India retaliated tariffs on 29 US goods

Centre approves setting up of DSRO

PM conferred with Nishan Izzuddin

Nadal won French Open 2019
Table of Contents

1. BANKING & FINANCE 3
2. BUSINESS & ECONOMY 6
3. INTERNATIONAL 9
4. INDIAN AFFAIRS 12
5. SCIENCE & TECHNOLOGY 16
6. ENVIRONMENT 19
7. BILLS & ACTS 21
8. DEFENCE 22
9. AWARDS AND HONOURS 24
10. SPORTS 29
11. ARTS & CULTURE 33
12. OBITUARY 34
13. SUMMITS & CONFERENCE 35
14. SCHEMES 38
15. APPOINTMENTS / RESIGN 40
16. IMPORTANT DAYS 42
17. AGREEMENTS, MOU 45
18. INDEX / LIST 47
19. FESTIVALS 49
20. QUIZ CORNER 50
21. USEFUL LINKS 78
RBI to infuse Rs.15,000 crore into financial system through the purchase of government bonds

The Reserve Bank of India is to infuse Rs.15,000 crore into the financial system through bond purchases on June 13.

Why the infusion:
RBI made the decision after assessing of prevailing liquidity conditions and also of the durable liquidity needs that are going forward.

RBI uses Open Market Operations (OMO) for injecting liquidity into the system through the purchase of government bonds (G-sec). Therefore, RBI is to conduct the purchase of six G-sec under OMOs through multi-security auction using multiple price method.

What is G-Sec?
A government security (G-Sec) is a debt obligation of the Indian government to fund their fiscal deficit. The securities are tradable. G-sec is issued either by the central or the state government. They are offered for short term as well as long term.

Multiple price-auction
In a multiple price-auction each successful bidder should pay the price stated bu the player himself. But, in case of uniform price auctions, all successful bidders should pay the cut-off price, that is, the same price at which the market clears the issue.

Open Market Operations:
Open market operations (OMO) refers to the buying and selling of government securities by the central bank, RBI in case of India, in the open market in order to contract or expand the amount of money in the banking system. The purchase of the securities will inject money into the banking system and stimulate growth, while sales of securities do the opposite and contract the economy.

RBI sets up 6 member panel to examine the ATM charges and fees

The Reserve Bank of India (RBI) has set up a high-level six-member committee under IBA Chief Executive V G Kannan. The committee will examine ATM charges and fees by banks amid demands for reviewing the levies. There have been
persistent demands to change automated teller machines (ATM) charges and fees as its uses are growing significantly.

**Panel Members:**

**Head of the Panel:** IBA Chief Executive V G Kannan  
**The members** are Dilip Asbe (CEO, NPCI), Giri Kumar Nair (CGM, SBI), S Sampath Kumar (Group Head, Liability Products, HDFC Bank), K Srinivas (Director, Confederation of ATM Industry), Sanjeev Patel (CEO, Tata Communications Payment Solutions).

**Purpose of Panel:**  
The panel will review the existing *structures and patterns of costs*, charges and interchange fees for ATM transactions. The committee is to review the overall patterns of usage of ATMs by cardholders and assess the impact, if any, on charges and interchange fees.  
Also, the panel will be assessing the entire *range of costs in respect of the ATM ecosystem* and make recommendations on the optimal charge/interchange fee structure and pattern.

**IDBI Bank reduced its MCLR by 5-10 basis points to 8.95 percent**

Life Insurance Corporation of India (LIC)-owned **IDBI Bank** reduced its **Marginal Cost of funds based Lending Rate (MCLR)** by **5-10 basis points** to **8.95%** across various tenors with immediate effect on **June 12**.

Against one-year MCLR most of the customer loans such as auto, personal and home loans are priced.

**Other Banks:**

The state-run Oriental Bank of Commerce (OBC) reduced its one year MCLR by 5 basis points to 8.70% on June 10.

Also, Bank of Maharashtra has reduced its MCLR for one-year tenor loan by 10 basis points to 8.60%.

**MCLR:**

The **marginal cost of funds based lending rate (MCLR)** refers to the **minimum interest rate** of a bank **below which it cannot lend**, except in some cases allowed by the RBI. It is an internal benchmark or reference rate for the bank.
SEBI introduced enhanced disclosure guidelines for credit rating agencies

The markets regulator Securities and Exchange Board of India (SEBI) introduced enhanced disclosure guidelines for credit rating agencies (CRA). SEBI asked the rating companies to disclose the probability of default for the issuers they rate, troubled by the raters track record of detecting defaults or near-defaults.

Reason for the move: Since the global financial crisis in 2008, the credibility of the rating agencies has been eroding because of the conflict of interest that arises from the fact that they are paid by the issuers to rate their securities and for their failure to downgrade troubled firms until they are on the verge of bankruptcy. The recent Infrastructure Leasing and Financial Services Ltd's (IL&FS) liquidity crisis among non-bank lenders in India has focused attention again on credit rating agencies.

The guidelines: The rating companies must create an uniform probability of default benchmark for each rating category on their website, for one-year, two-year and three-year cumulative default rates, both for the short term and long term. They should use marginal default methodology to arrive at default rates. The methodology should be revised. This can bring the rating companies in line with global best practices and increased disclosures for liquidity and rating sensitivity factors. SEBI defined the terms that the companies should use to describe the liquidity position of issuer, that is, strong, adequate, stretched and poor. Tracking the probability of default is a step towards aligning Indian rules with global standards. The Probability of default is the likelihood of a default over a particular period.
Amazon clinches top spot in the world's most valuable brand ranking

**Amazon** clinched the world's most valuable brand in cloud computing, consumer tech and movie production.

It is founded by the world's richest man Jeff Bezos.

According to the 2019 BrandZ Top 100 Most Valuable Global Brands rankings, Amazon online retailer set its brand value quintuple in the past five years to reach $315.5 billion.

It is undertaken annually by advertising holding company WPP.

The detailed study of Brand Z reveals firms financial data and draws on an extensive consumer survey to reach its conclusions.

Amazon expanded into grocery, healthcare, food delivery and, with its Alexa devices, even voice recognition. Amazon jumped from third to first place to eclipse Google. The brand of Amazon from 52 percent to $315 billion.

The company jumped from third place to first place and got the third position to topmost by replacing Google.

**About Financial Market**

There are two online shopping namely Alibaba and JD.com Chinese website which are down its Chinese e-commerce operation. Huawei company got a sudden breakdown of telecom network equipment and smartphone maker poses security and spying risks. Huawei added 8 percent to its brand value in the past year to reach $26.9bn. Netflix was third among the global market and they obtained 65% to obtain its brand value of 34.3 billion.

**About Amazon**

Founder: Jeff Bezos

Headquarters: Seattle, Washington, U.S.

Services: Amazon.com, Amazon Alexa, Amazon Appstore, Amazon Music, Amazon Prime, Amazon Video

Revenue: US$232.887 billion - 2018

**ICAT released Indias 1st BS VI Certificate in Two Wheeler Segment**

**International Centre for Automotive Technology (ICAT)** released India's first
Type Approval Certificate (TAC) for Bharat Stage - VI (BS VI) norms for the two-wheeler segment in New Delhi. The certificate released and handed over by Director ICAT, Dinesh Tyagi to top officials of the OEM (Original Equipment Manufacturers). Indias first certification in the two-wheeler segment for the BS VI
They are the latest emission norms as notified by the Government of India.

**Norms of the ICAT - Indias 1st BS VI Certificate in Two Wheeler Segment**
The ICAT drive through many steps in providing assistance and support to the automotive industry for the development, optimization and calibration of engines and vehicles for complying with these upcoming emission norms. Bharat Stage norms are the automotive emission norms which the automotive manufacturers have to comply to sell their vehicles in India.
The norms are applicable to all two wheelers, three wheelers, four wheelers. The Government of India decided to leapfrog from the exiting BS IV norms to the BS- VI, thereby skipping the BS V norms. They are to be effective from 1st April 2020.
The vehicles will be sold and registered in India from 1st April 2020 onwards which comply to these norms. The norms are stringent and at par with global standards. I issued the approval for BS VI norms to M/s Volvo Eicher Commercial Vehicles for the Heavy Commercial Vehicle segment. It is the first in its segment in India.

**About ICAT**
It is the testing agency authorized by the Ministry of Road Transport and Highways for providing testing and certification services to vehicle and the components vehicles in India.
It has the latest equipment, facilities, and capabilities to develop, validate, test and certify the engines and vehicles for the latest norms in the field of emission and many other facilities like crash lab, NVH lab, EMC lab and test tracks.

**Adani Group got its approval for the Carmichael coal mine project in Australia**

Adani-led Adani Group has got its approvals from the Queensland state government, Australia for the Carmichael coal mine project in Australia. The plan was approved by the central government in April, 2019. The project aims to
ensure energy security for India and create more jobs for Australia.

**Setbacks:**
Adani Group's mining project in Australia faced various controversies for almost nine years as the environmentalists warned it of the severe damage it might cause to the Great Barrier Reel.
In August 2015, a federal court in Sydney revoked the environmental clearance given to the project. It cited the reason as the project threatened the Yakka skink, Australia's native lizard, and a species of ornamental snake found in the area. The Australian government later reversed the decision and gave the approval. But the government imposed more conditions relating to community issues and environmental standards.
African Union suspended Sudan demanding civilian rule to be established in the country

The **African Union Peace and Security Council** has suspended Sudan as there is **no civilian rule established in the country**. The decision was taken at AU's peace and Security Council meeting in Ethiopia's capital **Addis Ababa**.

This move by AU intensifies global pressure on Sudan's new military leaders to stand down after witnessing worst violence since **Bashir's fall**.

AU said Sudan will be suspended until power was transferred to a civilian-led authority in the country. It also demanded to resolve **an entrenched and bloody crisis**.

The AU's suspension followed the forceful dispersal of the month-long sit-ins. The military action resulted in the death of more than a hundred protesters.

**African Union:**
- **AU founded on:** 26 May 2001
- **Launched on:** 9 July 2002
- **Chairman:** Abdel Fattah el-Sisi
- **Political centres:** Addis Ababa, Johannesburg
- **Member states:** 55
- AU aims to achieve **greater unity, cohesion, and solidarity** between the African countries and African nations

**Romila Thapar elected as a member of American Philosophical Society**

Famous Writer **Romila Thapar** elected as an international member of American Philosophical Society (APS) at its Annual Spring Meeting

She is Emerita professor whose principal area of study is ancient India. She wrote several books including the popular volume, A History of India, and is currently Professor Emerita at Jawaharlal Nehru University (JNU) in New Delhi.

She was offered Padma Bhushan award but declined both times.

**Her famous Works:** Aoka, epigraphy of Mauryan period, and ground-breaking studies and multiple historiographies surrounding contested Hindu and Muslim history of Somnath.
About American Philosophical Society (APS)
Founder: Benjamin Franklin
Founded: 1743
Headquarters: Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, United States
Subsidiaries: American Philosophical Society Museum, American Philosophical Society Library

Tokayev sworn in as the President of Kazakhstan

Kassym-Jomart Tokayev has sworn in as the President of Kazakhstan. He was the interim president and hand-picked successor of Nursultan Nazarbayev. He won the election, which was held on 9 June, with 70.96% of the vote which was contested against six government-approved candidates. Tokayev presidency aims to continue Nazarbayevs policies aimed at improving the well-being of the people. He succeeded Nursultan Nazarbayev, who announced his resignation in March after 30 years in power. This is the first time Kazakhstan gets its new president since the collapse of the Soviet Union.

Modi, Xi agreed that the approach to the border issue should be constructive

Prime Minister Modi met the Chinese President Xi Jinping on sidelines of the Shanghai Cooperation Organisation (SCO) summit. In the meeting both the leaders agreed that the approach to the border issue should be constructive. Mr. Xi suggested the need for regional cooperation and connectivity. After the Wuhan informal summit, both the countries has expanded theier ties. Bangladesh-China-India-Myanmar (BCIM) economic corridor stands as the best example. The discussion focused on cooperation and accepting differences because of which the relationship between China-India will become a more positive asset and positive energy for promoting the development of the two countries.

Chinese President Xi Jinping was conferred with Manas Order of the First Degree

Chinese President Xi Jinping was conferred with Manas Order of the First Degree, the highest national award in Bishkek, Kyrgyzstan. He was awarded during
visit to Kyrgyzstan before the SCO summit. President Xi said that the honour has fully demonstrated the relationship between both the countries and people.

China plan to partner with Kyrgyzstan to deepen traditional friendship between the two countries and also towards pushing forward Kyrgyzstan-China comprehensive strategic partnership for new bilateral achievements.

