

The Most Important Current Affairs October 2019

Nobel Prize Winners 2019

- ❖ The **Nobel Prize 2019** were announced recently in 6 different fields viz. Physiology or Medicine, Physics, Chemistry, Literature, Peace, and Economic Sciences. The Nobel Prize distribution was first done on 1901. The winners will receive a full cash prize, valued this year at 9-million kronor (\$918,000), a gold medal and a diploma.
- ❖ On **November 27, 1895**, Alfred Nobel signed his 3rd and last will at the Swedish-Norwegian Club in Paris in which he specifically designated the institutions responsible for the prizes he wished to be established: The **Royal Swedish Academy of Sciences** for the Nobel Prize in **Physics** and **Chemistry**, **Karolinska Institute** for the Nobel Prize in **Physiology** or **Medicine**, the **Swedish Academy** for the Nobel Prize in **Literature**, and a Committee of five persons to be elected by the **Norwegian Parliament** (Storting) for the Nobel **Peace** Prize. In 1968, the Sveriges Riksbank established the **Sveriges Riksbank Prize in Economic Sciences** in Memory of Alfred Nobel.
- ❖ The Nobel Foundation, a private institution established in 1900, has the ultimate responsibility for fulfilling the intentions in Alfred Nobel's will. Each year, thousands of members of academies, university professors, scientists, previous Nobel Laureates and members of parliamentary assemblies and others, are asked to submit candidates for the Nobel Prizes for the coming year.
- ❖ After receiving all nominations, the Nobel Committees of the 4 prize awarding institutions are responsible for the selection of the candidates.

Complete list of the winners of **Nobel Prize 2019**:

Sl. No.	Field	Winners	Description	Associated With
1	Physiology or Medicine	William G. Kaelin (USA)	for their discoveries of how cells sense and adapt to oxygen availability	Harvard Medical School
		Sir Peter J. Ratcliffe (United Kingdom)		University of Oxford
		Gregg L. Semenza (USA)		Johns Hopkins University
2	Physics	James Peebles (Canada)	for theoretical discoveries in physical cosmology	Princeton University
		Michel Mayor (Switzerland)	for the discovery of an exoplanet orbiting a solar-type star	University of Geneva
		Didier Queloz (Switzerland)		University of Geneva
3	Chemistry	John B. Goodenough (Germany)	for the development of lithium-ion batteries	University of Texas
		M. Stanley Whittingham (United Kingdom)		Binghamton University
		Akira Yoshino (Japan)		Asahi Kasei Corporation
4	Literature (2018)	Olga Tokarczuk (Poland)	for a narrative imagination that with encyclopedic passion represents the crossing of boundaries as a form of life	
	Literature (2019)	Peter Handke (Austria)	for an influential work that with linguistic ingenuity has explored the periphery and the specificity of human experience	

Sl. No.	Field	Winners	Description	Associated With
5	Peace	Abiy Ahmed Ali (Ethiopia)	for his efforts to achieve peace and international cooperation	Prime Minister of Ethiopia
6	Economics	Abhijit Banerjee (India)	for their experimental approach to alleviating global poverty	Massachusetts Institute of Technology
		Esther Duflo (France)		Massachusetts Institute of Technology
		Michael Kremer (USA)		Harvard University

World Bank's Ease of Doing Business Ranking

- ❖ **World Bank** has released **Ease of Doing business Rankings** which includes **190** countries. As per the rankings, **India** has jumped 14 places and has been ranked at **63rd among 190** countries. **New Zealand** and **Somalia** retained their **1st** and **190th** spot respectively. The indicator measures the performance of countries across **10 different dimensions** in the 12-month period ending **May 1, 2019**.
- ❖ From 2020, the World Bank has expanded its ease of doing business survey to **2 more cities: Bengaluru** and **Kolkata** in addition to **Delhi** and **Mumbai** that are currently surveyed. The World Bank has decided to have four cities from every country with a population above **100 million**.

Key findings of the Report:

- ❖ **India** has become one of the **top 10** most improved countries for the third consecutive time.
- ❖ The country's **score** improved from 67.3 (in 2018) to **71.0 (in 2019)**, as per The Doing Business 2020 study.
- ❖ **India** saw the biggest jump in ranking in the "**resolving insolvency**" category from 108th to **52nd** on the back of the government implementing the Insolvency and Bankruptcy Code.

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- ❖ **India's** ranking improved substantially in "**dealing with construction permits**" (from 52nd to **27th**) and "**trading across borders**" (from 80th to **68th**).
- ❖ **India's** ranking improved in "**registering property**" from 166th to **154th** despite a drop in score.

Crime in India Report 2017 Released

- ❖ **National Crime Records Bureau** has released the annual "**Crime in India Report 2017**". The report has been released after a delay of 2 years. Key findings of the report are:
- ❖ According to the report, **3.59 lakh** cases of crime against **women** were reported in the country. **Uttar Pradesh** topped the list with 56,011 cases followed by Maharashtra with 31,979 cases and West Bengal 30,002 in cases of crime against women.
- ❖ Majority of cases under crimes against women were registered under '**Cruelty by Husband or his Relatives**' (27.9%) followed by 'Assault on Women with Intent to Outrage her Modesty' (21.7%), 'Kidnapping & Abduction of Women' (20.5%) and 'Rape' (7.0%).
- ❖ The NCRB report also cited 58,880 incidents of rioting in 2017. **Maximum incidents** of rioting were reported from **Bihar (11,698)**, followed by Uttar Pradesh (8,990) and Maharashtra (7,743).
- ❖ The incidents registered under the Scheduled Caste Prevention of Atrocities Act saw an increase from 5,082 incidents reported in 2016 to 5,775 in 2017.
- ❖ Incidents of crime related to Scheduled Tribes dipped from 844 in 2016 to 720 in 2017.
- ❖ A total of 95,893 cases of kidnapping and abduction were registered during 2017.
- ❖ The NCRB for the first time collected data on circulation of "**false/fake news and rumours**". Under the category, maximum incidents were reported from **Madhya Pradesh** (138) followed by Uttar Pradesh (32) and Kerala (18).
- ❖ A total of 28,653 murder cases were registered across the country in 2017 and enmity cited as the maximum triggers for such murders. Among Union Territories, **Delhi** recorded the most **murder cases** in 2017 at 487.

BPRD releases “Data on Police Organizations (DoPO 2018)”

- ❖ Union Minister of State for **Home Affairs G. Kishan Reddy** has released the Bureau of Police Research and Development’s flagship publication “Data on Police Organizations” (DoPO 2018) in New Delhi. The Data on Police Organisation in India is an important compilation of information on police infrastructure, manpower and other resources from all States, Union Territories, CAPFs and CPOs.
- ❖ Major highlights of the DoPO 2018:
- ❖ There has been an increase of **19,686 Police personnel** in the sanctioned strength of the State Police and 16,051 in the strength of CAPFs
- ❖ There has been 20.95% increase in the strength of Woman Police which brings the total percentage of women in the Indian Police to 8.73%.
- ❖ The overall Police Population Ratio at the state level stood at 192.95 policemen per lakh population.
- ❖ Police Stations have increased from **15579 to 16422**. This includes Cyber Police Stations whose number has risen from 84 to 120.
- ❖ Electronic surveillance has improved with addition of 2,10,278 CCTV Cameras.

India ranked 102 in Global Hunger Index 2019

- ❖ The **2019 Global Hunger Index (GHI)** indicates that the level of hunger and undernutrition worldwide falls into the serious category. As per the index, India ranks **102nd out of 117** qualifying countries, with a score of **30.3**.
- ❖ India has slipped from **95th rank** in 2010 to **102nd in 2019** on the Global Hunger Index (GHI), with the increase in the prevalence of wasting (low weight for height) among children with score under 5 contributing the most to the country’s poor performance. Seventeen countries, including Belarus, Ukraine, Turkey, Cuba and Kuwait, shared the top rank with GHI scores less than 5.
- ❖ There were only four countries in the alarming hunger category are **Madagascar, Chad, Yemen and the Central African Republic** in the extremely alarming hunger category.
- ❖ The report warned that climate change was causing alarming levels of hunger and making it more difficult to feed people in the world’s most vulnerable regions.
- ❖ The Global Hunger Index is a peer-reviewed annual report, jointly published by **Concern Worldwide and Welthungerhilfe**, designed to comprehensively measure and track hunger at the global, regional, and country levels. The aim of the GHI is to trigger action to reduce hunger around the world.

India wins four UNESCO heritage awards

- ❖ The **UNESCO Asia-Pacific Awards for Cultural Heritage Conservation awards** were announced at a ceremony held in Penang, Malaysia. 4 heritage landmarks from India were chosen for the UNESCO Asia-Pacific Awards for Cultural Heritage Conservation 2019.
- ❖ Renewal of Tai Kwun Centre for Heritage and Arts in Hong Kong received the Award of Excellence, which is the highest award among all categories.

IMF cuts World and India growth rates

- ❖ The **World Bank-International Monetary Fund (IMF)** annual meetings kicked off on a somber note, with the IMF downgrading global growth in 2019 to 3%, the slowest since the global financial crisis.
- ❖ India’s growth projections have also been downgraded to **6.1% and 7.0% in 2019 and 2020** respectively, down by 1.2 percentage points and 0.5 percentage points relative to April projections, owing to weaker than expected domestic demand. India’s growth rate in the April-June quarter had hit 5%, the lowest in six years, as per government data. Consumption, investment and exports were down.
- ❖ The IMF projected the **U.S.** would grow at **2.4% and 2.1% in 2019 and 2020** respectively. For **China**, growth was projected to grow at **6.1% and 5.8% in 2019 and 2020**.

NITI Aayog launches India Innovation Index 2019

- ❖ **NITI Aayog** with Institute for Competitiveness as the knowledge partner released the India Innovation Index (III) 2019. **Karnataka** is the most innovative major state in India.
- ❖ **Tamil Nadu, Maharashtra, Telangana, Haryana, Kerala, Uttar Pradesh, West Bengal, Gujarat, and Andhra Pradesh** form the remaining top ten major states respectively.
- ❖ **Sikkim and Delhi** take the top spots among the northeastern & hill states, and union territories/city-states/small states respectively.
- ❖ **Delhi, Karnataka, Maharashtra, Tamil Nadu, Telangana, and Uttar Pradesh** are the most efficient states in translating inputs into output.
- ❖ The study examines the innovation ecosystem of Indian states and union territories.
- ❖ The aim is to create a holistic tool which can be used by policymakers across the country to identify the challenges to be addressed and strengths to build on when designing the economic growth policies for their regions.

