

WEEKLY G.K.

14 October – 20 October
(2019)

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National News

1. Centre plans 'Vigyan Jyoti' to help girl students to opt for STEM education

- Centre is to launch Vigyan Jyoti, a program to help girl students inculcate interest in areas like Science, Technology, Engineering, and Mathematics (STEM).
- The move comes after the assessment that a meager percentage of women are in the STEM area.
- Department of Science and Technology (DST) data said that females comprised 24% of the total pass-out students in STEM subjects in engineering, 22% at the postgraduate level, 28% at M.Phil, and 35% at the Ph.D. level.
- Vigyan Jyoti initiative aims to stir up interest among the Indian girl students to get into the STEM educational areas. The initiative will be launched in October 2019.

2. Air India becomes world's first airline to bring aircraft to runway using taxibot technology

- Air India has become the first airline in the world to use taxibot on an A320 aircraft with passengers onboard at Indira Gandhi International Airport, New Delhi. The taxibot is a pilot-controlled semi-robotic aircraft tractor, bringing the aircraft from the parking bay to the runway and vice versa.
- The engine of the aircraft remains shut while using the taxibot, which saves fuel & also reduces carbon emissions. The engine is switched on only when the aircraft reaches the runway. Taxibots will only be used for departing flights. Its use will reduce fuel consumption by 85% compared to bringing the aircraft engine on.
- Air India CMD (Chairman and Managing Director) started the use of a taxibot for commercial flight with the departure of AI 665 flight, which was carried to runway using Taxibot at terminal 3 of the Delhi airport – to Mumbai.

Foot Notes:

About Air India

1. **Headquarters:** New Delhi
2. **Slogan :** Air India, Truly Indian
3. **CMD:** Ashwani Lohani

3. Indian Railways launched Sewa Service trains

- Union Railway Minister Piyush Goyal launched the Sewa Service trains on 14 October 2019. He flagged off the Delhi-Shamli daily passenger train from the New Delhi railway station.
- The objective of Sewa Service trains is to improve and provide last-mile connectivity for those traveling from villages and small towns to major cities.
- Indian Railways announced that it is to launch 10 Sewa Service trains.

Foot Notes:

About Minister of Railways

1. **Deputy Minister responsible:** Suresh Angadi
2. **Minister responsible:** Piyush Goyal

4. Vardhan launches 'food safety mitra' scheme for scaling up 'Eat Right India' movement

- On the lines of 'arogya mitras', the government launched a scheme for engaging 'food safety mitras' to sensitise street food vendors on hygiene aspects and assist businessmen to comply with standards and facilitate licensing and registration.
- Apart from strengthening food safety, this scheme would also create new employment opportunities for the youth, particularly with food and nutrition background, Union Health Minister Harsh Vardhan said.

5. Defence Minister Rajnath Singh inaugurates 41st DRDO Directors Conference in New Delhi

- Defence Minister Rajnath Singh inaugurated the 41st DRDO Directors Conference in New Delhi. Chiefs of the three forces & DRDO Chairman G Satheesh Reddy were also present on the occasion.
- The discussion included efforts taken by DRDO to ensure technological advancement of the Indian forces to safeguard the country.
- It was suggested that DRDO can play a significant role in becoming a catalyst in the absorption of technology.

Foot Notes:**About DRDO**

1. DRDO was formed in 1958
2. It is headquartered in New Delhi.

6. Indian Railways to become net zero carbon emitter by 2030

- Indian Railways (IR) has announced that it will become a net-zero carbon emitter by 2030. The move will be a part of India's strategy to combat climate change.
- The announcement was made by railways and commerce minister Piyush Goyal at the India Energy Forum by CERAWEEK in New Delhi. India is the biggest emitter of greenhouse gases after the US and China, and is among countries most vulnerable to climate change.
- Indian railway is the world's largest railway network. It has a rail network of around 1,25,000 km under single management. IR is to go green by setting up solar power generation capacities in its large tracts of land along its network.

