has been given to FDCM Ltd. with Government Grants.

**Peacock Parachute Spider was sighted in Tamil Nadu**

Researchers of the Puducherry-based Indigenous Biodiversity Foundation (IBF) discovered a Peacock Parachute Spider or Gooty Tarantula in the Pakkamalai Reserve Forests close to Villupuram district, Tamil Nadu. The species was found at totally different locations within the reserve forests. The species was cross-matched with photographic proof printed by the installation reaching Organisation and life data Liaison Development Society. The spider was found in 1899 by Reginald Innes Pocock on the premise of one feminine specimen in Gooty, Andhra Pradesh. After 102 years later this species has been recorded at a degraded forest between Nandyal and Giddalur, Andhra Pradesh.

**Peacock Parachute spider:**

The Scientific name of the species is *Poecilotheria Metallica*. It is commonly known with the name Peacock Parachute Spider or Gooty Tarantula. The natural habitat of the species is a deciduous forest in Andhra Pradesh. It is the only species that is covered with blue hair. It is less chromatic when it is young and turns blue as it matures.

The International Union for Conservation of Nature (IUCN) classified it as Critically vulnerable. This species is endemic to India. Species of the genus are supported on the undersurface of the legs.

**Centre released Rs.47,000 crore for compensatory afforestation in 27 states**

The Ministry of Environment released over Rs.47,000 crore for compensatory
afforestation in **27 states**. The fund also includes other green activities like prevention of forest fire, biodiversity management, and soil conservation. The funds were released by the **Environment Minister Prakash Javadekar** under **Compensatory Afforestation Fund Management and Planning Authority (CAMPA)**. The fund will be utilized for wet conservation works in forests, voluntary relocation of villages from protected areas, management of biological resources and diversity, analysis in biological science and observance of CAMPA works among others.

**States receiving funds:**
The states that will be receiving the funds for afforestation are Odisha, Chhattisgarh, Madhya Pradesh, Jharkhand, Maharashtra, Telangana, Uttarakhand, Uttar Pradesh, Rajasthan, Andhra Pradesh, Himachal Pradesh, Arunachal Pradesh, Gujarat, Karnataka, Haryana, Punjab, Assam, Bihar, Sikkim, Manipur, Goa, West Bengal, Mizoram, Tripura, Meghalaya, Tamil Nadu and Kerala.

Among the states, **Odisha** received the highest amount of **Rs.6,000 crore** followed by **Chhattisgarh with Rs.5,791 crore** and **Madhya Pradesh with Rs.5,196 crore** respectively. **Kerala** got the least with **Rs.81.59 crore**.

The CAMPA funds can not be used for payment of pay, travel allowances, medical expenses, etc.

**Important activities on the fund:**
The Important activities that will be carried out using the fund include antagonistic conversion, drainage area Treatment, life Management, Management of Biological Diversity and Biological Resources, analysis in biology and watching of CAMPA works, etc.

The Fund will be utilized according to the provisions of the **Compensatory Afforestation Fund (CAF) Act and Rules**. The Centre plans to use geographic tagging technology to follow up whether the States are using their allotted funds appropriately.

**Air India bans usage of single use plastic on the flight of its subsidiaries**

Air India has banned the usage of **single-use plastic on the flight of its subsidiaries** from **October 2, 2019**. The subsidiaries of Air India are **Air India Express and Alliance Air**. Also, Air India has announced that in its second phase, the single-use plastic will be banned in all **Air India flights**.
Replacements:
From October 2, the banana chips and sandwiches on Alliance Air flights and Air India Express flights will be packed in butter paper pouches instead of plastic pouches. Instead of Cake slices uplifted in snack boxes, muffins will be served to avoid the present plastic wrapping.
Also, the crew meal cutlery will be replaced with lightweight steel cutlery. Tea and Coffee will be served only on sturdy paper cups. Eco-friendly birch wood cutlery will be used for special meals that are ordered and paid for by passengers in advance in the crew of Alliance Air and Air India Express.

Plastic in India:
A report by the Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change said, in India, about 20,000 tonnes of plastic waste is generated every day. Out of this, only 13,000-14,000 tonnes are collected.

Centre's announcement:
The move comes after the Centre announced its plan for the reduction in the use of single-use plastic. The Union government will be announcing its first move towards freeing India of single-use plastic on October 2, which is Mahatma Gandhis birth anniversary.
**DEFENCE**

**China and Pakistan began joint exercise Shaheen-VIII near Ladakh**

China and **Pakistan** began joint exercise Labelled **Shaheen-VIII** in the Chinese city of Holton, close to the Indian border of around 300 km north of Ladakh, Jammu and Kashmir (J&K). This is the **8th** such exercise undertaken by two countries with the participation of Chinese J10 & J-11 and Pakistani JF-17s planes. **Pakistani JF-17 planes** (a single-engined light jet aircraft) passed through the Skardu airbase in Gilgit Baltistan area occupied by Pakistan. India claims it is a part of the former princely state of J&K.

The single-engine, single-seat J-10 is a product of the Chengdu Aircraft Industry Group. JF-17, a lightweight, single-engine, multi-role combat aircraft developed jointly by the Pakistan Aeronautical Complex and the Chengdu Aircraft Corporation of China.

The exercise will help India’s two neighbours of China & Pakistan to improve bilateral relations. In 2018, Shaheen-VII was held in Pakistan.

**About China:**
- **Capital:** Beijing
- **Currency:** Renminbi
- **President:** Xi Jinping

**IAF wing Commander S Dhami became the first Flight Commander of a flying unit**

Indian Air Force's (IAF) Wing Commander **S Dhami** the **Flight Commander** of a flying unit. She became the **first female officer in the country** to become the Flight Commander of a flying unit. She has taken incharge as Flight Commander of a **Chetak helicopter unit** at Hindon airbase.

**S Dhami:**
Dhamini is a permanent commission officer of IAF's flying branch. She has been flying choppers. She is a Flight commander in IAF. The rank Flight Commander is the **second in command of the unit**. She is number two in the unit after the commanding officer. The promotion given to her as the flying branch commander is moving a step closer towards women officers commanding units and formations.
in the service.
AWARDS AND HONOURS

Shri Prabhakar Singh to be awarded the 2019 Eminent Engineer Award

Institution of Engineers (India) (IEI) has chosen Shri Prabhakar Singh, Director General of Central Public Works Department (CPWD) for the prestigious Eminent Engineer Award for the Year 2019. The award recognizes his distinguished and exemplary service in the field of Engineering and Technology. He will be awarded on the Engineers Day on September 15, 2019, in New Delhi.

Shri Prabhakar Singh:
Mr. Singh is a B.Tech with Honours in Mechanical Engineering from IIT-Kharagpur. He is a post-graduate MBA from Management Development Institute (MDI) Gurgaon. He has played a vital role in transforming the Premier Engineering Organisation of the Central Government. He has dedicated his Service to the Nation as an Eminent Technocrat.

Institution of Engineers (India) (IEI):
IEI was formed in September 1920 and is headquartered in Kolkata. It is the National organization for Indian engineers. IEI is the world's largest multi-disciplinary engineering professional society in the engineering and technology world.

PM received highest civilian award in UAE and Bahrain

Prime Minister Narendra Modi was awarded the King Hamad Order of the Renaissance by Bahraini King Hamad bin Isa bin Salman Al Khalifa on 24 August. The award recognizes his efforts to build a strong friendship and bilateral ties with the Gulf nation. Indian Prime Minister Modi is the first Prime Minister to visit Bahrain.

Order of Zayed:
Modi also received the Order of Zayed, UAE's highest civilian award, by Abu Dhabi crown prince, Sheikh Mohammed bin Zayed Al Nahyan. The award recognized his vital role in building the strategic relationship between the two countries.

Prime Minister Narendra Modi was honoured during his 3-day visit to United Arab
Emirates (UAE) and Bahrain. The visit aimed to hold extensive talks with top leaders of the two countries on bilateral, regional and global issues of mutual interest. The visit strengthens India's connect with the six-nation powerful Gulf Cooperation Council (GCC).

Several alternative Muslim nations honored PM Modi with their high civilian award namely:
- **Rule of Nishan Izzuddeen** of Maldives in June 2019
- **Grand Collar of the State** of Palestine in February 2018
- **Emeer Amanullah Khan Award** of Afghanistan in June 2016
- **King Abdulaziz Sash Award** of Kingdom of Saudi Arabia in April 2016

### President conferred the Tenzing Norgay National Journey Awards

Government has declared the **Tenzing Norgay National Journey Awards 2018**. The awards are conferred by **President Ram Nath Kovind** at the Rashtrapati Bhawan, **New Delhi on 29 August**. The award recognizes the achievements of persons in the fields of adventure. The award is given in four categories:
- Land journey
- Water journey
- Air journey
- Life Time accomplishment

**Jury:**
The **National Selection Committee** headed by **Smt. Upma Chawdhry, IAS, Secretary**, Department of Youth Affairs selected the awardees. The committee was constituted with expert members from the field of adventure.

**Tenzing Norgay National Journeys Award:**
The Tenzing Norgay National Journey Awards is the highest national recognition for outstanding achievements within the field of the journey toward the land, ocean, and air. The award is given each year to the achievements of persons within the fields of the journey. The award also aims to encourage children and develop the spirit of endurance, risk-taking, cooperative cooperation and fast, prepared and effective reflexes in difficult things.

**Prize:** The awardee will receive statuettes, certificates and award cash of **Rs.5**
lakh.

**Tenzing Norgay:** Tenzing Norgay was a Nepali-Indian Sherpa mountaineer. **Norgay and Edmund Hillary** were the first two individuals known to reach the summit of Mount Everest on **29 May 1953**. Indian government instituted the Tenzing Norgay National Adventure Awards to honour him.

**Awardees:**
The awardees of the Tenzing Norgay National Journeys Awards 2018 are:

- **Land Adventure:** Aparna Kumar, Dipankar Ghosh, Manikandan K
- **Water Adventure:** Prabhat Raju Koli
- **Air Adventure:** Rameshwar Jangra and Sherpa
- **Life Time Achievement:** Wangchuk

**Prestigious award to Sattriya danseuse**

Noted Sattriya danseuse and scholar **Dr Anwesa Mahanta** chosen for the Guru Kelucharan Mohapatra Yuva Pratibha Samman for her contributions to the Sattriya tradition.

Sayanacharya Ghanakanta Bora, a **Sangeet Natak Akademi** and Padma Shri awardee, Anwesha extensively in India also overseas, including the USA, Canada, Japan, Hong Kong, New Zealand, France, England, Northern Ireland, Malaysia, Thailand, and Sri Lanka. The academic presentations in various institutions of higher learning and research.

She was also awarded Ustad Bismillah Khan Yuva Puraskar by Sangeet Natak Akademi. Currently, Dr. Anwesa is the Director of Kalpavriksha that imparts training in Sattriya dance, music and theatre.

The coveted **Kelucharan Mohapatra National Award** instituted by Srijan, an acclaimed institution of Odissi in memory of its founder guru, is offered to both senior and young scholars and practitioners to mark the 25th anniversary of Srijan.

**National sports day award winners awarded on 29 August**

**President Ram Nath Kovind** presented the **National Sports Day Awards 2019** on the National Sports Day which was observed on **29 August**.

**Awardees:**
The list of **National Sports Day Award winners 2019** is given below:
**Rajiv Gandhi Khel Ratna Award:**
Deepa Malik (Para-Athletics), Bajrang Punia (Wrestling).

**Arjuna Award:**
Anjum Moudgil (Shooting), Bhamidipati Sai Praneeth (Badminton), Tajinder Pal Singh Toor (Athletics), Pramod Bhagat (Para sports-badminton), Harmeet Rajul Desai (Table tennis), Pooja Dhanda (Wrestling), Fouaad Mirza (Equestrian), Simran Singh Shergill (Polo), Poonam Yadav (Cricket), Swapna Burman (Athletics), Sundar Singh Gurjar (Para sports-athletics) and Gaurav Singh Gill (Motorsports), Ravindra Jadeja (Cricket), Mohammed Anas (Athletics), Gurpreet Singh Sandhu (Football), Sonia Lather (Boxing), Chinglensana Singh Kangujam (Hockey), S Bhaskaran (Bodybuilding), Ajay Thakur (Kabaddi).

**Dhyan Chand Award:**
Manoj Kumar (wrestling), Nitten Kirrtane (tennis) and Manuel Fredricks (hockey), C Lalremsanga (archery), Arup Basak (table tennis).

**Dronacharya Award (lifetime category):**
Sanjay Bhardwaj (cricket), Rambir Singh Khokar (kabaddi) and Mezban Patel (hockey).

**Dronacharya Award:**
Mohinder Singh Dhillon (athletics), Sandeep Gupta (table tennis) and Vimal Kumar (badminton).

**DAY NULM bagged SKOCH Governance Gold Award for the year 2019**

Deendayan Antyodaya Yojana-National Urban Livelihoods Mission (DAY-NULM), a flagship mission under the Ministry of Housing and Urban Affairs conferred the prestigious SKOCH Governance Gold Award for its Portal for Affordable Credit and Interest Subvention Access (PAiSA) in a function held at the Constitution Club of India.