WEF's Global Competitiveness Index

- ❖ **World Economic Forum** has released the **Global Competitiveness Index** report. In total, there are **103 indicators distributed** across the **12 pillars** on which the performance of the countries was evaluated.
- ❖ As per the WEF's released report, **India** has moved down 10 places to **rank 68th** on an annual global competitiveness index which was **topped** by **Singapore**.
- ❖ Here is the detailed ranking of India in individual pillars across which the performance of the countries was evaluated:

Sl. No.	Pillars	Rank
1.	Institutions	59
2.	Infrastructure	70
3.	ICT Adoption	120
4.	Macroeconomic Stability	43
5.	Health	110
6.	Skills	107
7.	Product Market	101
8.	Labour Market	103
9.	Financial System	40
10.	Market Size	3
11.	Business Dynamism	69
12.	Innovation Capability	35

Some Important Cabinet Approvals

- ❖ The Central government has increased the **Dearness Allowance (DA)** of **Central government employees and pensioners** by **5%**, which means the dearness allowance has been **increased** from **12%** to **17%**. The hike would be effective from **July 2019**. The **cost to the exchequer** will be **Rs 16,000 crore**.
- ❖ The cabinet also approved inclusion of **5,300 families** under the **development package of Jammu & Kashmir**, who initially opted to move outside the state, but later returned and settled in the Jammu & Kashmir. This will enable such development package families to become eligible to get **one-time financial assistance of Rs 5.5 lakh** under the existing scheme.
- ❖ Cabinet has also **relaxed** the **mandatory requirement** of Aadhaar-seeded data as a pre-condition for release of funds to the beneficiaries under the **Pradhan Mantri Kisan Samman Nidhi scheme**. The relaxation will be **till 30th November 2019**.

President Kovind appoints Chief Justices to 7 high courts

- ❖ President **Ram Nath Kovind** appoints Chief Justices to seven high courts. Those chief justices have been appointed to Kerala, Andhra Pradesh, Punjab and Haryana, Gauhati, Rajasthan, Himachal Pradesh and Sikkim High Courts.

Name	High court
Lingappa Narayana Swamy	Himachal Pradesh High Court
Ravi Shanker Jha	Punjab and Haryana High Court
Indrajit Mohanty	Rajasthan High Court
J.K. Maheshwari	Andhra Pradesh High Court
S. Manikumar	Kerala High Court
Arup K. Goswami	Sikkim High Court
Ajai Lamba	Gauhati High Court

- ❖ Four of the new Chief Justices would fill the vacancies left by Justices V. Ramasubramanian, Krishna Murari, S. Ravindra Bhat and Hrishikesh Roy, who were elevated to the Supreme Court recently from the Himachal Pradesh, Punjab and Haryana, Rajasthan, and Kerala High Courts, respectively.

RBI reduces repo rate by 25 basis points in 4th Bi-monthly Monetary Policy

- ❖ In its **4th Bi-monthly Monetary Policy Committee** meeting, the **Reserve Bank of India** has reduced the policy repo rate **by 25 basis points (bps)**.
- ❖ The MPC has also decided to maintain the **accommodative stance** of monetary policy. The main decisions taken in the 4th Bi-monthly Monetary Policy Committee meeting are:

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- ❖ The **repo rate** under the liquidity adjustment facility (LAF) was reduced from **5.40% to 5.15%**.
- ❖ The **reverse repo rate** under the LAF stands revised to **4.90%**.
- ❖ The **marginal standing facility (MSF)** rate and the Bank Rate is revised to **5.40%**.
- ❖ RBI has also reduced the real **GDP growth** for 2019-20 from **6.9% to 6.1%**.

HBR's list of 10 best performing CEOs has 3 Indian-origin CEOs

- ❖ The **Best-Performing CEOs in the World, 2019'** list compiled by the **Harvard Business Review (HBR)** features **100 CEOs**.
- ❖ The list has been **topped** by American technology company **NVIDIA's CEO Jensen Huang**. Among the **top 10 chief executives** on the list, **3 spots** have been occupied by the **Indian-origin CEOs**.
- ❖ **Adobe CEO Shantanu Narayen** was ranked **6th**, followed by **MasterCard CEO Ajay Banga** was ranked **7th** and **Microsoft chief Satya Nadella** on the **9th** spot. The list also features India-born CEO of DBS Bank Piyush Gupta on the 89th spot. Apple CEO Tim Cook was ranked 62nd in the list. The 2019 list has 4 female CEOs in the top 50 of the rankings.
- ❖ The HBR took into account three metrics for each CEO's tenure: the total shareholder return (including dividends reinvested) adjusted by country and by industry and change in market capitalisation (adjusted for dividends, share issues, and share repurchases), measured in inflation-adjusted USD.

Banking and Financial Current Affairs

- ❖ The **State Bank of India** opened its Melbourne office and becoming the first Indian bank to have a branch in the **Australian state of Victoria**.
- ❖ **Axis Bank**, India's third-largest private sector bank has launched the '**Express FD**', a digital fixed deposit (FD) product that allows a customer to open an FD account in 3 minutes through the digital mode without opening a savings account with the bank.
- ❖ **UCO Bank** has launched three new digital products called, **UCash, Digilocker and an app** in Kolkata, West Bengal.
- ❖ The Reserve Bank of India has **rejected** the merger proposal of **Indiabulls Housing Finance** and **Lakshmi Vilas Bank**.
- ❖ The **Reserve Bank of India** has given the **go-ahead** to the **Kerala government** to amalgamate **13 district cooperative banks (DCBs)** with the Kerala State Cooperative Bank to form the proposed "Kerala Bank". **Except the Malappuram District Cooperative Bank**, all district banks had approved the scheme of amalgamation.

- ❖ ICICI Bank has launched a fixed deposit scheme called **FD Health**, that comes with an in-built critical insurance policy. The **FD Health - Critical illness Cover** will be provided to only the primary holder of the FD account.
- ❖ **SBI Card** announced the launch of '**SBI Card Pay**', a feature which allows contactless payment using mobile phones at PoS terminals.
- ❖ **Vreedhi Financial Services (VFS)** has secured a **non-banking finance company licence** from the **Reserve Bank of India** to provide credit and other services to micro-enterprises operating in tier II-III cities and small towns.
- ❖ **RBI** has imposed a penalty of **Rs 35 lakh** on **Tamilnad Mercantile Bank** for violating norms on **fraud classification and notification**.

Economy Current Affairs

- ❖ **Moody**, the rating agency has lowered its 2019-20 **GDP growth forecast** for India to **5.8%** from 6.2%.

Business Current Affairs

- ❖ **Reliance Mutual Fund** has been renamed as "**Nippon India Mutual Fund**" following the purchase of 75% stake in Reliance Nippon Life Asset Management by Nippon Life Insurance.
- ❖ **Infosys** has been selected as the main supplier to deliver **Volvo Cars' digital transformation** services for its enterprise digital commercial operations applications and products.
- ❖ **Life Insurance Council** has decided to launch the Indian life insurance industry's first joint mass media campaign with the slogan '**Sabse Pehle Life Insurance**'.
- ❖ The Department of Post announced that it has launched mobile banking for its savings account customers.

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Schemes/Committees by the Union & State Government

- ❖ Chief Minister of Andhra Pradesh **Y.S. Jagan Mohan Reddy** launched the “**YSR Vahana Mitra scheme**” in Eluru, Andhra Pradesh.
- ❖ The Central Government has constituted a **committee of officers** to suggest measures to **augment GST revenue collections and administration**. The committee have to submit its 1st report within 15 days to the GST Council Secretariat.
- ❖ ‘**Yuva Sahakar**’ Cooperative Enterprise Support and Innovation Scheme 2019 was launched in New Delhi
- ❖ **Central Board of Direct Taxes** has launched “**Faceless e-Assessment scheme**” that eliminates **physical interface** between an assessing officer and an assessee. They also inaugurated the National e-Assessment Centre (**NeAC**) in **Delhi** to be headed by **Principal Chief Commissioner** of Income Tax.
- ❖ The Tamil Nadu government constituted two committees to deal over water disputes with Kerala relating to the **Parambikulam-Aliyar Project (PAP) and the Pandiyar-Punnampuzha** project. Secretary of Tamil Nadu’s Public Works Department (PWD) **K. Manivasan** would lead both the committees.

States Current Affairs

- ❖ **Rajasthan** became the **third state** in India after **Maharashtra and Bihar** to **ban certain categories of pan masala** containing magnesium carbonate, nicotine, tobacco, mineral oil and flavoured ‘supari’.
- ❖ Chief Minister of **Odisha Naveen Patnaik** rolled out ‘**Mo Sarkar**’ programme which finds its roots in the Gandhian philosophy of giving people their voice in daily governance.
- ❖ Chief Minister of **Uttarakhand Trivendra Singh Rawat** launched an awareness campaign “**Urjagiri**” which aims at stopping power theft and saving.
- ❖ Himachal Pradesh Chief Minister **Jai Ram Thakur** launched the **Pragati Rath** of the **HDFC bank**.
- ❖ The **Bhopal Municipal Corporation (BMC)** and the **Central Pollution Control Board (CPCB)** have joined hands to set up the country’s **first e-waste clinic** in **Bhopal, Madhya Pradesh**, which will enable segregation, processing and disposal of waste from both household and commercial units.
- ❖ The Culture Department of Uttar Pradesh government is going to organise the country’s first training and performance programme of world-famous **KHON Ramlila**, a masked form of **Ramlila art of Thailand** in collaboration with the **Thai government**.

- ❖ Union Minister of State (Independent Charge) for Tourism and Culture **Prahlad Singh Patel** inaugurated **Shirui Lily Festival, 2019** at Shirui Vangayan Ground of Ukhrul in Manipur.
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- ❖ Jammu and Kashmir Governor **Satya Pal Malik** has inaugurated J&K Bazar.
- ❖ **Chief Minister of Madhya Pradesh Kamal Nath** formally inaugurated the 2-day Magnificent Madhya Pradesh Conference started.
- ❖ **Odisha’s smart city Bhubaneswar** gets its 1st **Robo Chef Restaurant in Odisha**. where two indigenously developed robots, ‘**Champa**’ and ‘**Chameli**’ are engaged.
- ❖ The State Cabinet of **Assam** has decided to make **government jobs** out of bounds for people with **more than 2 children** and policy will come into effect from **January 1, 2021**.
- ❖ **Ladakh** administration is organizing the first-ever **Ladakh Literature** festival to celebrate the uniqueness of the region in the fields of Art, Culture and Literature.
- ❖ **Odisha** has inked a Letter of Understanding on “**drink from tap mission**” with the **United Nations Children’s Fund** to provide piped quality drinking water supply to each household on a 24-hour basis.
- ❖ **Odisha** has launched “**Odisha Mo Parivar**” (**Odisha, My Family**) programme which aims to encourage environment protection, blood donation and the welfare of Odias in distress.
- ❖ **Tamil Nadu** has become the **1st state** in the country to enact a **law on contract farming** after the approval of **Tamil Nadu Agricultural Produce and Livestock Contract Farming and Services (Promotion and Facilitation) Act, 2019**.