Foot Notes:

1. John Mathai was the first Railways Minister of Independent India.

7. India ranked 102 in Global Hunger Index 2019.

- The 2019 Global Hunger Index (GHI) indicates that the level of hunger and under nutrition worldwide falls into the serious category. As per the index, India ranks 102nd out of 117 qualifying countries, with a score of 30.3.
- India has slipped from 95th rank in 2010 to 102nd in 2019 on the Global Hunger Index (GHI), with the increase in the prevalence of wasting (low weight for height) among children with score under 5 contributing the most to the country's poor performance.
- Seventeen countries, including Belarus, Ukraine, Turkey, Cuba and Kuwait, shared the top rank with GHI scores less than 5. There were only four countries in the alarming hunger category are Madagascar, Chad, Yemen and the Central African Republic in the extremely alarming hunger category. The aim of the GHI is to trigger action to reduce hunger around the world.

8. Livestock population in India up by 4.6% in seven years

- The Department of Animal Husbandry and Dairying (DAHD) released a census report of livestock population for the year 2019 on October 16. The data revealed that the livestock population in India has grown by 4.6% from 512 million in 2012 to about 536 million in 2019.
- The population of cows showed an impressive increase of 18% over the previous census. The numbers of other cattle have marginally increased but cows are accounted for one-fourth count of total livestock population of India.

9. Odisha's first Robot Restaurant opens in Bhubaneswar

- Odisha's smart city Bhubaneswar gets its 1st Robo Chef Restaurant in Odisha. The Robot Restaurant opened at the Infocity DLF tower of Bhubaneswar claims to be the first restaurant in Eastern India where two indigenously developed robots, 'Champa' and 'Chameli' are engaged.

- The robots are developed at a Jaipur-based startup using SLAM technology, and It automatically navigates like humans, follows the routes and instructions. Not only this, after serving the food, the robots will also ask you for feedback in Odia that 'Are you happy'.
- Earlier Chennai and Bengaluru had introduced smart restaurants with robots machines imported from China.

About Odisha

1. **Capital:** Bhubaneswar
2. **Governor:** Ganeshi Lal
3. **Chief minister:** Naveen Patnaik
4. **Utkal Divas or Odisha Day:** 01st April

10. Jammu & Kashmir Legislative Council abolished; reduced to Union Territories of J&K and Ladakh

- Jammu & Kashmir Legislative Council got abolished on October 18, 2019 under Section 57 of the J&K Reorganisation Bill, 2019. With this, the J&K state has now been reduced to two Union Territories - Jammu & Kashmir and Ladakh.
- J&K and Ladakh will now be UTs from November 1, 2019. The J&K Reorganisation Bill, 2019 was passed by the Parliament in August 2019.
- The staff members of the J&K Council need to report to the General Administration Department (GAD) by October 22, 2019. On the other hand, the Council Secretary has been asked to transfer all records regarding the Council Secretariat to the Department of Law under the Justice and Parliamentary Affairs.

11. Hailakandi becomes first Assam district to introduce leave applications online.

- Hailakandi has become the first district in Assam to introduce a digital system and the state government employees will need to file their leave applications online.
- The government employees working under the district administration can proceed on leave only after getting a digital approval.
- Each employee has been allotted a login ID and password to apply for leave in the 'Manav Sampada' website.

Foot Notes:**About Assam**

1. **Capital:** Dispur
2. **Chief minister:** Sarbananda Sonowal

12. India to host 91st Interpol General Assembly in 2022

- India won the vote for hosting the 91st General Assembly of the Interpol in India in 2022, which will be part of celebrations of the 75th anniversary of the country's Independence.
- According to an Ministry of Home Affairs press note, voting in this regard took place today at the 88th General Assembly of the Interpol at Santiago Chile with India winning with an overwhelming majority.
- The General Assembly is INTERPOL's supreme governing body and comprises delegates appointed by the governments of member countries. It meets once a year and takes all the major decisions affecting general policy, the resources needed for international cooperation, working methods, finances and programmes of activities.

