

Important Current Affairs - July 4th Week 2018 22nd July - 29th July, 2018

INTERNATIONAL AFFAIRS:

Imran Khan announced his victory in Pakistan's Parliamentary election:

- In Pakistan's Parliamentary election, cricket star **Imran Khan's Pakistan Tehreek-e-Insaf party (PTI)** won by a majority of **115 seats** but needs allies to form govt.
- Shehbaz Sharif's Pakistan Muslim League-Nawaz (PML-N) won 64 seats.
- Pakistan Peoples Party (PPP) won 43 seats.
- Women in **Dir** district in the northwest province of Khyber Pakhtunkhwa, came out to vote for the first time in the country's history. Female voters constitute **44.1** percent of the total eligible voters across Pakistan. In previous elections, women were not allowed voting rights.
- **Quick Review on Pakistani general election, 2018:-**
 - ◆ General elections were held in Pakistan on **25 July 2018** to elect the members of the **15th** National Assembly and to the four Provincial Assemblies of Pakistan.
 - ◆ More than 20 people were killed in a suicide bomb blast near a polling station in **Quetta**.
 - ◆ **Important Contesting parties are:**
 - ▶ Pakistan Muslim League (PML (N)) - Leader:- Shehbaz Sharif

- ▶ Pakistan Peoples Party (PPP) - Leader:- Bilawal Bhutto Zardari
- ▶ Pakistan Tehreek-e-Insaf (PTI) - Leader:- Imran Khan

Bargiel became the first person to ski down the world's 2nd highest mountain:

- Poland's **Andrzej Bargiel** became the first person to ski down the world's second-highest mountain, the 8,611-metre high **K2** peak in Pakistan.
- K2 also known as "Savage Mountain" is considered to be a more challenging climb than the world's highest peak, Mount Everest.

Japan passed law to legalise casino gambling:

- Japan's parliament has passed the **Integrated Resort (IR)** bill which will lead to the opening of the country's first legal casino. As per the bill, the casinos will be restricted to **three** locations in the initial phase.
- Amid concerns about gambling addiction, the law limits Japanese citizens to three casino visits per week and 10 per month, and charged admission of **6000 yen**(\$53.4) per day.
- Japan Prime Minister - Shinzo Abe.
- Name of the Parliament of Japan - Diet.

New Zealand demands Australia to change its flag:

- As the Flag of New Zealand looks similar to that of Australia, Acting New Zealand PM **Winston Peters** is demanding Australia to change their flag.
- Notably, the New Zealand flag was adopted 52 years before the Australian flag and was adopted in **1902**, replacing the union jack.

The **Australian flag** was adopted in **1954**, after going through three previous iterations since 1901.

- Both the Australian and New Zealand flags are based on the British blue ensign.

Cricket Curry festival organised in Japan to promote cricket:

- International cricket's governing body, ICC, organised the '**Sano Cricket Curry Festival**' in the Japanese city of Sano to promote cricket in the nation.
- A cricket match between the Japanese cricket team and an Indian team was held at the event.
- The festival also featured cultural events and food from cricket-playing nations like Bangladesh, India, Pakistan, Nepal and Sri Lanka.

NATIONAL AFFAIRS:

West Bengal passes resolution to change name of state to 'Bangla':

- The ruling Trinamool Congress government placed a proposal in the state assembly to change the name of **West Bengal** to "**Bangla**" in all languages.
- The proposal will now be sent to the Home Ministry for approval, and the name of the state will be changed only if the Ministry approves it.
- On August 29, **2016**, the state Assembly had passed a resolution to change the name of West Bengal to '**Bengal**' in English, '**Bangla**' in Bengali and '**Bangal**' in Hindi. The Union ministry of home

affairs rejected the proposal saying that a state cannot have three different names in three different languages.

Public Affairs Index 2018: Kerala Best Governed State, Bihar Worst:

- According to the Public Affairs Index 2018, **Kerala** is the **best-governed** state in the country.
- As per the report, Tamil Nadu, Telangana, Karnataka and Gujarat are among the top five states delivering good governance.
- Bihar, Jharkhand, Madhya Pradesh, Uttar Pradesh and Odisha ranked the lowest on the index, indicating higher social and economic inequalities.
- Among smaller states with the population less than two crores, **Himachal Pradesh topped** the list of states with good governance, followed by Goa, Mizoram, Sikkim and Tripura.
- **Meghalaya** performed the **worst** in this list.