Appointments/Resignations (National & International)

- ❖ The **Reserve Bank of India** has superseded the Board of Punjab and Maharashtra Cooperative Bank Limited, Mumbai and appointed **Jai Bhagwan Bhoria** as the bank’s administrator with all powers of the board.
- ❖ Senior Indian Information Service officer, **KS Dhatwalia**, has been appointed as the Principal Director General of Press Information Bureau.
- ❖ **SS Mallikarjuna Rao** was appointed as the Managing Director (MD) and Chief Executive of the Punjab National Bank (PNB).

- ❖ The former Indian captain **Kapil Dev** decision to resign from the Cricket Advisory Committee (CAC) of BCCI.
- ❖ Air Marshal **S K Ghotia** has taken over as the new Air Officer Commanding-in-Chief of the South Western Air Command (SWAC) of the Indian Air Force (IAF), at Gandhinagar, Gujarat.
- ❖ The government has appointed economist **Surjit Bhalla** as the executive director of the International Monetary Fund for a period of three years.
- ❖ Digital infrastructure provider, Tata Communications has named **Amur S Lakshminarayanan** as Managing Director and Group Chief Executive Officer designate of the company.
- ❖ The Ministry of External Affairs (MEA) of India was appointed **Amrit Lugun** as the next Ambassador of India to Greece.
- ❖ The Ministry of External Affairs (MEA) of India notified that **Muktesh Kumar Pardeshi** was appointed as the next High Commissioner of India to Niue.
- ❖ Oil India Limited has appointed **Sushil Chandra Mishra** as the new Managing Director and Chief Executive Officer (CEO) of the company.
- ❖ **Vijay Patil** has been elected the president of Mumbai Cricket Association (MCA), while Sanjay Naik and Amol Kale were elected as secretary and vice-president respectively.
- ❖ The **Punjab government** has appointed **Justice Vinod Kumar Sharma** (retired) as the new **Lokpal**.
- ❖ The Director-General of UNESCO, Audrey Azoulay, has named Mexican actress **Yalitza Aparicio** as a **UNESCO Goodwill Ambassador** for Indigenous Peoples. She is committed to the fight against racism and for the rights of women and indigenous peoples
- ❖ **Yes Bank Ltd** has appointed **Anita Pai** as the **Chief Operating Officer** and **Jasneet Bachal** as the **Chief Marketing Officer** of the bank.
- ❖ **K Satish Reddy**, Chairman of Dr Reddy's has been appointed as President of the **Indian Pharmaceutical Alliance (IPA)** for 2019-2021.
- ❖ **Mastercard** India, payment technology major, elevated **Vikas Varma** as the Chief Operating Officer (COO) of the firm.
- ❖ **Kishan Dan Dewal** (IFS officer of 2003 batch), has been concurrently accredited as the next Ambassador of India to Georgia. He will replace **Yogeshwar Sangwan**.
- ❖ Government of India has appointed **J. P. S. Chawla**, (1985-batch Indian Civil Accounts Service (ICAS) Officer) as the new **Controller General of Accounts (CGA)**, Ministry of Finance, Department of Expenditure.
- ❖ **Anoop Kumar Mendiratta** has been appointed as the new **Law Secretary (Secretary, Legal Affairs)** in the Union Law Ministry.
- ❖ The **World Steel Association (Worldsteel)** has elected **Sajjan Jindal**, Chairman and Managing Director, JSW Steel, as Vice-Chairman of the association for one year.
- ❖ A senior 1985-batch IPS officer of Gujarat cadre **Anup Kumar Singh** has been appointed as Director-General of the **National Security Guard (NSG)**.
- ❖ The Appointments Committee of the Cabinet (ACC) has approved the appointment of **Sudhaker Shukla** as Whole-Time Member, **Insolvency and Bankruptcy Board of India (IBBI)**.
- ❖ European Union leaders confirmed the appointment of **Christine Lagarde** as the new chief of the **European Central Bank**.
- ❖ SBI chairman **Rajnish Kumar** will succeed Sunil Mehta as the new chairman of **Indian Banks' Association**. The MD & CEO of IDBI Bank **Rakesh Sharma** will be honorary **secretary of IBA** for 2019-20.
- ❖ The Ministry of External Affairs appoints **Upender Singh Rawat**, Ambassador of India to the Republic of Panama will be concurrently accredited as the **next Ambassador** of India to the Republic of **Nicaragua**.
- ❖ **Ashok Malik** has been appointed as the **Policy Advisor** in the **External Affairs Ministry** in the rank of Additional Secretary.
- ❖ The Ministry of External Affairs notified that **Godavarthi Venkata Srinivas** has been concurrently accredited as the next **Ambassador** of India to the Republic of **Cabo Verde**. He will replace **Rajeev Kumar**.
- ❖ The Government of India appointed IAS officer **Pankaj Kumar** as the new **CEO of the Unique Identification Authority of India**.
- ❖ One of India's most decorated captains **Sourav Ganguly** takes over as the **39th President** of the Board of Control for Cricket in India (BCCI).

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- ❖ **Mahim Verma** of Uttarakhand is the new **Vice President of BCCI**.
- ❖ Senior BJP leader **Manohar Lal Khattar** was sworn in as the **chief minister of Haryana** for second straight time and **Dushyant Chautala** took oath as **deputy chief minister of Haryana**.
- ❖ **Birender Singh Yadav** has been appointed as the next **Ambassador of India** to the **Republic of Iraq**.
- ❖ Justice **Sharad Arvind Bobde** was appointed as the **47th Chief Justice of India** and will take oath as the CJI on November 18th, a day after incumbent Ranjan Gogoi demits office.
- ❖ The Union Government has appointed **Girish Chandra Murmu** and **Radha Krishna Mathur** as the 1st Lieutenant Governors of **Jammu and Kashmir (J&K)** and **Ladakh** respectively.
- ❖ **Satya Pal Malik** has been appointed as Governor of **Goa** and **P S Sreedharan Pillai** has been appointed as the 15th governor of **Mizoram**.
- ❖ **Rafael Mariano Grossi** of Argentina has been elected as the new **Director-General** of the **International Atomic Energy Agency**.
- ❖ Former Mumbai Police Commissioner and Maharashtra DGP **Datta Padsalgikar** have been appointed as **Deputy National Security Advisor (NSA)**.

Sports Current Affairs

- ❖ India's **N. Wilson Singh** and **Satish Kumar Prahapati** won the gold medal in the 10m platform synchronised diving event at the Asian Age Group Championships held in Bengaluru.
- ❖ Jamaican sprint legend Shelly-Ann Fraser-Pryce won gold medal in **100m race of 2019 IAAF World Championships** held in Doha.
- ❖ Indian fencer **Bhavani Devi** wins the silver medal in the women's sabre individual event at the Tournoi satellite competition in Belgium.
- ❖ Formula One world champion **Lewis Hamilton** of Mercedes won the 2019 Russia F1 Grand Prix (Formula 1 GP) at Sochi Autodrom race track in Russia.
- ❖ **Maj Abdul Quadir Khan** of the Corps of Signals has won the Silver medal at the 53rd Asian Body Building and Physique Sports Championship held at Batam, Indonesia.
- ❖ Japan's **Naomi Osaka** defeated world number one **Ashleigh Barty** with a score of 3-6, 6-3, 6-2 to win the **China Open** held in Beijing, China.
- ❖ Austria's **Christine Wolf** has won the **Hero Women's Indian Open** at Gurugram, Haryana.
- ❖ **Novak Djokovic** defeated Australia's John Millman in the finals to win the **Japan Open title**.

- ❖ **Harmanpreet Kaur** has become the 1st Indian to play **100 T20 International matches**.
- ❖ **Simone Biles** has clinched a record-extending **15th World Gymnastics Championship** title in Stuttgart, Germany. With the victory, she has become the event's most decorated woman.
- ❖ German World Cup champion **Bastian Schweinsteiger** has announced his **retirement** from soccer.
- ❖ **Manju Rani** settled for silver medal in **World Women's Boxing Championships** at **Ulan-Ude in Russia**.
- ❖ **Indian shuttler Lakshya Sen** clinched his maiden BWF World Tour title by winning the **Dutch Open men's singles** at Almere in the Netherlands.
- ❖ **Indian shuttler Priyanshu Rajawat** wins the **men's singles title at the Bahrain International Series Badminton** at Isa Town, Bahrain.
- ❖ The **International Cricket Council (ICC)** has changed the super-over rule for all its major events following the uproar over the outcome of the **men's World Cup final** this year when England was declared winners against New Zealand on boundary count.
- ❖ **Mercedes' Valtteri Bottas (Finland)** won the **2019 Japanese Grand Prix** held at the **Suzuka International Racing Course** in Suzuka in Mie Prefecture, Japan.
- ❖ **Zimbabwe and Nepal** were re-admitted as **ICC members** in a meeting held in Dubai.
- ❖ The **Indian football team** won the **3rd Edition of the SAFF U-15 Women's Championships 2019** by beating Bangladesh by 5-3 in the penalty shoot-out.
- ❖ The **17-year-old Mumbai teenager Yashasvi Jaiswal** make history as she became the **youngest cricketer** in the world to score a double century in One Day cricket. She scored 203 off 154 balls against Jharkhand at Alur, Karnataka.
- ❖ England all-rounder **Jennifer Louise Gunn** has announced her retirement from international cricket.
- ❖ **Kuhoo Garg** and **Dhruv Rawat** win the badminton **mixed doubles** title at the **Egypt International 2019** in Cairo, Egypt.
- ❖ Indian cyclist **Ronaldo Singh** bagged a **gold medal** and **James Singh** clinched a **bronze** medal in the men's junior **Keirin event** at the **Asian Track Cycling Championships** being held at Incheon in **South Korea**.
- ❖ **Great Britain** defeated **India** in the finals of the **9th edition of the Sultan of Johor Cup 2019**, an international men's under-21 field hockey tournament, held at Johor Bahru, **Malaysia**. India's Shilanand Lakra emerged as a top scorer; Japan's Kosei Kawabe named as the Best Player and Oliver Payne of Great Britain was named GoalKeeper of the tournament.