Foot Notes:**About Interpol**

1. **Headquarters:** Lyon, France
2. **President:** Kim Jong Yang

13. President Kovind Gifts Goddess Tara Statue To Philippine Counterpart

- President Ram Nath Kovind gifted a statue of goddess Tara to his Philippine counterpart Rodrigo Duterte, highlighting the ancient cultural connections between the two countries.
- President Kovind arrived in the Philippines as part of his five-day state visit to the country. In Hinduism and Buddhism, the goddess Tara is regarded as a form of "shakti" (power).
- "President Kovind gifted the statue of goddess Tara to President Duterte of Philippines. The gift highlights the ancient cultural connections between the two countries. The Golden Agusan Tara statue was discovered in the Philippines in the last century.

Foot Notes:**About Philippine****President:** Rodrigo Duterte**Capital:** Manila**Currency:** Philippine peso

International News & Foreign Affairs

1. India to have first-ever Olympic Hospitality House in Tokyo during the Summer Games

- India will have its first-ever Olympic Hospitality House in Tokyo during the Summer Games next year.
- The Indian Olympic Association (IOA) and JSW Group on Thursday announced a partnership to build the facility.
- Many of the Olympic participating countries have their own hospitality houses during the Games but this will be the first time India will be having one to showcase its culture and heritage.

Foot Notes:**About Indian Olympic Association (IOA)****1. President:** Narinder Dhruv Batra**2. Founded:** 1927**3. Headquarter:** New Delhi**4. Secretary General:** Rajeev Mehta**About Tokyo****1. Capital:** Shinjuku**2. TCS named India's overall most outstanding company in Asiamoney's 2019 poll**

- Tata Consultancy Services (TCS) has been selected as the overall most outstanding company in India's IT services sector in Asiamoney's 2019 outstanding companies poll.
- Asiamoney's various investor surveys recognized TCS as the most awarded company of the decade in India including awards like the best-managed companies award, the corporate governance poll.

Foot Notes:**About TCS****1. CEO:** Rajesh Gopinathan**2. Founded:** 1 April 1968**3. Headquarters:** Mumbai**3. World Giving Index: India ranks 82, USA tops the list**

- India ranked 82 spots among the 128 countries surveyed in the World Giving Index (WGI).
- The average figures for India over the past decade show that 34 per cent people helped a stranger, 24 per cent donated money and 19 per cent volunteered or donated their time.
- According to the WGI, the USA stood at the top followed Myanmar, New Zealand and Australia.

About Myanmar

1. **Capital:** Naypyitaw
2. **Currency:** Burmese kyat

About New Zealand

1. **Capital:** Wellington
2. **Currency:** New Zealand dollar

About Australia

1. **Currency:** Australian dollar
2. **Capital:** Canberra

4. Qatar Pledges to End 'Kafala' Employment Laws That Tie Foreign Workers to Employers

- The energy-rich nation of Qatar is pledging to fully eliminate a labour system that ties foreign workers to their employer and requires them to have their company's permission to leave the country. According to the United Nations' International Labor Organization, said yesterday that Qatar planned to end the so-called 'kafala' system there.
- The ILO says workers would be able to freely change employers under draft laws described as being 'expected to come into force by January 2020. The ILO says Doha is also considering a minimum wage.

Foot Notes:**About Qatar**

1. **Capital:** Doha
2. **Currency:** Qatari riyal

5. Italy to introduce 3% web tax on digital giants from 2020

- Italian scheme to yield about 600 million euros (\$662 million) a year alternative revenues will allow it to avoid a scheduled increase in sales tax.
- Italy and European Union members have long complained about the way web giants collect considerable profits in their countries to pay only a few million euros in taxes each year. The EU failed to agree to tax the firms.
- France and the United States reached a deal in August to end a standoff over a French tax on big internet companies, with France repaying companies the difference between the French tax and a planned mechanism being drawn up by the Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD).