Karnataka became India's Top State in producing Renewable Energy:

- According to the report of 'The Institute For Energy Economics and Financial Analysis' (IEEFA), **Karnataka** has emerged as the leading state for generating renewable energy in India this year, with a total installed capacity of **12.3 gigawatts (GW)**, as of March 2018.
- **Tamil Nadu** ranks **second** in producing Renewable Energy.
- The **world's largest** solar park was set up at an investment of Rs 16,500 crore at **Pavagada** in Karnataka's Tumakuru district. This 2,000 MW park is named as '**Shakti Sthala**'.

Iran becomes India's second largest oil supplier:

- **Iran** has overtaken **Saudi Arabia** to be the second largest supplier of crude oil to Indian public sector firms during April-June quarter.
- **Iraq** remains India's No:1 supplier of crude.
- State firms that buy oil from Iran include Mangalore Refinery and Petrochemicals Ltd (MRPL), Indian Oil Corp (IOC) and Hindustan Petroleum Corp Ltd (HPCL).
- New Delhi shipped in **7.27 million tonnes** of oil from Iraq, while shipments from Saudi Arabia totalled 5.22 million tonnes.

Museum for all Indian Prime Ministers to be built at Nehru's former residence:

- A museum dedicated to all former and future Prime Ministers will be built at **Delhi's Teen Murti Bhavan**, which served as Jawaharlal Nehru's official residence as PM until his death in office.
- The decision was taken amidst opposition from Congress leaders who claimed it would dilute Nehru's legacy.

Chief Minister Yogi became first-ever CM to visit all 75 UP districts in 16 months:

- Uttar Pradesh Chief Minister **Yogi Adityanath** has visited all **75 districts** of the state in just **16 months**.
- He created a record on July 23 during his Hathras visit by becoming the first-ever CM to cover the entire state within first 16 months of his rule.
- At Hathras he laid the foundation stone of 34 development and welfare schemes worth Rs 155 crore.

Sitamarhi becomes 1st ODF district in Bihar:

- Under **Swachh Bharat Abhiyan**, Construction of over two lakh toilets in the last two months ensured that **Sitamarhi** became the first **open defecation free** (ODF) district in **Bihar**. Sitamarhi became the **416th** ODF district in India.
- The district administration disbursed Rs 12,000 per toilet to 50,000 beneficiary households on July 21.
- Presently, Bihar needs to construct another 6 lakh toilets across its 37 remaining districts.
- Bihar Chief Minister - Nitish Kumar.

National Sports Day has been postponed to September 25, 2018:

- Every year, the National Sports Day is traditionally celebrated on **August 29**.
- Since the Asian Games are scheduled from August 18 - September 2, the ministry has decided to postpone the event this year.
- It has been announced that the outstanding performance of players at the Asian games could be considered for the National Sports Awards.

Atal Innovation Mission, NITI Aayog & MyGov Launches 'Innovate India Platform':

- The portal will serve as the common point for all the innovation happening across the nation.
- The **#InnovateIndia** MyGov-AIM portal creates the innovations platform for registering both grassroots and deep-tech innovators at a national level.

- Those searching for a critical innovation can leverage the portal advantageously for the benefit of the economy as well as national social needs.

KTDC launches country's first State-Run All-Woman Hotel:

- The hotel which is named as **hostess** launched by Kerala Tourism minister Kadakampally Surendran.
- This is a flagship project of the Kerala Tourism Development Corporation (KTDC) and the hotel will come up within six months at the KTDC complex.

HCL overtakes Wipro to become India's 3rd largest IT firm:

- June quarter results declared, showed HCL Technologies revenue totalled **\$2.05 billion**, more than Wipro's \$2.03 billion.
- Last year, Wipro's full-year revenue totalled \$8.06 billion, about \$220 million more than HCL Technologies' \$7.84 billion.
- HCL Technologies Founder - Shiv Nadar
- HCL Technologies Headquarters - Noida
- Wipro Limited chairman - Azim Premji
- Wipro headquarters - Bengaluru

SCHEMES:

Govt reduced minimum yearly deposit for Sukanya Samriddhi account:

- The government has slashed the minimum annual deposit requirement for accounts under the **Sukanya Samriddhi Yojana (SSY)** to **Rs 250** from Rs 1,000. The maximum amount that can be deposited in a year is **Rs 1.5 lakh**.

- Sukanya Samriddhi scheme was launched in January **2015**, under which a parent or legal guardian can open an account in the name of the girl child until she attains the age of **ten years**.
- The account opened under the scheme will be valid for **21 years** from the date of opening, after which it will mature and the money will be paid to the girl child in whose name the account is opened.