**Deendayan Antyodaya Yojana-National Urban Livelihoods Mission (DAY-NULM)**
Launched in November 2018. PAiSAs is a centralized IT platform which simplifies and streamlines release of interest subvention under the Mission. It offers end to end online solution for processing, payment, monitoring and tracking of interest subvention claims from banks on a monthly basis. They claim for subvention are uploaded by banks through their CBS (Core Banking Solution) in respect of the
beneficiaries of the Self Employment Programme. It is verified and approved by the ULB and State concerned. The approved claim amount gets credited directly to the beneficiary's loan account through DBT mode. SMS is also sent to the beneficiary's mobile number intimating the credit of subvention amount. The portal has been designed and developed through the Allahabad Bank. There are 28 States/UTs and 74 Banks including 21 Public Sector, 18 Private and 35 Regional Rural Banks have been on board on the portal. Till now approximately 1.50 lakh beneficiaries have been paid Rs. 27 Cr (approx.) as interest subvention through PAiSA.
SPORTS

PV Sindhu won gold at the 2019 BWF World Championships

Indian badminton and World number five PV Sindhu won gold at the BWF World Championships 2019. She became the first-ever Indian badminton player to win a gold medal at the event. PV Sindhu defeated world number four Nozomi Okuhara of Japan and secured 21-7, 21-7. This is her fifth medal at the world championships. With this, she has become only the fourth singles player ever to have a full set of world championship medals. In the previous editions of the World Championships, she secured:
- Bronze in 2013
- Bronze in 2014
- Silver in 2017
- Silver in 2018
- Gold in 2019

BWF World Championships 2019:
The Badminton World Federation (BWF) World Championships was held from 19 to 25 August in Basel, Switzerland. It is the 25th edition of the championship. 45 countries participated in the badminton tournament.

Result:
- Men's singles: Kento Momota (Japan)
- Women's singles: P. V. Sindhu (India)
- Men's doubles: Mohammad Ahsan, Hendra Setiawan (Indonesia)
- Women's doubles: Mayu Matsumoto, Wakana Nagahara (Japan)
- Mixed doubles: Zheng Siwei, Huang Yaqiong (China)

Indian team won 2 Gold medal in World Archery Youth Championship 2019

Indian junior (U-21) compound mixed team of Markoo Raginee and Sukhbeer Singh picked up the first gold for India. They defeated Switzerland rivals Andrea Vallario and Janine Hunsperger with 152-147 scores at the World Archery Youth Championships 2019. The event is organized by the World Archery Federation in Madrid, Spain from 19 -25 August 2019.
17-year-old Komalika Bari got 2nd Gold medal in the final of recurve cadet class. Defeated by Japans Sonoda Waka with 7-3 scores.
The Indian team of Sukhbir Singh, Sangampreet Singh Bisla and Tushar Phadtare won the junior compound mens team bronze medal by beating Colombias Jagdeep Teji Singh Mejia, Gomez Zuluga Felipe and Toro Vasquez Manuel got 234-231 scores.
The Indians scored 60 out of 60 points in the final round. The Colombian team managed only 56 points.

**World Archery Federation**
- **Headquarters**: Lausanne, Switzerland
- **First Vice-president**: Mario Scarzella
- **President**: Uur Erdener

**Lt Gen Puri became first serving Lt Gen to complete 1,200 km Paris Brest Paris circuit**

Lieutenant General Anil Puri completed France's oldest cycling event, 1,200km Paris-Brest-Paris circuit. He became the first serving Lieutenant General-rank officer of the Indian Army.

Lt Gen Puri, the 56-year-old officer completed the event by cycling non-stop for 90 hours. 367 participants represented India. Around 80 successfully completed the trek. Six army personnel secured berths at the event for having completed at least one 1,000-km non-stop cycling event during their respective careers.

**1,200- km Paris-Brest-Paris circuit:**
Rambouillet hosted the 1,200- km Paris-Brest-Paris circuit 2019 event. The event was started in 1931. Over 31,125 riders have managed to complete Paris- Brest-Paris Randonneur since then.

**IndTokyo launched to help Paralympians to look up accessible places in Tokyo during 2020 Paralympics Games**

A mobile app launched to help para-athletes to look up accessible places in Tokyo during their visit to the city for the 2020 Paralympics Games.
The application IndTokyo launched by Arhan Bagati, Awareness and Impact Ambassador of Paralympic Committee of India, at the 'Countdown to Tokyo 2020'
event here, has features like information on para-athletes and accessible places in Tokyo among others.

**Indians - Paralympic athletes.**

Indians should download this application and learn about our Paralympic athletes. Our Indian Paralympians will be able to use this application to look up accessible places in Tokyo during their visit to the city for the 2020 Paralympics. The 2020 Paralympics silver medallist Deepa Malik is bubbling with confidence that the Indian contingent will work hard to double the medal tally at the global event. It is a big milestone for the players. The list will be finalised soon. We won a total of 11 medals in the Paralympics so far. We hope to double the medal tally in the 2020 event.

The Indian para-athlete has made an appeal to the country, calling for greater participation of specially-abled women and girls to participate in sports.

The 48-year-old para-athlete won a silver medal at the 2016 Rio Paralympics Games in shot put.

Talking about the forthcoming Paralympics Games, Malik said that para-athletes are now being funded at par with their Olympic counterparts.

Prime Minister Narendra Modi, Union Sports Minister Kiren Rijiju, Paralympic Committee of India and the Sports Authority of India (SAI) for their continuous efforts to support the Paralympic players.

The results are now visible. Para games have been added to the Khelo India programme. Para-games have now become popular at school-level," Malik added.

Our players are qualifying in the world events be it shooting, badminton, table tennis, archery or athletics. Our players are continuously competing at the international level.

The 2020 Tokyo Paralympics is scheduled to begin from August 25 and will go on till September 6. Over 4,000 athletes from across the world are scheduled to participate in the event.

**V K Vismaya won gold in womens 400m held at MJS athletics Czech Republic**

Indian sprinter **V K Vismaya** won a best timing of 52.12s and won the **gold medal** in the women's **400m run** at the **International Athletic Meeting Josef Seckr Memorial (MJS)** in Brno, Czech Republic.

The 22-year-old Indian won the yellow metal, while compatriots Poovamma
Machettira and Subha Venkatesan finished second and third with timings of 53.47s and Sudha 53.67s respectively.
Vismaya scored a personal best of 52.48 at Nove Mesto and Metuj (CZE) along with the quartermilers in Europe. Hima Das recently won six gold medals in European races.

**International Athletic Meeting**

- **Headquarters**: Monaco
- **Membership**: 215 member federations
- **President**: Sebastian Coe

**Romania set the record for the largest win in Twenty 20 Internationals**

Romania set the record for the largest win in Twenty20 Internationals after it defeated Turkey in the **Romania Cup 2019**. Romania scored **173 runs** in the match. In the game, Sivakumar Periyalwar scored 105 off 40 deliveries.

**Sivakumar Periyalwar**:  
Periyalwar, 31-year-old, is born in **Tamil Nadu**. He is an engineer by profession. He moved to Romania where he now works in a software company. He played in age-group cricket tournaments before shifting overseas after completing his studies. At first, he played in age-group cricket tournaments. After that, he participated in Under-15, Under-22, and Under-25 tournaments and back to Romania in 2015. Then, he joined the **Cluj Cricket Club**.

**Top 5 position in T20I History:**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>S.No.</th>
<th>Winner</th>
<th>Opposition</th>
<th>Victory-Margin</th>
<th>Year</th>
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<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>Romania</td>
<td>Turkey</td>
<td>173 runs</td>
<td>2019</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>Sri Lanka</td>
<td>Kenya</td>
<td>172 runs</td>
<td>2007</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3</td>
<td>Pakistan</td>
<td>West Indies</td>
<td>143 runs</td>
<td>2018</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4</td>
<td>India</td>
<td>Ireland</td>
<td>143 runs</td>
<td>2018</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5</td>
<td>England</td>
<td>West Indies</td>
<td>137 runs</td>
<td>2019</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
OBITUARY

BJP Veteran and Defence Minister Arun Jaitley passed away

India's former Finance and Defence Minister Arun Jaitley passed away on 24th August. He died at the 66 due to prolonged illness. The Minister had triple heart-bypass surgery when he was 52. He was a diabetic and had bariatric weight-loss surgery in 2014. He underwent a kidney transplant in 2018 and travelled to the United States in 2018 for unspecified medical care.

Political Career:
Arun Jaitley passed his Law degree from Shri Ram College of Commerce, University of Delhi and Faculty of Law, University of Delhi. In the 1970s, Mr. Jaitley got involved in politics as a student leader. In 1974, he became the President of the University Students' Union. The lawyer-turned-politician is a member of the Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP). Since 2000, he has been the party leader of BJP and a member of Rajya Sabha. In 2003, he served as the law minister during former Prime Minister Atal Bihari Vajpayee's tenure. He held various posts such as Ministries of Commerce, Industry, Law & Justice, Information & Broadcasting, Finance, and Defence. Jaitley led the enactment of bankruptcy code and a national goods-and-services tax (GST) law during his tenure as Finance Minister.

Kanchan Chaudhary Bhattacharya passed away

Kanchan Chaudhary Bhattacharya, a Director General of Police in Uttarakhand, passed away on 27th August in Mumbai. She died due to prolonged illness.

Kanchan Chaudhary Bhattacharya:
Kanchan Chaudhary Bhattacharya was a 1973 batch IPS officer. She created history when she became the Director-General of Police (DGP) of Uttarakhand in the year 2004. After her retirement, she stepped into politics by contesting the 2014 Lok Sabha election. She contested from Haridwar seat in Uttarakhand on an Aam Aadmi Party (AAP) seat. Even after her retirement, she served the country till her final working with Delhi's Chief Minister Arvind Kejriwal.
About Kanchan Chaudhary:
Kanchan Chaudhary Bhattacharya was the second woman IPS officer within the country after Kiran Bedi. She completed her PG degree in English Literature from a science school, urban center University.
She was appointed as a Deputy General Inspector of Police in the state. She was promoted to the primary ladies gamma globulin of UP Police. She had 33 years of career span and handled varied sensitive cases like Syed Modi murder case in 1987 and Reliance-Bombay coloring case.
Award: She was awarded President's laurels for long and meritable services in 1989 and Rajiv Gandhi Award in 2004.
SUMMITS & CONFERENCE

Indo Pacific 2019 Chiefs of Defence Conference was held in Thailand

Indo Pacific 2019 Chiefs of Defence Conference was held in Thailand on 26 August. The conference was held during the 3 day-visit of Air Chief Marshal and Chairman Chiefs of employees Committee, Birender Singh Dhanoa to Thailand.

Aim & Theme:
The conference was aimed to strengthen the bilateral defence relations between the two countries. The theme for the conference was Collaboration during a free and Open Indo - Pacific. The conference shed its light on the common challenges faced by the nations.

The bilateral defence relationship with Thailand has gained a momentum that resulted in India's Look/ Act East Policy together at political, economic and cultural levels. The participation of the Indian Chairman COSC would increasing defence cooperation with an Asian country for bigger interaction and cooperation in the future.

India and Thailand relation:
The India-Thailand defence Cooperation has been initiated in 2003. It started with seven primary areas of focus to strengthen cooperation between countries. The focus on primary areas was re-enforced in a joint statement issued throughout Thai Prime Ministers official visit to India on January 2012. Both countries have the firm of diplomatic relations in 2017. India is the natural partner of Siam for regional cooperative security initiatives.

The twelfth India Security Summit was held in New Delhi

The 12th India Security Summit was held in New Delhi on 29 August. The theme of the summit is the New National Cyber Security Strategy. The summit focused on several problems including the protection of important national infrastructure, rising cyber threats like incidents, challenges, and responsibilities.

Organized by:
The summit was organized by Associated Chambers of Commerce and Industry of India (ASSOCHAM). It is officially supported by the Ministry of Communications and Information Technology.
Cybersecurity:
Cybersecurity is the technique of computer protecting knowledge from unauthorized access or attacks. Cybersecurity activities are to safeguard the usability, responsibility, integrity, and safety of the network. India is the third-largest user of the web and also the cybercrime has augmented in manifold within recent years.

Cybers New schemes:
The Ministry of Home Affairs launched a new scheme named Indian Cyber Crime Coordination Centre (I4C) to combat cybercrime in the country. The Cyber Swachhta Kendra is also a new scheme of the Government towards Digital India under the Ministry of Electronics and Information Technology (MeitY).
Centre to prepare guidelines for the distribution of fortified rice

Centre has prepared an in-depth roadmap for the nationwide distribution of fortified rice through ration outlets. Food Minister Ram Vilas Paswan reviewed the progress of rice distribution with NITI Aayog vice-chairman Rajiv Kumar and officers to implement the distribution of fortified rice. The government also reviewed the suggestions and feedback from all the states and stakeholders before implementing the program.

Scheme for Fortified rice:
In February 2019, Centre had approved a center-sponsored pilot scheme on the Fortification of Rice and its Distribution beneath Public Distribution System. Under the initial phase of the scheme, rice is fortified with Iron, folacin and Vitamin B-12.

The scheme has been implemented in 15 districts, ideally one district per State, starting on 2019-20. The operational responsibilities for the implementation of distribution are done through the Public Distribution System (PDS).
**APPOINTMENTS / RESIGN**

PK Sinha is appointed as OSD in Prime Ministers Office

Former cabinet Secretary PK Sinha has been appointed as the Officer on Special Duty (OSD) in Prime Minister's Office (PMO). He will replace Nripendra Misra who is the Principal Secretary of PMO. Sinha's place will be taken by Rajiv Gauba who was appointed as Cabinet Secretary.

**Nripendra Misra:**
Nripendra Misra 1967-batch retired IAS officer. He has relieved his position as a senior government official. Misra was the first senior-level appointment created by Prime Minister Narendra Modi in 2014. He is an outstanding officer who has an excellent grasp of public policy associate degreed administration. Misra had retired as TRAI chairman.

**PK Sinha:**
Pradeep Kumar Sinha is the 1977 batch IAS officer of Uttar Pradesh cadre. He is the 31st cabinet Secretary of India. Before this appointment, he served as the Power Secretary of India.
IMPORTANT DAYS

International Day against Nuclear Tests is observed on 29 August

The International Day against Nuclear Tests is observed across the world on 29 August. The day aims to provoke the world organization, youth networks, and the media against nuclear testing. The day highlights the importance to ban nuclear tests as a valuable step towards achieving a safer world. Poisoned groundwater, cancer, leukemia, radioactive are caused by the toxic legacies of nuclear testing.