- ❖ **Raunak Sadhwani** has become India's **65th Grandmaster**. He defeated Russian GM Alexander Motylev to become the Grandmaster at the age of 13 years, 9 months and 28 days.
- ❖ Canadian player **Denis Shapovalov** defeated Filip Krajinovic by 6-4, 6-4 to win the **Stockholm Open title**.
- ❖ **Riya Bhati** defeated Slovenian player Nastja Kolar 7-5, 1-6, 6-3 to win the **ITF women's tennis** tournament in Lagos, **Nigeria**.
- ❖ Indian cricketer **Rohit Sharma** smashed the former Australia cricketer Don Bradman's record of **highest average** in **Test cricket** on **home soil**. He broke the 71-year-old record that was previously held by Bradman by scoring an average of 99.84.
- ❖ Former South Africa skipper **Graeme Smith** and Former Australian off-spinner **Tim May** has been elected an **Honorary Life Member** of the Marylebone Cricket Club (MCC).
- ❖ Para-athlete **Anandan Gunasekaran** has won **2 gold medals** in the disabled men's 100m and 400m IT1 events at the **7th CISM World Military Games** held in Wuhan, **China**.
- ❖ **Bengal Warriors** defeated Dabang Delhi in the final of **7th season of Vivo Pro Kabaddi League 2019**. Most Valuable Player award of the League was bagged by Naveen Kumar from Dabang Delhi.
- ❖ The **logo** "circular design with Paris 2024 in the art deco style incorporating the lips and outline of Marianne, the personification of the French Republic since the revolution in 1789" for the **Paris 2024 Olympic Games** unveiled at a ceremony in the French capital.
- ❖ Veteran Mumbai all-rounder **Abhishek Nayar** has announced his **retirement** from all forms of **cricket**.
- ❖ **Praveen Kumar** defeated Philippines' Russel Diaz by 2-1 in the **men's sanda event** in the **48kg** category and became the **1st Indian man** to win a **gold medal** at the **Wushu World Championships**.
- ❖ **Poonam** in women's 75kg category and **Sanathoi Devi** in women's 52kg category secured **silver medals** while **Vikrant Baliyan** bagged the **bronze** in the men's 60kg category at the **Wushu World Championships**.
- ❖ **Karnataka** defeated Tamil Nadu by 9 wickets in the finals to win the 2019-20 **Vijay Hazare Trophy**.
- ❖ Indian Fast bowler **Jasprit Bumrah** and batswoman **Smriti Mandhana** has won the **Wisden India Almanack Cricketer of the Year award**. The book titled "**Cricket Country: The Untold History of the First All India Team**" by Prashant Kidambi was adjudged the Wisden India Book of the Year 2019 (Published by Penguin India).

- ❖ **Prithvi Sekhar** beats Jaroslav Smedek to clinch the men's singles title in **World Deaf Tennis Championships 2019** held in Antalya, Turkey.
- ❖ Indian men's doubles pair **Chirag Shetty** and **Satwiksairaj Rankireddy** has won the **silver medal** in the men's doubles event at **French Open**.
- ❖ The **International Cricket Council** has banned **Bangladesh** Test and T20 Captain **Shakib Al Hasan** for 2 years from all forms of cricket for not reporting to the ICC that he was approached by the bookies.
- ❖ Mercedes' driver **Lewis Hamilton** has won the **Mexican Grand Prix 2019**.
- ❖ The **Zozo Championship 2019** tournament title was clinched by America's **Tiger Woods**.
- ❖ Indian boxer **Shiva Thapa** and **Pooja Rani** has clinched **gold medal** while **Ashish** settled for a **silver**, in Olympic Test Event for Boxing in Tokyo, Japan.

Important Days

- ❖ The United Nations observes 1 October every year as **International Day of Older Persons**. 2019 Theme: **The Journey to Age Equality**.
- ❖ The International Day of Non-Violence is observed on **2 October, the birthday of Mahatma Gandhi**.
- ❖ **World Teachers' Day or International Teachers' Days** is celebrated on **October 5**.
- ❖ **Air Force Day** is celebrated every year by the **Indian Air Force** on **8th of October**. This year Indian Air Force celebrated its 87th anniversary. The IAF was founded on October 8, 1932.
- ❖ The United Nations designated the **first Monday of October** of every year as **World Habitat Day**. **Theme:** Frontier Technologies as an innovative tool to transform waste to wealth. This year's Global Observance of World Habitat Day will be held in **Mexico City**.

Special Offer

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PRELIMS

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35 TOTAL TESTS

Bilingual | Validity : 2 Months

- ❖ United Nations celebrates **World Post Day** every year on **9 October**. The purpose of World Post Day is to bring awareness to the Post's role in the everyday lives of people and businesses, as well as its contribution to global social and economic development. The day marks the establishment of the Universal Postal Union in 1874 in the Swiss Capital, Bern.
- ❖ World Health Organization observes **World Mental Health Day** on **10th of October** every year. Theme: **Suicide Prevention**.
- ❖ The United Nations (Office for Outer Space Affairs) observes **4-10 October** every year as **World Space Week**. Theme: The Moon: Gateway to the Stars
- ❖ The United Nations observes **International Day of the Girl Child** on **11th of October** every year. Theme: GirlForce: Unscripted and Unstoppable.
- ❖ **World Migratory Bird Day** is observed on **12 October** every year. Theme for 2019: **Protect Birds: Be the Solution to Plastic Pollution!**
- ❖ **World Standards Day (or International Standards Day)** is celebrated internationally each year on **14 October**. 2019 theme: **Video standards create a global stage**.
- ❖ The **International Day of Rural Women** is observed on **15th October**. The day recognizes the crucial role of women and girls in ensuring the sustainability of rural households and communities, improving rural livelihoods and overall wellbeing. This year's theme is **"Rural Women and Girls Building Climate Resilience"**.
- ❖ **World Students' Day** is celebrated every year on **October 15** on former president **APJ Abdul Kalam's** birthday.
- ❖ **World Food Day** is celebrated every year around the world on **16 October** in honor of the date of the founding of the Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO) of the United Nations in 1945. The theme for WFD 2019 is **"Our Actions Are Our Future"**.
- ❖ The **United Nations' (UN) International Day for the Eradication of Poverty** is observed on **October 17** each year since 1993. 2019 Theme: **Acting Together to Empower Children, their Families and Communities to End Poverty**.
- ❖ **World Statistics Day** is observed on **October 20**, once every 5 years. The theme is **"Better Data, Better Lives"**. The day acknowledges the fundamental importance of sustainable national statistical capacity.
- ❖ The **United Nations** observes **World Development Information Day** on **24 October** every year.

- ❖ **24th October** has been celebrated as **United Nations Day** since 1948. UN Day marks the anniversary of the entry into force in 1945 of the UN Charter. United Nations will commemorate the 75th anniversary of the UN in 2020 with inclusive global conversation on the role of global cooperation in building the future we want.
- ❖ **World Day for Audiovisual Heritage** was celebrated on **27th of October** with the theme **"Engage the Past Through Sound and Images"**.
- ❖ **India** is celebrating the **144th birth** anniversary of **Sardar Vallabh Bhai Patel** i.e. **31st October** as **National Unity Day**.
- ❖ The **United Nations General Assembly** observed **31st October** as **World Cities Day** with the theme **"Changing the world: innovations and better life for future generations"** to discuss how urbanization can be used to achieve sustainable development.

Summits And Conferences

- ❖ **Gujarat** will host the **State Power Ministers' Conference**. It will take place at Kevadia, on the banks of Narmada river.
- ❖ The **9th** Regional Comprehensive Economic Partnership (**RCEP**) **Intersessional Ministerial Meeting** will be held in Bangkok, **Thailand**. Commerce Minister Piyush Goyal will represent India in the meeting.
- ❖ Minister of State for Youth and Sports Kiren Rijju inaugurated **1st India Sports Summit 2019** in **New Delhi**.
- ❖ The **2nd "India-China Informal Summit"** between Prime Minister Narendra Modi and China's President Xi Jinping begins at **Mamallapuram, Tamil Nadu**.
- ❖ The first **National Hindi Science writers conference 2019** started in **Lucknow, Uttar Pradesh** with an aim to promote the use of Hindi and other Vernacular languages in science writing.
- ❖ **Union Road Transport & Highways Minister Nitin Gadkari** inaugurated a conference on **'One Nation One Tag - FASTag'** in New Delhi to roll out the process for having a unified electronic system across the country
- ❖ Defence Minister **Rajnath Singh** inaugurated the **41st DRDO Directors Conference in New Delhi**.
- ❖ **India** will host the **91st Interpol General Assembly in 2022** after a proposal received the overwhelming support of member countries at this year's congregation at Santinago in Chile.
- ❖ Dr Jitendra Singh inaugurated the **11th Edition of Nuclear Energy Conclave 2019** in New Delhi. The theme of the Conclave: **"Economics of Nuclear Power- Innovation towards Safer & Cost-Effective Technologies"**. It was organized by India Energy Forum (IEF).

- ❖ The **18th Non-Aligned Movement (NAM) Summit** has been scheduled to be held between 25 October and 26 October 2019 in Baku, **Azerbaijan**.
- ❖ The **1st India-Bangladesh Stakeholders'** meet was held in **Guwahati**. Bangladesh was represented by Commerce Minister Tipu Munshi.
- ❖ The **Global Bio-India 2019** will be held for the first time in India in **New Delhi** from 21st to 23rd November, 2019.
- ❖ The **9th edition of Bangladesh-India Friendship Dialogue** will be held at **Cox Bazar** in **Bangladesh** from November 1, 2019.

National News

- ❖ Union Home Minister **Amit Shah** flagged off **Delhi-Katra Vande Bharat Express** from the New Delhi Railway Station. The first commercial run of the train will start from 5th October.
- ❖ **Palestine** has released a **commemorative postage stamp** on **Mahatma Gandhi**, honouring his legacy and values, to mark the 150 birth anniversary of the world leader.
- ❖ Union Minister **Smriti Irani** Inaugurates India's Largest '**Charkha**' made of Waste Plastic in Noida. This 'charkha' (spinning wheel) made of used plastic waste was inaugurated the eve of Mahatma Gandhi's 150th birth anniversary.
- ❖ The Nation pays homage to the Father of the Nation, Mahatma Gandhi on his **150th birth anniversary on 2nd October 2019**.
- ❖ The nation is also remembering Former **Prime Minister Lal Bahadur Shastri** on his **115th birth anniversary**. He gave the nation the powerful slogan of **Jai Jawan, Jai Kisan** to enthuse soldiers and farmers.
- ❖ China unveiled the **Dongfeng-41 (DF-41)** intercontinental-range ballistic missile, touted to be the most powerful missile on the planet at the National Day parade, as China observed its 70th anniversary of Communist rule.
- ❖ The nationwide **Paryatan Parv, 2019** kicked off to promote tourism in the country. The aim is to propagate the message of **Dekho Apna Desh** to encourage people to visit tourist destinations of the country and also spread the message of Tourism for All.
- ❖ Prime Minister **Narendra Modi** and **Mauritius PM Pravind Jugnauth** jointly inaugurated 2 landmark projects in Mauritius via video conference.
- ❖ Tourism Ministry has launched the Audio Guide facility "**Audio Odigos**" for 12 sites of India (including Iconic Sites) on the occasion of "**Paryatan Parv 2019**".