Kyrgyzstan is hosting 19th Shanghai Cooperation Organisation (SCO) summit starting 14 June 2019. SCO is a Eurasian political, economic and security alliance in which China plays an influential role. The founding member of SCO includes China, Russia, Uzbekistan, Tajikistan, Kazakhstan, and Kyrgyzstan. India and Pakistan were admitted to Beijing-based regional security grouping in 2017.
INDIAN AFFAIRS

India partners with Portugal to set up a national maritime heritage museum at Lothal

India has partnered with Portugal to set up a national maritime heritage museum at Lothal in Gujarat. The Indian Navy will be the stakeholder in the project and the Portuguese Navy will assist as they have experience in it by administering the maritime museum in Lisbon, Portugal. India is to follow a similar model of the maritime museum.

Implementation of the project:
In March 2019, Prime Minister Narendra Modi laid the foundation stone for the project and the Government of India has allocated a grant for building the maritime museum. The project will be implemented by the Ministry of Shipping through its Sagarmala programme. The Archaeological Survey of India (ASI) along with the State government and other stakeholders is also involved in setting up the museum.

Partnership and plans:
The initial discussion about the partnership was held during the visit of Portuguese Defence Minister Joo Gomes Cravinho to India in April 2019. A Defence Ministry-led delegation will visit Portugal to study the existing museum.

Maritime museum:
A maritime museum is a museum that specializes in display the objects relating to ships and travel on large bodies of water. A subcategory of maritime museums are naval museums, which focus on navies and the military use of the sea.

Imports from Pakistan to India has declined by 92 percent in March

Imports from Pakistan to India has declined by 92% to $2.84 million in March 2019. This is after the imposition of 200% customs duties on all products following Pulwama terror attack. According to the data of the commerce ministry, the imports from Pakistan stood at $34.61 million in March 2018. Exports from India to Pakistan have also reduced by about 32% to over $171 million in March. Also, during January-March period, the first quarter of 2018-19
fiscal, the imports from Pakistan declined by 47 percent to $53.65 million. After the Pulwama terror attack, India had revoked the Most Favoured Nation (MFN) status to Pakistan. The MFN status was granted to Pakistan in 1996.

**Bihar approved the proposal to punish children who abandon their elderly parents**

The Bihar State Cabinet chaired by Chief Minister Nitish Kumar has approved the proposal to punish sons and daughters, who abandon their elderly parents, with jail term. The approval was announced on 11 June. The proposal was moved by the state's social welfare department. Such cases will be registered under the non-bailable section after receiving complaints from elderly parents. The decision is expected to have huge impact in society in taking care of the elderly, who are at times neglected or abandoned by their wards.

**The Union Cabinet approved an extension of Presidents rule in Jammu and Kashmir**

The Union Cabinet approved an extension of President's rule in Jammu and Kashmir for six more months beginning July 3. The central rule has been continuing in Jammu and Kashmir since June 20, 2018. After the approval of the Union Cabinet, the President Ram Nath Kovind will sign the proclamation for imposition of President's rule in the state. The President's rule which was imposed in J&K on 20 December, 2018 expires on July 2. The Governor of J&K Satypal Malik has also recommended that the President rule in the state may be extended for a further period of six months with effect from July 3. This is because, Under Section 92 of the Constitution of J&K, there is no provision for further continuation of Governor's rule after six months.

**Centre reduced rate of contribution under ESI Act**

Centre has reduced the employers and employees contribution under the Employees State Insurance (ESI) Act. It will be effective from July 1. ESI Act gives insured workers medical benefits among other facilities.

**Aim:**

The move aimed at benefiting 36 million insured persons and 1.3 million
organizations.
It will also formalise the informal workforce in India.
It will expand the social security coverage and facilitate further enrolment of workers under the ESI scheme.

**Changes:**
The Ministry of Labour and Employment has reduced the total contribution towards ESI from **6.5% of an employees wages to 4%**. For the employers it reduced from **4.7% to 3.25%** and the employees contribution lowered to **0.75% of wages from 1.75%**.

The Ministry said there has been a substantial rise in the number of people being brought under the ESI scheme and the number of people who opted for it.

**The analysis said that:**
In 2015, the number of people who were insured under the scheme was 2.1 crore and it raised to 3.6 crore.
The contribution amount in 2015 was Rs.11,455 crore which increased to Rs.22,279 crore.
The number of people who opted for the ESI scheme increased to 12.85 lakh in 2018-19 from 7.83 lakh in 2015-16.

**ESI Act:**
**Dr. B R Ambedkar** was appointed by the Government of India to create a report on the health insurance scheme for industrial workers in **March 1943**. The report became the basis for the Employment State Insurance (ESI) Act of 1948. ESI is a self-financing **social security and health insurance scheme** for Indian workers.

**Employees' State Insurance Corporation (ESIC)** manages the fund as per the rules and regulations stipulated in the **ESI Act 1948**. ESIC functions under Ministry of Labour and Employment, Government of India.
ESI corporation can raise loans and take measures for discharging such loans with the prior sanction of the central government.
ESIC can acquire both movable and immovable property and all incomes from the property.
ESIC can set up **hospitals** independently or in collaboration with state government or other private entities.

**India to impose retaliatory tariffs on 29 US goods**
Ministry of Commerce has announced to impose retaliatory tariffs on US goods that will be effective from June 16 onwards. The retaliatory tariffs on 29 goods imported from the U.S. The Ministry initially decided to impose tariffs in 2018. The decision is ahead of the meeting between Modi and Trump on the sidelines of the G20 summit in Japan. The move made by the trade ministry was approved by the Ministry of External Affairs.

The tariffs will be applied on $220-290 million worth of goods that are imported from the US, and will have about the same impact as the tariffs imposed by Washington on India in 2018.

Ministry of Finance said that the Commerce ministry will release the official notification of the tariffs before 16 June.

**Why India is imposing tariffs:**

In March 2018, the US imposed 25% tariff on steel and 10% import duty on aluminium. India was one of the major exporters of these items.

Trarrifs on 29 major products are impacted which includes Chickpeas, Bengal gram, Mansur dal, Boric acid, domestic reagents, apples, Binders for foundry moulds. India repeatedly asked for exemption from these higher tariffs, but US did not respond.

On June 2018, India decided to retaliate by imposing duties but extended the deadline.

On 5 June 2019, the U.S. withdrew export incentives to India under its Generalized System of Preferences (GSP) programme. India was the largest beneficiary of GSP.
MoSPI has proposed to set up a National Data Warehouse to leverage big data analytical tools

Ministry of Statistics and Programme Implementation (MoSPI) has proposed to set up a National Data Warehouse with an aim to leveraging big data analytical tools. This move is to further improve the quality of macro-economic aggregates. MoSPI also plans to introduce a legislative framework so that the National Statistical Commission (NSC) can function with independence and give holistic guidance for improving the national statistical system.

Significance:
The move also lends its support to the system reforms that are currently ongoing. It will also ensure the responsiveness to the changing needs of society that are necessary. This proposed set up is necessary as there are increasing demands on the statistical system for the production of relevant and quality statistics.

National Data Warehouse for macro-economic aggregate:
The Ministry also proposed to establish a National Data Warehouse on Official Statistics. Here, the technology will be leveraged for using big data analytical tools for further improving the quality of macro-economic aggregates. MoSPI has been criticized in some sections for the quality of macro-economic data.

Merger of merger of CSO and NSSO:
Regarding this the government has recently merged the Central Statistical Organisation (CSO) and the National Sample Survey Office (NSSO) to streamline and strengthen the statistical system. The merger leveraged the strengths of the two organisations so that it can meet the increasing demands. The government use the statistical data to revise the GDP estimate would require concomitant changes in the sectoral data flows and associated regulatory framework in the data source agencies to facilitate the use of more macro modelling techniques.

Ministry of Statistics and Programme Implementation (MOSPI):
Established on: 15 October 1999
Minister responsible: Rao Inderjit Singh, Minister of State (Independent Charge)
It has 2 wings:

1) Department of Statistics
2) Department of Programme Implementation

It is responsible for the **development of the statistical system** and maintains norms and standards in the field of statistics that involves concepts and definitions, methodology of data collection, processing of data and dissemination of results. MoSPI is concerned with coverage and **quality aspects of statistics**.

**ISRO unveiled plan to set up its own space station in seven years**

ISRO unveiled plan to set up its own space station in **seven years**. ISRO is to set up a very small and a separate **space station**. It will **not be a part of the International Space Station (ISS)**. The project will be an extension of the **Gaganyaan mission**, which aims to send an Indian crew to space in 2022.

The weight of the space station will be around **20 tonnes**. ISRO's proposal will be sent to the government for approval by 2022 after the first Gaganyaan mission. The mission is looking at 5-7 years to execute the programme. The cost of the proposed space station was not disclosed.

The International Space Station (ISS) is a partnership between **European Space Agency, the United States (NASA), Japan (JAXA), Canada (CSA) and Russia (Roscosmos)**. It is the world's largest international cooperative programme in science and technology. China also plans to build a space station of its own.

**NASAs OSIRIS REx spacecraft creates new record**

NASAs OSIRIS-REx spacecraft entered its second **orbital phase around asteroid Bennu**, called **Orbital B** on June 12, 2019. It broke its own world record for **the closest orbit of a planetary body**.

In the Orbital B phase, the maneuver placed the spacecraft in an orbit 680 meters above the surface of asteroid Bennu. The previous record was set by OSIRIS-REx on 31 December, 2018, when the spacecraft flew 1.33 km above the asteroids surface during Orbital A phase.

**OSIRIS-REx:**

The OSIRIS-REx spacecraft was sent to study the asteroid Bennu and return a sample from its surface to Earth. The spacecraft is on a **seven-year journey**. The
sample of a primitive asteroid will help the scientists understand the formation of the Solar System over \textbf{4.5 billion years} ago. Sample collection has been scheduled for summer of 2020. The spacecraft is expected to deliver the sample to Earth in September 2023.
ENVIRONMENT

Mount Sinabung volcano erupted in Sumatra Island

Mount Sinabung volcano erupted in Sumatra Island of western Indonesia. A huge column of ash was blasted and spread 7 km high to southeast and south of crater. Mount Sinabung blew for nine minutes. It caused panic among the islands residents. The volcanic activity was accompanied by multiple earthquakes felt in nearby villages. No casualties have been reported due to the eruption.

Indonesia has nearly 130 active volcanoes, more than any other country.

Mount Sinabung:

Sinabung was inactive for around 400 years before it erupted in 2010, 2014 and February 2018. Since then it has become one of south east Asian nation's most active volcanoes.

Mount Sinabung is a Pleistocene-to-Holocene stratovolcano located in North Sumatra. It is particularly prone to seismic activity due to its location on the Ring of Fire.

Ring of Fire: Itan arc of volcanoes and fault lines encircling the Pacific Basin.

Study says every individual ingest 5g of microscopic plastic particles every week

Researchers said that the people could be ingesting 5g of microscopic plastic particles every week. Microplastics are tiny plastics pieces ranging from 5 millimetres down to 100 nanometres in diameter.

Microplastics in food:

Microplastics enter our body through marine source, non-marine source and sometimes indoor dust.

The consumption happens mostly from tap and bottled water, nearly invisible bits of polymer were also found in canned fish, shellfish, beer and salt.

Analysis:

The result was drawn from studying 52 peer-reviewed studies. These are the first to estimate the sheer weight of plastics consumed by individual humans. The result showed that about 250 g over the course of a year is consumed by individual
human.
Grand View Research reported that in the last two decades, the world has produced as much plastic as during the rest of history, and the industry is set to grow by 4% a year until 2025.

**Scientists has discovered a new frog species in the Northeast**

Scientists from **Delhi University and Wildlife Institute of India** in collaboration with **researchers from Indonesia and the USA** has discovered a new **frog species in the Northeast**.

**Appearance:**
The frog is **reddish brown in colour**. It has prominent **dark streaks and ash grey mottling** on the lateral sides. Web is absent on its feet.

**Microhylid genus:**
The frog has been named **Micryletta aishani**. It belongs to the **Microhylid genus**. The first known species of the genus was found in **Sumatra, Indonesia**. At present, the Microhylid genus has only four recognised species that are commonly known as **paddy frogs**.

But the new frog species that was found on the Northeast India was confirmed as a new species after detailed comparison of both DNA and morphology with all previously known species across Southeast and East Asia. The study also revealed that this kind of paddy frog might be found in Southeast regions such as Laos, Thailand and Vietnam.
The Union Cabinet approved two Medical Bills that was lapsed in the 16th Lok Sabha session

The **Union Cabinet approved** the two Medical Bills, **Indian Medical Council (Amendment Bill), 2019**, and **the Homoeopathy Central Council (Amendment Bill), 2019**. Both the bills had lapsed in the **16th Lok Sabha session**. The Bills are to be reintroduced in the upcoming **Parliament session**.