History:
UN General Assembly (UNGA) after the 64 sessions of the world organization meeting declared 29 August as International Day against Nuclear Tests. It unanimously adopted resolution 64/35 on Dec 2, 2009. The inaugural commemoration of the International Day against Nuclear Tests was marked in 2010.
Kazakhstan initiated the resolution with the support of a large number of sponsors to commemorate the closure of the Semipalatinsk Nuclear Test site on 29 August 1991.

Nuclear Test:
Nuclear weapons testing began on 16 July 1945. So far, nearly 2,000 test has taken place. The countries that have tested the nuclear weapons so far are USA, USR, UK, France, China, India, Pakistan, and North Korea.

National sports day was celebrated on 29 August

The National Sports Day is celebrated nation-wide on 29 August 2019. The Day is celebrated to mark the birth anniversary of hockey legend Major Dhyan Chand. 2019 National Sports Day marked the 114th birth anniversary of Major Dhyan Chand.

Aim:
The Day aims to raise awareness about staying fit and healthy. The Day spreads awareness on the importance of sports and daily activities in every individual's life.

Dhyan Chand:
Dhyan Chand is popularly known as the Wizard of Indian Hockey. He secured over 400 goals in 22 years during the period 1926 to 1948. He is regarded as
India's greatest hockey player ever. Under his leadership, the Indian Hockey team achieved several victories. He led India into 3 Olympic gold medals in 1928, 1932 and 1936.

International Day of the Victims of Enforced Disappearances is observed on 30 August

The International Day of the Victims of Enforced Disappearances is observed on 30 August every year. The Day was established by the international organization General Assembly resolution.

Aim:
The International Day of the Victims of Enforced Disappearances aims to lift awareness on enforced or involuntary disappearances that occur with arrest, detention, abduction or deprivation of the State with support by a refusal to acknowledge the deprivation of liberty or by concealment of the fate. Enforced disappearance became a global issue as it was not restricted to a particular region of the world. It is also concerned to stop the rising issues concerning the ill-treatment, harassment, and intimidation of witnesses of disappearances or relatives of persons who have disappeared.

History:
The UN General Assembly (UNGA) passed a resolution because of its concern to the increased enforced or involuntary disappearances in various regions of the world. The reason for the disappearances included arrest, detention, and abduction. The Assembly adopted the International Convention for the Protection of All Persons from Enforced Disappearance. It then decided to declare 30 August the International Day of the Victims of Enforced Disappearances. The day was first observed in 2011.
Health Ministry sign MoU with Ministry of Social Justice to enhance an outreach on HIV AIDS prevention

Health Ministry has signed a MoU with the Ministry of Social Justice & Empowerment to enhance an outreach on HIV/AIDS prevention. This MoU is the 18th such kind where MoU signed between Government departments/Ministries. It will promote the environment based on no stigma and discrimination.

It has been considered that the sub-department of health is necessary for all the Ministries for health impact assessed of the policies/initiatives. Hence the National AIDS Control Organisation (NACO) that functions under Ministry of Health and Family Welfare signed MoU with the Department of Social Justice and Empowerment (DoSJE) under Ministry of Social Justice & Empowerment (MoSJE).

Signed by:
The MoU was signed by Special Secretary & Director General (NACO & RNTCP) Shri Sanjeeva Kumar and Additional Secretary of DoSJE Smt. Upma Srivastava.

Objective:
The MoU will emphasize the need for innovations and newer ideas to fight against HIV/AIDS.

Specific strategies and action plans will be developed for HIV and AIDS prevention and mechanisms for drug addiction treatment will be announced.

It will extend social protection schemes to the vulnerable populations.

It will strengthen the service delivery mechanisms for HIV & AIDS prevention, drug addiction treatment.

The MOUs with other Ministries will reduce investment and increase impact initiatives that help in leveraging each others strength.

Report:
Due to the program, there has been an 80% decline in estimated new infections from the peak of the epidemic in 1995. The estimated AIDS-related death in the country has been declined by 71% since its peak in 2005.

UNAIDS 2018 report said that the global average for the decline in new infections
and AIDS-related deaths from peak has been **47% and 51%** in the country.

**Indian Navy signs MoU with IMD**

**Indian Navy (IN)** signed a **Memorandum of understanding (MoU)** with **India Meteorological Department (IMD)** at naval Base in Kochi, Kerala. The MoU aims to handle the **Cyclone Detection radar (CDR) building** by **IMD to the IN**. The MoU was signed by the flag officer RJ Nadkarni, AVSM, VSM, Chief of employees, Southern naval service Command (SNC) and Dr. D Pradhan, further Director General of Meteorology.

**History of CDR Building:**
The CDR building was constructed during **1983-86** within the naval Base having associated with **S-band Cyclone Detection radar** that restricted. The ability to operate buildings by IMD is from 1987-2017 to produce weather support for civil aviation at the Kochi aerodrome.

But IMD commenced in operation a replacement of **Doppler radio detection and ranging (DWR)** at Mundamveli in Kochi because the S-band microwave radar had become obsolete in 2017.

The CDR building had been lying vacant for a few years. Now to support IN, IMD has agreed to hand over the building permanently for meteorological purposes. The building will be utilized by the **Indian military Naval Meteorological Analysis Centre (INMAC)**.

**Health Ministry explores AI in combating TB**

The **Central TB (Tuberculosis) Division** of the **Ministry of Health & Family Welfare** has signed an **MoU** with **Wadhwani Institute for Artificial Intelligence, Mumbai**. It aims to explore the appliance of the newest computing technology in its fight against TB.

**MoU:**
As per the agreement, Wadhwani AI will support **National TB programme** by making it AI-ready which would include, developing, piloting, and deploying AI-based solutions.

It would support the programme in vulnerability and hot-spot mapping, modelling novel methods of screening and diagnostics.
It will also enable decision support for care-givers apart from supporting the **Revised National Tuberculosis Control Program (RNTCP)** in the adoption of other AI technologies.

**Signed by:**
The MoU was signed by Vikas Sheel the Joint Secretary and P Anandan the business executive of Wadhwani AI. Wadhwani would support the **National TB program** by developing, piloting, and deploying AI-based solutions.

**Tuberculosis (TB):**
The **World Health Organization (WHO)** estimated that India is close to **27 lakh TB cases** per year and **4.23 lakh cases die.** The microorganism that causes TB affects the lungs and has severe coughs or sneezes.

**Symptoms:**
The symptoms like embody a cough, sometimes with blood-tinged, weight loss, night sweats, and fever. Patients with active symptoms would require a protracted course of treatment involving multiple antibiotics.

**Spread:**
It spreads through mobile metastasis droplets through coughs or sneezes or by kissing or share their drinks.

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**GeM signs MoU with SIDBI to enable the growth of MSMEs**

**Government e-Marketplace (GeM),** Department of Commerce, Ministry of Commerce and trade has signed an MoU with **Small Industries Development Bank of India (SIDBI).** It aims to benefit Ministry of **Micro, Small & Medium Enterprises (MSMEs),** ladies entrepreneurs, Self facilitate teams (SHGs), ladies Self facilitate teams and varied loan beneficiaries under **MUDRA and Stand-up schemes.** The MoU was signed in Delhi.

**MoU Special steps:**
The MoU will strengthen capability building through **GeM-specific coaching programs** of personnel from partner agencies. Special services through networking, workshops, promoting events, awards and recognition of MSMEs with special concentrate on SHGs, ladies entrepreneurs, artisans, NGOs.

**GeM MOU with SIDBI:**
The MoU of GeM with SIDBI is towards its growing partnership with money establishments to **alter the growth of MSMEs and Start-ups** within the country.
GeM needs to empower through the payments by auto-debiting GeM Pool Account. The MoU signed with SIDBI will help to promote GeM's special initiatives like Womaniya and Start-up Runway.
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Gujarat topped the CWMI 2.0 report in water management

Gujarat topped the second Round of Composite Water Management Index (CWMI 2.0). It was released by NITI Aayog in New Delhi. It measures the performance of states on a set of water indicators. The move comes at a time when various states across the country are facing a shortage in groundwater. The index assesses the performance of States on a comprehensive set of water indicators and reports relative performance in 2017-18 as well as trends from previous years (2015-16 & 2016-17).

Composite Water Management Index was released for the first time in 2018 to instill a sense of cooperative and competitive federalism among the states. It was the first attempt to create a pan-India set of metrics that measured different dimensions of water management and use across the lifecycle of water.

Report highlights:

CWMI comprises of nine themes that include attention to groundwater and restoration of water bodies.

It said that 80% of states that were assessed on the Index over the last three years have improved their water management scores.

States that topped the CWMI are Gujarat, Andhra Pradesh, Madhya Pradesh, Himachal Pradesh.

These states have further increased the scores over the last three years.

States including Jharkhand, Uttar Pradesh, Odisha, and Bihar continue to be in the low-performing category.

The report said that Puducherry has been declared as the top-ranked among the UTs. This is the first time the Union Territories (UTs) have submitted their data.

Under the theme incremental change in the index, Haryana holds the number one position among general states and Uttarakhand amongst northeastern and Himalayan states.

World Vision India and IFMR LEAD released India child well being index

World Vision India and IFMR LEAD released a report on the India child well-being index 2019 on 27 August. In the Index states like Kerala, Tamil Nadu,
Himachal Pradesh, and Puducherry topped the charts. States like Meghalaya, Jharkhand and Madhya Pradesh ranked bottom in the index. The centre is fully committed to secure the rights and well-being of children.

**Aim:**
The report by the non-government organization and the research institute aimed to look at the India fairs on child well-being using a composite child well-being index. The dimensions of the index include various factors like healthy individual development, positive relationships, and protective contexts.

**Niti Aayog report:**
NITI Aayog said that the India child well-being index is very crucial that the Government and civil organizations should take note and the needed measures. This will achieve the goal of child well-being and the report will; be used effectively. The report provides nutrition for the children, education, insights on health, sanitation and child protection.

**Mumbai ranks 45th and Delhi 52nd in 2019 Worlds Safe Cities Index**
Mumbai ranked as the 45th safest city on the Safe Cities Index (SCI). Delhi got at the 52nd position. The report was released by the Economist Intelligence Unit. The cities in the Asia-Pacific (Apac) region made up six of the top-10 safest cities with Tokyo taking the top spot. Tokyo, Apac cities dominated the SCI 2019. Singapore and Osaka got second and third while Sydney and Melbourne made it to the top-10 cities list. Hong Kong dropped out of this group since 2017. Seoul joined the top-10 cities' league taking eighth place with Copenhagen.

**Safe Cities Index (SCI)**
The Safe Cities Index (SCI) 2019 ranks 60 countries worldwide across five continents and measures the multi-faceted nature of urban safety with indicators categorised as digital, infrastructure, health and personal security.

The Tokyo, Singapore and Osaka to rank within the top-three cities in the Index. The region hosts some of the lowest-scoring cities in the world, with Yangon, Karachi, and Dhaka close to the bottom of the list.

The cities perform well across the categories of health security, infrastructure security and personal security their North American counterparts generally fare better in digital security, accounting for seven of the top-10 cities in this category.
QUIZ CORNER

1) International dialogue on South-South and Triangular Cooperation addressed by ______________

A. Shri Piyush Goyal
B. Shri Prakash Javedkar
C. Shri Suresh Prabhu
D. Shr Rajnath Singh

Answer A

Explanation International dialogue on South-South and Triangular Cooperation addressed by Shri Piyush Goyal.

2) Which place did India secured in the Henley Passport Index?

A. 9
B. 5
C. 4
D. 3

Answer B

Explanation Henley Passport Index for the year 2019 released. The report ranks India at 86th position of 189 countries in 2019. It secured a score of 58. It slipped 79th place in its previous index. The report stated that Japan and Singapore as the worlds most powerful passport in 2019. Japan topped the list for the second consecutive time in a row 189 countries.

3) Who holds 'fruitful discussions' with UN chief Antonio Guterres?

A. Shri Hamid Ansari
B. Shri Narendra Modi
C. Shri Prakash Javedakar
D. Shri Suresh Prabhu

Answer B
**Explanation** Shri Narendra Modi holds 'fruitful discussions' with UN chief Antonio Guterres

4) **Which bank joined with standard Chartered for co-branded credit cards?**

A. Yes Bank  
B. Bandhan Bank  
C. Dena Bank  
D. Corporation Bank

**Answer B**

**Explanation** Bandhan Bank joined with standard Chartered for co-branded credit cards.

5) **Which company to acquire a 49% stake in Kishore Biyani-led Future Coupons Ltd?**

A. Flipkart  
B. Amazon  
C. Snapdeal  
D. Myntra

**Answer B**

**Explanation** Amazon company to acquire a 49% stake in Kishore Biyani-led Future Coupons Ltd.

6) **Who launches heritage postal stamp of Bandra station?**

A. Shareena Kapoor  
B. Anil Kapoor  
C. Shah Rukh Khan  
D. Shahid Kapoor

**Answer B**

**Explanation** Anil Kapoor launches heritage postal stamp of Bandra station.

7) **Who inaugurated National Centre for Avian Ecotoxicology in Coimbatore, Tamil Nadu**
A. Shri Suresh Prabhu
B. Shri Prakash Javadekar
C. Shri Rajnath Singh
D. Shri Rajesh Sharma

Answer B

Explanation Shri Prakash Javadekar inaugurated National Centre for Avian Ecotoxicology in Coimbatore, Tamil Nadu.

8) Indian team won ________ Gold medal in World Archery Youth Championship 2019

A. 7
B. 2
C. 5
D. 6

Answer B

Explanation Indian junior (U-21) compound mixed team of Markoo Raginee and Sukhbeer Singh picked up the first gold for India. They defeated Switzerland rivals Andrea Vallario and Janine Hunsperger with 152-147 scores at the World Archery Youth Championships 2019.

9) Which team won 2 Gold medal in World Archery Youth Championship 2019?

A. Pakistan
B. India
C. Indonesia
D. Saudi Arabia

Answer B

Explanation India won 2 Gold medal in World Archery Youth Championship 2019.

