

The Most Important Current Affairs May 2019

Madrid Open 2019: Complete List of Winners

The 2019 Madrid Open (sponsored by Mutua) is a professional tennis tournament played on outdoor clay courts at the Park Manzanares in Madrid, Spain. Winners of 2019 Madrid Open:

Sl No	Event	Winner	Runner-Up
1.	Men's singles	Novak Djokovic (Serbia)	Stefanos Tsitsipas (Greece)
2.	Women's singles	Kiki Bertens (Netherlands)	Simona Halep (Romania)
3.	Men's doubles	Jean-Julien Rojer (Netherlands) and Horia Tecau (Romania)	Diego Schwartzman (Argentina) and Dominic Thiem (Austria)
4.	Women's doubles	Hsieh Su-wei (Chinese Taipei) and Barbora Strýcová (Czech Republic)	Gabriela Dabrowski (Canada) and Xu Yifan (China)

Italian Open 2019: Complete List of Winners

The 2019 Italian Open was a professional tennis tournament played on outdoor clay courts in Rome, Italy. It was the 76th edition of the Italian Open. Winners of 2019 Italian Open:

Sl No	Event	Winner	Runner-Up
1.	Men's singles	Rafael Nadal (Spain)	Novak Djokovic (Serbia)
2.	Women's singles	Karolina Pliskova (Czech Republic)	Johanna Konta (United Kingdom)
3.	Men's doubles	Juan Sebastián Cabal and Colombia Robert Farah (Colombia)	Raven Klaasen (South Africa) and Michael Venus (New Zealand)
4.	Women's doubles	Victoria Azarenka (Belarus) and	Anna-Lena Grönefeld (Germany) and

Australia	Demi Schuurs (Netherlands)
Ashleigh Barty	

CEAT Cricket Rating Awards 2019 Announced:

Complete List of Winners

CEAT Cricket Rating (CCR) Awards 2019 were announced in Mumbai. Here is the complete list of winners of CEAT Cricket Rating Awards 2019:

Sl. No.	Category	Winner
1.	International Cricketer and Batsman of the Year	Virat Kohli
2.	International Bowler of the Year	Jasprit Bumrah
3.	International Test Cricketer of the Year	Cheteshwar Pujara
4.	International ODI Cricketer of the Year	Rohit Sharma
5.	International T20 Player of the Year	Aaron Finch
6.	Outstanding Performance of the Year	Kuldeep Yadav
7.	International T20 Bowler of the Year	Rashid Khan
8.	Lifetime Achievement Award	Mohinder Amarnath
9.	Domestic Player of the Year	Ashutosh Aman
10.	International Woman Cricketer of the Year	Smriti Mandhana
11.	Junior Cricketer of the Year	Yashasvi Jaiswal

Oman Author Jokha Alharthi Wins Booker International Prize

An author from Oman, Jokha Alharthi has won the prestigious Man Booker International Prize for **"Celestial Bodies"**, the story of three sisters of a desert country confronting its slave-owning past and a complex modern world. Jokha Alharthi, the first Arabic-language writer to take the prize, will split the

50,000 pounds or 64,000 US dollar purse with her UK-based translator, Marilyn Booth.

Union Cabinet Ministers Portfolio 2019: Complete List

Here's the full list of the Union Council of Ministers and their portfolios, under the Modi Government 2.0.

Narendra Modi – Personnel, Public Grievances and Pensions; Department of Atomic Energy; Department of Space; all important policy issues; and all other portfolios not allocated to any minister

CABINET MINISTERS

- Rajnath Singh – Defence
- Amit Shah – Home Affairs
- Nirmala Sitharaman – Finance; Corporate Affairs
- Subrahmanyam Jaishankar – External Affairs
- Nitin Gadkari – Road Transport and Highways; Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises
- DV Sadananda Gowda – Chemical and Fertilizers
- Ram Vilas Paswan – Consumer Affairs, Food and Public Distribution
- Narendra Singh Tomar – Agriculture and Farmers Welfare; Rural Development; Panchayati Raj
- Ravi Shankar Prasad – Law and Justice; Communications; Electronics and Information Technology
- Harsimrat Kaur Badal – Food Processing Industries
- Thawarchand Gehlot – Social Justice and Empowerment
- Ramesh Pokhriyal Nishank – Human Resource Development
- Arjun Munda – Tribal Affairs
- Smriti Irani – Women and Child Development; Textiles
- Dr. Harsh Vardhan – Health and Family Welfare; Science and Technology; Earth Sciences
- Prakash Javdekar – Environment, Forest and Climate Change; Information and Broadcasting
- Piyush Goyal – Railways; Commerce and Industries
- Dharmendra Pradhan – Petroleum and Natural Gas; Steel
- Mukhtar Abbas Naqvi – Minority Affairs
- Prahlad Joshi – Parliamentary Affairs; Coal; Mines
- Mahendra Nath Pandey – Skill Development and Entrepreneurship

- Arvind Sawant – Heavy Industries and Public Enterprise
- Giriraj Singh – Animal Husbandry, Dairying, and Fisheries
- Gajendra Singh Shekhawat – Jal Shakti

MINISTERS OF STATE (INDEPENDENT CHARGE)

- Santosh Kumar Gangwar – Labour and Employment
- Rao Inderjit Singh – Statistics and Programme Implementation; Planning
- Shripad Yesso Naik – Ayurveda, Yoga and Naturopathy, Unani, Siddha and Homoeopathy (AYUSH); MoS Defence
- Dr. Jitendra Singh – Ministry of Development of North Eastern Region; MoS PMO; Personnel, Public Grievances, and Pensions; Department of Atomic Energy; Department of Space
- Kiren Rijju – Youth Affairs and Sports; MoS Minority Affairs
- Prahalad Singh Patel – Culture; Tourism
- Raj Kumar Singh – Power; New and Renewable Energy; MoS Skill Development and Entrepreneurship
- Hardeep Singh Puri – Housing and Urban Affairs; Civil Aviation; MoS Commerce and Industry
- Mansukh L Mandaviya – Shipping; MoS Chemicals and Fertilizers

MINISTERS OF STATE

- Faggansingh Kulaste – Steel
- Ashwini Kumar Choubey – Health and Family Welfare
- Arjun Ram Meghwal – Parliamentary Affairs; Heavy Industries and Public Enterprises
- General (Retd) VK Singh – Road Transport and Highways
- Krishan Pal – Social Justice and Empowerment
- Danve Raosaheb Dadarao – Consumer Affairs, Food, and Public Distribution
- G Kishan Reddy – Home Affairs
- Parshottam Rupala – Agriculture and Farmers Welfare
- Ramdas Athawale – Social Justice and Empowerment
- Sadhvi Niranjana Jyoti – Rural Development
- Babul Supriyo – Environment, Forest and Climate Change
- Sanjeev Kumar Balyan – Animal Husbandry, Dairying, and Fisheries
- Dhore Sanjay Shamrao – Human Resource Development; Communications; Electronics and Information Technology
- Anurag Singh Thakur – Finance; Corporate Affairs
- Angadi Suresh Channabasappa – Railways

- Nityanand Rai – Home Affairs
- Rattan Lal Kataria – Jal Shakti; Social Justice and Empowerment
- V Muraleedharan – External Affairs; Parliamentary Affairs
- Renuka Singh Saruta – Tribal Affairs
- Som Parkash – Commerce and Industry
- Rameswar Teli – Food Processing Industries

- Pratap Chandra Sarangi – Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises; Animal Husbandry, Dairying and Fisheries
- Kailash Choudhary – Agriculture and Farmers Welfare
- Debasree Chaudhuri – Women and Child Development

Banking/Insurance Current Affairs

- **Bharti AXA General Insurance** tied up with financial marketplace **Wishfin's insurance arm Wishpolicy**, to offer two-wheeler insurance to customers via WhatsApp. This service option is an instant and additional customer service option for policyholders.
- **SBI** moved to a new interest rate regime on large savings account deposits as well as short-term loans. SBI linked its **interest rate on savings account with a balance above Rs1 lakh** and short-term loans like overdraft and cash credit facility to RBI's repo rate, **effective 1 May 2019**.
- LIC Housing Finance (LIC HFL) launched '**Udyam**', a skilling center in **Bengaluru**. It was launched in association with **Lok Bharti Education Society**, the implementing partner.
- **RBI** slapped a monetary penalty on five pre-paid payment instrument issuers including **Vodafone m-pesa** and **Phonepe**, for violating regulatory guidelines. A penalty of **INR 3.05 crore** imposed on Vodafone m-pesa and **INR 1 crore** each on Mobile Payments, PhonePe, and **G.I. Technology Private Ltd.**
- **RBI** decided to enhance the housing loan limits for Regional Rural Banks (**RRBs**) and Small Finance Banks (**SFBs**) for eligibility under priority sector lending. Henceforth, housing loans given by RRBs and SFBs to individuals up to **INR 35 lakh** in metropolitan centers (with population of 10 lakh and above) and **INR 25 lakh** in other centers, provided the overall cost of the dwelling unit in the metropolitan centers and at other centres does not exceed **INR 45 lakh** and **INR 30 lakh**, respectively, will be eligible for classification under priority sector lending.
- **India Ratings** downgraded the **YES bank's long-term rating to 'IND AA-'** with a negative outlook, while reaffirming short-term rating. ICRA also downgraded the long-term ratings of the lender.
- The **National Bank for Agriculture and Rural Development (NABARD)** announced **Rs 700-crore venture capital fund for equity investments** in agriculture and rural-focused startups. NABARD is contributing to other funds till now and **this is the**

first time that the rural development bank launched a fund of its own.