Three Indian States launched Swachh Survekshan Grameen 2018:

- **Maharashtra, Uttar Pradesh and Jharkhand** launched Swachh Survekshan Grameen 2018 (SSG-2018), which was announced by Ministry of Drinking Water and Sanitation on July 13, 2018.
- Under the SSG 2018, an independent survey agency will conduct survey in all districts from August 1 - 31, 2018 on the basis of sanitation (Swachhata) parameters.
- The top performing states and districts would be awarded on **October 2, 2018**, ie., birth anniversary of Mahatma Gandhi.
- As part of Swachh Survekshan Grameen, 6980 villages in 698 districts across India will be covered.

Women and Child Development Ministry launched 'Childline1098' Logo Contest:

- To mark **World Day against Trafficking in Persons** on July 30, Women and Child Development Ministry has invited people to send logo and tagline for '**Childline 1098**', which is **India's first** 24-hour, free, emergency **phone service** for **children** in need of aid and assistance.
- At present, Childline 1098 is operational at 450 locations, including 76 key railway stations, across India.

- Union Minister of Women and Child Development - **Maneka Gandhi**.

Odisha Government launched Green Mahanadi Mission:

- Chief Minister of Odisha, **Naveen Patnaik** launched the '**Green Mahanadi Mission**', by planting a sapling on the bank of river **Mahanadi** during his visit to Boudh and Subarnapur districts in western Odisha.
- The '**Green Mahanadi Mission**' is a plantation drive under which 2 crore saplings will be planted along the Mahanadi river and its tributaries.
- The main objective of the mission is to **stop soil erosion** on river banks and recharge the groundwater reserve.

Free WiFi services for villages adopted by MPs across India:

- All villages adopted by the Member of Parliaments (MPs) under '**Sansad Adarsh Gram Yojana**', will be provided free WiFi services across India by the Government.
- Government has targeted to link each of the **2.5 lakh gram panchayats** of India through optical fibre network under **Bharat Net Project**, which aims to provide high-speed internet by March 2019.
- **About Sansad Adarsh Gram Yojana:-**
 - ◆ Launched on:- 11 October 2014 (On Birth anniversary of Jayaprakash Narayan)
 - ◆ Launched by - Prime Minister of India, Narendra Modi
 - ◆ **List of a few important adoptions :-**
 - ▶ Under the scheme, Narendra Modi has adopted **Jayapur** village his constituency Varanasi in Uttar Pradesh.

- ▶ **Sonia Gandhi** adopted **Udwa** village in her constituency Rae Bareilly in Uttar Pradesh.
- ▶ **Rahul Gandhi** adopted **Deeh** village in his constituency Amethi in Uttar Pradesh.
- ▶ **Sachin Tendulkar** adopted **Puttamraju Kandriga (P.R.Kandriga)** a village near Gudur in Nellore district of Andhra Pradesh. And **Donja** village in Osmanabad district of Marathwada, Maharashtra.

Odisha CM inaugurated Rs 300 Crore Irrigation Dam Project:

- Odisha Chief Minister **Naveen Patnaik** inaugurated the Rs 300 crore **Rukura Medium Irrigation Dam project** in **Sundargarh** district.
- This project will irrigate 5,800 hectares of the agricultural field.
- He stated that his promises to provide irrigation to an additional 10 lakh hectare of land ahead of 2014 elections, will be fulfilled by 2019.

Bills Passed:

Lok Sabha passed NCTE (Amendment) Bill:

- The Lok Sabha **passed** the **National Council for Teacher Education (Amendment) Bill** to post-facto approval to Central/State institutions that are conducting teacher education courses without NCTE approval.
- HRD Minister **Prakash Javadekar** said that it has been done as a one-time measure to ensure the benefit of the students who have

appeared for B.Ed, M.Ed and various other exams in institutes that are not recognised.

- He also said that there are also plans to start an **integrated four-year** B.A.-B.Ed, B.Sc.-B.Ed and B.Com-B.Ed courses to benefit the students.

Lok Sabha passed the Trafficking of Persons (Prevention, Protection and Rehabilitation) Bill, 2018:

- The Bill aimed at preventing human trafficking of women and children, providing rehabilitation to the victims and prosecuting offenders.
- The Bill was introduced in the House by the Women and Child Development Minister **Maneka Gandhi**.
- The Bill approves severe punishment of **10 years** to life **imprisonment** for aggravated forms of trafficking.
- It also proposes establishing a National Anti-Trafficking Bureau (NATB) for coordinating, monitoring and surveillance of trafficking cases.
- It allocated **Rs.10 crore** for Relief and Rehabilitation Committee and Rehabilitation Fund.

