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LEGEND MAGAZINE

MARCH – 2020

**(CURRENT AFFAIRS AND QUIZ,
ENGLISH VOCABULARY)**

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NATIONAL NEWS:

New Zealand Deputy Prime minister and Foreign Affairs Minister arrive on four-day India visit:

Deputy Prime Minister and Foreign Affairs Minister of **New Zealand Winston Peters** arrived in **New Delhi** on a four-day visit to **India**.

He will attend the inaugural ceremony of New Zealand Centre at **IIT Delhi** and will give a speech on Indo Pacific at the Indian Council of World Affairs.

The Deputy Prime Minister and Foreign Affairs Minister of New Zealand will reach Mumbai to attend an event at **Bombay Stock Exchange**.

Shri Nityanand Rai presides over the Valedictory Session of 1st 'National Conference on Coastal Disaster Risk Reduction and Resilience (CDRR&R) – 2020':

Union Minister of State for Home Affairs, Shri Nityanand Rai presided over the valedictory session of the 1st 'National Conference on Coastal Disaster Risk Reduction and Resilience (CDRR&R) – 2020', organised by the **National Institute of Disaster Management (NIDM)**, in **New Delhi**.

Madhya Pradesh becomes first state to launch unified vehicle registration card:

Madhya Pradesh has become the first state in the country to introduce the unified registration card and the second state to launch the unified **driving license** after **Uttar Pradesh**.

Chief Minister **Kamal Nath** distributed the unified cards, including vehicle registration and driving license in a function held in **Bhopal**.

The **unified smart cards** for driving license and vehicle registration will each have a **QR code** that will help in verifying authenticity of the data printed on the cards.

MoSHRDS Shri Sanjay Dhotre inaugurates the exhibition on clean air technologies at IIT Delhi:

Union Minister of State for Human Resource Development **Shri Sanjay Dhotre** inaugurated the exhibition organised by Centre of Excellence for Research on Clean Air technologies at the **Indian Institute of Technology Delhi**.

Exhibition showcases clean air technologies developed by **IIT Bombay, IIT Ropar, IIT (ISM) Dhanbad and IIT Delhi**. IIT Delhi showcased the work it had carried out in the area of clean air through start-ups incubated at IIT Delhi namely **Aerogram** and **Kriya Labs**.

16th Session of the Joint Ministerial Commission between India and Australia:

16th Session of the Joint Ministerial Commission (JMC) between India and Australia was convened in **New Delhi** on 24th February 2020. The Session was co-chaired by, Minister of Railways and Commerce & Industry **Shri Piyush Goyal**.

India and Australia agree to enhancing bilateral trade and investment through revival of the bilateral CECA negotiations and harmonise standards and regulations on important products.

Work on mutual recognition of educational qualifications of the two countries.

Goa 'Carnival 2020' kicks off in Panaji:

Goa Chief Minister **Pramod Sawant** flagged off the Carnival 2020 float parade in **Panaji**.

Large number of locals and tourist throng the annual Goa Carnival, which is the major traditional Catholic festival celebrated in **Goa**.

Govt aims to make Chhattisgarh a steel hub of the country:

Union Minister for Petroleum, Natural Gas and Steel Dharmendra Pradhan has said that the government aims to make **Chhattisgarh** a steel hub of the country. Steel industry has an important role to play in making India a **five trillion-dollar** economy by **2024**.

He said this in the visit to Bhilai Steel Plant, **Chhattisgarh**.

Dolphin population in Odisha's Gahirmatha halves:

The Forest Department of the Odisha State Government conducted a census at Chilika lake to count the number of dolphins at the Gahirmatha Marine Sanctuary in Odisha. According to the report, the dolphin count came down to 233 in 2020 from 259 in 2019. The Sanctuary is a part of Bhitarkanika National Park of Odisha.

Haryana, Uttarakhand lead in Direct Benefit Transfer payouts:

West Bengal emerged as the worst in ratings prepared for the first time by Centre regarding **Direct Benefit Transfer (DBT)** pay-outs. Haryana & Uttarakhand emerged as the best states at 1st and second positions, respectively

Central DBT covers as many as 439 schemes run by 56 ministries.

CSR: Adani Foundation ties up with Lifology:

Adani Foundation launched a unique CSR activity among Kerala's coastal communities in association with Lifology.com. The project aims to provide career-building opportunities

to students from less developed coastal areas using the Lifology.com platform.

Ministry of Corporate Affairs Secretary launches "SPICE+" to improve Ease of Doing Business in the country:

Injeti Srinivas inaugurated the SPICE+ Web Form as part of gov't's Ease of Doing Business initiatives. It would offer 10 services by 3 Central Govt Ministries-Ministry of Corporate Affairs, Ministry of Labour & Dept of Revenue in the Ministry of Finance.

It also includes Maharashtra State Government.

Shri Pralhad Joshi lays foundation stone of Crusher and Conveyor System at NALCO, Odisha:

Union Minister of Coal and Mines, Shri Pralhad Joshi laid foundation stone of Crusher and Conveyor System at NALCO's Mining & Refinery (M&R) Complex in Damanjodi, **Odisha**.

The project is expected to be completed by April 2022 and would cost around **Rs. 483 crores**.

Government aim to reach a \$5 trillion economy by **2024**.

NTPC's acquisition of entire stake in NEEPCO, THDC India gets CCI nod:

CCI gave nod to acquisition of government's entire stake in THDC India and North Eastern Electric Power Corporation Ltd (**NEEPCO**) by NTPC Ltd. NTPC will acquire 100% of the issued & paid-up share capital of the NEEPCO and 74.5% stake in THDC India.

Competition Commission of India (CCI) chairman-Ashok Kumar Gupta

Union FPI Minister launches Market Intelligence and Early Warning System

(MIEWS) Portal for Monitoring prices of TOP Crops:

Union FPI Minister launched the- Market Intelligence & Early Warning System (MIEWS) Web Portal. Portal can be accessed at <http://miews.nafed-india.com>.

It is a 'first-of-its-kind' platform for 'real time monitoring' of prices of tomato, onion and potato.

Harsimrat Kaur Badal is Union Minister of Food Processing Industries (FPI).

3-day international conference on "EMMDA 2020" held in Noida, Uttar Pradesh:

National Centre for Medium-Range Weather Forecasting (NCMRWF), functions under the Ministry of Earth Sciences (MoES), has organized a 3-day international conference on "Ensemble Methods in Modelling and Data Assimilation (EMMDA) 2020" in Noida, Uttar Pradesh.

It was inaugurated by **Dr. Harsh Vardhan**, Union Minister for Health and Family Welfare, Science and Technology, Earth Sciences.

CCEA approves Creation of National Technical Textiles Mission:

The Cabinet Committee on Economic Affairs (CCEA) approved setting up a national technical textiles mission with a total outlay of **Rs 1,480 crore**.

The mission will have a **four-year** implementation period from FY 2020-21 to 2023-24.

Indian technical textiles segment is estimated at **16 billion dollars**.

24th Meeting of the Eastern Zonal Council at Bhubaneswar :

The 24th meeting of the Eastern Zonal Council, comprising of the States of Bihar, Jharkhand, Odisha and West Bengal, is scheduled to be held on 28th February 2020 at **Bhubaneswar**.

Government of India announces Maiden Summit on Artificial Intelligence:

Government of India announced the mega event, RAISE 2020- 'Responsible AI for Social Empowerment 2020,' to be held in **New Delhi**.

RAISE 2020 is India's first Artificial Intelligence summit to be organized by the Govt. in partnership with Industry & Academia.

Ajay Prakash Sawhney is the Secretary Ministry of Electronics and Information Technology.

National cyber research and Innovation centre, inaugurated by MoSG.K.Reddy in Hyderabad, Telangana:

Minister of State (MOS) for Home Affairs Ministry, **Mr. Gangapuram Kishan Reddy** has Inaugurated National Cyber Research, Innovation and capacity centre at Central Detective Training Institute (CDTI) in **Hyderabad, Telangana**.

The objective of the centre is to help the nation to combat cyber threats.

International Conference on Standardisation of AYUSH Terminologies concludes in Delhi:

2-day International Conference on Standardisation of Diagnosis & Terminologies in AYUSH Systems of Medicine concluded in **New Delhi** with adopting the "New Delhi Declaration on Collection & Classification of Traditional Medicine Diagnostic Data.

Ayurveda, Yoga & Naturopathy, Unani, Siddha, Sowa Rigpa & Homoeopathy

Pepsico To Invest Rs 400 Crore In Assam To Set Up Manufacturing Unit:

Assam's Industry Minister Chandra Mohan Patowary on Wednesday said PepsiCo India has proposed to invest **Rs 400 crore** in the state to set up a greenfield project for manufacturing snacking products.

India & Myanmar signed 10 agreements in various fields:

India & Myanmar agreed to strengthen the bilateral relations by signing 10 agreements in various fields including infrastructure, energy, communication & health.

The agreements were exchanged following talks between PM Modi & Myanmar President **U Win Myint**.

Myanmar: Capital- **Naypyidaw** Currency- **Burmese Kyat**.

VAJRA: The Offshore Patrol Vessel-6 launched at Chennai:

The 6th Coast Guard Offshore Patrol Vessel-6 "VAJRA" was launched in **Chennai**.

The ship would be utilized for day & night surveillance along with anti-terrorist anti-smuggling operations in the **Exclusive Economic Zone (EEZ)** as well as Coastal Security.

The OPV have two Navigation Radars with **ultra-modern** technology.

Delhi hosts 91st Annual General Meeting of the ICAR Society:

91st Annual General Meeting of the Indian Council of Agricultural Research (ICAR) Society was held in **Delhi**.

The Annual General Meeting was chaired by the Union Minister for Agriculture & Farmers' Welfare, **Shri Narendra Singh Tomar**.

Narendra Singh Tomar said budgetary provision has been made to provide each FPO a sum of **Rs. 15 lakhs** for all farming related activities ranging from sowing, harvesting to distribution & marketing.

8-day Vasantotsav begins in Gandhinagar:

Eight-day cultural fair called Vasantotsav was inaugurated at Sanskruti Kunj in **Gandhinagar, Gujarat**.

The annual festival is organised by the department of **Youth & cultural Affairs** of Government to celebrate the rich diverse heritage of the country.

This year's theme of the festival is **EkBhaartShreshth Bharat**.

Telecom Minister Ravi Shankar Prasad inaugurates BSNL FTTH in Dehradun:

Union Minister of Law and Justice, Communications, Electronics and Information Technology Ravi Shankar Prasad in **Dehradun**, inaugurated **BSNL FTTH** (Fiber To the Home) and wifi service.

Govt approves 32 projects in food processing sector under PMKSY:

Government has sanctioned 32 projects in the food processing sector under **Pradhan Mantri Kisan Sampada Yojana**.

The projects are spread across around 17 states leveraging an investment worth **406 Crore**.

SAMPADA scheme approved on **2017** was later named as **PMKSY**.

Union Food Processing Minister-**Harsimrat Kaur Badal**.

Arjun Munda launches 'Capacity Building Programme for ST Representatives' & '1000 Springs Initiatives':

Minister Arjun Munda launched 'Programme for capacity building of ST representatives in local self-governments', '**1000 Spring Initiatives**' & an online portal on GIS-based Spring Atlas with hydrological & chemical properties of the Springs in **Bhubaneswar**.

Arjun Munda is the Union Tribal Affairs Minister.

Ordnance factory boards becomes the 1st govt entity to adopt centralised invoicing platform:

Ordnance Factory Board (OFB) an industrial organisation, functioning under the Department of Defence Production of Ministry of Defence, **Government of India (GoI)**, has become the 1st government entity to adopt centralised invoicing platform, **TreDS** (Trade Receivables electronic Discount System), under which a total of **41 OFBs** adopted this platform, which would help smaller **MSME** (Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises) vendors access working capital easily.

ONGC, HPCL buy out bankers in Petronet MHB for Rs 371 crore:

State-owned **Oil and Natural Gas Corp (ONGC)** and its subsidiary **Hindustan Petroleum Corp Ltd (HPCL)** have bought out lenders in **Petronet MHB Ltd**, the firm that owns a petroleum product pipeline in Mangalore, for about Rs **371 crore**.

A consortium of eight public sector banks held 34.56 per cent stake in Petronet MHB Ltd, where ONGC and HPCL held 32.72 per cent apiece.

"Microsoft Future Decoded – CEO Summit" held in Mumbai:

Technology- Major Microsoft hosted its "Microsoft Future Decoded – CEO Summit" in **Mumbai**.

The summit was attended by leaders of different fields. The gathering was addressed by Microsoft CEO **Satya Nadella**, during his three-day visit to India. Nadella also attended the '**Microsoft Future Decoded – Tech Summit**' held at Bengaluru.

NTPC signs MoU with CPCB to set up air quality monitoring stations:

NTPC Ltd has signed an agreement with the **Central Pollution Control Board (CPCB)**. According to an agreement, NTPC Ltd will provide financial support of Rs **80 Crore** for installation and **commissioning of Continuous Ambient Air Quality Monitoring Stations (CAAQMS)**.

A total of **25 Air Quality Monitoring Stations** will be installed across six states and three Union Territories.

The states include **Jharkhand, Uttar Pradesh, Maharashtra, Madhya Pradesh, Bihar and Tamil Nadu**.

Prime Minister to launch 10,000 Farmer Producer Organisations (FPOs) all over the country:

Prime Minister Narendra Modi will launch 10 thousand Farmer Producer Organizations, FPOs all over the country from **Chitrakoot in Uttar Pradesh**.

Nearly 86% of farmers are small and marginal with average land holdings in the country being less than **1.1 hectare**.

FPOs will help in collectivization of **small, marginal and landless farmers** to give them strength to deal with issues like lack of access to technology, quality seed, fertilizers and pesticides including requisite finances.

Prime Minister **Narendra Modi** will also lay the foundation stone for the **Bundelkhand Expressway at Chitrakoot**.

The Uttar Pradesh Government is constructing **296-kilometre** long Bundelkhand Expressway will pass through the districts of **Chitrakoot, Banda, Hamirpur and Jalaun**.

Shri Narendra Singh Tomar inaugurates the 11th National Krishi Vigyan Kendra (KVK) Conference:

Union Minister for Agriculture & Farmers' Welfare, Rural Development & Panchayati Raj, **Narendra Singh Tomar** inaugurated the 11th National Krishi Vigyan Kendra Conference in **New Delhi**. He & other dignitaries released various products developed by the KVKs.

Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi of doubling farmers income by **2022**.

NITI Aayog selects J&K for first pilot project among all States and UTs on SDGs:

NITI Aayog has selected UT of J&K for first pilot project among all States and UTs on Sustainable Developmental Goals. It would get a chance to work with **UN Development Programme (UNDP)**. The programmes would work like that of district indicator framework.

Government announces amnesty scheme for power consumers across UT of J&K:

Government has announced amnesty scheme for power consumers across UT of **Jammu & Kashmir**. The Administrative Council headed by the Lieutenant Governor **G.C. Murmu** approved the scheme for power consumers which will come into effect from **March 1, 2020**.

Waiver of penalties & interests will cost **600 Cr** to the govt.

Atal Innovation Mission partnered with Nasscom to launch AI-based module in 5000 ATLS:

NITI (National Institution for Transforming India)) Aayog's Atal Innovation Mission (AIM) has collaborated with **NASSCOM** (National Association of Software and Services Companies) to launch the **artificial intelligence (AI)** based module including AI kits across **5000** Atal Tinkering Labs in the country 2020.

Two-day unique Chilli Festival begins at Kasrawad in Madhya Pradesh:

The two-day unique Chilli Festival begins at **Kasrawad** in in **Khargone** district of **Madhya Pradesh**. It will help in fulfilling the Central Government's goal of doubling the income of farmers.

Chilli Festival is a business opportunity for traders, investors & exporters.

Gujarat Assembly to start 'Best MLA' award from year 2019:

Speaker Rajendra Trivedi said that Gujarat Assembly will start giving **'Best MLA'** award for MLAs starting from the year 2019.

The award will be in the lines of Outstanding Parliamentarian Award given to MPs & Best MLA awards given in some other states.

Madhya Pradesh tops in land records digitisation:

1st edition of **NCAER** Land Records and Services Index (N-LRSI 2019-20) released by the **National Council of Applied Economic Research (NCAER)**.

Madhya Pradesh (MP) emerged as the best performing state in terms of digitising land records with the score of 74.9. It was followed

by Odisha (67.5points) and Maharashtra (65.3 points).

While Union Territory (UT) of **Ladakh** ranked at bottom at 33rd position with a score of 2.0.

Defence Minister inaugurates new Light Combat Helicopter Production Hangar at HAL Complex in Bengaluru:

Raksha Mantri **Rajnath Singh** inaugurated the new Light Combat Helicopter Production Hangar at Helicopter Division in **Hindustan Aeronautics Limited** Complex at **Bengaluru, Karnataka**.

LCH is a **5.5-tonne** class combat helicopter designed and developed by HAL.

Mansukh Mandaviya commissions Indian Coast Guard's Offshore Patrol Vessel ICGS Varad:

Union Minister of State for Shipping (I/C) and Chemicals and Fertilizers **Mansukh Mandaviya** commissioned Indian Coast Guard's **OPV ICGS Varad** in **Chennai**. Varad will enhance Coast Guard's capability to monitor & maintain vigil of Indian maritime borders.

Varad is propelled by 2 diesel driven engines of **9000 KW** each.

Union Minister Dr Jitendra Singh inaugurates 'Pension Adalat' in Jammu:

Union Minister of State PMO, Personnel, Public Grievances & Pensions, **Dr Jitendra Singh** inaugurated the '**Pension Adalat**' and National Pension System (NPS) Awareness and Grievance Redressal Programme in **Jammu**.

Inaugurating the Pension Adalat, **Dr. Jitendra Singh** said that this is the first time that Pension Adalat is being conducted outside **Delhi**.

19th World Productivity Congress to be held in Bangalore:

World Productivity Congress, the world's largest convention for productivity development, is back in India after a gap of 45 years.

19th edition of WPC will be held on May 6 to May 8, 2020 at the Bangalore International Exhibition Centre, **Bangalore**.

Lok Sabha Speaker Om Birla launches 'SuposhitMaaAbhiyaan' in Kota:

Lok Sabha Speaker **Om Birla** has said that society should also come forward to remove malnutrition problems in the country. Mr. Birla was addressing the program after launching the '**SuposhitMaaAbhiyaan**' in his constituency **Kota, Rajasthan**.

Union Minister for Women and Child Development **Smriti Irani** was also present in the program.

Newborn and pregnant women healthy is the main objective of the '**SuposhitMaaAbhiyaan**'.

Maharashtra to be single use plastic free by May 1:

Maharashtra State government is set to become single-use plastic-free by 1 May 2020. The announcement was made by the Maharashtra environment minister **Aaditya Thackeray**.

He said **self-help groups (SHGs)** will be given **Rs 5 crore** to procure cloth bags.

Anand Mahindra's M&M launch a cab aggregator service named "Alyte":

Auto manufacturer **Mahindra & Mahindra** plans to enter the shared mobility services segment with the launch of a cab aggregator, called **Alyte**, for corporates.

The introduction of the service will put M&M in direct competition with **Ola** and **Uber**. The company claims a quarter of Alyte's fleet will be **Electric vehicles** in the next two-three years.

Products Worth Rs 22 Lakh Sold in State Level KVIC Exhibition Under P.M.E.G.P:

A sale of worth Rs 22 lakhs was recorded in an exhibition organised by Khadi & Village Industries Commission (KVIC) **New Delhi** state office under **Prime Minister Employment Generation Programme (PMEGP)**

GST collection crosses Rs one lakh crore mark in February:

Government has collected over **one lakh five thousand crore** rupees as Goods and Services Tax in February this year which is eight percent more than the GST collected in the same month of last year.

Out of the total revenue, Central Goods and Service Tax (CGST) is over **20 thousand crore** rupees, State Goods and Service Tax (SGST) is over **27 thousand crore** and Integrated Goods and Service Tax (IGST) is over **48 thousand crore** rupees.

Haryana's Rakhigarhi to soon emerge as a major tourist destination:

Rakhigarhi, Haryana will soon emerge as a major tourist destination on the map of India. Rakhigarhi hit headlines after FM Nirmala Sitharaman in her budget speech placed it among **5 archaeological** sites that the Centre proposes to develop as an **iconic site**. It is the largest sites of the **Harappan civilisation**.

"Ekam Fest" to begin to promote craftsmanship & products of Divyang Artisans & Entrepreneurs:

Social Justice & Empowerment minister **Thaawarchand Gehlot** will inaugurate the Exhibition-cum-Fair '**EKAM Fest**' organised by **National Handicapped Finance Development Corporation (NHFDC)** to promote craftsmanship & products of Divyang Artisans & Entrepreneurs.

"Ekam"-Entrepreneurship, Knowledge, Awareness, Marketing.

'Chintan Baithak' - ports review meeting with Chairpersons of All Major Ports of India concludes:

Minister of State for Shipping (I/C)-**Mansukh Mandaviya** chaired 3-day Ports Review Meeting Chintan Baithak in **Mamallapuram, Tamil Nadu** which concluded on **1 March 2020**.

Government has "**Vision-2030**" for Maritime Sector.

New explosive detection device, developed by DRDO & IISc Bangalore, unveiled in Pune:

RaIDer-X, a new explosive detection device, was unveiled at the National Workshop on Explosive Detection (NWED-2020) in **Pune**. RaIDer-X has the capability to detect explosives from a stand-off distance.

Bulk explosive in concealed condition can also be detected by the device. RaIDer-X has been co-developed by **High Energy Materials Research Laboratory (HEMRL)** Pune and **Indian Institute of Science, Bangalore**.

Tamil Nadu to set up technical textiles park in Salem:

Tamil Nadu state's Chief Secretary **K Shanmugam**, said that govt has planned 2 textile parks, in **Tuticorin & Salem**. One in Salem would be for technical textiles, which are textile material/products used for their

technical performance rather than as personal clothing

Govt approved a **Rs 1,480-cr** National Technical Textiles Mission

Prahlad Singh Patel to launch multilingual Incredible India website:

Prahlad Singh Patel will launch the multilingual Incredible India website in **New Delhi**. The website which was hosted in **English & Hindi** is now being launched in **Chinese, Arabic & Spanish** to project India as a 'must-visit' destination across the globe.

Prahlad Singh Patel is the Union Tourism Minister.

Memorandum of Understanding Between Indian Air Force and Savitribai Phule Pune University:

Indian Air Force and Savitribai Phule Pune University entered into an academic collaboration by signing a Memorandum of Understanding to establish a '**Chair of Excellence**' at Department of Defence & Strategic Studies.

To pay tribute to the legend and commemorate the centenary birth year of the MIAF, the IAF has named it as "**Marshal of the Air Force Arjan Singh Chair of Excellence**".

The Chair will enable IAF officers to pursue Doctoral Research and higher studies in Defence & Strategic Studies and allied fields.

Mukhtar Abbas Naqvi inaugurates "HunarHaat" in Ranchi, Jharkhand:

Union Minister for Minority Affairs Mukhtar Abbas Naqvi inaugurated "**HunarHaat**" in **Ranchi, Jharkhand**. This is for the first time that "HunarHaat" is being organised in **Jharkhand**. This is the 21st "HunarHaat" of the Union Minority Affairs Ministry.

The next HunarHaat will be organized in **Chandigarh**.

Indian Railways launched its First "Restaurant on Wheels" at Asansol Station, West Bengal:

Indian railways launched its First "**Restaurant on Wheels**" at **Asansol Station** (division of Eastern railway), West Bengal, for railway passengers and citizens of the city.

Shri Babul Supriyo, Minister of State for Environment, Forest & Climate Change (MoSEFCC) inaugurated the 1st "Restaurant on Wheels" at **Asansol station, West Bengal**.

SPMCIL contributes Rs 1 crore to National Sports Development Fund:

Under the CSR initiatives, Security Printing & Minting Corporation of India contributed **Rs 1 Crore** towards National Sports Development Fund under the **Target Olympic Podium Scheme** for the top athletes of the Country selected for Tokyo Olympics & beyond.

Chairman & Managing Director of SPMCIL- **Tripti Patra Ghosh**.

Shri Amit Shah inaugurates the campus of NSG Regional Hub at Kolkata:

National Security Guard (NSG) Regional Hub campus at Kolkata, Union Minister for Home Affairs, **Shri Amit Shah** termed this as an important step in the direction of giving adequate facilities to the brave NSG jawans, which are important for them to function unhindered in ensuring the security of the Nation.

Home Minister presided over the inauguration and founding stone laying ceremony of various welfare projects for NSG, amounting

to over **Rs. 245 crores** across **Kolkata, Manesar, Chennai and Mumbai.**

NABARD, IIT Mandi sign MoU to develop farmer friendly tech:

IIT Mandi along with the Enabling Women of Kamand (**EWOK**) Society signed a MoU with **NABARD** (National Bank for Agriculture and Rural Development).

IIT Mandi will get **Rs 35 lakh** under the MoU with NABARD for collaboration on setting up **Farmer Producer Organisations (FPOs)** in Mandi district of **Himachal Pradesh.**

President of India to confer National Lalit Kala Akademi Awards to 15 artists in New Delhi:

Lalit Kala Akademi's 61st annual awards will be conferred by President Ram Nath Kovind to **15 artistes** at the Rashtrapati Bhavan. Minister of Culture **Prahlad Singh Patel** and Akademi chairman Uttam Pacharne will also be present at the ceremony.

Lalit Kala Akademi awards are given to recognise the outstanding work in the **field of art.**

National Academy of Art, New Delhi was set up as an autonomous body, **on 5th August 1954.**

Advisor Farooq Khan lays foundation stone of Mini Secretariat, Employment Complex in Jammu:

Jammu and Kashmir **Lt. Governor Farooq Khan** laid the foundation stone for Mini Secretariat, Employment Complex, at TophSherkhaniya, **Jammu.**

He said that this complex will be beneficial for the **unemployed youth** of J&K who will get proper counselling regarding different avenues of employment.

The building will have proper counselling and training centre for the youth and different agencies like **Jammu & Kashmir Entrepreneurship Development Institute (JKEDI)** and others will also train youth under different schemes and programmes.

Pune to host 108th Indian Science Congress annual session in 2021:

Indian Science Congress association (ISCA) announced that Pune will host the annual session of 108th Indian Science Congress on January 3-7, 2021 at Symbiosis International University's Lavale campus.

Theme: " **Science and Technology for Sustainable Development with Women Empowerment**".

Airport Authority of India & Tripura Govt sign MoU for construction of equipment hiring centers:

Airport Authority of India & Tripura State Government has signed a memorandum of understanding for the construction of 6 equipment hiring centres in Manu Block under the **Dhalai District, Tripura.**

The project has been taken by the Airport Authority as part of its **Corporate Social Responsibility scheme.** The equipment hiring centres, equipment related to agriculture, animal husbandry and fisheries will be kept.

The types of equipment will be rented out to the needy farmers, **Self Help Groups** and to any other needy at a minimal cost. The project will be benefited to 6000 families.

National Chambal sanctuary declared as eco-sensitive zone:

National Chambal sanctuary in **Madhya Pradesh** has been declared as an eco-sensitive zone by the central government. The

decision to declare the area as an eco-sensitive zone will prohibit the construction of hotels or resorts within an area of 0-2 km from the sanctuary.

The Project is managed by the Wildlife wing of UP Forest Dept.

Rs. 4,807 Cr deposited into bank accounts of 7.65 lakh farmers under farm loan waiver scheme:

Maharashtra CM **Uddhav Thackeray** has informed that **Rs. 4,807 Cr** have been deposited into the bank accounts of **7.65 lakh** farmers under the Mahatma Phule farm loan waiver scheme. Over **35 lakh farmers** have uploaded their information on the scheme portal.

Accounts are to be linked with **Aadhar** for the waive off.

35th edition of AAHAR, Food and Hospitality fair, begins in New Delhi:

35th edition of AAHAR - the Food and Hospitality fair began in **New Delhi**. This five-day-long fair is being organized by **India Trade Promotion Organisation (ITPO)**, with support of the Ministry of Food Processing Industries, Agriculture and Processed Food Products Development Authority and several apex industry associations.

India Trade Promotion Organisation (ITPO) Chairman- **LC Goyal**.

Prime Minister expresses happiness about increased registration in ISRO's YUVIKA 2020:

Prime Minister Narendra Modi has expressed happiness that Indian Space Research Organisation, ISRO's Young Scientist Programme **YUVIKA 2020's** registration has

gone up to 1 lakh 53 thousand from 74 thousand.

Mr Modi said, youngsters, showing such interest in science, innovation and space technology is an encouraging sign.

SetuBharatam scheme: All level crossings on National Highways to be replaced by Over Bridges or Road Under Bridges:

Government has envisaged replacement of all the level crossings on National Highways by Road Over Bridges/ Road Under Bridges under **the SetuBharatam scheme**.

Road Transport & Highways Ministry is implementing the scheme to ensure safe & smooth flow of traffic.

Scheme also aimed at reducing road fatalities by 50% by **2020**.

Uttar Pradesh Government provides Rs 900 per month to farmers willing to keep stray cattle:

Uttar Pradesh Chief Minister **Yogi Adityanath** announced that his government will pay **Rs 900 per month** to farmers willing to keep stray cattle.

The Issue Earlier in 2019, the farmer protests in **Uttar Pradesh** had gone up over stray cattle destroying their fields. The population of **stray cattle** in the state increased as the UP Government had banned **illegal animal slaughtering** in the state.

Centre has approved highways projects worth Rs 2,185 Cr for Puducherry:

Centre has approved road & highways development projects worth Rs **2,185 Crore** for Puducherry. Centre has approved development of highways & introduction of four-way lanes linking the UT with important segments.

Puducherry Chief Minister- **V Narayanasamy.**

Minister of State Gangwar launches Humsafar mobile app for doorstep diesel delivery:

Shri Santosh Kumar Gangwar, Minister of State (MoS- Independent charge) for Labour & Employment, launched 'Humsafar' mobile application in New Delhi, which delivers diesel to doorstep of bulk users.

The app will be used for the fuel delivery services to housing societies, hotels, hospitals, malls, construction sites, industries, banquets & other bulk buyers of the diesel in various cities, including Gurugram, Ghaziabad, Noida, Faridabad, Hapur, Kundli, Manesar & Bahadurgarh.

Tamil Nadu CM Palaniswami launches Tamil Nadu Health System Reform Programme:

Tamil Nadu Chief Minister Edappadi K. Palaniswami launched the Tamil Nadu Health System Reform Programme (**TNHSRP**) in **Chennai**. The Programme will be implemented with funding support from the **World Bank**.

The Programme aims at achieving result-oriented outcomes in healthcare delivery and over a **Five-Year Period**, aims to improve the quality of care, strengthen the management of **non-communicable diseases (NCD)** and injuries, and reduce the inequities in reproductive and child health services in the State.

The total cost of the programme is **2,857.003 crore**, of which 1,999.902 crore is being funded by the World Bank.

Rs 16,712 Cr loan sanctioned to women under 'Stand Up India' scheme:

Women account for over 81 per cent of the total beneficiaries under the '**Stand Up India**' scheme with loans worth Rs 16,712 crore sanctioned for them in nearly 4 years' time, the finance ministry said. The Stand-Up India scheme was launched on 5 April 2016.

International Women's Day is on **March 8**. **Rs 33 Crore for Kaziranga under Project Tiger scheme:**

Financial assistance to the tune of Rs **1.51 crore** has been sanctioned to Kaziranga National Park during the financial years 2018-19 and 2019-2020 under **Compensatory Afforestation Fund Management and Planning Authority (CAMPA)**, Change Babul Supriyo said.

Babul Supriyo is the Minister of Assam for Environment, Forest & Climate.

ThinlasChorol sets up first women's travel company in Ladakh:

International Women's Day will be celebrated on 8th of this month. Government has taken series of initiatives to empower women. People are using the #IWD 2020 and **BetiPadhaoDeshBadhao** to share uplifting stories in the run up to International Women's Day.

In Ladakh, a young woman ThinlasChorol has introduced **woman trekking guide** in the male dominated trekking industry. To train the other women as trekking guide, she setup the first women's travel company fully operated by **Women Only**.

India Pharma 2020 & India Medical Device 2020 Conference to be held in Gujarat:

India Pharma 2020 and India Medical Device 2020 Conference and Exhibition has been

scheduled to be held at **Gandhi Nagar, Gujarat** from 5-7 of March 2020.

The conference will be inaugurated by the Chemicals & Fertilizers Minister **Shri Sadananda Gowda**.

Phase II of Swachh Bharat Mission (Grameen) launched:

The 2nd phase of the Swachh Bharat Mission (Grameen), which has an outlay of Rs 1,40,881 Cr, was launched by Union Jal Shakti Minister **Gajendra Singh Shekhawat**. SBM (G) Phase-II will focus on sustaining the gains made in the 1st phase of the programme.

Swachh Bharat Mission was launched on **October 2, 2014**.

Cabinet approved MoU between India & Cote d'Ivoire for cooperation in the field of health:

Cabinet nod the MoU between **India** and **Cote d'Ivoire** in field of health. MoU was signed between the Ministry of Health & Family Welfare of India & the Ministry of Health & Public Hygiene of Cote d'Ivoire. The MoU will regulate drugs & pharmaceutical products.

APEDA signs MoUs with various organisations for implementation of Agri Export Policy:

APEDA(Agricultural and Processed Food Export Development Authority) signed MoUs with various organisations for implementation of Agri Export Policy. **Indian Institute of Technology Delhi (IITD)**, Quality Council of India (**QCI**) and Pearl Academy are among this.

NEDFI through its Microfinance Scheme has facilitated generation of indirect employment to about 7.97 lakh women:

NEDFI (North Eastern Development Finance Corporation Ltd) through its Microfinance Scheme has facilitated generation of indirect employment to about 7.97 lakh women.

Number of women beneficiaries in livelihood project of North Eastern Region Community Resources Management Project (**NERCORMP**) is 3,45,489.

Microsoft & Accenture team up to help entrepreneurs amplify reach:

Microsoft & Accenture said that they were teaming up to help deepen the reach of entrepreneurs and start-ups that are focused on **social impact** and **sustainability**. The joint initiative will provide hands-on support and technologies to social enterprises.

Govt sanctions projects worth over Rs 301 crore in food processing sector:

Union Government has sanctioned ten projects worth over **301 crore** rupees in **food processing sector**. These projects are likely to generate employment for ten thousand people and benefit nearly **forty thousand farmers**.

The projects were sanctioned at a meeting of the Inter-Ministerial Approval Committee under the Chairpersonship of Food Processing Industries Minister **Harsimrat Kaur Badal**.

The projects were sanctioned under the Agro Processing Cluster Scheme of **KisanSampada Yojana**.

Prime Minister to address inaugural session of the Economic Times Global Business Summit:

Prime Minister Narendra Modi will address inaugural session of the Economic Times **Global Business Summit** held in **New**

Delhi. He will be addressing delegates from across the world.