10) Who launches RuPay card in UAE?

A. Shri Narendra Modi
B. Shri Rajnath Singh
C. Shri Dinesh Kumar
D. Shri Venkiah Naidu

**Answer A**

**Explanation** Prime Minister of India Narendra Modi launched the RuPay card. The UAE the first country in the Middle East to initiate the Indian indigenous system of electronic payment. RuPay card scheme was launched in 2012 to fulfill the Reserve Bank of India's vision to have a domestic, open and multilateral system of payments.

11) Shri Narendra Modi launches RuPay card in ___________

A. Pakistan
B. UAE
C. Saudi Arabia
D. Indonesia

**Answer B**

**Explanation** Shri Narendra Modi launches RuPay card in UAE.

12) Amazon to acquire a ____________ stake in Kishore Biyani-led Future Coupons Ltd

A. 85%
B. 49%
C. 52%
D. 65%

**Answer B**

**Explanation** American e-commerce giant Amazon.com is acquiring a 49% stake in a group entity Future Coupons Ltd. Mr. Kishore Biyani of the existing shareholders forming part of the promoter group and Future Coupons Ltd entered into a share subscription agreement and a shareholders' agreement with Amazon.Com NV Investment Holdings LLC (Amazon).

13) What is the cost of the improvement project on a 200-year-old Lord Sri avatar temple in Bahrain named Shreenathji Temple?
A.$5.3 million
B.$3.2 million
C.$4.2 million
D.$6.8 million

**Answer C**

**Explanation** Prime Minister Narendra Modi launched the $4.2 million improvement project on a 200-year-old Lord Sri avatar temple in Bahrain named Shreenathji Temple.

14) **Where is the Shreenathji Temple, a 200-year-old Lord Sri Krishna avatar temple, located?**

A.Saudi Arabia  
B.Bahrain  
C.UAE  
D.France

**Answer B**

**Explanation** Shreenathji Temple is a 200-year-old Lord Sri Krishna avatar temple in Manama, Bahrain. It is the oldest temple with a land measure of 16,500 sq. feet and a new four-floor structure covering 45,000 sq. feet with an overall height of 30m civilized with the qualities of peace, faith. The temple has 80% more capacity to host devotees.

15) **What is the capital of Bahrain?**

A.Manama  
B.Riffa  
C.Qatar  
D.Al Bahrain

**Answer A**

**Explanation** Bahrain is the island country located between Qatar and Saudi Arabia. The capital of Bahrain is Manama.

16) **What is the currency of Bahrain?**

A.Bahraini rial
B.Bahraini dinar  
C.Pound sterling  
D.Bahraini shekel

**Answer B**

**Explanation** The dinar is the currency of Bahrain. It is divided into 1000 fils. The Bahraini dinar is abbreviated BD.

17) Which Country honoured Prime Minister Narendra Modi with The King Hamad Order of the Renaissance award?

A.Iran  
B.UAE  
C.Saudi Arabia  
D.Bahrain

**Answer D**

**Explanation** Prime Minister Narendra Modi was awarded the King Hamad Order of the Renaissance by Bahraini King Hamad bin Isa bin Salman Al Khalifa on 24 August. The award recognizes his efforts to build a strong friendship and bilateral ties with the Gulf nation. Indian Prime Minister Modi is the first Prime Minister to visit Bahrain.

18) When was the PM Modi honoured with the award of Order of Zayed the UAE's highest civilian award?

A.2019  
B.2018  
C.2017  
D.2016

**Answer A**

**Explanation** Modi also received the Order of Zayed, UAE's highest civilian award, by Abu Dhabi crown prince, Sheikh Mohammed bin Zayed Al Nahyan. The award recognized his vital role in building the strategic relationship between the two countries.

19) Which Country honoured Prime Minister Narendra Modi with The Rule of Nishan Izzuddeen award?
A. Iran
B. UAE
C. Maldives
D. Bahrain

Answer C

Explanation Prime Minister Narendra Modi was conferred with the Maldives' highest honour "Rule of Nishan Izzuddeen" on 8 June 2029 during his two-day state visit to the country. The prestigious award was presented to Modi by President Ibrahim Mohamed Solih during a ceremony.

20) Who inaugurated the associate workplace of the Norka Roots at the underground station business building on the MG Road Metro Station, Kochi?
A. PM Narendra Modi
B. Pinarayi Vijayan, CM of Kerala
C. Y. S. Jaganmohan Reddy, CM of Andhra Pradesh
D. President Ram Nath Kovind

Answer B

Explanation Kerala Chief Minister Pinarayi Vijayan inaugurated the associate workplace of the Norka Roots at the underground station business building on the MG Road Metro Station, Kochi. This project aims to implement a lot of welfare schemes for the non-resident Keralites (NRK). The Chief Minister also inaugurated the primary business venture being started by a non-resident Keralite at the Edapally underground station.

21) When was the Non-Resident Keralites Affairs NORKA was established?
A. 1996
B. 1997
C. 1985
D. 2000

Answer A

Explanation The Non-Resident Keralites Affairs NORKA was established in 1996. The department aimed at redressing the grievances of Non-Resident Keralites (NRKs). It also aims to
strengthen the connection between the NRKs and the government. It will also address the NRKs drawback, safeguarding their rights and rehabilitating the returnees.

22) Under which scheme of Kerala does the Norka-Roots spent Rs.25 crore in 2018 to provide financial support to NRKs returning to their native place?

A. EMS Scheme  
B. Basic Service for the Urban poor scheme (BSUP)  
C. Aajeevika - National Rural Livelihoods Mission (NRLM)  
D. Santhwana scheme

**Answer D**

**Explanation** Under the Santhwana scheme, Norka-Roots has already spent around Rs.25 crore in 2018. It provided financial support to NRKs returning to their native place.

23) Who is the CEO of Bandhan Bank?

A. Shyam Srinivasan  
B. Chandra Shekhar Ghosh  
C. Samit Ghosh  
D. Rana Kapoor

**Answer B**

**Explanation** The CEO of Bandhan Bank is Chandra Shekhar Ghosh.

24) How many Gold medal in World Archery Youth Championship 2019?

A. 2  
B. 5  
C. 6  
D. 8

**Answer A**

**Explanation** Indian junior (U-21) compound mixed team of Markoo Raginee and Sukhbeer Singh picked up the first gold for India. They defeated Switzerland rivals Andrea Vallario and Janine Hunsperger with 152-147 scores at the World Archery Youth Championships 2019.
25) Which country topped the second Round of Composite Water Management Index (CWMI 2.0)?

A. Uttar Pradesh  
B. Chhatisgarh  
C. Telangana  
D. Gujarat

**Answer D**

**Explanation** Gujarat topped the second Round of Composite Water Management Index (CWMI 2.0). It was released by NITI Aayog in New Delhi. It measures the performance of states on a set of water indicators.

26) Which Union Territory stands first in the second Round of Composite Water Management Index (CWMI 2.0) among the UTs?

A. Chandigarh  
B. Puducherry  
C. Daman and Diu  
D. Delhi

**Answer B**

**Explanation** NITI Aayog released the second Round of Composite Water Management Index (CWMI 2.0) in New Delhi. The report said that Puducherry has been declared as the top-ranked among the UTs. This is the first time the Union Territories (UTs) have submitted their data.

27) Which among general states has topped under the theme incremental change in the CWMI 2.0 index?

A. Madhya Pradesh  
B. West Bengal  
C. Haryana  
D. Punjab

**Answer C**

**Explanation** CWMI comprises of nine themes that include attention to groundwater and restoration of water bodies. Under the theme incremental change in the index, Haryana holds the
number one position among general states.

28) Which among the northeastern and Himalayan states has topped under the theme incremental change in the CWMI 2.0 index?

A. Assam  
B. Manipur  
C. Himachal Pradesh  
D. Uttarakhand

**Answer D**

**Explanation** CWMI comprises of nine themes that include attention to groundwater and restoration of water bodies. Under the theme incremental change in the index, Uttarakhand amongst northeastern and Himalayan states.

29) Who is the first serving Lieutenant General of Indian Army to complete 1,200 km Paris-Brest-Paris circuit?

A. Lieutenant General S S Hasabnis  
B. Lieutenant General Anil Kumar Bhatt  
C. Lieutenant General Anil Puri  
D. Lieutenant General S K Srivastava

**Answer C**

**Explanation** Lieutenant General Anil Puri completed France's oldest cycling event, 1,200km Paris-Brest-Paris circuit. He became the first serving Lieutenant General-rank officer of the Indian Army.

30) Seventh Community Radio Sammelan to be held in __________?

A. Chennai  
B. New Delhi  
C. Hyderabad  
D. Secunderabad

**Answer B**

**Explanation** Seventh Community Radio Sammelan to be held in New Delhi
31) Shri Dharmendra Pradhan launches the commencement of work for _______ City Gas Distribution

A. 6th 
B. 5th 
C. 10th 
D. 8th 

**Answer C**

**Explanation** Shri Dharmendra Pradhan launches the commencement of work for 10th City Gas Distribution.

32) Fourth edition of Internet of Things India Congress 2019 held in __________? 

A. Chennai 
B. Bengaluru 
C. New Delhi 
D. Ahmedabad 

**Answer B**

**Explanation** The 4th edition of Indias largest confluence of digital technology, the Internet of Things (IoT) India Congress 2019 held in Bengaluru, Karnataka.

33) Where Banjari village is located in India? 

A. Himachal Pradesh 
B. Madhya Pradesh 
C. Bihar 
D. Tamil Nadu 

**Answer B**

**Explanation** Banjari village of Katni district in MP to become an integral part of the digital map of the country.

34) Which company joined with Indian School of Business (ISB) signs MoU to
set up AI Digital Lab?

A. Microsoft  
B. Samsung  
C. Apple  
D. Verizon

**Answer A**

**Explanation** Microsoft and Indian School of Business (ISB) signs MoU to set up AI Digital Lab.

35) Which business school signes MOU with Microsoft for set up AI Digital Lab?

A. Indian School of Business (ISB)  
B. Indian Institute of Management Ahmedabad  
C. Institute of Management Technology, Ghaziabad  
D. Indian Institute of Foreign Trade

**Answer A**

**Explanation** IT(Information Technology) company, Microsoft and Indian School of Business (ISB) have signed an MoU(memorandum of understanding) to set up an AI Digital Lab powered by PlatiFi technologies(a Microsoft partner) to study issues that are relevant for business and public policy.

36) Which company launched its first artificial intelligence chip Spring Hill?

A. Microsoft  
B. Intel  
C. HP  
D. Lenovo

**Answer B**

**Explanation** Intel company launched its first artificial intelligence chip Spring Hill.

37) Brainstorming Session on Technological Innovations and Strategies for Farmers Prosperity in Madhya Pradesh & Chhattisgarh begins in
A. New Delhi
B. Chennai
C. Hyderabad
D. Secunderabad

Answer A

Explanation Brainstorming Session on Technological Innovations and Strategies for Farmers Prosperity in Madhya Pradesh & Chhattisgarh begins in New Delhi

38) __________ edition of Internet of Things India Congress 2019 held in Bengaluru

A. Fourth
B. Fifth
C. Eighth
D. Third

Answer A

Explanation Fourth edition of Internet of Things India Congress 2019 held in Bengaluru.

39) Which state topped the CWMI 2.0 report in water management?

A. Tamil Nadu
B. Gujarat
C. Kerala
D. Madhya Pradesh

Answer B

Explanation Gujarat state topped the CWMI 2.0 report in water management.

40) Which union minister launches the commencement of work for 10th City Gas Distribution

A. Shri Dharmendra Pradhan
B. Shri Rajnath Singh
C. Shri Suresh Sharma
D. Shri Dinesh Kumar

**Answer A**

**Explanation** Shri Dharmendra Pradhan launches the commencement of work for 10th City Gas Distribution.

41) Where is the headquarters of IRCTC Located?

A. Secunderabad  
B. New Delhi  
C. Chennai  
D. Hyderabad

**Answer B**

**Explanation** The headquarters of IRCTC Located is New Delhi.

42) ISRO to launch _________ in October or November.

A. Cartosat-3  
B. Cartosat-2  
C. Cartosat-7  
D. Cartosat-5

**Answer A**

**Explanation** India plans to launch Cartosat-3, its advanced satellite in the month of October-November. ISRO plans to launch the Cartosat-3 using the Polar Satellite Launch Vehicle (PSLV) rocket. The announcement was made by K. Sivan, Chairman, Indian Space Research Organisation (ISRO).

43) What is the range of the resolution of CartoSat-3?

A. 65cm  
B. 30cm  
C. 25cm  
D. 55cm

**Answer C**
**Explanation** Cartosat-3 is the third series of earth observational or remote sensing satellite. It is an advanced version with better spatial with a range of view, and resolution of up to 0.25m or 25cm as compared to the Cartosat-2 series satellites.

**44) So far, ISRO has launched ______ Cartosats.**

A.2  
B.4  
C.5  
D.8  

**Answer D**

**Explanation** ISRO has launched 8 Cartosats so far. India plans to launch Cartosat-3, its advanced satellite in the month of October-November. ISRO plans to launch the Cartosat-3 using the Polar Satellite Launch Vehicle (PSLV) rocket. The announcement was made by K.Sivan, Chairman, Indian Space Research Organisation (ISRO).

**45) Centre plans to provide Wi-Fi to all villages under ______ initiative.**

A.GramNet  
B.Netpanchayat  
C.Wifitoall  
D.None of these  

**Answer A**

**Explanation** Centre plans to provide Wi-Fi to all villages with connectivity between 10mbps to 100 mbps speed under the GramNet initiative. The announcement was made by Minister of State for Communications Shamrao Dhotre at the 36th Foundation Day celebrations of Centre for Development of Telematics (C-DOT), Delhi on 26 August.