- **Bank credit grew by 13.2%** in the financial year 2018-19 **as compared to 10.3% in the previous financial year**, mainly aided by loans to services and retail sector. Deposit growth also gained momentum, growing by 10% as compared to 6.7% a year ago.
- **ICICI Bank** announced the launch of a **co-branded multi-currency card** with online travel booking portal **Goibibo**. The card also includes benefits of up to **Rs20,000, including gift vouchers of Rs15,000** from Goibibo.
- **RBI** imposed a monetary penalty of **Rs1 crore** on **Nainital Bank** for its failure to fully automate the **non-performing asset (NPA)** identification process, despite specific directions issued in this regard.
- **RBI** released a vision document '**Payment and Settlement Systems in India: Vision 2019 – 2021**', with its core theme of 'Empowering Exceptional E-payment Experience' for ensuring a safe, secure, convenient, quick and affordable e-payment system.
- **Small Industries Development Bank of India (SIDBI)** put together a **pilot scheme to extend financial assistance of up to Rs10 crore** to new-age **fintech non-banking finance companies (NBFCs)** engaged in financing small businesses and other income-generating activities.
- The **SBI** announced a **strategic partnership with the FMCG arm of The Art of Living – Sri Sri Tattva**. Under this partnership, **YONO users can avail a discount of 15%** on the entire range of products offered by Sri Sri Tattva
- **RBI** announced that **it will allow large modern currency chests to increase the service charges on cash deposited** by non-chest bank branches from the existing rate of **Rs5 per packet of 100 pieces to a higher rate subject to a maximum of Rs8 per packet**.
- **Corporation Bank** launched '**Corp SME Suvidha**', a product for GST-registered MSMEs. The product designed as part of the bank's efforts to provide the best products to the MSME sector.

- **RBI** stated that all non-deposit-taking **non-banking financial companies (NBFCs)** with an asset size of **Rs 5,000 crore and above**, and all deposit-taking NBFCs irrespective of their asset size, have to maintain a liquidity buffer in terms of a **Liquidity Coverage Ratio (LCR)**.
- **Indian Overseas Bank (IOB)** announced that it has launched '**Bank on Wheels**' facility in 14 of its lead districts in **Tamil Nadu and Kerala**, besides Vijayawada. The mobile van facility enable the public, especially senior citizens, conveniently get door-step banking facility available at identified locations of the lead districts.
- **RBI** extended timings for customer transactions in the **Real Time Gross Settlement (RTGS)** system to **6:00 pm from 4:30 pm**. The new time window for RTGS come into effect from **01st June 2019**. The customer is charged a '**time-varying charge**' on each outward transaction in addition to the flat processing charge. The fee for transfers between **8 am to 11 am is nil**, from **11 am to 1 pm is Rs 2**, and from **1 pm to 6 pm is Rs 5**.
- **Corporation Bank** launched '**SMEsuvidha**' scheme to provide loans to the **GST-registered MSMEs** at affordable interest rates. The product is designed as a part of the lender's efforts to improve service and provide the best products to the MSME sector.
- **RBI** constituted a six-member committee **headed by TN Manoharan, Chairman, Canara Bank** on the Development of **Secondary Market** for Corporate Loans to come up with recommendations to increase the efficiencies of the debt market and aid in the resolution of stressed assets.

Economy Current Affairs

- **India Ratings & Research (A Fitch Group Company)** lowered the country's growth forecast for the current fiscal to **7.3%**, from the earlier projection of **7.5 %**.
- **Netherlands** emerged as the **third** largest foreign direct investor in India during **2017-18**, with investments pegged at about **\$2.67 billion** across sectors. The Netherlands was also the **second** largest destination for foreign investment by Indian companies, after **Singapore**, with investments worth **\$12.8 billion** in **2017**.
- The Asia-Pacific region is expected to grow at **5.7%** in 2019. According to the bank's **Asian Development Outlook 2019** report released in April, developing Asia which comprises **45** nations ranging from China to Tuvalu is projected to grow by **5.7%** in 2019.
- **Wholesale Price Index (WPI)**-based inflation for **April eased to 3.07%**, from **3.62%** in **April**

2018. The latest WPI print was also lower than **3.18%** recorded in March this year. Build up inflation for the financial year so far was **0.75%**, lower than **0.86%** in the corresponding period of the previous year.

- **According to the Ministry of Commerce & Industry** data, **India's overall exports**, combining Merchandise and Services, in April 2019 is estimated to be around **44 billion US dollars** with a positive growth of **1.34% over April 2018**. Overall imports in April 2019 is estimated to be around **53 billion dollars with a positive growth of 4.5%** over the corresponding period of 2018.
- **The Trump administration** removed **India from its currency monitoring list** of major trading partners, citing certain developments and steps being taken by New Delhi addressing some of its major concerns. **Switzerland** is the other nation that removed from the list.
- The country's median GDP is forecast at **7.1%** for Financial Year **2020** and **7.2% for Financial Year 2021**. The industry body FICCI's economic outlook survey stated that the minimum and maximum growth estimate stood at **6.80% and 7.3% for 2019-20**.

Business Current Affairs

- Markets regulator **SEBI** directed **National Stock Exchange** to pay more than **Rs625 crore** in the case of misuse of its co-location facility. The amount, if considered with simple interest, would come to little less than **Rs1,000 crore**. If it involves a compound interest, the fine could amount to around **Rs1,300 crore**.
- **Paytm** launched a **recurring payment service** for merchants that are working on a digital subscription model. The move allow the subscription-based businesses to collect payments from their subscribers effortlessly.
- **Facilities management provider UDS** acquired a **majority stake in Matrix Business Services**, which operates in the business assurance and

background verification segment. This acquisition includes buying out the **entire 19.77% stake of Kotak Mahindra Investments and 2.67% of Mahindra & Mahindra Contech.**

- **Iraq becomes India's top crude oil supplier** for the second consecutive year, meeting more than **one-fifth of the country's oil needs in the 2018-19 fiscal year.** According to data collected by the **Directorate General of Commercial Intelligence and Statistics**, Iraq sold 46.61 million tonnes of crude oil to India during April 2018 and March 2019.
- **Huawei Technologies Co** overtook **Apple Inc** to claim the **No. 2** spot in smartphones making in the first quarter, moving a step closer to its avowed ambition of displacing **Samsung** at the top of the market.
- Global card payments brand **Mastercard** announced its plan of investing **\$1 billion** in India operations over the period of next 5 years. About **\$350 million** of the total amount would be invested in setting up a **local payments processing center** as per the RBI's mandate to store all payments data locally.
- **Sunil Mittal** led telecom major **Bharti Airtel** and **Hughes Communications India (HCIL)** have decided to combine their **VSAT** (Very Small Aperture Terminal) satellite communications operations in **India.**
- **Reliance Industries Ltd. (RIL)** acquired **British toy retailer 'Hamleys'** in an all cash deal. RIL acquired Hamleys in **67.96 million pounds (about Rs. 620 cr).**
- **Facebook** chosen **London as the centre for the global roll-out of WhatsApp pay**, before the social media giant launches its digital payments service on the mobile messaging platform in India.
- **BharatPe – India's first Fintech start-up** enabling payments for merchants through interoperable UPI QR codes, announced its **foray into merchant services with a new app.**
- **Digital payments company Paytm**, in association with **Citibank**, launched its first credit card called **Paytm First Card.** Paytm First Card comes with unlimited cash back and will be accepted in India as well globally.
- **Bharti Airtel and HDFC Life Insurance** have tied up to offer life cover for customers who get a prepaid recharge done.
- **IT services firm Tech Mahindra** and **French digital content publishing firm Rakuten Aquafadas** signed an MoU to collaborate on building enhanced customer experience offerings.
- **BSNL** announced that it will joined hands with **internet major Google** to **expand its WiFi footprint across the country.** The new initiative will

help the customers to use BSNL high-speed internet services on WiFi.

- **Reliance Industries** toppled state-owned **Indian Oil Corporation (IOC)** to become the **country's biggest company by revenue.** The Mukesh Ambani-led conglomerate, in the 2018-19 fiscal year that ended March 31, **reported a turnover of Rs 6.23 lakh crore.**
- **Social media giant Facebook** apparently formed a **new financial tech firm, Libra Networks LLC**, in **Geneva, Switzerland.** Libra Networks was registered in Geneva by Facebook Global Holdings II LLC.
- **Ride-hailing company Ola** launched **Ola Money SBI Credit Card** in partnership with SBI Card, one of India's largest credit card issuers.
- **HDFC group** overtaken the **151-year-old Tata group** to **emerge as India's most valuable** by way of market capitalization (m-cap). The combined market value of the five listed companies of the **HDFC group – HDFC, HDFC Bank, HDFC Life, HDFC Asset Management and Gruh Finance** stood at Rs 11.66 lakh crore.

Schemes/Committees/ Portals/ Apps/ Missions Launched by the Union & State Govt.

- The Union Environment Ministry constituted a committee to implement the **National Clean Air Programme (NCAP)**, which aims to reduce particulate matter (PM) pollution by 20%-30% in at least **102 cities by 2024.** The committee will be chaired by the **Secretary, Union Environment Ministry.**
- In a report submitted to the oil ministry, a **high-level committee (HLC)** of companies recommended strategies to reduce import dependency. The committee was formed to discuss research-related synergies and **tax issues for state-run oil companies.**
- The government constituted the **Unlawful Activities (Prevention) Tribunal** to adjudicate whether or not there is sufficient cause for declaring the **Liberation Tigers of Tamil Eelam (LTTE)** as an unlawful association. The Tribunal is comprised of sitting Judge of Delhi High Court Justice **Sangita Dhingra Sehgal.**
- The website of the Lokpal **www.lokpal.gov.in** launched. It was inaugurated by **Chairperson Justice Pinaki Chandra Ghose** in presence of all the Members of Lokpal in New Delhi.

Dr. BD Mishra administered the oath of office and secrecy to the council of ministers.

- **Goa** celebrates its **statehood day** on 30th May. It was on this day in **1987** Goa became the **25th state of the Indian Union**.² It was a Union Territory along with Daman and Diu from **December 1961** onwards when Goa was liberated from the colonial rule.
- YSR Congress party president **YS Jagan Mohan Reddy** taken oath as **Chief Minister of Andhra Pradesh**. **Governor ESL Narasimhan** administered him the oath of office and secrecy at Indira Gandhi Municipal Stadium in Vijayawada.