**Indian Medical Council (Amendment Bill), 2019:**
The Bill is aimed at bringing in **accountability, transparency, and quality** in the governance of medical education in the country. The bill will also provide for supersession of the **Medical Council of India (MCI)** for a period of two years from August 26, 2018.

The Board of Governors shall exercise the powers and functions of the MCI as assigned under the IMC Act, 1956. The Board of Governors (BoG) members will be increased from existing **7 to 12**.

**Homoeopathy Central Council (Amendment Bill), 2019:**
The Homoeopathy Central Council (Amendment Bill), 2019 is intended to extend the period for reconstitution of the **Central Council** from an existing period of **one year to two years**. Also, the tenure of the Board of Governors will be extended for a further period of one year with effect from **May 17, 2019**.

**Dentists Act, 1948:**
The Centre has also approved the introduction of a Bill to **amend the Dentists Act, 1948**. The Bill aimed to make the Dental Council of India more effective. The Bill is expected to restructure the Dental Councils. Also, the representation of Central government members and elected members would no longer be made mandatory in the Dental Councils.
DEFENCE

Cabinet approved the setting up of Defence Space Research Agency (DSRO)

The Cabinet Committee on Security headed by Prime Minister Narendra Modi has approved the setting up of Defence Space Research Agency (DSRO), a new agency, which will develop sophisticated weapon systems. The approval aimed to To enhance the capabilities of the armed forces to fight wars in space.

Members of DSRO:
The agency will be headed by a Joint Secretary-level scientist. DSRO would constitute a team of scientists which would be working in close coordination with the tri-services integrated Defence staff officers.

Functions of DSRO:
DSRO will be entrusted with the task of creating space warfare weapon systems and technologies.
It would provide the research and development support to the Defence Space Agency (DSA).

About DSA:
Defence Space Agency (DSA) will constitute of members from the three services. The aim of setting up of DSA is to help the country fight wars in the space.
DSA is being set up under an Air Vice Marshal-rank officer in Bengaluru. It will be gradually taking over the space-related capabilities of the three forces.

DRDO successfully tested the indigenously developed HSTDV along with several technologies

The Defence Research and Development Organisation (DRDO) conducted the maiden test of an indigenously developed Hypersonic Technology Demonstrator Vehicle (HSTDV) along with several technologies on 12 June.
The HSTDV missile was successfully launched from Dr Abdul Kalam Island off the coast of Odisha. The missile was tracked by various radars, telemetry stations and electro optical tracking sensors through its course.It HSTDV being developed by DRDO with assistance from Israel and the UK and Russia.

Aim:
The project aims to serve multiple military and civil purposes. It also intends to develop a **hypersonic vehicle** that will be powered by a **scram-jet engine**. The HSTDV demonstrated the performance of a scram-jet engine at an altitude of 15 km to 20 km.

**Scram-jet technology:**
Scram-jet technology is **dual-use technology**. It will have multiple civilian applications when developed successfully. **Scram-jet technology** has the ability to fly at speeds in excess of **Mach 6** while using **atmospheric oxygen** as **oxidizer**. It will also be available for long-range cruise missiles. The combustion of fuel takes place in a chamber in the missile at supersonic speeds, in scram-jet technology. It can be used for launching satellites at low cost.

Till now, India is using ram jet system. In ram jet system, the system collects the **air it needs from the atmosphere** during the flight at subsonic speeds and the **propellants burn** in the **combustion chamber**.

**Turkey rejected USs ultimatum to back down on Russian missile deal**

Turkey announced that it will not back down from its decision to buy **Russian S-400 missile defense systems** despite **U.S.'s ultimatum**. This has created tension between Ankara and Washington, the NATO allies.

The **S-400s** are not compatible with NATO's defense systems. US said it would compromise its **F-35s**, which Turkey also plans to buy. Turkey has proposed that the allies form a working group to assess the impact of the S-400s, but has yet to receive a response from the United States.

**US' urge:**
U.S. urged Turkey to abandon its purchase of a **Russian missile defence system**. If Turkey does not end the deal, U.S. said that it would expel the Turkish pilots training on the F-35 fighter jet programme.

**Turkish Foreign Minister Mevlüt Avuolu** suggested an offer to set up a joint working group to resolve U.S. concerns.

**Turkey:**
**President:** Recep Tayyip Erdogan  
**Vice President:** Fuat Oktay  
**Capital:** Ankara  
**Currency:** Turkish lira () (TRY)
AWARDS AND HONOURS

Maldives to confer its highest award Nishan Izzuddin on Prime Minister Narendra Modi

Shri Narendra Modi is conferred with Maldives highest award Nishan Izzuddin.

The main aim of the visit is to further cement ties with the Indian Ocean archipelago.

Earlier, Prime Minister Modi and President Solih held delegation-level talks as the two countries signed a slew of agreements to strengthen bilateral ties in a number of key areas including defence.

His last was in November 2018 to attend President Solih's swearing-in, this visit is the first by an Indian prime minister at a bilateral level in eight years.

Relation between India and Maldives

The relations between India and the Maldives after the sworn in of President Abdulla Yameen.

The Imposition of restrictions on work visas for Indians and signing of a new Free Trade Agreement with Beijing also did not go down well with New Delhi.

The Maldives is a key to its Maritime Silk Road project in the Indian Ocean acquired Hambantota port in Sri Lanka and Djibouti in the Horn of Africa.

Indian Government offered the Maldives a line of credit 800 million us dollars and three important projects have already been identified and the project report preparation is underway.

Water supply and sewerage for 36 of the Islands are implemented.

Another one is Addu Urban Development Centre

The third project is the SME Development Financing project.

About Maldives

Capital: Mal
Currency: Maldivian rufiyaa
Continent: Asia
President: Ibrahim Mohamed Solih

Ministry for Information and Broadcasting instituted Antarashtriya Yoga Diwas Media Samman (AYDMS)

The Ministry of Information and Broadcasting (I&B) has instituted its
first Antarashtriya Yoga Diwas Media Samman (AYDMS). It was announced by the Minister Prakash Javadekar. The aim of the award is to acknowledge the positive role & responsibility of media in disseminating the outreach of Yoga in India and abroad. The award will be conferred to Media Houses engaged in Print Media, Electronic and (Television & Radio).

**Prize:** The award comprises of a special **medal/plaque/trophy and a citation.**

**Six juries** will assess the contribution of Media in the popularising of Yoga. The duration of the coverage for AYDMS would be from [10th June to 25th June 2019](#). Announcements of the honors will be announced and Antarashtriya Yoga Diwas Media Samman (AYDMS) ceremony in July 2019 (tentative date).

**Categories:**
The award would be given under the following categories:

1) **Best Media Coverage of Yoga in Newspapers** - Eleven Sammans will be conferred in 22 Indian languages and English
2) **Best Media Coverage of Yoga in Television** - Eleven Sammans will be conferred in 22 Indian languages and English
3) **Best Media Coverage of Yoga in Radio** - Eleven Sammans will be conferred in 22 Indian languages and English

In 2019, the year the award was instituted, **thirty-three awards** have been conferred under the 3 categories.

**Yoga:**
United Nations has universally acknowledged Yoga under the leadership of [Prime Minister Narendra Modi](#). Yoga is being practiced globally around **200 countries** on 21 June every year.

Yoga is a group of **physical, mental, and spiritual practices** or disciplines which originated in ancient India. Yoga is one of the six orthodox schools of Hindu philosophical traditions.

**Priyanka Chopra to be honoured with humanitarian award by UNICEF**

Indian actress Priyanka Chopra with the Danny Kaye Humanitarian Award at the United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF) Snowflake Ball in the month of December.

The event will be held on December 3 in New York.

She is a UNICEF Goodwill Ambassador.
She visited Ethiopia last month.
She is known for her contribution to social causes
She will raise her voice for childrens education.
India to raise awareness against child welfare.
She is also to improve the education, health and safety of girl child in India.

About UNICEF
Headquarters: New York, New York, United States
Head: Henrietta H. Fore
Founded: 11 December 1946, New York, New York, United States
Executive director: Henrietta H. Fore

Author Amitav Ghosh was conferred the 54th Jnanpith Award

Author Amitav Ghosh was conferred the 54th Jnanpith Award. He was awarded for his contribution to the enrichment of Indian literature in English at a ceremony. The award was presented by the former governor of West Bengal Gopalkrishna Gandhi in New Delhi on 13 June. Amitav Ghosh is the first English writer to get this prestigious Jnanpith Award

Amitav Ghosh:
Amitav Ghosh is an Indian writer. He is best known for his work in English fiction. In 2007, the government of India awarded him the civilian honour of Padma Shri. He also received the Israeli Dan David Prize, together with Margaret Atwood.

His works and awards:
His book, The Circle of Reason won the Prix Mdicis tranger which is France's top literary awards.
His work 'The Calcutta Chromosome' won the Arthur C. Clarke Award for 1997.
Also, his work 'Sea of Poppies' was shortlisted for the 2008 Man Booker Prize. The book 'River of Smoke' was shortlisted for the Man Asian Literary Prize 2011.

Jnanpith Award:
The Jnanpith Award is an Indian literary award. It was instituted in 1961. The award was sponsored by Bharatiya Jnanpith, a literary research organization. It is presented annually by the Bharatiya Jnanpith to an author for their outstanding
contribution towards literature. The award is bestowed only on Indian writers who writes in Indian languages that are included in the Eighth Schedule to the Constitution of India and English, with no posthumous conferral. G. Sankara Kurup was the first who received the award in 1965. The award consists of a citation plaque, a cash prize of Rs.12 lakh (around), and a bronze replica of Saraswati, the Hindu goddess of knowledge and wisdom.

**Akshaya Patra was awarded the BBC World Service Global Champion Award**

The Bengaluru-based NGO Akshaya Patra has been awarded the BBC World Service Global Champion Award for the programme. The award is presented at the BBC Food and Farming Awards in Bristol, London. The award recognises a project or person who is changing the way the world produces, processes, consumes or thinks about food for the better. Akshaya Patra was selected by an international panel of judges from nominations sent in by the World Service audience around the world. Other projects on the shortlist included UK charity WRAP, and Food 4 Education.

**Akshaya Patra:**
Akshaya Patra is a non-profit organisation which was established on 2000. The organisation runs one of the worlds largest school meals project in India. The mission aims to ensure that no child is deprived of education because of hunger. It recognises that children may abandon education to do menial jobs to earn enough money to eat and also an empty stomach in the classroom can make it hard for them to concentrate.

20 years ago, the charity started its midday meal programme. Initially it provided 1,500 free school lunches every day. Today, it feeds 1.75 million children all over India.

The organisation has its location in various states like Andhra Pradesh, Assam, Chhattisgarh, Gujarat, Karnataka, Odisha, Rajasthan, Tamil Nadu, Telangana, Uttar Pradesh.

**Sahitya Akademi announces winners of 2019 Bal Sahitya Puraskar, Yuva Puraskar**

Sahitya Akademi, India's national academy of letters has announced a list of 22
winners of the Bal Sahitya Puraskar and 23 recipients of the Yuva Puraskar for the year 2019. The selection of awardees in Agartala has been approved by the Executive Board of the Akademi, under the chairmanship of its President, Chandrashekhar Kambar. The Bal Puraskar award is to be conferred upon the winners on the Children's Day. The day for the Yuva Puraskar is yet to be decided.

**Prize:**
The winners of both the awards will receive a casket containing an engraved copper plaque and a cheque of Rs 50,000.

**Awardees:**
Six books of children's poetry has won the Bal Sahitya Puraskar. The books includes works by Vijay Sharma (Dogri), Naji Munauwar (Kashmiri), and Sanjay Chaubey (Sanskrit); five short story books by authors including Govind Sharma (Hindi), Mohammad Khalil (Urdu), and Swmim Nasrin (Assamese); and five authors for their total contribution in children's literature.

One folk tale author, Lakhminath Brahma, in Bodo language, three novels by Chandrakanth Karadalli (Kannada), Salim Sardar Mulla (Marathi), and Pawan Harchandpuri (Punjabi); one history book by Devika Cariapa in English, and one play by R K Sanahanbi Chanu in Manipuri.

The books that won the Sahitya Akademi Yuva Puraskar 2019 includes eleven books of poetry, including works by Anuj Lugun (Hindi), Sagar Nazir (Kashmiri), Anuja Akathoottu (Malayalam); six of short stories by authors, including Tanuj Solanki (English), Ajay Soni (Gujarati), Keerti Parihar (Rajasthani); five novels by Moumita (Bengali), and Salman Abdus Samad (Urdu).
SPORTS

Rafael Nadal clinched the 12th French Open title by defeating Dominic Thiem

World number two Rafael Nadal clinched the 12th French Open title in 15 years in men's single category held in Roland Garros Stadium, France. He defeated world number four Dominic Thiem in the men's singles. The Spaniard won the match with a scoreline of 6-3, 5-7, 6-1, 6-1. The 33-year-old has now won 18 Grand Slam titles, two fewer than world number three Roger Federer.