Theme of Global Business Summit-2020 is **"Collaborate to Create: Sustainable Growth in a Fractured World"**.

Global Ayurveda Festival curtain raiser is a perfect tribute to late Sushma Swaraj:

Fourth Global Ayurveda Festival (GAF) will be held at Kochi in **Kerala** from 16th to 20th May. A curtain raiser event was organized in New Delhi.

The theme for the five-day event is **"Ayurveda Medical Tourism: Actualizing India's credibility"**.

3-day Namaste Orchha festival begins in Madhya Pradesh:

Madhya Pradesh, 'Namaste Orchha' festival is starting from today in Orchha, a famous tourist destination of the state. Orchha is famous for its **Ramaraja temple** as well as other historical buildings.

Poetry Festival begins in Kolkata:

Four-day Poetry Festival has begun in Kolkata. Noted Painter **Jogen Chowdhury** inaugurated the festival at Rabindra Sandan Complex in the city.

Poetry Festival has become relevant to encourage the **reading habits** of the younger generation.

Gairsain will be the summer capital of Uttarakhand:

Chief Minister of Uttarakhand Trivendra Singh Rawat announced '**Gairsain**' as the summer capital of the state, on the 3rd day of the budget session held in **Gairsain, Uttarakhand.**

ChapcharKut: The biggest and most joyful festival of Mizoram begins

In Mizoram, the biggest and most joyful festival of Mizos, ChapcharKut is being celebrated across the state on 6 March. It is also regarded as the most popular **spring festival** to the people of the state.

Mizoram Chief Minister- **Zoramthanga.**

Workshop-cum-Awareness Programme on Skill Development for Unorganized Workers concludes at Kulgam

A 2-day Workshop-cum-Awareness Programme on the Skill Development for Unorganized Workers under Pradhan Mantri Shram Yogi Maandhan Scheme concluded at **Kulgam, Jammu & Kashmir.**

The programme was organized by District Employment & Counseling Centre, Kulgam. Monthly contribution for the scheme is **55 to 200 Rs.**

CCI organises 5th edition of National Conference on Economics of Competition Law

Competition Commission of India organised the 5th National Conference on Economics of Competition Law in **New Delhi.**

The Conference, in addition to the Inaugural Session, included two technical sessions where researchers presented papers on economic issues.

Ashok Kumar Gupta is the current Chairperson of the CCI.

New Delhi hosts India Smart Utility Week 2020 (ISUW):

New Delhi based Smart Grid Forum (ISGF) has been organizing India Smart Utility Week 2020 (ISUW) as an International Conference and Exhibition on Smart Energy and Water for Smarter Cities India in **New Delhi.**

India and European Union (EU) called upon the Integrated Local Energy System, in which they will jointly work upon clean energy.

Deendayal Antyodaya Yojana signs MoU with Amazon to e-market:

Deendayal Antyodaya Yojana - **National Urban Livelihoods Mission** signed a MoU with **Amazon** for e marketing of products made by SHGs across the country in urban areas. MoU aims to strengthen the mission of creating sustainable livelihoods in urban areas.

DAY-NULM is under the Ministry of Housing and Urban Affairs.

Pragyan Conclave 2020: Indian Army's International Seminar Crystal Gazes On The 'New Age' Warfare:

"Pragyan Conclave 2020", a two-day Indian Army International Seminar was organised by Centre for Land Warfare Studies (**CLAWS**) at **New Delhi**.

The event brings together cross-domain national and international experts to deliberate on the complex subject of '**Changing Characteristics of Land Warfare and its Impact on the Military**'.

Google to now launch Delhi cloud region After Mumbai:

Google will open a Delhi cloud region making it as the company's 2nd cloud region in India since the launch of the **Mumbai** region in **2017**.

Google's existing network has 8 cloud regions in Asia-Pacific & 22 regions globally. It will also open data centers.

Ranchi University launches its own Community Radio Station KHANCHI 90.4 FM:

Ranchi University launched its own Community Radio Station **RADIO KHANCHI 90.4 FM AapSabka Radio** on International Women's Day, inaugurated by Governor cum Chancellor **Drapadi Murmu**.

1st University in the East Zone to be gifted with a CRS by Ministry of I&B

Union I&B Minister: **Prakash Javadekar**
Indian Coast Guard conducts 9th edition of rescue exercise 'SAREX-2020' in Goa:

Indian Coast Guard (ICG), an armed force that protects India's maritime interests, has conducted a 2-day 9th edition of national level search and rescue exercise '**SAREX-2020**'. Based on the theme 'Harmonization of Maritime and Aeronautical Search and Rescue (**HAMSAR**)' in the sea at Vasco, South Goa district from March 5-7, 2020.

Government to make sanitary napkin disposal bags mandatory from January 2021:

Union Environment Minister **Prakash Javadekar** has said that Sanitary napkin makers will be asked to supply a biodegradable bag with each napkin from **January 2021**.

Mr. **Prakash Javadekar** interacted with the members of the women garbage collector's organization in **Pune**.

NITI Aayog organizes the Fourth Edition of the Women Transforming India Awards:

NITI Aayog organized the fourth edition of the WTI Awards. Since 2018, the Awards have been hosted under the aegis of NITI Aayog's Women Entrepreneurship platform. 2019 WTI Awards received over 2,300 applications of which the Top 30 were shortlisted.

Rajnath Singh felicitates 15 winners on Women's Day.

Smriti Irani inaugurates a National Conference on Women in Police & CAPFs in New Delhi:

Union WCD Minister Mrs Smriti Irani inaugurated a National Conference on Women in Police & CAPFs organized by the Bureau of Police Research and Development, the BPR&D and released a hand-out BPR&D Mirror – Gender Bender as well

Minister of State WCD Ministry: **Debasree Chaudhuri.**

MSDE launches Mahatma Gandhi National Fellowship programme in Bengaluru:

Union Minister for Skill Development and Entrepreneurship **Dr.Mahendra Nath Pandey** launched the Mahatma Gandhi National Fellowship programme in the Indian Institute of Management in **Bengaluru.**

It is launched as part of the **SANKALP** programme of the **MSDE** ministry to provide skilled manpower.

Shriram Transport signed a MOU with IOCL to offer fuel credit to its customers digitally:

Shriram Transport Finance Company signed an MOU with Indian Oil Corporation Ltd through which the STFC customers will be offered credit limit to purchase fuel from the pan India outlets of **IOCL.**

Tamil Nadu tops in Poshan Abhiyan's participants list:

Union Government is implementing the flagship programme Poshan Abhiyan for improving the nutritional status of Indian citizens. It helps children, adolescents, pregnant women and lactating mothers by

leveraging technology, a targeted approach and convergence.

CBDT names nodal officers to bring PSUs on board 'Vivad se Vishwas' scheme:

Central Board of Direct Taxes has named 3 **members Seema Patra, PK Dash and Prabhash Shankar** as '**Nodal Officers**' to work with various ministries & ensure that central and state public-sector undertakings come on board Vivad se Vishwas tax amnesty scheme

CBDT functions under the Central Board of **Revenue Act, 1963.**

Ladakh: KVIC adopts 4 villages for rural employment generation:

Khadi & Village Industry Commission in consultations with the Hill Council has adopted **4 villages** in newly carved Ladakh Union Territory for rural employment generation.

Likir is the only supplier to fulfil the demand of pottery, in entire old Ladakh. Likir was adopted by KVIC in **2018**

President of India Confers Nari Shakti Puraskar for 2019

The President of India, Ram Nath Kovind presented **Nari Shakti Puraskar 2019** at a special ceremony held in Rashtrapati Bhavan, **New Delhi** on International Women's Day.

Nari Shakti Puraskar is an initiative of the **Ministry of Women and Child Development.**

The 2019 awards were conferred on **15 eminent women.**

World's largest religious congregation of women to be held in Thiruvananthapuram:

Famous **AttukalPongala**, one of the largest all-women religious congregations in the

world is to be held in **Thiruvananthapuram**. The **Guinness record** holder of the largest women gathering in the world.

MoST launches helpline for women scientists, students, researchers

On March 8th- International Women's Day, Union Science and Technology Minister **Harsh Vardhan** launched a helpline number for women students, researchers, entrepreneurs and scientists to get their queries related to the S&T ministry's programmes answered.

Helpline number is **011-26565285**.

"She inspires Us" Indian Army conducts self-defence training for women

As a conscious to the increasing danger to the safety of women in society, a unit of Indian Army organized a demonstration on Self Defence themed '**Stronger You Stronger Society**' for the local womenfolk at DhamdhamaAnchlik College in **Nalbari District**.

Government reconstructs The National Platform for Disaster Risk Reduction appoints **Amit Shah** as chairman.

Kerala to launch total digital literacy campaign:

Kerala proposes to launch a total digital literacy campaign with a view to ensuring that the gains made by it through its transformation as an inclusive knowledge-based society, percolate down to the grass roots level.

Titled '**I am also digital,**' the campaign is being powered by the Kerala State IT Mission under the Department of Information Technology, and the Kerala Literacy Mission.

RythuSamanvaya Samitis to be renamed RythuBandhu Samitis:

Telangana State government has decided to rechristen the **RythuSamanvaya Samitis** (farmers' coordination committees), constituted to organize farmers into a united and strong force as **RythuBandhu Samitis**.

Govt reconstitutes National Platform for Disaster Risk Reduction (NPDRR)with Amit Shah as Chairman:

Government reconstructs the National Platform for Disaster Risk Reduction (**NPDRR**) a multi-stakeholder & multisectoral decision making body on disaster management & appoints Union Home Minister **Amit Shah** as chairman.

Defence Minister **Rajnath Singh** & Finance Minister **Nirmala Sitharaman** are named as members among others

Paytm, Hyderabad Metro tie up for QR-based tickets

Hyderabad Metro Rail Limited (**HMRL**) in partnership with **Paytm** has launched a **QR-code-based** metro ticketing system at **Rasoolpurametro** station **Hyderabad**.

This system will help people book **digital tickets** easily and it also reduces the ticket congestion at the ticket counters.

UAHS develops Sahyadri Megha, a new red variety of paddy:

University of Agricultural and Horticultural Sciences (UAHS),Shivamogga developed Sahyadri Megha, a new red variety of paddy, as a part of its initiative to prevent a decline in the area under paddy cultivation.

New Paddy is resistant to blast disease.**Sahyadri Megha** is **rich** in nutrients.

Andhra Pradesh ranked 1st in country for overall implementation of Poshan Abhiyan:

State of **Andhra Pradesh** ranked **1st** in the country for overall implementation of Poshan Abhiyan as per the recent report shared by **NITI Aayog**.

As part of the programme the State has trained all **Angan Wadi Workers** on modules created based on lifecycle approach, i.e first 1000 days of life, with the support of **Incremental Learning Approach (ILA)**

Government is implementing Poshan Abhiyan earlier known as **National Nutrition Mission**, since 18th December **2017** to address the problem of malnutrition in the country.

The goals of Poshan Abhiyan are to achieve improvement in Nutritional status of children from **0-6 years, adolescent girls, pregnant women and lactating mothers** in a time bound manner.

HAL to set up logistics bases in Vietnam, Malaysia, Indonesia and Sri Lanka:

State-run aerospace **Hindustan Aeronautics Ltd (HAL)** is looking at setting up logistics bases in Malaysia, Vietnam, Indonesia & Sri Lanka as part of initiatives to woo the countries to buy India's light combat aircraft **Tejas** & military helicopters.

Chairman and Managing Director of HAL- **R Madhavan**.

Gujarat tops in domestic solar rooftop installations:

To achieve renewable power generation goals, **Gujarat** has topped the list in the installations of **solar rooftop plants** across the country with about 50,915 systems being fixed on domestic rooftops in the State as on March 2, 2020.

Maharashtra follows with 5,513 installations as on the same date.

UNGCNI organizes 3rd Gender equality summit 2020 in New Delhi:

UNGCNI (United Nations Global Compact Network India), a country level platform for public & private sector, businesses to align stakeholders' responsible practices towards **Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs)**, has organized the 3rd edition of its Gender Equality Summit 2020 at The Park in **New Delhi**.

SampushtaKeralam: PoshanAbhiyaan in Kerala

PoshanAbhiyaan is a multi-ministerial convergence mission with the vision to address malnutrition with a targeted approach by **2022**. Under this scheme various activities are being organised in Kerala and are remodelled under the banner '**SambushtaKerlam**'.

Anganawadis, SHGs, kudumbasree are flag bearers of the mission.

Odisha becomes the 1st state to introduce department for SHGs: "Mission Shakti"

On March 8, 2020 Chief Minister Naveen Patnaik announced that Odisha is the 1st state to own a separate department for **Self Help Groups** named as "**Mission Shakti**".

It is created for the development of women & is dedicated to all the women of **Odisha**.

Mission Shakti and **Mamata Scheme** combinedly benefits **70 lakh women**

GMR-led Hyderabad International Airport-Best Airport by size and region:

GMR-led Hyderabad International Airport has emerged as the winner of the coveted **Airports Council International (ACI)** Airport Service Quality (ASQ) Departures Awards for the Asia-Pacific region for 2019. It

was adjudged the Best Airport by Size & Region.

Award will be given in ACI **Customer Experience Global Summit**.

FDI inflows recorded highest ever for fiscal year 2018-19:

Foreign Direct Investment (FDI) inflow was over **318 billion** US dollars between 2014 and September 2019 representing nearly 50 percent of the cumulative FDI in India since **April 2000**.

In 2018-19, the FDI inflow stood at a record **62 billion** US dollars, **highest ever** recorded for a fiscal year. FDI can be one measure to track the growth of Make in India.

Make in India initiative was launched in **2014**.

Traditional 'Fagli' festival celebrated in Himachal Pradesh's Kinnaur:

Traditional "Fagli" festival at Kinnaur district in Yangpa village, **Himachal Pradesh**. This festival is celebrated to denote the end of the winter and the start of the Spring. It is mainly celebrated on the moonless night.

It is also celebrated to receive blessings from **Deota**(God) for the upcoming **harvest season**.

'COVA Punjab' mobile app launched by Punjab Govt:

Chief Secretary of Punjab, **Karan Avtar Singh** has launched a mobile application, **COVA Punjab**. COVA stands for Corona Virus Alert.

This app has been developed by the **Department of Government Reforms and Public Grievances** in consultation with the Health and Family Welfare Department to spread awareness by sharing various travel and preventive care advisories.

Telangana State Agricultural University Vice Chancellor Praveen Rao wins Dr MS Swaminathan Award:

V Praveen Rao, Vice-Chancellor of Professor Jaya Shankar Telangana State Agricultural University (**PJTSAU**), won the 7th edition of **Dr MS Swaminathan Award** for the period 2017- 2019.

The award will be conferred on him in June 2020. The award was constituted by Retired Indian Council of Agricultural Research Employees Association (**RICAREA**) and **Nuziveedu Seeds Limited (NSL)**.

32 lakh saplings planted so far under 'Green J&K' program:

Jammu & Kashmir Forest Department, under the 'Green J&K' program, from its given target of **1 Crore saplings**, has so far planted **32 lakh** saplings of various varieties across the UT.

Total of **50 lakhs** will be planted by the end of March.

Government sets up a committee on Kisan Rail:

The Government has set up a committee to work out modalities of Kisan Rail. It comprises of representatives of Agriculture and Railway ministries. **Kisan Rail** was created through the **PPP (Public-Private-Partnership)** mode to build a cold supply chain to transport perishable goods.

Indian Railways has plans to install solar panel on un-utilized railway land.

Centre approved for the construction of Delhi-Baghpat highway:

NHAI got approval to construct the 1st phase of a new highway that will connect east Delhi's **Akshardham** to Uttarakhand's **Dehradun**, a distance of almost **170 Km**. The first phase

will connect Akshardham with west Uttar Pradesh's Baghat, a distance of 32 Km.

The existing **Delhi-Dehradun** route is **250km** long.

Telangana forms panel to divest from Swagruha housing project:

Telangana constituted a high-powered committee of secretaries to take forward the proposal to dispose of all assets relating to Telangana **Rajiv Swagruha Corporation Ltd.**

They will divest these assets through an open auction on an **'as is where is'** basis.

Andhra Pradesh started the **"Rajiv Swagruha"** scheme on 2007.

Nigha App launched in Andhra Pradesh to curb poll malpractices:

Chief Minister **YS Jagan Mohan Reddy** launched the new **Nigha app**. The app was launched for the citizens with the aim of keeping a check on all the contestants in the polls, so that they do not resort to malpractice ahead of the elections

The app was developed by **Panchayat Raj**, which was launched in addition to the measures taken by **State Election Commission** and **police department** in order to control the electoral malpractices.

Uttarakhand first state in country to measure Gross Environment Product:

Uttarakhand state is going to become the first state of the country to measure **Gross Environment Product (GEP)** for quantifying ecological growth measurement.

Anil Prakash Joshi, a Padma awardee environmentalist, the man behind the concept has been advocating the implementation of the idea across the country especially in the Himalayas for years.

Governor of Tamilnadu to Witness Event "Divya Kala Shakti-Witnessing the Abilities in Disabilities" in Chennai:

Governor of Tamil Nadu Shri Banwarilal Purohit will witness the first ever regional event **Divya Kala Shakti: Witnessing the abilities in disabilities** a unique cultural event at KalaivanarArangam, **Chennai**.

He will be accompanied by the Minister of Social Welfare & Nutritious Noon Meal Program, Government of Tamil Nadu Dr.V.Saroja and senior officers.

Mangalore International Airport named 'best airport by size and region':

Mangalore International Airport, which is managed by the Airports Authority of India (AAI), has been adjudged the **'best airport by size and region'** in the Airport Service Quality (ASQ) survey for 2019, in the '2-5 million passengers per year in **Asia-Pacific region category'**.

Apart from Mangalore, two other airports managed by the AAI — **Chandigarh** and **Thiruvananthapuram** — have also won the award under the same category.

Maharashtra approves implementation of "happy hour" for autorickshaws:

Maharashtra government has approved the implementation of "happy hour" for autorickshaws. A government resolution states that fares will be slashed by **15%** between 12 noon and 4 pm. The decision will not be applicable to local taxis & app-based taxis.

Khatua panel recommended the **"happy hour"**.

Indian mountaineer Bhawna Dehariya scales Australia's highest mountain peak:

Indian Mountaineer **Bhawna Dehariya** hails from **Madhya Pradesh (MP)** has successfully scaled Mount Kosciuszko [2, 228 meters], the highest mountain peak in Australia on the occasion of **Holi**.

Dehariya had scaled **Mount Kilimanjaro [5, 895 meters]** on the occasion of Diwali in the year 2019 and also felt fortunate that she had celebrated 2 biggest festivals of India at the mountain peaks.

Mission Zero Accident: SC directs to fix Medical Boxes at all Railway stations & passenger carrying trains:

Supreme Court instructed to provide a **Medical Box** containing lifesaving medicines, equipment's, oxygen cylinder etc. at all Railway stations & passenger carrying trains. **Mission Zero Accident** was one of the Missions announced in the Railway Budget 2016-17.

Unmanned Level Crossings(UMLC) and Train Collision Avoidance System (TCAS) are the two sub-missions of **Mission Zero Accident**.

PM Narendra Modi all set to lead the sixth International Yoga Day celebrations at Leh on June 21:

The main national event for the sixth **International Day of Yoga (IDY)** will be held on **June 21** this year at Leh in Ladakh and the event will be led by Prime Minister Narendra Modi.

This year, the Yoga demonstration is to be different as it is being held at higher altitudes. More than 15,000 to 20,000 people are expected to participate in the event.

PoshanPakhwada being celebrated in Nagaland from March 8-22:

To celebrate the second anniversary of **POSHAN Abhiyaan**, 2020 PoshanPakhwada is being celebrated in Nagaland. The focus area of PoshanPakhwada 2020 is **"Men for Nutrition - Increasing Male Engagement in POSHAN Abhiyaan to Improve Nutritional Indicators"**.

POSHAN Abhiyaan was launched on **8 March 2018**.

Maharashtra Assembly gives nod to bill on caste validity certificate:

Gram panchayats in **Maharashtra** will now allow its members to submit their caste validity certificates within a year of winning elections.

At present, a candidate will have to submit his/her **caste validity certificate** at the time of filing of nominations.

A bill in this regard is passed by the state assembly.

Assam govt to construct 33 stadiums in state under Uttran scheme:

Assam government to construct 33 stadiums in the state under **Uttaran scheme**.

Principal Secretary of Sports **Avinash Joshi** and Joint Director **Kamaljit Talukdar** said that **300 crore rupees** will be spent to build the stadiums across the state.

Joshi said that **500 playgrounds** are being developed at the state to encourage rural talents.

India Post to Launch Free Digital Locker Service in Kolkata:

For the **first time** in India, the Department of Posts is introducing a free digital parcel locker service in the city to enable customers to collect their consignment from specified post offices at their convenience.

The facility will be available in two post offices in **Kolkata**-- the **Nabadiganta** IT Post Office in Sector 5 of Salt Lake City and another in **New Town**.

Mumbai Central Terminus to be renamed as Nana Shankarseth Terminus:

The state cabinet government approved renaming Mumbai Central Terminus station as Nana Shankarseth Terminus Station or Jagannath Sunkersett.

He was one of the first directors of India's first railway company. The approval will now go to the Minister and Ministry of Railways as a proposal on which they will further take a call.

Karnataka government launches 'Namaste over Handshake' campaign to tackle spread of COVID-19:

Karnataka government on Wednesday started a campaign called '**Namaste over Handshake**' that encourages people to greet in the traditional Indian style, to tackle the spread of coronavirus.

The campaign also includes health advice on how people can protect themselves from the infection by adopting hygiene practices such as regularly washing hands to prevent the spread of **COVID-19**.

Wings India 2020 begins in Hyderabad, Telangana:

The three -day civil aviation business exhibition and air show, Wings India 2020 has begun in Hyderabad.

Civil Aviation Minister **Hardeep Singh Puri** will join the event at a round table conference on Connecting the World-Ministerial Plenary.

The biennial event being organized by Ministry of Civil Aviation and Airports Authority of India along with the **Federation**

of Indian Chambers of Commerce and Industry (FICCI).

NAIs exhibition on Jallianwala Bagh was inaugurated by Shri P.L. Sahu:

National Archives of India's (NAI) exhibition on Jallianwala Bagh was inaugurated by the Joint Secretary of Ministry of Culture **Shri P.L. Sahu** during the 130th Foundation Day of NAI at the premises of National Archives, **New Delhi**.

NAI's exhibition will remain open for public viewing until 30 April 2020.

Eleventh Bengaluru INDIA Nano conference and exhibition held at Bengaluru:

Eleventh Bengaluru **INDIA Nano conference** and exhibition showcased technologies and products developed by academia and companies in nanotechnology. The three-day event was organized by the **Department of Science and Technology (DST)**, Government of Karnataka, and **Jawaharlal Nehru Centre for Advanced Scientific Research (JNCASR)**, in association with other Govt Institutions and corporate companies.

Major Port Authorities Bill, 2020 introduced in Lok Sabha:

Major Port Authorities Bill 2020 was introduced in the **Lok Sabha**. It seeks to provide for regulation, operation and planning of Major Ports and to vest the administration, control and management of such ports upon the Boards of Major Port Authorities.

Bill will replace **Major Port Trusts Act, 1963**.

India delivers 600 tonnes of rice to flood-hit Madagascar:

Indian Ambassador to Madagascar Abhay Kumar has handed over 600 tonnes of rice on behalf of the Government of India to the Madagascar Foreign Minister Tehindrazanarivelo Djacoba Liva for quick relief to the flood victims. Indian Naval Ship (INS) Shardul arrived in **Madagascar at Port Antsiranana** on 10th of this month carrying rice for the people of Madagascar.

Thermal Power plants to have 2,43,034 MW capacity by 2021-22:

Minister of State for Power, New & Renewable Energy **R.K. Singh** informed that as per the extant National Electricity Plan, installed capacity of thermal power plants, comprising of Coal based and Gas & diesel plants, is likely to be **243,037 MW** in **2021-22**.

Plant Load Factor of Coal based capacity in 2021-22 is **56.5%**.

Uttar Pradesh govt launches schemes for skill development & employment generation for youths:

Uttar Pradesh government has launched three ambitious schemes for skill development and employment generation for youths in the state and also announced to depute "**Arogya Mitras**" at all primary health centres to inform people about govt health schemes.

3 Schemes- **Kaushal Satrang, Yuva Hub & Apprenticeship Scheme.**

DST sanctions Rs 7.25 Cr to IIT Mandi for Technology Innovation Hub:

Department of Science and Technology (DST) sanctioned Rs 7.25 crore to the **Indian Institute of Technology Mandi, Himachal Pradesh** to set up a **Technology Innovation Hub** at the institute under the

National Mission on Interdisciplinary Cyber-Physical Systems (NM-ICPS).

Hola Mohalla festival was celebrated at Anandpur Sahib Punjab:

Hola Mohalla festival was celebrated at Anandpur Sahib Punjab from 10-12 March 2020. **Hola Mohalla** is a **Sikh** festival celebrated in the month of Phalguna, a day after Holi.

Nihang Singhs will carry the martial tradition with mock battles and displays of swordsmanship and horse riding

New Delhi Railway Station to be redeveloped as World Class Station:

Ministry of Railways have entrusted the work of redevelopment of New **Delhi Railway** station to **Rail Land Development Authority (RLDA)** under **Public Private Partnership (PPP)** mode. The process for preparation of Detailed Project Report, Master plan and Bid documents has been initiated by RLDA.

Haryana's Amin village was renamed as Abhimanyupur:

Haryana Chief Minister **Manohar Lal Khattar** gave his nod to rename Amin village here to Abhimanyupur after Mahabharata warrior **Arjuna's son Abhimanyu.**

Tamil Nadu tops in farm credit disbursals:

Tamil Nadu has topped in disbursement of agriculture credit by giving away loans worth Rs 1,63,289 Cr out of a total of Rs 10,33,183 Cr distributed across India till December 31 this fiscal. **Andhra Pradesh & Uttar Pradesh** were 2nd & 3rd in agricultural credit disbursals.

Kerala, which is not a major agricultural State, came fourth.

Government to mobilise Rs.51,000 Cr more via Treasury-Bills to bridge cash flow mismatch:

To bridge a temporary cash flow mismatch, the Government, in consultation with the Reserve Bank of India, has decided to **mobilise Rs 51,000 crore** more through auction of **Treasury-Bills (T-Bills)** during the remaining period of quarter ending **March 2020**.

Earlier estimated cost of borrowing via T-Bills- **Rs 24,000 Cr.**

138 distribution camps have been organised under RVY as on March 2020:

Department of Social Justice & Empowerment launched a scheme namely '**Rashtriya Vayoshri Yojana**' on 1 April 2017 with the objective to provide the senior citizens, living BPL & suffering from any of age-related disability with such assisted living devices.

Banihal to Katra railway link to be completed by 2022:

Union Railway Minister **Piyush Goyal** announced that Banihal to Katra railway link to be completed by **2022** which is part of the Udhampur- Srinagar-Baramulla rail link project.

The **Katra-Banihal** railway track is a **111-km** long stretch which will link Kashmir Valley with the rest of the country by train.

Indian Railways to electrify all broad gauge routes by December 2023:

Minister of Railways and Commerce & Industry, Piyush Goyal informed that Indian Railway(IR) Ministry plans to electrify all **Broad Gauge(BG)** routes by **December 2023**.

As a target to electrify 4,310 km of BG route in the year 2023-2024 (till December 2023), it is planned to electrify a total of 28,810 km of BG route.

Pradhan Mantri Fast Track Project: 498 ongoing Railway Projects are at different stages:

498 ongoing Railway Projects including 188 New Lines, 55 Gauge Conversion & 255 Doubling Projects of total length 49,069 Km, costing Rs. 6.75 lakh Cr are in different stages of planning/sanction/execution. Rs 47,841 Cr have been included in 2020-21 Budget.

Piyush Goyal is the current Union Minister for Railways.

Agricultural and Processed Food Products Export Development Authority signs MoU with SFAC:

To bring in better synergy in the activities, Agricultural and Processed Food Products Export Development Authority (**APEDA**) has signed a MoU with **Small Farmers Agribusiness Consortium (SFAC)**. The MoU is aimed at addressing the obstacles faced by FPOs.

APEDA is under the Ministry of Commerce and Industry.

Odisha's Konark sun temple & Statue of Unity in Gujarat finds place in iconic tourism sites list:

According to the Union Minister of State (Independent) for tourism and culture, Prahlaad Singh Patel, the central government has included grand Konark Sun Temple, the **UNESCO (United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization)** world heritage site in Odisha & Statue of Unity in Gujarat in the Iconic Tourist Sites list,

taking the total number of such places from 17 to 19.

Ramesh Pokhriyal Nishank chairs meeting on Research in Indian Traditional Knowledge Systems in Delhi:

Union HRD Minister **Ramesh Pokhriyal Nishank** chaired a meeting on Research in Indian Traditional Knowledge Systems in **New Delhi**. Objective of the meeting was to ensure the development of the society by coordinating the ancient & modern genres of knowledge.

He cited the example of Yoga as an Indian Knowledge System.

More than Rs 20,000 Cr of loans sanctioned under 'Stand Up India Scheme' since inception:

Rs 20,466.94 Crores of loans have been sanctioned under '**Stand Up India Scheme**' to over 91,000 accounts up to 10.03.2020.

The scheme facilitates bank loans between **Rs. 10 lakh-Rs. 1 Crores** to at least one SC/ST borrower & at least one-woman borrower. Stand Up India Scheme was launched on **5th April 2016**.

Defence Manufacturing Hub to be setup in Uttar Pradesh:

Honourable Finance Minister **Nirmala Sitharaman** in his Budget Speech on 1st February 2018 had announced setting up of two Defence Industrial Corridors in the country. In pursuance to the said announcement, it has been decided to develop one such corridor in **Uttar Pradesh**. The investment of **Rs. 3700 crores** were announced for this.

DAC approves procurement of 83 indigenous Tejas fighter aircraft for Indian Air Force:

Defence Acquisition Council (DAC) approved procurement of 83 indigenous Tejas fighter aircraft for Indian Air Force. The Defence Acquisition Council also accorded approval for acquisition of indigenous Defence equipment for about 1,300 crore rupees. Chief of Indian Air Force- **Rakesh Kumar Singh Bhadauria**.

Pilot shopping festival planned in FY21:

Textiles minister **Smriti Irani** said that a pilot shopping festival at **Bengaluru** is to be organized in **2020-21**, which will subsequently be organized in other cities focusing on various sectors including gems & jewellery, textiles and Ayurvedic products. Government of India allotted **Rs 1,480 Cr** to National Technical Textiles Mission.

Madhya Pradesh Chief Minister Kamal Nath steps down :

Kamal Nath has resigned as the Chief Minister of Madhya Pradesh. He has resigned ahead of the floor test which was scheduled to be held on 20th March 2020 in the state assembly.

He will submit his resignation to **Lal Ji Tandon**, governor of Madhya Pradesh. Kamal Nath sworn-in as the chief minister of Madhya Pradesh after winning the state Assembly polls held in 2018.

J&K announces Rs 5 Lakhs free health insurance for residents:

In a major relief to the people of J&K, Administrative Council which met under the chairmanship of LG **Girish Chander Murmu** sanctioned to roll out the J&K Health Scheme to provide free of cost Health Coverage to all residents under Ayushman Bharat-**PMJAY**. **1.25 crore** residents of J&K will be provided the same benefits.

Government says Rs 6.16 lakh Crore investment approved under PMAY:

An investment of Rs **6.16 lakh Crore** has been approved so far under the Pradhan Mantri Awas Yojana (Urban) & the committed central assistance is Rs 1.65 lakh Cr, Hardeep Singh Puri.

Hardeep Singh Puri is the Minister of Housing & Urban Affairs & Civil Aviation.

Sanitary personnel in Tamil Nadu to be called as 'cleanliness workers':

Tamil Nadu Chief Minister **K Palanisamy** a total of 64,583 sanitary personnel employed by urban and rural civic bodies in the State will be called as "**cleanliness workers**" (**Thoimai Paniyalargal** in Tamil) to honour their work.

Tamil Nadu: Capital- Chennai Governor- Banwarilal Purohit

Dance- **Bharathanatyam**

National Parks(NP)- **Guindy NP, Gulf of Mannar Marine NP, Indira Gandhi (Annamalai) NP, Mudumalai NP, Mukurthi NP.**

Uttarakhand govt abolishes quota in promotion for employees:

Uttarakhand government abolished reservation in promotion in the state government jobs. Chief Minister **Trivendra Rawat** lead government took the major decision on completion of **3 years** of their tenure.

The state government also issued orders regarding **DPC** (Departmental Promotion Committee).

Indian Navy installs Quarantine Facility at Visakhapatnam :

Indian Navy has established a Quarantine Camp at **INS Vishwakarma** in **Eastern**

Naval Command (ENC) for Indian nationals being evacuated from COVID-19 affected countries.

The Quarantine Camp has the capacity to accommodate nearly 200 personnel with all appropriate facilities. Indian nationals being evacuated from COVID-19 affected countries will be closely monitored by a team of naval personnel and medical professionals of ENC.

"Tech for Tribal"-Launched by TRIFED to develop Tribal Entrepreneurship:

TRIFED, the Tribal Cooperative Marketing Development Federation of India launched "Tech for Tribal" initiative. The initiative aims at providing entrepreneurship skills to the tribal people.

The initiative is to benefit **3 lakh** people. The TRIFED has launched the initiative along with Institutes of National Importance.

It includes **IIT-Kanpur, IIM Indore, Institute of Social Science, Bhubaneshwar.**

Yogi Adityanath announces relief measures for UP's daily wage earners:

Uttar Pradesh CM Yogi Adityanath has announced sum of **Rs 1,000** would be provided to each of the **20.37 lakh** construction workers registered with the **labour department** to each of the 15 lakh self employed cart owners, small shop owners and rickshaw pullers.

Tamil Nadu launches Covid-19 health portal

National Health Mission **Tamil Nadu** has launched a web portal - **http://stopcoronatn.in/** to provide updates on Covid-19 & has a link to global cases by the Center for Systems Science and

Engineering at Johns Hopkins University, which monitors the Covid-19 cases.

Cabinet approves scheme to make India electronic manufacturing hub:

Cabinet approved **3 schemes** to enable large scale electronics manufacturing & attract fresh investments worth at least **Rs.50,000 crore.** in the sector.

Funds allocated are to be used **over 5 years.** Scheme has the potential of creating 8,00,00 direct & indirect jobs.

Electronics & information technology minister- **Ravi Shankar Prasad.**

Rs 105366 Cr collected through GST in February:

Total of Rs **105366 Cr** was collected through GST in the month of February 2020. This was stated by Union Minister of State for Finance, **Anurag Thakur.**

Government had detected frauds through fake invoices for the last 3 years which had amounted to 11,377 Cr.