States Current Affairs

- **Gujarat Shops and Establishments** (Regulation of Employment and Conditions of Service) **Act, 2019** passed by Gujarat Assembly which came into force from May 1, 2019. The Act allow the shops and other businesses in the state to operate **24x7**.
- The **Chhattisgarh police** for the first time inducted **women commandos in the District Reserve Guard (DRG)**, its frontline anti-Naxal force. Comprising 30 women led by **Deputy Superintendent of Police (DSP) Dineshwari Nand**, have received extensive training in jungle combat.
- **President Ram Nath Kovind** greeted the people of **Sikkim on their statehood day**. It was on **16th May 1975** that **Sikkim** officially merged with the Indian union and became the 22nd state of the country.
- **Kerala** became the first state to tap into **masala bond** market by listing the **Kerala Infrastructure Investment Fund Board (KIIFB)**'s masala bond worth of **USD 312 million (Rs 2,150 crore)** in London Stock Exchange (**LSE**)'s International Securities Market (**ISM**).
- **Meghalaya government** approved setting up of a commission to look into the problem faced by farmers. The proposal was made by the Agriculture Department to set up the Farmers' Commission in line with the resolution passed at the '**farmers' parliament**'.
- **Naveen Patnaik** took oath as the **Chief Minister of Odisha** for the fifth time after a decisive victory in the state elections that were held along with national elections. The 72-year-old is the **longest-serving chief minister of the coastal state**.
- **Sikkim Krantikari Morcha (SKM)** president **Prem Singh Tamang**, popularly known as **PS Golay** took oath as the **Chief Minister of Sikkim**. He was administered the oath by **Governor Ganga Prasad** at Paljor Stadium in Gangtok.
- **Pema Khandu** sworn-in as the **Chief Minister of Arunachal Pradesh** for the second time. **Governor**

Appointments/Resignations (National & International)

- Senior IAS officer **Dilip Kumar** was appointed as the **Officer on Special Duty (OSD)** in the office of Lokpal. Kumar, a 1995-batch IAS officer of **Punjab** cadre, is at present joint secretary, **National Human Rights Commission**.
- **Former Sri Lanka captain Kumar Sangakkara** named as the **next President of Marylebone Cricket Club (MCC)**, becoming the **first non-British President of the club**.
- **BSE**, formerly known as the Bombay Stock Exchange appointed its first independent woman director **Jayshree Vyas**. BSE already has two non-executive women directors namely Usha Sangwan and Rajeshree Sabnavis on its Board.
- **Bhushan Patil**, president at Paytm quit the company. Patil, who joined Paytm after a five-year stint with **Alibaba**, had initially joined the Noida-based company to look after its cross border commerce business.
- The **Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation** hired **Sanjay Ubale**, head of the infrastructure and urban solutions at **Tata Sons**, as its policy director for **India**.
- Flipkart-owned fashion e-commerce platform **Myntra** announced that it had appointed celebrity couple **Virat Kohli and Anushka Sharma** as its first brand ambassadors.
- The **Volleyball Federation of India** appointed **Serbian Dragan Mihailovic** as **head coach of the men's national team** in a move linked to the long term goal of Olympic Games qualification.
- **India's Jagjit Pavadia** re-elected with the highest number of votes by the **UN Economic and Social Council** to a five-year term on **International Narcotics Control Board (INCB)**, while China's candidate **Hao Wei** lost.
- **Indian actress Dia Mirza and Alibaba chief Jack Ma** are among the 17 global public figures appointed by **UN Secretary-General Antonio**

Guterres as the new advocates to drive action and solidify global political for the ambitious **Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs)**.

- **Subh Chand**, presently Deputy High Commissioner in the High Commission of India, Abuja appointed as the **next Ambassador of India to the State of Eritrea**.
- **Professor Tijjani Mohammad Bande** appointed as the **new President of the United Nations General Assembly**. His appointment was announced by **María Fernanda Espinosa Garcés**, outgoing president of **UNGA**.
- **Mumbai municipal commissioner Ajoy Mehta** appointed as **Maharashtra's new chief secretary**. Ajoy Mehta succeeds **UPS Madan**.
- **LIC Mutual Fund** appointed **Dinesh Pangtey** as the **company's Chief Executive Officer (CEO)**. Pangtey was Director and CEO at LIC Group's private equity division **LIC HFL AMC**.
- **Merchant service and UPI payments app BharatPe** roped in **Bollywood actor Salman Khan** as its **brand ambassador**.
- **RBI** appointed its former **Deputy Governor, R Gandhi**, on the **board of private sector lender YES Bank** as an additional director. The appointment done in exercise of powers conferred under sub-section (1) of **Section 36AB of the Banking Regulation Act, 1949**.
- **Ace Special Forces** operative and **Sri Lanka war veteran Major General AK Dhingra** appointed as the **first head of country's first tri-services Special Operations Division comprising commandos** from all three services.
- **ITC Managing Director Sanjiv Puri** appointed as the **chairman** by the Board of Directors. His new designation now be **chairman and managing director**.
- **Ujjivan Small Finance Bank Limited** appointed **Nitin Chugh** as its **next Managing Director and Chief Executive Officer (CEO)** from **December 1, 2019**.
- **Jeffrey Rosen** was confirmed as the **United States' latest deputy attorney general** by the **US Senate** after his predecessor, **Rod Rosenstein**, left the department.
- **Indonesia's Joko Widodo** re-elected as **president of the country**, beating rival **Prabowo Subianto**, a retired general.
- **Centre cleared four names recommended** by the Supreme Court Collegium for elevation as judges of the apex court. The four appointed judges are **Justice Aniruddha Bose**, **Justice A S Bopanna**, **Justice B R Gavai** and **Justice Surya Kant**.
- **Volodymyr Zelenskiy** took the oath of office as the **president of Ukraine** and immediately

announced that he is dissolving the **Verkhovna Rada**, the country's parliament.

- **UN Secretary, General Antonio Guterres** appointed **Indian Army officer, Lieutenant General Shailesh Tinaikar**, as the new Force Commander of the **United Nations Mission in South Sudan (UNMISS)**.
- The former **Maldives president Mohamed Nasheed** nominated as the country's parliamentary speaker.
- **US-based retail chain Walmart** appointed **Suresh Kumar, an IIT Madras graduate** and former Google executive, as **chief technology officer and chief development officer**.
- **The Supreme Court** extended the tenure of **Justice VK Jain**, a judicial member of the **National Consumer Disputes Redressal Commission (NCDRC)**, which was expiring on **30th May 2019**.
- **The Armed Forces Tribunal** cleared the way for **Vice Admiral Karambir Singh** to become the **next Navy Chief**, while it deferred for four weeks the matter of **Vice Admiral Bimal Verma** which seeks to quash Singh's appointment.

Sports Current Affairs

- **Indian shooting ace Apurvi Chandela** ranked the world number **one** in the **women's 10 metres** air rifle event while compatriot **Anjum Moudgil** rose to number **two** after consistent performances.
- World number one **Bajrang Punia** becomes the **first Indian** to win gold at the **Ali Aliev wrestling tournament** after defeating **Viktor Rassadin** of **Russia** in the **65 kg freestyle** in **Kapiisk**. He had also won a gold at the **Asian Championships in Xi'an, China**.
- **Jaipur** host the **8th Asian Youth Women Handball Championship** in which **10 teams** will be participating. It will be played in **August 2019**. Earlier **Delhi** had hosted it in **2015** where the hosts **India** had finished **7th**.

- **Spain and Barcelona legend Xavi Hernandez** announced that he will retire from professional **football** at the end of the current season. Xavi Hernandez spent 14 years in Barcelona, where he won 35 trophies, including 8 La Liga titles, before moving to Qatari club **Al-Sadd**.
- Ace Indian squash players **Saurav Ghoshal** and **Joshna Chinappa** won their respective Asian Individual Squash Championship titles in **Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia**. Saurav Ghoshal defeated Leo Au Chun Ming of Hong Kong.
- Indian boxers finished with a rich haul of **six medals, including two gold at the 36th Feliks Stamm International Boxing Tournament in Warsaw, Poland**. **Gaurav Solanki and Manish Kaushik bagged one gold each**. Indian boxers also clinched a silver and three bronze.
- **Amul** announced as the principal sponsor of the **Afghanistan** cricket team for the upcoming **World Cup**, slated to be held in **England and Wales** from **May 30**.
- **Mumbai Indians** became **IPL champions** for the **fourth time** after defeating **Chennai Super Kings by one run** in a thrilling final in Hyderabad. Let's have a look at some interesting Statistics of IPL 2019:
 1. **Orange Cap-** David Warner of Sunrisers Hyderabad scored most runs: 692 Runs in 12 Matches.
 2. **Purple Cap-** Imran Tahir of Chennai Super Kings took most wickets: 26 Wickets in 17 Matches.
 3. Jonny Bairstow of Sunrisers Hyderabad **Highest Individual Score:** 114 Runs.
 4. **IPL 2019's Emerging Player of the Year award:** KKR's Shubman Gill.
- **Former Croatia international and manager Igor Stimac** appointed as the **Indian men's team coach** after the **All India Football Federation's (AIFF)** technical committee recommended him for the post.
- **Former Manchester City and Barcelona midfielder Yaya Toure** officially announced his retirement from football.
- **Pakistan off-spinner Sana Mir** becomes the **most successful women's ODI spinner** in history after she took her 147th wicket, highest ever by any spinner in One-day International (ODI) cricket.
- **Manchester City** clinched their **fourth Premier League title (football)** after winning the 2018-19 season. Manchester City registered a **4-1 victory against Brighton** to accumulate 98 points, while **Liverpool, who were also in the title race, finished second with 97 points**.
- **Mercedes' Lewis Hamilton** won the **Spanish Grand Prix in Barcelona, Spain** and rose to the top of the Formula One world championship.
- **India's Rahul Gangjee** finished **tied 39th** while **Viraj Madappa ended tied 53rd** at the **Asia-Pacific Diamond Cup** held in Japan. Japan's **Yosuke Asaji** won the Asia-Pacific Diamond Cup 2019 at the Sobu Country Club.
- **India's GS Lakshmi** become the **first ever woman** to be appointed to the **ICC International Panel of Match Referees** and will be eligible to referee international games with immediate effect.
- China becomes the sole contender to host **Asian Cup Football tournament in 2023** after South Korea announced to withdraw its bid to host the game.
- **Ten million US Dollars** or a little more than **70 crore rupees** are on offer in the upcoming **ICC men's cricket World Cup 2019**. Besides a trophy, the **World Cup winner earns a cash award of 4 million US dollars** (about 28 crore rupees) which is the **highest prize money on offer in the history of the tournament**.
- **2nd India Open International Boxing Tournament** started in Guwahati. India field a strong contingent of 38 men and 37 women in the tournament including **Mary Kom in 51-kilogram category**.
- The **world body governing Badminton, BFA** launched two new formats of the game **AirBadminton and Triples** with new dimensions of the court and an innovative shuttlecock called **Airshuttle**. Traditional competitive badminton an indoor game.
- **Germany's double Olympic biathlon champion Laura Dahlmeier** announced her retirement at the age of just 25 after struggling with health issues. She won seven world championship gold medals, and in 2018 in Pyeongchang, she became the **first female biathlete to win both the sprint and the pursuit at the same Olympics**.
- **Brooks Koepka (of USA)** returned to the **top of the world rankings** after his nerve-jangling **second straight US PGA Championship victory at Bethpage Black**.
- **Sethu FC** turned around a first-half deficit to **clinch their first ever Indian Women's League trophy** after defeating **Manipur Police** at the Guru Nanak Stadium, in Ludhiana, Punjab.
- India bags a total of **57 medals including 12 Gold, 18 Silver and 27 Bronze** at India Open International Boxing tournament in **Guwahati**. **MC Mary Kom, Shiva Thapa, I Sarita Devi, and Naman Tanwar** won gold in their respective finals.
- **China** won the badminton world mixed-team championship, **Sudirman Cup 2019** in Nanning,

