



# WEEKLY G.K.

08 July – 14 July (2019)



Download India's #1 Competitive Exam Prep. App











### **National News**

#### **1. Bonalu festival kicks off in Telangana:**

- The annual Bonalu festival kicked off at the Jagadamba temple in historic Golconda Fort, Telangana.
- Bonalu is celebrated every year in the state during the first month of the monsoon season. Bonalu is the "state festival" of Telangana.
- Foot Notes:
- > About Telangana
- 1. CM: K Chandrashekhar Rao
- 2. Capital: Hyderabad.
- 3. Governor: ESL Narasimhan.

#### **2."Vivekadeepini" book released by the Vice President of India:**

- The Vice President of India, Shri M. Venkaiah Naidu has released the book 'Vivekadeepini' in ten languages.
- It is a concise book of aphorisms that contains glimpses of India's wisdom. The book will be published by Vedanta Bharati.
- Uttarakhand was named among best performing states in 'Beti Bachao, Beti Padhao' scheme
- Uttarakhand has been adjudged as one of the country's five best performing states under the National Programme Beti Bachao Beti Padhao (BBBP) scheme aimed at addressing declining child sex ratio and issues of women empowerment.
- As per the Union Ministry of Women and Child Development, the State received this recognition for its consistent performance in respect of sex ratio at birth.
- In addition to Uttarakhand, Haryana has bagged three awards, including one state-level and two district-level awards, for consistent performance in respect of the sex ratio at birth (SRB). The two districts of Haryana which won the award are Bhiwani and Mahendragarh.
- **Solution** Foot Notes:
- > About Beti Bachao Beti Padhao (BBBP) Scheme
- 1. BBBP scheme was launched on 22 January 2015 by Prime Minister Narendra Modi.
- 2. It is a joint initiative of Ministry of Women and Child Development, the Ministry of Health and Family Welfare and the Ministry of Human Resource Development.

#### **3.** India's first elephant rehabilitation centre will be set up at Kerala's Kottoor:

- India's first elephant rehabilitation centre will be set up by the Kerala State Government in its ecotourism village of Kottoor.Rs.105 crore has been allotted to this project which was launched by Chief Minister of Kerala, Pinarayi Vijayan.Kerala's Kottoor
- At present, the center has only 15 elephants and it will be increased once work has been completed. The centre will have an elephant museum, mahout training centre, super-specialty hospital, a retirement home and crematorium for the animals, will house orphaned, injured and older elephants.
- Now the state has 507 captive elephants & forest department plans to admit more captive elephants. The centre will be set up with 65 hectares of natural forests area will have elephant safari and other activities to attract tourists.
- **❖** Foot Notes:
- > About Kerala:
- 1. Capital: Thiruvananthapuram
- 2. Governor: P. Sathasivam
- 3. National Parks: Eravikulam National Park, Silent Valley National Park, Pampadum Shola National Park, Mathikettan Shola National Park, Anamudi Shola National Park.



#### **4.** Madhya Pradesh will soon be able to produce its own seeds:

- The Madhya Pradesh State Cooperative Seed Federation will produce its own seeds in addition with distribution and marketing of certified and high-quality seeds to farmers. The brand name of seeds to be 'Sah-Beej' produced from next Rabi season.
- The decision was taken in a meeting Board of Directors' held under the chairmanship of Govind Singh, Minister for Cooperatives in Bhopal, Madhya Pradesh.
- Seed societies in the state linked with seed federation will help in the marketing of seeds.
- Training will also be given to members of seed societies through agriculture science centres to make them competent and empowered.
- **\*** Foot Notes:
- > About Madhya Pradesh
- 1. Capital: Bhopal
- Chief minister: Kamal Nath
   Governor: Anandiben Patel

#### **5.** Phase-II DBT in fertilizer subsidy launched:

- Union Minister for Chemicals and Fertilizers launched the Phase-II of the Direct Benefit Transfer of Fertilizer Subsidy.
- DBT in fertilizer subsidy is a step in the direction of bringing ease of living in the lives of farmers through use of modern technology and plugging leakages, pilferages and black marketing.
- **\*** Foot Notes:
- **▶** About Chemicals and Fertilizers
- 1. Union Minister for Chemicals and Fertilizers: D.V. Sadananda Gowda.

#### **↓ 6. Lal Bahadur Shastri Statue unveiled by PM:**

- The Prime Minister unveiled the statue of former Prime Minister Sh. Lal Bahadur Shastri at the Lal Bahadur Shastri International Airport in Varanasi.
- It is built by Northern Coalfields, a subsidiary of Coal India.
- **\*** Foot Notes:
- > About UP
- 1. CM of UP: Yogi Adityanath
- 2. Governor of UP: Ram Naik.

#### **↓** 7. India – ASEAN Troika Trade Ministers' Meeting held in New Delhi

- India Association of Southeast Asian Nations (ASEAN) Troika Trade Ministers' Meeting was held in New Delhi for informal consultation on the ongoing Regional Comprehensive Economic Partnership (RCEP). Union Minister of Commerce & Industry and Railways, Piyush Goyal, Acting Minister of Commerce of Thailand, Ms. Chutima Bunyapraphasara, Minister of Trade of Indonesia, Enggartiasto Lukita, Secretary General, ASEAN, Lim Jock Hoi and Trade Negotiating Committee (TNC) Chair of RCEP, Iman Pambagyo attended the meeting.
- India emphasized on adherence to the RCEP guiding principles in order to balance high ambition on goods tariff reduction with addressing of sensitives in bilateral pairings between India and China through temporary and permanent deviations/ exclusions.
- China had demanded that India should eliminate duties on more than 90% of the items from the country, as it is willing to do in case of the ASEAN, Japan and South Korea. But India has tentatively offered to eliminate duties on 74% of items from China as part of the RCEP deal. It also highlighted to stress on possible mechanism to address persistent and wide imbalances in trade.