GST came into effect from **1 July 2017.**

MyGov Corona Helpdesk launched on Whatsapp to provide COVID-19 information:

Government launched an official chatbot on popular instant messaging application **WhatsApp.** The person in need is only required to save the number - **9013151515** in their contact list and send a message to the MyGov Corona Helpdesk.

MyGov.in, launched on : **26 July 2014.**

EMC 2.0 Scheme will help India become mobile manufacturing hub:

The union government has proposed a total outlay for the **EMC 2.0 Scheme** at **3,762.25 crore,** which includes the financial assistance of 3,725 crore and administrative and

management expense to the tune of 37.25 crores over a period of eight years.

The new **Production-linked Incentive Scheme (PLI)** would not only support the Government's efforts to establish India an integral part of the **Global Value Chain (GVC)** in the mobile handset.

Cabinet approves relaunch of bulk drug park scheme:

Cabinet approved the relaunch of a scheme to set up 3 bulk drug parks and 4 medical device parks for a total outlay of **Rs.3,400 crore** over **5 years.**

Bulk drug and medical devices park schemes were first suggested in Feb. 2015 by a committee headed by V.M. Katoch.

Union ministry of Chemicals: **D.V. Sadananda Gowda.**

INTERNATIONAL NEWS:

3,000-kilometre-long power grid from Myanmar-Thailand to India:

Bay of Bengal Initiative for Multi-Sectoral Technical and Economic Cooperation (**BIMSTEC**) is working on connecting about 3,000-kilometre long power grid from **Myanmar-Thailand to India.**

It was announced by the Energy Adviser to the Prime Minister of Bangladesh **Dr Tawfiq-E-Elahi Chowdhury** while inaugurating the energy conference of BIMSTEC in **Dhaka.**

BIMSTEC is a regional grouping with seven countries from South and Southeast Asia including **Bangladesh, India, Myanmar, Sri Lanka, Thailand, Nepal and Bhutan.**

Tech Mahindra to acquire Zen3 Infosolutions for Rs 460cr:

IT company Tech Mahindra has signed an agreement to acquire 100 per cent stake in

US-based **Zen3 Infosolutions** for **\$64 million** (Rs 460 crore) in an all-cash deal. The company was founded in the year 2013. Zen 3 Headquartered in **Seattle, Washington**.

Tech Mahindra CEO: **C. P. Gurnani**.

UNSC renews its sanctions regime on Yemen for another year:

United Nations Security Council has renewed its sanctions regime on **Yemen** for another year, after tense negotiations between **Britain** and **Russia**.

Thirteen countries eventually adopted the London-drafted resolution on the sanctions, which now are in effect through **February 2021**.

United Nations Security Council Headquarters: **New York, United States**

Birla Estates launches interactive AI powered ChatBot LIDEA on WhatsApp:

Birla Estates recently launched an interactive AI Powered ChatBot solution LIDEA for its customers on WhatsApp. The solution is aimed at providing information of its projects to users who are evaluating residential developments of Birla Estates.

John McCarthy is one of the "**founding fathers**" of AI.

ExxonMobil inks cooperation pact with IndianOil and Chart Industries:

ExxonMobil inked a letter of cooperation with US' Chart Industries Inc. & **Indian Oil Corporation Ltd** (IOCL) for supplying liquified natural gas (LNG) by road, rail and waterways to areas not connected by physical pipelines.

India is the world's **third-largest** oil importer.

India ranks 5th in most polluted country:

In accordance with the "**2019 World Air Quality Report-Region & City PM 2.5 Ranking**" compiled by IQAir AirVisual.

India ranked **5th** as the most polluted country in the world and topped in an annual list of cities with the worst air quality in the world. **Ghaziabad** as the most **polluted city**. **Bangladesh** emerged as the most polluted country for PM2.5 exposure. It is followed by **Pakistan, Mongolia, Afghanistan, and India** at 2nd, 3rd, 4th and 5th place respectively.

Indradhanush - V 2020: Indo-UK bilateral air exercise begins in Hindan, Uttar Pradesh:

5-day long 5th edition of Indo-UK (United Kingdom) bilateral air exercise "**Indradhanush-V**" 2020 between Indian Air Force (IAF) and British Royal Air Forces (RAF) has commenced at Air Force Station Hindan in **Uttar Pradesh**.

'**Base Defence and Force Protection**' was the focus of this year exercise.

36 specialised combatants from RAF Regiment & 42 combatants of the GARUD Force from IAF team participated in this exercise.

ADB raises \$118 million through offshore India rupee linked 10-year bonds:

Asian Development Bank (ADB), a regional development bank, has secured Rs 850 crore (about \$118 million) from a new issue of offshore Indian rupee-linked **10-year bonds**, with the bonds bearing a semi-annual coupon of 6.15% and priced to yield 6.19%.

This is the such 1st maturity secured in Indian rupees since the year **2017** and gives an established yield curve that starts from 2021

through 2030 with Rs **72.4 billion** (\$1 billion) of outstanding bonds.

India-Japan join hands to make Odisha a Steel Hub "Mission Purvodaya":

Union Minister of Steel announced at a workshop organized by **Confederation of Indian Industries (CII)** that GoI is to make Odisha the steel hub of India. This is to be achieved by the Government with the help of **Japan**.

Odisha has been selected to establish steel hub due to its strategic location, availability of raw materials and strong connectivity.

The city of **Kalinga Nagar** is to be developed as the epicenter of Mission Purvodaya.

ADB to provide \$4 million to member countries to contain coronavirus outbreak:

Asian Development Bank will provide a total of **USD 4 million** (about Rs 29 crore) to help developing countries in Asia and Pacific to fight the outbreak of novel coronavirus (**COVID-19**). The funds will be available for all ADB developing member countries.

ADB announced USD 4 million for this earlier in February.

Facebook launches new campaign 'More Together' in India:

Social media company Facebook has launched a new consumer marketing campaign, called '**More Together**', in India.

Focused on the Facebook app, a new consumer marketing campaign called 'More Together' shares stories that highlight the **Power Of Connections** on the platform. This is the first such campaign launched by Facebook in **India**.

'Seventeen new planets, including one Earth-sized world discovered':

Astronomers have discovered **17 new planets**, including a potentially habitable Earth-sized world, by combing through data gathered by **NASA's Kepler space telescope**, which was launched in **2009**.

The smallest planet is only **two-thirds** the size of the **Earth**.

One such rare planet is named as **KIC-7340288 b**.

INSOFE ties up with CASE University for master's course:

The departments of biomedical engineering, mechanical engineering and civil engineering from **CASE** Western Reserve University, Cleveland, have tied up with **International School of Engineering (INSOFE)** in **Hyderabad** to offer a master's degrees with dual specialisation in **Core and Data Science/AI**.

Accenture opens Innovation Hub in Pune:

Accenture opened its third Innovation Hub in India, in **Pune** expanding its innovation capabilities for clients.

Accenture Innovation Hub will provide an immersive environment for clients to co-innovate with Accenture experts in a variety of industries and across a range of advanced technologies, including **extended reality, artificial intelligence, the internet of things, blockchain and quantum computing**.

This will be the company's second **Nano Lab** in the Asia-Pacific region.

DataCore launches R&D center in India, largest after Florida:

US based software storage firm **DataCore** plans to set up a global R&D centre

in Bangalore, which will its largest center globally after the US.

The center in India, is expected to be ready in the next 12 months and will cater to clients across the US and EMEA region.

The center in India will be led by **Vani Sharma** as Center Head India & Vice President – Products, DataCore.

China assumes presidency of UN Security Council for March 2020:

China took over as president of the **UN Security Council** for the month of March 2020, pledging to promote solidarity & cooperation in this capacity. Security Council established by the UN Charter is primarily responsible for maintaining international peace & security.

The council has **15 members**.

India set to be third biggest market for Coca-Cola:

India has emerged as the **fifth largest** business hub for the **\$37.2 billion** American beverage giant, The Coca-Cola Company, and is on its way to becoming the third-largest market for the company.

World Bank announces 12 bn aid package to help countries combat coronavirus outbreak:

World Bank has unveiled a **12-billion-dollar** aid package that will provide fast-track funds to help countries combat the coronavirus outbreak.

World Bank President **David Malpass** told reporters that the goal is to provide fast, effective action that responds to country needs. The funds, some of which are targeted to the world's poorest nations, can be used for **medical equipment** or **health services** and will include expertise and policy advice.

Indian American Seema Verma named as key member of coronavirus task force in US:

Leading Indian American health policy consultant **Seema Verma** has been appointed as one of the key members of the White House Coronavirus Task Force constituted by US President **Donald Trump** to combat the deadly disease COVID-9 that has infected many people.

Task force Head-Health & Human Services Secretary, **Alex Azar**.

Luxembourg is the First Country in the World to provide Free Public Transport:

Luxembourg in Europe has become the first country to make all forms of public transport free. It is the second smallest country in the European Union.

Around 0.2 million passengers travel to Luxembourg from its neighbouring countries such as Belgium, France and Germany for work. Also, it has the **highest car density** in **European Union**.

Luxembourg Capital- **Luxembourg**
City Currency- **Euro**.

International Conference on Nanoscience and Nano Technology held in Kolkata:

Department of **Science and Technology** operating under Ministry of Science and Technology organized an International Conference on Nanoscience and Nano Technology (**ICONSAT**) at **Kolkata**.

Sri Lanka to lead science, technology and innovation sector in BIMSTEC:

Sri Lanka will lead the science, technology and innovation sector in the **BIMSTEC** and a facility for technology transfer is also planned to be open in the future. This was agreed

during the **20th Session** of the senior officials' meeting held in **Colombo, Srilanka**. Sri Lanka is serving as chair of **BIMSTEC (Bay of Bengal Initiative for Multi-Sectoral Technical and Economic Cooperation)** from 2018 to 2020.

Mumbai set to host IOC session in 2023: Mumbai is set to host the **2023 International Olympic Committee's** session after the IOC Executive Board recommended the Indian city for the annual conference.

The IOC Executive Board decided to put Mumbai's candidature to a vote of the members. The decision is to be ratified at the 136th IOC session in **Tokyo** in July 2020.

IIT Bombay & IIT Delhi find place in top 50 for engineering institutes QS World University Ranking 2020:

According to the Quacquarelli Symonds (QS) World University Rankings 2020 by Subject, **Indian Institute of Technology (IIT) Bombay** and **IIT Delhi** have made it to the top 50 institutes in the world for the category of engineering and technology and ranked **44th** and **47th** respectively.

Massachusetts Institute of Technology (MIT) in Cambridge, US (United States) ranked at top position.

Finland tops Freedom in the World 2020; India ranked 83rd among least free democracies:

According to the **'Freedom in the World 2020'** report, which analyzes democratic values and people's freedom in 195 countries & 15 territories, released by the Freedom House, a U.S (United States) -based watchdog that conducts research and advocacy on democracy.

India has ranked **83rd** in the report along with Timor-Leste and Senegal in 'Free' category.

Finland topped the list as the free democratic country.

TIME Magazine has named Indira Gandhi & Amrit Kaur - "100 women of the year" Project:

TIME Magazine created 100 New Covers for the Project '100 women of the year' to recognize selected women or groups to represent each year from 1920 to 2019.

India's Freedom Fighter **Amrit Kaur** will be honored as **'Women of the Year'** for 1947 & Former prime minister **Indira Gandhi** for 1976.

BRAC retains its position as the top NGO of the world for the 5th consecutive year:

Bangladesh-based international development organization **BRAC** has retained its position as the top NGO of the world among 500 global NGOs.

The rankings for **2020** were announced by the Geneva-based organization **NGO Adviser** which publishes the list annually.

BRAC was founded by Sir Fazle Hasan Abed in 1972.

India's UHNWI population to increase by 73% in 5 years & Ranks 12th:

"Wealth Report 2020" released by **Knight Frank LLP**, a leading International Property Consultant, India had 5,986 UHNWIs Ultra high-net-worth individuals (**UHNWIs**) in 2019 and they expected to increase by 73% in the coming 5 years. This will almost double the current count to 10,354.

According to Knight Frank **India** ranks **12th**.

IIT Madras collaborates with Rolls-Royce for research:

As part of the MoU, **Rolls-Royce** and **IIT-M** will also aim to pursue advanced research in areas of relevance to future technological and programmatic needs of the company.

As part of its Technical Higher Study Framework, Rolls-Royce will sponsor select employees keen to pursue master's and PhD level studies, in partnership with **IIT Madras**.

Fourth International Diabetes Summit 2020 started in Pune:

4th International Diabetes Summit- 2020 organized by **Chellaram Diabetes Institute** will be held from March 6-8, 2020 in **Pune**.

In these 3 days, over 2000 delegates are expected to attend the summit. It will help to throw new light on diabetes management.

Maharaja Ranjit Singh named greatest world leader:

Maharaja Ranjit Singh, the 19th century ruler of the Sikh Empire in India, has named as the '**Greatest Leader of All Time**' in a poll conducted by **BBC World Histories Magazine**. Singh was praised for creating a new tolerant empire, by 5,000 voted readers. African Independence Fighter **Amilcar Cabral** is at the second.

India ranked 12th in women member presence on companies' board globally:

According to a recent study on '**Women on Board 2020**' by global recruitment tendering platform MyHiringClub.com and Sarkari-Naukri.info, India ranked **12th** worldwide in women member presence on board.

Norway continued to top the list with 40.72 per cent women on board, followed by **Sweden** with 30.84 per cent, **Finland** 29.91 per cent, **Germany** 29.70 per cent, **South Africa** 19.84 per cent and the **US** 20.41 per cent.

Ashraf Ghani sworn in as Afghanistan President for second term:

Afghanistan President **Ashraf Ghani** was sworn in for a second term as his rival Abdullah Abdullah held a parallel inauguration that could plunge the country deeper into crisis ahead of peace talks with the Taliban.

Fagu Purnima festival being celebrated in Nepal:

In **Nepal**, Holi, the festival of colours is being celebrated in mountainous and hilly regions including Nepal capital **Kathmandu**.

Holi is also known as Fagu Purnima in Nepal. Every year, the festival of Holi is celebrated with gaiety and enthusiasm.

Nepal President- **Bidya Devi Bhandari**.

Aon to buy Willis in \$30-billion insurance mega-deal, antitrust hurdles loom:

UK-based Aon Plc will buy Willis Towers Watson for nearly \$30 billion in an all-stock deal that creates the world's largest insurance broker but is almost certain to face regulatory hurdles. Willis shareholders would receive 1.08 Aon shares under the deal.

Deal is expected to close in the first half of 2021.

India was world's second-largest arms importer in 2015-19:

India remained the world's 2nd largest arms importer during 2015-19, with **Russia** being the largest supplier though **Moscow's** share of the Indian weapons market declined from **72% to 56%** as per the Trends in international arms transfers 2019 report of SIPRI.

SIPRI- **Stockholm International Peace Research Institute**.

'Joy Bangla' to be national slogan of Bangladesh:

High Court of Bangladesh has ordered that 'Joy Bangla' will be the **national slogan** of **Bangladesh**.

In an order passed the two-judge bench of High Court asked the authorities to take necessary steps so that all the people holding constitutional posts and state officials use 'Joy Bangla'.

Coronavirus outbreak could cost global economy up to \$2 trillion: UNCTAD:

The coronavirus outbreak could cost the global economy up to **\$2 trillion** this year, the UN's trade and development agency said, warning that shock from the epidemic will cause a recession in some countries and depress global annual growth to **below 2.5%**.

UNCTAD Secretary General- **Mukhisa Kituyi**.

Jack Ma replaces Mukesh Ambani as Asia's richest man in \$5.8 billion rout:

Bloomberg Billionaires Index reported that **Jack Ma** became **Asia's richest man**. **Ambani**, who stood as richest man, has moved to the **2nd** position after oil prices collapsed along with global stocks. Coronavirus erased \$5.8 billion from Ambani's net worth.

Jack Ma is the founder of **Alibaba Group Holding Ltd**.

India, US sign Rs 1200 crore deal for protection system of new VVIP aircraft:

India and the United States have signed a **Rs 1200 crore** deal for acquiring missile protection suites for the new Boeing **VVIP** planes that India is acquiring for the President and the Prime Minister.

The missile protection suites on the two **Boeing-777** Extended Range planes will

provide it the capability to fend off any missile attacks.

India ranks 46th out of 100 countries in Inclusive Internet Index 2020:

Economist Intelligence Unit (EIU) released the 4th iteration of the Inclusive Internet Index 2020 for 100 countries where **India** is overall ranked in **46th** place. **Sweden in 1st place**.

WHO declares Corona Virus as GLOBAL PANDEMIC:

World Health Organization declared Corona Virus as Global Pandemic as it is rapidly spreading across the world. There are more than 126,369 people infected with **COVID-19 virus**. The virus has so far killed 4,634 people.

CCI approves acquisition of additional equity shares in Hero FinCorp Ltd by Otter Limited & Link Investment Trust:

CCI approves acquisition of additional equity shares in **Hero FinCorp Ltd** by **Otter Limited & Link Investment Trust**.

Otter is an investment company registered in Mauritius. **Link** is a private trust registered in India and is engaged in making investments.

Hero FinCorp- Consumer Finance and commercial lending company.

World Bank and GoI sign Agreement on Climate Resilient Rain-Fed Agriculture:

World Bank signed an **\$80 million** loan agreement with the Government of India, Government of **Himachal Pradesh**. The aim is to improve water management practices and increase agricultural productivity in selected Gram Panchayats in Himachal Pradesh.

The loan from the **International Bank for Reconstruction and Development (IBRD)**

has a final maturity of 14.5 years, including a grace period of 5 years.

The Integrated Project for Source Sustainability and Climate Resilient Rain-Fed Agriculture will be implemented in **428 Gram Panchayats** in 10 districts in **Himachal Pradesh**.

CCI approves acquisition of Teesta Urja Limited by Greenko Mauritius:

The CCI approves the acquisition by **Greenko Mauritius** in Teesta Urja Limited, under Section 31(1) of the Competition Act, 2002. Approval relates to the acquisition by Greenko of approximately **35%** equity stake in the paid-up equity share capital of TUL.

Greenko Mauritius is an investment holding company.

Byju Raveendran, Zomato's Gaurav Gupta make it to WEF's Young Global Leaders list

World Economic Forum (WEF) announced its new list of **115 Young Global Leaders (YGL)**, where 5 Indians Byju Raveendran, Gaurav Gupta, SwapanMehra, VinatiMutreja & Tara Singh Vachani are named in the list.

The other three Indians on the list are **Tara Singh Vachani** (CEO of Antara Senior Living), **VinatiMutreja** (Managing Director and CEO, Vinati Organics Limited), and **SwapanMehra** (CEO, Iora Ecological Solutions).

India Ranks Second Best in a New Farm Animal Cruelty Index:

Global Animal Protection Index 2020 was released by World Animal Protection, an international animal welfare charity. India was ranked **second** in the index.

The **Animal Protection Index** ranks countries from **A to G**. India was ranked along

with **Spain, Mexico, France and New Zealand**. In other words, these countries were ranked equally to India.

Saudi African & Arab-African summits postponed due to Coronavirus:

Saudi Arabia's Ministry of Foreign Affairs announced the postponement of the **Saudi African & Arab-African summits**, scheduled to be hosted by the Kingdom in the first quarter of **2020**. Postponement was done as a precaution in view of the spread of COVID-19.

Saudi Arabia Capital- **Riyadh**, Currency- **Riyal**.

India climbs to second position in disruptive technologies development rankings: KPMG report

According to KPMG's "2020 Global Technology Industry Innovation Survey" report, **India** shared the second position with **China** as the most promising source of disruptive technology in the world. **Bengaluru** entered in the top 10 rankings of the list.

Singapore leaped to the top of this year's global rankings.

ADB allocates USD 200 million to support supply chains in the fight against Coronavirus:

Asian Development Bank (ADB) is to make available **\$200 million** through its Supply Chain Finance Program for several companies that manufacture and distribute medicines and other items needed to combat the novel Coronavirus (COVID-19).

3rd edition of WION Global Summit to be held in Dubai:

WION Global Summit is a platform for global leaders to engage in dialogue on a common global agenda to be held in Dubai.

The summit intends to highlight the critical challenges of climate change, global governance, economic slowdown, and global crisis that threatens to become the new normal.

Theme: **“Navigating and Negotiating Global Imperatives”**.

Flipkart teamed up with Aegon life insurance to sell quick-access life insurance policies:

E-commerce marketplace **Flipkart and Aegon Life Insurance** joined hands to sell comprehensive insurance solutions for customers looking for instant digital policies with a sum assured of up to **Rs 10 lakh**.

Life insurance policies with sums assured from **Rs 1 lakh to Rs 10 lakhs** and premiums under the range of Rs. 129 to Rs. 1 lakh sum insured will be available at the online shopping platform, the company said.

Microsoft India, NASSCOM Foundation Launch Initiative To Empower People With Disabilities:

Microsoft India and NASSCOM Foundation launched the Innovate for Accessible India campaign aimed at empowering people with disabilities with the technology and tools required for better integration into society and access to equal opportunities.

India conducts Joint Air Exercise with Myanmar:

The first ever **HADR (Humanitarian Assistance and Disaster Relief)** exercise between the Indian and Myanmar Air Force (MAF) culminated at Air Force station **Bamrauli, Uttar Pradesh**.

The objectives of the exercise include planning of HADR operation in each scenario,

learn best practices & executing mission during HADR disasters.

20-member team of IAF participated in the exercise.

India inks Rs 880 crore deal for Israeli light machine guns for frontline troops:

Indian Armed Forces operating under Ministry of Defence signed an agreement with the **Israel Weapons Industry**. According to the agreement, India is to procure 16, 479 **LMG (Light Machine Guns)** for **Rs 880 crores**. The LMG are used as squad automatic weapons.

The LMG were first used in **Second World War**.

India signs agreement with USA for supply of arms:

One contract and two **Letters of Offer and Acceptance (LOAs)** have been concluded with the US side for procurement of Helicopters and Self Protection Suite. Countries such as US, Russia, France, Germany, Israel, UK are leading exporters of defence equipment.

The delivery of the helicopters will commence from May **2021**.

World Cities Summit 2020 to be held in Singapore:

7th **World Cities Summit (WCS)** is to be held from July 5 to 9, 2020 at Sands Expo & Convention Centre, Marina Bay Sands, in **Singapore**. It is organized by Singapore's Centre for Liveable Cities and the Urban Redevelopment Authority.

The theme for WCS 2020 is **“Liveable and Sustainable Cities: Adapting to a Disrupted World”**.

Singapore Government invited Uttar Pradesh Chief Minister Yogi Adityanath to the WCS-2020.

Singapore:

President- **Halimah Yacob** Capital-
Singapore Currency-**Singapore dollar**

Roche Diagnostics India, first private firm to get COVID-19 test approval:

Swiss firm **Roche Diagnostics India** received the license for conducting coronavirus tests after approval from DCGI. It became the 1st private firm to get such permission after the govt. decided to allow accredited private labs to test for **COVID-19**. Drug Controller General of India (DCGI)-**V. G. Somani**.

WhatsApp donates \$1 million to IFCN for coronavirus facts alliance:

WhatsApp announced the global launch of the WhatsApp Coronavirus Information Hub in partnership with the World Health Organization, UNICEF and UNDP, besides a \$1 million donation to the Poynter Institute's International Fact-Checking Network (IFCN). Director of IFCN- **Baybars Orsek**.

United Nations launches World Happiness Report, 2020:

United Nations released the World Happiness Report on the International Day of Happiness, **2020**.

Finland ranked first in the report and **India** ranked **144**. Around 156 countries were assessed under the ranking. This is the **eighth** World Happiness Report prepared by the organization.

India becomes third largest electricity producer in the world:

India has become the **third-largest** electricity producer in the world, as its power

generation has increased to 34% by 2017 compared to seven years ago.

Now, the country produces more energy than **Japan** and **Russia** seven years ago, compared to India, which were installing 27% and 8.77% more power generation capacity respectively.

According to a report by **India Brand Equity Foundation (IBEF)**, a trust set up by the Ministry of Commerce, electricity generation stood at 1,003.525 billion units from April 2017 to January 2018.

India extends Covid assistance worth \$ 1 million under SAARC emergency fund:

India, within days of Modi's announcement of creation of \$10 million SAARC Emergency Fund to fight Covid-19, has supplied various medical supplies, testing equipment and other items to **Maldives, Sri Lanka, Afghanistan, Nepal, Bangladesh and Sri Lanka**.

World Bank, ADB give USD 588 million to Pakistan to fight coronavirus pandemic:

World Bank and **Asian Development Bank** have committed to providing **USD 588 million** to Pakistan for its emergency response .

The World Bank would provide **USD 238 million** and the Asian Development Bank (ADB) **USD 350 million** to Pakistan in support for the COVID-19.

BANKING AND TECHNOLOGY:

RBI directs banks to link all the new floating rate loans to medium enterprises with external benchmark:

RBI has directed banks to link all the new floating rate loan to **medium enterprises (MEs)** with external benchmark.

Move is aimed at further strengthening monetary policy transmission so that benefits of reduction in key lending rate can be passed on to MEs.

Reserve Bank of India (RBI) Founded: 1 April 1935.

Finance Minister Nirmala Sitaraman launches EASE 3.0 to enhance Ease of Banking:

FM Nirmala Sitaraman launched **Enhanced Access and Service Excellence (EASE 3.0)** along with the annual report of EASE 2.0 at a function organized by Indian Banks' Association.

Aim of EASE 3.0 is to make public sector banking technology enabled & **smart**.

EASE-Set of banking reforms to ensure **better banking experience**.

Finance secretary Rajiv kumar launches "Baroda Startup Banking" initiative for start-ups in 15 cities:

Finance Secretary Shri **Rajiv Kumar** has inaugurated the '**Baroda Startup Banking**' service with the objective of making Bank of Baroda (BoB) a preferred ally of startup companies and connecting more than 2,000 startups over the next 2- years.

The initiative was launched simultaneously in **15 cities** across India.

EPFO mulls rate cut on PF deposits to 8.5% for FY20

EPFO is considering a cut of 15 basis points in the interest rate on PF deposits in FY20 to **8.5%**. Provident fund deposits had fetched **8.65%** in FY19.

EPFO Headquarters: **New Delhi**.

HDFC Bank launches co-branded credit card with IndiGo

The card is being launched in partnership with **Mastercard**, which is the largest issuer for HDFC Bank

With over **14 million active cards**, HDFC Bank is by far the largest credit card issuer in the country, and hopes to sell 1 million Kaching cards over the next three years

HDFC Bank joined hands with the country's largest airline **IndiGo** to launch a **co-branded credit card**, which will effectively work like a loyalty programme for the carrier.

Sovereign Gold Bond Scheme 2019-20 (Series X) – Issue Price

Sovereign Gold Bonds 2019-20 (**Series X**) will be opened for the period March 02-06, 2020. The issue price of the Bond during the subscription period shall be **Rs 4,260 (Rupees Four Thousand Two Hundred Sixty only)** – per gram with Settlement date March 11, 2020.

Government of India in consultation with the **Reserve Bank of India** has decided to allow discount of **Rs 50 (Rupees Fifty only)** per gram from the issue price to those investors who apply online and the payment is made through **digital mode**.

India's unemployment rate rises to 7.78%, highest since Oct 2019:

India's unemployment rate rose to **7.78%** in **February**, the highest since October 2019, and up from 7.16% in January, according to

data released by the **Centre for Monitoring Indian Economy (CMIE)**

In rural areas, the unemployment rate increased to **7.37%** in February from **5.97%** in the previous month, while in urban areas, it fell to **8.65%** from **9.70%**, the data released by **CMIE**, a Mumbai-based private think-tank showed

SBI Cards & Payment Services raise Rs 2,769 Cr ahead of its initial share sale

SBI Cards and Payment Services has raised **Rs 2,769Crore** from 74 anchor investors, ahead of its initial share sale, starting on March 2. Anchor investors are institutional investors, who are offered shares in an **Initial Public Offering**, ahead of its opening.

Singapore government, Monetary Authority of Singapore, HDFC Mutual Fund, Government Pension Fund Global and Birla Mutual Fund, are among the anchor investors.

Bank credit growth dips to 8.5 % in January:

Bank credit growth declined to **8.5 per cent** in January from **13.5 per cent** in the year-ago period led by a sharp slowdown in loans to the services sector, according to **RBI** data. Growth in advances to the services sector decelerated to **8.9 per cent** from **23.9 per cent** in January 2019.

Bank loan growth to non-banking financial companies (NBFCs) slowed to 32.2 per cent in the reporting month from a growth of **48.3 per cent** a year-ago.

Allahabad Bank lowers interest rate on external benchmark-linked products

State-owned Allahabad Bank announced a cut of up to **40 basis points** in interest rate on external benchmark-linked products.

Asset Liability Management Committee (ALCO) of the Bank has decided to revise interest rates for the products linked to External Benchmark with effect from 1st March 2020,".

While the RBI's repo rate remains unchanged at **5.15 per cent**, the three-month MIBOR (Average) has reduced to **5.75 per cent** from **6.15 per cent**.

MIBOR refers to the Mumbai Interbank Offered Rate.

Fitch Solutions cuts India's economic growth forecast to 4.9% for FY20:

Fitch Solutions cut its forecast for India's economic growth to **4.9 per cent** from **5.1 per cent** in the current fiscal that ends March 31, saying manufacturing could come under pressure from weak domestic demand and supply chain disruptions due to the coronavirus outbreak.

RBI receives 1.71 trillion in Long-term repo operation (LTRO):

The Reserve Bank of India received **1.71 trillion** in the third long-term repo operation (**LTRO**) conducted for an amount of **25,000 crore**. The RBI will conduct another LTRO for three-year tenor worth 25,000 crore on March 9.

Shaktikanta Das, 25th governor of Reserve Bank of India (RBI).

OECD lowers India's FY21 GDP growth to 5.1% on coronavirus concerns:

Global agency **OECD** (Organisation for Economic Cooperation and Development) lowered its India's GDP growth forecast to **5.1 percent** from the earlier projection of **6.2 percent** for 2020 on concerns of impact of deadly coronavirus on the domestic as well as the global economy.

OPPO launches 'Kash' mutual fund platform, offers Systematic Investment Plan from Rs100:

OPPO announced its foray into financial services with '**OPPO Kash**' that offers users to invest in mutual funds, along with free credit reports, personal loans up to two lakh, business loans up to **2 crore** and **screen insurance**.

RBL Bank, Zomato and Mastercard partner to launch co-branded credit cards:

Zomato announced the launch of a co-branded credit card along with **RBL** and **Master Card**. It will help the online food delivery platform further cement its position in India's dining market by offering benefits such as Zomato credits on purchases.

Vishwavir Ahuja, Managing Director & CEO of RBL Bank.

NABARD infuses Rs 1.46 lakh crore in rural banking system during current fiscal:

National Bank for Agriculture and Rural Development (NABARD) has infused **1.46 lakh crore** rupees in the rural banking system during the current fiscal.

NABARD has said that **66,397 crore** rupees have been given in short-term credit and 6,704 crore rupees in long-term credit to rural cooperative banks.

Regional rural banks have availed **14,141 crore** rupees in short-term credit and 8,417 crore rupees in long-term credit. In addition, other banks, including small finance banks, have obtained long-term refinance of 37,895 crore rupees.

Supreme Court quashes RBI's ban on cryptocurrency:

Supreme Court set aside the complete ban on cryptocurrency imposed by the **Reserve Bank of India**. The RBI had decided to ban banks from providing services to people or businesses dealing with cryptocurrencies.

The apex court allowed a plea challenging RBI's 2018 circular that barred banks from trading in cryptocurrencies.

A three-judge Bench of Justice Rohinton Fali Nariman, Justice S Ravindra Bhat and Justice V Ramasubramanian allowed the plea of the **Internet and Mobile Association of India (IAMAI)** challenging the order.

NBCC gets NCLT nod to acquire Jaypee Infratech:

State-owned **NBCC** received **National Company Law Tribunal (NCLT)** approval to takeover debt laden **Jaypee Infratech**, restoring hopes of homebuyers finally getting their promised flats in next four years.

This development will provide a huge relief to over **20,000 homebuyers** across various housing projects launched by **Jaypee Infratech** (JIL) in Noida and Greater Noida (Uttar Pradesh).

NBCC (National Buildings Construction Corporation) has proposed to complete over 20,000 pending flats in the next three-and-a-half years.

Financial Awards 2020: SBI and HDFC Bank win 'Bank of the Year' award:

State Bank of India (SBI) and private major **HDFC Bank** have jointly bagged the '**Bank of the Year**' award at **Business Today-Money Today Financial Awards 2020**. While this is the second time SBI has won the award, for HDFC Bank, it was sixth year running.

HDFC has also bagged the '**Best Large Bank**' and '**Best Fintech Engagement**' award.

On the other hand, **SBI** won the award for '**Best in Rural Outreach**'.

Kotak Mahindra Mutual Fund emerged the '**Best Fund House Overall**' and '**Best Fund House Debt**'. **Axis Mutual Fund** won the award for '**Best Fund House Equity**'.

ICICI Lombard General Insurance bagged the award for the '**Best General Insurance Provider**'.

Govt imposes withdrawal limit of Rs 50,000 for depositors of Yes Bank for a month

The government has imposed a withdrawal limit of **50,000 rupees** for depositors of beleaguered private lender **Yes Bank** for one month. An official notification issued by the finance ministry said that the cap will stay in effect till **3rd of April**.

Former Chief Financial Officer of SBI **Prashant Kumar** has been appointed as **administrator** for Yes Bank.

Equitas Small Finance Bank gets SEBI approval to launch IPO

Equitas Small Finance Bank received Securities and Exchange Board of India's (SEBI) approval to launch its **Initial Public Offering (IPO)**.

The IPO includes a fresh issue of shares worth Rs 550 crore and an offer-for-sale (OFS) of 8 crore equity shares by **Equitas Holdings Limited (EHL)**, the promoter, according to document filed with market regulator **SEBI**.

ICICI Prudential AMC ties up Saraswat Co-op Bank to tap rural potential:

ICICI Prudential AMC (Asset Management Company), one of the leading mutual fund investment companies in India, has entered into the partnership with **Saraswat Co-operative Bank**.

An urban co-operative banking institution, to distribute its products with the latter's customers base spread across its 280 branches in 6 states

ICICI Prudential AMC:Headquarters-**Mumbai, Maharashtra** Managing Director and CEO- **Nimesh Shah**.

RBI Deputy Governor N.S. Vishwanathan resigned ahead of retirement

Reserve Bank of India deputy governor **NS Vishwanathan** has quit three months ahead of his retirement in June due to health reasons.

At present three deputy governors **B. P. Kanungo, Mahesh Kumar Jain** and **Michael Patra**.