China. They beat Japan in men's doubles, women's singles and men's singles to clinch the title for the **11th time**.

- **Indians** had a good day at the year's third **International Shooting Sport Federation (ISSF)** World Cup Rifle and Pistol tournament in Munich, Germany. Apurvi Chandela grabbed a gold, winning the women's 10m Air Rifle competition after a closely-fought contest.
- **Lewis Hamilton** won the **Monaco Grand Prix** to extend his championship lead over Mercedes teammate **Valtteri Bottas**. Hamilton struggled with grip in the latter stages and was under constant pressure from Red Bull's Max Verstappen.
- **The ICC** launched the **criloo campaign** on the eve of the **men's World Cup**, bringing together **460 million people playing cricket globally** to celebrate the magnificent diversity of cricket.
- **Chelsea** got the better of its **English Premier League** rivals to win the Europa League final, **beating Arsenal 4-1 in the Baku Olympic Stadium, Azerbaijan**. Chelsea won their **fifth major Uefa European competition final**, with only Liverpool winning more among eight English clubs.
- **The ICC Men's Cricket World Cup 2019** started on **30th May 2019**. England opened the tournament at **The Oval in London when they took on South Africa**. The World Cup span **48 matches in all, of which 45** make up the group stage.

Summits And Conferences

- The **16th Ministerial Meeting of Asia Cooperation Dialogue (ACD)** was held in **Doha, Qatar**. Gen. (Dr) V.K. Singh (Retd), Minister of State for External Affairs led the Indian delegation. The theme of the meeting was **"Partners in Progress"**.
- The **G7's** (Group of Seven) **Environment Ministers** gathered for a 2-day meeting in **Metz, France** to discuss on steps required to handle deforestation, plastic pollution, depletion of coral reefs and ways to build pacts between the countries in order to achieve the target.
- The **IBSA (India, Brazil & South Africa)** Sherpas' Meeting, following the 9th IBSA Trilateral Ministerial Meeting, was held in **Cochin**. Secretary (Economic Relations) in the Ministry of External Affairs, **Mr. T.S. Tirumurti** led the Indian delegation.
- **Ministry of New & Renewable Energy (MNRE)** held a **'Chintan Baithak'** with the stakeholders of the Renewable Energy sector. The **'Baithak' (meet)** was chaired by **Secretary, MNRE, Anand Kumar**.
- The **15th Finance Commission** headed by **Chairman, N.K. Singh** held a **detailed meeting with the Governor and Deputy Governors of RBI** in

Mumbai. Key issues raised by **RBI Governor, Shaktikanta Das** and **Finance Commission Chairman, N.K. Singh** were discussed in detail at the meeting.

- **Central Board of Indirect Taxes and Customs (CBIC)** organised a 2-Day meeting of the **Regional Heads of Customs Administration of Asia Pacific Region of the World Customs Organisation (WCO)** in **Kochi**. This meeting was chaired by **Mr Pranab Kumar Das, Chairman, CBIC**.
- A **WTO Ministerial meeting of developing countries** is being hosted by **India in New Delhi**. **Sixteen developing countries**, Six Least Developed Countries (LDC) (Argentina, Bangladesh, Barbados, Benin, Brazil, Central African Republic, Chad, China, Egypt, Guatemala, Guyana, Indonesia, Jamaica, Kazakhstan, Malawi, Malaysia, Nigeria, Oman, Saudi Arabia, South Africa, Turkey, Uganda) and DG, WTO participated in the meeting.
- **United Nations General Assembly (UNGA)** decided to hold its 5-day long **2020 high-level conference early June in Portugal's Lisbon** to Support the Implementation of Sustainable Development Goal 14: Conserve and sustainably use the oceans, seas and marine resources for sustainable development in Lisbon.
- The **11th Joint Consular Committee Meeting between India and Iran** took place in **New Delhi**. **Mr. Amit Narang, Joint Secretary (CPV)** led the Indian side, while the Iran delegation was led by **H.E. Mr. Ali Asghar Mohammadi, Director General for Consular Affairs, Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Iran**.
- The third round of **Foreign Office Consultations between India and Botswana** was held in **New Delhi**. The Indian side was led by **Joint Secretary, East and Southern Africa in the Ministry of External Affairs Dr. Neena Malhotra**.
- External Affairs Minister **Sushma Swaraj** attended the foreign ministers' meet of the **Shanghai Cooperation Organization (SCO)** in **Bishkek, Kyrgyz Republic**. Swaraj's Pakistani counterpart **Shah Mehmood Qureshi** also attended the meeting.
- The **Turkmenistan-Afghanistan-Pakistan-India (TAPI)** gas pipeline meeting was held in **Ashgabat, Turkmenistan**. The groundbreaking of the TAPI gas pipeline will be held in **Pakistan in October 2019**.
- **National Security Advisor Ajit Doval** stated that technology play a pivotal role in guarding the borders in days to come as security challenges are increasing day by day. Doval was addressing **17th Investiture Ceremony of Border Security Force, BSF** in **New Delhi**.

National News

- **India was re-elected as Observer to the Arctic Council**, an intergovernmental forum. The decision was taken during the **11th Arctic Council ministerial meeting at Rovaniemi, Finland**.
- India is unanimously chosen as co-chair of the **Consultative Group (CG) of Global Facility for Disaster Reduction and Recovery (GFDRR)** for the fiscal year 2020. The decision was taken during the **CG meeting of GFDRR held in Geneva, Switzerland**, on the margins of the 6th Session of the GPDRR 2019.
- As per **Election Commission of India**, the 2019 Lok Sabha elections witnessed a **voter turnout of 67.10% (interim)**, which is the **highest ever voter turnout in the history of general elections**.
- India elected to the Executive Board of the first **UN-Habitat Assembly**, announced by **Ministry of Housing and Urban Affairs**. India elected to the Executive Board of the **first UN-Habitat Assembly** at the Plenary Session of the Assembly being held in **Nairobi**.
- **Two women IAF officers** from Punjab were part of the country's first all-women crew to fly a medium-lift helicopter **Mi-17 V5**. **Flight Lieutenant Parul Bhardwaj (Captain)**, Flying Officer **Aman Nidhi (co-pilot)** and Flight Lieutenant **Hina Jaiswal (Flight Engineer)** flew the chopper, which took off from a forward air base in South Western air command.
- Leaders of the **Bay of Bengal Initiative for Multi-Sectoral Technical and Economic Cooperation (BIMSTEC)** were invited for PM Modi's swearing-in ceremony held on **30th May**.
- **Record 78 women candidates** elected to the Lok Sabha in the recently held general elections. According to the Election Commission, the number grown from the previous **62 women** who were elected to the **16th Lok Sabha in 2014**.
- **National Democratic Alliance** leader **Narendra Modi** was sworn in as **Prime Minister for the second consecutive term**. President **Ram Nath**

Kovind administered the oath of Office and Secrecy to him and a team of **57 ministers** at a glittering ceremony on the forecourts of the **Rashtrapati Bhawan, New Delhi**.

International Current Affairs

- **Akihito became the first Japanese Emperor** to step down from the throne in more than 200 years. His son, **Crown Prince Naruhito** ascend the Chrysanthemum throne today, beginning a new era. 30 April was the last day of the Heisei imperial era.
- In a huge diplomatic win for India, the **United Nations Security Council** designated **Pakistan-based Jaish-e-Mohammed chief Masood Azhar as a global terrorist** after China lifted its hold on a proposal to blacklist him under the Security Council's Sanctions Committee.
- The **UK parliament** became the **first** national legislative body in the world to declare a climate change **emergency**. The motion was approved without a vote and registers the views of the House of Commons without compelling the government to act on any particular policy proposal.
- **Russian President Vladimir Putin** signed into law a new measure that **aims to expand government control over the Internet**. It would enable the creation of a **national network**, able to operate separately from the rest of the world.
- The **Asian Development Bank (ADB)** launched a \$5 Billion Action Plan for **Healthy Oceans and Sustainable Blue Economies for the Asia and Pacific region** at the 52nd Annual Meeting of ADB's Board of Governors in **Fiji**.
- A **Japanese aerospace start-up Interstellar Technology Inc.** successfully launched a **first privately developed rocket 'Momo-3'** into space. The unmanned Momo-3 was launched from its test site in **Hokkaido** and reached about **110 kilometers (68 miles)** in altitude before falling into the Pacific Ocean after **10 minutes** of flight time.
- **India** will be attending the **Group of 7** industrialised nations meet organised by **France** in **Biarritz** in August 2019 along with **Australia, Chile, and South Africa**.
- **Vice President of India Venkaiah Naidu** embarked on a **four-day official visit to Vietnam** to participate in **16th United Nations Day of Vesak**.
- The **US Air Force Research Laboratory** tested a laser system called **Self-Protect High Energy Laser Demonstrator (SHIELD)** at the US Army's White Sands Missile range in **New Mexico**.
- **Singapore's Parliament** passed a law to curb the spread of **fake news** under which offenders may

face up to 10-year jail or fines of up to \$51 million (over Rs5.12 crore).