The champions of the 2019 French Open

Men's Singles: Spain Rafael Nadal
Women's Singles: Australia Ashleigh Barty
Men's Doubles: Germany Kevin Krawietz / Germany Andreas Mies
Women's Doubles: Hungary Tmea Babos / France Kristina Mladenovic
Mixed Doubles: Chinese Taipei Latisha Chan / Croatia Ivan Dodig

2019 French Open:
The 2019 French Open was held from 26th May-9th June
Edition: 123rd
Category: Grand Slam tournament
Prize money: 42,661,000
Surface: Clay
Held at: Roland Garros Stadium, France

Lewis Hamilton Won Canadian Grand Prix 2019

Lewis Hamilton won Canadian Grand Prix, the world of Formula One championship title 2019.
Lewis Hamilton, Robert Kubica and Daniel Ricciardo players who played various matches in championship and considered as star players.
Hamilton won 78th career win in Formula One.
He also fifth out of the seven races contested this season
He secured seventh win at the 2019 Canadian Grand Prix and defeated Sebastian Vettel (Ferrari)

About Canadian Grand Prix
Canadian Grand Prix is an annual auto race held in Canada since 1961. It is a part of
the Formula One World Championship since 1967
First held: 1961
Number of times held: 56
Most wins: Germany Michael Schumacher, Lewis Hamilton

About Lewis Hamilton
Nationality: United Kingdom
Entries: 236
Win: 78

China claims 4 gold medals at 2019 ITTF World Tour Hong Kong Open

China claimed four gold medals at 2019 ITTF World Tour Hong Kong Open, Queen Elizabeth Stadium, Hong Kong. The event was held from 6 June to 9 June.

Women's singles:
Wang Yidi the women's singles title by defeating second seed Mima Ito of Japan. She secured a 4-0 scoreline (11-3, 11-7, 11-5, 11-6). This is her first international win.

Men's singles:
Chinese player Lin Gaoyuan defeated Tomokazu Harimoto of Japan and clinched the title. He secured 11-3, 7-11, 8-11, 11-6, 11-9, 11-7.

Mens doubles:
The mens doubles title was won by Liang Jingkun and Lin Gaoyuan. They defeated Jang Woo-jin and Lim Jong-hoon of South Korea and secured 6-11, 11-6, 12-10, 11-8.

Womens doubles:
In the womens doubles, Chinese pair Chen Ke and Mu Zi defeated Jeon Ji-hee and You Eun-chong of South Korea 9-11, 11-1, 11-4, 11-5.

2019 ITTF World Tour:
The ITTF World Tour 2019 is the 24th season of the International Table Tennis Federation's (ITTF) professional table tennis world tour.

Hong Kong Open 2019:
Held on: 6-9 June
Location: Hong Kong
International Association of Athletics Federations (IAAF) re-branded as World Athletics

The International Association of Athletics Federations (IAAF), the international governing body for the sport of athletics, changed it name from IAAF to World Athletics. The members of IAAF council have approved the rebranding at an IAAF Council meeting held in Monaco on 8th June. The process to rebrand IAAF began on January 2018.

Purpose:
The new name and logo has been designed to represent the modern and positive face for athletics. Also, it aims to attract the younger audience.
It will see the organisation take on its new name and a re-designed logo after the 2019 World Athletics Championship in Doha in October.

From the Origin:
IAAF was formed in 17 July 1912. When it was founded the name it had was International Amateur Athletic Federation. It was then changed to International Association of Athletics Federations in 2001.
The headquarters of IAAF is located in Monaco. IAAF has 215 member federations. The Current President of IAAF is Sebastian Coe. The CEO of IAAF is Jon Ridgeon.

Virat Kohli is the only Indian in the list of top paid athletes

Indian cricketer Virat Kohli is the only Indian in the Forbes list of world's highest-paid athletes. He has been estimated with an annual earnings of $25 million. According to the report, his earnings are $21 million from endorsements and USD 4 million from salary and winnings for the last 12 months. Kholi, the Indian captain, has dropped 17 spots to be 100th in the rankings despite an increase of $1 million in endorsements. He was ranked 83rd in 2018.
The list is topped by Barcelona and Argentina football superstar Lionel Messi. Retired boxer Floyd Mayweather has been dethroned by Messi as the sports world's highest earner, raking in $127 million via salary and endorsement deals.
Messi's long-time rival Cristiano Ronaldo, the Juventus and Portugal star is second with earnings of $109 million.

Peter Gilchrist won the 2019 Pacific International Billiards Championship

Peter Gilchrist won the 2019 Pacific International Billiards Championship at the Yarraville Club in Melbourne, Australia. Peter Gilchrist defeated Kolkata cueist Kothari who had been on a roll winning the International Reventon Classic Snooker championship, a triple crown event of Australia and thereafter went on to display some outstanding billiards en-route the final.

Peter Gilchrist:
Peter Gilchrist is an English-born Singaporean English billiards player. He has won the WPBSA World Championships in 1994, 2001 and in 2013.
He has also represented Singapore in the SEA Games in 2009, where he won Gold for English Billiards Singles, and Bronze for the doubles.
He also set the world record for highest break in billiards (1346) under modern rules, at the New Zealand Open Billiards Championships.
In 2014, he scored his second 1000 break at the World Billiards Irish Open. He is the only player of the modern era who scored more than one 1000 points in tournament break.
ASI declares Chaukhandi Stupa as of national important monument

**Chaukhandi Stupa**, an ancient Buddhist site located in Sarnath, Uttar Pradesh, has been declared as a **Monument and protected area of national importance** by Archaeological Survey of India (ASI).

**Chaukhandi Stupa:**
Chaukhandi Stupa is a lofty mound of brick whose square edifice is surrounded by an octagonal tower. It was built to mark the place where Lord Buddha met his first disciples as he traveled from Bodhgaya to Sarnath.
The Chaukhandi Stupa is said to be originally a terraced temple during the Gupta period, that 4th to 6th Century.
Govardhan, the son of Raja Todarmal gave the present shape to the Chaukhandi Stupa. He built an octagonal tower to commemorate the visit of Humayun, the great Mughal ruler.

**Archaeological Survey of India (ASI):**
ASI was formed on 1861, headquartered at New Delhi, India. ASI is the premier organization for the archaeological researches and protection of the cultural heritage in India. It functions under the Ministry of Culture.
ASI is responsible for the regulation of all archaeological activities in the country as per the provisions of the Ancient Monuments and Archaeological Sites and Remains Act, 1958 and Antiquities and Art Treasure Act, 1972.
OBITUARY

Veteran playwright, actor and director Girish Karnad passed away

Veteran director, playwright and actor Girish Karnad passed away at the age of 81 on 10th June 2019.Karnad died due to a prolonged illness.

His career:
Karnad made his acting and screenwriting debut in a 1970 on a release called 'Samskara' which won the President's Golden Lotus Award.
He served as the Director of the Film and Television Institute of India during 1974-1975. He was also the Chairman of the Sangeet Natak Akademi, the National Academy of the Performing Arts from 1988 to 1993. In the early 1990s, he hosted the Turning Point, a science magazine, on Doordarshan.
The Jnanpith awardee's plays have been translated into English and several Indian languages. His plays have been directed by directors like Alyque Padamsee, Ebrahim Alkazi, Arvind Gaur, BV Karanth, Zafer Mohiuddin, Satyadev Dubey, Shyamanand Jalan, Amal Allana, Vijaya Mehta and Prasanna.

Awards:
Girish Karnad was conferred with Padma Shri award in 1974 for contributions to theatre. He was awarded the Padma Bhushan for literature.

Poet and lyricist Pazhavila Ramesan passed away on 13 June

Poet and lyricist Pazhavila Ramesan passed away on 13 June 2019 at Thiruvananthapuram. He was 83. He was ailing for some time.
Pazhavila Ramesan:
Ramesan had received the 2017 Kerala Sahithya Akademi award for overall contributions. He wrote lyrics for Malayalam movies such as Njattadi, Aashamsakalode, Uncle Bun, Maloottty, and Vasudha. He was co-editor of K. Balakrishnans Kaumudi Weekly in the sixties. He worked at the State Institute of Languages in various capacities till 1993.
He is a recipient of various awards, Ramesan brought out poetry collections such as Mazhayude Jalakam, Njan Ente Kadukalelikku, and Pazhavila Ramesante Kavithakal, besides collections of his writings such as Ormayude Varthamanam, Mayatha Varakal, and Nervara.
SEBI signed MoU with MCA to facilitate the sharing of data and information for regulatory purposes

The Securities and Exchange Board of India (SEBI) signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) with the Ministry of Corporate Affairs (MCA).

Aim:
The MoU will ensure that both the MCA and the SEBI have seamless linkage for regulatory purposes and in addition to regular exchange of data. It also aims to facilitate the continuous sharing of data and information for carrying out scrutiny, inspection, investigation, and prosecution.

Benefits:
The MoU will facilitate the sharing of data and information between SEBI and the MCA on an automatic and regular basis. It will also enable sharing of specific information such as details of suspended companies, delisted firms, shareholding pattern from the SEBI and financial statements filed with the Registrar by corporates, returns of allotment of shares and audit reports relating to corporates.

The MCA has the database of all registered firms whereas the SEBI only regulates listed entities that may have unlisted subsidiaries. The MCA alone has access to all the data of such unlisted entities.

The data exchange status will be reviewed and analyzed by a Data Exchange Steering Group which will meet and review periodically.

Significance:
The move comes after the view to increase the need for surveillance in the context of corporate frauds which affects important sectors of the economy. It is a known fact that the private sector plays an increasingly vital role in economic growth, the need for a robust corporate governance mechanism becomes the need of the hour. Already there exists a protocol of sharing of data between SEBI and MCA, in many cases, the regulator has also sent its orders against various entities to the MCA for further action.

Securities and Exchange Board of India (SEBI):
Formed: April 12, 1988
Acquired Statutory Status on: January 30, 1992
Headquarters: Mumbai, Maharashtra
The G20 Summit ended with the issuance of joint statement on trade and the digital economy

In the G20 Summit, the Finance Ministers and Central Bank Governors from the Group of 20 economies issued a joint statement on trade and the digital economy. The meeting was held in Tsukuba, Japan on 8 and 9 June 2019.

**Aim:**
The G20 Summit was focused on the ways to promote trade and cooperation among the G20 countries in order to harness the potential of the digital economy.

**New tax rules:**
The Finance Ministers discussed new tax rules on global IT giants as well as the impact of aging populations on the economy as the corporate sector make huge profits through cross-border data transfers.

**Global growth** is being stable and is expected to pick up moderately by late 2019 and into 2020. However, growth remains low and risks remain tilted to the downside as trade and geopolitical tensions have been intensified.

**Agreements:**
The Ministers confirmed their commitment to refraining from competitive currency devaluations in order to gain an unfair trade advantage.
They also agreed on guiding principles for using artificial intelligence which is created on the 36-member OECD and an additional six countries. They also planned to highlight divisions over trade issues such as reform of the World Trade Organization.

The 16th Asia Media Summit was successfully concluded on 13 June in Cambodia

The 16th Asia Media Summit was concluded on 13 June in Cambodia. The summit called for regulation-making to fight against fake news and cyber-crimes. The theme of the summit was Media Digitalisation - Focusing on Developing Markets.
16th Asia Media Summit:
The summit was organised by Cambodian Ministry of Information and the Asia-Pacific Institute for Broadcasting Development (AIBD).
Participants: Around 600 media representatives from 42 countries and regions participated in the two-day summit.

Focus:
The summit focused on the spread of disinformation or fake news and its impact on governments, media, private sector and society. The discussions included the concerns caused by digital media, which requires relevant authorities to make regulations to anti-cybercrimes, fake news, and training people to raise awareness and enhance media profession.
The summit encouraged the broadcasters and other media stakeholders to counter fake news by strengthening law enforcement, ethics and professionalism.

Angkor Fake News Initiative:
During the summit Angkor Fake News Initiative was launched. It is year-long research project to find out appropriate measures to counter fake news. It was urged that fake news and cyber-crimes pose severe risks to individual's right and security in the region as well as in the globe.