Cabinet approves Mega Consolidation in Public Sector Banks with effect from 1 April 2020

10 PSBs- Amalgamation of Oriental Bank of Commerce & United Bank of India into PNB, Amalgamation of Andhra Bank & Corporation Bank into Union Bank of India, Amalgamation of Allahabad Bank into Indian Bank, Amalgamation of Syndicate Bank into Canara Bank.

SEBI introduces mobile app 'Sebi SCORES' for investors to lodge grievances:

Securities and Exchange Board of India (SEBI) the regulator for the securities market in India, has introduced a mobile app called '**Sebi SCORES (Sebi Complaints Redress System)**' through which, investors can register their grievances.

On the SCORES platform, investors can **complain** online with SEBI against listed companies, registered intermediaries and market infrastructure institutions.

RBI to extend Rs 10,000 crore under special liquidity facility:

Reserve Bank of India has decided to extend a loan of **Rs10,000 crore** immediately under the special liquidity facility to **Yes Bank** against government securities, according to two people familiar with the matter, who spoke on conditions of anonymity.

The **90-day** loan will be offered at the current Bank Rate of **5.4%** plus **3%** to meet the immediate liquidity needs of the bank.

Punjab National Bank announces share exchange ratio for merger with Oriental Bank, United Bank:

Punjab National Bank has announced the share exchange ratio for the merger with **Oriental Bank of Commerce & United Bank of India**.

The bank also said the board has fixed March 25 as the date for issuing and allotting its equity shares to the shareholders.

Punjab National Bank MD- **S. S. Mallikarjuna Rao**.

Moody's again slashes India's growth projection for 2020 to 5.3%

Moody's Investors revised its baseline growth projections for India from **5.4%** to **5.3%** in 2020, saying an extensive and prolonged slump as a result of the Covid-19 outbreak will reduce growth in Asia's third-largest economy to 5% during the calendar year.

SBI cuts MCLR rate, home loans to get cheaper

SBI has cut its **Marginal Cost Of Fund-Based Lending Rate (MCLR)** by up to 15 basis points across various tenors, effective from March 10.

SBI has reduced its one-year MCLR by 10 basis points to 7.75% from 7.85% earlier. SBI has also cut its FD rates.

This is 10th consecutive cut in **MCLR** by SBI this fiscal.

CSIR: Discovery of ink to curb fake printing of Passports & counterfeiting of Currency Notes

CSIR-National Physical Laboratory has developed a bi-luminescent security ink which glows in red and green colours when illuminated by two different excitation sources at **254 nano meters & 365 nm**, respectively. The ink was given to Bank Note Press, Dewas.

SPMCIL (Security Printing & Minting Corporation of India Limited) has currency note presses at **Nashik and Dewas**.

No minimum balance needed for SBI savings bank accounts:

State Bank of India (SBI) announced that it has waived off the requirement of holding average monthly balance for savings accounts. "State Bank of India has decided to waive maintenance of **Average Monthly Balance (AMB)** for all Savings Bank Accounts," the bank's press release stated.

From now on all SBI customers will enjoy the **zero-balance** facility in their savings bank accounts. This, according to the press release, will benefit **44.51 crore** savings bank account.

Canara HSBC Oriental Bank of Commerce Life Insurance launches iSelect+ Term Plan

Canara HSBC Oriental Bank of Commerce Life Insurance Company Limited announced the launch of **iSelect+ Term**

Plan to provide enhanced protection cover at an affordable premium

The plan is designed to provide death benefit, terminal illness, & has additional options of accidental death benefit, accidental total, permanent disability benefit & child support benefit

World's first Digital Solutions Exchange Cloud launched in India:

GOKADDAL, the World's first Digital Solutions Exchange in Cloud, was launched in India. www.gokaddal.com, a cloud-based solution exchange platform mainly focuses on **4A's – Automation, Artificial Intelligence, Analytics and Augmentative Technologies.**

GOKADDAL – It is a **Business to Business (B2B), Business to Government (B2G), Business to Consumer (B2C)** solution platform which connects solution providers to solution seekers and an innovative platform for Startups and SME companies.

RBI announces US dollar sell/buy swap to provide liquidity to foreign exchange market:

Observing mismatch in US dollar liquidity across the world, the Reserve Bank has announced a **six-month US dollar sell/buy swap** to provide liquidity to the foreign exchange market.

The 1st swap worth **2 billion** US dollars will be conducted on March 16th.

Indian Forex reserves stood at **\$487.24 billion** as of 6th March.

UBS cuts India's FY21 real GDP growth forecast to 4%:

The coronavirus pandemic and the resulting lockdowns led UBS to sharply cut India's growth forecast for the next financial year

starting April 1, to 4% from the **5.1%** estimated earlier. UBS Securities said it expects India to clock a **4.8%** growth in **FY20.**

S&P lowers India's growth forecast to 5.2% in 2020 amid coronavirus fears:

S&P Global Ratings lowered India's economic growth forecast to **5.2%** for 2020, saying the global economy is entering a recession amid the coronavirus pandemic.

The agency had earlier projected a growth rate of **5.7 per cent** during the 2020 calendar.

Paytm Payments Bank to now issue Visa debit cards:

Paytm Payments Bank Ltd (PPBL) announced that it will now start issuing Visa debit cards to its customers. With this partnership, Paytm is targeting to issue over 10 million new digital debit cards in FY 20-21.

The bank, known for introducing neo-banking in the country, is already the largest issuer of RuPay Debit Cards and has the fastest growing bank account base.

RBI opens dollar-swap window along with infusion of Rs 1,00,000 crore through LTRO:

RBI opens **dollar-swap** window-StartThere is global instability in financial markets due to the spread of **COVID 19 (Coronavirus)**, which may lead to a slowdown in growth.

Reserve Bank of India (RBI) has opened a six-month dollar sell-buy swap window, and will also inject **Rs 1,00,000 crore** additional **Long Term Repo Operations (LTROs)** at the policy repo rate.

RBI to infuse Rs.10,000 crore via OMO to maintain liquidity in banking system:

Reserve Bank of India (RBI) is all set to infuse **Rs.10,000 crore** liquidity in the banking system by buying government securities through **Open Market Operations (OMO)** on March 20, 2020.

The securities will be purchased through a multi-security auction using the multiple price method with tenor between **two and five years**. RBI will offer to buy four set of sovereign papers maturing between **February 2022 and May 2025**.

RBI issued new guidelines for payment aggregators; MCR reduced for new PAs to Rs 15 crore from Rs 100 crore

Reserve Bank of India (RBI) has issued new guidelines for the **Payment Aggregators (PAs)** to provide ease for payments industry players.

These are issued under Section 18 read with **Section 10(2)** of the **Payment and Settlement Systems Act, 2007** and shall come into effect from April 1, 2020. The new rules are for non-bank PAs.

RBI has reduced the **Minimum Capital Requirements (MCR)** for PAs at the time of application for the licence to **Rs 15 crore** from **Rs 100 crore**. However, the net worth needs to be increased to Rs 25 crore within three years of operations.

RBI extended authorisation to Vakrangee Ltd for white label ATMs till Mar 31, 2020:

Reserve Bank of India (RBI) has extended the validity of Authorization to **Vakrangee Limited** till March 31, 2021 to setup, own and operates the **White Label ATMs (WLA)** Business in India.

ATM set up, owned and operated by non-bank entities are called **"White Label ATMs"**

(WLAs). They provide the banking services to the customers of Indian banks based on the cards issued by banks. WLA operators are authorised under the Payment & Settlement Systems Act, 2007 RBI.

ICICI Bank launches 'ICICISStack', a digital banking platform:

ICICI (**Industrial Credit and Investment Corporation of India**) Bank announced the launch of 'ICICISStack', a set of the country's most comprehensive digital banking services and **APIs (Application Programme Interface)** to ensure uninterrupted banking experience to customers--retail and business.

SBI acquired 6.825% stake of Zero Mass Private Limited:

SBI has entered into an agreement to acquire 6.825% stake in Zero Mass. As part of the deal, the Bank has sold its entire stake in A Little World to the **Zero Mass**.

ZERO Mass Pvt. Ltd. was founded by **Anurag Gupta**, Founder and Director on 20 March 2007.

State Bank of India: Headquarters– **Mumbai, India** Chairman– **Rajnish Kumar**
DBS Bank India ties up with Bharti AXA to roll out insurance plan covering COVID-19

DBS Bank India Limited, a wholly owned subsidiary of **DBS (Development Bank of Singapore)** Bank Ltd, has entered into the partnership with **Bharti AXA General Insurance Company Ltd** to launch a complimentary insurance for customers of DBS treasures.

15th Finance Commission constitutes committee to review fiscal consolidation roadmap:

15th Finance Commission has constituted a committee to review the fiscal consolidation roadmap of the general government.

The committee, to be headed by chairman of the Finance Commission, **NK Singh**, will recommend a debt & fiscal consolidation roadmap for FY 2021-25 for the government

SIDBI launches "Swavalamban Express" to promote business aspirants

Small Industries Development Bank of India (SIDBI) is to start **Swavalamban Express** on 5 June 2020. The aim is to promote budding business aspirants and entrepreneurs.

SIDBI will start a special train based on the opinions and suggestions of various stakeholders. The Train is to visit **11 entrepreneurial cities**. The train has been launched to fulfil India's goal of **5 trillion USD** by **2024-25**.

India's forex reserves plunge the most in 8 years as RBI defends the rupee:

India's foreign-exchange reserves plunged the most in about **eight years** as the central bank stepped in to defend the rupee. The reserves fell by \$5.35 billion to **\$481.9 billion** in the week.

CRISIL lowers FY21 growth to 5.2% from 5.7%:

CRISIL downgraded India's Gross Domestic Forecast (GDP) for fiscal 2021 to **5.2% from 5.7%** due to the coronavirus pandemic.

Also, it is spreading rapidly in India causing adverse effects on domestic consumption, investment, and production and slowing the **financial markets**.

SEBI takes measures to check short selling, curb volatility:

SEBI lowered the limit of positions that can be taken in the futures & options market, increased **margin requirements** and **capped derivatives exposure**.

SEBI's measures are largely to curb extreme **volatility** in individual stocks and index derivatives segment.

RBI opens Rs.60,000-crore emergency credit line for Yes Bank:

Reserve Bank has opened an emergency line of credit of around **Rs.60,000** crore to Yes Bank to meet any liquidity crisis in paying back its depositors.

The move comes after 16 years when a similar credit line was opened for Global Trust Bank in 2004.

Additional liquidity, under Section 17 (4) of the RBI Act.

RBI extends restrictions on PMC Bank for three more months:

Reserve bank of India extended the regulatory restrictions on **Punjab and Maharashtra Cooperative Bank (PMC)** Bank by another three months.

The validity of directive dated 23 September, 2019, stands modified from 23 March, 2020 to 22 June, 2020.

J B Bhorla, administrator of PMC Bank.

IRDAI sets up 16-member panel on governance at insurers headed by Pravin Kutumbe:

Insurance Regulation and Development Authority (IRDAI) instituted a **16-member** committee headed by **Pravin Kutumbe** to further strengthen its guidelines on corporate governance.

The committee consists of a head, six members from the insurance regulator besides members from the **Reserve Bank of**

India (RBI) and the **Securities and Exchange Board of India (SEBI)** along with other industry participants.

SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY:

ISRO to launch GISAT-1 on 05 March

Geosynchronous Satellite Launch Vehicle (GSLV-F10) will launch Geo Imaging Satellite (GISAT-1) from the Second Launch Pad of Satish Dhawan Space Centre (SDSC) SHAR, **Sriharikota**. The launch is tentatively scheduled on March 05, 2020.

Weighing about **2275 kg**, GISAT-1 is a state-of-the-art agile Earth observation satellite which will be placed in a Geosynchronous Transfer Orbit by **GSLV-F10**.

STMicroelectronics, Aligarh University tie up to develop wireless chargers for EV:

STMicroelectronics has tied up with **Aligarh Muslim University** of Uttar Pradesh, to jointly develop technology for solar-powered, wireless charging stations in India.

Both STMicroelectronics and AMU will bring parts of their home-grown technologies to the projects.

STMicroelectronics is a **French** multinational company.

L&T Technology Services and IIT-Kanpur sign MoU for research in Cybersecurity programs:

L&T Technology Services Limited, a pure-play engineering services company, signed a multi-year Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) with the **Indian Institute of Technology, Kanpur** to collaborate on research in industrial and infrastructure cybersecurity.

They will together set-up a Center of Excellence in the campus.

Scientists from INST develops starch-based 'hemostat' material to stop rapid blood loss during accidents

Scientists from the **Institute of Nano Science and Technology (INST)**, an autonomous institute under the Department of Science & Technology, developed a starch-based '**Hemostat**' material which absorbs excess fluid by concentrating the natural clotting factors in the blood that stops the rapid **blood loss**.

IHBT scientists develop new sanitizer without chemicals like parabens, triclosan, and phthalates:

Scientists of CSIR-**Institute of Himalayan Bioresource Technology (CSIR-IHBT)**, Palampur (HP) have developed a new **hand-sanitizer**.

Natural flavors, active tea constituents & alcohol content in the hand-sanitizer have been used according to WHO guidelines.

World Health Organization(WHO):

Headquarters-**Geneva, Switzerland**.

10 earth-observing satellites among 36 missions lined up by ISRO for FY21:

ISRO lined up **36 missions** including **10 earth observation satellites** in 2020-21. Besides 10 earth observation satellites, the space agency lined up 3 communication satellites, 3 space science satellite, 2 navigation satellite and 1 technology demonstration.

Gaganyaan (unmanned) is also part of ISRO's mission for **2020-21**.

APPOINTMENTS:

Indian-origin minister Suella Braverman sworn in as UK's Attorney General

Indian-origin **Suella Braverman**, appointed the UK's new **Attorney General** in British Prime Minister Boris Johnson's reshuffled Cabinet earlier this month, was on Monday formally sworn in for the post at a ceremony at the **Royal Courts of Justice** in **London**.

The 39-year-old minister, a barrister and **Cambridge University law** graduate who specialised in public law and judicial review, said her priority will be to restore confidence in the justice system.

Michael Miebach is Mastercard new CEO, Banga moves to executive chairman

Mastercard's chief executive officer of 10 years, **Ajay Banga**, will step down at the start of the next year, the company said, and be replaced by Chief Product Officer **Michael Miebach**.

Ajay Banga, who took charge of the company just after the 2008-09 financial crisis. India-born Banga will take on the role of executive chairman, while **Miebach** will become the company's president on March.

Riek Machar sworn in as first Vice President in South Sudan

Riek Machar sworn in as 1st Vice President in **South Sudan**. Transition govt will serve for 36 months. President Salva Kiir called the official ending of the war & said peace is now irreversible as the new govt was formed after more than a year of delays.

South Sudan Capital- Juba, Currency- Pound.

Malaysian Prime Minister Mahathir Mohamad Resigned

Malaysian Prime Minister **Mahathir Mohamad** resigned, and the cabinet was dissolved, plunging the Southeast Asian country into chaos less than two years after the **94-year-old** leader took office in a historic election.

Realme ropes in Salman Khan as brand ambassador

Smartphone brand **realme** has appointed Bollywood actor **Salman Khan** as its brand ambassador.

According to Counterpoint Research, realme was the world's fastest-growing smartphone brand in 2019. It ranked at the **4th** spot in the Indian smartphone market.

**Realme Headquarters: Shenzhen, China
Bob Chapek appointed as Disney CEO he replaces Bob Iger:**

Bob Iger has stepped down as CEO of the **Walt Disney Company (DIS)**, effective immediately.

Bob Chapek is the new CEO, the board of directors announced. He most recently served as chairman of Disney Parks, Experiences and Products.

Walt Disney Company Headquarters- **Burbank, California, United States.**

Axis Bank appoints Puneet Sharma as CFO

Axis Bank said its board has approved appointment of **Puneet Sharma** as **Chief Financial Officer (CFO)**.

His appointment will be effective from March 6, the private sector lender said in a regulatory filing.

Sharma replaces **Jairam Sridharan**, who has resigned as the group executive and CFO of

the bank, with effect from the close of business hours on March 5.

Abhay Kumar Singh appointed as Chairman & Managing Director of NHPC Limited

Abhay Kumar Singh has been recently appointed as the Chairman & Managing Director of the Indian PSU, **National Hydroelectric Power Corporation Limited**.

Abhay Kumar has replaced **Ratish Kumar** who held additional charge of the post of Chairman & Managing Director.

Sumant Kathpalia succeeds Romesh Sobti as IndusInd Bank MD & CEO

Private sector lender IndusInd Bank said that it had appointed **Sumant Kathpalia** the next managing director (MD) and chief executive officer (CEO) from March 24, for a **three-year term**.

Kathpalia will succeed current MD & CEO **Romesh Sobti**, who has been at the helm of affairs for over a decade now

Rajesh Kumar becomes new MD & CEO of CIBIL

Credit Information Bureau (India) Limited the largest credit information bureau appointed **Rajesh Kumar** of HDFC Bank as its new managing director and chief executive. He will succeed **Satish**

Headquarters of CIBIL: **Mumbai**.

SEBI chief Ajay Tyagi gets 6-month extension:

The government has given a six-month extension to Securities and Exchange Board of India (**SEBI**) chairman **Ajay Tyagi** whose term at the helm was ending on February 29.

Mr. Ajay Tyagi is an Indian Administrative Officer (IAS) of the **Himachal Pradesh cadre**.

Muhyiddin Yassin sworn in as Malaysia's new Prime Minister

Malaysia, the King Sultan Abdullah Sultan Ahmad Shah has appointed seasoned politician **Muhyiddin Yassin**, a former interior minister and president of the Bersatu party as the new Prime Minister

Malaysia Currency: **Malaysian ringgit** Capital: **Kuala Lumpur**

S C Garg appointed advisor to Andhra Chief Minister Jagan Mohan Reddy:

Former Union finance secretary **Subhash Chandra Garg** has been appointed as advisor to Andhra Pradesh Chief Minister **Y S Jagan Mohan Reddy** for resource mobilisation.

Garg has been assigned the rank of a Cabinet minister, according to an order issued by Principal Secretary (Political) Praveen Prakash.

Nokia appoints PekkaLundmark as CEO andRajeev Suri to step down:

The chief executive of Nokia, **Rajeev Suri**, is stepping down after just over half a decade at the helm of the Finnish network company.

Suri will be replaced by **PekkaLundmark**, the outgoing CEO of Fortum Oyj

Suri, who has been at Nokia for 25 years, became CEO after running the Nokia Siemens Networks joint venture.

Ram Nair named World Vegetable Center regional head:

The World Vegetable Center (WorldVeg) has appointed **Ramakrishnan (Ram) M Nair** as the Regional Director for its South and Central Asia operations.

He will work with donors and partners and develop new projects, besides promoting **research and development**.

Nair also leads the WorldVeg global legume breeding programme and the **International Mungbean Improvement Network (IMIN)**.

Israeli PM Benjamin Netanyahu claims victory in general elections:

Israeli Prime Minister **Benjamin Netanyahu** has claimed victory in the general elections. Exit polls indicated that Mr Netanyahu is in a strong position to form the next government.

Publicis appoints Unny Radhakrishnan as Digitas India CEO:

Publicis Groupe India announced the appointment of **Unny Radhakrishnan** as chief executive of its digital agency **Digitas India**. He will take over the role from Amaresh Godbole who is joining Google.

Unny Radhakrishnan comes with over 20 years in the digital marketing, consulting and technology.

Aegon Life Insurance appoints Naveen Bachwani as Chief Operating Officer:

Aegon Life Insurance announces the appointment of **Naveen Bachwani** as its chief operating officer. **Bachwani** is expected to drive digital transformation, product development and operations. He will be based out of the corporate office in **Mumbai**.

Naveen Bachwani previously worked with the **Edelweiss Group**.

Mindtree appoints former Accenture executive DayapatraNevatia as COO:

Bengaluru-based IT firm Mindtree has appointed **DayapatraNevatia** as the **Chief Operating Officer (COO)** of the company effective Monday, March 2, 2020.

Before joining Mindtree, Nevatia worked in Accenture as managing director and director

of delivery for advanced technology centres in **India**.

Sudhanshu Pandey appointed as new CMD of MMTC:

Sudhanshu Pandey, Additional Secretary at the Department of Commerce, assumed additional charge as CMD (Chairman & Managing Director) of **MMTC (Metals & Minerals Trading Corporation)**.

He was the successor of **Ved Prakash**. Pandey currently discharges functions as the Chief Negotiator of India.

Arjun Ranga elected president of All India Agarbathi Manufacturers Association:

Arjun Ranga, the CEO of N Ranga Rao & Sons, has been elected president of the **All India Agarbathi Manufacturers Association**.

Ranga, who was previously the Vice-president of the association, will represent over 700 agarbathi manufacturers.

Ajay Bhushan Pandey appointed as the new Finance Secretary:

Prime Minister Narendra Modi has approved the appointment of **Ajay Bhushan Pandey** as the new Finance Secretary in Ministry of Finance. He will succeed current **Rajiv Kumar**, who has retired in February 2020.

Pandey, a 1984 batch Indian Administrative Service officer of Maharashtra cadre, had earlier worked as chief executive officer of **Unique Identification Authority of India (UIDAI)**, the organization behind the Aadhaar.

Former India spinner Sunil Joshi named BCCI's selection committee chairman:

Former India spinner **Sunil Joshi** was named chairman of the national selection panel by

the BCCI's Cricket Advisory Committee (CAC) in **Mumbai**. A statement from BCCI Secretary Jay Shah said, the CAC also picked ex-pacer Harvinder Singh for a place in the five-member group.

Kishore Biyani redesignated as non-executive VC at Future Lifestyle:

Future Lifestyle Fashions said that its board had approved the redesignation of **Kishore Biyani**, the company's managing director, as non-executive vice chairperson. The redesignation is based on the recommendations of the nomination and remuneration committee, the company said.

Sanjay Kumar Panda appointed as India's Ambassador to Turkey:

Ministry of External Affairs announced Senior diplomat **Sanjay Kumar Panda** has been appointed as India's Ambassador to Turkey. He succeeds **Sanjay Bhattacharya**.

Sanjay Kumar Panda is a 1991 batch Indian Foreign Service (IFS) officer.

Janez Jansa sworn in as Slovenia's new Prime Minister:

Slovenia's lawmakers have approved the Leader of Slovenian Democratic Party (SDS) **Janez Jansa** as Slovenia's new Prime Minister. He will replace center-left Prime Minister **Marjan Sarec** who resigned from his post in January 2020.

Janez Jansa led the Slovenian government from 2004 to 2008 and from 2012 to 2013. He has a close ally of Poland's Jaroslaw Kaczynski and Hungary's Viktor Orban.

Slovenia:

Capital- **Ljubljana** Currency-
Euro President- **Borut Pahor**

Anurag Srivastava to replace Raveesh Kumar as Ministry of External Affairs spokesperson:

Indian Foreign Service (IFS) officer **Anurag Srivastava** will replace **Raveesh Kumar** as the spokesperson of Ministry of External Affairs (MEA).

Srivastava is currently serving as India's Ambassador to **Ethiopia** and African Union. He is a 1999-batch IFS officer.

Kriti Sanon as new brand ambassador of ITC Vivel:

ITC Ltd-owned personal care brand Vivel announced the appointment of Bollywood actor **Kriti Sanon** as its new brand ambassador.

The brand has launched a new campaign featuring Sanon for its cooling portfolio of **soaps and body washes** which has ingredients like mint and cucumber.

Bimal Julka sworn in as Chief Information Commissioner of Central Information Commission:

Bimal Julka was sworn in as the new Chief Information Commissioner of the Central Information Commission. President **Ram Nath Kovind** administered the oath of office. Number of Information Commissioners has fallen to 5 as against a sanctioned strength of 11.

Bimal Julka will succeed Sudhir Bhargava. Puma signs Bollywood actress Kareena Kapoor Khan as the new brand ambassador:

German sportswear brand **Puma** said it has signed Bollywood actor **Kareena Kapoor Khan** as its new brand ambassador.

Kareena joins the brand's roster of dynamic women personalities like Adriana Lima,

Selena Gomez, Cara Delevingne, Sara Ali Khan, MC Mary Kom, and Dutee Chand.

SBI Life re-appoints Sanjeev Nautiyal as MD & CEO:

Reappointment is subject to approval of **Insurance Regulatory and Development Authority of India (IRDAI)** and members of the company.

SBI Life Insurance said it has re-appointed **Sanjeev Nautiyal** as managing director and chief executive officer of the company.

K.M. Mammen re-elected ATMA chief:

Tyre major MRF's chairman & MD **K.M. Mammen** has been unanimously re-elected as chairman of **Automotive Tyre Manufacturers' Association (ATMA)**.

ATMA Founded in **1975**, ATMA represents 11 large tyre companies comprising Indian & international tyre majors.

Anurag Mehrotra was appointed as the Chief Executive officer of Mahindra-Ford venture:

Managing Director of Ford India, **Anurag Mehrotra** was appointed as the Chief Executive officer for the New joint venture formed by **Mahindra** and **Ford** with effect from April 1, 2020.

This joint venture is formed to develop and sell **Ford** branded cars in India and other emerging markets. The joint venture created is valued at **\$275 million (Rs 1,925 crore)**.

Chalasani Venkat Nageswar gets additional charge of DMD, CFO of SBI:

State Bank of Indiasaid **Chalasani Venkat Nageswar** has been given additional charge of deputy managing director and chief financial officer (CFO) of the bank.

"Chalasani Venkat Nageswar, Deputy Managing Director, International Banking

Group, has been given additional charge of **Deputy Managing Director** and **CFO**.

Indian American Sonia Syngal becomes new CEO of Gap:

Gap Inc. named its Old Navy leader, **Sonia Syngal**, as chief executive officer as the apparel retailer looks to reverse falling foot traffic and sales while it pivots to a new strategy.

Syngal, 49, will take over as of March 23, the company said in a statement. She became CEO of **Old Navy** in 2016.

Nupur Kulshrestha becomes Indian Coast Guard's first woman DIG:

Nupur Kulshrestha becomes the 1st woman to be promoted as Deputy Inspector General(**DIG**)of Indian Coast Guard.She joined **Indian Coast Guard** in 1999.

Prashant Kumar takes charge as Yes Bank administrator:

Prashant Kumar former deputy managing director and CFO of State Bank of India, has taken charge as its **administrator**.

Kumar taking charge as the **Yes Bank** administrator is in line with notifications issued by the Department of Financial Services and the RBI.

ITBP chief Shri Surjeet Singh Deswal given additional charge of BSF DG:

Director General **Indo Tibetan Border Police (ITBP)**, Shri Surjeet Singh Deswal was given an additional charge by the Ministry of Home Affairs to serve as a Director General of **Border Security Force (BSF)**.

He will succeed **Vivek johri** repatriated by Government of India who has now taken over a charge as a Director General of Police at **Madhya Pradesh**.

PV Sindhu becomes the brand ambassador for anti-graft helpline:

Badminton world champion **PV Sindhu** is appointed as the brand ambassador for Andhra Pradesh government's anti-graft helpline or anti-corruption helpline- **14400**. She has featured along with Chief Minister **YS Jagan Mohan Reddy** in a video titled 'stop corruption' which states people keep their eyes & ears open against corruption.

HSBC appoints Mark Wang as Chief Executive in China:

HSBC has appointed a new chief executive for China, a major focus for the bank, the latest in a series of senior management changes. Mark Wang, head of HSBC's China investment banking business, will become China CEO.

HSBC interim group CEO is **Noel Quinn**.

IDFC FIRST Bank names Amitabh Bachchan as Brand Ambassador:

IDFC FIRST Bank has announced the signing of India's most iconic personality, **Amitabh Bachchan**, as its 1st ever brand ambassador.

His personality resonates IDFC FIRST's brand persona & values pillars, that of Sincerity, Humility & Contemporariness.

Mr. V Vaidyanathan, MD & CEO, IDFC FIRST Bank,

Lt Gen KJS Dhillon to take charge as DG DIA, DCIDS:

Lt Gen **KJS Dhillon** will take over the post of Director General Defence Intelligence Agency and Deputy Chief of Integrated Defence Staff (Intelligence).

It is a department that comes under the Chief of Defence Staff in the newly created **Department of Military Affairs**.

DFS secretary Debasish Panda nominated on central board of RBI:

Reserve Bank of India said that the Central Government has nominated Department of Financial Services Secretary **Debasish Panda** as a Director on the RBI central board. **iQOO named Virat Kohli as its brand ambassador:**

iQOO - a new smartphone brand from China and part of the BBK Group - on Wednesday named cricketer **Virat Kohli** as its new brand ambassador.

ECI appoints Hirdesh Kumar new Chief Electoral Officer of Jammu and Kashmir:

The Election Commission of India appointed **Hirdesh Kumar** as the new Chief Electoral Officer of the Union Territory of **Jammu and Kashmir**.

He will replace **Shailendra Kumar** with effect from the date he assumes charge.

Government ropes in Amitabh Bachchan to spread awareness about COVID-19:

Actor **Amitabh Bachchan** has been roped in by the government to spread awareness about the novel coronavirus or COVID-19. In a new video posted by the Ministry of Health and Family Welfare, Bachchan is seen telling people about the basics of fighting the deadly virus **COVID 19**.

Shri Ravinder Singh Dhillon, Appointed as Chairman and Director (Projects) of PFC :

Mr. Ravinder Singh Dhillon was appointed as CMD of **Power Finance Corporation Ltd**. He has more than 34 years of experience in various areas of **power sector** and was serving as Executive Director in PFC prior to this appointment. He also served as Director (Public Grievances) in PFC.

Former IBM executive Karan Bajwa appointed Google Cloud India MD:

Google has turned to tech industry veteran **Karan Bajwa** to drive its cloud business in the country, appointing him managing director of **Google Cloud India**.

Bajwa will be responsible for driving revenue and go-to-market operations for **Google Cloud's** extensive solution portfolio that includes Google Cloud Platform and G Suite.

Bajaj Auto board approves reappointment of Rajiv Bajaj as MD, CEO:

Bajaj Auto said its board has approved the re-appointment of **Rajiv Bajaj** as Managing Director and CEO of the company.

Rajiv Bajaj, Managing Director and CEO of the company, whose five-year term expires on March 31, 2020, has been re-appointed for a further period of five years with effect from April 1, 2020," the company said in a filing to BSE.

Journalists Prachi Salve & Pradeep Dwivedi selected for Road Safety Media Fellowship 2019:

Journalists **Prachi Salve** of Indiaspend & **Pradeep Dwivedi** of Dainik Jagran has been selected for the 1st prize in the **Road Safety Media Fellowship 2019**.

B. Raveendra Shetty of Vijaya Karnataka along with Purnima Singh of Times Now Hindi are at **2nd place**.

The fellowship is given by Centre for Media Studies, **New Delhi**.

Government nominated former chief justice of India Ranjan Gogoi to Rajya Sabha:

Government nominated former Chief Justice of India (CJI) **Ranjan Gogoi**, 65 years old, to Rajya Sabha.

He was nominated by President of India **Shri Ram Nath Kovind**, under the exercise of the powers conferred by sub-clause (a) of clause (1) of **article 80** of the Constitution of India **Ranjan Gogoi** will be the successor of **K.T.S Tulsi**.

Iraqi President Salih appoints Adnan al-Zurfi as new PM-designate:

Iraqi President **Barham Salih** has appointed **Adnan al-Zurfi** as the country's new prime minister-designate in the latest bid to resolve a months-long political crisis.

Al-Zurfi will replace caretaker PM- **Adel Abdul Mahdi**.

Iraq: Capital- **Baghdad** Currency- **Iraqi dinar**.

Former Air India CMD Ashwani Lohani appointed chairman of AP Tourism Development Corporation:

Andhra Pradesh government appointed former CMD of Air India **Ashwani Lohani** as the Chairman of the AP Tourism Development Corporation, assigning him the rank of a Cabinet minister. The appointment is for a period of **one year**.

Y. S. Jaganmohan Reddy, Andhra Pradesh CM.

Salesforce names former SBI chairperson Arundhati Bhattacharya as India CEO:

Salesforce names former SBI chairperson **Arundhati Bhattacharya** as India CEO. She was the 1st woman to lead the more than 200-year-old SBI.

Arundhati Bhattacharya submitted the resignation as an independent director from **CRISIL** Board.

She is the **first woman** to be the chairperson of the State Bank of India and retired in 2017.

CRISIL (Credit Rating Information Services of India Limited):

Headquarters- **Mumbai, Maharashtra.**

CEO- **Ashu Suyash.**

HSBC appoints Noel Quinn as Chief Executive Officer

Hong Kong & Shanghai Banking Corporation appointed **Noel Quinn** as Chief Executive Officer, handing the reins & interim boss the reins of Europe's biggest bank & ending months of conjecture an external candidate could get the role. He joined HSBC in **1987**.

HSBC Headquarters: **London, United Kingdom.**

Indian umpires Janani Narayanan and Vrinda Rathi named in International Panel of ICC Development Umpires:

Janani Narayanan from Tamil Nadu (TN) and **Vrinda Rathi** from Mumbai were named in the International Panel of **ICC (International Cricket Council)** Development Umpires.

After the inclusion of Janani and Vrinda, the count of females from India in ICC panel becomes 3 after the appointment of **GS Lakshmi** as the International Panel of Match Referees.

RBI names R Gandhi, Ananth Gopalakrishnan additional directors on YES Bank Board:

Reserve Bank of India has appointed **R Gandhi and Ananth Narayan Gopalakrishnan** as additional directors to the board of private sector lender YES Bank for a period of two years. **Prashant Kumar** was earlier appointed as CEO & MD of Yes Bank

SBI is biggest investor in YES Bank via reconstruction scheme.

A. Ajay Kumar becomes India's next High Commissioner to Republic of Uganda:

A. Ajay Kumar has been appointed as the next High Commissioner of India to the **Republic of Uganda.**

A. Ajay Kumar is currently posted as the Joint Secretary in the Ministry of External Affairs. Ajay Kumar is a 2001 batch IFS officer.

Romesh Sobti to have advisory role at IndusInd Bank:

IndusInd Bank CEO **Romesh Sobti** will move into a full-time advisory role at the bank after his retirement on March 24. Sobti took over as IndusInd Bank CEO at the end of 2007 after serving as the head of ABN Amro in India.

Sumant Kathpalia newly appointed CEO of IndusInd Bank.

Vasant Rao appointed MD for IDC India and South Asia:

International Data Corporation (IDC) announced the appointment of **Vasant Rao** as MD for IDC India and South Asia, effective March 18, 2020. He will be based out of IDC's Bengaluru office and will be reporting to Eva Au-Managing Director, IDC Asia/Pacific.

GoAir appoints Sanjiv Kapoor as Advisor:

GoAir has appointed **Sanjiv Kapoor** as Advisor. He was at Vistara as its Chief Strategy & Commercial Officer. His career spanned for over 2 decades with airlines in Asia, Europe, and the US as investment advisor, portfolio manager & management consultant.