- The Australian flight carrier, **Qantas** operated the world's **first zero-waste** commercial flight from Sydney to Adelaide which disposed of all waste through compost, reuse or recycle.
- **Ireland declared a climate emergency in their country**, to be the second country after Britain to do so. Britain's parliament became the first in the world to declare a climate emergency, passing the largely symbolic motion on May 1.
- **Japan** started testing its **fastest-ever bullet train** capable of reaching **400 kilometers per hour (249 mph)** as it continues to develop the revolutionary mode of travel. The **ALFA-X** version of the **Shinkansen** train began three years' worth of test runs.
- The **UN imposed sanctions on terror group ISIS-Khorasan (ISIS-K)** for its links with Al-Qaeda and involvement in several attacks in Afghanistan and Pakistan. It is now subject to the assets freeze, travel ban and arms embargo.
- **US President Donald Trump** rolled out a **merit-based immigration system** from which foreigners, including hundreds and thousands of Indian professionals and skilled workers, waiting to get Green Cards or permanent legal residency stand to benefit.
- **Taiwan** approved a bill legalizing **same-sex marriage**, a landmark decision that makes the self-ruled island the **first place in Asia** to pass gay marriage legislation. The successful bill includes limited adoption rights for same-sex couples.
- The **Saudi** government approved for the first time a scheme that gives **permanent residency** to certain expatriates, allowing them to own real estate in the kingdom and reside with their families without a Saudi sponsor.
- The **World Bank and the Commonwealth Bank of Australia (CommBank)** have teamed up to enable recording of secondary market bond trading using blockchain tech.
- The **World Health Organization (WHO)** declared **Algeria and Argentina** as malaria-free, with no recorded cases of indigenous transmission of the disease since 2013 and 2010 respectively.
- **British Prime Minister Theresa May** announces resignation from her post. **She resign on 7 June.**
- US President **Donald Trump** got the red carpet treatment at **Japan's Imperial Palace** where he made history, becoming the first world leader to meet with the new **emperor of Japan Naruhito.**
- **Cyril Ramaphosa**, the head of the **African National Congress**, was sworn in for a five-year term

as **South Africa's president** after being elected unopposed by Parliament following the sixth general elections.

- **Austrian Parliament** removed **Chancellor Sebastian Kurz** from office as he lost the no confidence in a special Parliamentary session. His previous coalition ally, the **far-right Freedom Party (FPÖ)** and the **opposition Social Democrats (SPÖ)** backed the no-confidence motions.
- **Russia launched a nuclear-powered icebreaker**, part of an ambitious programme to renew and expand its fleet of the vessels in order to improve its ability to tap the **Arctic's commercial potential**. The ship, dubbed the **Ural** and which was floated out from a dockyard in St Petersburg, is one of a trio that when completed the largest and **most powerful icebreakers in the world.**
- **Scott Morrison** sworn in as **Australia's Prime Minister**, 11 days after retaining the position in the country's general election. Along with **Deputy Prime Minister Michael McCormack**, Morrison was sworn in by Queen Elizabeth's official representative in Australia, **Governor-General Sir Peter Cosgrove**, in the capital, **Canberra.**
- **James Marape**, a former finance minister and critic of a major global gas development deal elected by **parliament** as the prime minister of **Papua New Guinea.**
- **Muhammadu Buhari** sworn in for a second term as **Nigeria's president**, following a campaign that focused on tackling security threats and rooting out corruption.
- **US President Donald Trump** announced tariffs on all goods coming from **Mexico** in a bid to curb illegal immigration. From 10th June 2019, a **five percent tariff** would be imposed and slowly raised until the **Illegal Immigration problem is remedied.**

Defence Current Affairs

- The first part of the **Indo-French joint naval exercise, Varuna 19.1** was kicked off the Goa coast. The second part, **Varuna 19.2** was held at the end of May in Djibouti.
- Defence ministry approved the procurement of **10 Kamov Ka-31** Airborne Early Warning and Control **helicopters** for the Indian Navy. The cost of the deal would be around **Rs 3,600 crore**.
- **INS Ranjit**, an Indian navy **destroyer** built by erstwhile **USSR**, is set to be decommissioned. The third of the five Kashin-class destroyers, it was commissioned in **1983** and rendered service to the Navy for over **36 years**.
- The fourth of Indian Navy's stealth Scorpene class Submarines of Project 75, **INS Vela** was launched at the Kanhoji Angre Wet Basin of Mazagon Dock Limited at Mumbai in **Maharashtra**.
- The Indian Army is commemorating this year as the **'Year of Next of Kin'** and plans to reach out to the next of kin of battle casualties, ex-servicemen and serving soldiers to inform them of entitled financial benefits, welfare schemes and help resolve pension-related problems.
- **First AH-64E (I) – Apache Guardian helicopter** was formally **handed over to the Indian Air Force** at Boeing production facility in Arizona, USA. Air Marshal AS Butola, represented the Indian Air Force and accepted the first Apache. IAF had signed a contract with US Government and **M/s Boeing Ltd in Sep 2015 for 22 Apache helicopters**.
- **India successfully conducted the flight test of ABHYAS – High-speed Expendable Aerial Target (HEAT)** from a test range in Odisha. The trial, carried out by the Defence Research and Development Organisation (DRDO) from the Integrated Test Range (ITR) at Chandipur in Balasore, was tracked by various radars and electro-optic systems.
- **Indian Navy's first full-fledged Services Selection Board (SSB)** was inaugurated by Navy Chief Admiral Sunil Lanba at Diamond Harbour near **Kolkata, West Bengal**. Spread over 27 acres on the banks of Hooghly, the SSB (Kolkata) has the

capacity to screen 5,000 officer-candidates annually. This is the **fifth SSB of the Indian Navy**.

- The **Indian Coast Guard ship (ICGS) Vighraha** was decommissioned at **Visakhapatnam, Andhra Pradesh**. It is a frontline offshore patrol vessel (OPV). It was commissioned into service on April 12, 1990.
- The **Indian Navy** successfully test-fired a **Medium Range Surface to Air Missile (MRSAM)**, achieving a significant milestone to enhance its anti-air warfare capability.
- The 26th Edition of **Singapore India Maritime Bilateral Exercise (SIMBEX)-19** commenced in the **South China Sea**. In addition to IN Ships **Kolkata** and **Shakti**, Long Range Maritime Patrol Aircraft **P8I** also participate in the exercise.
- **Indian Air Force** successfully fired the **BrahMos air version missile** from its frontline **Su-30 MKI** fighter aircraft. The launch from the aircraft was smooth and the missile followed the desired trajectory before directly hitting the land target.
- **Flight Lieutenant Bhawana Kanth** became the **first woman pilot of the Indian Air Force to qualify to undertake missions by day on a fighter aircraft**. She completed the Day Operational syllabus on **MiG-21 Bison**.
- **U.S. Navy ships** conducted joint drills with warships from allies **Japan, Australia and South Korea** in their first combined exercise in the Western Pacific.
- **DRDO** successfully test-fired the new version of the **Akash surface-to-air defence missile system** with a new indigenously-developed seeker in Balasore off the **Odisha coast**. The medium range multi-target engagement capable missile was developed as part of the **Integrated Guided-Missile Development Programme (IGMDP)** other than Nag, Agni, Trishul, and Prithvi missiles.

Ranks/ Indexes Released

- **Global air passengers** **right expert Airhelp** came out with the list of world's best airports and **Hyderabad Rajiv Gandhi International airport** was ranked the world's eighth best airport. **Qatar's Hamad International Airport** topped the list.
- The **Geological Survey of India (GSI)** in its report revealed that about **35 % of India's total Graphite reserves** are found in **Arunachal Pradesh**. This is the highest found in the country.
- According to the **RBI data**, in Mar 2019, the **total number of financial transactions done by people using their debit cards increased by 15%**. Also, the financial transactions done by the **debit cards at**

POS terminals increased by 27% compared to March 2018.

- As per the report by the United Nations, India's economy is projected to grow at 7.1% in the fiscal year 2020 on the back of strong domestic consumption and investment. Indian economy expanded by 7.2% in 2018.
- India stands in a lowly 117th position out of 181 countries in the KidsRight Index, the annual global index which ranks how countries adhere to and are equipped to improve child rights. Iceland secured the top position in the index followed by Portugal.
- As per the Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development's (OECD) Economic Outlook, India's economic growth regain strength and approach 7.5% by 2020 buoyed by rural consumption and subdued inflation. As per the report, Gross domestic product (GDP) growth in India is projected to strengthen to close to 7.25% in FY19.
- India moved up one place to rank 43rd most competitive economy in the world on the back of its robust economic growth, a large labour force and its huge market size, while Singapore toppled the US to grab the top position, a global study showed. Singapore moved up to the top, from the third position last year, while the US slipped to the third place in the 2019 edition of the IMD World Competitiveness Rankings.