- **\*** Foot Notes:
- > About RCEP
- 1. Headquarters: London, UK
- 2. Founded: 20 November 2012
- 3. Members: 10 Asean group members Brunei, Cambodia, Indonesia, Malaysia, Myanmar, Singapore, Thailand, the Philippines, Laos and Vietnam and 6 FTA (Free Trade Partners) partners India, China, Japan, South Korea, Australia and New Zealand.

#### **♣ 8. Prasar Bharati signs MoU with HT Kanpur for research collaboration**

- India's largest public broadcasting agency, Prasar Bharati has signed an MoU(Memorandum of Understanding) with IIT, Kanpur(Indian Institute of Technology) for research collaboration in newly emerging technologies and broadcasting-related areas in New Delhi.
- This will help in boosting research activities in the broadcasting field.
- The areas of cooperation would be Direct to mobile broadcasting, Convergence of 5G, Artificial Intelligence(AI), Incubation Centre and internship for students of IIT, Kanpur at Prasar Bharati .\
- **\*** Foot Notes:
- > About Prasar Bharati:
- 1. Headquarters: New Delhi
- 2. CEO: Shashi Shekhar Vempati
- 3. Founded: 23 November 1997
- 4. Chairman: Dr. A. Surya Prakash

#### 4 9. Haryana launched a 'Meri Fasal Mera Byora' portal for farmers.

- The Chief Minister of Haryana Government Manohar Lal Khattar has launched online portal named "Meri Fasal Mera Byora" (https://www.fasalhry.in/) for farmers to directly avail crop related benefits of state government schemes after self-reporting their land and crop-related details. The farmers who will register on the portal required to upload information like the name of crop sown, area under cultivation, cropping month, bank account number and mobile number at Common Service Centres (CSCs) or Atal Seva Kendras (ASK) or with the help of VLEs (Village Level Entrepreneurs ) by end of July.
- Each farmer, who registered on the portal get a financial incentive of Rs 10 per acre or part thereof subject to a minimum of Rs 20 to maximum Rs 50. It will enable farmers to avail the subsidy on agriculture implements easily & make damage assessment during natural calamities and disbursal of relief in cases of crop damage easier and other financial assistance under different schemes.
- The state government will get the accurate data of area and name of crop cultivated in various parts of the state and it is a step forward towards Prime Minister Narendra Modi's vision of doubling the farmer's income by 2022.
- **\*** Foot Notes:
- > About Haryana
- 1. Capital: Chandigarh
- 2. Governor: Satyadev Narayan Arya
- 3. Chief minister: Manohar Lal Khattar

#### 4 10. UP has highest number of senior citizens with more than one crore 54 lakh

 Rattan Lal Kataria, the Minister of State for Social Justice and Empowerment stated that Uttar Pradesh(UP) has highest number of senior citizens with more than one crore 54 lakh followed by Maharashtra with one crore 11 lakh. Totally the country has over 10.38 crore senior citizens.



- Schemes: For the betterment of senior citizens, the centre has launched various schemes to lead a socially secured life. And since 2017,the ministry has launched Rashtriya Vayoshri Yojana for senior citizens belonging to BPL (Below Poverty Line)category, who are suffering from age-related disabilities.
- **\*** Foot Notes:
- > About Rashtriya Vayoshri Yojana:
- 1. The Scheme aims at providing physical aids and assisted-living devices for senior citizens(who are aged above 60 years) belonging to Below Poverty Line (BPL) category.
- > About Uttar Pradesh
- 1. Capital: Lucknow
- 2. Governor: Ram Naik
- 3. Chief Minister: Yogi Adityanath
- 4. Wildlife sanctuaries: Bakhira WLS, Chandraprabha WLS, Dr. Bhimrao Ambedkar Bird WLS, Hastinapur WLS Uttar, Kaimur WLS, Katerniaghat WL

#### **↓ 11. "Operation Thirst" launched by RPF**

- RPF launched "Operation Thirst" to crack down selling of unauthorised Packaged Drinking Water in the railway premises.
- During the operation, 1371 persons were arrested for selling of packaged drinking water of unauthorised brands.
- **\*** Foot Notes:
- 1. Union Minister for Railways: Piyush Goyal.

#### **↓ 12. Rajghat coal plant to be turned into solar park**

- The Delhi government has announced that the Rajghat thermal power plant will be officially shut and turned into a solar park. A 5,000 KW of solar power will be produced at the 45 acre plant site.
- The coal-based plant, whose current units were commissioned in 1989, has been lying in a shutdown mode from 2014.
- **\*** Foot Notes:
- **➤** About New Delhi
- 1. Chief Minister of Delhi: Arvind Kejriwal
- 2. Lieutenant Governor of Delhi: Anil Baijal.

# **13.** WCD implements a Scheme for Women in Difficult Circumstances called "Swadhar Greh"

- The Ministry of Women and Child Development(WCD), Government of India implementing the Swadhar Greh Scheme for the rehabilitation of women in difficult circumstances so that they could lead their life with dignity. Swadhar Greh.
- Support: It envisages providing shelter, food, clothing, and health as well as economic and social security for the women who are deserted and without any social and economic support, victims of domestic violence, family tension, and natural disaster.
- Helpline: The ministry also implementing Universalisation of Women Helpline Scheme to provide 24 hours emergency and non-emergency response to women affected by violence.
- OSC: As a part of Nirbhaya Framework, One Stop Centres(OSC) has been established for violence affected women across the country with the help of States/UTs (Union territory).
- Facilities: OSC formed under One Stop Centre Scheme provides legal and psycho-social counseling &other facilities include temporary shelter, police facilitation and medical support to the women affected by violence.
- **\*** Foot Notes:
- > About WCD