**46) What will be the Wi-Fi connectivity range that will be given to all villages under GramNet initiative?**

A.10mbps to 1000 mbps  
B.10mbps to 200 mbps  
C.10mbps to 500 mbps  
D.10mbps to 100 mbps
**Answer D**

**Explanation** Centre plans to provide Wi-Fi to all villages with connectivity between 10mbps to 100 mbps speed under the GramNet initiative. Dhotre also launched latest innovations of C-DOT including C-Sat-Fi (C-DOTSatellite WiFi), XGSPON (10 G Symmetrical Passive Optical Network), C-DOTs Interoperable Set Top Box (CiSTB), Ministry of Communications and Information Technology.

47) ________ has announced that it is to provide 1 GBPS connectivity along with Centre's plan under the GramNet initiative?

A. Vodafone  
B. Airtel  
C. BharatNet  
D. Jio GigaFiber

**Answer C**

**Explanation** Bharat Broadband Network Limited (BharatNet) has also announced that it is to provide 1 GBPS connectivity. It can expand up to 10 GBPS. BharatNet has been set up by the Government of India. It functions under the Department of Telecommunications. It aims to establish, manage, and operate the National Optical Fibre Network to provide a minimum of 100 Mbit/s broadband connectivity to all 250,000 gram panchayats in the country.

48) Kanchan Chaudhary Bhattacharya who passed away recently is a ________.

A. Politician  
B. Singer  
C. Astronaut  
D. Scientist

**Answer A**

**Explanation** Kanchan Chaudhary Bhattacharya, a Director General of Police in Uttarakhand, passed away on 26th August in Mumbai. She died due to prolonged illness. After her retirement, she stepped into politics by contesting the 2014 Lok Sabha election.

49) Who is the first IPS officer in India?
A. Kiran Bedi
B. Kanchan Chaudhary Bhattacharya
C. Meera Borwankar
D. Vimla Mehra

**Answer A**

**Explanation** Kiran Bedi is the first woman to join the Indian Police Service. She remained in service for 35 years before taking voluntary retirement in 2007 as Director-General, Bureau of Police Research and Development.

**50) Who is the first Director-General of Police (DGP) in India?**

A. Sonia Narang
B. Kanchan Chaudhary
C. Kiran Bedi
D. Dr B. Sandhya

**Answer B**

**Explanation** Kanchan Chaudhary Bhattacharya was a 1973 batch IPS officer. She created history when she became the Director-General of Police (DGP) of Uttarakhand in the year 2004. After her retirement, she stepped into politics by contesting the 2014 Lok Sabha election.

**51) When did Kanchan Chaudhary Bhattacharya receive the Rajiv Gandhi Award?**

A. 2014
B. 2008
C. 2004
D. 2012

**Answer C**

**Explanation** Kanchan Chaudhary Bhattacharya was the second woman IPS officer within the country after Kiran Bedi. She was awarded President's laurels for long and meritable services in 1989 and Rajiv Gandhi Award in 2004.

**52) Canara Bank has introduced OTP facility for ATM cash withdrawals over**
_______ per day.

A. Rs.1,00,000  
B. Rs.75,000  
C. Rs.50,000  
D. Rs.10,000

Answer D

Explanation Canara Bank has launched India's first one-time password (OTP) facility for ATM withdrawals. The OTP will be activated for cash withdrawals over Rs.10,000 per day at its ATMs to protect its cardholders from unauthorized withdrawal. Indian bank also taking this process as soon.

53) Which of the following bank introduced OTP facility for ATM withdrawals?

A. Dena Bank  
B. IOB  
C. Canara Bank  
D. Bank of Baroda

Answer C

Explanation Canara Bank has launched India's first one-time password (OTP) facility for ATM withdrawals. The plan aims to avoid robbery in a bank's ATM that affects ATMs users. The State-owned bank has introduced the OTPs for the safe use of ATMs. It has two vital options for the advantage of account holders.

54) Which Bank has initiated OTP facility for cash withdrawals process on the YONO app on setting a six-digit PIN for the transaction?

A. Allahabad Bank  
B. Andhra Bank  
C. Bank of Maharashtra  
D. SBI

Answer D

Explanation SBI customers have already initiated the cash withdrawal process on the YONO app
on setting a six-digit PIN for the transaction. They will also get a six-digit reference number for the transaction on their registered mobile numbers via SMS. The cash withdrawal has to be completed within the next 30 minutes at an ATM using both the PIN and the reference number.

55) Reliance Industries Ltd Jio has announced ________ to offer high-quality services at lower-than-average industry prices.

A. Jio FibNet
B. Jio GigaFiber
C. Jio GFiber
D. Jio FibreNet

Answer B

Explanation Mukesh Ambani-led Reliance Industries Ltd Jio has announced that it is to GigaFiber. It is expected to offer high-quality services at lower-than-average industry prices. The rate will start from Rs.700 per month and offer 100Mbps speeds as standard. It will be officially unveiled on 5 September 2019. The plans are yet to be announced.

56) Reliance Industries Ltd Jio will unveil Jio GigaFiber on ________.

A. 27 August
B. 30 August
C. 3 September
D. 5 September

Answer D

Explanation Mukesh Ambani-led Reliance Industries Ltd Jio has announced that it is to GigaFiber. It is expected to offer high-quality services at lower-than-average industry prices. The rate will start from Rs.700 per month and offer 100Mbps speeds as standard. It will be officially unveiled on 5 September 2019.

57) Who is the founder of Microsoft?

A. Steve jobs
B. Bill Gates
C. Mukesh Ambhani
D. Kevin Jonas
**Answer B**

**Explanation** Bill Gates is the founder of Microsoft.

**58) What is the name of the mobile application launched for locating outlets and searching Generic medicine**

A. Kumbh JioPhone  
B. Janaushadhi Sugam  
C. Digicop  
D. Khelo India

**Answer B**

**Explanation** Union Minister for Chemicals and Fertilizers, Shri D.V. Sadananda Gowda launched a mobile application Janaushadhi Sugam. Jan Aushadhi Suvidha Oxo-Biodegradable Sanitary Napkin available at only One Rupee per pad.

**59) Who holds meeting with North-Eastern States, reviews power sector in the region?**

A. Shri Ram Vilas Paswan  
B. Shri Suresh Prabhu  
C. Shri Prakash Javedakar  
D. Shri Naresh Kumar

**Answer A**

**Explanation** Shri Ram Vilas Paswan holds meeting with North-Eastern States, reviews power sector in the region.

**60) China and ________began joint exercise Shaheen-VIII near Ladakh**

A. Indonesia  
B. Pakistan  
C. India  
D. South Africa

**Answer B**
Explanation China and Pakistan began joint exercise Shaheen-VIII near Ladakh.

61) Which bank and Tata AIG General Insurance signed an MoU?

A. Canara Bank  
B. Indian Bank  
C. State Bank of India  
D. Dena Bank  

**Answer B**

Explanation Indian Bank and Tata AIG General Insurance signed an MoU.

62) Which life insurance and Indian Bank to offer a variety of general insurance products?

A. Life Insurance Corporation of India  
B. Tata AIG General Insurance  
C. Max Life Insurance Co. Ltd.  
D. Aviva Life Insurance  

**Answer B**

Explanation The public sector Indian Bank signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) with Tata AIG General Insurance to offer a variety of general insurance products to its customers. The MoU was signed in the presence of Ms Padmaja Chunduru MD and CEO of Indian Bank and Mr Saurabh Maini, Senior Vice President and Business Head.

63) IndTokyo launched to help Paralympians to look up accessible places in Tokyo during ___________

A. 2020 Paralympics Games  
B. 2019 Paralympics Games  
C. 2022 Paralympics Games  
D. 2021 Paralympics Games  

**Answer A**

Explanation A mobile app launched to help para-athletes to look up accessible places in Tokyo during their visit to the city for the 2020 Paralympics Games.
64) ________ and Pakistan began joint exercise Shaheen-VIII near Ladakh

A. Saudi Arabia  
B. China  
C. Indonesia  
D. Ireland  

**Answer B**

**Explanation** China and Pakistan began joint exercise Shaheen-VIII near Ladakh

65) Who is to be honoured with UEFA President Award?

A. Eric Cantona  
B. Guy Roux  
C. Bobby Robson  
D. Paolo Maldini  

**Answer A**

**Explanation** Eric Cantona is to be honoured with UEFA President Award

66) Which company to train 5000 govt employees on AI cloud?

A. Samsung  
B. Microsoft  
C. Apple  
D. Vivo  

**Answer B**

**Explanation** Microsoft company to train 5000 govt employees on AI cloud

67) Where is the headquarters of Indian Bank?

A. Ranchi  
B. Chennai  
C. Bangalore
D. Ahmedabad

**Answer B**

**Explanation** The public sector Indian Bank signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) with Tata AIG General Insurance to offer a variety of general insurance products to its customers.

**68) Who is the present CEO of Microsoft?**

A. Satya Nadella  
B. Paul Allen  
C. Indra Nooyi  
D. Larry Page

**Answer A**

**Explanation** Satya Nadella is the present CEO of Microsoft.

**69) For which purpose Janaushadhi Sugam launched?**

A. locating outlets and searching Generic medicine  
B. Forest Fire  
C. Topical medicines  
D. Inhalers

**Answer A**

**Explanation** Mobile application Janaushadhi Sugam launched for locating outlets and searching Generic medicine.

**70) Who launched a mobile application Janaushadhi Sugam and Jan Aushadhi Suvidha Oxo-Biodegradable hygienical Napkin at just one Rupee per pad?**

A. D.V. Sadananda Gowda  
B. Nitin Gadkari  
C. Amit Shah  
D. Piyush Goyal

**Answer A**
The Union Minister for Chemicals and Fertilizers Shri D.V. Sadananda Gowda launched a mobile application Janaushadhi Sugam and Jan Aushadhi Suvidha Oxo-Biodegradable hygienical Napkin can be offered at just one Rupee per pad.

71) When did the Government of India first launch the Jan Aushadhi Suvidha Oxo-Biodegradable hygienical Napkin at pair of Rs.50?

A. June 4 2018  
B. June 5 2019  
C. July 4 2019  
D. August 6 2019

Answer A

The Government of India launched the Jan Aushadhi Suvidha Oxo-Biodegradable hygienical Napkin at pair of Rs.50 on the eve of the globe setting Day 4th June 2018.

72) Who is the Present Home Minister of India?

A. Shri Rajnath Singh  
B. Shri Amit Shah  
C. Shri Nirmala Sitharaman  
D. Shri Mahendra Nath Pandey

Answer B

Shri Amit Shah is the Present Home Minister of India.

73) Union atmosphere Minister Prakash Javadekar declared a project on India can restore _______ hectare land.

A. 50 lakh  
B. 20 lakh  
C. 30 lakh  
D. 100 lakh

Answer A

The Union atmosphere Minister Prakash Javadekar declared a project on India can restore 50 lakh hectare land by 2030. An associate ahead with international conference ashore
geologic for the process of twenty-nine percent of India's total geographical region is degraded.

74) Ministry of Earth Sciences has planned to declared a project on India can restore 50lakh hectare land by __________.

A.2024  
B.2030  
C.2032  
D.2026

Answer B

Explanation The Union atmosphere Minister Prakash Javadekar declared a project on India can restore 50lakh hectare land by 2030. An associate ahead with international conference ashore geologic for the process of twenty-nine percent of India's total geographical region is degraded.

75) Which Country is hosting the COP-14 United Nations Convention to Combat geologic process (UNCCD)?

A.Brazil  
B.Singapore  
C.India  
D.Italy

Answer C

Explanation India is hosting the Conference of Parties (COP) 14 of the United Nations Convention to Combat geologic process (UNCCD) from sep 2-13 in Noida.

76) What are the 5 pilot states that are under the forest landscape restoration (FLR) challenge?

A.Tamil Nadu, Gujarat, Assam, Manipur and Madhya pradesh  
B.Karanata, Telangana, Punjab, West Bengal and Himachal Pradesh  
C.Andhra Pradesh, Uttar Pradesh, Tripura, Meghalaya and Assam  
D.Haryana, Madhya Pradesh, Maharashtra, Nagaland and Karnataka

Answer D

Explanation
The project declared by Union atmosphere Minister Prakash Javadekar aims to develop and adopt best practices for the restoration process. It will also ensure the monitoring protocols for the Indian states and build capacity within the 5 pilot states, namely Haryana, Madhya Pradesh, Maharashtra, Nagaland and Karnataka on forest landscape restoration (FLR) and Bonn challenge.

77) The Conference of Parties-14 has been scheduled to happen in _________.

A. August 2019  
B. September 2019  
C. October 2019  
D. November 2019

**Answer B**

**Explanation** India is hosting the Conference of Parties (COP) 14 of the United Nations Convention Combat geologic process (UNCCD) from 2-13 September in Noida. It is expected that over 5,000 representatives from more than 197 will be participating in the two-week conference.

78) Who released the India child well being index 2019?

A. World Vision India  
B. NITI Aayog  
C. IFMR LEAD  
D. A and C

**Answer D**

**Explanation** World Vision India and IFMR LEAD released a report on the India child well-being index 2019 on 27 August. The report by the non-government organization and the research institute aimed to look at the India fairs on child well-being using a composite child well-being index.

79) Which of the following State topped the India child well being index 2019?

A. Kerala  
B. Assam  
C. Uttar Pradesh  
D. Maharashtra
**Answer A**

**Explanation** World Vision India and IFMR LEAD released a report on the India child well-being index 2019 on 27 August. In the Index states like Kerala, Tamil Nadu, Himachal Pradesh, and Puducherry topped the charts.

80) Which of the following State featured the bottom the India child well being index 2019?

A. Tamil Nadu  
B. Himachal Pradesh  
C. Odisha  
D. Meghalaya

**Answer D**

**Explanation** World Vision India and IFMR LEAD released a report on the India child well-being index 2019 on 27 August. In the Index states like Kerala, Tamil Nadu, Himachal Pradesh, and Puducherry topped the charts. States like Meghalaya, Jharkhand and Madhya Pradesh ranked bottom in the index.