Important Days

- International Labour Day (also known as May Day or International Workers' Day) is celebrated across the world on 1st of May every year. The theme of International Labour Day 2019 is "Sustainable Pension for all: The Role of Social Partners".
- May 1 is celebrated as 'Maharashtra Day' and 'Gujarat Day'. In 1960, the Bombay Reorganization Act was passed by India's Parliament to divide the multilingual state of Bombay into Gujarat and Maharashtra. The legislation came into effect on May 1, 1960.
- The United Nations (UN) established World Tuna Day on May 2 to raise awareness about the importance of tuna and to promote more sustainable fishing practices. It was observed for the first time in 2017.
- World Press Freedom Day (WPDF) is celebrated all over the world on the 3rd of May. The theme for WPDF 2019 is "Media for Democracy: Journalism and Elections in Times of Disinformation".
- World Laughter Day is celebrated on the first Sunday of May every year. It is a day to raise

awareness about laughter and its many healing benefits.

- World Asthma Day is an annual event organized by the Global Initiative for Asthma (GINA) on the first Tuesday in May to improve asthma awareness and control around the world. This year it was observed across the globe on May 7, 2019. The theme of World Asthma Day 2019 was 'STOP for Asthma'.
- World Red Cross Day (also known as Red Crescent Day) is observed every year on May 8. The 2019 theme chosen by them is, '#Love'.
- National Technology Day is observed every year on 11th of May in India, acting as a reminder of the anniversary of Shakti. Shakti is the Pokhran nuclear test which was held on the 11th of May 1998.
- International Nurses Day is celebrated around the world on 12 May. It celebrates the birth anniversary of Florence Nightingale. The theme for 2019 International Nurses Day 2019 is "Nurses – A Voice to Lead – Health for All".
- In 2019, World Migratory Bird Day is celebrated on May 11 and October 12. The theme for World Migratory Bird Day 2019 is 'Protect Birds: Be the Solution to Plastic Pollution.'
- In 1993, the General Assembly decided in a resolution that 15 May of every year should be observed as The International Day of Families. The Theme for 2019 International Day of Families is "Families and Climate Action: Focus on SDG 13".
- May 16th is celebrated globally as the International Day of Light. 2019 marks the global celebration of the second edition of the event.
- World Telecommunication & Information Society Day is observed all over the world on 17th May. The theme for World Telecommunication & Information Society Day 2019 is 'Bridging the Standardization Gap'.
- To raise awareness of the importance of pollinators (such as bees, butterflies, bats and hummingbirds), the threats they face and their contribution to sustainable development, the UN designated 20 May as World Bee Day.
- World Metrology Day is observed every year on 20 May. The theme for World Metrology Day 2019 is The International System of Units – Fundamentally better.
- On 21st May, the UAE celebrated World Day for Cultural Diversity for Dialogue and Development to highlight its efforts in promoting tolerance and cultural diversity. The event coincides with the

country's declaration of **2019 as the Year for Tolerance**.

- **May 21** is chosen as Anti-terrorism day in India to **commemorate the death Anniversary of former Prime Minister Rajiv Gandhi** died in a terrorist attack.
- The **UN General Assembly proclaimed 22 May**, the date of the adoption of its text, as the **International Day for Biological Diversity** on 20 December 2000. The theme for International Day for Biological Diversity 2019 is '**Our Biodiversity, Our Food, Our Health**'.
- **Nepal** celebrated its **12th Republic Day** on **29th May 2019**.
- **International Everest Day** is being observed on **29th May**. **Nepalese Tenzing Norgay** and **New Zealand's Edmund Hillary** had climbed the **Mt. Everest** on this day (**29th May**) in **1953**, as the **first humans** to achieve the feat.
- **Every year, on 31st May**, the **World Health Organization (WHO)** and global partners celebrate **World No Tobacco Day (WNTD)**. The focus of World No Tobacco Day 2019 is on "**tobacco and lung health**."

Agreement Signed/ MoU Approved

- Office of the **Principal Scientific Adviser (PSA)** to the Government of India and **Indian Institute of Technology Delhi (IIT Delhi)** signed an MoU in New Delhi for setting up a **Centre of Excellence (CoE)** for **Waste to Wealth** Technologies for implementation of sustainable, scientific and technological solutions for waste management.
- To nab tax evaders and reduce black money generation, the **Central Board of Direct Taxes (CBDT)** and **Goods and Services Tax Network (GSTN)** signed an agreement to facilitate the exchange of data between the two.
- **Common Service Centre's (CSC)** e-Governance Services India Limited, a special purpose vehicle under the **Ministry of Electronics & IT** tied up with **Indian Institute of Technology (IIT)-Kanpur** to upscale '**Unnat Bharat Abhiyan**'. '**Unnat Bharat Abhiyan**' is an initiative of the **Ministry of HRD**.
- India's largest telecom operator **Vodafone Idea Ltd** announced a **five-year multi-million-dollar** IT outsourcing deal with tech giant **IBM**. The company did not divulge the size of the deal but some reports pegged it at about **\$700 million**.
- The **National Institute of Open Schooling Ministry of Human Resources Development (NIOS)** and **National Health Mission of Public Health Department (NHMPH)** of Government of Maharashtra signed a Memorandum of Understanding in Mumbai.
- **Tractor-manufacturer Tractors and Farm Equipment (TAFE) Ltd** signed an MoU with **Petroleum Conservation Research Association (PCRA)** to aid conservation of resources. Under the MoU, the association plans to jointly conduct agricultural workshops by involving TAFE's dealership network.
- **Commerce Secretary, Anup Wadhawan** and **Vice Minister, General Administration of Customs of China (GACC), Li Guo**, held a meeting in New Delhi to discuss trade related issues of pending Indian request for clearance of agricultural products.
- **Konkan Railways Corporation Ltd** signed a contract agreement with **Nepal's Department of Railways** to supply two **1600 HP DEMU train sets**. These trains be used to operationalise railway link between **Jayanagar in India and Kurtha in Nepal**. The train sets be manufactured by the **Integrated Coach Factory, Chennai**.
- **India and the United Kingdom** agreed to increase their collaboration in the fields of Indo-Pacific cooperation, climate change, disaster resilience, development in third world countries amongst other areas.
- A tripartite MoU was signed between **National Mission for Clean Ganga, HCL Foundation and INTACH** for taking up a project of '**Plantation of Rudraksh Trees in Uttarakhand**' as a part of CSR initiative under the '**Namami Gange**' Programme.
- India signed the '**Christchurch Call to Action**' in **Paris**. The agreement came in the backdrop of the attacks on mosques in March and is aimed at stopping the abuse of the Internet by **extremists**.
- **IBM India** tied-up with **HDFC ERGO** General Insurance Company, India's third-largest non-life insurance provider in the private sector, to co-

create new **Artificial Intelligence (AI)-based solutions.**

- **Tech Mahindra** announced its **biggest defence order worth over Rs 300 crore** with the **Indian Navy**. As part of the '**Armed Forces Secure Access Card**' (**AFSAC**) **Project**, Tech Mahindra implement **RFID (Radio Frequency Identification)** based **Access Control System** across all naval bases and ships.
- Multilateral funding agency **Asian Development Bank (ADB)** announced that it signed an **agreement to provide USD 750 million equivalent** in Indian rupee long-term financing to electrify railway tracks in India. It is the **largest single non-sovereign loan ever committed by ADB** to Indian Railway Finance Corporation (IRFC) to fund the railways track electrification project.
- **The Department of Biotechnology (DBT)** under **Ministry of Science and Technology** and **Department of Atomic Energy (DAE)**, under Prime Minister of India signed an MoU for supporting joint collaborative research programmes **in the area of Cancer.**
- **The National Small Industries Corporation Limited (NSIC)** signed an MoU with **Ministry of Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises (MSME)** for the year **2019-20**. The MoU envisages provision of enhanced services by NSIC under its **marketing, financial, technology, and other support services schemes** for MSMEs in the country.
- **Sri Lanka** signed a tripartite agreement with **India and Japan** for development of eastern terminal of Colombo port. The Memorandum of Cooperation (MoC) was signed in Colombo by Sri Lankan ports minister Sagala Ratnayake, Indian high commissioner to Sri Lanka Taranjit Singh Sandhu and a Japanese representative.
- **The United States** and the **United Arab Emirates** have announced that mutual defense cooperation agreement had come into force, amid increasing tensions between **Washington and Tehran.**
- **Indian Institute of Technology (IIT), Guwahati** signed an MoU with The Indian Space Research Organisation (ISRO) to set up an **IITG-ISRO Space Technology Cell (STC)** at the institute where **Assam Governor Jagdish Mukhi** inaugurated a new academic complex and research and development building.

Awards & Recognition

- Six grassroots environmental activists received the prestigious Goldman Environmental Prize. Known as the Green Nobel Prize, the Goldman Prize honors environmental activists from each of the six continental regions: Europe, Asia, North America, Central America and South America, Africa and islands and island nations. The winners of the award are-
 1. Alfred Brownell, Liberia
 2. Bayarjargal Agvaantseren, Mongolia
 3. Ana Colovic Lesoska, North Macedonia
 4. Jacqueline Evans, Cook Islands
 5. Alberto Curamil, Chile
 6. Linda Garcia, United States
- Rapper **Drake** set a record with the most wins ever, taking home **12** honours at the Billboard Music Awards. Drake surpassed singer **Taylor Swift** to become the top award recipient in the Billboard Music Awards history.
- Former **ISRO** chairman **A S Kiran Kumar** was conferred with France's highest civilian honour, **Chevalier de l'Ordre national de la Legion d'Honneur**, for his contribution to India-France space cooperation.
- **GD 'Robert' Govender**, an Indian-origin journalist in South Africa, honoured in the **UK** with **2019 V K Krishna Menon** award for his outstanding contribution as a pioneer of decolonised journalism.
- Israel honoured **Lt. Gen. (retd) Jack Farj Rafael (JFR) Jacob**, who negotiated the historic surrender of **Pakistani** troops in Dhaka after the **1971 Bangladesh's** liberation war, with a

plaque on the **Wall of Honour** at the Ammunition Hill. Lt. Gen. Jacob was one of the most prominent members of India's relatively small **Jewish community**, serving as a Lieutenant General in the Indian Army