Highlights of PM Modi's visit to Rwanda, Uganda and South Africa:

Modi gifted 200 cows to a village in Rwanda:

- Modi traveled to **Rweru** model village in Rwanda's eastern province and gifted the cows to mark India's contribution to

Rwandan President **Paul Kagame**'s flagship programme named '**Girinka**'.

- Girinka is the Rwandan government's "one cow for one poor family" programme, launched in **2006**.
- PM Modi also visited Uganda and then South Africa, which is organising the **10th BRICS** leaders' Summit under the theme "BRICS in Africa: Collaboration with Developing Countries for Inclusive Growth and Shared Prosperity in the Fourth Industrial Revolution".

India extended Rs. 1,378 crore Lines of Credit to Rwanda:

- PM Narendra Modi and Rwanda's President **Paul Kagame** signed agreements on **industrial** and **agricultural** development. PM Modi is the first Indian Prime Minister to visit Rwanda.
- He also announced that India will soon open its mission in Rwanda.
- India extended two lines of credit - one of **\$100 million** for development of **industrial parks** and Kigali special economic zone (SEZ) in Rwanda and another one for \$100 million for **agriculture**.

India signed 4 MoUs with Uganda, agreed 2 LOC worth nearly \$200 million:

- India and Uganda signed four agreements on
 - defence cooperation,
 - visa exemption for diplomatic and official passport holders,
 - cultural exchange programme, and
 - material testing laboratory.

- The Indian government has also decided to **gift a cancer therapy machine** to the Uganda cancer institute in **Kampala**.
- The Prime Minister Modi was accorded a ceremonial reception in Uganda's **Entebbe** town.

PM Modi says Africa will be India's top priority:

- Prime Minister Narendra Modi described **Uganda** as the ‘**pearl of Africa**’ and said that India will strengthen its cooperation and mutual capabilities with Africa to combat terrorism and extremism.
- India intends to open 18 embassies in Africa.
- Modi government would lend Uganda up to **\$205 million** to expand its **electricity grid** and boost commercial farming.
- India would build a **Gandhi Heritage Centre** at the sacred site in Uganda’s **Jinja**, where a statue of Mahatma Gandhi now stands.

SUMMITS/CONFERENCE:

10th BRICS Summit 2018 Begins In Johannesburg:

- The 3-day long 10th edition of BRICS Summit began in Johannesburg, **South Africa**.
- The **theme** for this summit is ‘BRICS in Africa: Collaboration for inclusive growth and shared prosperity in the 4th Industrial Revolution’.
- First BRICS Summit was held in June **2009** in Yekaterinburg, Russia.
- BRICS is a grouping acronym that refers to the countries of Brazil, Russia, India, China, and South Africa.

Global Disability Summit 2018 held in London:

- **Thaawarchand Gehlot**, Union Minister for Social Justice & Empowerment attended the Global Disability Summit held in London, UK.
- The main motto of the Conference is to firm up the commitments of the country leaders towards the cause of persons with disabilities.

Ireland to hold international conference of female parliamentarians:

- Named "The International Congress of Parliamentary Women's Caucuses" will be held at **Dublin Castle** on **September 9-10** and the event will be attended by an estimated 300 delegates from over **27 countries**.
- Thi conference is organised by the Irish Women's Parliamentary Caucus (IWPC), a cross-party forum for female parliamentarians within the Irish parliament.

BANKING & FINANCE NEWS:

Banks and Financial institutions in India signed Pact on Bad Loan Resolution Framework:

- 22 public sector banks (including India Post Payments Bank), 19 private sector banks, 32 foreign banks and financial institutions like LIC, HUDCO, PFC and REC signed the **Inter-Creditor Agreement (ICA)** framework, which is part of project 'Sashakt', to take concerted efforts towards resolving **dud loans under Rs. 500 crore**.

- This Project is proposed by a committee headed by **Sunil Mehta** (non-executive chairman of PNB).
- The new framework is applicable to accounts with exposures of over **₹2,000 crore** where lenders must implement the resolution plan within 180 days.

SCIENCE & TECHNOLOGY:

SpaceX launched world's heaviest communications satellite:

- Elon Musk-led space startup **SpaceX** launched the **Telstar 19** Vantage satellite, the world's heaviest commercial communications satellite weighing over **7,000 kg**, through its **Falcon 9 rocket**.
- The satellite has been produced by Space Systems Loral (SSL).
- **Goal:-** To provide high-throughput broadcast and internet services from Brazil to the northernmost regions of Canada.

AWARDS:

Ramon Magsaysay award winners 2018:

- Two Indians **Bharat Vatwani**, **Sonam Wangchuk** won 2018 Ramon Magsaysay Award, the Asian version of the Nobel Prize.
- Bharat Vatwani is a psychiatrist who works for the mentally-ill street persons.
- Sonam Wangchuk works to harness science and culture creatively for economic progress that has improved the lives of the Ladakhi youth.