Founded: 30 January 2006
 Headquarters: New Delhi
 Union Minister: Smriti Irani

# **14.** Chandigarh best performing state in the field of education in the Performance Grading Index 2017-18

- Ministry of Human Resource Development (HRD) informed that in the Performance Grading Index 2017-18, Chandigarh was ranked best among States and Union territories (UTs) in the field of education.
- The Index ranked the states on the basis of 5 parameters including learning outcomes and quality, access, infrastructure and facilities, equity and governance process. 36 States/ UTs were ranked in the Index.
- **\*** Foot Notes:
- > About Other Ranking
- 1. Other Rankings: Kerala was ranked second followed by Gujarat (3), Haryana (4), Tamil Nadu (5), Punjab (7), Rajasthan (8), Delhi(9).
- 2. Least Rankings: Arunachal Pradesh (36), Nagaland (35) and Meghalaya (34) were the least performing states.
- 3. Literacy: Kerala had the highest literacy rate followed by Lakshadweep and Mizoram.

#### **15.** Tamil Nadu to be the first state to manufacture electric cars: Minister

- M C Sampath, minister for industries stated that South Korean multinational automotive
  manufacturer Hyundai plans to launch its electric car for India and the global market from
  Chennai facility will help make Tamil Nadu the first state in India to manufacture electric
  cars. Tamil Nadu to be the first state to manufacture electric cars
- Key points:
- **Motive:** The Tamil Nadu (TN)State Government aims to attract the multinational companies that are moving out of China after the US(United States)-China trade dispute.
- **Investment:** Tamil Nadu ranks 3rd in capital investment in the industrial sector with Rs 4.02 lakh crore, after Gujarat (Rs 8.14 lakh crore) and Maharashtra (Rs 5.02 lakh crore).
- Industrial o/p: The state which has 37,220 factories (the most in India followed by Maharashtra (27,010 units) and Gujarat (25,966 units)) also ranks 3rd in total industrial output(o/p), with Rs 7.66 lakh crore, after Gujarat (Rs 12.22 lakh crore) and Maharashtra (Rs 10.74 lakh crore).
- **Workforce:** TN has a high number of persons engaged in the factory at 24.08 lakh persons which are 25% higher than the next state Maharashtra.
- **Eco-friendly initiative:** The TN Industries Development Corporation (TIDCO is selecting a consultant for preparing a report on developing a greenfield airport near Chennai.
- **Defence:** The state also aims to attract Rs 10,000 crore in the defence sector for five years.
- **Solution** Foot Notes:
- > About Tamil Nadu
- 1. Capital: Chennai
- 2. Chief minister: Edappadi K. Palaniswami
- 3. Governor: Banwarilal Purohit
- 4. National Parks: Guindy National Park, Gulf of Mannar Marine National Park, Indira Gandhi (Annamalai) National Park, Mudumalai National Park, Mukurthi National Park.

#### **16.** Meghalaya is the first state in India to ensure water conservation

 Meghalaya became the first state in India to ensure water conservation with its State Water Policy. The draft water policy was approved by the State Cabinet in a meeting chaired by Meghalaya Chief Minister Conrad K. Sangma. Meghalaya.



- The policy aims to recognize water resources as a common pool resource, to provide safe and
  hygienic water for drinking, domestic, sanitation & livelihood development to all residents of
  the state, ensure the protection and conservation of catchment areas of all water sources to
  prevent degradation of the quantity and quality of water sources.
- It will be implemented through active participation of the community by constituting a Water Sanitation Village Council at the village level.
- **Solution** Foot Notes
- ➤ About Meghalaya:
- 1. Capital: Shillong
- 2. Governor: Tathagata Roy
- 3. National Parks: Balphakram National Park, Nokrek Ridge National Park
- 4. Wildlife Sanctuaries: Baghmara Pitcher Plant Wildlife Sanctuary, Nongkhyllem Wildlife Sanctuary

#### **↓ 17. Navjot Singh Sidhu resigned as Punjab Cabinet Minister**

- Navjot Singh Sidhu, Congress leader, resigned as Punjab Cabinet Minister from the Amarinder Singh cabinet. He had submitted the resignation letter dated June 10, 2019 addressed to the then Congress President Rahul Gandhi. Navjot Singh Sidhu.
- Cabinet reshuffle, Chief Minister of Punjab, Amarinder Singh had divested Sidhu of the key portfolios of local government, tourism and cultural affairs and allotted him power and new and renewable energy sources ministry. But he did not assume the new charge.
- He was also left out of the consultative groups formed by the chief minister on June 8, 2019.
- Foot Notes
- > About Punjab:
- 1. Capital: Chandigarh
- 2. Governor: V.P. Singh Badnore
- 3. Wildlife Sanctuaries: Abohar WLS, Bir Bhadson WLS, Harike Lake WLS, Jhajjar Bacholi WLS, Kathlaur Kushlian WLS, Nangal WLS etc

## **International News & Foreign Affairs**

#### 4 1. World's largest burn and plastic surgery institute inaugurated in Dhaka, Bangladesh

- On July 4, 2019, The world's largest burn and plastic surgery institute named Sheikh Hasina National Burn and Plastic Surgery Institute started its functioning in Dhaka, Bangladesh. The Outpatient Department (OPD) of the institute was inaugurated by the Health and Family Welfare Minister of Bangladesh Zahid Maleque. World's largest burn and plastic surgery institute.
- It is a 500-bed hospital with 50 Intensive Care Units (ICUs) and 12 operation theatres. It will provide advanced treatment to burn patients in Bangladesh.
- It was built at a cost of over 500 crore Taka.
- **\*** Foot Notes:
- > About Bangladesh
- 1. Capital: Dhaka
- Currency: Bangladeshi taka
   Prime minister: Sheikh Hasina

#### **↓ 2. Sri Lanka inaugurates model village built with Indian assistance**

- Sri Lanka has inaugurated first model village built with Indian assistance. The village is a part of housing project meant for war affected people.
- India has partnered with the ministry of housing and construction and cultural affairs of Sri Lanka to build 100 model villages with Indian grant of Rs 1,200 million.