- **Oscar-winning actress Anne Hathaway** was honoured with a **star on the Hollywood Walk Of Fame in Los Angeles, US**.
- **IPS officer Chhaya Sharma**, who led the investigation team of the **infamous Nirbhaya gang-rape and murder case**, awarded the **2019 McCain Institute Award** for Courage and Leadership.
- **United Nations Office for Disaster Risk Reduction (UNDRR)** conferred **Sasakawa Award 2019** for Disaster Risk Reduction to **Dr. Pramod Kumar Mishra**, Additional Principal Secretary to Prime Minister of India.
- **Indian filmmaker, Achyutanand Dwivedi's film, "Seed Mother"**, won the third prize in the international section of **Nespresso Talents 2019** in Cannes. This year's theme was **'We Are What We Eat'**, aimed at exploring the world, experiencing diversity, and sharing experiences and knowledge through food.
- **Anil Kapoor** was felicitated by **Council of European Chambers of Commerce in India** and a **European Union delegation in Mumbai**. He was awarded because of his continuous support in promoting the cause of children's rights.
- **Comedian-actor Kapil Sharma** acknowledged as the **most viewed stand-up comedian in India and abroad by the World Book of Records London**.
- **Police Officer Jitender Kumar**, an **Indian peacekeeper is among the 119 military, police and civilian personnel** who was honoured with a prestigious UN medal 2019 for courage and sacrifice in the line of duty.
- **Former foreign secretary Shyam Saran** was conferred with **Japan's second highest national award, 'Order of the Rising Sun, Gold and Silver Star'**. He was conferred with this award for his contributions to strengthen the strategic ties and enhancing mutual understanding between **India and Japan**.
- **Bharti AXA Life Insurance**, a private life insurer conferred with the **FICCI Claims Excellence Award**. The recognition comes for its customer-friendly claims services in the life insurance sector.
- **N Kumar, Vice-Chancellor of Tamil Nadu Agricultural University** conferred the **lifetime recognition award by the Confederation of Horticulture Association of India**.
- **Indian writer Annie Zaidi** was announced as the **2019 winner of the USD 100,000 Nine Dots Prize**,

a **prestigious book prize** created to award innovative thinking that addresses contemporary issues around the world.

Books & Authors

- Pakistan's former captain and star all-rounder **Shahid Afridi** released his autobiography, titled **'Game Changer'**. The book is co-authored by Afridi and journalist **Wajahat S Khan**. Afridi stated that he was born in **1975** and not **1980** as stated in the official records.

Miscellaneous Current Affairs

- The Central government asked the state transport departments to make it mandatory for **all EVs** to use the **green number plates**, irrespective of the year in which they were bought.
- State-owned telecom firm **BSNL** become the **first operator** to start optical **fiber-based high-speed broadband** service in Pulwama with the launch of **'Bharat Fibre'**. This is the first such FTTH (**fiber-to-the-home**) service deployment in the (Kashmir) Valley.
- **Mangaluru City Police** launched an **all-women police patrol unit 'Rani Abbakka Force'**. All-women police patrol force named after the **16th-century warrior** of coastal Karnataka, **Queen Abbakka** of Ullal near Mangaluru, who fought the Portuguese in the 16th century.
- Vice President **M Venkaiah Naidu** released a postage stamp to commemorate the **750th birth anniversary** of **Sri Vedanta Desikan** in New Delhi. The stamp released by **Indian postal department**.
- **Stockholm International Peace Research Institute (SIPRI)** launched new initiative named **Global Registry of Violent Deaths (GReVD)** to count deaths caused by all forms of violence across the world and display these in open-source database.
- 18-year-old Nepali girl, **Bandana** danced continuously for **126 hours** to set a Guinness World Records on **'Longest Dancing Marathon by an Individual'**, a feat previously held by an **Indian**.

- The 5th United Nations Global Road Safety Week is being observed from **May 6 to 12, 2019**. It is celebrated once in two years. The theme of the Road Safety Week is '**Leadership for Road Safety**'.
- Pune-based **Indian Institute of Science Education and Research (IISER)** team found a new species of reddish-brown pit viper snake with a unique heat-sensing system, the first in past 70 years in India. The species is named '**Trimeresurus arunachalensis**' after Arunachal Pradesh, where it was discovered.
- Inaugural issue of **world's first exclusive women's cricket magazine 'Criczone'** was released with **Indian team vice-captain Smriti Mandhana** featuring as the cover story.
- One of the most prestigious international events from the world of cinema, **the Cannes Film Festival** begun in France. **Information and Broadcasting Secretary Amit Khare** is leading the Indian delegation at Cannes and inaugurate India Pavilion.
- **Doordarshan** launched an **online souvenir store for its viewers on Amazon India** so that one can easily access it. **A. Surya Prakash Chairman, Prasar Bharati** launched DD souvenir store on Amazon India.
- The **Home Ministry** cancelled the registration of Bengaluru-based NGO **Infosys Foundation** for alleged violation of norms in receiving **foreign grants**. All non-government organizations (NGOs) are mandatorily required to be registered under the **Foreign Contribution (Regulation) Act or FCRA** to receive foreign funding.
- **Nepalese Sherpa climber Kami Rita** scaled Mount Everest for a **23rd** time, breaking his own record for the **most successful ascents** of the world's highest peak. He first scaled Everest in **1994**.
- **Captain Aarohi Pandit, a 23-year-old pilot from Mumbai** became the **world's first woman to cross the Atlantic Ocean solo in a Light Sports Aircraft (LSA)**.
- Commandos of the premier counter-terror force **National Security Guard (NSG)** created history as they scaled the **Mount Everest (world's highest peak)** in their **maiden attempt**.
- **HDFC Capital Advisors**, a wholly-owned subsidiary of **HDFC Ltd**, launched a new initiative called '**HDFC Affordable Real Estate and Technology Program (HeART)**'.
- Leading stock exchange **BSE** launched '**BSE STAR MF**' app to enable more participation and help mutual fund distributors process transactions faster.
- **Niti Aayog** circulated a cabinet note to provide **Rs 7,500 crore** for the establishment of **AIRAWAT**, a cloud computing platform along with research

institutes. This is part of the policy think tank's proposal to create an institutional framework for artificial intelligence (AI) in the country.

- **Taiwan Expo 2019** began in Pragati Maidan, New Delhi. The **representative of Taipei Economic and Cultural Centre Tien Chung-Kwang** and **Chairman of Taiwan External Trade Development Council, TAITRA James CF Huang** inaugurated the three-day event in the presence of **Joint Secretary Praveen Bonigala** and **ITPO Chairman LC Goyal**.
- **South African Saray Khumalo** reached the **highest point on the planet** becoming the first black African woman to **scale Mount Everest**. This was her fourth attempt at climbing Mount Everest.
- The **5th Smart Cities India 2019 expo**, including Transport India, Solar India, Buildings India and Water India expos, was inaugurated by **Durga Shanker Mishra, Secretary, Ministry of Housing and Urban Affairs (MoUHA)** at the **Pragati Maidan, New Delhi**.
- After the **RBI** released a draft framework for setting up a **regulatory sandbox (RS) for fintech players** in the counter, the market and insurance regulators **SEBI** and **IRDAI** have also launched similar initiatives.
- The **Jamaat-ul-Mujahideen Bangladesh** also called as **Jamaat-ul-Mujahideen India or Jamaat-ul-Mujahideen Hindustan** declared as a banned terrorist organization by the government of **India**.
- **Facebook** is planning to launch its own **cryptocurrency in early 2020**, allowing users to make digital payments in a dozen countries. The currency, dubbed **GlobalCoin**, would enable **Facebook's 2.4 billion monthly users** to change dollars and other international currencies into its digital coins.
- **Swatantryaveer Vinayak Damodar Savarkar's** birth anniversary is being celebrated on **28th May**. **Born on 28th May in 1883 near Nasik in Maharashtra**, Savarkar was popularly called **Veer Savarkar**.
- **Orchha town in Madhya Pradesh** has a plethora of historical sites with the Bundela dynasty architectural style. The Archaeological Survey of India included that **heritage town of Orchha** in a tentative list of **UNESCO world heritage sites**. It was included in the proposal sent by the **ASI to the UN body in April 2019**.
- **Kerala's fruits and vegetable exporters** have heaved a sigh of relief following the **lifting of the export ban by Saudi Arabia** after the **Nipah virus attack last year**. With the lifting of the embargo, he said **Kozhikode airport** was alone handling **20 tonnes of fruits and vegetables per day** valued at **\$50,000** to various destinations in Saudi.

- A **41-year-old orangutan** at **Odisha's Nandankanan Zoological Park** died following a prolonged illness. "**Binny**", the country's lone orangutan passed away around 9:40 pm due to old-age related ailments followed by respiratory tract infection.
- As the **World Environment Day** is approaching, **Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change** launched a theme song '**Hawa Aane De**' on air pollution. The song was launched in the national capital. The aim is to spread awareness regarding protecting the environment.

Obituaries

- Noted Kannada theatre personality, satirist and TV actor **Master Hirannaiah** passed away. He was 85 years old.
- **Peter Mayhew**, the actor behind the character of **Chewbacca** passed away. He was 74. Mayhew is most widely known for his portrayal of the more-than-200-year-old Wookie Chewbacca in the Star Wars franchise.
- Prominent writer and academician, **Maramraju Satyanarayana Rao** passed away following a cardiac arrest. He was 84.
- **Prof. Kirpal Singh**, the first chronicler of **Partition**, who started building an archive in 1954, passed away at 95 in Chandigarh.
- **Former Indian Cue sports Player, Coach and administrator Derek Sippy** passed away in Mumbai due to a massive heart attack.
- **Prof N.R. Madhava Menon**, an educationist, scholar, and the pioneering spirit behind modern **legal education in India**, passed away. He was 84 years old.
- Renowned **economist Baidyanath Mishra** passed away due to old-age related problems. He was 99. Mishra had started his career as a lecturer in Ravenshaw University in Cuttack in 1949.
- **Noted Tamil novelist and Sahitya Akademi awardee Thoppil Mohamed Meeran**, passed away in Pettai, Tamil Nadu. Saaivu Naarkkaali (The

Reclining Chair), released in 1995, bagged him the prestigious **Sahitya Akademi Award in 1997**.