Asia Media Summit:
Asia Media Summit was established in 2004 in Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia. The summit was held subsequently in Malaysia until 2008.
The sixth round of the meeting was moved to Macau of China in 2009. It was then held in Indonesia, Thailand, Vietnam, Saudi Arabia, India and Cambodia in the following years.
It provides opportunity for media practitioners, industry leaders, broadcasters, researchers, academia, experts and media policy makers to meet and discuss the developing medias quality and high technological revolution.
Union Cabinet approved the Brucellosis control program to improve the health of animals

Union Cabinet has approved the Brucellosis control program, a new scheme, to control Foot and Mouth Disease (FMD) and Brucellosis to support the livestock rearing farmers and improve the health of animals. This initiative aims to fully control these diseases amongst livestock in the country in the next five years and subsequently eradicate these diseases.

Cabinet has approved a total outlay of Rs.13,343 crores for the scheme and entire cost will be now borne by Central Government. Earlier the cost was shared by both Central and State Governments. It is very common amongst the livestock, cow-bulls, buffaloes, sheep, goats, pigs, etc.

Union Cabinet has approved the Pradhan Mantri Kisan Samman Siddhi Scheme

Union Cabinet has approved the Pradhan Mantri Kisan Samman Siddhi Scheme. It will cost over Rs.87,000 crore a year to the exchequer. The government has announced its decision to extend the benefit of Rs.6,000 per year under the PM-KISAN scheme to all 14.5 crore farmers in the country, irrespective of the size of their landholding.

Pradhan Mantri Kisan Samman Siddhi:

The scheme was launched on 24th February 2019 in the run-up to the 2019 Parliamentary elections in Gorakhpur, Uttar Pradesh where the first rounds of installments were paid to several farmers.

The government so far distributed the first installment to 3.11 crore beneficiaries and second installment to 2.66 crore beneficiaries into their bank accounts through Direct Benefit Transfer mode.

PM Kisan Pension Scheme: Farmers' contribution to be Rs 100 per month

Central government plans to launch a village-level campaign to enroll an additional one crore farmers in Kisan Credit Card (KCC) scheme over the next 100 days, The scheme urged States to ensure wider coverage of the Pradhan Mantri
Kisan Samman Nidhi Yojna (PM-Kisan) and pension schemes Currently, there are about 6.92 crore KCC holders. Around 14.5 crore operational landholdings farmers eligible for an agricultural loan of up to 1.6 lakh. Among the major States that have poor KCC penetration are: Bihar, Chhattisgarh, Gujarat, Jharkhand, Maharashtra and West Bengal.

**About PM Kisan Scheme**

PM Kisan is a Centrally-sponsored income support scheme for farmers which would give them 6,000 a year in three equal instalments. The scheme extended to all farmers, irrespective of the size of landholdings. The pension scheme would give 3,000 monthly to small and marginal farmers from the age of 60 between 18 and 40 years of age. Farmers will have to contribute 100 per month under the Pradhan Mantri Kisan Pension Yojana for the monthly pension, according to the government. The Centre will match the farmers contributed to the pension fund to be managed by the LIC. The cabinet approved a separate pension scheme for farmers which covers five crore beneficiaries in the first three years. It costs around 10,774.5 crore per annum. Farmers to allow the contribution to be made directly from the benefits drawn from the PM-Kisan scheme.
APPOINTMENTS / RESIGN

BJP MP Virendra Kumar to be pro-tem speaker of Lok Sabha

Virendra Kumar, a seven-time MP from Tikamgarh in Madhya Pradesh chosen as the pro tem speaker of the 17th Lok Sabha.

He was MoS in the ministry of women and child development He was also in the minority affairs ministry in the previous government.

He is likely to be administered the oath of office at the Rashtrapati Bhavan on June 17, the day where newly elected Lok Sabha commences its first session.

On the first two days, the new MPs will take the oath.

The election for the speaker will be on June 19.

He was elected to the 11th Lok Sabha for the first time in 1996.

He became a member of the Standing Committee on Labour and Welfare.

He served as a member and chairman of various committees.

He studied a Ph.D. started his political career in 1977

He became the convener of Akhil Bharatiya Vidyarthi Parishad (ABVP), Sagar district, Madhya Pradesh.

He served a prison sentence of 16 months under the Maintenance of Internal Security Act (MISA) in protest against the imposition of Emergency when he was associated with RSS.

He was a minister of state in the previous Modi government.

**Definition of Pro Term Speaker:**

After the general election and formation of a new government, a list of senior Lok Sabha members prepared by the Legislative Section is submitted to the Minister of Parliamentary Affairs

He who selects a pro tem speaker.

The appointment should be approved by the President.

---

Narasimhan has been appointed as CEO of Reckitt Benckiser

PepsiCo executive Laxman Narasimhan has been appointed as the chief executive officer of the British consumer goods giant Reckitt Benckiser. He will succeed Rakesh Kapoor. Narasimhan will join Reckitt as CEO-designate and be appointed to the board on July 16. He will resume his office and become group
CEO on September 1. Narasimhan’s initial priorities will be to focus on delivering outperformance especially in the health business unit, and to drive the Lysol makers plan to split the firm into two business units under the same company.
IMPORTANT DAYS

International Day Against Child Labour observed on June 12

International Labour Organization (ILO) started to celebrate World Day Against Child Labour in 2002

Aim: To focus attention on the global extent of child labour and the action and efforts needed to eliminate it.

The 2019 theme is Children shouldn’t work in fields, but on dreams!

The day brings government employers and workers organizations, civil society, as well as millions of people from around the world to highlight the plight of child labourers.

Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) adopted by world leaders in 2015 to include a renewed global commitment to ending child labour.

Sustainable Development Goals and effective measures are take-ups in order to eradicate forced labour, end modern slavery and human trafficking and secure the prohibition and elimination of the worst forms of child labour includes use of child labours by the year 2025 and to end child labour in all its forms.

ILO celebrates 100 years of advancing social justice.

The protection of children embedded in the ILOs Constitution (Preamble). One of the first Conventions adopted by the ILO was on Minimum Age in Industry (No. 5, 1919).

8.7 target set by the international community calling for an end to child labour in all its forms by 2025.

About World Day Against Child Labour

Observances: UN, International Labour Organization

Frequency: annual

Called as: WDACL

Observed by: UN Members

International Albinism Awareness Day 2019 is observed on 13 June

International Albinism Awareness Day (IAAD) is celebrated on June 13 every year. The day aims to celebrate the human rights of persons with albinism worldwide.
2019 Theme:
The theme for 2019 for the day is Still Standing Strong. The theme aims to recognize, celebrate and stand in solidarity with albinism patients around the globe. It is a call for solidarity.

Day institution:
In mid 2000s there was a rising number of violent attacks on and murders of persons with albinism in Tanzania. Persons with albinism were accused to attribute magical powers and were motivated to use them for lucky charms and occult rituals. By 2015, perpetrators killed more than 70 victims and harmed many more. In response, the Tanzania Albinism Society (TAS) and other NGOs began campaigning for the human rights of persons with albinism.

On May 4, 2006, TAS celebrated the first Albino Day. From 2009 onward the day became National Albino Day and was eventually called National Albinism Day. On December 2014 the UN's General Assembly adopted a resolution 69/170 to proclaim, with effect from 13 June, 2015 as International Albinism Awareness Day.

What is Albinism?
Albinism is a congenital condition which is characterized by complete or partial lack of pigmentation in hair, skin and eyes. The condition can last for years or even a lifetime.

Symptoms: The symptoms for Albinism is: absence of color in the hair, skin, or eyes, lighter than normal coloring of the hair, skin, or eyes and patches of skin that have an absence of color. It is accompanied by a number of vision defects including nystagmus, amblyopia, and photophobia.

Treatment: Albinism can not be cured. But treatment can relieve symptoms and prevent sun damage. Treatment includes sunglasses to protect the eyes from the suns ultraviolet (UV) rays, protective clothing and sunscreen to protect the skin from UV rays, prescription eyeglasses to correct vision problems and surgery on the muscles of the eyes to correct abnormal eye movements.

World Blood Donor Day is observed on June 14
The day is celebrated to raise awareness of the need for safe blood and blood products and to thank blood donors.
The theme is - Blood Donation and Universal Access to Safe Blood Transfusion
The main aim is to use as a component of achieving universal health coverage. The theme encourages more people all over the world to become blood donors and donate blood regularly.

It is an important occasion for all governments, national health authorities and national blood services to provide adequate infrastructures to increase collection of blood from regular unpaid blood donors.

It helps to mobilize support at national, regional and global levels among governments and development partners to invest in, strengthen and sustain national blood programmes.

Blood is treating the wounded during emergencies like natural disasters, accidents and armed conflicts.

It is essential, life-saving role in maternal care.

**About World Blood Donor Day**

Countries around the world celebrate World Blood Donor Day on June 14.

Date: Friday, 14 June 2019

Observed by: All member states of the World Health Organization
India signs six key agreements with the Maldives

Indian Prime Minister Narendra Modi visited the Maldives on 8 June. PM's visit to the Maldives reflects the importance India attaches to its Neighbourhood First policy.

**Highlights:**
During his visit, PM Narendra Modi and the President of Maldives Ibrahim Mohamed Solih signed six key agreements and substantive bilateral level talks. MoU includes maritime and defence ties which are a top priority and the radar system are expected to boost maritime security.
The leaders jointly inaugurated a coastal surveillance radar system and a composite training centre for the Maldives defence forces.
Launch of RuPay Card in the Maldives was welcomed by PM Modi as it will give a boost to tourism in the island nation.

**The six agreements include:**
- cooperation in the field of hydrography
- cooperation in the field of health
- customs capacity building between the Central Board of Direct Taxes (CBDT) and Customs of India and the Maldives Customs Service
- the establishment of passenger and cargo services by sea
- training and Capacity Building Programme for Maldivian civil servants Maldives Civil Service Commission signed with India's National Centre for Good Governance (NCGG) with the Department of Administrative Reforms and Public Grievances
- sharing white shipping information between the Indian Navy and the Maldives National Defence Force

**Previous agreements:**
In March 2019, India and Maldives signed an $800-million Line of Credit Agreement with an aim to assist the Maldives in achieving sustainable social and economic development.

**Maldives:**
President: Ibrahim Mohamed Solih
Vice President: Faisal Naseem
Capital: Mal
Currency: Maldivian rufiyaa (MVR)
Official languages: English, Dhivehi

NCGG and Maldives Civil Services Commission sign MOU

National Center for Good Governance (NCGG) signed an MOU with Maldives Civil Services Commission building of 1000 Maldives civil servants for the next 5 years.

About the Agreement
The agreement signed during the visit of the Prime Minister of India. It is the nodal institution for designing customized training modules and its implementation taking into account the requirements of the Civil Service Commission, Maldives. The program includes public administration, e-governance, service, public policy governance, information technology, best practices in fisheries across coastal areas, agro-based practices, self-help group initiatives, urban development and planning, ethics in administration and challenges in the implementation of SDGs. Maldives nominates suitable civil servants in the senior/executive/middle management levels as per agreed timelines.
Maldives planning to develop training programs and materials, assist in organizing the exchange of experts as needed by the Civil Services Commission.

About NCGG
They trained 28 Maldives Civil Servants in April 2019 and encouraged the two countries to take the collaboration forward. NCGG successfully conducted training programs for civil servants of Bangladesh, Myanmar, the Gambia and Maldives. Director and Secretary general of NCGG is Shri E.V Eapen

NCGG
It is an autonomous institute under the aegis of the Department of Administrative Reforms and Public Grievances, Government of India.
It's head office is in New Delhi and registered office at Mussoorie.
They planned to carry out policy-relevant research and prepare case studies; curate training courses for civil servants from India and other developing countries. They provide a platform for sharing of existing knowledge and proactively seek out and develop ideas for their implementation.
Singapore topped the IMD World Competitiveness Ranking 2019

Swiss-based International Institute for Management Development (IMD) World Competitiveness Ranking 2019 said Singapore has dethroned the US to become the most competitive economy in the world. Hong Kong stands second spot in the list. USA stands third followed by Switzerland and UAE and fourth and fifth respectively.

Qatar entered the top 10. India ranked 43, one position higher compared to 2018.

Parameters considered:
The ranking process considers a wide range of hard statistics such as Gross Domestic Product (GDP), unemployment and government spending on health and education. IMD also used the soft data from an Executive Opinion Survey which covers other parameters such as social cohesion, globalization and corruption.

India ranks 141 in the 2019 Global Peace Index

Iceland topped the Global Peace Index 2019 rankings which was released by Institute for Economics & Peace. Since 2008, Iceland holds the most peaceful country in the world. India ranked 141 among 163 countries. In 2018, India ranked at 136th among 163 countries.

Afghanistan ranked as the least peaceful country in the world. Th has replaced Syria, which is now the second least peaceful

Parameters:
The Australian think tank ranked countries according to their level of peacefulness. The analysis were based on three major domains:
1) the level of societal safety and security
2) the extent of ongoing domestic and international conflict
3) the degree of militarization

Top/Bottom 5 countries:
The top five countries in the list are Iceland, New Zealand, Austria, Portugal, and Denmark.
The least 5 peaceful countries in the list are Iraq, Yemen, South Sudan, Syria and
Afghanistan (ranked the least) remains the world's least peaceful counties.