- ❖ Passengers of IRCTC's **Delhi-Lucknow Tejas Express** will be compensated in case of delays, the Railway subsidiary, announcing a first of its kind offer from any national carrier.
- ❖ Uttar Pradesh Chief Minister **Yogi Adityanath** flagged off country's first private train **Delhi-Lucknow Tejas Express** started its maiden journey from Lucknow. It will be the first train of Indian Railways that will be entirely run by **Indian Railway Catering and Tourism Corporation (IRCTC)**.
- ❖ The **Goa Maritime Conclave (GMC)-2019** was inaugurated by the National Security Advisor, Shri Ajit Kumar Doval, at Goa.
- ❖ **Atal Innovation Mission (AIM), NITI Aayog** and United Nations Development Programme (**UNDP India**) jointly launched **Youth Co:Lab**. It aims at accelerating **social entrepreneurship** and **innovation** in young India and to recognize young people as critical drivers of sustainable development.
- ❖ The three-day event "**5th World Parliament of Science, Religion and Philosophy**" with the theme of '**role of science, religion and philosophy for world peace and well-being of mankind**' will be held at the MIT World Peace University in **Pune, Maharashtra**.
- ❖ **All India Institute of Medical Sciences** in collaboration with the **Health Ministry** launched the 1st-ever website and mobile application on oral health awareness "**eDantSeva**" which contains a detailed list of all the dental facility and colleges, Information, Education and Communication (IEC) material.
- ❖ **Central Board of Direct Taxes** has launched "**Faceless e-Assessment scheme**" that eliminates **physical interface** between an assessing officer and an assessee. They also inaugurated the National e-Assessment Centre (**NeAC**) in **Delhi** to be headed by **Principal Chief Commissioner** of Income Tax.
- ❖ "**DHRUV**" a Pradhan Mantri Innovation Learning Programme has commenced from **ISRO** in **Bengaluru** and will conclude at IIT, Delhi. It aims to further sharpen innovative imagination, skills and knowledge of the students who are expected to contribute to bringing solutions to socio-economic, political and environmental issues in the country.
- ❖ **Jal Shakti Minister** has launched an initiative '**Ganga Amantran**'. The initiative has been launched to **connect with the stakeholders of the river**. It is a pioneering exploratory open-water **rafting and kayaking expedition** on the Ganga river. The expedition will start at Devaprayag and culminate at Ganga Sagar.

- ❖ **SARAS Aajeevika Mela** begins at India Gate Lawns, in **New Delhi** and organized by the **Ministry of Rural Development** under the initiative of the Deendayal Antyodaya Yojana-National Rural Livelihoods Mission.
- ❖ **Government of India** has launched the **Surakshit Matritva Aashwasan (SUMAN)** initiative in **New Delhi** during the 13th Conference of Central Council of Health and Family Welfare. It aims to assure dignified, respectful and quality health care at no cost for every woman and newborn visiting the public health facility
- ❖ Vice President **M Venkaiah Naidu** has signed an **MoU** with the island nation **Comoros**. As per MoU, **India** will extend over **\$60 mn line of credit** to Comoros for Energy and Maritime Defence Cooperation.
- ❖ 10th edition of the **Rashtriya Sanskriti Mahotsav-National Cultural Festival** is being organized by the Union Ministry of Culture from 14th to 21st of October under the **'Ek Bharat, Shreshtha Bharat'** campaign in Madhya Pradesh.
- ❖ **Prime Minister Narendra Modi** has become the most-followed elected world leader on photo-sharing app **Instagram**.
- ❖ The nation pays homage to **former President Dr A P J Abdul Kalam** on his **88th birth anniversary** and remembered his contributions to the country.
- ❖ **Air India** became the first airline in the world to use a **Taxibot on a A320 aircraft** with passengers on board. Taxibot is a robot-used aircraft tractor for taxiing an aircraft from parking bay to runway and vice versa.
- ❖ **Central Board of Indirect Taxes and Customs** has launched a revamped and streamlined programme to attract investments into India and strengthen Make in India through manufacture and other operations under the bond scheme, of **Customs Act, 1962**.
- ❖ Indian Railways (IR) has announced that it will become a **net-zero carbon emitter by 2030**.
- ❖ **Railways Minister Piyush Goyal** flagged off 9 'Sewa Service' trains.
- ❖ India's longest Tunnel **Chenani- Nashri** on **NH 44**, in Jammu and Kashmir will be named after **Bhartiya Jansangh Founder Dr Shyama Prasad Mukherjee**.
- ❖ Union Road Transport and Highways Minister **Nitin Gadkari** has announced the naming of new **National Highway No. 703AA** as **"Shri Guru Nanak Dev Ji Marg."**
- ❖ **Union Minister for Health and Family Welfare Harsh Vardhan** released a **postal stamp** to commemorate the centenary celebrations of the city-based ICMR-National Institute of Nutrition (NIN).
- ❖ Defence Minister Rajnath Singh inaugurated **Col. Chewang Rinchen Setu (Bridge)** which is named in honour of Colonel Chewang Rinchen and has been **constructed** by the **Border Road Organization** at an altitude of 14,650 feet in the forward area of Ladakh region.
- ❖ Union Minister of State for Culture & Tourism (IC), Prahlad Singh Patel launched the **E-Portal of Centre for Cultural Resources and Training (CCRT) 'Digital Bharat Digital Sanskriti'** and CCRT YouTube Channel in New Delhi. Film **'Rahas: Raasilila of Chhattisgarh'** directed by Sunil Shukla and a book **"Dewas ki Sanskritik Parampara"** written by Jeewan Singh Thakur was also released.
- ❖ The **United Nations World Food Programme (WFP)** has launched a cinema advertisement campaign **'Feed Our Future'** to raise awareness and take steps against **hunger** and **malnutrition** in India.
- ❖ Government of India has decided to **open** the entire area from **Siachen base camp to Kumar Post for tourism purposes**. The step has been taken to boost tourism in Ladakh.
- ❖ **Indian Railways** has installed the most advanced **Electronic Interlocking System** on the **Grand Chord route** reducing the travel time between Delhi and Howrah to about 12 hours from the existing 17 to 19 hours. Grand Chord is part of the Howrah-Gaya-Delhi line and Howrah-Allahabad-Mumbai line.
- ❖ **IIM Kozhikode and Mangalore Refineries and Petrochemicals Ltd.** have announced a special drive Labelled as **"La Eve (meaning The Woman)"** to support women entrepreneurs in the country.
- ❖ **'Maharatna'** status has been granted by the Government to state-owned **Hindustan Petroleum Corporation Limited** and **Power Grid Corporation of India Limited**.
- ❖ The Ministry of **Health and Family Welfare** will observe the **Vigilance Awareness Week** from 28th October to 2nd November, 2019 with the theme of **"Integrity-a way of life"**.

- ❖ The Union Cabinet chaired by Prime Minister Narendra Modi has approved the **merger** of loss-making telecom firms **BSNL** and **MTNL** as part of a revival package.
- ❖ The Centre's first-ever common foundation course "**Aarambh**" (Beginning) for 2019 batch probationer civil servants has begun at the **Statue of Unity** in Kevadia, **Gujarat** with the theme '**How to achieve the goal of making India a 5 trillion dollar economy**'.
- ❖ After the implementation of "**Jammu and Kashmir Reorganisation Act, 2019**" from **31st October 2019**, the total number of **states** in the country has reduced to **28** while the total **Union Territories** will go up to **nine**.

International Current Affairs

- ❖ **Antonio Costa** has been re-elected as the Prime Minister of **Portugal** after winning the general elections.
- ❖ **Kais Saied** is elected as the new President of Tunisia after a landslide victory in recently concluded Presidential runoff. The Independent law professor Kais Saied won against his rival, Nabil Karoui.
- ❖ India handed over the second pair of Mi-24V helicopters to war-torn Afghanistan, boosting the capability of the Afghan Air forces.
- ❖ UAE announced the establishment of the **Mohamed bin Zayed University of Artificial Intelligence (MBZUAI)** in Abu Dhabi. This is the first graduate-level, research-based AI university in the world.
- ❖ Italy approved a new tax on digital companies, including U.S. tech giants, as part of its 2020 draft budget on October 16.
- ❖ The **United Nation General Assembly** has elected **14 States** to the 47 member body of UN Human Rights Council (UNHRC). The Assembly elected **Armenia, Brazil, Germany, Indonesia, Japan, Libya, Marshall Islands, Mauritania, Namibia, Netherlands, Poland, Republic of Korea, Sudan and Venezuela**.
- ❖ Nasa astronauts **Christina Koch and Jessica Meir** have made history by completing the first-ever all-female spacewalk. They spent **7 hours outside the International Space Station (ISS)** replacing a failed power control unit.
- ❖ **Sri Lanka** has been removed from the "**Grey List**" of the international terror financing watchdog **FATF** as Sri Lanka made significant progress in addressing the strategic AML/CFT deficiencies identified earlier.
- ❖ The world's oldest, 8,000-year-old pearl natural pearl named '**Abu Dhabi Pearl**' has been discovered on **Marawah Island** off **Abu Dhabi**, the capital of the **United Arab Emirates**.

- ❖ **Prime Minister of Lebanon, Saad Hariri** has **resigned** from the portfolio amid anti-government protests.
- ❖ The **38th edition** of the **Sharjah International Book Fair (SIBF) 2019** was inaugurated by Sheikh Sultan bin Muhammad Al Qasimi, Supreme Council Member and Ruler of Sharjah, UAE with the **theme 'Open Books Open Minds'**.