- **The Padma Bhushan awardee and ITC's Non-Executive Chairman YC Deveshwar** passed away at the age of 72. He spearheaded the diversification of ITC to an FMCG company.
- **Padma Shri awardee Bhojpuri vocal artist Hiralal Yadav** passed away in Varanasi at the age of 93. Shri Yadav was a well-known Bhojpuri folk singer from the 'Birha' genre, which revolves around the separation of a lover from his beloved. He received a **Padma Shri award**, the country's fourth highest civilian award, in January 2019.
- **Veteran Telugu actor Rallapalli Venkata Narasimha Rao** passed away in Hyderabad following a **cardiac arrest**. He was 74.
- **I M Pei**, a dominant figure in American **architecture** for more than three decades who designed the **Louvre's crystal pyramid** passed away. He was 102.
- The **former Formula One driver and three-time world champion Niki Lauda** passed away at the age of 70. He hailed from Austria.
- **Sammy Shore**, an actor and stand-up comedian who **co-founded the Comedy Store**, passed away. He was 92.
- **Renowned filmmaker, film historian, researcher and educationist Vijaya Mulay** passed away at the age of 98 in New Delhi. In 1959, she founded the **Delhi Film Society** and was later appointed a joint secretary of the Federation of Film Societies.
- Bollywood's most famous stunt and action choreographer, **Veeru Devgn** passes away in Mumbai. Born in Amritsar, Devgn was behind the fight and action scenes for over 80 Hindi films including '**Phool Aur Kaante**' (1991), '**Mr. India**' (1987), and '**Himmatwala**' (1983) among various others.
- **Carmine Caridi**, known for roles in The **Godfather franchise** died at the age of 85. The veteran actor also appeared in the final part of "**The Godfather**" trilogy.

Countries | Capital | Currencies

- State of Eritrea Capital: Asmara, Currency: Eritrean nakfa.
- Capital of Nigeria: Abuja, Currency: Nigerian naira.
- Indonesia Capital- Jakarta, Currency- Indonesian rupiah.
- Ukraine Capital: Kyiv, Currency: Ukrainian hryvnia.
- Ibrahim Mohamed Solih is the current President of the Maldives.
- Male is the capital of the Maldives.
- The Maldivian rufiyaa is the currency of the Maldives.

- Poland Capital: Warsaw, Currency: Polish zloty.
- Japan Capital- Tokyo, Currency- Japanese yen, PM- Shinzo Abe.
- UK Capital: London, Currency: Pound sterling.
- Japan Capital- Tokyo, Currency- Japanese yen, PM- Shinzo Abe.
- USA Capital: Washington D.C., Currency: United States Dollar.
- Vietnam Capital: Hanoi, Currency: Vietnamese dong, Vice President: Dang Thi Ngoc Thinh.
- Australia Capital: Canberra, Currency: Australian Dollar.
- Dublin is the capital city of Ireland.
- Washington DC was formerly known as District of Columbia.
- Algeria Capital: Algiers, Currency: Algerian dinar.
- Argentina Capital: Buenos Aires, Currency: Argentine peso.
- Abuja is the capital city of Nigeria.
- The naira is the currency of Nigeria.
- President of Mexico is Andres Manuel Lopez Obrador.
- Capital of Mexico is Mexico City.
- The Mexican peso is the currency of Mexico.
- France Capital: Paris, Currency: CFP franc, euro.
- China Capital: Beijing, Currency: Renminbi, President: Xi Jinping.
- Iran Capital: Tehran, Currency: Iranian rial.
- Botswana Capital: Gaborone, Currency: Botswana pula.

International Organizations / Companies in News

- The UN Security Council, primary responsibility for the maintenance of international peace and security.
- Takehiko Nakao is the President of the Asian Development Bank.
- Headquarters: Mandaluyong, Metro Manila, Philippines.
- The G-7 groups together the US, Britain, France, Italy, Canada, Japan, and Germany.
- The grouping had included Russia but it was left out following tensions with Western nations over the annexation of Crimea in 2015.
- ISIS-K is known as 'ISIS' South Asia Branch, ISIL Khorasan, Islamic State's Khorasan Province' and 'South Asian Chapter of ISIL'.
- United Nations Headquarters in New York, USA.
- It was founded on 24 October 1945.
- Mr Antonio Guterres of Portugal is the Secretary-General of the United Nations.
- International Labour Organization was founded in 1919.
- It Headquarters in Geneva, Switzerland.

- Takehiko Nakao is the President of the Asian Development Bank.
- Headquarters: Mandaluyong, Metro Manila, Philippines.
- The SCO was founded at a summit in Shanghai in 2001 by the presidents of Russia, China, Kyrgyz Republic, Kazakhstan, Tajikistan and Uzbekistan.
- India became a full member of the China-dominated grouping in 2017.
- Along with India, Pakistan was also granted the SCO membership in 2017.
- The Arctic Council, a high level intergovernmental organisation set up in 1996 to promote cooperation, coordination and interaction among the Arctic States and protect the Arctic environment.
- The Arctic Council is formed of eight circumpolar countries- Norway, Sweden, Finland, Iceland, Denmark, Canada, US and Russia.
- India has its Arctic research station 'Himadri' in Svalbard, Norway since 2008.
- GFDRR is a global partnership that helps developing countries better understand and reduce their vulnerability to natural hazards and climate change.
- India became a member of CG of GFDRR in 2015 and expressed its interest to co-chair in last meeting of CG held in October 2018.
- WHO Headquarters: Geneva, Switzerland, Director-General: Tedros Adhanom Ghebreyesus.

Financial Organizations in News

- NABARD Chairman- Harsh Kumar Bhanwala, Headquarters- Mumbai, Established on- 12 July 1982.
- NABARD is now 100% owned by the government.
- Sanjeev Srinivasan is the MD and CEO of Bharti AXA General Insurance. Its Headquarters in Mumbai.
- SBI Chairperson: Rajnish Kumar, Headquarters: Mumbai, Founded: 1 July 1955.
- LIC HFL MD and CEO: Vinay Sah.
- RBI 25th Governor: Shaktikant Das, Headquarters: Mumbai, Founded: 1 April 1935, Kolkata.
- SIDBI was set up in 1990 under an Act of Indian Parliament.
- Mohammad Mustafa is the Chairman & Managing Director of SIDBI.
- R Subramaniakumar is MD & CEO of IOB.
- The headquarters of IOB is in Chennai.
- FICCI stands for Federation of Indian Chambers of Commerce and Industry.
- Headquarters of FICCI is in New Delhi.
- ICICI established in 1927.
- Paytm Founder: Vijay Shekhar Sharma.
- Parent Organization: One97 Communications.
- Aditya Puri is the MD of HDFC Bank, Headquarters in Mumbai, Maharashtra.
- Hardayal Prasad is the MD & CEO of SBI Card.
- SBI Card was launched in October 1998 by the SBI and GE Capital.
- SBI Card is headquartered in Gurgaon, Haryana.
- BSE MD & CEO: Ashishkumar Chauhan.
- LIC Mutual Fund was established on 20th April 1989 by LIC of India.
- Yes Bank Headquarters: Mumbai, Founder: Rana Kapoor.
- PC Modi is the present Chairperson of CBDT.
- NSIC Limited is established by the Government of India in 1955.
- NSIC falls under Ministry of Micro, Small & Medium Enterprises of India.
- Headquarters of NSIC is in New Delhi.

States | CMs | Governors | Capital | Ministers | Static General Awareness

- Gujarat Capital: Gandhinagar, Governor: Om Prakash Kohli, CM: Vijay Rupani.
- Meghalaya CM: Conrad K Sangma, Governor: Tathagata Roy.
- Bhubaneswar is the capital city of Odisha.
- Professor Ganeshi Lal is the present Governor of Odisha.
- Gangtok is the capital of Sikkim.
- The Sikkim Krantikari Morcha (SKM) was founded in 2013.

- Pramod Sawant is the 13th and current Chief Minister of Goa.
- Panaji is the state capital of Goa.
- Mridula Sinha is present Governor of Goa.
- Maharashtra CM: Devendra Fadnis, Governor: CH Vidyasagar Rao. Capital: Mumbai
- Karnataka Capital: Bengaluru, CM: H.D Kumaraswamy, Governor: Vajubhai Vala.

Other Static General Awareness Current Affairs

- Amar Nagaram is the present head of Myntra-Jabong.
- INCB consists of 13 members who are elected by the ECOSOC and who serve in their personal capacity.
- Established in 1968, the INCB is an independent and quasi-judicial monitoring body for the implementation of the UN's international drug control conventions.
- CJ Ranjan Gogoi is the present Chief Justice of India.
- NCDRC is a quasi-judicial commission in India which was set up in 1988 under the Consumer Protection Act, 1986.
- The head office of NCDRC is in New Delhi.
- Bond-i was first issued in August 2018 by the World Bank, with the CommBank being a sole arranger.
- DRDO Chairman: G Satheesh Reddy, Estd. in: 1958, Headquarters in: New Delhi.
- Geological Survey of India (GSI) was founded in 1851 with primarily goal of finding coal deposits for the Railways.
- It is an attached office to the Ministry of Mines and it is Headquartered in Kolkata.
- Graphite is the most stable allotrope of Carbon, with standard entropy being zero.
- The ISRO is the space agency of the Government of India headquartered in Bengaluru.
- Kailasavadivoo Sivan is the chairperson of ISRO.
- The United Nations Sasakawa Award is the most prestigious international award in the area of Disaster Risk Management.
- India's Permanent Representative to the UN Ambassador Syed Akbaruddin.
- India is the fourth largest contributor of uniformed personnel to the UN peacekeeping.
- It was the 17th General Elections that was conducted in India.
- Sunil Arora is the Chief Election Commissioner of India.
- Ashok Lavasa and Sushil Chandra are 2 Election Commissioner of India.