Findings of the report:
The report highlighted that India, Philippines, Japan, Bangladesh, Myanmar, China, Indonesia, Vietnam and Pakistan are the nine countries with the highest risk of multiple climate hazards.

In the overall natural hazard score, India stands 7th highest.
The top 5 countries with the largest total military expenditure are India, the US, China, Saudi Arabia, and Russia.

Bhutan topped the index with 15th rank, followed by Sri Lanka 72nd rank, Nepal 76th rank and Bangladesh stood 101 among the South Asian countries. Pakistan has been ranked 153rd on the index.
FESTIVALS

Mela Kheer Bhawani festival was celebrated in Jammu & Kashmir

Mela Kheer Bhawani festival was celebrated in Jammu & Kashmir on Zeasht Ashtami. In 2019, the day fell on June 10. The devotees prayed at the famous Ragnya Devi temple in Ganderbal district, J&K.

Zyestha Ashtami is celebrated by Kashmiri Pandits across the country and outside as the day marks commencing of annual pilgrimage.

Mela Kheer Bhawani:

Kheer Bhawani is a temple that is dedicated to the Goddess Kheer Bhavani constructed over a sacred spring. Kheer Bhawani Mela is one of the biggest religious functions of displaced community of Kashmiri Pandits, who were forcefully evicted from Valley in 1990s by militants.

The devotees carry rose petals, walk barefoot, and offer tribute to goddess and offer milk and kheer (pudding) at sacred spring. It is believed that the colour of the spring which flows below temple will indicate of the valley's well-being.
QUIZ CORNER

1) Where was the G-20 on trade and the digital economy summit held?

A. Geneva, Switzerland 
B. Rome, Italy 
C. Beijing, China 
D. Tsukuba, Japan

**Answer D**

**Explanation** In the G20 Summit, the Finance Ministers and Central Bank Governors from the Group of 20 economies issued a joint statement on trade and the digital economy. The meeting was held in Tsukuba, Japan on 8 and 9 June 2019.

2) Under which programme does the setting up of a national maritime heritage museum takes place?

A. Craft Museum programme 
B. Know India programme 
C. National Heritage and Culture programme 
D. Sagarmala programme

**Answer D**

**Explanation** India has partnered with Portugal for setting up of a national maritime heritage museum at Lothal in Gujarat. The project is being implemented by the Ministry of Shipping through its Sagarmala programme, with the involvement of the Archaeological Survey of India (ASI), the State government and other stakeholders.

3) India and Portugal has partnered to set up a national maritime heritage museum at __________.

A. Vasco da Gama, Goa 
B. Lothal, Gujarat 
C. Kolkata, West Bengal 
D. Hisar, Haryana
India has partnered with Portugal for setting up of a national maritime heritage museum at Lothal in Gujarat.

4) Which Scheme did the Cabinet approve to provide pension cover to farmers under the PM-KISAN scheme?

A. Pradhan Mantri Kisan Samman Siddhi
B. Pradhan Mantri Fasal Bima Yojana
C. Pradhan Mantri Kisan kalyaan Yojana
D. Pradhan Mantri Kisan Penshan Yojana

Answer A

Explanation Union Cabinet has approved the Pradhan Mantri Kisan Samman Siddhi Scheme. It will cost over Rs.87,000 crore a year to the exchequer. The government has announced its decision to extend the benefit of Rs.6,000 per year under the PM-KISAN scheme to all 14.5 crore farmers in the country, irrespective of the size of their landholding.

5) How much did the Centre allocate for the Brucellosis control programme?

A. Rs.10 crores
B. Rs.13,343 crores
C. Rs.17,621 crores
D. Rs.20,845 crores

Answer B

Explanation Union Cabinet has approved Brucellosis control programme, a new scheme, to control Foot and Mouth Disease (FMD) and Brucellosis to support the livestock rearing farmers and improve the health of animals. Cabinet has approved a total outlay of Rs.13,343 crores for the scheme and entire cost will be borne by the Central Government. Earlier the cost was shared by both Central and State Governments.

6) Which Scheme did the Cabinet approve to control Foot and Mouth Disease (FMD) and Brucellosis?

A. Brucellosis control programme
B. FMD disease Prevention Programme
C. Cattle Protection Scheme  
D. FMD Prevention and Management Programme

**Answer A**

**Explanation** Union Cabinet has approved Brucellosis control programme, a new scheme, to control Foot and Mouth Disease (FMD) and Brucellosis to support the livestock rearing farmers and improve the health of animals.

7) Who is the Chairman of the African Union?

A. Abdel Fattah el-Sisi  
B. Donald Tusk  
C. Jean-Claude Juncker  
D. Antonio Tajani

**Answer A**

**Explanation** Abdel Fattah Saeed Hussein Khalil El-Sisi is an Egyptian politician who is the sixth and current President of Egypt, in office since 2014. Starting February 10, 2019, Sisi also began serving a one-year term as Chairperson of the African Union.

8) Which country has been suspended by the African Union as there are no civilian rule established in the country?

A. Syria  
B. Cuba  
C. Sudan  
D. Iran

**Answer C**

**Explanation** The African Unions Peace and Security Council has suspended Sudan as there is no civilian rule established in the country. The decision was taken at the AU’s peace and Security Council meeting in Ethiopia's capital Addis Ababa. This move by AU intensifies global pressure on Sudan's new military leaders to stand down after witnessing worst violence since Bashir's fall.

9) In March 2019, India and Maldives signed an _______ Line of Credit Agreement to assist the Maldives in achieving social and economic development.
A. $200 million  
B. $500 million  
C. $600 million  
D. $800 million

Answer D

Explanation In March 2019, India and Maldives signed an $800 million Line of Credit Agreement to assist the Maldives in achieving social and economic development.

10) With which country did India recently sign six agreements including hydrography, health, passenger and cargo services by sea?

A. Sri Lanka  
B. Maldives  
C. Pakistan  
D. Bhutan

Answer B

Explanation During his visit to the Maldives, Prime Minister Narendra Modi and the President Ibrahim Mohamed Solih of the Maldives signed six key agreements and substantive bilateral level talks in a number of key areas including defence and maritime.

11) Chaukhandi Stupa was built to mark the place where ________.

A. Lord Buddha achieved enlightenment and became the Buddha  
B. Lord Buddha met his first disciples  
C. Lord Buddha tempted by the demon Mara  
D. Lord Buddha died in a state of meditation and attained nirvana

Answer B

Explanation Chaukhandi Stupa is a lofty mound of brick whose square edifice is surrounded by an octagonal tower. It was built to mark the place where Lord Buddha met his first disciples as he traveled from Bodhgaya to Sarnath. It is terraced temple built during the Gupta period, that is, 4th to 6th Century.

12) When was Archaeological Survey of India (ASI) established?
A.1861
B.1881
C.1919
D.1927

Answer A

Explanation Archaeological Survey of India (ASI) was formed on 1861, headquartered at New Delhi, India. ASI is the premier organization for the archaeological researches and protection of the cultural heritage in India. It functions under the Ministry of Culture. ASI is responsible for the regulation of all archaeological activities in the country as per the provisions of the Ancient Monuments and Archaeological Sites and Remains Act, 1958 and Antiquities and Art Treasure Act, 1972.

13) Who modified the stupa by building an octagonal tower to commemorate the visit of Humayun, the Mughal ruler?

A. Raja Man Singh I
B. Raja Man Singh II
C. Raja Govardhan
D. Raja Todarmal

Answer C

Explanation Chaukhandi Stupa is a lofty mound of brick whose square edifice is surrounded by an octagonal tower. It was built to mark the place where Lord Buddha met his first disciples as he traveled from Bodhgaya to Sarnath. It is terraced temple built during the Gupta period, that is, 4th to 6th Century. Govardhan, the son of Raja Todarmal gave the present shape to the Chaukhandi Stupa. He built an octagonal tower to commemorate the visit of Humayun, the great Mughal ruler.

14) Where is Chaukhandi Stupa located?

A. New Delhi, Uttar Pradesh
B. Sarnath, Uttar Pradesh
C. Konark, Odisha
D. Mumbai, Maharashtra

Answer B

Explanation Chaukhandi Stupa, an ancient Buddhist site located in Sarnath, Uttar Pradesh.
Chaukhandi Stupa is a lofty mound of brick whose square edifice is surrounded by an octagonal tower. It was built to mark the place where Lord Buddha met his first disciples as he traveled from Bodhgaya to Sarnath.

15) Which of the following has been declared as a monument of national importance by ASI?

A. Gateway of India  
B. Lotus Temple  
C. Amber Palace  
D. Chaukhandi Stupa

Answer D

Explanation Chaukhandi Stupa, an ancient Buddhist site located in Sarnath, Uttar Pradesh, has been declared as a Monument and protected area of national importance by Archaeological Survey of India (ASI).

16) India ranked _______ in the IMD World Competitiveness Ranking 2019.

A. 10  
B. 21  
C. 33  
D. 43

Answer D

Explanation Swiss-based International Institute for Management Development (IMD) World Competitiveness Ranking 2019 said Singapore has dethroned the US to become the most competitive economy in the world. Hong Kong stands second spot in the list. USA stands third followed by Switzerland and UAE and fourth and fifth respectively. Qatar entered the top 10. India ranked 43, one position higher compared to 2018.

17) Which Country topped the IMD World Competitiveness Ranking 2019?

A. US  
B. Singapore  
C. Russia  
D. Switzerland
Answer B

Explanation Swiss-based International Institute for Management Development (IMD) World Competitiveness Ranking 2019 said Singapore has dethroned the US to become the most competitive economy in the world. Hong Kong stands second spot in the list. USA stands third followed by Switzerland and UAE and fourth and fifth respectively. Qatar entered the top 10. India ranked 43, one position higher compared to 2018.

18) Ring of Fire is an arc of volcanoes and fault lines encircling the ________.

A. Atlantic basin  
B. North Atlantic basin  
C. East Pacific basin  
D. Pacific basin

Answer D

Explanation Mount Sinabung is a Pleistocene-to-Holocene stratovolcano located in North Sumatra. It is particularly prone to seismic activity due to its location on the Ring of Fire, an arc of volcanoes and fault lines encircling the Pacific Basin.

19) Which Volcano in Sumatra Island recently erupted?

A. Mount Kerinci  
B. Mount Dempo  
C. Mount Sinabung  
D. Mount Sibualbuali

Answer C

Explanation Mount Sinabung volcano erupted in Sumatra Island of western Indonesia. A huge column of ash was blasted and spread seven km high to southeast and south of crater. Mount Sinabung blew for nine minutes. It caused panic among the islands residents. The volcanic activity was accompanied by multiple earthquakes felt in nearby villages. No casualties have been reported in the latest eruption.

20) Who ranks World no.1 in Men's Singles Tennis game?

A. Novak Djokovic  
B. Rafael Nadal
C. Roger Federer  
D. Dominic Thiem

**Answer A**

**Explanation** Novak Djokovic is a Serbian professional tennis player who is currently ranked world No. 1 in men's singles tennis by the Association of Tennis Professionals (ATP).

21) **Who won the French Open 2019 title in Women's category?**

A. Ashleigh Barty  
B. Timea Babos  
C. Kristina Mladenovic  
D. Simona Halep

**Answer A**

**Explanation** Simona Halep won the French Open 2019 title in Women's category.

22) **Who won the French Open 2019 title?**

A. Roger Federer  
B. Dominic Thiem  
C. Rafael Nadal  
D. Novak Djokovic

**Answer C**

**Explanation** World number two Rafael Nadal clinched the 12th French Open title in 15 years in men's single category held in Roland Garros Stadium, France. He defeated world number four Dominic Thiem in the men's singles. The Spaniard won the match with a scoreline of 6-3, 5-7, 6-1, 6-1. The 33-year-old has now won 18 Grand Slam titles, two fewer than world number three Roger Federer.

23) **Imports from Pakistan to India has declined by 92% after the imposition of ________ customs duties.**

A. 110%  
B. 150%  
C. 200%
Imports from Pakistan to India has declined by 92% to 2.84 million US dollars in March 2019. This is after the imposition of 200 percent customs duties on all products following Pulwama terror attack. According to the data of the commerce ministry, the imports from Pakistan stood at $34.61 million in March 2018.

24) What was the name of the IAAF when it was founded?

A. International Athletic Federation
B. World Amateur Athletic Federation
C. International Amateur Athletic Federation
D. World Amateur Athletic Federation

Answer C

Explanation When IAAF was founded in 1912, the name it had was International Amateur Athletic Federation. It was changed to International Association of Athletics Federations in 2001.