Defence Current Affairs

- ❖ India successfully test-fired a land-attack version of **BrahMos supersonic missile** from Chandipur coast in Odisha's Balasore district. DRDO conducted the test-fire successfully.
- ❖ 14th edition of **Indo-Mongolian** joint military training, Exercise **Nomadic Elephant-XIV** started. The Indian Army is being represented by a contingent of a battalion of RAJPUTANA RIFLES.
- ❖ India has got the **1st Rafale fighter jet "RB-001"** built for the Indian Air Force (IAF) at Production Unit of Dassault Aviation in France. **1st batch of jets** will arrive in India only in **May 2020**.
- ❖ The 2nd edition of **Coordinated Patrol (CORPAT)** of the navies of **India and Bangladesh** has begun in Northern Bay of Bengal.
- ❖ The 2nd joint military exercise '**Dharma Guardian-2019**' to promote military cooperation between **India and Japan** will be held in Mizoram from 19 Oct to 02 Nov 2019.
- ❖ The 10th edition of the joint military exercise '**Vajra Prahar 2019**' between India and the US will be held at Joint Base Lewis-McChord (**JBLM**) in **Seattle, US**.
- ❖ **Indian Air Force and Japanese Air Self Defence Force (JASDF)** carrying out a joint military air force exercise named '**Shinyuu Maitri**' began from October 17 to 23, at the air force station, Arjan Singh in Panagarh town in West Bengal.
- ❖ Indian Air Force (IAF) kickstarted its bilateral joint exercise with Royal Air Force Oman (RAFO), named '**EX EASTERN BRIDGE-V**' at Air Force Base Masirah, Oman.

TEST SERIES

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MAINS

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- ❖ Andaman and Nicobar Command (ANC) has conducted the 2nd edition of **Defence of Andaman & Nicobar Islands 2019 (DANX-19)**.
- ❖ The **India-Myanmar** Naval Exercise called **IMNEX-2019** is being organised in **Visakhapatnam**, Andhra Pradesh. The exercise would be conducted in two phases: Harbour phase and Sea Phase.
- ❖ 2-day long manoeuvres by **Sudarshan Chakra Vahini** of Indian Army Started at **Jaisalmer**, field firing range in Rajasthan.
- ❖ The **Defence Acquisition Council** has approved 3 projects worth **Rs 3,300 crore** of “indigenously designed and developed equipments”. The projects include 3rd generation Anti-Tank Guided Missiles (**ATGM**) and Auxiliary Power Units (**APUs**) for the T-72 and T-90 Tanks to be executed by the Indian industry.
- ❖ The **Defence Research and Development Organisation** has started work to produce **hypersonic weapon missiles** that travel at 5 times speed of sound, or a little over a mile every second.
- ❖ The **Indian Army** (IA) is to conduct exercise codenamed “**Sindhu Sudarshan**” for the year 2019 in the deserts of **Rajasthan** to evaluate the capability of the defence services in an integrated air-land battle.
- ❖ The bilateral ‘**Exercise SHAKTI**’ between the armies of **India** and **France** will be conducted at Foreign Training Node in Mahajan Field Firing Ranges, **Rajasthan**.

Ranks and Reports

- ❖ **Kerala** has topped the “**School Education Quality Index**” launched by NITI Aayog. Uttar Pradesh was ranked at the bottom of the list. Chandigarh has topped the list of Union Territories.
- ❖ The **Reserve Bank of India** has released the results of the September 2019 round of its **Consumer Confidence Survey**. The survey was conducted in 13 major cities.
- ❖ **5 of the Richest Indians** in **Forbes India Rich List 2019** are: **Mukesh Ambani** with net worth of \$51.4 billion; Gautam Adani (\$15.7 billion); Hinduja Brothers (\$15.6 billion); Pallonji Mistry (\$15 billion); Uday Kotak (\$14.8 billion).
- ❖ India ranked **82** spots among the **128 countries** surveyed in the **World Giving Index (WGI)**.
- ❖ The **IIT Bombay** has topped all Indian Institutes in the 2nd edition of **Quacquarelli Symonds India University Rankings 2020** with an overall score of 88.5 followed by IISc Bangalore (ranked 2 with 84.7 score) & IIT Delhi ranked 3rd with score of 82.2.
- ❖ Microsoft co-founder **Bill Gates** overtook Jeff Bezos to become the **world’s richest person**.

Agreement/Memorandum Of Understanding (MoU)

- ❖ **Bank of Baroda (BoB)** has signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) with the **Indian Army** under which the bank would offer customised services along with a host of facilities to account holders.
- ❖ **National Health Authority** signed a Statement of Intent with **Google** to collaborate and strengthen the implementation of Ayushman Bharat-Pradhan Mantri Jan Arogya Yojana (**PMJAY**). Google will support NHA in **improving digital presence** of PMJAY.
- ❖ **Government e-Marketplace** signed an MoU with **Union Bank of India**. UBI will be able to offer an array of services including transfer of funds through GeM Pool Accounts, advising of Performance Bank Guarantees and Earnest Money Deposit to the registered users on the GeM portal.
- ❖ **IIT Madras** will collaborate with **ExxonMobil** on Research in Energy and Biofuels. The 5-year joint-research agreement focuses on biofuels, data analytics, gas conversion and transport, and is intended towards finding low-emission solutions.
- ❖ **Mastercard**, along with cricketer **Mahendra Singh Dhoni**, launched a nationwide initiative ‘**Team Cashless India**’ to accelerate the acceptance and adoption of digital payments.
- ❖ **Home Credit India (HCIN)**, a local arm of the international consumer finance provider, has tied-up with **Karur Vysya Bank (KVB)** for joint lending.
- ❖ The **AYUSH** ministry has signed an **MoU** with the **Defence Ministry** to provide **traditional medicine services** at the armed forces’ hospitals and dispensaries. **Ayurveda Palliative Care Unit** was inaugurated at the Base Hospital in the **Delhi Cantonment**.
- ❖ **Grasim Industries Limited** has signed a definitive agreement to form a **joint venture** company in India with **Maschinenfabrik Reinhausen GmbH (MR)** of Germany for the manufacturing and sale of **Composite Hollow Core Insulators**.
- ❖ The **Government e-Marketplace** signed a **MoU** with **Federal Bank** to offer services including transfer of funds through GeM Pool Accounts (GPA), advising of Performance Bank Guarantees (e-PBG) and Earnest Money Deposit (EMD) to the registered users on the portal.
- ❖ The Government of **India**, Government of **Odisha** and the **World Bank** have signed a **USD 165 million** loan agreement for Odisha’s **Integrated Irrigation Project for Climate Resilient Agriculture**.
- ❖ **Indian Overseas Bank** in association with **Universal Sompo General Insurance Co Ltd.** has launched upgraded health care plus insurance policy designed for IOB customers with a sum insured starting from **₹50,000** and going up to **₹15 lakh**.

Awards & Recognition

- ❖ President Ram Nath Kovind will confer the **Vayoshreshtha Samman-2019** on the eminent senior citizens and institutions in recognition of their services towards the cause of the elderly persons.
- ❖ President Ram Nath Kovind presented the most effective **Swachhta Ambassador award to Former Indian cricketer Sachin Tendulkar** on the occasion of 150th birth anniversary of Mahatma Gandhi.
- ❖ England all-rounder **Ben Stokes** has been voted Professional Cricketers' Association player of the year at the Professional Cricketers' Association awards.
- ❖ Human rights lawyer from Kyrgyzstan **Azizbek Ashurov** was awarded the 2019 UN High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR) prestigious Nansen Award.
- ❖ Short film from Kerala "**Spirit Of Kerala**" has won the **People's Choice Award** at the recently concluded **My Rode Reel film competition**. The short film is based on a boat race and directed by **Arun Joseph**.
- ❖ **Russia** has honoured NASA astronaut **Nick Hague** with one of its highest honours, "**The Order of Courage**" for his "courage and high professionalism" shown during life-threatening conditions.
- ❖ The **Vice President** was conferred "**The Order of the Green Crescent**", the highest Civilian Honour of **Comoros**, by Azali Assoumani, President of Comoros in Moroni.
- ❖ Indian Forest Service officer **Ramesh Pandey** has been selected for the prestigious **Asia Environmental Enforcement Award** by the United Nations Environment Programme.
- ❖ **Ashleigh Barty** has been awarded Australian sport's highest individual honour "**The Don**" Award at the annual Sport Australia Hall of Fame.
- ❖ The **31st Indira Gandhi Award** for National Integration for the years **2017 and 2018** will be awarded to the pioneer of the **Chipko Movement Chandi Prasad Bhatt** for his services in promoting and preserving the national integration.
- ❖ Noted director and producer **Priyadarshan**, who has made several blockbuster Malayalam and Hindi films, was conferred the Madhya Pradesh government's **National Kishore Kumar Samman for 2018-19** at a function in Khandwa, MP.
- ❖ **Margaret Atwood and Bernardine Evaristo** have jointly won the **2019 Booker Prize** after judges flout the rules by declaring a tie.
- ❖ **Barcelona captain Leo Messi** received his **6th Golden Shoe** as the top scorer in the European leagues.

- ❖ **Hong Kong Philharmonic Orchestra** has been named orchestra of the year at the **2019 Gramophone Awards**.
- ❖ Vice President **Venkaiyah Naidu** presented the "**Most Eminent Senior Citizen Award**" to the scholar, legal luminary and former Attorney General of India **K Parasaran** on the occasion of Elder's Day celebration.
- ❖ **Jennifer Aniston** to receive **People's Icon Award 2019** at the 2019 **People's Choice Awards**.
- ❖ **Ranveer Singh and Alia Bhatt**-starrer "**Gully Boy**" won the **best film from India** award in the regional finals at the **Asian Academy Creative Awards ceremony**.
- ❖ Netflix series "**Delhi Crime**" has won in a number of categories at the **Asian Academy Creative Awards**. **Delhi Crime** won for **Best Actress, Best Direction, Best Drama Series**, Best Editing and Best Original Programme.
- ❖ The **Mohun Bagan Athletic Club** has conferred **life membership** to Nobel laureate **Abhijit Banerjee**.
- ❖ The European Parliament has awarded the **Sakharov Prize** to Uighur intellectual **Ilham Tohti** for his attempts to "foster dialogue" between Chinese people and the Uighur.
- ❖ President Ram Nath Kovind conferred the first **National Corporate Social Responsibility Awards** to the **companies** for their outstanding contribution in the area of Corporate Social Responsibility. The CSR provisions under the Companies Act, 2013 came into force from April 1, 2014.

Science and Technology

- ❖ **Saturn** overtakes Jupiter as planet with **most moons**. A team of astronomers has **discovered** a haul of **20 new moons** orbiting the ringed planet, Saturn. This discovery has brought its total to 82 moons, while Jupiter, by contrast, has 79 natural satellites.