- Here is the complete list winners of the Ramon Magsaysay Award 2018:

S.No	Winners	Countries
1	Bharat Vatwani	India
2	Sonam Wangchuk	India
3	Youk Chhang	Cambodia
4	Maria de Lourdes Martins Cruz	East Timor
5	Howard Dee	Philippines
6	Vo Thi Hoang Yen	Vietnam

SURVEY/LISTS:

Ambani brothers, Salman, Priyanka in world's top 500 entertainment leaders list:

- Other Indians in the **Variety magazine's** list of 500 most influential business leaders shaping the global \$ **2 trillion entertainment** industry, include
 - writer-director Karan Johar,
 - Star India CEO Uday Shankar,
 - Essel Group Chairman Subhash Chandra,
 - Aditya Chopra of Yash Raj Films,
 - Balaji Telefilms' Ekta Kapoor,
 - Zee Entertainment CEO Punit Goenka and
 - Siddharth Kapur of The Film and Television Producers Guild of India Ltd.

- Walt Disney Company Chairman and CEO **Robert Iger** tops the list.
- World's richest person Jeff Bezos and Facebook's Mark Zuckerberg also featured on the list.

SPORTS NEWS:

Indian women's compound archery team reached World No: 1 rank:

- With India's archery twin silver medal winning effort in the Antalya and Berlin World Cups, the Indian **women's** compound **archery** team lead the chart with **342.6 points**, six points ahead of second-placed Chinese **Taipei**.
- The team comprises of V Jyothi Surekha, Trisha Deb, P Lily Chanu, Muskan Kirar, Divya Dhayal, and Madhumita.
- Recurve archer **Deepika Kumari** had been a former world number one. Deepika and **Abhishek Verma** are the only Indians in top-10 in the individual categories.

Youngest Indian girl scales Kilimanjaro in 3 days:

- **Shivangi Pathak**, the **17-year-old** from Haryana, who became the youngest woman from India to reach the peak of Mount Everest from Nepal side, has now scaled **Africa's highest peak, Mount Kilimanjaro**, in three days.
- Tanzania's Mount Kilimanjaro measures 5,895 metres in height.

Mithali Raj becomes first Indian to score 2,000 runs in T20 International Cricket:

- She achieved the landmark during India's seven-wicket win over **Sri Lanka** in the Women's Asia Cup T20 at Kuala Lumpur.
- Mithali has **2,015 runs** from 75 matches.
- She is the **seventh woman** to reach 2,000 runs in T20 format.
- The list is headed by England cricketer Charlotte Edwards with 2,605. India men's team captain Virat Kohli with 1,983 runs is the next on the list, followed by Rohit Sharma and Suresh Raina.

Tokyo introduced mascots for 2020 Olympic Games:

- The **Tokyo 2020 Olympic** Organising Committee launched the official Olympic Game **mascot** named '**Miraitowa**' and **Paralympic** Game mascot christened '**Someity**'.
- A big-eyed, blue-checked character "Miraitowa" name was a combination of the Japanese words for future and eternity, expressing "hope for a bright future stretching off forever."
- The pink, pointy-eared "Someity" name comes from the word for Japan's iconic cherry blossoms and also sounds a bit like the English words "so mighty".
- The next Olympic Games will be held in Tokyo between July 24 and August 9, 2020 and Paralympic Games from August 25 to September 6, 2020.

All India Football Federation (AIFF) Awards 2017 Announced:

- India and Bengaluru FC Captain **Sunil Chhetri** named as the AIFF Player of the Year 2017.
- Kamala Devi bagged the AIFF **Woman** Player of the Year 2017.

Muhammed Anas Yahiya Breaks Own National Record In 400m:

- Star sprinter **Muhammed Anas Yahiya** entered the record books as he broke his own national record to win the **400 metres** race at the Cena Noveho Mesta nad Metuji meets in the Czech Republic.
- Anas set a time of **45.24 seconds** to break his own record of 45.31 seconds which he had set during the Commonwealth Games in Gold Coast in April 2018.

Indian shuttler Lakshya Sen clinched gold medal at the Badminton Asia Junior Championships 2018:

- Sixteen-year-old Indian shuttler **Lakshya Sen** secured a gold medal at the Badminton Asia Junior Championships after defeating World junior champion **Kunlavut Vitidsarn** of Thailand in straight games in the final.
- He scored 21-19, 21-18 and won over Vitidsarn in the final which clocked 46 minutes.