25) The International Association of Athletics Federations (IAAF) is to be rebranded as ________.

A. International Athletics Federations
B. World Athletics Tour
C. Athletics International Forum
D. World Athletics

Answer D

Explanation The International Association of Athletics Federations (IAAF) changed it name from IAAF to World Athletics. The members of IAAF council have approved the rebranding at an IAAF Council meeting held in Monaco on 8th June. The process to rebrand IAAF began on January 2018. The new name and logo has been designed to represent the modern and positive face for athletics. Also, it aims to attract the younger audience.

26) When was the Kashmiri Pandits forcefully evicted from J&K Valley?

A. 1940s
B.1960s
C.1970s
D.1990s

**Answer D**

**Explanation** Mela Kheer Bhawani is one of the biggest religious functions of displaced community of Kashmiri Pandits, who were forcefully evicted from Valley in 1990s by militants.

**27) Mela Kheer Bhawani festival is celebrated in _____.**

A. Tripura
B. Odisha
C. Andhra Pradesh
D. Jammu & Kashmir

**Answer D**

**Explanation** Mela Kheer Bhawani festival was celebrated in Jammu & Kashmir on Zeasht Ashtami. In 2019, the day fell on June 10. The devotees prayed at the famous Ragnya Devi temple in Ganderbal district, J&K. Zyestha Ashtami is celebrated by Kashmiri Pandits across the country and outside as the day marks commencing of annual pilgrimage.

**28) When did the Soviet Union dissolve?**

A. December 1991
B. December 1998
C. December 2000
D. December 2002

**Answer A**

**Explanation** The dissolution of the Soviet Union occurred on 26 December 1991, officially granting self-governing independence to the Republics of the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics (USSR). It was a result of the declaration number 142- of the Supreme Soviet of the Soviet Union.

**29) Who is the first President of Kazakhstan after the collapse of Soviet Union?**
A. Nursultan Nazarbayev  
B. Sooronbay Jeenbekov  
C. Kassym-Jomart Tokayev  
D. Almazbek Atambayev

**Answer C**

**Explanation** Kassym-Jomart Tokayev has sworn in as the President of Kazakhstan. He was the interim president and hand-picked successor of Nursultan Nazarbayev. He won the election, which was held on 9 June, with 70.96% of the vote which was contested against six government-approved candidates. 1st time Kazakhstan gets its new president, Kassym-Jomart Tokayev, since the collapse of the Soviet Union.

30) **Who sworn in as the President of Kazakhstan?**

A. Kassym-Jomart Tokayev  
B. Sooronbay Jeenbekov  
C. Gennady Yanayev  
D. Almazbek Atambayev

**Answer A**

**Explanation** Kassym-Jomart Tokayev has sworn in as the President of Kazakhstan. He was the interim president and hand-picked successor of Nursultan Nazarbayev. He won the election, which was held on 9 June, with 70.96% of the vote which was contested against six government-approved candidates. Tokayev presidency aims to continue Nazarbayevs policies aimed at improving the well-being of the people. He succeeded Nursultan Nazarbayev, who announced his resignation in March after 30 years in power.

31) **RBI's buying and selling of government securities to expand or contract the amount of money in the banking system is called ________.**

A. Open market operations (OMO)  
B. Selected market operations (SMO)  
C. Preferred market operations (PMO)  
D. Secured market operations (SMO)

**Answer A**

**Explanation** Open market operations (OMO) refer to a central bank's buying and selling of
government securities in the open market in order to expand or contract the amount of money in the banking system. Securities' purchases inject money into the banking system and stimulate growth, while sales of securities do the opposite and contract the economy.

32) RBI ________ for injecting liquidity into the system through the purchase of government bonds (G-sec).

A. decreases the repo rate  
B. increases the reverse repo rate  
C. uses Open Market Operations (OMO)  
D. None of the above  

Answer C

Explanation The Reserve Bank of India is to infuse Rs.15,000 crore into the financial system through bond purchases on June 13. The move is based on an assessment of prevailing liquidity conditions and also of the durable liquidity needs that are going forward. RBI is to conduct purchase of (six) Government securities under OMOs through multi-security auction using multiple price method.

33) Which country ranked 113 in the End of Childhood Index?

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

Answer A

Explanation India ranked 113 in the End of Childhood Index.

34) DRDO's testing of HSTDV is to develop a hypersonic vehicle that will be powered by a __________.

A. ram jet engine  
B. mram jet engine  
C. lram jet engine  
D. scram jet engine  

A. ram jet engine
35) Which propulsion system does India use for high supersonic or hypersonic flight?

A. ram jet propulsion system  
B. mram jet propulsion system  
C. lram jet propulsion system  
D. scram propulsion system

Answer A

Explanation India uses ram jet propulsion system for high supersonic or hypersonic flight.

36) In _________ technology, fuel combustion takes place in a chamber in the missile at supersonic speed.

A. ram jet technology  
B. mram jet technology  
C. lram jet technology  
D. scram jet technology

Answer D

Explanation Scram-jet technology is dual-use technology. The combustion of fuel takes place in a chamber in the missile at supersonic speeds, in scram-jet technology. It can be used for launching satellites at low cost.

37) DRDO tested HSTDV along with several technologies. What does HSTDV stand for?

A. Hyperimaging Technical Device Vehicle  
B. Hypersonic Technology Demonstrator Vehicle  
C. High range Technical Demonstrating Vehicle
D. High level Tracing Device Vehicle

Answer B

Explanation The Defence Research and Development Organisation (DRDO) conducted the maiden test of an indigenously developed Hypersonic Technology Demonstrator Vehicle (HSTDV) along with several technologies on 12 June. The HSTDV missile was successfully launched from Dr Abdul Kalam Island off the coast of Odisha. The missile was tracked by various radars, telemetry stations and electro optical tracking sensors through its course.

38) Which Medical Bill was passed to bring transparency, accountability and quality in the governance of medical education?

A. Indian Medical Council Bill, 2018  
B. Indian Medical Council (Amendment Bill), 2018  
C. Indian Medical Council Bill, 2019  
D. Indian Medical Council (Amendment Bill), 2019

Answer D

Explanation The Union Cabinet approved the two Medical Bills, Indian Medical Council (Amendment Bill), 2019, and the Homoeopathy Central Council (Amendment Bill), 2019. Both the bills had lapsed in the 16th Lok Sabha session. Indian Medical Council (Amendment Bill), 2019 is aimed at bringing in transparency, accountability and quality in the governance of medical education in the country. The bill will also provide for supersession of the Medical Council of India (MCI) for a period of two years from August 26, 2018.

39) Homoeopathy Central Council (Amendment Bill), 2019 got _______ in the 16th Lok Sabha session.

A. approved  
B. vetoed  
C. lapsed  
D. None of the above

Answer C

Explanation The Union Cabinet approved the Homoeopathy Central Council (Amendment Bill), 2019. The bill had lapsed in the 16th Lok Sabha session. The Bill aims to extend the period for reconstitution of the Central Council from an existing period of one year to two years so that the tenure of the Board of Governors may be extended for a further period of one year with effect
40) Indian Medical Council (Amendment Bill), 2019 allows the Board of Governors to exercise the powers of the MCI assigned under _______.

A. IMC Act, 1947
B. IMC Act, 1956
C. IMC Act, 1967
D. IMC Act, 1989

Answer B

Explanation The Union Cabinet approved the Indian Medical Council (Amendment Bill), 2019. The Bill is aimed at bringing in transparency, accountability and quality in the governance of medical education in the country. The bill will also provide for supersession of the Medical Council of India (MCI) for a period of two years from August 26, 2018. The Board of Governors shall exercise the powers and functions of the MCI as assigned under the IMC Act, 1956. The number of members in the Board of Governors will be increased from existing 7 to 12.

41) Which Bank has reduced its MCLR by 5-10 bps across various tenors?

A. SBI
B. IDBI
C. Dena
D. Indian Bank

Answer B

Explanation Life Insurance Corporation of India (LIC)-owned IDBI Bank reduced its marginal cost of funds based lending rate (MCLR) by 5-10 basis points to 8.95% across various tenors with immediate effect on June 12. Against one-year MCLR most of the customer loans such as auto, personal and home loans are priced.

42) IDBI Bank reduced its MCLR by 5-10 basis points to ________.

A. 6.8%
B. 7.2%
C. 8.95%
D. 10.2%
IDBI Bank reduced its marginal cost of funds based lending rate (MCLR) by 5-10 basis points to 8.95% across various tenors with immediate effect on June 12. Against one-year MCLR most of the customer loans such as auto, personal and home loans are priced.

43) _________ is the minimum interest rate of a bank below which it cannot lend, except in some cases allowed by the RBI.

A. MCLR  
B. CRR  
C. SLR  
D. Bank Rate

Answer A

Explanation The marginal cost of funds based lending rate (MCLR) refers to the minimum interest rate of a bank below which it cannot lend, except in some cases allowed by the RBI. It is an internal benchmark or reference rate for the bank.

44) When was the President rule imposed in J&K?

A. January 2018  
B. June 2018  
C. December 2018  
D. January 2019

Answer C

Explanation Under Section 92 of the Constitution of Jammu and Kashmir, there is no provision for further continuation of Governor's rule after six months. Hence, on the recommendation of Governor and having regard to the prevailing situation in the state, the President's rule was imposed on December 20, 2018.

45) Union Cabinet extended _________ in J&K for the next 6 months effective from July 3rd.

A. Military rule  
B. President's rule  
C. Governor's rule
D. None of the above

**Answer B**

**Explanation** The Union Cabinet approved an extension of President's rule in Jammu and Kashmir for six more months beginning July 3. The central rule has been continuing in Jammu and Kashmir since June 20, 2018. After the approval of the Union Cabinet, the President Ram Nath Kovind will sign the proclamation for imposition of President's rule in the state.

46) Who is to head the committee that was set up RBI to examine ATM charges and fees by banks?

A. CEO, NPCI Dilip Asbe  
B. CGM, SBI Giri Kumar Nair  
C. IBA Chief Executive V G Kannan  
D. Director, Confederation of ATM Industry K Srinivas

**Answer C**

**Explanation** The Reserve Bank of India (RBI) has constituted a high-level six-member committee under IBA Chief Executive V G Kannan. The committee will examine ATM charges and fees by banks amid demands for reviewing the levies. The other 5 members are Dilip Asbe (CEO, NPCI), Giri Kumar Nair (CGM, SBI), S Sampath Kumar (Group Head, Liability Products, HDFC Bank), K Srinivas (Director, Confederation of ATM Industry), Sanjeev Patel (CEO, Tata Communications Payment Solutions).

47) The committee under V G Kannan which was set up by RBI is to examine _________.

A. ATM charges and fees  
B. Capital reserves  
C. Monetary policy  
D. Housing Finance Securitisation Market

**Answer A**

**Explanation** The Reserve Bank of India (RBI) has constituted a high-level six-member committee under IBA Chief Executive V G Kannan. The committee will examine ATM charges and fees by banks amid demands for reviewing the levies. There have been persistent demands to change automated teller machines (ATM) charges and fees as its uses are growing significantly.
48) Indian girl honoured in ____ for Green efforts

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

**Answer C**

**Explanation** Eight-year-old Indian expat student collected nearly 15,000 kg of paper waste. Dubai is part of Emirates Environmental Group's nationwide recycling campaign. Ms. Tony was honored with Eco Champions of Recycling award for her efforts in keeping the environment clean by collecting paper waste.

49) When is the International Albinism Awareness Day 2019 observed?

A. April 10
B. May 15
C. June 13
D. July 20

**Answer C**

**Explanation** International Albinism Awareness Day (IAAD) is celebrated on June 13 every year. The day aims to celebrate the human rights of persons with albinism worldwide. The theme for 2019 for the day is Still Standing Strong. The theme aims to recognize, celebrate and stand in solidarity with albinism patients around the globe. It is a call for solidarity.

50) The government has reduced the rate of contribution of an employee towards ESI from 6.5% to ________.

A. 3.25%
B. 4%
C. 4.7%
D. 5.8%

**Answer B**

**Explanation** The Ministry of Labour and Employment has reduced the total contribution towards ESI from 6.5% of an employees wages to 4%. For the employers share cut reduced from 4.7% to
3.25% and the employees contribution lowered to 0.75% of wages, from 1.75%. It will be effective from July 1. ESI Act gives insured workers medical benefits among other facilities. The move aimed at benefiting 36 million insured persons and 1.3 million organizations.

51) Which of the following is the latest mission proposed by Indian Space Research Organisation (ISRO)?