- **\*** Foot Notes:
- > About Sri Lanka
- 1. Capitals of Sri Lanka: Colombo, Sri Jayawardenepura Kotte
- 2. Currency: Sri Lankan Rupee.

#### **↓** 3.Sharjah issues 1st permanent residency visa to Lalu Samuel

- Sharjah's first Golden Card visa was issued to an Indian expat businessman Lalu Samuel. The move is a part of the permanent residency system tailored for investors.
- The Golden Card is a 10-year long-term visa eligible for investors and entrepreneurs to engage them in the renaissance and development of the UAE.
- Lalu Samuel is a Chairman and Managing Director of Kingston Holdings and Chairman of Sharjah Industry Business Group.
- **\*** Foot Notes:
- > About UAE
- 1. Capital of UAE: Abu Dhabi
- 2. Currency: Dirham.

#### 4. Saudi Arabia adopts Digital India & 'equality of women' motto for Haj 2019

- Indian Haj mission in Saudi Arabia adopts Digital India and 'equality of women' motto for the empowerment of Muslim women pilgrims & to reach out to a large number of pilgrims as part of the Government of India's initiative of Digital India.
- Indian Haj Information SystemKey points: App for Grievance redressal: An App called " Indian Haj Information System" has been introduced to receive grievances and feedback from Hajis to improve the service.
- It also connects the pilgrims with Qadimul Hajjaj (Haj service coordinators, who were deployed to assist pilgrims during the Haj), of their respective States.
- **\*** Foot Notes:
- > About Saudi Arabia:
- 1. Capital: Riyadh
- 2. Currency: Saudi Riyal
- 3. King: Salman
- 4. Crown Prince: Mohammad Bin Salman

#### **↓** 5. France to impose green tax on plane tickets from 2020

- France will impose green tax up to €18 on plane tickets from 2020. The move aims to fund less-polluting transportation projects.
- A similar tax was introduced in Sweden in April 2018, which imposed an added charge of up to €40 on every ticket in a bid to lessen the impact of air travel on the climate.
- **\*** Foot Notes:
- > About France
- 1. President of France: Emmanuel Macron
- 2. Capital: Paris
- 3. Currency: Euro, CFP Fran

#### **↓** 6. Sri Lanka eliminates measles

- Sri Lanka has become fifth country in the World Health Organisation (WHO) Southeast Asia region to eliminate measles.
- The other countries in the region which have achieved this feat are Bhutan, Maldives, DPR Korea and Timor-Leste.
- > About Sri Lanka
- 1. Capitals of Sri Lanka: Colombo, Sri Jayawardenepura Kotte.
- 2. Currency of Sri Lanka: Sri Lankan rupee.
- 3. Prime minister: Ranil Wickremesinghe
- 4. President: Maithripala Sirisena



#### **↓ 7. Ukraine inaugurates world's largest Metal Dome**

- Ukraine has inaugurated the world's largest movable metal dome encasing the destroyed reactor at the infamous Chernobyl plant.
- It is a 108-meter high dome which weighs 36,000 tonnes.
- **❖** Foot Notes:
- > About Ukrain
- 1. Capital of Ukraine: Kyiv
- 2. Currency of Ukraine: Ukrainian Hryvnia

#### **8.USISPF** second annual leadership summit held in Washington

- The US India Strategic and Partnership Forum 2nd annual leadership summit held in Washington. "US India Bilateral Trade Report" was released on the occasion.
- Some findings of the report are:
- US India bilateral trade could reach USD 238 billion by 2025.
- Sectors such as defence trade, commercial aircrafts, oil and LNG, coal, machinery and electronics are areas of potential growth.
- The US-India trade balance has grown 3.8 per cent on an average in favour of India.
- **Solution** Foot Notes:
- > About USA
- 1. President of United States: Donald Trump
- 2. Capital: Washington, DC.

#### **9.France became the first country to pass GAFA tax on digital giants**

- France became the first country to pass GAFA (Google, Apple, Facebook, Amazon) Tax on digital giants in defiance of a probe ordered by the United States (US) President Donald Trump.france-gafaKey Points:
- It will levy a 3% tax on total annual revenues of the largest tech firms providing services to French consumers.
- It will help to plug taxation gaps.
- **\*** Foot Notes:
- > About France
- 1. Capital: Paris
- 2. Currency: Euro
- 3. President: Emmanuel Macron

#### **↓** 10.First Global Conference for Media Freedom held in London

- The First Global Conference for Media Freedom 2019, hosted by the United Kingdom (UK) and Canada, was in London, UK. It was co-hosted by Chrystia Freeland, Canadian Minister of Foreign Affairs, and Jeremy Hunt, the UK Foreign Secretary.
- The conference was structured around 4 themes: protection and prosecution, including impunity, national frameworks and legislation, building trust in media and countering disinformation and media sustainability.
- The new Global Media Defence Fund, administered by the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO), will support, train and provide legal support to journalists in the most dangerous parts of the world. The UK will provide 3 million pounds and Canada will provide Canadian Dollar 1 million contribution to the new fund.
- **\*** Foot Notes:
- > About UK:
- 1. Capital: London
- 2. Currency: Pound sterling
- **➤** About Canada:
- 1. Capital: Ottawa
- 2. Currency: Canadian dollar.