Mercedes' Lewis Hamilton won 2018 German Grand Prix:

- Formula One champion, Mercedes driver **Lewis Hamilton** won the 2018 German Grand Prix, a race that Sebastian Vettel should have actually won.
- Hamilton finished 4.5 seconds ahead of Finnish team mate **Valtteri Bottas** (who secured 2nd spot), and 6.7 clear of Ferrari's third-placed **Kimi Raikkonen**.

APPOINTMENTS/RESIGNATIONS:

Pakistan appointed its first woman high court chief justice:

- Justice **Tahira Safdar** (61 years old) was named as the Chief Justice of the Balochistan High Court by Chief Justice Mian Saqib Nisar. She replacing Mohammad Noor Muskanzai.
- She made history in **1982** when she became the **first woman civil judge** in Balochistan.

Tata AIA Life appointed Rishi Srivastava as CEO & MD:

- Srivastava will take over from current chief executive officer **Naveen Tahilyani** who takes over as chief executive officer, group partnership distribution, AIA Group, Hong Kong.
- His appointment as CEO & MD of Tata AIA Life Limited is subject to regulatory approval from insurance regulator **IRDAI** (Insurance Regulatory and Development Authority of India).

Venkaiah Naidu is appointed as the Chancellor of Pondicherry University:

- Vice-President M. Venkaiah Naidu is appointed as the Chancellor of Pondicherry Central University by the President, Ram Nath Kovind, in his capacity as Visitor of the university.
- The term of the Chancellor will be **five years**.

BOOKS & AUTHORS:

Michael Ondaatje again named in Man Booker Prize list:

- Sri Lankan-born Canadian author **Michael Ondaatje** has again made the “**Man Booker Prize**” list with his latest novel “**Warlight**”, which tells the story of two orphans in London in the immediate aftermath of World War II.
- Ondaatje's “**The English Patient**,” which won the Booker in 1992, was named winner of the Golden Man Booker winner on July 8, a special award to mark the Booker's 50th anniversary.
- 2018 Man Booker Prize includes six U.K. writers, three from the United States, and two each from Canada and Ireland.

Ramachandra Guha wrote a new book on Mahatma Gandhi:

- A book titled “**Gandhi: The years that changed the world (1914-1948)**” has been written by **Ramachandra Guha**. This book will be released in September 2018 and narrates the story of Gandhi's life, from his departure from South Africa to his assassination in 1948.
- This book will be published by **Penguin Random House India**.
- The author has written several bestselling books like “India After Gandhi” and “Gandhi Before India”.

IMPORTANT DAYS:

19th Kargil Vijay Diwas celebrated from 24th July - 26th July:

- **Kargil Vijay Diwas** is celebrated every year for three days from 24th July - 26th July at the **Drass War Memorial** in **Jammu and Kashmir** to commemorate India's emphatic victory against **Pakistan**.
- President Ram Nath Kovind, Vice President M Venkaiah Naidu and Prime Minister Narendra Modi paid homage to the martyrs of Kargil.
- **About Kargil War:**
 - ◆ Date - May -July 1999 (2 months)
 - ◆ Location - Kargil district, Jammu and Kashmir
 - ◆ Result - Decisive Indian victory; India regains possession of Kargil.
 - ◆ In India, the Kargil conflict is also referred to as '**Operation Vijay**' (Hindi: विजय, literally "Victory") which was the name of the Indian operation to clear the Kargil sector.
 - ◆ The Kargil War memorial, built by the Indian Army, is located in Dras, in the foothills of the **Tololing Hill**.

OBITUARY:

World's Oldest Person, Chiyo Miyako, died at age 117 in Japan:

- **Miyako**, born on May 2, 1901, became the world's oldest person in April after **Nabi Tajima**, a fellow Japanese national from the southern Kikai island, died at age 117.

- Guinness World Records has confirmed that she was the world's oldest person. Her replacement is yet to be announced by Guinness, but according to media reports, the new oldest person is Kane Tanaka, a 115-year-old woman who lives in a nursing home in Fukuoka, a city in southern Japan.
- The world's oldest man, **Masazo Nonaka**, **113-year-old** lives in Japan's northern island of Hokkaido.
- Jeanne Louise Calment from France holds the Guinness World Record for the oldest person ever. Born in 1875, she was 122 when she died in 1997.

OTHER IMPORTANT CURRENT AFFAIRS - Headlines:

- ★ Sports Authority of India shortlisted **734** youngsters for **KHELO INDIA** scholarship Programme.
- ★ **Federal Bank** received approval from Reserve Bank of India (RBI) to open its branch offices in **Bahrain, Kuwait and Singapore**.