Chief Executive Officer of GoAir- **Vinay Dube.**

S.NO	Name	Designation

1.	Suella Braverman	UK's Attorney General	19.	DayapatraNevatia	Chief Operating Officer of Mindtree
2.	Michael Miebach	Mastercard new CEO	20.	Sudhanshu Pandey	CMD of Metals & Minerals Trading Corporation
3.	Riek Machar	1st Vice President in South Sudan	21.	Arjun Ranga	President of All India Agarbathi Manufacturers Association
4.	Salman Khan	Brand ambassador of Realme	22.	Ajay Bhushan Pandey	Finance Secretary
5.	Bob Chapek	CEO of Walt Disney	23.	Sunil Joshi	BCCI's selection committee chairman
6.	Puneet Sharma	CFO of Axis Bank	24.	Sanjay Kumar Panda	India's Ambassador to Turkey
7.	Abhay Kumar	Chairman & Managing Director of NHPC Limited	25.	Janez Jansa	Slovenia's Prime Minister
8.	Sumant Kathpalia	IndusInd Bank MD & CEO	26.	Anurag Srivastava	Ministry of External Affairs spokesperson
9.	Romesh Sobti	Advisory role at IndusInd Bank	27.	Kriti Sanon	Brand ambassador of ITC Vivel
10.	Rajesh Kumar	MD & CEO of CIBIL	28.	Bimal Julka	Chief Information Commissioner of Central Information Commission
11.	Ajay Tyagi	SEBI Chairman	29.	Kareena Kapoor	Puma's brand ambassador
12.	Muhyiddin Yassin	Malaysia's Prime Minister	30.	Sanjeev Nautiyal	SBI Life Insurance MD & CEO
13.	Subhash Chandra Gargh	Advisor to Andhra Pradesh Chief Minister Y S JaganMohan Reddy	31.	K.M. Mammen	Automotive Tyre Manufactures' Association
14.	PekkaLundmark	CEO of Nokia	32.	Anurag Mehrotra	CEO of Mahindra-Ford venture
15.	Ram Nair	World Vegetable Center regional head			
16.	Benjamin Netanyahu	Israel Prime Minister			
17.	Unny Radhakrishnan	Digitas India CEO			
18.	Naveen Bachwani	Aegon Life Insurance CEO			

33.	Chalasan Venkat Nageswar	Deputy Managing Director and CFO of SBI	49.	Adnan al-Zurfi	Iraq Prime Minister
34.	Sonia Syngal	CEO of Gap Inc	50.	Ashwani Lohani	chairman of Andra Pradesh Tourism Development Corporation
35.	Nupur Kulshrestha	Indian Coast Guard's first woman DIG	51.	Arundhati Bhattacharya	Salesforce India CEO
36.	Prashant Kumar	Yes Bank administrator	52.	Noel Quinn	CEO of HSBC
37.	Shri Surjeet Singh Deswal	Director General of Border Security Force	53.	Janani Narayanan and Vrinda Rathi	ICC Development Umpires
38.	PV Sindhu	Brand ambassador for anti-graft helpline	54.	A. Ajay Kumar	India's next High Commissioner to Republic of Uganda
39.	Mark Wang	HSBC Chief Executive in China	55.	Vasant Rao	International Data Corporation of India and South Asia
40.	Amitabh Bachchan	IDFC FIRST Bank brand Ambassador	56.	Sanjiv Kapoor	Advisor of GoAir
41.	KJS Dhillon	Director General Defence Intelligence Agency and Deputy Chief of Integrated Defence Staff			
42.	Debasish Panda	Director on the RBI central board			
43.	Virat Kohli	iQOO			
44.	Hirdesh Kumar	Chief Electoral Officer of Jammu and Kashmir			
45.	Ravinder Singh Dhillon	CMD of Power Finance Corporation Ltd			
46.	Karan Bajwa	MD of Google Cloud India			
47.	Rajiv Bajaj	MD and CEO of Bajaj Auto			
48.	Ranjan Gogoi	Rajya Sabha			

AWARDS AND RECOGNITION:

Sahitya Akademi Award for translation goes to K.V. Jeyasri

K.V. Jeyasri, a Tamil teacher from Tiruvannamalai, has won the Sahitya Akademi Award 2019 for her translation of the Malayalam novel **NilamPoothuMalarannaNaal**(The day the land bloomed and blossomed) into Tamil as NilamPoothuMalaranthaNaal.

The award includes a cash prize of rs50,000 and a copper plaque.

Hurun Global Rich List 2020: Jeff Bezos retains 1st rank, Mukesh Ambani at 9th position

Hurun Global Rich List 2020 was jointly released by Shanghai-based **Hurun Research Institute** and Shenzhen-based ShimaoShenkong International Center.

Jeff Bezos retains 1st rank for the third running year and **Mukesh Ambani** is positioned at **9th**.

Raja Ravi Varma Award 2020 conferred

Raja Ravi Varma State Award was conferred on veteran painter from Kalaburagi, **Prof. J.S. Khanderao**(for the year 2019) and senior artist from Mumbai, **Vasudev Kamath**(2020). The award carries a cash prize of Rs.10,000 and a citation.

Raja Ravi Varma State Award was instituted by **Karnataka's Shri Ravivarma Art Institute**.

Assam CM SarbanandaSonowal received the prestigious Dr.Syama Prasad Mukherjee award

Assam Chief Minister SarbanandaSonowal received the prestigious Dr.Syama Prasad Mukherjee award 2020 for Politics at the 6th India Ideas Conclave in **Gujarat**.

The award, instituted by India Foundation, was presented to Chief Minister Sonowal by External Affairs Minister **S Jaishankar** and Speaker of People's Majlis of Maldives **Mohamed Nasheed**, which carries a citation, a specially designed trophy and a cheque worth Rs. one lakh.

Film editor Sreekar Prasad enters the limca book of records

Sreekar Prasad, a veteran editor has entered the **Limca Book** of Records for 'films edited in the most number of languages'.

Sreekar Prasad has received the certification from the Limca Records for editing films in **17 languages**.

The 17 languages include: **English, Hindi, Punjabi, Telugu, Malayalam, Kannada, Tamil, Odia, Sinhalese, Bengali,**

Assamese, Nepali, Pangchenpa, Karbi, Mishing, Bodo, and Marathi.

Rally driver Gaurav Gill feted at FMSCI Awards:

Rally driver **Gaurav Gill** took home a special award at the Federation of Motor Sports Club of India Awards.

FMSCI(Federation of Motor Sports Clubs of India) is the only federation in Asia Pacific that organises 10 national championships in almost all verticals of 2-wheelers, 4-wheelers and karting

Gill is the 1st motorsport athlete to be awarded **Arjuna Award**.

Padma Shri Jadav Payeng honoured with 6th Swami Vivekananda Karmayogi Award 2020

Forest Man of India & environmentalist Padma Shri Jadav '**Molai**'Payeng is honoured with the 6th annual **Swami Vivekananda Karmayogi award 2020** for his consistent efforts in creating a manmade forest through afforestation.

The award comprises of a trophy, a recitation & a reward of Rs 1 Lakh. He is also a forest worker from the missing tribe from Jorhat, Assam.

LuLu's chairman Yusuff Ali becomes first Indian to get Saudi's premium residency:

Abu Dhabi-based Indian retail tycoon **M A Yusuff Ali** has become the first Indian to receive Saudi Arabia's premium residency, his office said in a statement.

Yusuff Ali, 64, is the chairman of the LuLu Group, who was ranked the richest expat in the **UAE** by the **Forbes magazine** last year.

Ireland Architects Yvonne Farrell & Shelley McNamara wins The Pritzker Architecture prize 2020

Chairman of The Hyatt Foundation **Tom Pritzker** announced **Yvonne Farrell** and **Shelley McNamara** as the winners of Pritzker Architecture prize 2020.

It is the 1st time an Irish citizen & a female combination won the prize. It is an annual award sponsored by Hyatt foundation is regarded as the profession's highest award.

Times of India Sports Awards (TOISA) 2019 function held in New Delhi

World champion shuttler **PV Sindhu** was today named Sports person of the Year at the fourth Times of India Sports Awards (TOISA) 2019 in **New Delhi**.

Former India football captain **Bhaichung Bhutia** was given the Lifetime Achievement award, while hockey legend and three-time Olympic gold medallist **Balbir Singh Sr** was honoured with the Icon of the Century award.

National badminton coach **Pulella Gopichand** won the **Mentor of the Year award**, while former shooter **Jaspal Rana** was recognised as the **Coach of the Year**.

India's first world championship silver medallist pugilist **Amit Phanghal** won the recognition among male boxers while **Lovlina Borgohain** bagged the award among female boxers.

Hockey India 3rd annual awards 2019 in New Delhi:

Hockey India the governing body with mandate to conduct all activities for both men and women's hockey, has organized its 3rd Annual Awards 2019 at Hotel the Lalit in **New Delhi** to honour the best hockey players and former legends of the game from India.

Manpreet Singh Pawar (27) & Captain of Indian Women Hockey Team, **Rani Rampal**

(25) have won the Hockey India Dhruv Batra Player of the Year Award 2019 for Men and Women respectively.

Dr Jaimanti Bakshi, PGI Professor won Best Citizens of India Gold medal Award National award:

Dr Jaimanti Bakshi, Professor & Unit Head II, Department of Otolaryngology and Head Neck surgery at **PGIMER** (Post Graduate Institute of Medical Education & Research), **Chandigarh** was awarded with "**Best Citizens of India**".

The award was given by "**GEPRA**" (Global Economic Progress and Research Association) during the National Unity conference held in Chennai, Tamil Nadu (TN).

Smart Incubator of the Year Award for Maker Village Kochi:

Maker Village Kochi won the **ISGF (India Smart Grid Forum)** Award for the best incubator in recognition of its efforts to boost the country's startup ecosystem and encourage innovation.

Prasad Balakrishnan Nair, CEO of Maker Village, received the ISGF '**Smart Incubator of the Year**' award from Indian Angel Network co-founder Padmaja Ruparel. The award was presented at the just-concluded India Smart Utility Week (ISUW) in **New Delhi**.

Mr. Rajesh Chaplot honoured with the Highest Civilian Award of Uganda:

Distinguished Non-Resident Indian (NRI) businessman, **Mr. Rajesh Chaplot** was honoured with the Highest Civilian Award (Golden Jubilee Medal-Civilians) of **Uganda**. The award was presented by Hon'ble President of Uganda, **Mr Yoweri Museveni** in a ceremony in **Kampala, Uganda**.

The accolade was bestowed upon Mr. Chaplot for his excellence in the field of **Business & Commerce, Social Service** and for fostering better India – Uganda ties.

Mr. Chaplot who hails from Udaipur in **Rajasthan** has been also a proud recipient of PravasiBharatiyaSamman, the highest award for overseas Indians.

WGSHA enters Limca Book of Records for Indias first Living Culinary Arts Museum:

The culinary museum in **Welcomgroup Graduate School of Hotel Administration (WGSHA),Karnataka**, has been listed in Limca Book of Records as India's First Living Culinary Arts Museum.

The process for making WGSHA's culinary museum to enter into the popular Limca Book of Records (LBR) started in 2019.

Nita Ambani, Serena Williams & Simone Biles named in Influential Women in Sports list 2020:

Nita Ambani, the owner of Mumbai Indians cricket team franchise, has been named in the iSportconnect's list of 10 most influential women in sports for 2020.

iSportconnect is a Sports business network, which released the list. The other women who feature in the list were Tennis superstars **Serena Williams and Naomi Osaka**, ace gymnast **Simone Biles** and famous footballer **Megan Rapinoe** among others.

Indian mountaineer Satyarup Siddhanta enters 'Limca Book of Records:

Indian mountaineer **Satyarup Siddhanta** hails from Kolkata, West Bengal, 37 years old, entered '**Limca Book of Records' (LBR)** for his extraordinary achievements, as the first Indian to climb the highest volcanoes of each of the 7 continents.

He also holds the record as the youngest mountaineer in the world to climb both **7 peaks and 7 volcanic** summits.

BOOKS AND AUTHORS:

Smriti Irani releases book titled "Chronicles of Change Champions":

Union Minister for Women and Child Development Smriti Zubin Irani released a book titled "**Chronicles of Change Champions**" at an event held in **New Delhi**. The book is a compilation of 25 innovative initiatives taken at the state and district levels under the Prime Minister's flagship scheme of **BetiBachao, BetiPadhao**.

Odisha CM Naveen Patnaik releases comic book on Biju's heroics:

Chief minister Naveen Patnaik released "**The Adventures of the Daredevil Democrat**"- a comic book on adventure and works of legendary leader and his father **Biju Patnaik**. The comic book, prepared by Kalinga Foundation Trust and published by New Delhi-based the Creative Workshop, chronicles Biju's childhood, his bicycle journey from **Cuttack to Peshawar**

Tahira Kashyap to Launch New Book "The 12 Commandments of Being a Woman"

Writer-filmmaker **Tahira Kashyap Khurrana** announced that she is coming up with her new book, titled "**The 12 Commandments of Being A Woman**".

The books authored by her are "**I Promise**", "**Souled Out**" and in the year 2015 she co-authored Ayushmann's biography "**Cracking the Code: My Journey in Bollywood**".

'My Encounters in Parliament' authored by **Bhalchandra Mungekar** released:

The book titled '**My Encounters in Parliament**' authored by **Bhalchandra Mungekar** an Indian economist, former member of Rajya Sabha, was released in the presence of former Vice President- **Hamid Ansari** CPI General Secretary D Raja & NCP chief Sharad Pawar.

Nitin Gadkari presents a copy of 'Invincible – A Tribute to Manohar Parrikar' to the President:

Nitin Gadkari, the Union Minister of Road Transport and Highways, presented the book '**Invincible – A Tribute to Manohar Parrikar**' to President Ram Nath Kovind at the Rashtrapati Bhawan on the first death anniversary of **Manohar Parrikar**.

The "Invincible – A Tribute to Manohar Parrikar" was authored by **Tarun Vijay** and released by defence minister Rajnath Singh on 16th March 2020.

A new book entitled 'Messiah Modi: A Great tale of expectations' penned by Tavleen Singh released:

A new book entitled '**Messiah Modi: A Great Tale of Expectations**' written by senior journalist & author **Tavleen Singh** has been released.

The book, published by **HarperCollins India**, narrates the early support for Modi the candidate by the author, once a great supporter of the government.

OBITUARY NEWS:

Egypt's former President Mohammed Hosni Mubarak, who ruled country for 30 years passes away

Egypt's former President Mohammed **Hosni Mubarak**, who ruled the country for 30 years, died. He was 91. A former air force chief, Mubarak became Vice President of Egypt on 14 October 1981.

'Human computer' Katherine Johnson dies at 101

NASA mathematician **Katherine Johnson**, whose calculations helped get the first Americans to space & back safely died. Among her many accomplishments, She completed the trajectory analysis for Alan Shepard's 1961 suborbital flight.

National Aeronautics & Space Administration
Founded: **29 July 1958**.

Daredevil and Flat Earth theorist Mike Hughes dies in rocket crash

Daredevil & Flat Earth theorist Michael "**Mad Mike**" Hughes died in a rocket crash. Hughes, 64, wanted to prove the Flat Earth theory by taking photographs of the Earth from a homemade rocket.

Kazuhisa Hashimoto, Creator of Famous 'Konami Code' Gaming Cheat, Dies

Kazuhisa Hashimoto, the man who invented the "Konami code" cheat that became pervasive in **video gaming** and pop culture, has died.

Former Tamil Nadu Minister K.P.P. Samy
Former **Fisheries Minister** and DMK MLA **K.P.P. Samy** died in Chennai after prolonged illness.

He was elected from **Tiruvottiyur** constituency and held the portfolio of

Fisheries between 2006 and 2011 in former Chief Minister M. Karunanidhi's Cabinet.

Renowned Vedic Scholar Sudhakar Chaturvedi passes away

Renowned Vedic Scholar and Gandhian **Sudhakar Chaturvedi** passed away in Bengaluru today. The centenarian was given the title Chaturvedi for his mastery over the four **vedas**. He was **122-year-old**.

Vamikinagar MP Baidyanath Prasad Mahto passes away

Janata Dal(United)'s Lok Sabha Member **Baidyanath Prasad Mahto** from Vamikinagar Parliamentary Constituency passed away in Delhi.

Dronacharya awardee athletics coach Joginder Singh Saini passes away

Veteran athletics coach and Dronacharya awardee **Joginder Singh Saini**, who groomed some of India's finest track and field stars, died in Patiala. He was 90.

Saini received the Dronacharya Award in **1997** for his contribution to Indian athletics. He was the chief coach of the Indian athletics team which won 18 medals, including eight golds, at the **1978** Asian Games.

Former India hockey star and Olympic bronze medallist Balbir Singh Kullar dies

Former India hockey player **Balbir Singh Kullar**, who was a part of the 1968 Olympics bronze-winning team, has died after suffering a heart attack at his home in Punjab. He was 77.

Former General Electric CEO Jack Welch dies at 84:

Jack Welch, the former Chief Executive Officer (CEO) of General Electric who led the company for over two decades, has died at the age of 84.

He took GE's revenue from under **\$30 billion** when he took over in 1981 to \$130 billion by 2000.

Uttar Pradesh MLA Virendra Sirohi passes away at the age of 73:

Uttar Pradesh BJP MLA (Member of the Legislative Assembly) Virendra Singh Sirohi from Bulandshahr passed away at the age of 73 in **New Delhi**.

He also served as Revenue Minister from 1997 till 2002 in the Mayawati-led state government in **Uttar Pradesh**.

World's oldest man Chitetsu Watanabe passes away:

World's oldest man, **Chitetsu Watanabe** of Japan, has passed away at 112. He was born on March 5th, 1907.

He received his Guinness World Record certification on February 12, 2020. With the death of Chitetsu Watanabe, Britain's oldest man, Bob Weighton, who is 111, has now become the oldest person in the world.

Veteran historian Dr S Shettar passed away:

Veteran historian **Dr S Shettar** recently passed away in Bengaluru, at the age of 85. He taught history in many universities for more than twenty-five years.

Renowned Konkani writer Richard John Pais dies at 51:

Veteran Konkani writer and dramatist Richard **John Pais** recently passed away at the age of 51. He has written several short stories, satirical writings and poems in **Konkani language**

Journalist Ramniklal Solanki passes away

Veteran journalist in **Gujarati**-language and pioneer of the Asian media in the United

Kingdom, **Ramniklal Solanki** recently passed away.

He served as the London correspondent of the Mumbai-based Janmabhoomi Group of newspapers. He was also the founder-editor of the Garavi Gujarat newsweekly and the Asian Media Group.

Bouddha Kristi Prachar Sangha Sanghanayaka Suddhananda Mahathero passes away

Head of the Bangladesh Bouddha Kristi Prachar **Sangha Sanghanayaka Suddhananda Mahathero** passed away in Dhaka today. He was 88.

Former United Nations Chief Javier Perez de Cuellar dies in Peru:

Former UN chief Javier Perez de Cuellar, who led the world body during the Iran-Iraq war and the civil war in El Salvador, died in his native **Peru**.

Tamilnadu Politician and DMK General Secretary K Anbazhagan Dies At 97 In Chennai:

Mr Anbazhagan was the General Secretary of DMK nine times from 1977. He was a nine-time MLA, one-time Lok Sabha member and former finance minister of Tamil Nadu and a close friend of former Chief Minister **M Karunanidhi**.

CPI(M) MLA Vijayan Pillai passes away

N. Vijayan Pillai, CPI(M) MLA representing Chavara constituency, passed away in Kochi at the age of 65. Mr. Pillai started his political career in 1979 & in the 2016 Assembly election.

Adviser to Iran's foreign minister Mohammad Javad Zarif dies from coronavirus

Hossein Sheikholeslam an adviser to Iran's foreign minister Mohammad Javad Zarif, died from coronavirus yesterday.

He was a veteran and revolutionary diplomat who took part in the **1979** US embassy hostage crisis as a student.

Former Law Minister and former governor of Karnataka & Kerala H. R. Bhardwaj passed away at 83

Hansraj Bhardwaj, former Union Law Minister and former governor of Karnataka & Kerala, Senior Congress leader passed away at the age of 83 in **New Delhi, India**.

He was born in **GarhiSampla** village in Rohtak district, **Haryana**. He also holds the record of India's second longest serving Law Minister.

Swedish actor and Game of thrones fame Max von Sydow passes away:

Max von Sydow, the Swedish actor who was nominated for two Oscars during his career passed away. The actor featured in various films and TV series. Max Von Sydow was nominated for Oscars as best actor in 1988 for Pelle the Conqueror.

Veteran Bengali actor Santu Mukhopadhyay passed away at 69:

Veteran Bengali actor **Santu Mukhopadhyay** or Santu Mukherjee, 69 a widower passed away at his south **Kolkata** residence due to cardiac arrest.

Veteran journalist Patil Puttappa dies at 99

Veteran journalist and former Rajya Sabha member **Patil Puttappa** passed away due to age-related ailments at a hospital in Karnataka's Hubballi. He was 99.

Sahitya Akademi awardee, Malayalam poet Puthussery Ramachandran passed away:

Dr Puthussery Ramachandran a Veteran Malayalam poet, a scholar of Dravidian linguistics and a teacher passed away due to age-related illness at the age of 91 years.

Marathi Actor JairamKulkarni passed away at 88:

Marathi Actor **Jairam Kulkarni** passed away at the age of 88 in Pune, Maharashtra due to old-age related illness. He was born in Barshi tehsil in Solapur district, Maharashtra.

Former world champion boxer Roger Mayweather passes away:

The former world champion boxer and trainer, **Roger Mayweather** passed away on 18th March 2020 at the age of 58 due to health-related illness. Roger Mayweather won the world champion boxer title in two weight classes.

Indian football legend P.K. Banerjee passed away at 83:

Indian football player **Pradip Kumar Banerjee** passed away at the age of 83 in Kolkata, West Bengal. He was born on June 23, 1936, in Jalpaiguri, **West Bengal**.

Legendary country music singer Kenny Rogers dies at 81:

Legendary country music singer **Kenny Rogers**, best known for global hits such as "Lucille", "Lady", "The Gambler" and "Islands in the Stream", passed away. He had his 1st gold single with a song called "That Crazy Feeling" under the name Kenneth Rogers.

SPORTS NEWS:

J&K bags gold in 6th National Ice Stock sports Championship at Ice Rink in Gulmarg:

Jammu and Kashmir, the hosts bagged gold medal in the 6th National Ice Stock Sports Championship organized at **Ice Rink in Gulmarg**. Two hundred participants from 18 different states across the country participated in the three-day event which concluded.

The event was organized by J&K Ice Stock Sports Association under the aegis of **Indian Ice Stock Sports Federation** and sponsored by J&K Tourism Department.

During the competition in team target event, **J&K** bagged gold, **Haryana** bagged silver while **Maharashtra** and **Bihar** bagged **bronze** medals.

Savitribai Phule Pune University tops tally with 14 medals in Khelo India University Games:

Khelo India University Games in **Odisha**, Savitribai Phule Pune University was on top with 14 medals including **seven gold** and **two silver** medals on the fifth day.

Punjab University gave a tough competition by winning 18 medals including six gold and seven silver medals while **Jain University**, Karnataka claimed the **thirdposition** with total of 12 medals including six gold and five silver medals.

India working to be in top ten countries in medal tally in 2028 Los Angeles Olympics:

Union Youth Affairs and Sports Minister **Kiren Rijiju** said, India is working to be in top ten

countries in medal tally in **2028 Los Angeles** Olympics.

Sports Minister inaugurated Khelo India Ladakh Winter Games - 2020 in NDS Indoor Stadium Ice Hockey rink in **Leh**.

The Minister informed already 62 sports persons in various fields are qualified for **Tokyo Olympics** in **July 2020** and some more will be eligible by May, to send a largest contingent with winnability from the country.

Achanta Sharath Kamal, Sathiyar Gnanasekaran win silver at Hungarian Open:

Indian men's doubles pair of **Achanta Sharath Kamal** and **Gnanasekaran Sathiyar** settled for a silver medal at the ITTF World Tour Hungarian Open after losing the summit clash to German combination of Benedikt Duda and Patrick Franziska at Budapest, Hungary.

Sharath won a bronze with **Manika Batra** in mixed doubles.

Maria Sharapova announces retirement from tennis:

Five-time Grand Slam winner Russian **Maria Sharapova**, one of the world's most recognisable sportswomen, announced her retirement at the age of 32.

Sharapova shot to fame as a giggly 17-year-old Wimbledon winner in 2004. She became **world number one** in **2005**.

She is the **third-youngest player** to claim Wimbledon trophy.

Team India continues to be placed at the top of latest ICC Test rankings:

ICC World Test Championship, India continues to be placed at the top of the latest Test rankings with **360 points**. However,

India skipper Virat Kohli lost the top spot in the ICC Test Player Rankings.

Kohli's slump meant Australia's **Steve Smith** was back on top of the list for the eighth time after first occupying the top position in June 2015.

Bangalore Central University bags Men's Hockey Gold In ongoing Khelo India University Games:

Bangalore Central University beat Bangalore University 5-4 in a nail-biting shootout to take home the men's hockey gold in Khelo India University Games, **Bhubaneswar, Odisha Punjabi University**, Patiala won two gold medals in weightlifting and run event. **Harjinder Kaur** of Punjabi University won the gold medal in women's 71 Kg weightlifting, While **Nikeeta** of Savitribai Phule Pune University won silver and Sneha of the **University of Calicut** won bronze.

First Khelo India University Games concludes in Bhubaneswar:

Khelo India University Games concluded in **Bhubaneswar, Odisha**. Panjab University, Chandigarh took home the champions trophy-winning 46 medals including 17 gold, 19 silver, and 10 bronze.

Panjab University won a total of 46 medals while **Savitribai Phule Pune University** won 37 medals including 17 gold, 11 silver, and 9 bronze medals.

Savitribai Phule Pune University claimed the second position and Punjabi University, Patiala declared as the second runners up.

Rafael Nadal wins Mexican Open title after beating Taylor Fritz:

World Number 2 **Rafael Nadal** captured his first title of the year, defeating unseeded

Taylor Fritz in straight sets, 6-3, 6-2, in the final of the ATP Mexico Open.

Women's final, seventh-seeded **Heather Watson** captured her first WTA title in three years by grinding out a 6-4, 6-7, 6-1 win over Canadian teen **Leylah Fernandez**.

Dutee Chand wins her 2nd gold in 200 meters race; Gurwinder Singh bags gold in boxing:

Khelo India University Games in Odisha, India's fastest woman **Dutee Chand** won her second gold after she bagged the top honours in the **200meters** final in **Bhubaneswar**. Dutee Chand also clinched gold in **100 meters dash**.

The 24-year-old, who is representing Kalinga Institute of Industrial Technology, clinched the gold medal with a timing of **23.66 seconds**.

Kirti Vijay Bhoite from the University of Mumbai settled for silver with a timing of 24.98 seconds while **Deepali Mahapatra** from Utkal University won the bronze, clocking 25.19 seconds.

Remaining rounds of 2020 UAE World Tour Cycle race get cancelled due to COVID-19:

Abu Dhabi Sports Council cancelled the remaining rounds of the 2020 **UAE** Tour after 2 Italian participants were tested positive for the CIVID-19. This is the only World Tour Cycle race held in **West Asia**. The competition had started on the 23rd of February.

FIH rankings: Indian men's hockey team climbs to fourth position:

Indian men's hockey team has climbed to the **fourth** position, their highest since the inception of the FIH (International Hockey

Federation) world rankings in 2003, in the recently released chart.

World champions **Belgium** remains in Top position, with Australia 2nd and the Netherlands 3rd also holding their positions in the top three.

In the women's list, **India** occupies the **ninth** spot. The **Netherlands** is at the top followed by Australia, Argentina, Germany and England.

Tasnim Mir, Mansi Singh win bronze at Yonex Dutch Junior International:

Shuttlers **Tasnim Mir & Mansi Singh** won a bronze medal each in the girls' singles Badminton event at the **Yonex Dutch Junior International 2020**.

It was the 1st time India won **two bronze medals** in girls' singles at this BWF Junior International Grand Prix tournament.

The event held at **Haarlem, Netherlands**.
Azlan Shah Cup Hockey Tournament postponed from April to September due to Coronavirus:

Azlan Shah Cup hockey tournament has been postponed from April to September this year in the wake of the novel coronavirus outbreak across the world.

In a statement, the organisers said, the tournament which was scheduled to be held in **Ipoh, Malaysia** from April 11 to 18, will now be held from September 24 to October 3.

68th All India Police Athletic Championship kick starts in Haryana:

68th All India Police Athletic Championship-2019 began at **Bhanu** in Panchkula District of **Haryana**. Union Minister of State for Youth Affairs and Sports Kiren Rijiju declared the meet open at Basic Training Centre of **ITBP (Indo-Tibetan Border Police)**.

Badminton Asia Championships moved from Wuhan to Manila over coronavirus outbreak:

Badminton Asia Championships have been moved out of novel coronavirus outbreak epicentre, Wuhan, to the **Philippines** capital **Manila**. The Badminton Asia officials said this in a statement in **Shanghai**. The Asia Championships will be staged in Manila from 21st of next month.

Bilateral Sports Exchange: Cricket Match between UKAFCA & IAF:

Sports Exchange is a good opportunity at fostering camaraderie, friendship & the diplomatic relationship between the 2 countries. Bilateral Sports Exchange between Indian Air Force Cricket team & UK Armed Forces Cricket Association was held at New Delhi.

Sports Authority of India announces first edition of Khelo India Women's Hockey League Under-21:

Sports Authority of India in association with Hockey India today announced the first edition of the Khelo India Women's Hockey League **Under-21**.

Phase one will be held from 23rd to 29th of this month at the Major **Dhyan Chand National Stadium** in **New Delhi**. The second phase will be held from 13th to 19th at the **SAI Centre** in **Bengaluru**, followed by the final one from 22nd to 29th November at the **Kalinga Stadium** in **Bhubaneswar**.

Former India opener Wasim Jaffer announces his retirement:

42-year old former India opener **Wasim Jaffer** announced his retirement from all forms of cricket in Mumbai. He's the only batsman to score 12,000 runs in Ranji Trophy

and he also has the highest number of **first-class hundreds** to his name

Australia beat India to win ICC Women's T20 World Cup for record fifth time:

Defending champions **Australia** have won the ICC Women's T20 World Cup for record fifth time, outclassing India by 85 runs in the summit clash at **Melbourne**.

Australia's **Alyssa Healy** was named the player of the Match and **Beth Mooney** is player of the tournament.

Pooja Rani, Vikas Krishan become first Indian boxers to qualify for Tokyo Olympics:

Asian champion **Pooja Rani** in the 75kg category and **Vikas Krishan** in 69kg category today became the first set of Indian boxers to qualify for Tokyo Olympics 2020. Both boxers advanced to the semifinals of the continental qualifiers at Amman in **Jordan**.

Indian runner Prachi suspended after dope test positive:

Indian 400-meter runner **Prachi choudhary** from **Uttar Pradesh** was tested out of competition and was provisionally suspended by the **National Anti-Doping Agency (NADA)** on March 6, 2020, for the presence of anabolic steroid, Oxandrolone.

Shafali Verma loses the top spot in the ICC women's T20 International rankings

Indian batting sensation **Shafali Verma** lost the top spot in the ICC women's T20 International rankings as she slipped to third after managing only two runs in the World Cup final against **Australia** in **Melbourne**.

Australia opener **Beth Mooney** number one with 762 points to her kitty.

New Zealand's **Suzie Bates** with 750 points remained in second position while India vice-

captain **Mandhana** moved down a spot to be ranked seventh, Rodrigues remained static on ninth.

West Indies skipper Kieron Pollard becomes 1st player to play 500 T20s

West Indies skipper **Kieron Pollard** has become the 1st player in the history of T20 (Twenty20) cricket to feature in **500 matches** during the field against Sri Lanka for the first T20I in **Pallekele, Srilanka**.

The jersey had the all-rounder's name at the back along with the number 500. **Dwayne Bravo** is second in the list with 453 matches under his belt so far.

Chris Gayle is at the third spot in the list as he has featured in 404 T20 matches.

Chennaiyin FC forward Andre Schembri to retire after ISL final

Maltese Footballer **Andre Schembri**, 33 years old, is currently playing for Chennaiyin FC's (Football Club) announced that he will retire from professional football after the Hero **Indian Super League** (ISL) final against ATK FC in Goa.

Mohun Bagan are the Hero I-League Champions 2019-2020

Indian football heavyweights **Mohun Bagan** clinched their second I-League title with a 1-0 win over Aizawl FC at **Kalyani, West Bengal**.

Mahim Verma set to resign as BCCI vice president

Mahim Verma, the current BCCI vice president, is set to resign from his post after he won the election for the post of **secretary** at the Cricket Association of **Uttarakhand**.

BCCI President cannot hold his post for more than two years.

Amit Panghal, Lovlina Borgohain won bronze medal in the Asian Boxing Olympic qualifiers

Boxers **Amit Panghal & Lovlina Borgohain** won the bronze medal in the Asian Boxing Olympic qualifiers held in Amman. They had already claimed their place in 2020 Tokyo Olympics. Borgohain secured 0-5 & lost to China's Hong Gu in the 69 Kg weight category.

World bronze-medallist Manish Kaushik in 63kg category becomes 9th Indian boxer to qualify for Tokyo Olympics:

World bronze-medallist **Manish Kaushik** in 63kg category became the ninth Indian boxer to qualify for 2020 Tokyo Olympics after a win at the Asian Qualifiers in **Amman, Jordan**. Kaushik beat Commonwealth Games champion, Harrison Garside of Australia for 4-1.

UAE General Authority of Sports suspends activities for sportspersons aged 18 years and below:

UAE General Authority of Sports has directed all its partners in the public and private sectors to suspend until further notice all trainings and competitions for sports persons aged **18 years old and below**.

Tiger Woods to be inducted into World Golf Hall of Fame in 2021 class:

American golfer **Tiger Woods** will be inducted into the male competitor category of World Golf Hall of Fame as part of the class of 2021. The hall of fame is located in **St. Augustine, Florida**. Woods was among 10 finalists named in March as candidates.

Ranji Trophy 2019-20: Jaydev Unadkat-led Saurashtra lift first-ever title against Bengal:

Saurashtra clinched its maiden Ranji Trophy title in **Rajkot** at the **Saurashtra Cricket Association Stadium**.

As per the rules, if the final of the Ranji Trophy is headed towards a draw, then the winner is decided on the basis of a first-innings lead.

Whoever manages to take the lead in the first innings, is declared as the champion.

Achanta Sharath Kamal clinches men's singles title of Oman Open:

Ace Indian paddler **Achanta Sharath Kamal** wins the ITTF Challenger Plus **Oman Open**.

The 37-year-old Indian veteran beat top-seeded **Marcos Freitas** of Portugal 4-2 in the final played in Muscat.