#### **11.** The US House passed a Bill to remove 7% cap on issuing Green Card

- The United States (US) House of Representatives passed a Bill 'Fairness for High-Skilled Immigrants Act, 2019 or HR 1044' which removes the present 7% country-cap on issuing Green Cards. A Green Card allows a person to live and work permanently in the US.Green Card.
- According to the Congressional Research Service (CRS), the bill increases the per-country cap on family-based immigrant visas from 7% of the total number of such visas available that year to 15% and eliminates the 7% cap for employment-based immigrant visas
- It was passed by the 435-member House by majority of 365-65 votes. It establishes transition rules for employment-based visas from FY 2020-22 by reserving a percentage of EB-2 (workers with advanced degrees or exceptional ability), EB-3 (skilled and other workers) and EB-5 (investors) visas for individuals from other than the two countries that get the largest number of such visas.
- Foot Notes
- > About USA

Capital: Washington, DC
 Currency: US Dollar
 President: Donald Trump

### **Banking**

#### **↓ 1. RBI panel moots changes in timings for foreign exchange market**

- Internal committee of the RBI has suggested that the foreign exchange market could function from 9 am to 9 pm. At present, the currency market works from 9 am to 5 pm. The panel suggested call money market timings could be extended till 6 pm instead of the 5 pm now.
- The extension of market timings is expected to provide benefits such as better pricing of post market hours information/data, improved onshore price discovery and a possible shift of offshore volumes to onshore.
- **❖** Foot Notes:
- > About RBI
- 1. RBI 25th Governor: Shaktikant Das
- 2. Headquarters: Mumbai
- 3. Founded: 1 April 1935, Kolkata.

# **2.** Exim Bank signs Loan Pact worth \$124 Mn For Infra, Health Projects In Papua New Guinea, Senegal

- The Export-Import Bank of India (Exim Bank) has signed a loan agreement of providing \$124 million (over Rs 850 crore) to Papua New Guinea and Senegal governments to finance infrastructure and health care projects.
- Exim bank has extended Line of Credit(LoC) of USD 100 million to the Government of Independent State of Papua New Guinea for the purpose of financing infrastructure related projects(\$60 million is to go for Bayer-Madang road project and \$40 million for Hoskins-Kimbe road project).
- Exim Bank has also extended Line of Credit of \$24.50 million to the Government of the Republic of Senegal for the purpose of financing up-gradation and rehabilitation of Health Care System.
- **\*** Foot Notes:
- **➤** About Exim Bank:
- 1. Headquarters: Mumbai
- 2. CEO: David Rasquinha
- 3. Founded: 1 January 1982
- > About Papua New Guinea



1. Capital: Port Moresby

Currency: Papua New Guinean Kina
 Prime minister: James Marape

➤ **About Senegal**1. Capital: Dakar

2. Currencies: CFA franc, West African CFA franc

3. President: Macky Sall

#### 4 3.SBI's Anshula Kant appointed as MD and CFO of World Bank

- Anshula Kant, the managing director(MD) of the State Bank Of India(SBI) has been appointed as managing director (MD) and chief financial officer(CFO) of the World Bank(WB). Since September 2018 she has been a Managing Director and member of the World Bank Board.
- Kant has more than 35 years of expertise in finance, banking will be responsible for financial and risk management of the World Bank Group. She will also have to work closely with the World Bank CEO on the mobilization of the International Development Association (IDA) of WB and other financial resources.
- Kant joined SBI in 1983 as a probationary officer and also served as the Deputy MD of Operations for National Banking Group. She has been a Managing Director and member of the Board since September 2018.
- **Solution** Foot Notes:
- > About World Bank:
- 1. Headquarters: Washington, D.C, U.S.
- 2. President: David Malpass
- 3. Chief Executive Officer: Kristalina Georgieva

### New Appointments & Person in News

#### 4 1. Krishna Saksena is the author of the book 'Whispers of Time'.

- The book titled 'Whispers of Time' has been authored by Dr Krishna Saksena. The story witnesses three generations in the author's long life of 90 years in which she found a great difference. If the first was too strict and severe in clinging hard to traditions, the second had softened down to new values of love and helpfulness. In a way it was a beautiful world of togetherness. But this world soon dwindles into a world of selfishness and deceit.
- The series of events are developed in a powerful manner that makes the novel both real and revealing.
- The book has recently unveiled by Smriti Zubin Irani, the Union Minister of Textiles & Minister of Women and Child Development (WCD), at India International Centre (IIC) in New Delhi.

#### **4** 2. Shailesh Tinaikar assumes charge as Force Commander of UN mission

- Newly appointed Force Commander of the UN mission in South Sudan, Lieutenant General Shailesh Sadashiv Tinaikar assumed charge in Juba last Saturday. UN Secretary-General Antonio Guterres had announced the appointment of Tinaikar in May. In a tweet, the UN mission said Tinaikar was officially welcomed by a guard of honour.
- Lieutenant General Shailesh Tinaikar of India assumes charge as Force Commander of United Nations Mission in South Sudan.
- Shailesh Tinaikar has been awarded the Sena Medal and the Vishisht Seva Medal for Distinguished Service.
- **Solution** Foot Notes:
- > About UN
- 1. UN Secretary-General: António Guterres



2. Headquarters: New York, United States

3. Established: 24th October 1945.

# **3.** Bhupesh Baghel the Indian CM inaugurated 'Jan Choupal' program to hold public meetings in the state.

- The Chief Minister of Chhattisgarh, Bhupesh Baghel has inaugurated the 'Jan Choupal' program in Raipur, Chhattisgarh for holding public meetings once every week to discuss the issues of the people.
- In order to resolve the issues of people, the concept of this program has been taken from the practices of ancestors in the village. So that people can come and discuss their issues in the meeting.
- **Solution** Foot Notes:
- **➤** About Chhattisgarh
- 1. Chief minister: Bhupesh Baghel
- 2. Governor: Anandiben Patel