QUIZ CORNER:

1) **International Army Games 2018 will be held in seven countries from July 28 to August 11. Indian Army will be participating in two team competitions - the Tank Biathlon and Elbrus Ring - being held in**

- A. Russia**
- B. China**
- C. Iran**
- D. Kazakhstan**

Answer:- A

2) Which social media will launch Satellite 'Athena' in 2019?

- A. Whatsapp Messenger**
- B. Instagram**
- C. Facebook**
- D. Twitter**

Answer:- C

3) Which country seeks to jointly manufacture defence equipment with Pakistan?

- A. South Africa**
- B. Iran**
- C. Qatar**
- D. China**

Answer:- B

4) Who became World's Most Expensive Goalkeeper ?

- A. Alisson Becker**
- B. Gianluigi Buffon**
- C. Ederson**
- D. Williams John**

Answer:- A



5) Ministry of Human Resource Development announced 'Padhe Bharat Badhe Bharat' scheme to promote which of the following skill among school students?

- A. Writing**
- B. Reading**
- C. Sports**
- D. Drawing**

Answer:- B

6) India will host the World class exhibition on four eminent personalities of Bengal. Which is of the following person is not among those four eminent Bengalis?

- A. Rabindranath Tagore**
- B. Chittaranjan Das**
- C. Netaji Subhas Chandra Bose**
- D. Bankim Chandra Chattopadhyay**

Answer:- B

7) PM Modi gifted 200 cows to a village in which of the following country?

- A. Rwanda**
- B. Algeria**
- C. Uganda**
- D. South Africa**

Answer:- A



8) SpaceX launched world's heaviest communications satellite - 'Telstar 19 Vantage' satellite, which weighs over

- A. 6,500 kg
- B. 8,000 kg
- C. 5,000 kg
- D. 7,000 kg

Answer:- D

9) Which of the following Indian Actress has been listed in world's top 500 entertainment leaders by Variety magazine?

- A. Katrina Kaif
- B. Priyanka Chopra
- C. Aishwarya Rai Bachchan
- D. Deepika Padukone

Answer:- B

10) Andrzej Bargiel became the first person to ski down the world's 2nd highest mountain ____.

- A. Makalu
- B. Lhotse
- C. K2
- D. Mount Everest

Answer:- C

11) Which of the following item has been exempted from the GST slab rates?

- A. Handicraft items**
- B. Perfumes**
- C. Handbags**
- D. Sanitary napkins**

Answer:- D

12) According to the Public Affairs Index 2018 which state stands first in best-governance in India?

- A. Kerala**
- B. West Bengal**
- C. Tamil Nadu**
- D. Madhya Pradesh**

Answer:- A

13) Federal Bank gets RBI approval to enter Bahrain, Kuwait, Singapore. Where is the Headquarter of Federal Bank located?

- A. Tamil Nadu**
- B. Karnataka**
- C. Kerala**
- D. Maharashtra**

Answer:- C

14) Who has led the committee which recommended the project 'Sashakt' to resolve bad loans under Rs. 500 crore?

- A. S. Jayakumar**
- B. Usha Ananthasubramanian**

C. T N Manoharan
D. Sunil Mehta

Answer:- D

15) 2020 Paralympic Game mascot is christened as

A. Mukmuk
B. Bandabi
C. Someity
D. Mandeville

Answer:- C

16) Tokyo 2020 Olympic Organising Committee launched the official Olympic Game mascot named

A. Miraitowa
B. Vinicius
C. Soohorang
D. Wenlock

Answer:- A

17) The government has slashed the minimum annual deposit requirement for accounts under the Sukanya Samriddhi Yojana (SSY) from Rs 1,000 to

A. Rs. 850
B. Rs. 750
C. Rs. 500
D. Rs. 250

Answer:- D

18) Which country recently passed a law to legalise casino gambling?

- A. China**
- B. Nepal**
- C. Japan**
- D. India**

Answer:- C

19) Which of the following Bill did Lok Sabha recently pass for the teacher education courses?

- A. EMPA Amendment Bill**
- B. NCTE Amendment Bill**
- C. Teaching and Higher Education Amendment Bill**
- D. The School Standards and Framework Bill**

Answer:- B

20) Which country became second largest supplier of crude oil to Indian public sector firms during April-June quarter of 2018?

- A. Iran**
- B. Iraq**
- C. Saudi Arabia**
- D. Qatar**

Answer:- A

21) Who has been nominated as the first woman chief justice of a Pakistani high court?