Taiwan's Tai Tzu Ying clinches her third women's singles title of All England Championships:

In Badminton, Taiwan's shuttler **Tai Tzu Ying** clinched her third women's singles title of the All England Championships at Birmingham in United Kingdom.

Ying beat China's **Chen Yufei** in two straight games 21-19, 21-15 in 44 minutes.

ATK FC create history, beat Chennaiyin to lift ISL trophy 3rd time:

ATK (Atlético de Kolkata) claimed an unprecedented 3rd Indian Super League title triumph with a 3-1 victory by **beating Chennaiyin FC**.

ISL is a football league in India. For sponsorship reasons, the competition is officially known as **Hero Indian Super League**.

Final held without spectators owing to the COVID-19 pandemic.

New Zealand all-rounder Andrew Malcolm Ellis announced retirement:

New Zealand(NZ) all-rounder **Andrew Malcolm Ellis** (37) announced his retirement from Canterbury cricket after 18 years of his career.

After Ross Taylor he became the 2nd player in NZ to play over 100 games in each format. He is the only player to be named as Men's **Domestic Player of the Year** twice by NZ

IMPORTANT DAYS:

DATE	DAY	THEME
March 01	World civil Defence Day	-
March 01	Zero Discrimination Day:	-
March (1 to 7)	Janaushadhi Week	"Suvidha Se Sammaan"
March 03	World Wildlife Day	"Sustaining all life on Earth"
March 03	World Hearing Day	"Hearing for life: Don't let hearing loss limit you"
March 04	National Safety Day	"Enhance Health & Safety Performance by Use of Advanced Technology "
March 04	National Security Day	-
March 06	National Dentist's Day	-
March 07	Jan Aushadhi Diwas	-
March 08	International Women's Day	I am Generation Equality: Realizing Women's Rights"

		Campaign theme is "EachforEqual"
March 10	CISF Raising Day	
March 11	No Smoking Day	
March 12	World Kidney Day	"Kidney health for everyone everywhere - from prevention to detection and equitable access to care"
March 13	World Sleep Day	"Better Sleep, Better Life, Better Planet"
March 14	Pi Day	
March 15	World Consumer Rights Day	"The Sustainable Consumer"
March 18	Global Recycling Day	"Recycling Heroes"
March 20	International Day of Happiness	"Happiness For All"
March 20	World Sparrow Day	"I LOVE Sparrows"
March 20	World Day of Theatre for Children and Young People	'Take a Child to the Theatre Today'
March 21	International Day of Forests	-
March 21	World Poetry Day	-
March 21	International Nowruz Day	-
March 21	World Down Syndrome Day	"We Decide"
March 22	World Water Day	"Water and Climate Change"
March 23	World Meteorological Day	"Climate and Water".

March 24	World Tuberculosis Day	"It's Time"
March 25	International Day of Remembrance of the Victims of Slavery and the Transatlantic Slave Trade	
March 27	World Theatre day	-
March 28	Earth Hour Day	-

CURRENT AFFAIRS QUIZ:

Q.1) Riek Machar sworn in as 1st Vice President on which country?

- a) South Korea
- b) Vietnam
- c) South Sudan
- d) Denmark
- e) Germany

Q.2) Deputy PM & Foreign Affairs Minister of New Zealand _____ arrived in India for a 4-day visit.

- a) Kane Williamson
- b) Winston Peters
- c) Jacinda Ardern
- d) Bill English
- e) Simon Bridges

Q.3) Mohammed Hosni Mubarak who passed away at the age of 91, was the former President of?

- a) Israel
- b) South Sudan
- c) Iran
- d) Egypt
- e) Palestine

Q.4) BIMSTEC is working on connecting about 3,000-kilometre long power grid from Myanmar- Thailand to_____.

- a) Bangladesh
- b) Pakistan
- c) Bhutan
- d) India
- e) Nepal

Q.5) Which is the first state to launch a unified vehicle registration card in the country?

- a) Uttar Pradesh
- b) Chhattisgarh
- c) Odisha
- d) Rajasthan
- e) Madhya Pradesh

Q.6) The 16th Session of the Joint Ministerial Commission between India and Australia was convened in?

- a) Melbourne
- b) Bengaluru
- c) New Delhi
- d) Sydney
- e) Canberra

Q.7) Adani Foundation along with Lifology.com launched the unique CSR activity for providing career-building opportunities to the coastal community of which state?

- a) Telangana
- b) Andhra Pradesh
- c) Karnataka
- d) Tamil Nadu
- e) Kerala

Q.8) Which is the only one state government involved with the newly launched web form "SPICe+?"

- a) Haryana
- b) Uttar Pradesh
- c) Maharashtra
- d) Uttarakhand
- e) Himachal Pradesh

Q.9) Carnival 2020 festival to be celebrated in _____?

- a) Panaji
- b) Candolim
- c) Margao
- d) Cuttack
- e) Kohima

Q.10) Katherine Johnson passed away recently. She was a renowned_____.

- a) Actor
- b) Scientist
- c) Politician
- d) Mathematician
- e) Ornithologist

Q.11) _____, recently inked cooperation pact with Indian Oil and Chart Industries.

- a) PJSC Gazprom
- b) Royal Dutch Shell plc
- c) Exxon Mobil Corp
- d) Total Salim
- e) Tech Mahindra

Q.12) Birla Estates recently launched an interactive AI Powered Chatbot solution _____for its customers on WhatsApp.

- a) BEERLA
- b) AHAGLOW
- c) SESTAR
- d) BESTA
- e) LIDEA

Q.13) Tech Mahindra is set to acquire Zen3 Infosolutions for Rs _____crore

- a) 300
- b) 670
- c) 240
- d) 530
- e) 460

Q.14) _____ acquisition of entire stake in NEEPCO, THDC India, recently got Competition Commission of India (CCI) nod.

- a) GAIL's
- b) SAIL's
- c) NTPC's
- d) BHEL's
- e) None of the Above

Q.15) Which country hosted the International Stroke Conference-2020?

- a) USA
- b) France
- c) Germany
- d) India
- e) UK

Q.16) Who sworn in as UK's Attorney General?

- a) Shailesh Vara
- b) Steve Baker
- c) Ranil Jayawardena
- d) Priti Patel
- e) Suella Braverman

Q.17) DPIIT recently notified policy to allow _____% FDI in insurance intermediaries.

- a) 96
- b) 49
- c) 74
- d) 100
- e) 65

Q.18) Smartphone brand Realme has appointed Bollywood actor _____ as its brand ambassador.

- a) Aamir Khan
- b) Akshay Kumar
- c) Amitabh Bachchan
- d) Salman Khan
- e) Shahrukh Khan

Q.19) Government of India, recently announced Maiden Summit on Artificial Intelligence namely, _____.

- a) RAISE 2020
- b) TARGET 2020
- c) AIM 2020
- d) RISE 2020
- e) PHASE 2020

Q.20) _____ has been named new CEO of Disney.

- a) Acadi
- b) Bob Iger
- c) Shepherd
- d) Bob Burbank
- e) Bob Chapek

Q.21) Recently Maria Sharapova announced retirement from tennis. She belongs to which country?

- a) Switzerland
- b) USA
- c) Russia
- d) Germany
- e) France

Q.22) Sahitya Akademi Award ,2019 for translation _____ has been awarded to_____.

- a) K.V. Jeyasri
- b) Indira Parthasarathy
- c) C.S. Chellappa
- d) Ilanko Adigal
- e) Durai Manickam

Q.23) _____ raises \$118 million through offshore India rupee linked 10-year bonds

- a) AIIB
- b) ADB
- c) NDB
- d) World Bank
- e) IMF

Q.24) Kazuhisa Hashimoto passed away recently. He was a renowned_____.

- a) Video game developer
- b) Politics
- c) Playback Singer
- d) Author
- e) Computer Scientist

Q.25) 3-day international conference on "EMMDA 2020" (EnsembleMethods in Modelling and Data Assimilation) held in_____?

- a) Noida
- b) Gandhinagar
- c) Lucknow
- d) Mumbai
- e) New Delhi

Q.26) Former _____ Minister K.P.P. Samy

- a) Karnataka
- b) Kerala
- c) Tamil Nadu
- d) Madhya Pradesh
- e) Uttar Pradesh

Q.27) National cyber research and Innovation centre, inaugurated by MoS G.K.Reddy in _____?

- a) Hyderabad, Telangana
- b) Chennai, Tamil Nadu
- c) Lucknow, Uttar Pradesh
- d) Mumbai, Maharashtra
- e) Kochi, Kerala

Q.28) _____to Invest Rs 400 Crore in Assam To Set Up Manufacturing Unit.

- a) Unilever
- b) Coca cola
- c) PepsiCo
- d) Nestle
- e) Ford

Q.29) Ghaziabad as the most polluted city. What is India's position in most polluted country as per IQAir AirVisual Report?

- a) 2nd
- b) 4th
- c) 5th
- d) 8th
- e) 3rd

Q.30) India and _____ bilateral air exercise Indradhanush - V 2020begins in Hindan, Uttar Pradesh

- a) Russia
- b) Oman
- c) UK
- d) Nepal
- e) Sri Lanka

Q.31) 24th Meeting of the Eastern Zonal Council held in_____?

- a) Kolkata
- b) Bhubaneswar
- c) Mumbai
- d) Lucknow
- e) Pune

Q.32) The Central Exercise Day celebrated annually on _____?

- a) January 26
- b) April 15
- c) February 24
- d) May 12
- e) July 24

Q.33) 32 projects in food processing sector spread across around 17 states worth Rs _____ has been recently sanctioned by the central government under the Pradhan Mantri Kisan Sampada Yojana.

- a) 406
- b) 387
- c) 563

d) 327

e) 650

Q.34) What is the theme of the 2020 National Science Day, that is celebrated on 28th of February?

a) Make in India: S&T driven innovations

b) Women in science

c) Science and Technology for specially abled persons

d) Science for people and people for science

e) Science and Technology for a sustainable future

Q.35) Sudhakar Chaturvedi who recently passed away, was a well-known?

a) Drama Actor

b) Freedom fighter

c) Novelist

d) Sitar Exponent

e) Carnatic Musician

Q.36) India and Myanmar agreed to strengthen the bilateral relations by signing 10 agreements in various fields. Who is the president of Myanmar?

a) Prayut Chan-o-cha

b) Bounnhang Vorachith

c) Recep Tayyip Erdogan

d) U Win Myint

e) Moon Jae-in

Q.37) Who has been appointed as the Chairman & Managing Director of NHPC Ltd?

a) Abhay Kumar Singh

b) Sanjay Kumar

c) Rajiv Sharma

d) Harsh Kumar Bhanwala

e) Ratish Kumar

Q.38) Which state government annually celebrates the Eight-day cultural fair "Vasantotsav"?

a) Uttarakhand

b) Jharkhand

c) Nagaland

d) Goa

e) Gujarat

Q.39) Which union minister launched the 'Programme for capacity building of ST representatives in local self-governments' and '1000 Spring Initiatives'?

a) Shripad Yesso Naik

b) Prakash Javadekar

c) Arjun Munda

d) Gajendra Singh Shekhawat

e) Pralhad Joshi

Q.40) What is the name given for the newly launched Coast Guard Offshore Patrol Vessel-6?

a) Indra

b) Varuna

c) Vajra

d) Vikram

e) Vedha

Q.41) Finance Minister Nirmala Sitaraman recently launched EASE 3.0 to enhance Ease of Banking. What does "S" represent in "EASE"?

a) Service

b) Secured

c) State

d) Social

e) Surveillance

Q.42) Which city hosts 91st Annual General Meeting of the ICAR Society?

a) Mumbai

b) Raipur

c) Lucknow

d) New Delhi

e) Hyderabad

Q.43) Union Telecom Minister Ravi Shankar Prasad inaugurates BSNL FTTH (Fiber To the Home) in_____?

- a) New Delhi
- b) Mumbai
- c) Shimla
- d) Dehradun
- e) Chennai

Q.44) _____ becomes the 1st govt entity to adopt centralised invoicing platform?

- a) Defence Research and Development Organisation
- b) Ordnance Factory Board
- c) Hindustan Aeronautics Limited
- d) Indian Space Research Organisation
- e) Bhabha Atomic Research Centre

Q.45) _____ signs MoU with Central Pollution Control Board to set up air quality monitoring stations

- a) ONGC
- b) IOCL
- c) NTPC
- d) BHEL
- e) HAL

Q.46) Puneet Sharma appointed as CFO of which private bank?

- a) HDFC Bank
- b) ICICI Bank
- c) Axis Bank
- d) IndusInd Bank
- e) Bandhan Bank

Q.47) Who becomes new MD & CEO of CIBIL?

- a) Sathish Kumar
- b) Rajesh Kumar
- c) Aditya Puri
- d) Sandeep Bakhshi
- e) Ajay Tyagi

Q.48) Which country will host the ISSF shooting World Cup slated to be held from 15th of March 2020?

- a) Mexico
- b) Brazil
- c) Thailand
- d) Germany
- e) India

Q.49) Where is the Headquarters of United Nations Human Rights Council?

- a) Vienna, Austria
- b) Brussels, Belgium
- c) Geneva, Switzerland
- d) Paris, France
- e) Berlin, Germany

Q.50) Name the world's largest cricket stadium?

- a) Sardar Patel Stadium (Motera Stadium), Gujarat
- b) Eden Gardens, Kolkata
- c) M. A. Chidambaram Stadium, Chennai
- d) Green Park Stadium, Kanpur
- e) Wankhede Stadium, Mumbai

Q.51) Government had announced setting up of Defence Industrial Corridor in _____, during the Investors Summit held on 21st February 2018.

- a) Sikkim
- b) Jharkhand
- c) Uttar Pradesh
- d) Madhya Pradesh
- e) Gujarat

Q.52) Baidyanath Prasad Mahto, who passed away at the age of 72 was a well-known?

- a) Biologist
- b) Cricketer
- c) Cartoonist
- d) Film Director
- e) Politician

Q.53) Which Union Territory has been selected for NITI Aayog's first pilot project among all States and UTs on Sustainable Developmental Goals?

- a) Dadra & Nagar Haveli and Daman & Diu
- b) Puducherry
- c) Lakshadweep
- d) Jammu & Kashmir
- e) Andaman & Nicobar Islands

Q.54) Which state assembly decided to give 'Best MLA' award starting from the year 2019, in the lines of Outstanding Parliamentarian Award and Best MLA awards being given in some other states?

- a) Rajasthan
- b) Telangana
- c) Gujarat
- d) Uttarakhand
- e) Odisha

Q.55) Which state government organized two-day unique Chilli Festival to help in fulfilling the Central Government's goal of doubling the income of farmers?

- a) Andhra Pradesh
- b) Manipur
- c) Chhattisgarh
- d) Karnataka
- e) Madhya Pradesh

Q.56) Mansukh Mandaviya recently commissioned "VARAD", which is a?

- a) Robotics Surveillance Platform
- b) Offshore Patrol Vessel
- c) Multiple Rocket Launcher
- d) Infantry Fighting Vehicle
- e) Ballistic Missile

Q.57) Which city hosted the 11th National Krishi Vigyan Kendra Conference?

- a) Gurugram
- b) Ahmedabad

c) Nashik

d) Lucknow

e) New Delhi

Q.58) Ministry of Steel and CII along with Ministry of Economy, Trade and Industry-Government of _____ organised the "Enabling Procedures for Increase of Steel Usage for the Growth of Economy" workshop in Bhubaneswar.

- a) Australia
- b) Germany
- c) Japan
- d) Malaysia
- e) Singapore

Q.59) In which Indian city, Defence Minister Rajnath Singh inaugurated the new Light Combat Helicopter Production Hangar facility?

- a) Chennai
- b) Trivandrum
- c) Lucknow
- d) Bengaluru
- e) Visakhapatnam

Q.60) World Rare Disease Day is held on the last day of which month?

- a) February
- b) March
- c) December
- d) April
- e) January

Q.61) Atal Innovation Mission partnered with _____ to launch AI-based module in 5000

- ATLs
- a) NCLT
- b) ASSOCHAM
- c) NASSCOM
- d) FICCI
- e) SEBI

Q.62) Which state emerged as the best performing state in terms of digitising land records?

- a) Madhya Pradesh
- b) Maharashtra
- c) Nagaland
- d) Bangalore
- e) Telangana

Q.63) Which Bank launches co-branded credit card with IndiGo?

- a) Axis Bank
- b) HDFC Bank
- c) ICICI Bank
- d) Indusland Bank
- e) IDBI Bank

Q.64) Who was presented the prestigious Dr. Syama Prasad Mukherjee award

- a) Sarbananda Sonowal
- b) Vijay Rupani
- c) Kamal Nath
- d) Ashok Gehlot
- e) Jagdish Mukhi

Q.65) Film editor _____ enters the limca book of records

- a) Santosh Sivan
- b) Sreekar Prasad
- c) Ravi K. Chandran
- d) Akshay Akkineni
- e) None of these

Q.66) Who is the Chief of SEBI?

- a) Harsha Kumar Bhanwala
- b) Ajay Tyagi
- c) Ashok Lasava
- d) Suresh Mathur
- e) None of the Above

Q.67) Who has been Awarded Raja Ravi Varma Award 2020?

- a) Ram Dass
- b) Vasudev Kamath

c) J.S. Khanderao

d) Palani Kumar

e) Nivetha Kasilingam

Q.68) EPFO mulls rate cut on PF deposits from 8.65% to ____ for FY20.

- a) 8.5%
- b) 8.4%
- c) 8.1%
- d) 8.8%
- e) 7.9%

Q.69) Where is the Headquarters of Ordnance Factory Board (OFB) located at?

- a) Kolkata, West Bengal
- b) Mumbai, Maharashtra
- c) Chennai, Tamil Nadu
- d) Pune, Maharashtra
- e) Lucknow, Uttar Pradesh

Q.70) The Jaffna International Airport is located in which country?

- a) India
- b) Bangladesh
- c) Sri Lanka
- d) Malaysia
- e) Indonesia

Q.71) Who recently launched the 'Suposhit Maa Abhiyan' with the aim to create a malnutrition-free India?

- a) Amit Shah
- b) Narendra Singh Tomar
- c) Gajendra Singh Shekhawat
- d) Om Birla
- e) Nitin Gadkari

Q.72) Union Minister Jitendra Singh inaugurated 'Pension Adalat' & National Pension System Awareness and Grievance Redressal Programme in _____.

- a) Jammu
- b) Ladakh

- c) Puducherry
d) New Delhi
e) Chandigarh
Q.73) Muhyiddin Yassin appointed new Prime Minister of which of the following nations?
a) Azerbaijan
b) Malaysia
c) Myanmar
d) Vietnam
e) Indonesia
Q.74) Tamil Nadu state has decided to set up a technical textiles park in _____.
a) Chennai
b) Madurai
c) Salem
d) Tiruchirappalli
e) Coimbatore
Q.75) Which university bagged the champions trophy in the first edition of Khelo India University Games concluded in Bhubaneswar?
a) Savitribai Phule Pune University
b) Panjab University, Chandigarh
c) Utkal University, Bhubaneswar
d) University of Mumbai
e) Punjabi University, Patiala
Q.76) Joginder Singh Saini, who passed away at the age of 90 was a well-known?
a) Carnatic Musician
b) Biologist
c) Athlete Coach
d) Novelist
e) Politician
Q.77) Who won the Women's Singles Mexican Open title?
a) Wang Yafan
b) Giuliana Olmos
c) Leylah Fernandez
d) Heather Watson

- e) Desirae Krawczyk
Q.78) Which country is the host of the West Asia's only one World Tour Cycle race?
a) Kuwait
b) Armenia
c) UAE
d) Turkey
e) Yemen
Q.79) Largest sites of the Harappan civilisation, Rakhigarhi is located in the Indian state of?
a) Punjab
b) Uttarakhand
c) Rajasthan
d) Uttar Pradesh
e) Haryana
Q.80) Multilingual Incredible India website launched by Tourism Ministry is now available in many languages, except?
a) German
b) Spanish
c) Chinese
d) Arabic
e) English
Q.81) In which of the following Universities, Indian Air Force established the "Marshal of the Air Force Arjan Singh Chair of Excellence"?
a) Guru Nanak Dev University, Amritsar
b) Kurukshetra University, Haryana
c) Mangalore University, Karnataka
d) University of Rajasthan
e) Savitribai Phule Pune University
Q.82) What is the name given for the explosive detection device developed by DRDO & IISc Bangalore?
a) Alpha 6
b) H3TEC
c) RaIDer-X

d) HEDD1

e) SNIFFEX

Q.83) "Ekam Fest" is set to begin in New Delhi to promote craftsmanship & products of Divyang Artisans & Entrepreneurs. What does "A" represent in "Ekam"?

a) Artisans

b) Awareness

c) Authenticity

d) Attraction

e) Ability

Q.84) 3-day Ports Review Meeting Chintan Baithak was held in the Indian state of?

a) Gujarat

b) Andhra Pradesh

c) Karnataka

d) Odisha

e) Tamil Nadu

Q.85) Union Minister Mukhtar Abbas Naqvi recently inaugurated "Hunar Haat" in Ranchi, Jharkhand. Which ministry organizes the "Hunar Haat" as a platform for artisans to showcase their talents?

a) Ministry of Commerce and Industry

b) Ministry of Minority Affairs

c) Ministry of Human Resource Development

d) Ministry of Labour and Employment

e) Ministry of Social Justice and Empowerment

Q.86) Which State government is set to become single-use plastic-free by 1 May 2020

a) Madhya Pradesh

b) Gujarat

c) Tamil Nadu

d) Maharashtra

e) Karnataka

Q.87) Anand Mahindra's M&M launch a cab aggregator service named ____?

a) Cape

b) Alyte

c) Manart

d) Mahind

e) Raider

Q.88) ADB to provide _____ million to member countries to contain coronavirus outbreak.

a) \$5 million

b) \$4 million

c) \$8 million

d) \$12 million

e) \$6 million

Q.89) Which Social media company Facebook has launched a new consumer marketing campaign, called 'More Together', in India?

a) Twitter

b) WhatsApp

c) LinkedIn

d) Facebook

e) Amazon

Q.90) International School of Engineering (INSOFE) in Hyderabad ties up with Which University for master's course?

a) The Ohio State University

b) Case Western Reserve University

c) Cleveland State University

d) University of Michigan

e) Johns Hopkins University

Q.91) Who appointed advisor to Andhra Chief Minister Jagan Mohan Reddy?

a) Ajay Narayan Jha

b) Subhash Chandra Garg

c) Hasmukh Adhia

d) Bimal Jalan

e) Ajay Bhushan Pandey

Q.92) Which country recently took over as president of the UN Security Council for the month of March 2020?

a) Nepal

b) USA
 c) Japan
 d) China
 e) India
 Q.93) OPPO announced its foray into financial services with '_____' that offers users to invest in mutual funds.

- a) OPPO Kash
- b) OPPO Pe
- c) OPPO Kiosk
- d) OPPO Jeb
- e) OPPO Paisa

Q.94) Zomato, recently announced the launch of a co-branded credit card along with _____, and Master Card.

- a) RBL Bank
- b) Yes Bank
- c) ICICI Bank
- d) Axis Bank
- e) HDFC Bank

Q.95) India ranks 120th in Index of Economic Freedom 2020. Which country Tops the list?

- a) Finland
- b) Iceland
- c) Norway
- d) Singapore
- e) Denmark

Q.96) RBI, recently received 1.71 trillion in LTRO. 'R' in LTRO stands for _____.

- a) Reverse
- b) Rate
- c) Repo
- d) Recurring
- e) Reserve

Q.97) _____ along with the Enabling Women of Kamand (EWOK) Society signed a MoU with NABARD

- a) IIT Kanpur
- b) IIT Madras

- c) IIT Roorkee
- d) IIT Delhi
- e) IIT Mandi

Q.98) Jack Welch, the former Chief Executive Officer (CEO) of _____, passed away recently.

- a) Volkswagen
- b) Walmart
- c) Amazon
- d) Flipkart
- e) General Electric

Q.99) Global agency _____ lowered its India's GDP growth forecast to 5.1 percent from the earlier projection of 6.2 percent for 2020

- a) IMF
- b) UN
- c) World Bank
- d) OECD
- e) WHO

Q.100) Publicis appoints _____ as Digitas India CEO.

- a) Raja Raman
- b) Unny Radhakrishnan
- c) Ashok Gupta
- d) Siva Subramani
- e) Nivetha Ranganathan

Q.101) Virendra Sirohi passes away. He Related with _____?

- a) Sports
- b) Politics
- c) Film Industry
- d) Journalism
- e) Singing

Q.102) Aegon Life Insurance appoints _____ as Chief Operating Officer

- a) Faruk Ahmad
- b) Suresh Sethi
- c) Manish Sharma

- d) Naveen Bachwani
e) Mohammad Rafiq
Q.103) What is Indian Men's Hockey team rank according to International Hockey Federation report?
a) 5th
b) 8th
c) 4th
d) 10th
e) 3rd
Q.104) Who was appointed as Mind Tree Chief Operating Officer?
a) Dayapatra Nevatia
b) Arjun Singh
c) Dinesh Trivedi
d) Subhranshu Roy
e) None of these
Q.105) World Wildlife Day observed on 3rd March. What is the theme of World Wildlife Day?
a) Life below Water: for People and Planet
b) The future of elephants is in our hands
c) Big cats - predators under threat
d) The future of wildlife is in our hands
e) Sustaining all life on Earth
Q.106) Which Government provides Rs 900 per month to farmers willing to keep stray cattle?
a) Maharashtra
b) Madhya Pradesh
c) Gujarat
d) Uttar Pradesh
e) Arunachal Pradesh
Q.107) Which International organization announced a USD 12 billion aid package to help countries combat coronavirus outbreak?
a) World Bank
b) Asian Development Bank
c) International Monetary Fund

- d) World Health Organization
e) Asian Development Bank
Q.108) Which state is hosting the 68th All India Police Athletic Championship-2019?
a) Jharkhand
b) Sikkim
c) Uttarakhand
d) Haryana
e) Himachal Pradesh
Q.109) Which state government deposited Rs. 4,807 Cr into the bank accounts of 7.65 lakh farmers under the Mahatma Phule farm loan waiver scheme?
a) Madhya Pradesh
b) West Bengal
c) Maharashtra
d) Rajasthan
e) Bihar
Q.110) Which Union ministry is implementing the "Setu Bharatam scheme"?
a) Ministry of Housing and Urban Affairs
b) Ministry of Culture
c) Ministry of Road Transport and Highways
d) Ministry of Statistics and Programme Implementation
e) Ministry of Tourism
Q.111) Which country has the largest identified value gaps in trade-related financial flow, as per the report released by Global Financial Integrity?
a) China
b) Russia
c) India
d) Poland
e) Mexico
Q.112) Which is the host city of the 35th edition of Food and Hospitality fair- AAHAR?
a) New Delhi
b) Mumbai

- c) Ranchi
- d) Lucknow
- e) Hyderabad

Q.113) _____ has infused 66,397 Cr Rs in short-term credit in the rural banking system during the current fiscal. Short-term refinance is essentially?

- a) RBI
- b) SEBI
- c) SIDBI
- d) NABARD
- e) FICCI

Q.114) Centre has approved development of highways projects worth Rs _____ Rs 2,185 Cr in _____ and introduction of four-way lanes linking the UT with important segments.

- a) Chandigarh
- b) Tamil Nadu
- c) Puducherry
- d) Maharashtra
- e) Himachal Pradesh

Q.115) Richard John Pais, who passed away recently, was associated with which field?

- a) Sports
- b) Politics
- c) Literature
- d) Film Industry
- e) Freedom Fighter

Q.116) Lalit Kala Akademi awards are given to recognise the outstanding work in the field of _____?

- a) Sports
- b) Literature
- c) Coach
- d) Art
- e) None of the Above

Q.117) Which city to host 108th Indian Science Congress annual session in 2021

- a) Bangalore

- b) Pune
- c) Chennai
- d) Mumbai
- e) Kolkata

Q.118) Minister of State Gangwar launches _____ mobile app for doorstep diesel delivery

- a) Aaykar Setu
- b) Consumer app
- c) mParivahan
- d) Humsafar
- e) ePathshala

Q.119) Who appointed as new CMD of MMTC (Metals & Minerals Trading Corporation)?

- a) Sudhanshu Pandey
- b) Manish Sharma
- c) Puneet Agarwal
- d) Karanjit Singh
- e) Rajasekar

Q.120) Airport Authority of India and which Government sign MoU for construction of equipment hiring centers?

- a) Meghalaya
- b) Jharkhand
- c) Tripura
- d) Manipur
- e) West Bengal

Q.121) Badminton Asia Championships which is planned to start on 2020 April is shifted from the Wuhan city to _____ over coronavirus outbreak.

- a) Jakarta, Indonesia
- b) Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia
- c) Manila, Philippines
- d) Hanoi, Vietnam
- e) Bangkok, Thailand

Q.122) Janaushadhi week is celebrated across India on?

- a) February 14-21

b) May 20-27

c) April 7-14

d) March 1-7

e) January 21-28

Q.123) Which Indian woman cricketer bagged the top spot in ICC women's T20I rankings, replacing New Zealand's Suzie Bates, who had been at the top of charts since October 2018?

a) Harmanpreet Kaur

b) Smriti Mandhana

c) Poonam Yadav

d) Shafali Verma

e) Deepti Sharma

Q.124) To exchange the sporting experiences between two countries, New Delhi hosted the Bilateral Sports Exchange match between Cricket teams of Indian Air Force and _____ Armed Forces Cricket Association.

a) UK

b) Russia

c) Spain

d) USA

e) UAE

Q.125) NEDFI through its Microfinance Scheme has facilitated generation of indirect employment to about 7.97 lakh women. What does "D" represent in "NEDFI"?

a) Development

b) Data

c) Direct

d) Dissolution

e) Differential

Q.126) Javier Perez de Cuellar who passed away at the age of 100. He was a _____?

a) Former United Nations Chief

b) Russian President

c) Mexico Prime Minister

d) Journalist

e) Former Cricketer

Q.127) Microsoft has tied up with which company to help deepen the reach of entrepreneurs and start-ups that are focused on social impact and sustainability?

a) Accenture

b) Capgemini

c) Infosys

d) Tech Mahindra

e) Wipro

Q.128) In which of the following Union Territory, India's first travel company fully operated by women was set up?

a) Andaman & Nicobar Islands

b) Lakshadweep

c) Ladakh

d) Jammu & Kashmir

e) New Delhi

Q.129) India Pharma 2020 & India Medical Device 2020 Conference to be held in _____?

a) Bangalore

b) Gujarat

c) New Delhi

d) Chennai

e) Lucknow

Q.130) Which is the First Country in the World to provide Free Public Transport?

a) Luxembourg

b) Monaco

c) Malta

d) Lithuania

e) Slovakia

Q.131) Which two Bank win 'Bank of the Year' award at Business Today-Money Today Financial Awards 2020?

a) SBI and Axis Bank

b) Bank of Baroda and HDFC Bank

c) Canara and Axis Bank

d) SBI and HDFC Bank

e) Indian and Canara Bank
 Q.132) Who elected president of All India Agarbathi Manufacturers Association?

- a) Ajay Bhusan
- b) Arjun Ranga
- c) Rangaraj Pandey
- d) Farook Ahmad
- e) None of the Above

Q.133) LuLu's chairman _____ becomes first Indian to get Saudi's premium residency

- a) Mohammad khan
- b) Yusuff Ali
- c) Rahim
- d) Sourav Varma
- e) None of the Above

Q.134) Ramniklal Solanki passed away. He related with_____?

- a) Sports
- b) Politics
- c) Journalism
- d) Film Industry
- e) Freedom Fighter

Q.135) Who appointed as the new Finance Secretary?

- a) Harsh kumar Singha
- b) Ajay Bhushan Pandey
- c) Rajiv Kumar
- d) Amitabh Kant
- e) Suresh Mathur

Q.136) Name the Former India Cricketer Who appointed as BCCI's selection committee chairman?

- a) Sunil Joshi
- b) Zaheer Khan
- c) Rahul Dravid
- d) Virendra Shewag
- e) Anil Kumble

Q.137) Sanjay Kumar Panda appointed as India's Ambassador to which country?

- a) Afghanistan
- b) Singapore
- c) Turkey
- d) Ethiopia
- e) Egypt

Q.138) Swachh Bharat Mission was launched on_____?

- a) September 30, 2010
- b) April 1, 2012
- c) October 2, 2014
- d) January 31, 2008
- e) December 1, 2016

Q.139) Economic Times Global Business Summit to be held in _____?

- a) Mumbai
- b) New Delhi
- c) Kolkata
- d) Lucknow
- e) Pune

Q.140) Which RBI governor resigned recently?

- a) B. P. Kanungo
- b) Michael Patra
- c) N.S. Vishwanathan
- d) Mahesh Kumar Jain
- e) None of the Above

Q.141) _____ sworn in as Slovenia's new Prime Minister?

- a) Manuel Marrero Cruz
- b) Janez Jansa
- c) Sophie Wilmès
- d) Adam Wilhelm Moltke
- e) Charles Michel

Q.142) Fourth Global Ayurveda Festival (GAF) will be held in_____?

- a) Maharashtra
- b) Karnataka
- c) Madhya Pradesh
- d) Kerala

e) Tamil Nadu

Q.143) 3-day Namaste Orchha festival begins in which State?

- a) Nagaland
- b) Arunachal Pradesh
- c) Bihar
- d) Madhya Pradesh
- e) Gujarat

Q.144) Which country is the current Chair of BIMSTEC?

- a) Bangladesh
- b) Bhutan
- c) Thailand
- d) Sri Lanka
- e) Myanmar

Q.145) ICICI Prudential AMC ties up which Co-Operative Bank to tap rural potential?

- a) Shamrao Vithal
- b) Saraswat
- c) SVC Bank
- d) Abhyudaya Bank
- e) Prathama Bank

Q.146) Which city is set to host International Olympic Committee session in 2023?

- a) Wuhun
- b) London
- c) New Delhi
- d) Mumbai
- e) Beijing

Q.147) Who appointed as Ministry of External Affairs spokesperson by replacing Raveesh Kumar?

- a) Anurag Srivastava
- b) Parvesh Verma
- c) Prem Kumar Dhumal
- d) Jagmohan Dalmiya
- e) Gurunath Meiyappan

Q.148) International Conference on Nanoscience and Nano Technology held in _____?

- a) Chennai
- b) Mumbai
- c) Pune
- d) Kolkata
- e) Bangalore

Q.149) Who appointed as new brand ambassador of ITC Vivel?

- a) Salman Khan
- b) PV Sindhu
- c) Kriti Sanon
- d) Sunil Chettri
- e) Sanju Samson

Q.150) Four-day Poetry Festival has begun in _____?

- a) Mumbai
- b) Kolkata
- c) Chennai
- d) Guwahati
- e) Dehradun

Q.151) First edition of Khelo India Women's Hockey League Under-21 to be held in?