#### 4. Padma Shri awardee Raghu Ram receives FRCS of Thailand

- Popular breast surgeon and Padma Shri awardee P.Raghu Ram has been conferred the Honorary Fellowship of the Royal College of Surgeons (FRCS) of Thailand at the 44th annual congress of the Royal College in Pattaya themed "ASEAN collaboration in valuebased surgery". Raghu Ram receives FRCS of Thailand.
- The highest recognition bestowed by the Institute in recognition of Raghu Ram's bold vision coupled with an intense body of work that has paved towards significantly improving the delivery of breast healthcare in India & also in recognition of his contribution in promoting the highest standards of surgical education in India through his association with the Royal College of Surgeons of Edinburgh and England.
- It was conferred by professor Tanaphon Maipang, the President of the Royal College of Surgeons of Thailand. With this, Raghu Ram achieved the rare distinction of having been conferred FRCS from six Royal Colleges include London, Edinburgh, Glasgow, Ireland, and Thailand & from the American College of Surgeons. In 1995, he qualified to become a surgeon and he had 24 years of experience. He also created awareness about the importance of early detection of breast cancer.
- **\*** Foot Notes:
- > About Thailand:
- 1. Capital: Bangkok
- 2. Prime Minister: Prayut Chan-o-cha

### Science Tech & Defence

#### **↓ 1. DRDO successfully tested Nag missiles in Pokhran**

- DRDO successfully tested Nag missiles in Pokhran ranges.
- The system includes a third generation Anti-Tank Guided Missile, the NAG, along with the Missile Carrier Vehicle (NAMICA).
- The Nag Missile has top attack capabilities that can effectively engage and destroy all known enemy tanks.
- **❖** Foot Notes:
- > About DRDO
- 1. DRDO Chairman: G Satheesh Reddy
- 2. Established: 1958
- 3. Headquarters: New Delhi.
- **2.**Operation 'Sudarshan' launched along the Pakistan border



- BSF has launched the operation 'Sudarshan' to fortify the 'anti-infiltration grid' along the Pakistan border in Punjab and Jammu.
- It was launched on July 1 and will cover the entire 1,000-kms length of the India-Pakistan International Border.
- The Border Security Force is the primary force guarding this frontier as the 'first line of defence'.
- **❖** Foot Notes:
- > About BSF
- 1. Headquarters: New Delhi
- 2. Founded: December 1, 1965
- 3. Motto: Duty Unto Death
- 4. Director General: Rajni Kant Mishra
- 5. Motto: जीवन पर्यन्त कर्तव्य (Duty Unto Death)

#### **4** 3.Indian Naval Ship Tarkash arrives in Morocco

- Then Indian Naval Ship Tarkash arrived at Tangier, Morocco today for a three-day visit. The visit is part of an ongoing Overseas Deployment by the Indian Navy to the Mediterranean Sea, Africa and Europe. The visit seeks to strengthen the bonds of friendship between India and Morocco.
- INS Tarkash, commanded by Captain Sathish Vasudev, is a state-of-the-art stealth frigate of
  the Indian Navy, equipped with a versatile range of weapons and sensors capable of
  addressing threats in all three dimensions.
- The ship is a part of the Indian Navy's Western Fleet and is under the operational Command of Flag Officer Commanding-in-Chief, Western Naval Command.
- **❖** Foot Notes:
- > About Naval Staff
- 1. Chief: Karambir Singh.

#### **4.India successfully tests a new version of Brahmos missile**

- India has successfully tested the vertical steep dive version of the Brahmos supersonic cruise missile.
- Made in India 'Brahmos Aerospace' is also ready with a longer 500 km range version of the Brahmos missile that can be fired from Sukhoi 30 fighter jets.
- BrahMos Aerospace is a joint venture company owned by the governments of India and Russia and its missiles are produced in India.
- **Solution** Foot Notes:
- **➤** About BrahMos Aerospace
- 1. CEO of BrahMos Aerospace: Sudhir Mishra.

#### **↓** 5.Arctic mission will trap scientists in ice to study climate

- In a couple of months, the German icebreaker RV Polarstern, a hulking ship will set out for the Arctic packed with supplies and scientific equipment for a year-long mission to explore the planet's frigid far north.
- The icebreaker will be the base for scientists from 17 nations studying the impact of climate change on the Arctic and how it could affect the rest of the world.
- Scientists plan to sail the ship into the Arctic Ocean, anchor it to a large piece of sea ice and allow the water to freeze around them, effectively trapping themselves in the vast sheet of white that forms over the North Pole each winter. The organizers say that the project is unprecedented in scale and ambition.

#### **↓** 6. Beryllium-7,new method has been identified for predicting monsoon.

• Lucrezia Terzi, a researcher at the Belgian Nuclear Research Centre (SCKCEN), has come up with a new way of predicting the monsoon at a science and technology conference organised in Vienna by the Comprehensive Nuclear-Test-Ban Treaty Organisation (CTBTO).



- The new method measures how much Beryllium-7 (an isotope of the element Beryllium) is present in the air. The Be-7 is chosen because it is created only in the stratosphere, when cosmic rays hit and break the nuclei of nitrogen and oxygen.
- Due to the sun warming the oceans differently at different latitudes, and the spin of the earth, water-bearing air moves up and down in circular fashions, which is the basic cause of the monsoons. When air flows down from the stratosphere (upwards of 33,000 feet from the earth's surface), it brings with it some Be-7. That makes the strong connection between the amount of Be-7 and the timing of monsoons.