TEST SERIES

Bilingual



**LIC ASSISTANT
MAINS**

30 TOTAL TESTS

Validity : 12 Months

Books & Authors

- ❖ A book penned by Indian Ambassador to the Netherlands **Venu Rajamony** titled '**India and the Netherlands - Past, Present and Future**,' was released in Amsterdam.
- ❖ A new book entitled "**The Tech Whisperer**", written by digital transformation expert Jaspreet Bindra, features a chapter on AI (Artificial Intelligence).
- ❖ A new book titled "**150 Years of Celebrating the Mahatma the South African Legacy**", by **Fakir Hassen** launched in Johannesburg, South Africa.
- ❖ The founder of Microsoft Corporation and American philanthropist Bill Gates' new book titled "**How to Avoid a Climate Disaster: The Solutions We Have and the Breakthroughs We Need**" will be released on June 2020.
- ❖ A new book titled "**India in a Warming World: Integrating Climate Change and Development**" is set to release on November 2019, edited by Navroz K Dubash.
- ❖ Indian Chess player, **Viswanathan Anand** has penned a book titled "**Mind Master: Winning Lessons from a Champion's Life**".
- ❖ Prime Minister Narendra Modi unveiled a book titled '**Bridgital Nation**' in New Delhi and authored by **N Chandrasekaran**, Chairman, Tata Sons and Roopa Purushothaman Eminent industrialist.
- ❖ **Kashi Nath Pandit's** new book entitled "**Ten Studies in Kashmir: History and Politics**", published by Academic Foundation.

Miscellaneous Current Affairs

- ❖ **UNESCO (United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization) and Doordarshan**, country's public service broadcaster have joined hands to telecast TV bilingual programme '**Mahatma Lives' or 'Bapu Zinda Hain'** on 1-2 October 2019.
- ❖ Film Division in association with India Tourism will organise a "**Gandhi Film Festival**" in Mumbai from 2nd to 6th October, 2019.
- ❖ Power Minister RK Singh and Coal, Mines and Parliamentary Affairs Minister Pralhad Joshi have jointly launched **PRAKASH - Power Rail Koyla Availability through Supply Harmony-** portal in New Delhi.
- ❖ **National Buildings Construction Corporation (NBCC)** has signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) with the Ministry of Youth Affairs and Sports to provide project management consultancy for the development of National Sports University at Imphal, Manipur.
- ❖ The **National Basketball Association (NBA)** brought to India the first-ever Floating Basketball Court in the Arabian Sea in Mumbai, Maharashtra.

- ❖ Union Health Minister, Dr Harsh Vardhan has launched **eco-friendly green firecrackers** developed by Council of Scientific and Industrial Research (**CSIR**) labs and manufactured by licensee-manufacturers in **India**.
- ❖ Health Minister Harsh Vardhan launched the '**trans-fat-free' logo**, which can be voluntarily used by food business operators in their outlets and also on food products. He also released a slogan '**Chefs 4 Trans Fat-Free**'.
- ❖ The 1st Government-sponsored and operated **Day-Care cum Recreation Centre** for senior citizens has been inaugurated in **Leh**. It will provide a raft of medical facilities including geriatric care, health consultations and check-ups, physiotherapy to the senior citizens.
- ❖ **Vishnu Nandan**, polar researcher from **Kerala**, only Indian aboard among the 300 researchers, will join largest ever Arctic expedition "**MOSAIC Expedition**". Led by the Alfred Wegener Institute in Germany, MOSAiC, the largest ever Arctic expedition in history, will be the first to conduct a study of this scale at the North Pole for an entire year.
- ❖ The Indian **National Centre for Ocean Information Services** collaborated with **Accord**, a private company, to develop "**GEMINI**", a portable receiver developed to avoid communication blackouts and is linked to ISRO-satellites and is "fail-proof" and warn fishermen of danger.
- ❖ Union Minister Nityanand Rai has launched a Government Railway Police's website "**railways.delhipolice.gov.in**" and a mobile application "**Sahyatri**".
- ❖ The 38th **India Carpet Expo** will be held in Varanasi, **Uttar Pradesh**. The expo will be organized by the Carpet Export Promotion Council (CEPC).
- ❖ The **Maharashtra and Goa Circle** of the India Post is celebrating **National Postal Week** in each of the six regions under its jurisdiction - Mumbai, Navi Mumbai, Pune, Nagpur, Aurangabad and Goa.
- ❖ The 1st ever '**India International Cooperatives Trade Fair**' to promote export of products of cooperatives has been inaugurated in New Delhi. '**Yuva Sahakar**' Cooperative Enterprise Support and Innovation Scheme 2019 was also launched during the event.
- ❖ Prime Minister **Narendra Modi** released a commemorative stamp **in honour of Marshal of the Indian Air Force** late Arjan Singh.
- ❖ **Indian nun Mariam Thresia** from Kerala and four other nuns were declared Saints by Pope Francis at a grand ceremony at the Vatican City.

- ❖ Over 1,500 students from 32 different colleges and university participated in the ‘**Sangam Youth Festival**’ being organised by the Indian Army in collaboration with **Jammu University Campus** in a bid to spread the message of peace, prosperity, communal harmony and national integration.
- ❖ The **2nd phase** of an Indo-Dutch project called Local Treatment of **Urban Sewage Streams for Healthy Reuse, or LOTUS-HR** was launched at Barapullah drain in New Delhi.
- ❖ Secretary Department for Promotion of Industry and Internal Trade (DPIIT) **Guruprasad Mohapatra** launched the website and mobile application L2Pro India [Learn to
- ❖ Protect, Secure and Maximize Your Innovation] on **Intellectual Property Rights (IPRs)**.
- ❖ The **129th death anniversary** of the mystic bard **Fakir Lalon Shah** is being observed in Bangladesh.
- ❖ Textiles Secretary, **Ravi Capoor**, inaugurated the 48th edition of the Indian Handicrafts and Gifts Fair (IHGF) at the India Expo Centre & Mart at Greater Noida. The theme of IHGF-Delhi Fair 2019: **Reduce, Reuse, Recycle**.
- ❖ **Kiran Uniyal**, w/o a serving Colonel of Indian Army has created Individual Guinness World Records for “**The most full contact knee strikes in three minutes (one leg) (female), 263 strikes**” & “**The most full contact knee strikes alternate legs in one minute(female),120 strikes**”.
- ❖ The **National Council of Educational Research and Training (NCERT)** is planning to review the **14-year-old National Curriculum Framework (NCF)** in accordance with new **national education policy (NEP)** and set up a committee for the purpose.
- ❖ India’s livestock population has increased to over **535.78 million** showing an increase of 4.6 per cent over Livestock Census-2012. The Department of Animal Husbandry and Dairying released the **20th Livestock Census -2019**.
- ❖ IIT Kharagpur graduate **Debayan Saha** has invented a device called “**PM 2.5**” which he claimed when fitted near the silencer pipe in vehicles will **curb air pollution**.
- ❖ A team of German researchers from the University of Ulm and Freiburg (Germany) discovered the **Saharan silver ant** which is the **fastest of the world’s** 12,000 known ant species, clocking 855 millimetres nearly a metre per second in Douz area of **Tunisia** in Northern Sahara. Its scientific name is *Cataglyphis bombycina*.
- ❖ The **Insurance Regulatory and Development Authority of India** has imposed penalties of **Rs 1.01 crore** on **Cholamandalam MS GIC** for violations observed during an inspection.
- ❖ Bollywood actress **Deepika Padukone** and Indian badminton player **PV Sindhu** were named the ambassadors for **Bharat Ki Laxmi**, an initiative to celebrate the contribution & accomplishments of women of the nation for the public good. The hashtag for the initiative is #BharatKiLaxmi.
- ❖ The Amazon’s male white **Bellbird** is the **world’s loudest bird** which hits 125.4 decibels.
- ❖ The **Vijaya Bank Heritage Museum** has been inaugurated at the headquarters of the erstwhile Vijaya Bank i.e. **Bengaluru** having a rare collection of photos through which the growth of the bank is showcased.
- ❖ J&K’s **Chenani-Nashri Tunnel**, a 9 km-long tunnel that reduces the distance between Jammu and Srinagar by 31 km has been **renamed** as **Shyama Prasad Mukherjee Tunnel**.
- ❖ **Indian Railways** has launched ‘**one touch ATVM**’ to render fast ticketing to millions of commuters at 42 suburban stations of Central Railway over Mumbai Suburban Network.
- ❖ **Indo-Tibetan Border Police** celebrated its **58th Raising Day** on 24th October 2019.
- ❖ **CBSE and NCERT** have launched an online aptitude test “**Try And Measure Aptitude And Natural Abilities (Tamanna)**” to help students of Class 9 and 10 to make a better choice of subjects, eventually helping them in making an informed decision while choosing subjects in Class 11 and 12.
- ❖ **Facebook** has unveiled a ‘**Preventive Health**’ tool in the **United States**. The tool connects people to health resources and sends check-up reminders.
- ❖ **Nepalese** mountaineer **Nirmal Purja**, created a new speed record by climbing the world’s 14 highest peaks over 8,000 metres (26,250 feet) in just **189 days**.
- ❖ Union Minister for Finance & Corporate Affairs **Nirmala Sitharaman** has released a special **commemorative coin** on **Paramahansa Yogananda** to mark **Paramahansa Yogananda’s 125th birth anniversary**.

Special Offer

**RBI GRADE B
PHASE -I 2019**

30 TOTAL TESTS

Validity : 1 Month

- ❖ Researchers from the **Indian Institute of Information Technology Hyderabad (IIIT-H), Telangana** have created the first-ever '**Indian brain atlas**' (IBA).
- ❖ The government of **Pakistan** released a new coin worth **Pakistan Rupees 50** to commemorate the **550th anniversary of Baba Guru Nanak**.

Obituaries

- ❖ Indian National Army (INA) veteran **V Ganesan** passed away. He joined Netaji's INA at the age of 18 and received six months of military training in Singapore.
- ❖ Legendary Mexican singer **Jose Jose** who was often called 'El Principe de la Cancion' or 'The Prince of Song, passes away.
- ❖ **Jessye Norman**, the renowned international opera star whose passionate soprano voice won her 4 Grammy awards and the national medal of arts, passed away recently.
- ❖ American-Austrian film producer **Eric Pleskow** the Hollywood tycoon passed away.
- ❖ Renowned kidney transplant surgeon and Padma Shri recipient Dr **H L Trivedi** passed away.
- ❖ **Farook Khan**, an Indian-origin journalist in South Africa passed away.
- ❖ Centenarian philatelist and coin collector Krishna **Gopalkrishna Kadekodi** passed away. He was 102.
- ❖ The second highest Buddhist leader of Bangladesh and head of Sima Bihar of Ramu, **Satyapriya Mohathero** passed away in Dhaka, Bangladesh.
- ❖ US actress **Diahann Carroll**, who won Golden Globe and Tony awards and was nominated for an Oscar passed away.
- ❖ Legendary saxophonist and the Padma Shri awardee **Kadri Gopalnath** passed away.
- ❖ **Alexei Leonov**, the first human to walk in space passed away. He was the legendary Soviet cosmonaut who became the first human to walk in space 54 years ago.
- ❖ First female head of Nobel's Literature Award Body, **Sara Danius** passed away.
- ❖ Internationally acclaimed painter of Bangladesh **Kalidas Karmakar** passed away in Dhaka.
- ❖ Cuban ballet dancer **Alicia Alonso** passed away at 98.
- ❖ Writer, philosopher and one of the founder members of Dalitha Sangharsha Samithi **K.B. Siddaiah** passed away.
- ❖ Former Co-Chief executive Officer (CEO) of Oracle **Mark Hurd**, passed away.
- ❖ **Dadu Chougule**, wrestler and recipient of Major Dhyanchand award, passed away.