- a) New Delhi
- b) Ladakh
- c) Mumbai
- d) Chandigarh
- e) Kolkata

Q.152) Govt sanctions projects worth over Rs _____ crore in food processing sector

- a) 367
- b) 404
- c) 301
- d) 453
- e) 534

Q.153) "Chapchar Kut" is the spring festival of which of the following Indian state?

- a) Tripura

b) Manipur

c) Nagaland

d) Mizoram

e) Assam

Q.154) PRAGYAN CONCLAVE 2020 is an International Seminar organised by which Armed Force of India?

a) Indian Navy

b) Indian Army

c) Indian Air Force

d) Indian Coastal Guard

e) National Security Guard

Q.155) which city hosts India Smart Utility Week 2020?

a) Mumbai

b) Hyderabad

c) New Delhi

d) Lucknow

e) Kolkata

Q.156) Deendayal Antyodaya Yojana signs MoU with which e-market commerce?

a) Mynta

b) Flipkart

c) Amazon

d) Snap deal

e) Lifestyle

Q.157) Name the Public Sector Bank (PSB) which is going to be Amalgamated with Indian Bank in effect from April 1, 2020.

a) Indian Overseas Bank

b) Canara Bank

c) Andhra Bank

d) Allahabad Bank

e) Corporation Bank

Q.158) As per Quacquarelli Symonds (QS) World University Rankings 2020 by Subject, which Institute ranked top among Indian institutions?

a) IIT Delhi

b) IIT Kanpur

c) IIT Bombay

d) IIT Kharagpur

e) IIT Madras

Q.159) Which country Ranks tops Freedom in the World 2020?

a) Norway

b) Denmark

c) Iceland

d) Finland

e) India

Q.160) Name the people who has been honoured with the Pritzker Architecture prize 2020 (Architecture's Nobel) sponsored by Hyatt Foundation.

a) Yvonne Farrell

b) Shelley McNamara

c) Arata Isozaki

d) Both a) & b)

e) Both b) and c)

Q.161) SEBI introduces mobile app _____ for investors to lodge grievances

a) SEBI CREDIT

b) SEBI SCORES

c) SEBI AVERAGE

d) SEBI COMPLAINT

e) SEBI REGISTER

Q.162) Who sworn in as Chief Information Commissioner of Central Information Commission?

a) Bimal Julka

b) Rajesh Kumar

c) Saini Sharma

d) Farhan Akhtar

e) Ramesh Kumar

Q.163) Which Bollywood actress appointed as new brand ambassador of Puma?

a) Sonakshi Sinha

b) Anushka Sharma

- c) Katrina Kaif
d) Kareena Kapoor
e) Alia Bhatt
Q.164) Sanjeev Nautiyal re-appoints as MD & CEO of _____?
a) HDFC Life Insurance
b) SBI Life Insurance
c) Muthoot Finance
d) ICICI Lombard Insurance
e) Axis Life Insurance
Q.165) Recently K Anbazhagan passed away. He belongs to _____?
a) Politics
b) Sports
c) Journalism
d) Singing
e) Film Industry
Q.166) A subscriber is required to contribute a prescribed amount of 55 to _____ rupees depending upon the age of subscriber till the age of 60 years under the Pradhan Mantri Shram Yogi Maandhan Scheme.
a) 240 Rs
b) 280 Rs
c) 100 Rs
d) 200 Rs
e) 120 Rs
Q.167) Google to now launch _____ cloud region After Mumbai?
a) Kolkata
b) Delhi
c) Pune
d) Hyderabad
e) Gandhinagar
Q.168) _____ has been unanimously re-elected as chairman of Automotive Tyre Manufacturers' Association (ATMA).
a) J. Mehta
b) K.M. Mammen

- c) K. Suresh Mathur
d) L. Hari Mohan
e) None of the Above
Q.169) Cricketer _____ recently announced his retirement. He is the only batsman to score more than 12,000 runs in Ranji Trophy.
a) Aditya Sarwate
b) C Pujara
c) Faiz Fazal
d) Wasim Jaffer
e) Mayank Agarwal
Q.170) Which of the following became the first University in the East Zone to be gifted with a Community Radio Station by the Ministry of Information & Broadcasting?
a) Guru Ghasidas University
b) Ranchi University
c) Tezpur University
d) Guwahati University
e) West Bengal State University
Q.171) Khadi & Village Industry Commission in consultations with the Hill Council has adopted 4 villages in which Union Territory?
a) Ladakh
b) Jammu and Kashmir
c) Chandigarh
d) Andaman and Nichobar
e) Daman and Diu
Q.172) Union Minister Smriti Irani inaugurated a National Conference on Women in Police & CAPFs in _____.
a) Bengaluru
b) Ahmedabad
c) Mumbai
d) New Delhi
e) Chennai

Q.173) Vijayan Pillai recently passed away at the age of 65. He was a renowned _____.

- a) Painter
- b) Politician
- c) Novelist
- d) Bureaucrat
- e) Cricketer

Q.174) Shriram Transport has signed an MOU with which of the following companies to offer fuel credit to its customers digitally?

- a) GAIL
- b) IOCL
- c) HPCL
- d) BPCL
- e) Reliance Petroleum

Q.175) Which ministry launched the Mahatma Gandhi National Fellowship programme under the "SANKALP" scheme?

- a) Ministry of Human Resource Development
- b) Ministry of Science and Technology
- c) Ministry of Social Justice and Empowerment
- d) Ministry of Skill Development and Entrepreneurship
- e) Ministry of Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises

Q.176) Who won the ICC Women's T20 World Cup for record fifth time?

- a) New Zealand
- b) South Africa
- c) India
- d) Australia
- e) England

Q.177) Which state topped in the list of the states in terms of the number of participants in the POSHAN Abhiyan?

- a) Maharashtra
- b) Telangana

c) Tamil Nadu

d) Karnataka

e) Madhya Pradesh

Q.178) World's largest religious congregation of women, Attukal Pongala is annually held at the Indian city of?

- a) Madurai, Tamil Nadu
- b) Kochi, Kerala
- c) Thiruvananthapuram, Kerala
- d) Mysore, Karnataka
- e) Tiruvannamalai, Tamil Nadu

Q.179) Which of the following campaign is launched by PM Modi, as a platform to showcase the work of woman?

- a) Speak Is Beautiful
- b) Always – Keep Going
- c) She inspires Us
- d) She's a lady
- e) This Girl Can

Q.180) How many women were conferred with the Nari Shakti Puraskar for the year 2019?

- a) 12
- b) 15
- c) 55
- d) 42
- e) 20

Q.181) Indian Coast Guard conducts 9th edition of rescue exercise 'SAREX-2020' in _____?

- a) Kochi
- b) Visakhapatnam
- c) Goa
- d) Umroi
- e) Port Blair

Q.182) SEBI proposed a detailed review of the regulatory framework for Corporate Bonds and Debenture Trustees. Where is the headquarters of SEBI?

- a) Bangalore
- b) New Delhi
- c) Mumbai
- d) Hyderabad
- e) Lucknow

Q.183) Government to make sanitary napkin disposal bags mandatory from January _____?

- a) 2020
- b) 2021
- c) 2023
- d) 2022
- e) 2024

Q.184) Which state to launch total digital literacy campaign?

- a) Kerala
- b) Karnataka
- c) Gujarat
- d) Madhya Pradesh
- e) Maharashtra

Q.185) Which IIT collaborates with Rolls-Royce for research in areas of relevance to future technological?

- a) IIT Bombay
- b) IIT Kharagpur
- c) IIT Ahmadabad
- d) IIT Madras
- e) IIT Guwahati

Q.186) Fourth International Diabetes Summit 2020 held in _____?

- a) New Delhi
- b) Mumbai
- c) Pune
- d) Kolkata
- e) Lucknow

Q.187) Who gets additional charge of deputy managing director and chief financial officer of SBI?

- a) Chalasani Venkat Nageswar

- b) N. R. Narayana Murthy

- c) Nandan Nilekani

- d) Salil Parekh

- e) N. S. Raghavan

Q.188) RBI to extend _____ crore under special liquidity facility.

- a) Rs 15,000

- b) Rs 12,000

- c) Rs 20,000

- d) Rs 10,000

- e) Rs 14,000

Q.189) Which of the following neighbouring country of India celebrates Holi festival in the name of Fagu Purnima?

- a) Myanmar

- b) Nepal

- c) Bhutan

- d) Pakistan

- e) Sri Lanka

Q.190) Which central sector scheme is remodelled as Sampushta Keralam mission in the state of Kerala?

- a) Mega Pension Scheme

- b) Stand Up India

- c) Poshan Abhiyaan

- d) Setu Bhartam Yojana

- e) Pradhan Mantri Swasthya Suraksha Yojana

Q.191) As per the 'Trends in international arms transfers 2019' report of Stockholm International Peace Research Institute, what is India's rank in the import of arms during 2015-19 period?

- a) Fourth

- b) First

- c) Third

- d) Second

- e) Fifth

Q.192) What is India's latest GDP growth forecast of Moody's Investors for the FY 2020?

- a) 5.5%
- b) 5.3%
- c) 5.2%
- d) 5.4%
- e) 5.1%

Q.193) Which Indian airport bagged the Airports Council International's Airport Service Quality (ASQ) Departures Awards for the Asia-Pacific region for 2019?

- a) Cochin International Airport Limited
- b) Kempegowda International Airport
- c) Rajiv Gandhi Hyderabad International Airport
- d) Chattrapati Shivaji International Airport, Mumbai
- e) Indira Gandhi International Airport, New Delhi

Q.194) RBI recently stated that the solvency of banks is internationally based on CRAR and not on market capitalization. What does "A" represent in "CRAR"?

- a) Algebraic
- b) Apex
- c) Average
- d) Annuity
- e) Assets

Q.195) Which state ranked 1st in country for overall implementation of Poshan Abhiyan?

- a) Kerala
- b) Karnataka
- c) Tamil Nadu
- d) Andhra Pradesh
- e) Telangana

Q.196) UNGCNI organizes 3rd Gender equality summit 2020 in _____?

- a) Gujarat
- b) New Delhi
- c) Mumbai
- d) Kolkata

e) Pune

Q.197) Which state tops in domestic solar rooftop installations?

- a) Karnataka
- b) Tamil Nadu
- c) Kerala
- d) Gujarat
- e) Telangana

Q.198) Who becomes 1st player to play 500 T20s?

- a) Chris Gayle
- b) Dwayne Bravo
- c) Kieron Pollard
- d) Rohit Sharma
- e) M S Dhoni

Q.199) Recently H. R. Bhardwaj passed away. He was a Former _____?

- a) Cricketer
- b) Politician
- c) Painter
- d) Footballer
- e) Chief Justice

Q.200) Who becomes Indian Coast Guard's first woman DIG?

- a) Kriti Sanon
- b) Nupur Kulshrestha
- c) Tara Sutaria
- d) Kriti Kharbanda
- e) Geeta Sanon

Q.201) "The Adventures of the Daredevil Democrat" - a comic book released by _____?

- a) Ramnath Kovind
- b) Rajnath Singh
- c) Naveen Patnaik
- d) Ashok Gehlot
- e) Venkaiah Naidu

Q.202) _____ becomes the 1st state to introduce department for Self Help Groups?

- a) Odisha

- b) Maharashtra
 c) Madhya Pradesh
 d) Gujarat
 e) Meghalaya

Q.203) 'Fagli' festival celebrated in which State?

- a) Mizoram
 b) Meghalaya
 c) Gujarat
 d) Karnataka
 e) Himachal Pradesh

Q.204) Which Union Territory has planted 32 lakh saplings as part of the national initiative for enhancing the green cover across the country?

- a) Ladakh
 b) Jammu & Kashmir
 c) Puducherry
 d) Daman & Diu
 e) Lakshadweep

Q.205) As per the Bloomberg Billionaires Index report who is the Asia's richest man?

- a) Mukesh Ambani
 b) Azim Premji
 c) Hui Ka Yan
 d) Jack Ma
 e) Ma Huateng

Q.206) Lovlina Borgohain won the bronze medal. She is related with which of the following sports events?

- a) Archery
 b) Weightlifting
 c) Swimming
 d) Boxing

e) Cycling

Q.207) SBI bank has reduced its one-year MCLR by 10 basis points to ____ from 7.85%

- a) 7.65%
 b) 7.75%
 c) 7.55%
 d) 7.40%
 e) 7.35%

Q.208) FDI inflows recorded highest ever for fiscal year 2018-19 at _____.

- a) USD 56 billion
 b) USD 67 billion
 c) USD 62 billion
 d) USD 80 billion
 e) USD 40 billion

Q.209) Who won Dr MS Swaminathan Award for the period 2017- 2019?

- a) Vishal Sikka
 b) V Praveen Rao
 c) Kris Gopalakrishnan
 d) Natarajan Chandrasekaran
 e) Rajesh Gopinathan

Q.210) Which is the first state in country to measure Gross Environment Product?

- a) Madhya Pradesh
 b) Himachal Pradesh
 c) Uttar Pradesh
 d) Uttarakhand
 e) Manipur

Q.211) What is the rank of India in Inclusive Internet Index 2020 by Economist Intelligence Unit?

- a) 41st
 b) 45th
 c) 46th
 d) 47th
 e) 52nd

Q.212) Who takes charge as Yes Bank administrator?

- a) Raj Kapoor
 b) Rana Singh
 c) Prashant Kumar
 d) Navneet Singh
 e) Kishore Kumar
 Q.213) Which state approved the implementation of "happy hour" for autorickshaws?
 a) Haryana
 b) Maharashtra
 c) Madhya Pradesh
 d) Gujarat
 e) Karnataka
 Q.214) Mahim Verma set to resign as BCCI vice president. As per the Lodha Committee's recommendations, BCCI President cannot hold his post for more than _____ years.
 a) 3 years
 b) 6 years
 c) 5 years
 d) 2 years
 e) 4 years
 Q.215) India and which country sign Rs 1200 crore deal for protection system of new VVIP aircraft?
 a) US
 b) Russia
 c) Israel
 d) Iran
 e) China
 Q.216) Which team won the Hero I-League Champions 2019-2020?
 a) Punjab F.C.
 b) East Bengal
 c) Mohun Bagan
 d) Chennai City F.C.
 e) Kerala Blasters
 Q.217) Which state government passed a bill to allow candidates to submit their caste

- validity certificates in the Gram panchayats within a year of winning elections?
 a) Rajasthan
 b) Arunachal Pradesh
 c) Karnataka
 d) Maharashtra
 e) Madhya Pradesh
 Q.218) Which educational institution has partnered with Pre-engineered Structures Society, to work together for research & knowledge sharing?
 a) NIT Warangal
 b) NIT Hamirpur
 c) NIT Durgapur
 d) NIT Agartala
 e) NIT Calicut
 Q.219) Which International Airport named Best airport by size and region?
 a) Rajiv Gandhi International Airport
 b) Indira Gandhi International Airport
 c) Chatrapathi Sivaji International Airport
 d) Mangalore International Airport
 e) Chennai International Airport
 Q.220) Name the Indian mountaineer who scales Australia's highest mountain peak?
 a) Bhawna Dehariya
 b) Mohan Singh Kohli
 c) Malavath Purna
 d) Santosh Yadav
 e) Arunima Sinha
 Q.221) World Bank signed an \$80 million loan agreement with which State Government?
 a) Manipur
 b) Telangana
 c) Assam
 d) Himachal Pradesh
 e) Kerala
 Q.222) Which celebrity becomes the brand ambassador for anti-graft helpline?

- a) Sachin Tendulkar
b) P V Sindhu
c) Saina Nehwal
d) Sunil Chettri
e) Salman Khan
Q.223) Which bank appoints Mark Wang as Chief Executive in China?
a) Standard Chartered
b) HSBC
c) PNB Paribas
d) HDFC
e) Axis
Q.224) IDFC FIRST Bank names _____ as Brand Ambassador
a) Amitabh Bachchan
b) Sharukh Khan
c) Salman Khan
d) Akshaya Kumar
e) Sonam Kapoor
Q.225) Which Indian city is selected for the main national event for the International Day of Yoga that to be held on 21st of June?
a) Shimla, Himachal Pradesh
b) Panchkula, Haryana
c) Gulmarg, Jammu & Kashmir
d) Dehradun, Uttarakhand
e) Leh, Ladakh
Q.226) CCI approved the acquisition of additional equity shares in which of the following commercial lending company, by Otter Limited & Link Investment Trust?
a) Shriram Transport Finance Company Ltd
b) Sundaram Finance Ltd
c) Tata Capital Financial Services Ltd
d) Bajaj Finance Ltd
e) Hero FinCorp Ltd
Q.227) Witness Event "Divya Kala Shakti-Witnessing the Abilities in Disabilities" to be held in _____.

- a) Mumbai
b) Chennai
c) New Delhi
d) Kolkata
e) Hyderabad
Q.228) What is the India's latest GDP forecast for FY21 as per the foreign brokerage UBS Securities' estimates?
a) 5.2%
b) 5.0%
c) 4.0%
d) 5.1%
e) 4.2%
Q.229) Which financial institution recently announced a package of \$200 million to companies manufacturing products to combat coronavirus?
a) NDB
b) ADB
c) IMF
d) AIIB
e) World Bank
Q.230) What is India's rank in the Animal Protection Index 2020?
a) 3rd
b) 8th
c) 5th
d) 11th
e) 2nd
Q.231) Which Railway station is to be renamed after famous philanthropist and educationist Nana Shankarsheth?
a) Mumbai
b) Kolkata
c) Lucknow
d) Vijayawada
e) Pune
Q.232) 3rd edition of WION Global Summit to be held in_____.

a) New Delhi

b) Moscow

c) Dubai

d) Mumbai

e) Geneva

Q.233) Where is the Hola Mohalla festival celebrated?

a) Gujarat

b) Assam

c) Tripura

d) Punjab

e) Mizoram

Q.234) Wings India 2020 is being held in _____.

a) Kolkata

b) Mumbai

c) Hyderabad

d) Chennai

e) Pune

Q.235) According to KPMG's "2020 Global Technology Industry Innovation Survey" report, India has ranked _____ as the most promising source of disruptive technology in the world.

a) 3rd

b) 2nd

c) 5th

d) 9th

e) 7th

Q.236) Who was honoured with the Highest Civilian Award "Golden Jubilee Medal-Civilians" of Uganda?

a) Hari Prasath

b) Chandrasekhar

c) Rajesh Chaplot

d) Venkatraman Ramakrishnan

e) Robinson Mistry

Q.237) WGSMA enters Limca Book of Records for Indias first Living Culinary Arts Museum. It is located in _____.

a) Maharashtra

b) New Delhi

c) Telangana

d) Karnataka

e) Assam

Q.238) India Post to Launch Free Digital Locker Service in _____?

a) Kolkata

b) Mumbai

c) Hyderabad

d) Ranchi

e) Lucknow

Q.239) Which govt launches schemes for skill development & employment generation for youths?

a) Himachal Pradesh

b) Jharkhand

c) Madhya Pradesh

d) Uttar Pradesh

e) Kerala

Q.240) Central Government has nominated Department of Financial Services Secretary _____ as a Director on the RBI central board

a) Vandana Shiva

b) Anupam Mishra

c) Sunita Narain

d) Debasish Panda

e) Anil Agarwal

Q.241) India provided how much amount to the SAARC Emergency Fund to fight Covid-19?

a) USD 2 Million

b) USD 4 Million

c) USD 5 Million

d) USD 1 Million

e) USD 3 Million

Q.242) United Nations released the World Happiness Report on the International Day of Happiness, 2020. What is India's rank?

- a) 133
- b) 141
- c) 144
- d) 157
- e) 149

Q.243) How much is the total investment approved by the central government under the Pradhan Mantri Awas Yojana (Urban) as on March 2020?

- a) Rs 4.05 lakh Crores
- b) Rs 6.16 lakh Crores
- c) Rs 2.53 lakh Crores
- d) Rs 3.89 lakh Crores
- e) Rs 5.14 lakh Crores

Q.244) Which state government recently abolished reservation in promotion in the state government jobs?

- a) Gujarat
- b) Haryana
- c) Himachal Pradesh
- d) Uttarakhand
- e) Madhya Pradesh

Q.245) Which Union Territory announced Rs 5 Lakhs free health insurance for its residents?

- a) Puducherry
- b) Jammu & Kashmir
- c) Ladakh
- d) Daman & Diu and Dadra & Nagar Haveli
- e) Andaman & Nicobar Islands

Q.246) Who becomes India's next High Commissioner to Republic of Uganda

- a) A. Ajay Kumar
- b) N. Vijay Kumar
- c) S. Jai Shankar
- d) M Manish Sharma
- e) K Suresh Kumar

Q.247) Pilot shopping festival at _____ is to be organized in 2020-21.

- a) Hyderabad
- b) Bengaluru
- c) Kanpur
- d) New Delhi
- e) Lucknow

Q.248) Which state's Chief Minister resigned from his position on March 20?

- a) Rajasthan
- b) Madhya Pradesh
- c) Maharashtra
- d) Chattisgarh
- e) Manipur

Q.249) What is the name of new train launched by SIDBI for new entrepreneurs?

- a) Swavalamban Express
- b) Protsahan Express
- c) Garima Express
- d) Urja Express
- e) None of the Above

Q.250) As per the International Energy Agency, which of the following countries is the third largest producer of electricity?

- a) Nepal
- b) China
- c) India
- d) Pakistan
- e) Russia

Q.251) Fitch Ratings cuts India's growth forecast to ____ for FY'21 from 5.6%

- a) 5.2%
- b) 5.1%
- c) 5.4%
- d) 5.5%
- e) 4.9%

Q.252) Name the Indian mountaineer enters Limca Book of Records?

- a) Jagdeesh Kumar

b) Satyarup Siddhanta

c) Rajiv Sharma

d) Gokul Krishnan

e) Nandhan Nilakeni

Q.253) P.K. Banerjee passed away at 83. He was a/an _____?

a) Football Player

b) Cricket Player

c) Basketball Player

d) Hockey Player

e) Athlete Player

Q.254) Indian Navy installs Quarantine Facility at _____?

a) Chennai

b) Lucknow

c) Visakhapatnam

d) Mumbai

e) Pune

Q.255) A book entitled 'Messiah Modi: A Great tale of expectations' penned by _____?

a) Tavleen Singh

b) Ravindra Doha

c) Farook Ahmad

d) Naveen Sinha

e) None of the Above

Q.256) Which cloud-based software company appointed former SBI chairperson Arundhati Bhattacharya as India CEO?

a) Rackspace

b) Oracle Cloud

c) Dropbox

d) Salesforce

e) ScienceSoft

Q.257) Who has been appointed as the Chief Executive Officer of HSBC bank?

a) Noel Quinn

b) Mark Tucker

c) Ralph Hamer

d) John Flint

e) Jean Pierre Mustier

Q.258) With which country India conducted a tabletop Joint Air exercise on the theme of HADR (Humanitarian Assistance and Disaster Relief)?

a) Myanmar

b) Bhutan

c) Thailand

d) Sri Lanka

e) Malaysia

Q.259) Which state announced the investment of Rs. 3700 crores for setting up of Defence Industrial Corridors in the state?

a) Bihar

b) Gujarat

c) Haryana

d) Rajasthan

e) Uttar Pradesh

Q.260) Which team bagged the 3rd Indian Super League title?

a) Mumbai City FC

b) ATK

c) FC Goa

d) Kerala Blasters

e) Chennaiyin FC

Q.261) Gairsain will be the summer capital of _____?

a) Jammu and Kashmir

b) Rajasthan

c) Uttarakhand

d) Ladakh

e) Leh

Q.262) Which state has topped in disbursement of agriculture credit by giving away loans worth Rs 1,63,289 Cr out of a total of Rs 10,33,183 Cr distributed across India till December 31 this fiscal?

a) Maharashtra

b) Andhra Pradesh

c) Tamil Nadu

d) Kerala

e) Odisha

Q.263) Which multinational company has tied up with Aligarh Muslim University, to jointly develop technology for solar-powered, wireless charging stations in India?

a) STMicroelectronics

b) Broadcom

c) Micron Technology

d) Texas Instruments

e) Qualcomm

Q.264) RBI has received Rs 27,096 Cr worth of bids in the fifth long-term repo operations conducted for an amount of Rs 25,000 Cr with a tenure of 3 years under?

a) Operation Weave

b) Operation Change

c) Operation Twist

d) Operation Invent

e) Operation Knit

Q.265) The Central government has included Konark Sun temple & Statue of Unity in iconic tourism sites list. Where does Konark Sun temple & Statue of Unity located at?

a) Bihar, Gujarat

b) Haryana, Telangana

c) Odisha, Gujarat

d) Punjab, Haryana

e) Odisha, Bihar

Q.266) Under which scheme the government has sanctioned loan of Rs 20,466.94 crores (upto March 10, 2020) for the empowerment of women?

a) Make in India

b) Accessible India

c) Stand Up India

d) Start Up India

e) Pradhan Mantri Mudra Yojana

Q.267) As per RBI's new guidelines for Payment Aggregators (PAs), what is the minimum net worth required for entities to be set up as PAs (earlier it was 100 crore)?

a) 50 Crore

b) 25 Crore

c) 30 Crore

d) 10 Crore

e) 15 Crore

Q.268) Which Indian Institute signed MoU with L&T technology services for research in cybersecurity programs (March 2020)?

a) IIT Madras

b) IIT Delhi

c) IIT Calcutta

d) IIT Kanpur

e) IIT Bombay

Q.269) Adnan al-Zurfi has been appointed as the Prime Minister of which of the following country?

a) Kuwait

b) Iraq

c) Qatar

d) Iran

e) Syria

Q.270) The World Cities summit is going to be held at which among the following cities in the month of July (5-9), 2020.

a) London

b) Geneva

c) New Delhi

d) Brussels

e) Singapore

Q.271) Name the person who Authored the book 'My Encounters in Parliament'.

a) Hamid Ansari

b) D Raja

c) Bhalchandra Mungekar

d) Sitaram Yechury

e) Sharad Pawar

Q.272) Find the Public Sector Bank of India which has acquired 6.825% of stake in Zero Mass private limited (1st Business Correspondent of the country).

- a) Dena Bank
- b) Allahabad Bank
- c) Punjab National Bank
- d) Corporate Bank
- e) State Bank of India

Q.273) Who has written the book "Invincible – A Tribute to Manohar Parrikar"?

- a) Tarun Vijay
- b) Anil Baluni
- c) Mahendra Singh Mahra
- d) Jairam Ramesh
- e) Shashi Tharoor

Q.274) The Global Recycling day is celebrated annually on March 18. What is the Theme for Global Recycling day 2020?

- a) Theme: 'Reduce the Plastic do recycle'
- b) Theme: 'Recycling Heroes'
- c) Theme: 'Recycle & Reproduce'
- d) Theme: 'Recycling into the Future'
- e) Theme: '3R of Recycling'

Q.275) DBS Bank India has tied-up with which Insurance company, to roll out a complimentary insurance plan covering all medical conditions, including Covid-19?

- a) ICICI Prudential Life Insurance
- b) Bharti AXA Life Insurance
- c) Kotak Mahindra Life Insurance
- d) HDFC Standard Life Insurance
- e) Max Life Insurance

Q.276) Roger Mayweather, who passed away at the age of 58 is related with which of the following fields?

- a) Archery
- b) Badminton

c) Swimming

d) Weightlifting

e) Boxing

Q.277) With which country, India signed a Rs 880 crore Defence Deal agreement?

- a) USA
- b) Russia
- c) Israel
- d) Australia
- e) Germany

Q.278) Haryana's Amin village was renamed as _____.

- a) Arjunapur
- b) Bhimapur
- c) Sathrukanpur
- d) Abhimanyupur
- e) Krishnapur

Q.279) NASSCOM Foundation and who has launched the Innovate for Accessible India campaign aimed at empowering people with disabilities?

- a) Microsoft India
- b) Google India
- c) Flipkart
- d) Amazon
- e) NITI Aayog

Q.280) Who was appointed as CMD of Power Finance Corporation Ltd?

- a) Karan Bajwa
- b) Rajiv kumar
- c) Ravinder Singh Dhillon
- d) D Y Chandrachud
- e) Rajendra Singh

Q.281) Jairam Kulkarani passed away recently. He was a _____.

- a) Actor
- b) Journalist
- c) Poet
- d) Writer

e) Novelist
 Q.282) The 2019 Chameli Devi Jain Award for Outstanding Women Mediaperson for the year has been awarded to _____.

- a) Rohini Mohan
- b) Arfa Khanum Sherwani
- c) Priyanka Dubey
- d) Both a and b
- e) All the above

Q.283) Who wins the ITTF Challenger Plus Oman Open?

- a) Achanta Sharath Kamal
- b) Manika Batra
- c) Mouma Das
- d) Pooja Sahasrabudhe
- e) Madhurikaa Paatkar

Q.284) Who clinched women's singles title of the All England Championship?

- a) Chen Yufei
- b) Tai Tzu Ying
- c) Carolina Marin
- d) Jwala Gutta
- e) Nozomi Okuhara

Q.285) Flipkart and _____ joined hands to sell comprehensive insurance solutions for customers looking for instant digital policies.

- a) Bajaj insurance
- b) Max Bupa life insurance
- c) Bharati Axa Life insurance
- d) Aegon Life insurance
- e) HDFC ergo general insurance

Q.286) Mansukh Mandaviya inaugurated ROPAX service in which state?

- a) Delhi
- b) Maharashtra
- c) Goa

d) West Bengal

e) Karnataka

Q.287) The Reserve Bank has opened an emergency line of credit of around Rs. _____ crore to Yes Bank to meet any liquidity crisis

- a) 50,000
- b) 60,000
- c) 80,000
- d) 35,000
- e) 48,000

Q.288) Romesh Sobti is appointed to take advisory role at _____.

- a) Yes Bank
- b) Bandhan Bank
- c) RBL Bank
- d) IndusInd Bank
- e) PMC Bank

Q.289) Which state government, recently announced relief measures for daily wage earners?

- a) Uttarakhand
- b) Odisha
- c) Uttar Pradesh
- d) Maharashtra
- e) Bihar

Q.290) Kenny Rogers passed away at the age of 81. He was a renowned _____.

- a) Boxer
- b) Scientist
- c) Singer
- d) Actor
- e) Politician

Q.291) Cabinet approved the relaunch of a scheme to set up 3 bulk drug parks and 4 medical device parks for a total outlay of Rs. _____ over 5 years.

- a) 3,400 cr.
- b) 5,300 cr

- c) 4,200 cr
 d) 2,700 cr
 e) 4,400 cr

Q.292) Recently, _____ took measures to check short selling, curb volatility.

- a) RBI
 b) SEBI
 c) NABARD
 d) IRDAI
 e) SIDBI

Q.293) The World Bank and ADB have provided _____ million to Pakistan to fight the coronavirus pandemic.

- a) 330
 b) 460
 c) 588
 d) 600
 e) 250

Q.294) World Poetry Day declared by UNESCO in 1999 was celebrated on ?

- a) March 20
 b) February 25
 c) March 21
 d) June 23
 e) October 8

Q.295) CRISIL lowers FY21 growth to _____ from 5.7%.

- a) 5.1%
 b) 5.2%
 c) 5.5%
 d) 5.3%
 e) 4.9%

Q.296) IRDAI sets up 16-member panel on governance at insurers headed by _____?

- a) Pravin Kutumbe
 b) Abhijit Banerjee
 c) Amartya Sen
 d) Narayana Murthy
 e) Duvvuri Subbarao

Q.297) Who has been appointed as the MD of International Data Corporation (IDC) India and South Asia?

- a) Anurugh Das
 b) Karan Bajwa
 c) Nitin Bawankule
 d) Rick Harshman
 e) Vasant Rao

Q.298) Which airline has appointed Sanjiv Kapoor as its Advisor?

- a) GoAir
 b) SpiceJet
 c) Jet Airways
 d) Indigo
 e) Air India

Q.299) World water day Observed on?

- a) March 26
 b) March 23
 c) March 21
 d) March 22
 e) March 25

Q.300) What is the theme of World Meteorological Day celebrated on 23rd March?

- a) Climate and Water
 b) Water and Climate Change
 c) Climate Change
 d) The Sun, the Earth and the weather
 e) Understanding Clouds

ANSWER KEY

1. c, 2. b, 3. d, 4. d, 5. e, 6. c, 7. e, 8. c, 9. a, 10. d, 11. c, 12. e, 13. e, 14. c, 15. a, 16. e, 17. d, 18. d, 19. a, 20. e, 21. c, 22. a, 23. b, 24. a, 25. a, 26. c, 27. a, 28. c, 29. c, 30. c, 31. b, 32. c, 33. a, 34. b, 35. b, 36. d, 37. a, 38. e, 39. c, 40. c, 41. a, 42. d, 43. d, 44. b, 45. c, 46. c, 47. b, 48. e, 49. c, 50. a, 51. c, 52. e, 53. d, 54. c, 55. e, 56. b, 57. e, 58. c, 59. d, 60. a, 61. c, 62. a, 63. b, 64. a, 65.

b, 66. b, 67. b, 68. a, 69. a, 70. c, 71. d, 72. a, 73. b, 74. c, 75. b, 76. c, 77. d, 78. c, 79. e, 80. a, 81. e, 82. c, 83. b, 84. e, 85. b, 86. d, 87. b, 88. b, 89. d, 90. b, 91. b, 92. d, 93. a, 94. a, 95. d, 96. c, 97. e, 98. e, 99. d, 100. b, 101. b, 102. d, 103. c, 104. a, 105. e, 106. d, 107. a, 108. d, 109. c, 110. c, 111. a, 112. a, 113. d, 114. c, 115. c, 116. d, 117. b, 118. d, 119. a, 120. c, 121. c, 122. d, 123. d, 124. a, 125. a, 126. a, 127. a, 128. c, 129. b, 130. a, 131. d, 132. b, 133. b, 134. c, 135. b, 136. a, 137. c, 138. c, 139. b, 140. c, 141. b, 142. d, 143. d, 144. d, 145. b, 146. d, 147. a, 148. d, 149. c, 150. b, 151. a, 152. c, 153. d, 154. b, 155. c, 156. c, 157. d, 158. c, 159. d, 160. d, 161. b, 162. a, 163. d, 164. b, 165. a, 166. d, 167. b, 168. b, 169. d, 170. b, 171. a, 172. d, 173. b, 174. b, 175. d, 176. d, 177. c, 178. c, 179. c, 180. b, 181. c, 182. c, 183. b, 184. a, 185. d, 186. c, 187. a, 188. d, 189. b, 190. c, 191. d, 192. b, 193. c, 194. e, 195. d, 196. b, 197. d, 198. c, 199. b, 200. b, 201. c, 202. a, 203. e, 204. b, 205. d, 206. d, 207. b, 208. c, 209. b, 210. d, 211. c, 212. c, 213. b, 214. d, 215. a, 216. c, 217. d, 218. a, 219. d, 220. a, 221. d, 222. b, 223. b, 224. a, 225. e, 226. e, 227. b, 228. c, 229. b, 230. e, 231. a, 232. c, 233. d, 234. c, 235. b, 236. c, 237. d, 238. a, 239. d, 240. d, 241. d, 242. c, 243. b, 244. d, 245. b, 246. a, 247. b, 248. b, 249. a, 250. c, 251. b, 252. b, 253. a, 254. c, 255. a, 256. d, 257. a, 258. a, 259. e, 260. b, 261. c, 262. c, 263. a, 264. c, 265. c, 266. c, 267. e, 268. d, 269. b, 270. e, 271. c, 272. e, 273. a, 274. b, 275. b, 276. e, 277. c, 278. d, 279. a, 280. c, 281. a, 282. d, 283. a, 284. b, 285. d, 286. b, 287. b, 288. d, 289. c, 290. c, 291. a, 292. b, 293. c, 294. c, 295. b, 296. a, 297. e, 298. a, 299. d, 300. A.