#### **↓** 7. Russia successfully launched its Soyuz-2.1a carrier rocket with 33 satellites

- On July 5, 2019, The Russian space agency Roscosmos has successfully launched its Soyuz-2.1a carrier rocket with a hydrometeorological satellite and 32 small satellites. It was launched from the Vostochny spaceport in the Far Eastern Amur Region aimed at solving problems of space weather research and monitoring the movement of civil aircraft.Russia successfully launched its Soyuz-2.1aKey points:
- This was the 5th launch of a spacecraft for civilian purposes and to provide images of clouds, the surface of the Earth, ice and snow covers. It also obtains data on sea surface temperature, the state of the ozone layer as well as level of humidity, which will help to provide accurate meteorological forecasts.
- The hydrometeorological satellite of Russia, Meteor-M No.2-2 put into a target orbit with a height of about 832 km. The small satellites were developed by Germany, France, the US, Israel, Britain, Sweden, Finland, Thailand, Ecuador, the Czech Republic, and Estonia.
- This launch will allow accessing the outer space & reducing the dependence of Baikonur Cosmodrome in Kazakhstan.
- **\*** Foot Notes:
- > About Russia:
- 1. Capital: Moscow
- 2. Currency: Russian ruble
- 3. President: Vladimir Putin
- 4. Prime Minister: Dmitry Medvedev

#### 4 8. Kalyani JV gets missile kits order

- A joint venture of a Kalyani group firm and Israel's Rafael Advanced Systems has secured a \$100 million contract for manufacturing 1,000 Barak-8 MRSAM missile kits.
- Kalyani Rafael Advanced Systems will manufacture the kits at its production facility near Hyderabad and supply them to Bharat Dynamics for further integration.
- The product will be used by the Indian Army and the Air Force.
- **❖** Foot Notes:
- > About Israel
- 1. President: Reuven Rivlin
- 2. Capital: Jerusalem
- 3. Currency: Israeli new shekel
- 4. Prime minister: Benjamin Netanyahu: Jerusalem

#### 4 9. Indian Army places an order for procuring Israeli anti-tank Spike missiles

- Indian Army has placed an order for procuring anti-tank Spike missiles from Israel under emergency purchases powers to meet operational preparedness. The deal was approved by Army in April 2019 after emergency purchase powers granted to three armed forces after February 14, 2019, Pulwama terror attack in which 40 CRPF personnel were killed followed by Balakot airstrike.
- Anti-tank Spike missiles: It is designed and developed by Israeli company Rafael Advanced Defense Systems. It can be fired from different platforms -vehicles, helicopters, ships and ground launchers.



- Speciality: It is known for its precision targeting with an ability to pierce even bunkers. It can hits targets at a range of four kilometers and can be deployed in both mountains and plains. It can be deployed even along the Line of Control (LoC).
- Power: Under the emergency provision, the forces can make procurement up to Rs 300 crore.
- **❖** Foot Notes
- > About Israel:
- 1. Capital: Jerusalem
- 2. Currency: Israeli new shekel
- 3. Prime minister: Benjamin Netanyahu
- 4. President: Reuven Rivlin

# **10.** Russia Successfully Launched Spektr-RG, a powerful X-Ray Observatory, into Space

- The Russian space agency has successfully launched Proton-M rocket carrying the Spektr-RG(Spectrum Roentgen Gamma) space telescope from the Baikonur Cosmodrome in Kazakhstan.
- Joint Project: The Spektr-RG, developed together with Germany(German space agency, DLR) create a three-dimensional (3D) X-ray map of the universe and expected to detect 100,000 galaxy clusters, 3 million black holes, tens of thousands neutron stars, and magnetic fields.
- **Structure**: The observatory includes two X-ray mirror telescopes:
- A German-built eROSITA (Extended Roentgen Survey with an Imaging Telescope Array.
- A Russian-built ART-XC (Astronomical Roentgen Telescope X-ray Concentrator).
- **\*** Foot Notes:
- > About Russia
- 1. Capital: Moscow
- 2. Currency: Russian Ruble
- 3. President: Vladimir Putin
- 4. Prime Minister: Dmitry Medvedev





### <u>Important days</u>

#### **1.** Theme of the International Day of Cooperatives 2019 was Coops 4 decent work.

- United Nations International Day of Cooperatives is celebrated annually on the first Saturday of July and this year it was observed on July 6, 2019.
- It's aim is to create awareness on cooperatives and promote international solidarity, economic efficiency, equality, and world peace.
- The theme for 2019 is "Coops 4 decent work". It is the 25th United Nations International Day of Cooperatives and the 96th International Cooperative day. It was celebrated for the first time in July 1923 by the International Co-operative Alliance (ICA).

#### **↓ 2. World Population Day 2019 observed on July 11**

- World Population Day was observed on July 11, 2019. It creates awareness on the growing population issues. Population issue may be family planning, gender equality, child marriage, human rights, right to health, baby's health etc. World Population Day 2019Key Points: It was established by the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) in 1989.
- It was inspired by public interest in Five Billion Day celebrated on July 11, 1987. It was on this date, the world's population reached five billion people.
- 2019 World Population Day calls for global attention of the 1994 International Conference on Population and Development (ICPD).



- China is the most populous country in the world followed by India.India's 35% population is living in 3 states- Bihar, Uttar Pradesh and Maharashtra.
- According to data provided by the Pew Research Center, India will try to accommodate 1450 million people in the year 2100 and will also surpass China.
- **\*** Foot Notes:
- > About UNDP:
- 1. Headquarters: New York City, US
- Founded: 22 November 1965
   Administrator: Achim Steiner

# **Sports**

#### **1.**World Youth Cup: Arinjeeta Dey wins silver medal

- Arinjeeta Dey, a 10-year-old girl, has won a silver medal in the World Youth Cup held in Umag, Croatia.
- The tournament was organised by World Karate Federation affiliated to the International Olympic Association.
- **Solution** Foot Notes:
- > About Croatia
- 1. Capital: Zagreb
- 2. Currency: Croatian kuna

#### **2.** Gold medals for India in Kutno Athletics Meet

- Indian athletes have won 4 gold medals in the Kutno Athletics Meet held in Poland.
- Following is the list of winners in the different categories:
- Hima Das won the gold while V.K. Vismaya bagged the silver in the women's 200m race.
- Muhammed Anas won the gold in men's 200 m race.
- M P Jabir won the gold while Jithin Paul bagged the bronze medal in the men's 400m hurdles.P Saritaben (gold), Sonia Baishya (silver) and R Vithya (bronze) won the women's 400 m race.