- ❖ **Marieke Vervoort**, Belgian Paralympic athlete has ended her life at the age of 40 through euthanasia (the practice of intentionally ending a life to relieve pain and suffering).
- ❖ Former Gujarat Chief Minister **Dilip Parikh** passed away.
- ❖ Padma Shri awardee & India's oldest Yoga teacher **Nanammal** passed away.
- ❖ **N. Venkatachala**, former judge of the Supreme Court and former **Lokayukta of Karnataka** passed away.
- ❖ Actor and comedian **John Witherspoon** passed away recently.
- ❖ 1st female UN refugee chief **Sadako Ogata** passed away.

Static Takeaways

- ❖ RBI 25th Governor: Shaktikant Das; Headquarters: Mumbai; Founded: 1 April 1935, Kolkata.
- ❖ SBI Chairperson: Rajnish Kumar; Headquarters: Mumbai; Founded: 1 July 1955.
- ❖ DRDO Chairman: G Satheesh Reddy, Established: 1958; Headquarters: New Delhi.
- ❖ Capital of Belgium: Brussels; Currency of Belgium: Euro.
- ❖ Headquarters of United Nations: New York, USA; Founded: 24 October 1945.
- ❖ Secretary General of the United Nations: Antonio Guterres.
- ❖ Director-General of UNESCO: Audrey Azoulay; UNESCO Headquarters: Paris, France.
- ❖ President of China: Xi Jinpings, Capital of China: Beijing; Currency: Renminbi.
- ❖ Chief Minister of Rajasthan: Ashok Gehlot; Governor: Kalraj Mishra.
- ❖ Headquarters of PNB: New Delhi; Founded: 19 May 1894.
- ❖ Founder of PNB: Dyal Singh Majithia and Lala Lajpat Rai.
- ❖ President of BCCI: Sourav Ganguly; Headquarters of BCCI: Mumbai.
- ❖ The Indian Air Force is the air arm of the Indian Armed Forces.
- ❖ Indian Air Force was founded on 08th October 1932.
- ❖ Headquarters of Indian Air Force is in New Delhi.
- ❖ Managing Director & CEO of BOB: P S Jayakumar; Headquarters of BOB: Baroda, Gujarat.
- ❖ Chairman of Axis Bank: Rakesh Makhija; Headquarters: Mumbai.
- ❖ Netherlands Capital: Amsterdam, Currency: Euro and USD.
- ❖ Minister of State (I/C) of Tourism Ministry: Prahalad Singh Patel.
- ❖ Railway Minister: Piyush Goyal.

- ❖ Odisha CM: Naveen Patnaik; Governor: Ganeshi Lal.
- ❖ Capital of Uttarakhand: Dehradun; Governor: Baby Rani Maurya.
- ❖ Capital of Greece: Athens; Currency of Greece: Euro.
- ❖ Capital of Niue: Alofi; Currency: Niue dollar, New Zealand dollar.
- ❖ UNHCR Founded: 14 December 1950; Headquarters of UNHCR: Geneva, Switzerland.
- ❖ Chief Minister of Manipur: N. Biren Singh; Governor of Manipur: Padmanabha Balkrishna Acharya.
- ❖ MD & CEO of UCO Bank: Atul Kumar Goel; Headquarters: Kolkata.
- ❖ Governor of Himanchal Pradesh: Bandaru Dattatraya.
- ❖ Capitals of South Africa: Cape Town, Pretoria, Bloemfontein; Currency of South Africa: The rand.
- ❖ Mongolia Capital: Ulaanbaatar; Currency: Mongolian togrog.
- ❖ CM of Punjab: Amarinder Singh; Governor: VP Singh Badnore.
- ❖ Chief Minister of Madhya Pradesh: Kamal Nath; Governor of Madhya Pradesh: Lal Ji Tandon.
- ❖ WHO Headquarters: Geneva, Switzerland; Director general: Tedros Adhanom.
- ❖ Chairman of Indiabulls Group: Sameer Gehlaut.
- ❖ Union Jal Shakti Minister: Gajendra Singh Shekhawat.
- ❖ Chief Executive Officer of Yes Bank: Ravneet Gill.
- ❖ Air Force Chief: Rakesh Kumar Singh Bhadauria.
- ❖ Chairman of CBDT: PC Mody.
- ❖ Chairman of Life Insurance Council: M.R. Kumar; Headquarters: Mumbai.
- ❖ Mastercard Founded: 1966; Headquarters: New York, US.
- ❖ Chief of the Army Staff: General Bipin Rawat.
- ❖ Capital of Tunisia: Tunis; Currency of Tunisia: Tunisian Dinar.
- ❖ Chairman and CEO of ExxonMobil: Darren W. Woods.
- ❖ Headquarters of ExxonMobil: Texas, United States.
- ❖ MD & CEO of ICICI Bank: Sandeep Bakhshi; Headquarters: Mumbai.
- ❖ Tagline of ICICI Bank: Hum Hai Na, Khyal Apka.
- ❖ King of Bahrain: Hamad bin Isa Al Khalifa; Capital: Manama.
- ❖ Chief Minister of Uttar Pradesh: Yogi Adityanath; Governor: Anandiben Patel; Capital: Lucknow.
- ❖ ICC Chairman: Shashank Manohar; Headquarters: Dubai, United Arab Emirates.
- ❖ The 13th edition of ICC Cricket World Cup will be held in India from February 9 to March 26, 2023.
- ❖ President of Georgia: Salome Zurbishvili; Prime Minister of Georgia: Giorgi Gakharia.
- ❖ Capital of Georgia: Tbilisi; Currency of Georgia: Georgian lari.
- ❖ Food and Agriculture Organization headquarters: Rome, Italy.
- ❖ Food and Agriculture Organization Established: 16 October 1945.
- ❖ MD of IMF: Kristalina Georgieva, Headquarters: Washington DC, USA.
- ❖ Bangladesh Capital: Dhaka; Currency: Taka; PM: Sheikh Hasina.
- ❖ Governor of Manipur: Padmanabha Balkrishna Acharya; Capital of Manipur: Imphal.
- ❖ Lieutenant Governor of Jammu and Kashmir: Girish Chandra Murmu,
- ❖ Oman Capital: Muscat, Currency: Omani rial
- ❖ Managing Director and CEO of Karur Vysya Bank: PR Seshadri; founded: 1916.
- ❖ Headquarters of Karur Vysya Bank: Karur, Tamil Nadu.
- ❖ Tagline of Karur Vysya Bank: Smart Way to Bank.
- ❖ President of Italy: Sergio Mattarella; Prime Minister of Italy: Giuseppe Conte.
- ❖ Capital of Italy: Rome; Currency of Italy: Euro.
- ❖ Chairman of World Steel Association: Andre Johannpeter; Formed: 10 July 1967.
- ❖ Headquarters World Steel Association: Brussels, Belgium.
- ❖ Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu: Edappadi K. Palaniswami.
- ❖ Governor of Tamil Nadu: Banwarilal Purohit, Tamil Nadu Capital: Chennai.
- ❖ Director of NCERT (ex-officio) Chairperson: Prof. Hrushikesh Senapaty.
- ❖ Headquarters of NCERT: New Delhi.
- ❖ ICMR Director: Balram Bhargava; NIN Director: R. Hemaltha.
- ❖ Interpol is an international police cooperation organisation with 194 member states.
- ❖ Headquarters of Interpol: Lyon, France.
- ❖ Union Minister of Fisheries, Animal Husbandry and Dairying: Giriraj Singh.
- ❖ President of UNHRC: Coly Seck; Formation: 15 March 2006, Headquarters: Geneva, Switzerland.
- ❖ Chairperson: MS Sahoo; IBBI Established: 1 October 2016.
- ❖ Headquarters: New Delhi.
- ❖ European Central Bank headquarters: Frankfurt, Germany; Currency: Euro.
- ❖ IRDAI Chairman: Subhash Chandra Khuntia; Headquarters: Hyderabad.
- ❖ President of France: Emmanuel Macron; Capital: Paris; Currency: Euro, CFP Franc.
- ❖ Headquarters of Quacquarelli Symonds (QS): London, United Kingdom.
- ❖ Bangladesh Capital: Dhaka; Currency: Taka; PM: Sheikh Hasina.
- ❖ DRDO Chairman: G Satheesh Reddy; Formed: 1958; Headquarters: New Delhi.

- ❖ Headquarters of UIDAI: New Delhi.
- ❖ Union Minister of External Affairs: Subrahmanyam Jaishankar.
- ❖ Union Minister of Defence: Raj Nath Singh.
- ❖ Headquarters of United Nations: New York, USA; Founded: 24 October 1945.
- ❖ Chief of the Army Staff: General Bipin Rawat.
- ❖ Governor of RBI: Shaktikanta Das; Headquarters: Mumbai.
- ❖ MD & CEO of Federal Bank: Shyam Srinivasan; Tagline: Your Perfect Banking Partner
- ❖ The headquarters of FATF is in Paris, France.
- ❖ Ranil Wickremesinghe is the current Prime Minister of Sri Lanka.
- ❖ CEO of the Indian Banks' Association: V. G. Kannan; Headquarters: Mumbai.
- ❖ Capital of Nicaragua: Managua; Currency: Nicaraguan Cordoba.
- ❖ Capital of Egypt: Cairo; Currency: Egyptian pound.
- ❖ South Korea Capital: Seoul; Currency: South Korean won.

- ❖ Director of Centre for Cultural Resources and Training: Rishi Kumar Vashist; CCRT Established: 1979.
- ❖ Executive Director of World Food Programme: David Beasley; Formed: 19 December 1961.
- ❖ CEO of SBI Card: Hardayal Prasad; Founded: October 1998.

Special Offer

**IBPS CLERK 2019
PRELIMS**

WITH VIDEO SOLUTIONS

35 TOTAL TESTS

Bilingual | Validity : 2 Months