BANKING QUIZ:

Q.1) Who can issue Rupee Denominated Bonds Overseas?

- a) REITs
- b) Indian Banks
- c) InvITs
- d) All of these
- e) None of these

Q.2) Who among the following is not eligible to issue Rupee denominated bonds overseas?

- a) Corporate
- b) Limited Liability Partnerships
- c) Partnership firms
- d) Both (a) and (b)
- e) Both (c) and (b)

Q. 3) In REITs, "I" stands for _____

- a) Infrastructure
- b) Initial
- c) Investment
- d) Internal
- e) None of these

Q.4) In FATF, "T" stands for?

- a) Trade
- b) Tax
- c) Trust
- d) Task
- e) All of these

Q.5) The Rupee denominated bonds can only be subscribed by a _____

- a) NRI
- b) resident of a country
- c) PIO
- d) NRE
- e) None of these

Q.6) The Headquarters of IOSCO located in _____

- a) Rome, Italy
- b) Madrid, Spain
- c) Geneva, Switzerland

d) Bern, Switzerland

e) M.S.Sahoo

Q.7) The minimum maturity period for Masala Bonds raised up to USD 50 million equivalent in INR per financial year should be _____ years

a) 6 years

b) 4 years

c) 3 years

d) 5 years

e) None of these

Q.8) Masala bonds raised above _____ equivalent in INR per financial year should be 5 years

a) USD 50 million

b) USD 100 million

c) USD 150 million

d) USD 200 million

e) None of these

Q.9) In FFMC "M" stands for?

a) Maturity

b) Mortgage

c) Money

d) Medium

e) None of these

Q.10) AMCs are entities, authorised by the RBI under _____ of the Foreign Exchange Management Act, 1999.

a) Section 10

b) Section 12

c) Section 16

d) Section 14

e) Section 11

Q.11) In FCEB, E stands for _____

a) External

b) Exchangeable

c) Export

d) Earned

e) None of these

Q.12) The Headquarters of TransUnion CIBIL is _____

a) Chennai

b) Kolkatta

c) Mumbai

d) Bengaluru

e) None of these

Q.13) Any Non-Banking Finance Institution should be a company registered under _____ of the Companies Act, 1956 to get the NBFC license from RBI.

a) Section 6

b) Section 3

c) Section 4

d) Section 5

e) None of these

Q.14) Any Non-Banking Finance Institution should have an NOF of Rs _____ to get the NBFC license from RBI.

a) 100 Lakh

b) 150 Lakh

c) 200 Lakh

d) 250 Lakh

e) None of these

Q.15) In NOF, O stands for _____

a) Original

b) Operation

c) Owned

d) All of these

e) None of these

Q.16) NBFCs whose asset size is of _____ or more as per last audited balance sheet are considered as systemically important NBFCs.

a) Rs. 200 Crore

b) Rs. 100 Crore

c) Rs. 400 Crore

d) Rs. 500 Crore

e) None of these

Q.17) Core Investment Companies with asset size of less than Rs. _____ are exempted from registration with the RBI.

- a) Rs. 100 Crore
- b) Rs. 500 Crore
- c) Rs. 300 Crore
- d) Rs. 400 Crore
- e) None of these

Q.18) Core Investment Companies with asset size of _____ and above but not accessing public funds are exempted from registration with the RBI.

- a) Rs. 100 Crore
- b) Rs. 600 Crore
- c) Rs. 300 Crore
- d) Rs. 400 Crore
- e) None of these

Q.19) IFC is a non-banking finance company which deploys at least _____ of its total assets in infrastructure loans.

- a) 65%
- b) 75%
- c) 55%
- d) 85%
- e) None of these

Q.20) IFC has a minimum Net Owned Funds of _____

- a) Rs. 100 Crore
- b) Rs. 500 Crore
- c) Rs. 300 Crore
- d) Rs. 400 Crore
- e) None of these

Q.21) In FIMMDA, "I" stands for _____

- a) International
- b) Identification
- c) Income
- d) Issuer
- e) None of these

Q.22) In FEDAI, "E" stands for _____

- a) External
- b) Exchange
- c) Earned
- d) Enabled
- e) None of these

Q.23) In CBLO, "L" stands for _____

- a) Liability
- b) Loan
- c) Lender
- d) Lending
- e) None of these

Q.24) In FPI, "P" stands for _____

- a) Percent
- b) Profit
- c) Portfolio
- d) Prompt
- e) None of these

Q.25) CCIL stands for _____

- a) Clearing Council of India Limited
- b) Clearing Corporation of India Limited
- c) Clearing Centre of India Limited
- d) Clearing Company of India Limited
- e) None of these

Q.26) In UTR Number, "U" Stands for _____

- a) Universal
- b) Unstructured
- c) Unique
- d) Uniformed
- e) All of these

Q.27) In EMV, E stands for _____

- a) External
- b) Exchange
- c) Earned
- d) Europay
- e) None of these

Q.28) In MOTO, "M" stands for _____

- a) Merge
- b) Multi
- c) Mail

- d) Multiple
e) None of these
- Q.29) In PIN, "P" stands for _____
a) Permanent
b) Previous
c) Personal
d) Prompt
e) None of these
- Q.30) In CCP, "P" Stands for ____
a) Permanent
b) Policy
c) Personal
d) Prompt
e) None of these
- Q.31) Which of the following is the headquarters of Bank for International Settlements?
a) Italy
b) Germany
c) Switzerland
d) USA
e) None of these
- Q.32) The SLR is commonly used to control _____
a) Deflation
b) Inflation
c) Credit Growth
d) Both (A) and (B)
e) Both (B) and (C)
- Q.33) The minimum limit(Earlier Limit) of SLR is _____
a) 20%
b) 25%
c) 35%
d) 40%
e) None of these
- Q.34) Following the amendment of the Banking regulation Act(1949) in January 2017, the floor rate of SLR _____ was removed.
a) 20.25
b) 20.50
c) 20.75
d) 21.25
e) None of these
- Q.35) Which of the following is determined by a percentage of total demand and time liabilities?
a) CRR
b) SLR
c) MBS
d) MCLR
e) None of these
- Q.36) If any Indian bank fails to maintain the required level of SLR, then it becomes liable to pay penalty to _____.
a) Finance Ministry
b) Bank Board Bureau
c) GOI
d) RBI
e) None of these
- Q.37) Which of the following is an example of Demand Liability?
a) Fixed Deposit
b) Current Account
c) Savings Account
d) Both (A) and (B)
e) Both (C) and (B)
- Q.38) Which of the following is an example of Time Liability?
a) Fixed Deposit
b) Current Account
c) Savings Account
d) All of these
e) None of these
- Q.39) If any Indian bank fails to maintain the required level of SLR, then the defaulter bank

pays penal interest at the rate of _____ per annum above the Bank Rate on the shortfall amount for that particular day.

- a) 4%
- b) 5%
- c) 3%
- d) 2%
- e) 6%

Q.40) If the defaulter bank continues to default on the next working day, then the rate of penal interest can be increased to _____ per annum above the Bank Rate

- a) 4%
- b) 5%
- c) 3%
- d) 2%
- e) 6%

Q.41) _____ is the rate at which the central bank of a country borrows money from commercial banks within the country

- a) Repo Rate
- b) Reverse Repo Rate
- c) Base Rate
- d) MCLR
- e) None of these

Q.42) The increase in the _____ will increase the cost of borrowing and lending of the banks.

- a) Repo Rate
- b) Reverse Repo Rate
- c) Base Rate
- d) MCLR
- e) None of these

Q.43) _____ is an instrument of monetary policy which involves buying or selling of government securities from or to the public and banks.

- a) CRR
- b) SLR

- c) MBS
- d) MCLR
- e) Open Market Operations

Q.44) _____ is a certain percentage of bank deposits which banks are required to keep with RBI in the form of reserves or balances.

- a) CRR
- b) SLR
- c) MBS
- d) MCLR
- e) None of these

Q.45) Every financial institution has to maintain a certain quantity of liquid assets with themselves at any point of time of their total time and demand liabilities. This is known as _____

- a) CRR
- b) SLR
- c) MBS
- d) MCLR
- e) None of these

Q.46) Which of the following makes bank rate policy effective and maintains stability in government securities market?

- a) CRR
- b) SLR
- c) MBS
- d) MCLR
- e) Open Market Operations

Q.47) The RBI sells government securities to _____ the flow of credit and buys government securities to _____ credit flow.

- a) Increase, Decrease
- b) Decrease, Increase
- c) Increase, Increase
- d) Decrease, Decrease
- e) None of these

Q.48) RBI is empowered to vary CRR between _____ and _____.

- a) 10%, 4%
- b) 10%, 2%
- c) 10%, 3%
- d) 10%, 1%
- e) None of these

Q.49) _____ the CRR with the RBI _____ will be the liquidity in the system

- a) Higher, Lower
- b) Lower, Higher
- c) Lower, Lower
- d) Higher, Higher
- e) None of these

Q.50) The maximum limit of SLR is _____

- a) 30%
- b) 35%
- c) 45%
- d) 40%
- e) None of these

ANSWER KEY

1. d, 2. e, 3. c, 4. d, 5. b, 6. b, 7. c, 8. a, 9. c, 10. a, 11. b, 12. c, 13. b, 14. c, 15. c, 16. d, 17. a, 18. a, 19. b, 20. c, 21. c, 22. b, 23. d, 24. c, 25. b, 26. c, 27. d, 28. c, 29. c, 30. b, 31. c, 32. e, 33. b, 34. c, 35. b, 36. d, 37. e, 38. a, 39. c, 40. b, 41. b, 42. a, 43. e, 44. a, 45. b, 46. e, 47. b, 48. c, 49. a, 50. D.

ENGLISH VOCABULARY:

English Vocabulary:

1) DESPOTIC (Adjective):

Meaning: of or typical of a despot; tyrannical.

Synonyms: autocratic, dictatorial, totalitarian, authoritarian,

Antonyms: democratic, accountable

Usage: Under orders from the despotic ruler, citizens were denied freedom of speech.

2) GRISLY (Adjective):

Meaning: causing horror or disgust.

Synonyms: gruesome, ghastly, frightful, horrid,

Antonyms: pleasant, attractive

Usage: Many massacres in history fade while some linger as grisly curiosities.

3) SPLURGE (verb):

Meaning: to spend extravagantly or ostentatiously.

Synonyms: squander, fling, dissipate, disburse.

Antonyms: accumulate, hoard, conserve, preserve

Usage: I feel like splurging on a new dress.

4) REFRACTORY (adjective):

Meaning: stubborn or unmanageable.

Synonyms: recalcitrant, obstreperous, insubordinate, intractable.

Antonyms: obedient, manageable, amenable, compliant.

Usage: Most teenagers go through a refractory phase where they don't want to listen to authority figures.

5) BEDECK (verb):

Meaning: to decorate or cover.

Synonyms: adorn, bedizen, embellish, emblaze.

Antonyms: denude, blemish, deface, disfigure.

Usage: The cars were all bedecked with flowers for the wedding ceremony.

6) ENVIRON (verb) :

Meaning: surround; enclose.

Synonyms: encircle, envelop, cloak, swathe.

Antonyms: unbridle, free, open, release.

Usage: The stone circle was environed by an expanse of peat soil.

7) EMANCIPATE(Verb) :

Meaning: to give people social or political freedom and rights

Synonyms: liberate, loosen

Antonyms: detain, hold

Usage: It neither made him be human to his slaves nor to emancipate them.

8) IDOLIZE(verb) :

Meaning: to adore, admire, or love greatly

Synonyms: admire, acknowledge

Antonyms: dislike, disrespect

Usage: She wanted someone to idolize her for her strong work ethic.

9) DENUDE (Verb) :

Meaning: strip (something) of its covering, possessions, or assets.

Synonyms: divest, deprive, bare, uncover

Antonyms: cover

Usage: He proceeded to denude the statue, fronting the church.

10) CONFOUND(Verb) :

Meaning: to mix up or confuse

Synonyms: confuse, puzzle

Antonyms: confirm, verify

Usage: Without instructions, this unusual game will confound anyone.

11) Mellow (adjective) :

Meaning: (especially of a sound, flavor, or color) pleasantly smooth or soft; free from harshness.

Synonyms: dulcet, euphonious, melodious, mellifluous, mellifluent.

Antonyms: rugged, abrading, gruff, abrasive, harsh.

Usage: His mellow voice and his qualitative speech made everyone applaud him

12) Precarious (adjective) :

Meaning: dependent on chance; uncertain.

Synonyms: unsure, unpredictable, doubtful, dubious.

Antonyms: certain, stable, confirmed, definite.

Usage: As Finance Secretary I found that the finances of the state were in a precarious condition.

13) Jeer (noun) :

Meaning: a rude and mocking remark.

Synonyms: hoot, ridicule, scuff, taunt

Antonyms: compliment, praise, flatter

Usage: Virat Kohli asked the crowd not to jeer Steve Smith

14) Indigenous (adjective) :

Meaning: originating or occurring naturally in a particular place; native.

Synonyms: native, innate, inborn, primitive, congenital

Antonyms: alien, foreign

Usage: They were our indigenous peoples, our first peoples, our first speakers and our first hearers.

15) Intimidate (verb) :

Meaning: frighten or overawe (someone), especially in order to make them do what one wants.

Synonyms: dishearten, dismay, terrify

Antonyms: please, praise

Usage: Her boss intimidates her

16) Torrid (Adjective) :

Meaning: Very hot and dry

Synonym: hot, sweltering,

Antonym: Cold, cool, wet

Usage: the equator into the south torrid zone.

17) Desalination (Noun) :

Meaning: the process of removing salt from seawater.

Synonym: Chemical change, chemical action

Antonym: Salinate, stay

Usage: Desalination capacity, increasing electrical generation and distribution.

18) Vague (Adjective) :

Meaning: of uncertain, indefinite, or unclear character or Meaning.

Synonym: indistinct, indefinite

Antonym: clear, certain

Usage: She rolled her eyes at the vague response.

19) Encompassing (Verb) :

Meaning: surround and have or hold within.

Synonym: surround, enclose, ring

Antonym: Exclude, leave

Usage: The training will encompass how to administer first aid and CPR.

20) Drought (Noun) :

Meaning: a prolonged period of abnormally low rainfall, leading to a shortage of water.

Synonym: dry spell, dry period,

Antonym: abundance, adequacy,

Usage: Heat and drought had continued for more than three weeks.

21) WHIMSICAL (Adjective) :

Meaning: acting or behaving in a capricious manner.

Synonyms: volatile, capricious, temperamental, impulsive

Antonyms: boring, serious

Usage: The whimsical music made me feel like a little kid again.

22) MANDATE (noun):

Meaning: an official order or commission to do something.

Synonyms: instruction, directive, direction, decree, command

Antonyms: encourage

Usage: They carried out the governor's mandate to build more roads.

23) NEUROSIS (NOUN) :

Meaning: a mental and emotional disorder that affects only part of the personality

Synonyms: aberration, dementia, hallucinosis, hypomania, paranoia

Antonyms: lucidity, rationality, rationalness, reasonability

Usage: These are givers whose philanthropy has been absent neurosis and aggression

24) INTRANSIGENCE (Noun) :

Meaning: refusal to change one's views or to agree about something.

Synonyms: inflexibility, stubbornness, obstinacy

Example: I can't understand Rachel's intransigence.

25) REDACT (verb) :

Meaning: edit (text) for publication.

Synonyms: correct, rectify, repair, fix.

Antonyms: befoul, deteriorate, diminish, hinder.

Usage: Some of the conclusions in the report have been redacted.

26) DILATORY (adjective) :

Meaning: slow to act

Synonyms: sluggish, slothful, lax, slack.

Antonyms: fast, prompt, brisk, quick.

Usage: They were dilatory in providing the researchers with information.

27) PURLOIN (verb) :

Meaning: steal (something).

Synonyms: loot, pilfer, steal, embezzle.

Antonyms: bestow, contribute, donate, purchase.

Usage: Sometimes it's impossible to not purloin an excerpt from another person's blog

28) SPLENDID(adjective) :

Meaning: excellent, or beautiful and impressive

Synonyms: excellent, amazing

Antonyms: dull, normal

Usage: It is a splendid and challenging book which seeks answers to large questions in interesting cultural and psychological agendas.

29) SLUMP (verb) :

Meaning: undergo a sudden severe or prolonged fall in price, value, or amount.

Synonyms: plummet, plunge, tumble, decline.

Antonyms: rise, ascend, grow, soar.

Usage: When the task force was putting together its original report, the world price of oil had slumped as low as \$10 a barrel.

30) HABITUAL(adjective):

Meaning: usual or repeated

Synonyms: addicted, perpetual

Antonyms: infrequent, occasional

Usage: Longer prison sentences will help keep habitual criminals off the streets.

31) Altruist (Noun):

Meaning: who make charitable donations

Synonyms: beneficent, benevolent, charitable, humanitarian, philanthropist, generous

Antonyms: self-centered, self-concerned, selfish.

Example: Animals can have more altruistic behavior than humans.

32) BITTERSWEET(Adjective) :

Meaning: tinged with a feeling of sadness

Synonyms: tangerine

Antonyms: happiness

Example: The ending of the romance movie was bittersweet.

33) DISSIDENCE (Noun) :

Meaning: disagreement over a matter

Synonyms: contention, disagreement, discordance, disharmony, dispute

Antonyms: agreement, approval, authorization, concurrence

Example: So much is said nowadays about the dissidence of the spiritual and intellectual worlds.

34) Inviolable(Adjective):

Meaning: Secure from the violation or profanation

Synonym: unchallengeable, unbreakable,

Antonym: partial

Usage: Everyone has an inviolable right to protection by a fair legal system.

35) XENOPHOBIC (adjective) :

Meaning: having or showing a dislike of or prejudice against people from other countries.

Synonyms: racist, racialist, ethnocentric, ethnocentrist.

Antonyms: bountiful, permissive, thoughtful, lenient.

Usage: As a result, the new parliament is distinctly more xenophobic and illiberal than its predecessor.

36) INSISTENCE (Noun) :

Meaning: a solemn and often public declaration of the truth or existence of something

Synonyms: affirmation, assertion, asseveration, avouchment, declaration, profession, protestation

Antonyms: disavowal

Usage: We got to know by the continued insistence that there was a massive cover-up by the government.

37) REVERE (verb) :

Meaning: feel deep respect or admiration for (something)

Synonyms: respect, admire, cherish, appreciate.

Antonyms: blaspheme, desecrate, profane, violate.

Usage: If you want to achieve any goal, revere the process & success will follow.

38) Concurrence (noun) :

Meaning: the fact of two or more events or circumstances happening or existing at the same time.

Synonym: concordance, cooperation, coincidence.

Antonym: dissonance, discord.

Usage: Because the events ran in concurrence, the coordinator could not attend both parties at the same time.

39) AGITATION(verb):

Meaning: a state of anxiety or nervous excitement.

Synonym: anxiety, perturbation, disquiet

Antonym: calmness, relaxation

Usage: Payal entered the room with an agitated face.

40) Quirk(Noun) :

Meaning: a strange habit

Synonyms: irregularity, a trait

Antonyms: normality,

Usage: His biggest quirk is his love for old marbles

41) HARK (verb) :

Meaning: to pay attention especially through the act of hearing

Synonym: attend, harken, hear, hearken, heed, listen, mind

Antonym: ignore, tune out

Usage: Upon hearing the offending ringing, the teacher sarcastically cried, "Hark! Could that possibly be a cell phone?"

42) ENFEEBLEMENT (Noun) :

Meaning: a gradual sinking and wasting away of mind or body

Synonym: decaying, declension, decline, degeneration, descent, deterioration

Antonym: comeback, improvement, rally, recovery, recuperation, rehabilitation

Usage: Daily exercise can help to halt some of the enfeeblement that comes with advanced years.

43) DYNAMISM (noun) :

Meaning: the fact of two or more events or circumstances happening or existing at the same time.

Synonym: beans, bounce, brio, dash, drive, energy, Esprit

Antonym: lethargy, listlessness, sluggishness, torpidity

Usage: Voters were attracted to the young challenger's dynamism, charisma, and progressive ideas.

44) FERVOUR (Noun) :

Meaning: great warmth and earnestness of feeling

Synonym: ardor, passion, zeal.

Antonym: impassiveness, impassivity, insensibility, insensibleness

Usage: Surprised by the fervor that her parents' old love letters contained when she discovered them in the attic.

45) EVANGELIZE (noun) :

Meaning: to try to convert (a group or area) to a different religion (especially Christianity).

Synonym: lecture, platitudinize, preach, preachify, sermonize

Antonym: deconvert, dissuade, endure, hold, idle, keep

Usage: The missionaries set out to evangelize the world.

46) INCHOATE (adjective) :

Meaning: just begun and so not fully formed or developed; rudimentary.

Synonyms: budding, inceptive, incipient, nascent.

Antonyms: developed, full-fledged, evolved, ripened.

Usage: Having just come into existence a few years ago, the new political party is considered inchoate by many historians.

47) EERILY (adverb) :

Meaning: in a strange and frightening manner.

Synonyms: hauntingly, creepily, scarily, spookily.

Antonyms: dulcetly, pleasingly, pleasantly, agreeably.

Usage: In front of him stood a masked man clutching a knife in one hand, grinning eerily at him.

48) VALIANT (Adjective) :

Meaning: possessing or showing courage or determination.

Synonyms: brave, fearless, courageous, valorous

Antonyms: cowardly, irresolute

Usage: Firemen are valiant individuals who put their lives on the line to save others.

49) EXTOL (Verb) :

Meaning: praise enthusiastically.

Synonyms: eulogize, acclaim

Antonyms: criticize

Usage: I got angry when my mother would extol my brother's accomplishments and ignore all the good things I did.

50) HEDGE (Verb) :

Meaning: limit or qualify (something) by conditions or exceptions.

Synonyms: confine, restrict, limit, hinder, obstruct,

Antonyms: absolute, certainty

Example: She was hedged in by her imperfect education.

51) EQUANIMITY(Noun) :

Meaning: to stay calm, especially under stress; to maintain composure

Synonyms: calmness, cool

Antonyms: agitation, discomposure

Usage: During the horrible storm, it was hard for us to focus on and maintain our equanimity.

52) DENUDE (Verb) :

Meaning: strip (something) of its covering, possessions, or assets.

Synonyms: divest, deprive, bare, uncover

Antonyms: cover

Usage: He proceeded to denude the statue, fronting the church bishop's podium.

53) ALLEVIATE(Verb) :

Meaning: to make something less painful, severe, or serious

Synonyms: help, soothe

Antonyms: aggravate, exacerbate

Usage: If you want to alleviate the situation, start by apologizing for your mistake.

54) ONUS (Noun) :

Meaning: Something that is one's duty or responsibility.

Synonyms: burden, responsibility, liability, obligation

Antonyms: advantage, benefit, blessing

Example: The onus of proof lies with the prosecution.

55) EMULATE (verb) :

Meaning: to use (someone or something) as the model for one's speech, mannerisms, or behavior.

Synonyms: imitate, reecho, repeat, follow.

Antonyms: neglect, reprove, proscribe, the affront.

Example: Josh is trying to emulate the success of his well-accomplished mother.

56) BULGE (Noun) :

Meaning: a rounded bump or swelling that juts outward on a surface

Synonyms: lump, bump

Antonyms: in growth

Example: The bag was so full that a bulge from the oranges could be seen through the packaging.

57) PROLIFERATION (Noun) :

Meaning: rapid increase in the number or amount of something

Synonyms: generation, propagation

Antonyms: reduction

Example: The proliferation of technology over the last 100 years has happened so quickly and caused many societal changes.

58) NONPAREIL (adjective) :

Meaning: having no match or equal; unrivaled.

Synonyms: incomparable, unrivalled, unparalleled, unsurpassable.

Antonyms: common, normal, ordinary, inferior.

Example: The champions deserved the title because they were nonpareil all season and won every game.

59) DECREE(Noun) :

Meaning: to declare formally and with authority

Synonyms: directive, edict

Antonyms: lawlessness

Example: The president decreed that Halloween would henceforth be a national holiday.

60) FRIVOLOUS (adjective) :

Meaning: not having any serious purpose or value.

Synonyms: flippant, glib, waggish

Antonyms: serious, practical, important

Example: Isabelle was a frivolous little fool, vain and flighty.

61) SCOFF (Verb) :

Meaning: speak to someone or about something in a scornfully derisive or mocking way.

Synonyms: mock, deride, ridicule

Antonyms: flatter, praise, compliment

Usage: The rude rich boy thought it was fun to scoff at the poor people at his school.

62) PROFANE(adjective):

Meaning: vulgar and inappropriate

Synonyms: coarse, nasty

Antonyms: kind, polite

Usage: They have profaned the long upheld traditions of the Temple.

63) CONCURRENCE (noun) :

Meaning: the fact of two or more events or circumstances happening or existing at the same time.

Synonym: concordance, cooperation, coincidence.

Antonym: dissonance, discord.

Usage: Because the events ran in concurrence, the coordinator could not attend both parties at the same time.

64) Unprecedented (adjective) :

Meaning: never done or known before.

Synonym: unequaled, unmatched, unrivaled.

Antonym: precededent, familiar, usual.

Usage: The damage caused by the hurricane is unprecedented and has never been experienced before in this country.

65) SPATE (Noun) :

Meaning: a large number of similar things or events appearing or occurring in quick succession.

Synonyms: deluge, flood, flurry, outpouring, string, succession

Antonyms: dribble, drip, trickle

Usage: A spate of words has been published on this controversial topic.

66) SALUBRIOUS(adjective):

Meaning: favorable to or promoting health or well-being

Synonyms: medicinal, tonic

Antonyms: unhealthy, insalubrious

Usage: Emergent public health and sanitary experts actively sought the most salubrious and efficient means of refuse disposal.

67) GRISLY (Adjective):

Meaning: causing horror or disgust.

Synonyms: gruesome, ghastly, frightful, horrid,

Antonyms: pleasant, attractive

Usage: Many massacres in history fade while some linger as grisly curiosities.

68) ESOTERIC (Adjective):

Meaning: intended for or likely to be understood by only a small number of people with specialized knowledge or interest.

Synonyms: abstruse, obscure, arcane,

Antonyms: simple, familiar

Usage: the medical research was so esoteric that only a few physicians could actually understand the results.

69) SPLURGE (verb) :

Meaning: to spend extravagantly or ostentatiously.

Synonyms: squander, fling, dissipate, disburse.

Antonyms: accumulate, hoard, conserve, preserve.

Usage: I feel like splurging on a new dress.

70) REFRACTORY (adjective) :

Meaning: stubborn or unmanageable.

Synonyms: recalcitrant, obstreperous, insubordinate, intractable.

Antonyms: obedient, manageable, amenable, compliant.

Usage: Most teenagers go through a refractory phase where they don't want to listen to authority figures.

71) Encumbrance (Noun) :

Meaning: an impediment or burden.

Synonym: hindrance, obstruction

Antonym: help, asset

Usage: A half-mask is more practical, as you can eat, drink and kiss without encumbrance.

72) Disenchanted (Noun) :

Meaning: disappointed by someone or something previously respected or admired; disillusioned.

Synonym: disillusioned, disappointed

Antonym: Enchanted, encourage

Usage: only to be disenchanted with the Italy he had loved so intensely a year or two before.

73) Blatant (Adjective) :

Meaning: (of bad behavior) done openly and unashamedly.

Synonym: flagrant, glaring

Antonym: inconspicuous, subtle

Usage: The blatant defiance was so sweetly uttered, he didn't know how to respond.

74) Genocide (Noun) :

Meaning: the deliberate killing of a large group of people, especially those of a particular nation or ethnic group

Synonym: racial killing, massacre

Antonym: Peace, toleration

75) Glossary (Noun) :

Meaning: an alphabetical list of words relating to a specific subject, text, or dialect, with explanations; a brief dictionary.

Synonym: Dictionary, vocabulary

Antonym: Roughness

Usage: A small glossary of some of the more common component words is appended below.

76) protagonists(noun) :

Meaning: the leading character or one of the major characters in a play, film, novel, etc.

Synonym: supporter, upholder

Antonym: opponent

Usage: The most adamant opposition to my argument is likely to come from protagonists of secular reason.

77) Flawed (adjective) :

Meaning: having or characterized by a fundamental weakness or imperfection.

Synonym: unsound, defective

Antonym: sound

Usage: I'm flawed, but I will do my best.

78) juvenile(adjective) :

Meaning: for or relating to young people.

Synonym: young, teenage,

Antonym: adult

Usage: There is also an increase in juvenile delinquency.

79) dilemma(noun) :

Meaning: a situation in which a difficult choice has to be made between two or more alternatives, especially ones that are equally undesirable.

Synonym: quandary, predicament

Antonym: benefit, a boon

Usage: Prodding Martha to talk out her dilemma helped

80) Drove(noun) :

Meaning: a herd or flock of animals being driven in a body.

Synonym: herd, flock, pack, fold

Antonym: trickles

Usage: He drove to their house in some agitation.

81) INTIMIDATE (verb):

Meaning: frighten or overawe (someone), especially in order to make them do what one wants.

Synonyms: dishearten, dismay, terrify

Antonyms: please, praise

Usage: Her boss intimidates her

82) EPHEMERAL (Adjective):

Meaning: Lasting for a short time

Synonyms: Temporary, Short-lived, transient.

Antonyms: long-lived, enduring, everlasting, eternal, perpetual.

Usage: time is ephemeral so don't waste it.

83) ARDENT (Adjective) :

Meaning: Characterized by strong enthusiasm

Synonyms: Passionate, enthusiastic, zealous

Antonyms: apathetic, dull, calm.

Usage: One should be an ardent supporter for the right cause.

84) MANDATE (noun):

Meaning: an official order or commission to do something.

Synonyms: instruction, directive, direction, decree, command

Antonyms: encourage

Usage: They carried out the governor's mandate to build more roads.

85) DISSIDENCE (Noun) :

Meaning: disagreement over a matter

Synonyms: contention, disagreement, discordance, disharmony, dispute

Antonyms: agreement, approval, authorization, concurrence

Usage: So much is said nowadays about the dissidence of the spiritual and intellectual worlds.

86) INCHOATE (adjective) :

Meaning: just begun and so not fully formed or developed; rudimentary.

Synonyms: budding, inceptive, incipient, nascent.

Antonyms: developed, full-fledged, evolved, ripened.

Usage: Having just come into existence a few years ago, the new political party is considered inchoate by many historians.

87) CONFLATE (verb) :

Meaning: combine (two or more sets of information, texts, ideas, etc.) into one.

Synonyms: amalgamate, converge, unify, fuse.

Antonyms: divide, part, separate, rupture.

Usage: To conflate art and science, teachers must design activities that blend the two.

88) STRINGENT (adjective) :

Meaning: not allowing for any exceptions or loosening of standards

Synonyms: brassbound, cast-iron, exacting, hard-line, inflexible, rigid, rigorous,

Antonyms: flexible, lax, loose, relaxed, slack

Usage: There are stringent rules against unauthorized persons being in our building

89) XENOPHOBIC (adjective) :

Meaning: having or showing a dislike of or prejudice against people from other countries.

Synonyms: racist, racialist, ethnocentric, ethnocentrist.

Antonyms: bountiful, permissive, thoughtful, lenient.

Usage: As a result, the new parliament is distinctly more xenophobic and illiberal than its predecessor.

90) VEST (verb) :

Meaning: confer or bestow (power, authority, property, etc.) on someone.

Synonyms: entrust, invest, bestow, confer.

Antonyms: impede, inhibit, disqualify, disbar.

Usage: Extensive powers were vested into the hands of the President who headed the executive branch of government.

91) DENIZEN (noun) :

Meaning: a person, animal, or plant that lives or is found in a particular place.

Synonyms: inhabitant, occupant, resident, tenant.

Antonyms: visitor, emigrant, evacuee, expatriate.

Usage: The author of Atlanta's latest guidebook is a longtime denizen of the city who knows all the best places to visit.

92) SPLURGE (verb) :

Meaning: to spend extravagantly or ostentatiously.

Synonyms: squander, fling, dissipate, disburse.

Antonyms: accumulate, hoard, conserve, preserve.

Usage: I feel like splurging on a new dress.

93) DETENTE (noun) :

Meaning: the easing of hostility or strained relations, especially between countries.

Synonyms: agreement, peace, amity, concord.

Antonyms: disruptive, antagonism, antipathy, hostility.

Usage: The policy of detente was scrapped and the objective was increasingly to roll back the Soviet Union.

94) SACK (verb) :

Meaning: dismiss from employment.

Synonyms: bounce, discharge, dismiss, terminate,

Antonyms: recruit, employ, engage, hire.

Usage: They made him pay for his offence by giving him the sack.

95) DILATORY (adjective) :

Meaning: slow to act

Synonyms: sluggish, slothful, lax, slack.

Antonyms: fast, prompt, brisk, quick.

Usage: They were dilatory in providing the researchers with information.

96) TRIFLE (Noun) :

Meaning: a thing of little value or importance.

Synonyms: bagatelle, inessential, nothing

Antonyms: lot

Example: We needn't trouble the headmaster over such trifles.

97) POLEMICAL (Adjective):

Meaning: of or involving strongly critical or disputatious writing or speech.

Synonyms: critical, hostile, bitter, polemic, virulent

Example: Unlike most academic philosophy much of it is personal, polemical, poetical or allusive.

98) DECRY (Verb) :

Meaning: publicly denounce.

Synonyms: denounce, condemn, criticize, censure, damn, attack

Antonyms: praise, overrate

Example: He is impatient with those who decry the scheme.

99) VITRIOLIC (Adjective) :

Meaning: filled with bitter criticism or malice.

Synonyms: acrimonious, rancorous, bitter, caustic, mordant

Antonyms: pleasant, kind

Example: The newspaper launched a vitriolic attack on the president.

100) BITTERSWEET(Adjective) :

Meaning: tinged with a feeling of sadness

Synonyms: tangerine

Antonyms: happiness

Example: The ending of the romance movie was bittersweet.