#### **3. RBI Board Finalises 'Utkarsh 2022'**

- The Reserve Bank of India (RBI) board, which met in New Delhi, finalised a three- year roadmap to improve regulation and supervision, among other functions of the central bank. This medium term strategy named Utkarsh 2022 is in line with the global central banks' plan to strengthen the regulatory and supervisory mechanism, sources aware of the board meeting.
- "It is a three-year road map for medium term objective to be achieved for improving regulation, supervision of the central bank," said a source. "Worldwide, all central banks strengthen the regulatory and supervisory mechanism, everybody is formulating a long-term plan and a medium-term plan.
- So, the RBI has also decided it will formulate a pragramme to outline what is to be achieved in the next three years," the source added.
- **❖** Foot Notes:
- ➤ About RBI
- 1. RBI 25th Governor: Shaktikant Das
- 2. Headquarters: Mumbai
- 3. Founded: 1 April 1935, Kolkata.

#### 4. Vinesh, Divya wins gold at Wrestling Grand Prix of Spain

• Wrestler Vinesh Phogat has won a gold medal in the 53kg category, while Divya Kakran has won the gold medal in the 68kg category at the Grand Prix of Spain.



- Pooja Dhanda (57kg) has won a silver after losing the title clash to Russia's Veronika Chumikova.
- **\*** Foot Notes:
- > About Spain
- 1. Capital of Spain: Madrid
- 2. Currency of Spain: Euro.

#### **↓** 5. Gold medals for India in Commonwealth Championships

- 1. Rakhi Halder and Davinder Kaur has won a gold medal each in the senior women's section of weightlifting in the Commonwealth Championships.
- 2. Davinder Kaur has won the gold medal in women's 59kg event. While Rakhi Halder has won the gold medal in the 64kg category. The Championship is taking place in Apia, Samoa.

#### **↓** 6. India to host COP-14 of UNCCD from September 2- 13, 2019

- The Minister of Environment, Forest and Climate Change Prakash Javadekar in the presence of Ibrahim Thiaw, Executive Secretary of UNCCD and the UN Under-Secretary-General informed that India will host the 14th Session of the Conference of the Parties (COP) of the United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification (UNCCD) from September 2- 13, 2019 at India Expo Mart Limited in Greater Noida, Uttar Pradesh with the focus on 3 crucial issues- desertification, land degradation and drought.
- Participants: 197 countries are expected to participate in the global conference. India has adopted various initiatives to address the issues of land degradation & desertification like:
- It is a global effort to bring 150 million hectares of worlds degraded and deforested land under restoration by 2020 and 350 million hectares by 2030. In India, 3.5 years maiden phase will be implemented in the States of Haryana, Madhya Pradesh, Maharashtra, Nagaland, and Karnataka.

#### **About UNCCD:**

- 1. The United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification
- 2. Headquarters: Bonn, Germany
- 3. Founded: 1994

#### **♣ 7. FIFA U-17 World Cup 2019 to be hosted by Brazil**

- Federation Internationale de Football Association (FIFA) U-17 World Cup draw was held in the Home of FIFA in Zurich, Switzerland. The 18th edition of the FIFA U-17 World Cup for the year 2019 will be hosted by Brazil between 26 October and 17 November 2019.
- The opening match will be held at the Estádio Bezerrão in Brasília (Gama). The other venues are Goiânia's Estádio Olímpico, Estádio da Serrinha and the Estádio Kléber Andrade in Vitória (Cariacica).
- Opening Match: Brazil and Canada will contest in the opening match on October 26, 2019.
- **\*** Foot Notes
- **➤ About FIFA**:
- 1. Headquarters: Zurich, Switzerland
- 2. Motto: For the Game. For the World
- 3. President: Gianni Infantino.

### **Awards**

#### **1.**'Gully Boy' wins hearts in South Korea, awarded at Bucheon film festival

• Film-maker Zoya Akhtar's directorial 'Gully Boy' has won the Network for the Promotion of Asian Cinema (NETPAC) Award at the 23rd Bucheon International Fantastic Film Festival (BIFAN) in South Korea.



- NETPAC Jury Committee, comprised of NETPAC members and film professionals, select the best Asian Film from World Fantastic Blue section, which features newer genres and varied stories of comedy, fantasy and drama, read a statement.
- 'Gully Boy', which features actors Ranveer Singh and Alia Bhatt, is based on the lives of street rappers. The film has performed well in the Indian and overseas market.
- **\*** Foot Notes:
- > About South Korea
- 1. Capital of South Korea: Seoul
- 2. Currency of South Korean: South Korea won.

### **Obituaries**

#### **↓ 1. Former Indian football team goalkeeper AU Celestine passed away at the age of 73**

- AU Celestine(Tamil Nadu), Former India football goalkeeper passed away after a brief illness. He was 73.
- He played for the Tamil Nadu state men's team as a goalkeeper in Senior Nationals in the 1965 and 1969 National Championships and also represented India in the Merdeka Cup in Malaysia in 1969. In 1967, He joined Reserve Bank of India (RBI), Madras.
- He worked as a talent spotter of All India Football Federation (AIFF) and he trained the underprivileged children in North Madras area in Football and help them with their education. He also served as a coach for the Tamilnadu State Junior, Sub Junior and Women's teams.
- **Solution** Foot Notes:
- **➢** About Tamil Nadu
- 1. Capital: Chennai
- 2. Governor: Banwarilal Purohit
- 3. Chief Minister: Edappadi K. Palaniswami.