- A. Rabia Qari**
- B. Hina Jilani**
- C. Asma Jahangir**
- D. Tahira Safdar**

Answer:- D

22) Which of the following ministers was recently expelled by RJD (Rashtriya Janata Dal) party for criticising Rahul Gandhi?

- A. Shankar Charan Tripathi**
- B. Lalu Prasad Yadav**
- C. S.M.Qamar Alam**
- D. Ram Jethmalani**

Answer:- A

23) Who is the first-ever CM to have visited all districts of the state in just 16 months of his rule?

- A. Naveen Patnaik**
- B. Mamata Banerjee**
- C. Yogi Adityanath**
- D. Chandrababu Naidu**

Answer:- C

24) Acting New Zealand PM Winston Peters is demanding which of the following country to change its flag because it is too similar?



- A. Japan**
- B. Australia**
- C. France**
- D. Germany**

Answer:- B

25) Which of the following district became the first open defecation free (ODF) district in Bihar?

- A. Vaishali**
- B. Nawada**
- C. Saharsa**
- D. Sitamarhi**

Answer:- D

26) Michael Ondaatje is again named in Man Booker Prize long list for his latest novel

- A. Warlight**
- B. Normal People**
- C. Everything Under**
- D. The English Patient**

Answer:- A

27) Recently, which of the following States launched Swachh Survekshan Grameen 2018 (SSG-2018), which was announced by Ministry of Drinking Water and Sanitation on July 13, 2018.

- A. Telangana, Bihar and Gujarat**



- B. Maharashtra, Uttar Pradesh and Jharkhand**
- C. Karnataka, Assam and Uttarakhand**
- D. Andhra Pradesh, Punjab and West Bengal**

Answer:- B

28) 'CHILDLINE' is India's first 24-hour, free, emergency phone service for children in need of aid and assistance. To access this service, one must dial

- A. 1023**
- B. 1012**
- C. 1090**
- D. 1098**

Answer:- D

29) Recently, Indian government has decided to gift a cancer therapy machine to which of the following country?

- A. Rwanda**
- B. Uganda**
- C. South Africa**
- D. Algeria**

Answer:- B

30) In India, the Kargil conflict against Pakistan is also referred to as

- A. Operation Vijay**
- B. Operation Polo**



- C. Operation Sarp Vinash**
- D. Operation Meghdoot**

Answer:- A

31) Which Bill did Lok Sabha pass against bribery?

- A. Prevention and Prohibition of the bribery Bill, 2017**
- B. Prevention of Corruption (Amendment) Bill, 2018**
- C. Prevention and Prohibition of the bribery (Amendment) Bill, 2018**
- D. Prevention of Corruption (Amendment) Bill, 2013**

Answer:- B

32) West Bengal government placed a proposal in the state assembly to change the name of West Bengal to

- A. Bengal**
- B. Bangla**
- C. Paschim Bango**
- D. Bangal**

Answer:- B

33) Which state became India's Top State in producing Renewable Energy?

- A. Gujarat**
- B. Bihar**
- C. Tamil Nadu**
- D. Karnataka**



Answer:- D

34) A book titled 'Gandhi: The years that changed the world (1914-1948)' has been written by

- A. Nikesh Shukla**
- B. Chandradas Choudhury**
- C. Sujata Massey**
- D. Ramachandra Guha**

Answer:- D

35) Imran Khan is the leader of which of the following party, contesting in Pakistani general election, 2018?

- A. Pakistan Muslim League**
- B. Pakistan Tehreek-e-Insaf**
- C. Pakistan Peoples Party**
- D. Pak Sarzameen Party**

Answer:- B

36) Prime Minister Narendra Modi described which of the following nation as the 'pearl of Africa'?

- A. Madagascar**
- B. South Africa**
- C. Rwanda**
- D. Uganda**

Answer:- D



37) What is the name of the scheme which was launched by Atal Innovation Mission, NITI Aayog & MyGov ?

- A. Innovate India Platform**
- B. GOBAR-Dhan Yojana**
- C. Atal Bhujal Yojana**
- D. Green Revolution-Krishonnati Yojana**

Answer:- A

38) Which state launched country's first State-Run All-Woman Hotel?

- A. Madhya Pradesh**
- B. Tamil Nadu**
- C. Kerala**
- D. Bihar**

Answer:- C

39) World's Oldest Person, who recently died at age 117 in Japan is

- A. Kane Tanaka**
- B. Chiyo Miyako**
- C. Masazo Nonaka**
- D. Nabi Tajima**

Answer:- B

40) Who became the first Indian to score 2,000 runs in T20 International?

- A. Jhulan Goswami
- B. Deepti Sharma
- C. Smriti Mandhana
- D. Mithali Raj

Answer:- D

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