81) What is the abbreviation of Fedor?

A. Final Experimental Demonstration Object Research  
B. Federation of Experimenting and Demonstrating Operational Research  
C. First Experimental Data of Research  
D. Finely Expedited Demonstrated Object of Research

**Answer A**

**Explanation** A humanoid machine named Fedor, Russias first robot in space arrived at the International Space Station (ISS) on 27 August. Final Experimental Demonstration Object Research (Fedor) is officially known as SkybotF850.

82) Who issues guidelines on Interest Subvention Scheme for Kisan Credit Card (KCC)?

A. Canara Bank  
B. Reserve bank of India
C. Dena bank
D. Yes Bank

**Answer B**

**Explanation** Reserve bank of India issues guidelines on Interest Subvention Scheme for Kisan Credit Card (KCC).

83) Fedor is officially known as ________.

A. SkybotF-2A
B. SkybotF-A
C. SkybotF850
D. SkybotF650

**Answer C**

**Explanation** A humanoid machine named Fedor, Russia’s first robot in space arrived at the International Space Station (ISS) on 27 August. Final Experimental Demonstration Object Research (Fedor) is officially known as SkybotF850.

84) Fedor resembles ________.

A. chatbox
B. human being
C. dolphin
D. pigeon

**Answer B**

**Explanation** The 180 cm and 160Kg Fedor flew to the ISS in an unmanned Soyuz MS-14 vehicle on 22 August. SkybotF850 is a humanoid bipedal robot, which means it resembles a human being and walks like one too.

85) Who became the first Flight Commander of a flying unit?

A. Bhawana Kanth
B. Avani Chaturvedi
C. Mohana Singh
D. S Dhami
Indian Air Force's (IAF) Wing Commander S Dhami the Flight Commander of a flying unit. She became the first female officer in the country to become the Flight Commander of a flying unit.

86) S Dhami took over as Flight Commander of a ________ unit at Hindon airbase.
   A. Dhruv helicopter
   B. Cheetah helicopter
   C. Chetak helicopter
   D. No. 104 Helicopter Squadron

   Answer C

   Explanation Indian Air Force's (IAF) Wing Commander S Dhami the Flight Commander of a flying unit. She became the first female officer in the country to become the Flight Commander of a flying unit. Dhami took over as Flight Commander of a Chetak helicopter unit at Hindon airbase.

87) The rank Flight Commander is the ________ in command of the flying unit.
   A. second
   B. third
   C. fourth
   D. first

   Answer A

   Explanation The rank Flight Commander is the second in command of the unit. Dhamini is a permanent commission officer of IAF's flying branch. She has been flying choppers. She is a Flight commander in IAF.

88) Who presides over 49th Foundation Day of BPRD as Chief Guest?
   A. Shri Amit Shah
   B. Shri Rajnath Singh
   C. Shri Prakash Javedakar
Shri Amit Shah presides over 49th Foundation Day of BPRD as Chief Guest.

89) Which union minister meets Australian Minister for Resources and Northern Australia, Senator Matthew Canavan?

A. Shri Rajesh Sharma  
B. Shri Sunil Kumar  
C. Shri Dharmendra Pradhan  
D. Shri Vikram Sharma

Answer C

Explanation Shri Dharmendra Pradhan meets Australian Minister for Resources and Northern Australia, Senator Matthew Canavan,

90) Which country Launches Worlds First Ever Facial Biometric Data Based Seafarer Identity Document?

A. Pakhsitan  
B. India  
C. Saudi Arabia  
D. Indonesia

Answer B

Explanation India country Launches Worlds First Ever Facial Biometric Data Based Seafarer Identity Document.

91) Who launches Integrated Online junction for School Education Shagun

A. Shri Suresh Prabhu  
B. Shri Ramesh Pokhriyal  
C. Shri Nitish Kumar  
D. Shri Vivek Sharma

Answer B
Explaination Union Minister Shri Ramesh Pokhriyal launches Integrated Online junction for School Education Shagun

92) Which IIT signs MoU with RD Grow Green India for safer drinking water

A. IIT Roorkee
B. IIT Guwahati
C. IIT Madras
D. IIT Pune

Answer B

Explanation IIT Guwahati signs MoU with RD Grow Green India for safer drinking water

93) Fintech startup based in Bangalore MoneyTap provides lifetime credit of up to ____________

A. 5 lakhs
B. 8 lakhs
C. 6 lakhs
D. 9 lakhs

Answer A

Explanation Fintech startup based in Bangalore MoneyTap provides lifetime credit of up to 5 lakhs.

94) Where was the Indo-Pacific Chiefs of Defence conference 2019 held?

A. Thailand
B. India
C. Dubai
D. Sri Lanka

Answer A

Explanation Indo Pacific 2019 Chiefs of Defence Conference was held in Thailand on 26 August. The conference was held during the 3 day-visit of Air Chief Marshal and Chairman Chiefs of employees Committee, Birender Singh Dhanoa to Thailand.
95) When was India-Thailand defence Cooperation initiated?

A.2000  
B.2003  
C.2018  
D.1990  

Answer B  

Explanation The India-Thailand defence Cooperation has been initiated in 2003. It started with seven primary areas of focus to strengthen cooperation between countries. The focus on primary areas was re-enforced in a joint statement issued throughout the Thai Prime Ministers official visit to India in January 2012. Both countries have the firm of diplomatic relations in 2017. India is the natural partner of Siam for regional cooperative security initiatives.

96) Who is the Minister of Consumer Affairs, Food, and Public Distribution?

A. Nirmala Seetharam  
B. Amit Shah  
C. Ram Vilas Paswan  
D. Smriti Irani  

Answer C  

Explanation Ram Vilas Paswan is an Indian politician from Bihar and the cabinet Minister of Consumer Affairs, Food, and Public Distribution.

97) Centre has prepared guidelines for the nationwide distribution of __________ through ration outlets.

A. Fortified wheat  
B. Fortified Rice  
C. Fortified Millets  
D. Fortified Pulses  

Answer B  

Explanation Centre has prepared an in-depth roadmap for the nationwide distribution of fortified rice through ration outlets. Food Minister Ram Vilas Paswan reviewed the progress of rice distribution with NITI Aayog vice-chairman Rajiv Kumar and officers to implement the
distribution of fortified rice.

98) **Under the scheme on the Fortification of Rice and its Distribution beneath the Public Distribution System, rice is to be fortified with ________.**

A. Iron  
B. Folacin  
C. Vitamin B-12  
D. All of the above  

**Answer D**

**Explanation** In February 2019, Centre had approved a center-sponsored pilot scheme on the Fortification of Rice and its Distribution beneath the Public Distribution System. Under the initial phase of the scheme, rice is fortified with Iron, folacin and victuals B-12.

99) **Who won the Tenzing Norgay National Adventure Award 2018 of category Land Adventure?**

A. Aparna Kumar  
B. Dipankar Ghosh  
C. Manikandan K  
D. All the above  

**Answer D**

**Explanation** The government has declared the Tenzing Norgay National Journey Awards 2018. The awards are conferred by President Ram Nath Kovind at the Rashtrapati Bhawan, New Delhi on 29 August. The award is given in four categories namely Land journey, Water journey, Air journey and Life Time accomplishment. For the land adventure the awardees are Aparna Kumar, Dipankar Ghosh, Manikandan K.

100) **Tenzing Norgay was _________ Sherpa mountaineer.**

A. Indo-Tibetan  
B. Indoa-Bhutan  
C. Nepali-Indian  
D. Tibetan-India
**Answer C**

**Explanation** Tenzing Norgay was a Nepali-Indian Sherpa mountaineer. Norgay and Edmund Hillary were the first two individuals known to reach the summit of Mount Everest on 29 May 1953. Indian government instituted the Tenzing Norgay National Adventure Awards to honour him.

101) Who is/are the first to reach the summit of Mount Everest on 29 May 1953?

A. Jerzy Kukuczka and Eric Kukuczka  
B. Tenzing Norgay & Edmund Hillary  
C. Bill Tilman & Heinrich Harrer  
D. John Hunt & Andre Roch

**Answer B**

**Explanation** Tenzing Norgay was a Nepali-Indian Sherpa mountaineer. He was one of the first two individuals known to reach the summit of Mount Everest, which he accomplished with Edmund Hillary on 29 May 1953.

102) When is the International Day against Nuclear Tests observed?

A. 22 June  
B. 9 September  
C. 29 August  
D. 18 July

**Answer C**

**Explanation** The International Day against Nuclear Tests is observed across the world on 29 August. The day aims to provoke the world organization, youth networks, and the media against nuclear testing. The day highlights the importance to ban nuclear tests as a valuable step towards achieving a safer world. Poisoned groundwater, cancer, leukemia, radioactive are caused by the toxic legacies of nuclear testing.

103) In which did the UN General Assembly (UNGA) declare 29th August as the International Day against Nuclear Tests?

A. 2009
B.2010
C.2015
D.1991

**Answer A**

**Explanation** UN General Assembly (UNGA) after its 64 sessions of the world organization meeting declared 29 August as International Day against Nuclear Tests. It unanimously adopted resolution 64/35 on Dec 2, 2009. The inaugural commemoration of the International Day against Nuclear Tests was marked in 2010.

**104) When was the first nuclear weapon tested in the world?**
A.1932
B.1935
C.1952
D.1945

**Answer D**

**Explanation** Nuclear weapons testing began on 16 July 1945. So far, nearly 2,000 test has taken place. The countries that have tested the nuclear weapons so far are USA, USR, UK, France, China, India, Pakistan, and North Korea.

**105) Research arm of Indian Railways analysis styles and Standards Organization (RDSO) is organizing a special Mega trafficker Meet in __________.**
A.Nepal
B.Lucknow
C.Delhi
D.Mumbai

**Answer B**

**Explanation** The Research arm of Indian Railways analysis styles and Standards Organization (RDSO) is organizing a special Mega trafficker Meet in Lucknow on 30th August. Industries across the country invited for this trafficker meet to encourage their participation in Indian Railways to offer chain development. No participation fee for attending the meet.
106) When was the Indo-Israel agriculture cooperation project launched?

A. 2008  
B. 2010  
C. 2019  
D. 1990

**Answer A**

**Explanation** The Indo-Israel agriculture cooperation project was launched in 2008. The implementing partners are Israel’s agency for international development cooperation and Indian state governments that facilitate discovered centers of excellence as per their native desires.

107) Who partners with Incuspace for coworking space for MSMEs?

A. BSE  
B. SIDBI  
C. SEBI  
D. NSE

**Answer B**

**Explanation** SIDBI Small Industries Development Bank of India (SIDBI) partnered with Incuspace Solutions Private Limited (Incuspace) to open a coworking space, designed for Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises (MSMEs) and startups.

108) Who ranked as the highest paid woman in music for the year 2019

A. Beyoncé  
B. Taylor Swift  
C. Katy Perry  
D. Ariana Grande

**Answer B**

**Explanation** Taylor Swift ranked as the highest paid woman in music for the year 2019.

109) Forbes ranks singer Taylor Swift as the highest paid woman in music for the year ________?
A. 2017  
B. 2018  
C. 2019  
D. 2016  

**Answer C**

**Explanation** Taylor Swift won Forbes magazine’s highest-paid woman in the music category for the year 2019 with earnings of $185 million (1,300 crore). Taylor is followed by pop singer Beyonce with earnings $81 million (579 crore) and singer Rihanna with $62 million at second and third place respectively.

110) Which company signed MoU with IIT Guwahati for safer drinking water?

A. Reliance Industries  
B. RD Grow Green India  
C. Ashok Leyland  
D. Larsen and Turbo Limited

**Answer B**

**Explanation** IIT Guwahati signs MoU with RD Grow Green India for safer drinking water.

111) Union Government mulling _______ funding to Northeast gas grid

A. Rs 9,600 crores  
B. Rs 5,400 crores  
C. Rs 6,500 crores  
D. Rs 8,600 crores

**Answer B**

**Explanation** Union Government mulling Rs 5,400 crores funding to Northeast gas grid.

112) RDSO organizes Mega trafficker Meet in _________?

A. Pune  
B. Lucknow
C.Bihar
D.Himachal Pradesh

**Answer B**

**Explanation** RDSO organizes Mega trafficker Meet in Lucknow

113) **Where is the headquarters of Fintech Company?**

A.Bihar  
B.Chennai  
C.Hyderabad  
D.Mumbai

**Answer B**

**Explanation** The headquarters of Fintech Company is Chennai.

114) **Where is the headquarters of MoneyTap?**

A.Chennai  
B.Bengaluru  
C.Pune  
D.Patna

**Answer B**

**Explanation** The headquarters of Money tap is Bengaluru

115) **Who was launching a new scheme Indian Cyber Crime Coordination Centre (I4C) to combat cybercrime in the country?**

A.Ministry of Home affairs  
B.Ministry of Communications and IT  
C.Ministry of Technical Security  
D.Ministry of Science and Research

**Answer A**

**Explanation** The Ministry of Home Affairs launching a new scheme Indian Cyber Crime
Coordination Centre (I4C) to combat cybercrime in the country.

116) Where was the twelfth India Security Summit held?

A. Lucknow  
B. Jaipur  
C. New Delhi  
D. Mumbai

**Answer C**

**Explanation** The 12th India Security Summit was held in New Delhi on 29 August. The summit focused on several problems including the protection of important national infrastructure, rising cyber threats like incidents, challenges and responsibilities.

117) What is the theme of the twelfth India Security Summit?

A. Protecting identity of an entity  
B. New National Cyber Security Strategy  
C. Phising under Security  
D. Good security increases shareholder value

**Answer B**

**Explanation** The 12th India Security Summit was held in New Delhi on 29 August. The theme of the summit is New National Cyber Security Strategy. The summit focused on several problems including the protection of important national infrastructure, rising cyber threats like incidents, challenges and responsibilities.