A. Chandrayaan-2  
B. Gaganyaan  
C. Space station  
D. None of the above

**Answer C**

**Explanation** ISRO unveiled plan to set up its own space station in seven years. ISRO is to set up a very small and a separate space station. It will not be a part of the International Space Station (ISS). The project will be an extension of the Gaganyaan mission, which aims to send an Indian crew to space in 2022. The weight of the space station will be around 20 tonnes. ISRO's proposal will be sent to the government for approval by 2022 after the first Gaganyaan mission. The mission is looking at 5-7 years to execute the programme. The cost of the proposed space station was not disclosed.

52) Amitav Ghosh was awarded the 54th Jnanpith Award is a renowned __________.

A. Actor  
B. Athlete  
C. Author  
D. Singer

**Answer C**

**Explanation** Amitav Ghosh is an Indian writer. He is best known for his work in English fiction. In 2007, the government of India awarded him the civilian honour of Padma Shri. He also received the Israeli Dan David Prize, together with Margaret Atwood.

53) Amitav Ghosh is the first ________ writer to get the 54th Jnanpith Award.

A. Sanskrit  
B. English
Amitav Ghosh is the first English writer to get the 54th Jnanpith Award. He is best known for his work in English fiction. In 2007, the government of India awarded him the civilian honour of Padma Shri. He also received the Israeli Dan David Prize, together with Margaret Atwood.

54) **Who is the author of the book The Circle of Reason?**

A. Arundhati Roy  
B. Chetan Bhagat  
C. Salman Rushdie  
D. Amitav Ghosh  

**Answer D**

**Explanation** The Circle of Reason is the first novel by Indian writer Amitav Ghosh. It was published in 1986.

55) **Who was awarded the 54th Jnanpith Award?**

A. Amitav Ghosh  
B. Shankha Ghosh  
C. Girish Karnad  
D. Krishna Sobti  

**Answer A**

**Explanation** Renowned author Amitav Ghosh was awarded the 54th Jnanpith Award. He was awarded for his contribution to the enrichment of Indian literature in English at a ceremony in New Delhi on 13 June. The award was presented by the former governor of West Bengal Gopalkrishna Gandhi. Amitav Ghosh is the first English writer to get this prestigious award.

56) **When was India admitted in the Shanghai Cooperation Organisation (SCO)?**

A. 2015
B.2016  
C.2017  
D.2018

Answer C

Explanation  SCO is a Eurasian political, economic and security alliance in which China plays an influential role. The founding member of SCO includes China, Russia, Uzbekistan, Tajikistan, Kazakhstan, and Kyrgyzstan. India and Pakistan were admitted to Beijing-based regional security grouping in 2017.

57) Chinese President conferred __________, Kyrgyzstans highest National award.

A. Altyn Qyran Order  
B. Honorary Freedom  
C. Manas Order of the First Degree  
D. Legion of Honour

Answer C

Explanation  Chinese President Xi Jinping was conferred with Manas Order of the First Degree, the highest national award in Bishkek, Kyrgyzstan. He was awarded during visit to Kyrgyzstan before the SCO summit. President Xi said that the honour has fully demonstrated the relationship between both the countries and people.

58) What is the mission of NASA's OSIRIS-REx spacecraft?

A. to study asteroids  
B. to study the outer Solar System  
C. to study Pluto  
D. to study the Kuiper belt

Answer A

Explanation  The OSIRIS-REx is a NASA asteroid study and sample-return mission. The mission's main goal is to obtain a sample of at least 60 grams from 101955 Bennu, a carbonaceous near-Earth asteroid, and return the sample to Earth for a detailed analysis.

59) The species Yakka skink is native to __________.
A. India
B. Australia
C. Africa
D. China

Answer B

Explanation The yakka skink is a species of large skink, a lizard in the family Scincidae. The species is native to the Brigalow Belt in Queensland in eastern Australia.

60) Carmichael coal mine project of Adani group is being established ________.

A. Austria
B. Yemen
C. Iraq
D. Australia

Answer D

Explanation Adani-led Adani Group has got its approvals from the Queensland state government, Australia for the Carmichael coal mine project in Australia. The plan was approved by the central government in April, 2019. The project aims to ensure energy security for India and create more jobs for Australia.

61) When was the Asia Media Summit established?

A. 2000
B. 2002
C. 2004
D. 2012

Answer C

Explanation Asia Media Summit was established in 2004 in Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia. The summit was held subsequently in Malaysia until 2008. It provides opportunity for media practitioners, industry leaders, broadcasters, researchers, academia, experts and media policy makers to meet and discuss the developing medias quality and high technological revolution.
62) The 16th Asia Media Summit was focused on ___________.

A. Media Digitalisation - Focusing on Developing Markets
B. Design, manufacturing and environmental challenges
C. Beyond sustainability: regenerating large-scale degraded landscapes
D. Access to knowledge/information in the age of big data

Answer A

Explanation The 16th Asia Media Summit was concluded on 13 June in Cambodia. The summit called for regulation-making to fight against fake news and cyber-crimes. The theme of the summit was Media Digitalisation - Focusing on Developing Markets.

63) Where was the 16th Asia Media Summit held?

A. Cuba
B. Cambodia
C. Canada
D. California

Answer B

Explanation The 16th Asia Media Summit was concluded on 13 June in Cambodia. The summit called for regulation-making to fight against fake news and cyber-crimes. The theme of the summit was Media Digitalisation - Focusing on Developing Markets.

64) Which Country ranked last in the Global Peace Index 2019 rankings?

A. Syria
B. Yemen
C. South Sudan
D. Afghanistan

Answer D

Explanation Iceland topped the Global Peace Index 2019 rankings which was released by Institute for Economics & Peace. Since 2008, Iceland holds the most peaceful country in the world. India ranked 141 among 163 countries. Afghanistan ranked as the least peaceful country in the world. Th has replaced Syria, which is now the second least peaceful.
65) India ranked _______ in the Global Peace Index 2019 rankings.

A. 136  
B. 141  
C. 156  
D. 162  

Answer B

Explanation Iceland topped the Global Peace Index 2019 rankings which was released by Institute for Economics & Peace. Since 2008, Iceland holds the most peaceful country in the world. India ranked 141 among 163 countries. In 2018, India ranked at 136th among 163 countries. The report highlighted that India, Philippines, Japan, Bangladesh, Myanmar, China, Indonesia, Vietnam and Pakistan are the nine countries with the highest risk of multiple climate hazards. In the overall natural hazard score, India stands 7th highest.

66) Which Country topped the Global Peace Index rankings 2019?

A. New Zealand  
B. Austria  
C. Sweden  
D. Iceland  

Answer D

Explanation Iceland topped the Global Peace Index 2019 rankings which was released by Institute for Economics & Peace. Since 2008, Iceland holds the most peaceful country in the world. India ranked 141 among 163 countries. In 2018, India ranked at 136th among 163 countries.

67) Who releases the Global Peace Index rankings?

A. World Economic Forum  
B. International Health & Peace Forum  
C. Institute for Economics & Peace  
D. United Nations Development Programme  

Answer C

Explanation Iceland topped the Global Peace Index 2019 rankings which was released by
Institute for Economics & Peace. Since 2008, Iceland holds the most peaceful country in the world. India ranked 141 among 163 countries. In 2018, India ranked at 136th among 163 countries. The Australian think tank ranked countries according to their level of peacefulness. The analysis were based on three major domains: 1) the level of societal safety and security, 2) the extent of ongoing domestic and international conflict, 3) the degree of militarization.

68) In March 2018, the US imposed _________ tariff on steel.

A. 10%
B. 25%
C. 40%
D. 50%

**Answer B**

**Explanation** In March 2018, the US imposed 25% tariff on steel and 10% import duty on aluminium. India was one of the major exporters of these items.

69) India has decided to impose retaliatory tariffs on 29 ________ goods.

A. UK
B. China
C. Pakistan
D. US

**Answer D**

**Explanation** Ministry of Commerce has announced to impose retaliatory tariffs on US goods that will be effective from June 16 onwards. The retaliatory tariffs on 29 goods imported from the U.S. The Ministry initially decided to impose tariffs in 2018. The decision is ahead of the meeting between Modi and Trump on the sidelines of the G20 summit in Japan. The move made by the trade ministry was approved by the Ministry of External Affairs.

70) Which organisation won the 2019 BBC World Service Global Champion Award?

A. Etasha Society
B. Akshaya Patra
C. Mahila Dakshata Samiti
D. Navjyoti India Foundation
The Bengaluru-based NGO Akshaya Patra has been awarded the BBC World Service Global Champion Award for the programme. The award is presented at the BBC Food and Farming Awards in Bristol, London. The award recognises a project or person who is changing the way the world produces, processes, consumes or thinks about food for the better.

71) Which month is celebrated as LGBTQ Pride month?

A. April  
B. May  
C. June  
D. July  

Answer C

Explanation June month is celebrated as the Lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender and queer or questioning (LGBTQ) Pride month all over the world. The LGBTQ pride month is celebrated to commemorate the anniversary of Stonewall riots at Stonewall Inn in New York, a gathering space for LGBTQ community during the 60s.

72) Which Country recently banned commercials that reinforce gender prejudices?

A. USA  
B. UK  
C. Germany  
D. India  

Answer B

Explanation UK government has banned commercials that reinforce gender prejudices. Advertising Standards Authority (ASA), UK's advertising watchdog introduced the ban because it found evidence suggesting that adverse stereotypes could restrict the choices, aspirations and opportunities of children, young people and adults. These kinds of stereotypes can be reinforced by some advertising that plays a part in unequal gender outcomes.

73) Encephalitis is an inflammation or swelling and irritation of the ________.
A. brain
B. intestine
C. pancreas
D. kidney

Answer A

Explanation Encephalitis is an inflammation or swelling and irritation of the brain. In most cases. It is also called acute viral encephalitis or aseptic encephalitis. Symptoms: The viral disease causes mild flu-like symptoms such as a high fever, personality changes, convulsions (seizures), severe headache, nausea and vomiting, stiff neck, confusion, problems with speech or hearing, hallucinations, memory loss, drowsiness and coma.

74) Which Indian State was recently affected by Acute Encephalitis Syndrome (AES)?

A. Odisha
B. Karnataka
C. West Bengal
D. Bihar

Answer D

Explanation Muzaffarpur district of Bihar reported death of 69 children due to Acute Encephalitis Syndrome (AES). Till now over 130 have been hospitalised in the district. The district Magistrate of Muzaffarpur has announced that for students till class eight, schools will remain closed till June 22 and for students in higher standards, classes will be held only till 10.30 am.

75) What type of lock did RBI suggest the banks to use to operate ATM for cash replenishment?

A. One Time Check locks
B. One Time Combination locks
C. Digital Check locks
D. Digital Combination locks

Answer B

Explanation The Reserve Bank of India has asked the banks to ensure their ATMs are grouted to
a wall, pillar, or floor by the end of September month. The ATMs shall be operated for cash replenishment only with digital One Time Combination (OTC) locks. All banks can also roll out a comprehensive e-surveillance mechanism at the ATMs. This will ensure timely alerts and quick response.

76) Which Committee was set up by RBI to review the entire gamut of security of treasure in transit in 2016?

A. Committee on Currency Movement  
B. Committee on Economic Capital Framework  
C. N K Singh Committee  
D. Committee to Review the ATM

**Answer A**

**Explanation** The RBI had set up a Committee on Currency Movement (CCM) in 2016. The committee was asked to review the entire gamut of security of treasure in transit and submit reports regarding that. As per the recommendations suggested by the panel, the Reserve Bank of India has now issued the instructions aimed at mitigating risks in ATM operations and enhancing security.

77) On which Mount did the Scientists install two highest weather stations to collect weather data to study the impacts of rising global temperatures?

A. Mount Kanchenjunga  
B. Mount Lhotse  
C. Mount Manaslu  
D. Mount Everest

**Answer D**

**Explanation** Scientists from National Geographic Society and Tribhuvan University installed have installed two highest weather stations in the world in an expedition to Mount Everest that wrapped up in June 2019. The two weather monitoring stations are located at an altitude of 8,430 meters (27,657 feet) and 7,945 meters (26,066 feet). Also, three other stations have been set up across the Mount Everest.
USEFUL LINKS

Free SBI PO Mock Test

Free SSC CHSL Mock Test

Free IBPS RRB Office Assistant Mock Test

GOOD LUCK FOR YOUR EXAMS!!!
DON'T MISS THESE OTHER USEFUL PDFS

December 2018 Current Affairs
January 2019 Current Affairs
February 2019 Current Affairs
March 2019 Current Affairs
April 2019 Current Affairs
May 2019 Current Affairs

Fresherslive provides current affairs for competitive exams like UPSC, PSC, IAS, RRB, IBPS PO Clerk, SBI, RBI, SSC, PSU, and so on.