118) What is the name of the mobile app developed by Five Indian women that connect kids at orphanages with old-age homes?

A. Jai shovan  
B. Prathan Ladki  
C. Connect the world  
D. Maitri

**Answer D**

**Explanation** Five Indian women have developed a mobile app named Maitri. The app connects
kids at orphanages with old-age homes. The app was developed for the people affected by loneliness, depression. The app permits users to volunteer and present to old-age homes and orphanages.

119) ________ is the world's largest technology and entrepreneurship program for ladies to run across more than 100 countries.

A. Innovative Technology and Creativity
B. Technovation Challenge
C. RADOX for women
D. Women Entrepreneur Challenge

Answer B

Explanation The Technovation Challenge is the world's largest technology and entrepreneurship program for ladies to run across more than 100 countries. It was supported by Salesforce.org, Google.org, the Adobe Foundation, Uber, Samsung, BNY Mellon.

120) DoT allocates __________ additional dedicated frequencies for running Community Radio

A. 2
B. 4
C. 3
D. 5

Answer A

Explanation DoT allocates two additional dedicated frequencies for running Community Radio.

121) Prime Minister Narendra Modi to present Yoga Awards and release ______ AYUSH Commemorative Postal Stamps

A. 13
B. 12
C. 15
D. 16

Answer B
Prime Minister Narendra Modi to present Yoga Awards and release 12 AYUSH Commemorative Postal Stamps

122) Which state 150-year-old Dindigul locks and Kandangi sarees secure GI tag?
A. Kerala
B. Odisha
C. Tamil Nadu
D. Andhra Pradesh

Answer C

Tamil Nadu 150-year-old Dindigul locks and Kandangi sarees secure GI tag

123) Who won gold in women's 400m held at MJS athletics Czech Republic?
A. Dipika Pallikal Karthik
B. V K Vismaya
C. Sakshi Malik
D. Jwala Gutta

Answer B

V K Vismaya won gold in women's 400m held at MJS athletics Czech Republic

124) Indian railways to go 100 percent electrified in ____________?
A. 32 years
B. 10 years
C. 15 years
D. 26 years

Answer B

Indian railways to go 100 percent electrified in 10 years.

125) India and ____________ organize training programme on EXIM Bank's guidelines
A. Pakistan
B. Nepal
C. Indonesia
D. Saudi Arabia

**Answer B**

**Explanation** India and Nepal organize training programme on EXIM Bank’s guidelines.

**126) Which state gears up security in view of publication of final NRC list?**

A. Tamil Nadu
B. Assam
C. Kerala
D. West Bengal

**Answer B**

**Explanation** Assam govt gears up security in view of publication of final NRC list.

**127) Centre released Rs.47,000 crore for compensatory afforestation in ______ states**

A. 45
B. 38
C. 27
D. 36

**Answer C**

**Explanation** Centre released Rs.47,000 crore for compensatory afforestation in 27 states.

**128) V K Vismaya won gold in women’s ______ held at MJS athletics Czech Republic**

A. 560 m
B. 400 m
C. 200 m
D. 350 m
Answer B

Explanation V K Vismaya won gold in women's 400m held at MJS athletics Czech Republic.

129) Who to present Yoga Awards and release 12 AYUSH Commemorative Postal Stamps?

A. Shri Rajnath Singh
B. Shri Narendra Modi
C. Shri Vikram Sharma
D. Shri Dinesh Karthick

Answer B

Explanation Shri Narendra Modi to present Yoga Awards and release 12 AYUSH Commemorative Postal Stamps.

130) Peacock Parachute Spider was sighted in ____________

A. Andhra Pradesh
B. Tamil Nadu
C. Kerala
D. West Bengal

Answer B

Explanation Peacock Parachute Spider was sighted in Tamil Nadu.

131) India First Sky Cycling Park At a Height of ______Feet In Manali to Open Soon

A. 6500
B. 9000
C. 8500
D. 7800

Answer B

Explanation India First Sky Cycling Park At a Height of 9000 Feet In Manali to Open Soon.
132) India First Sky Cycling Park At a Height of __________ Feet In Manali to Open Soon

A. 6900
B. 9000
C. 6800
D. 8500

Answer B

Explanation India First Sky Cycling Park At a Height of 9000 Feet In Manali to Open Soon

133) How many states received a fund for offsetting conversion inexperienced activities with a bar of fire, diversity management, and conservation works?

A. 23
B. 24
C. 26
D. 27

Answer D

Explanation The Environment Ministry released over Rs.47,000 crore to 27 states for offsetting conversion inexperienced activities with a bar of fire, diversity management, and conservation.

134) The Environment Ministry released __________ to 27 states for compensatory afforestation.

A. Rs.30,000 crore
B. Rs.24,000 crore
C. Rs.47,000 crore
D. Rs.18,000 crore

Answer C

Explanation The Environment Ministry released over Rs.47,000 crore to 27 states for offsetting conversion inexperienced activities with a bar of fire, diversity management, and conservation.

135) How much did the Cabinet Committee on Economic Affairs approve to
sugar mills for the sugar season 2019-20?

A. Rs.10,448 crore  
B. Rs.13,000 crore  
C. Rs.32,456 crore  
D. Rs.24,456 crore

**Answer A**

**Explanation** The Cabinet Committee on Economic Affairs has given its approval for a payment export grant of Rs.10,448 per metric tonne to sugar mills for the sugar season 2019-20.

136) Who launched the nation-wide Fit India Movement?

A. President  
B. Prime minister  
C. Governor of J&K  
D. Minister of Youth and Sports Affairs

**Answer B**

**Explanation** Prime Minister Narendra Modi launched the nation-wide Fit India Movement appealed to each subject to stay healthy and work.

137) Where was the nation-wide Fit India Movement by Prime Minister Narendra Modi launched?

A. New Delhi  
B. Mumbai  
C. Jaipur  
D. Hyderabad

**Answer A**

**Explanation** Prime Minister Narendra Modi launched the nation-wide Fit India Movement on the National Sports day, 29 August. The event was launched at the Indira Gandhi Stadium in New Delhi.

138) Which species was discovered by researchers in the Pakkamalai Reserve
Forests?

A. Peacock Parachute Spider  
B. Pulikulam Cattle  
C. Cnemasspis Kolhapurensis  
D. Bugun Liocichla

**Answer A**

**Explanation** The researchers discovered the Peacock Parachute Spider or Gooty Tarantula was noticed in the Pakkamalai Reserve Forests close to Villupuram district. The species was later cross-matched with photographic proof printed by the installation reaching Organisation and life data Liaison Development Society.

139) Where did the researchers discover the Peacock Parachute Spider or Gooty Tarantula in Tamilnadu recently?

A. Villupuram  
B. Ooty  
C. Coimbatore  
D. Theni

**Answer A**

**Explanation** Researchers of the Puducherry-based Indigenous Biodiversity Foundation (IBF) discovered a Peacock Parachute Spider or Gooty Tarantula in the Pakkamalai Reserve Forests close to Villupuram district, Tamil Nadu.

140) Poecilotheria Metallica is commonly known as ________.

A. Huntsman spider  
B. Orb-weaver spiders  
C. Atypical tarantula  
D. Peacock Parachute Spider

**Answer D**

**Explanation** The Scientific name of Peacock Parachute spider is Poecilotheria Metallica. It is commonly known with the name Peacock Parachute Spider or Gooty Tarantula.
141) Centre plans to achieve ________ electrification of railways in the next 10 years.
A.80%
B.100%
C.78%
D.64%

Answer B

Explanation Centre plans to achieve 100% electrification of railways in the next 10 years. The announcement was made by the Union Minister Piyush Goyal at the CII's 14th Sustainability Summit held in New Delhi on 28-29 August 2019.

142) Where was the CII's 14th Sustainability Summit held?
A.Kolkata
B.West Bengal
C.New Delhi
D.Chennai

Answer C

Explanation Centre plans to achieve 100% electrification of railways in the next 10 years. The announcement was made by the Union Minister Piyush Goyal at the CII's 14th Sustainability Summit held in New Delhi on 28-29 August 2019.

143) Indian Navy signed MoU with India Meteorological Department (IMD) to handle the __________ building.
A.Air Pollution Monitoring Device
B.Cyclone Detection radar
C.Flood Detecting and Sensing Device
D.None of these

Answer B

Explanation Indian Navy (IN) signed a Memorandum of understanding (MoU) with India Meteorological Department (IMD) at naval Base in Kochi, Kerala. The MoU aims to handle the Cyclone Detection radar (CDR) building by IMD to the IN.
144) Where is the India Meteorological Department's (IMD) Cyclone Detection radar (CDR) building, that is to be handed over to the Indian Navy, located?

A. Visakhapatnam  
B. Kolkata  
C. Mumbai  
D. Kochi

Answer D

Explanation Indian Navy (IN) signed a Memorandum of understanding (MoU) with India Meteorological Department (IMD) at naval Base in Kochi, Kerala. The MoU aims to handle the Cyclone Detection radar (CDR) building by IMD to the IN.

145) When is the National Sports Day 2019 observed?

A. 15 August  
B. 12 August  
C. 29 August  
D. 1 August

Answer C

Explanation The National Sports Day is celebrated nation-wide on 29 August 2019. The Day is celebrated to mark the birth anniversary of hockey legend Major Dhyan Chand.

146) National Sports Day 2019 marked the _________ birth anniversary of Major Dhyan Chand.

A. 110th  
B. 114th  
C. 124th  
D. 137th

Answer B

Explanation The National Sports Day is celebrated nation-wide on 29 August 2019. The Day is celebrated to mark the birth anniversary of hockey legend Major Dhyan Chand. 2019 National Sports Day marked the 114th birth anniversary of Major Dhyan Chand.
147) Who was popularly known as the Wizard of Indian Hockey and India's greatest hockey player ever?

A. Dhyan Chand  
B. Balbir Singh  
C. Dhanraj Pillay  
D. Roop Singh

Answer A

Explanation Dhyan Chand is popularly known as the Wizard of Indian Hockey. He secured over 400 goals in 22 years during the period 1926 to 1948. He is regarded as India's greatest hockey player ever. Under his leadership, the Indian Hockey team achieved several victories. He led India into 3 Olympic gold medals in 1928, 1932 and 1936.

148) Who became the first Indian woman para-athlete to win the Rajiv Gandhi Khel Ratna Award in the Para-Athletics category?

A. Bhamidipati Sai Praneeth  
B. Harmeet Rajul Desai  
C. Deepa Malik  
D. Swapna Burman

Answer C

Explanation Paralympic silver-medallist Deepa Malik became the first Indian woman para-athlete and the oldest to be conferred the Rajiv Gandhi Khel Ratna award 2019.

149) When is the International Day of the Victims of Enforced Disappearances observed?

A. 25 August  
B. 26 August  
C. 29 August  
D. 30 August

Answer D

Explanation The International Day of the Victims of Enforced Disappearances is observed on 30 August every year. The Day was established by the international organization General Assembly
150) When was the International Day of the Victims of Enforced Disappearances observed for the first time?

A.1989
B.1991
C.2008
D.2011

**Answer D**

**Explanation** The International Day of the Victims of Enforced Disappearances is observed on 30 August every year. The UN General Assembly (UNGA) passed a resolution because of its concern to the increased enforced or involuntary disappearances in various regions of the world. The Assembly adopted the International Convention for the Protection of All Persons from Enforced Disappearance. It then decided to declare 30 August the International Day of the Victims of Enforced Disappearances. The day was first observed in 2011.

151) How many nominations received for Padma Awards-2020 process open till 15th September?

A.38,000
B.18,000
C.25,000
D.32,000

**Answer C**

**Explanation** Around 25,000 nominations received for Padma Awards-2020 process open till 15th September

152) Who visits Russia to Strengthen Cooperation in Energy and Steel Sectors?

A. Shri Suresh Prabhu
B. Shri Dharmendra Pradhan
C. Shri Vikram Sharma
D. Shri Ramesh Kumar
Answer B

Explanation Shri Dharmendra Pradhan visits Russia to Strengthen Cooperation in Energy and Steel Sectors.

153) Which city ranks 45th in 2019 Worlds Safe Cities Index

A. Mumbai  
B. Chennai  
C. Bangalore  
D. New Delhi

Answer A

Explanation Mumbai ranked as the 45th safest city on the Safe Cities Index (SCI). Delhi got at the 52nd position. The report was released by the Economist Intelligence Unit.

154) Which rank did Delhi obtained in the Worlds Safe Cities Index?

A. 65  
B. 52  
C. 48  
D. 96

Answer B

Explanation Delhi got at the 52nd position. The report was released by the Economist Intelligence Unit.

155) Final NRC of _____ to be published

A. Assam  
B. Tamil Nadu  
C. Kerala  
D. West Bengal

Answer A

Explanation The final National Register of Citizens, NRC of Assam published. The state government made necessary arrangements to provide free legal aid to those whose names do not
figure in the final NRC.

156) Union Government appoints _______ pvt sector experts as joint secretaries

A.eight  
B.nine  
C.seven  
D.three  

Answer B  

Explanation The Union government appointed nine private sector specialists in various fields as joint secretaries in various ministries under its lateral recruitment policy.

157) Which company appoints GE Healthcare official Aditya Pande as its new CFO?

A.Spice Jet  
B.IndiGo  
C.AirAsia  
D.Jet Airways  

Answer B  

Explanation IndiGo company appoints GE Healthcare official Aditya Pande as its new CFO.

158) Which company inks with Mastercard RBL Bank for mobile payments through Samsung Pay

A.Apple  
B.Samsung  
C.Verizon  
D.Microsoft  

Answer B  

Explanation Samsung India inks with Mastercard RBL Bank for mobile payments through Samsung Pay.
159) MHA Shah flags off India's first battery-operated bus in ____________?

A. New Delhi  
B. Ahmedabad  
C. Chennai  
D. Pune  

**Answer A**

**Explanation** MHA Shah flags off India's first battery-operated bus in Ahmedabad.

160) Union cabinet approves establishment of __________ new medical colleges

A. 84  
B. 75  
C. 98  
D. 68  

**Answer B**

**Explanation** Union cabinet approves establishment of 75 new medical colleges.

161) Which state signs three agreements for healthcare collaborations in UK

A. Andhra pradesh  
B. Bihar  
C. Tamil Nadu  
D. Kerala  

**Answer C**

**Explanation** Tamil Nadu signs three agreements for healthcare collaborations in UK.

162) Tamil Nadu signs ________ agreements for healthcare collaborations in UK

A. Seven  
B. Three
C.Five
D.Eight

**Answer B**

**Explanation** TamilNadu signs three agreements for healthcare collaborations in UK

163) Where is the headquarters of the ICRA?

A.Pune
B.Gurgaon
C.Chennai
D.Bangalore

**Answer B**

**Explanation** The headquarters of ICRA is Gurgaon.

164) Texas gears up for the mega Howdy Modi event with ____________ people

A.80,000
B.50,000
C.65,000
D.75,000

**Answer B**

**Explanation** Texas gears up for the mega Howdy Modi event with 50,000 people

165) Central TB Division of the Ministry of Health & Family Welfare signed an MoU with _________ for Artificial Intelligence to combat TB.

A.Wadhwani Institute
B.University of Hyderabad
C.AlphaSense Institute
D.Narrative Science Institute

**Answer A**
The Central TB (Tuberculosis) Division of the Ministry of Health & Family Welfare has signed an MoU with Wadhwani Institute for Artificial Intelligence, Mumbai. It aims to explore the appliance of the newest computing technology in its fight against TB.

166) Which organ will be affected by the microorganism that causes Tuberculosis?

A. Liver
B. Lungs
C. Heart
D. Kidney

Answer B

The microorganism that causes TB affects the lungs and has severe coughs or sneezes. The symptoms like cough, sometimes with blood-tinged, weight loss, night sweats, and fever. Patients with active symptoms would require a protracted course of treatment involving multiple antibiotics.

167) Who signed MOU with Government e-Marketplace (GeM), Department of Commerce and Ministry of Commerce and trade to enable the growth of MSMEs?

A. National Stock Exchange of India
B. Gulf Industries
C. Small Industries Development Bank of India
D. International Stock Exchange

Answer C

Government e-Marketplace (GeM), Department of Commerce, Ministry of Commerce and trade has signed an MoU with Small Industries Development Bank of India (SIDBI). It aims to benefit Ministry of Micro, Small & Medium Enterprises (MSMEs), ladies entrepreneurs, Self facilitate teams (SHGs), ladies Self facilitate teams and varied loan beneficiaries under MUDRA and Stand-up schemes. The MoU was signed in Delhi.

168) Which of the following are the special initiatives of SIDBI?

A. MUDRA
B. Womaniya
GeM's special initiatives are Womaniya and Start-up Runway. These initiatives will be promoted by MoU signed between Government e-Marketplace (GeM), Department of Commerce, Ministry of Commerce and trade and Small Industries Development Bank of India (SIDBI).

169) Which country is to launch SPACECOM, a Space Command to defend Space interests?

A. US  
B. UK  
C. Russia  
D. India

Answer A  

Explanation US President Donald Trump launched the space Command to defend America's interests in the next war-fighting domain. The US is to unveil the new Space Command called as SPACECOM.

170) US is to launch ________ branch of US Space Command to defend Space interests.

A. 2nd  
B. 4th  
C. 5th  
D. 6th

Answer D  

Explanation US President Donald Trump launched the space Command to defend America's interests in the next war-fighting domain. The US is to unveil the new Space Command called as SPACECOM. It will be the US's sixth branch of the military, U.S. Space Force, for space defense.

171) US is to launch sixth branch of the military, U.S. Space Force, for space
defence as its suspects threat from _______.

A. China, Russia  
B. N. Korea, S.Korea  
C. China, N.Korea  
D. Iran, N.Korea  

Answer A

Explanation US President Donald Trump launched the space Command to defend America's interests in the next war-fighting domain. The US is to unveil the new Space Command called as SPACECOM. It will be the US's sixth branch of the military, U.S. Space Force, for space defense. The Trump administration has known that Russia and China will cause a threat to the US. To challenge them, the USA has announced its new space command SPACECOM.

172) One lunar day is equal to _______ days.

A. 12  
B. 14  
C. 16  
D. 24  

Answer B

Explanation One Lunar day is equal to 14 Earth days.

173) Which State has approved free rides for women in Delhi Transport Corporation (DTC)?

A. West Bengal  
B. Telangana  
C. Delhi  
D. Maharashtra  

Answer C

Explanation The Delhi Cabinet has approved free rides for women on Delhi Transport Corporation (DTC) buses as well as its cluster buses. The proposal was approved by the cabinet at the Delhi Secretariat.
174) From when the Delhi women can take free rides in Delhi Transport Corporation (DTC)?

A.1 September  
B.15 September  
C.2 October  
D.29 October  

**Answer D**

**Explanation** The Delhi Cabinet has approved free rides for women on Delhi Transport Corporation (DTC) buses as well as its cluster buses from October 29. The proposal was approved by the cabinet at the Delhi Secretariat.

175) How much did the Delhi State government allocate for the free ride scheme for women in metro and DTC buses?

A.Rs.200 crore  
B.Rs.290 crore  
C.Rs.320 crore  
D.Rs.380 crore  

**Answer B**

**Explanation** The Delhi Cabinet has approved free rides for women on Delhi Transport Corporation (DTC) buses as well as its cluster buses from October 29. The proposal was approved by the cabinet at the Delhi Secretariat. On August 26, Aam Aadmi Party (AAP) leader Manish Sisodia presented a sum of Rs.290 crore in the Legislative Assembly for the 'free ride' scheme for women in metro and DTC buses.

176) In which of the Air India subsidiaries usage of single-use plastic has been banned from October 2?

A.Air Jet  
B.Air India Express  
C.Alliance Air  
D.2 and 3  

**Answer D**
**Explanation** Air India has banned the usage of single-use plastic on the flight of its subsidiaries from October 2, 2019. The subsidiaries of Air India are Air India Express and Alliance Air. Also, Air India has announced that in its second phase, the single-use plastic will be banned in all Air India flights.

177) **Which airlines has banned the usage of single-use plastic on the flight of its subsidiaries?**

A. Jet airways  
B. IndiGo  
C. Spice Jet  
D. Air India

**Answer D**

**Explanation** Air India has banned the usage of single-use plastic on the flight of its subsidiaries from October 2, 2019. The subsidiaries of Air India are Air India Express and Alliance Air. Also, Air India has announced that in its second phase, the single-use plastic will be banned in all Air India flights.

178) **Who won gold in the World Skills competition 2019 for the first time for India?**

A. Pranav Nutralapati  
B. Aswatha Narayana  
C. Sanjoy Pramanik  
D. Shweta Ratanpura

**Answer B**

**Explanation** Aswatha Narayana bagged a gold medal in the World Skills competition 2019 in Kazan, Russia. The event was held from 23-27 August. He won by beating 9 other competitors in the event. Along with him Lufeng Zeng from China also won Gold. He set a record by winning the title as this is the first time that an Indian contingent was participating in the tournament.

179) **Where was the World Skills competition 2019 held?**

A. Kazan, Russia  
B. Rome, Italy  
C. New Delhi, India
Aswatha Narayana bagged a gold medal in the World Skills competition 2019 in Kazan, Russia. The event was held from 23-27 August. He won by beating 9 other competitors in the event.

**Answer A**

**Explanation** Aswatha Narayana bagged a gold medal in the World Skills competition 2019 in Kazan, Russia. The event was held from 23-27 August. He won by beating 9 other competitors in the event.

180) Pakistan testfired nuclear-capable surface-to-surface ballistic missile named _________.

A. Shaheen 2  
B. Ghauri  
C. Ghaznavi  
D. Ra'ad

**Answer C**

**Explanation** Pakistan has successfully test-fired nuclear-capable surface-to-surface ballistic missile Ghaznavi from Sonmiani test range near Karachi located in Balochistan. It will be placed under the medium-range ballistic missiles. During the test, Ghaznavi was tracked by the National Development Complex (NDC) ground control station. It is located at a 220 km distance from the test range.

181) What is the range of the ballistic missile Ghaznavi?

A. 220  
B. 290  
C. 300  
D. 360

**Answer B**

**Explanation** Pakistan has successfully test-fired nuclear-capable surface-to-surface ballistic missile Ghaznavi from Sonmiani test range near Karachi located in Balochistan. The missile was built with a capability to deliver different types of warheads including nuclear and conventional up to a range of 290 km. It will be placed under the medium-range ballistic missiles.

182) Who test fired ballistic missile Ghaznavi?
183) Which country did Shri Dharmendra Pradhan visited to Strengthen Cooperation in Energy and Steel Sectors

A. Saudi Arabia
B. Pakistan
C. Russia
D. Indonesia

**Answer C**

**Explanation** Shri Dharmendra Pradhan visits Russia to Strengthen Cooperation in Energy and Steel Sectors

184) Which Cabinet approves free rides for women in DTC from 29 October?

A. Kerala
B. Delhi
C. Tamil Nadu
D. Bihar

**Answer B**

**Explanation** Delhi Cabinet approves free rides for women in DTC from 29 October

185) US to launch ________ of US Space Command to defend Space interests

A. 9th branch
B. 5th branch
C. 6th branch
D. 8th branch
US to launch 6th branch of US Space Command to defend Space interests.

186) Aswatha Narayana won _________ in the World Skills competition

A. Silver  
B. Gold  
C. Bronze  
D. None of these

Answer B

Explanation: Aswatha Narayana won gold in the World Skills competition.

187) ________ has announced that all airports in the country will be equipped with body scanners in the next two years.

A. Bureau of Civil Aviation Security (BCAS)  
B. Airports Authority of India (AAI)  
C. National Aviation Authority (NAA)  
D. None of these

Answer A

Explanation: Bureau of Civil Aviation Security (BCAS) has announced that all airports in the country will be equipped with body scanners in the next two years. BCAS has made it mandatory to equip all airports with body scanners.

188) Who is the head of the Bureau of Civil Aviation Security (BCAS)?

A. Anuj Agarwal  
B. Arun Kumar  
C. Kumar Rajesh Chandra  
D. Tuktuk Ghosh

Answer C

Explanation: The BCAS is the regulatory authority for civil aviation security in India. It is headquartered at New Delhi. It was founded in 1978 and re-established in 1987. It develops
standardized security screening procedures for all airports in the country. The head of BCAS is Kumar Rajesh Chandra.

**189) Which State banned 12 brands of pan masala for a period of one year?**

A. Uttar Pradesh  
B. West Bengal  
C. Bihar  
D. Odisha  

**Answer C**

**Explanation** Bihar state government has banned 12 brands of pan masala containing magnesium carbonate for a period of one year. In the notice issued, it said that the manufacture, storage, distribution, transportation or sale of pan masala containing magnesium carbonate has been banned in Bihar.

**190) The presence of ________ in pan masala causes heart disease in the people.**

A. magnesium carbonate  
B. potassium carbonate  
C. magnesium sulphide  
D. manganese sulphide  

**Answer A**

**Explanation** According to the research of the food and safety department, magnesium carbonate causes heart disease in the people. It then directed the state to ban pan masala containing magnesium carbonate.

**191) After the merger of 10 public sector banks to be merged into four banks, how many public sector banks will be there in India?**

A. 21  
B. 27  
C. 12  
D. 10
The government announced that the four major bank mergers. The merger of 10 public sector banks to be merged into four was announced by Finance Minister Nirmala Sitharaman. After the merger, there will now be 12 public sector banks after the latest round of consolidation of PSU banks.

192) **Government has announced the merger of _________ national banks into _____ major banks.**

A. 8,5  
B. 12,6  
C. 10,4  
D. 4,3

**Answer C**

**Explanation** The government announced that the four major bank mergers. The merger of 10 public sector banks to be merged into four was announced by Finance Minister Nirmala Sitharaman.

193) **Centre plans to set up _________ Ayush centres across India.**

A. 4000  
B. 8600  
C. 15000  
D. 12500

**Answer D**

**Explanation** The Central government has set a target of setting up 12,500 Ayush centres across India. The announcement was made by Prime Minster Narendra Modi at the Yoga award Ceremeony held in New Delhi. He also said that the Centre will open 1.5 lakh health, wellness centres.

194) **Which State has passed the anti lynching Bill?**

A. Himachal Pradesh  
B. Uttar Pradesh  
C. Gujarat
D. West Bengal

**Answer D**

**Explanation** The West Bengal State Assembly passed West Bengal (Prevention of Lynching) Bill, 2019. The Bill aims to prevent and punish mob assaults and lynching. The state government mentioned that the Bill was passed as the Centre has failed to take the initiative.

195) Centre to set up ___________ Ayush centres across India

A. 19,500  
B. 12,500  
C. 16,500  
D. 18,500

**Answer B**

**Explanation** Centre to set up 12,500 Ayush centres across India.

196) TamilNadu signs three agreements for healthcare collaborations in ____________?

A. Iran  
B. Indonesia  
C. Pakistan  
D. UK

**Answer D**

**Explanation** TamilNadu signs three agreements for healthcare collaborations in UK

197) Where is the headquarters of IndiGo?

A. Chennai  
B. Gurugram  
C. Pune  
D. Hyderabad

**Answer B**
Explanation The headquarters of IndiGo is Gurugram.

198) Samsung India inks with Mastercard _________ for mobile payments through Samsung Pay

A. Dena bank
B. RBL Bank
C. Yes bank
D. Canara Bank

Answer B

Explanation Samsung India inks with Mastercard RBL Bank for mobile payments through Samsung Pay

199) Bihar bans _______ brands of pan masala

A. 18
B. 12
C. 15
D. 16

Answer B

Explanation Bihar bans 12 brands of pan masala
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