About Italy

1. **President:** Sergio Mattarella
2. **Capital:** Rome
3. **Currency:** Euro

New Appointments and Person in News

1. Alexei Leonov, the first human to walk in space passes away

- Alexei Leonov, the legendary Soviet cosmonaut who became the first human to walk in space 54 years ago and who nearly didn't make it back into his space capsule, has died in Moscow at 85.
- During this mission, on 18 March 1965, Leonov exited the spacecraft and walked for 12 minutes and 9 seconds.

- Showing just how much of a space pioneer Mr. Leonov was, NASA broke into its live televised coverage of a spacewalk by two Americans outside the International Space Station to report Mr. Leonov's death.

Foot Notes:**About NASA**

1. **Headquarters:** Washington, D.C., United States
2. **Founder:** Dwight D. Eisenhower
3. **Founded:** 29 July 1958, United States

About Alexei Leonov

1. **Born:** 30 May 1934, Kemerovo Oblast, Russia
2. **Died:** 11 October 2019, Moscow, Russia
3. **Space missions:** Voskhod 2, Apollo–Soyuz Test Project, Soyuz 19
4. **Nationality:** Russian, Soviet

2. Kishan Dan Dewal concurrently accredited as the next Ambassador of India to Georgia

- As per the Ministry of External Affairs(MEA), Government of India (GoI), Shri Kishan Dan Dewal (Indian Foreign Service –IFS officer of 2003 batch), has been concurrently accredited as the next Ambassador of India to Georgia, with residence in Yerevan.
- He succeeds Shri Yogeshwar Sangwan. Dewal is presently serving as Ambassador of India to the Republic of Armenia.

Foot Notes:**About Georgia**

1. **Capital:** Tbilisi
2. **Currency:** Georgian lari
3. **President:** Salome Zurbishvili
4. **Prime Minister:** Giorgi Gakharia

3. Anoop Kumar is appointed as the new Union Law Secretary

- Anoop Kumar Mendiratta is appointed as the new Union Law Secretary. This is the first time such an appointment has been made.
- Anoop Kumar is currently the serving District and Sessions Judge in the North-East District, Karkardooma Courts, New Delhi. He will serve in the position till 30 March 2023, or until he attains the age of 60.
- Normally, the posts of Secretary for the Legal Affairs and Legislative Department are held by Indian Legal Service Officers.

4. Shri J.P.S. Chawla assumes charge as new Controller General of Accounts

- Government of India has appointed J. P. S. Chawla as the new Controller General of Accounts (CGA), Ministry of Finance, Department of Expenditure. He will replace Girraj Prasad Gupta.
- Prior to assuming the charge of CGA, Chawla served as Principal Chief Controller of Accounts, Central Board of Indirect Taxes & Customs (CBIC) where he was instrumental in the finalisation of the accounting procedure and operationalisation of GST Network (GSTN) before the national rollout of GST.
- He also played a key role in the integration of the IGST refund payment network of CBIC with the Public Financial Management System (PFMS) as part of the Government of India's decision to digitise all Government receipts and payments through the PFMS portal of the Office of Controller General of Accounts.

Foot Notes:

Controller General of Accounts headquarter: New Delhi

5. Mastercard ambassador MS Dhoni launches 'Team Cashless India' to push digital payments

- Mastercard, along with cricketer Mahendra Singh Dhoni, launched a nationwide initiative 'Team Cashless India' to accelerate the acceptance and adoption of digital payments.
- The initiative 'Team Cashless India' brings consumers and merchants to the forefront of the digital payments dialogue. The campaign encourages all Indians to nominate one or more merchants who currently do not accept digital payments.
- Mastercard will work together with Confederation of All India Traders (CAIT), acquirer banks and fintech companies to support nominated merchants to deploy digital payments acceptance infrastructure.

Foot Notes:**About Mastercard**

Mastercard Founded: 1966

Headquarters: New York, US.

6. Worldsteel elects Sajjan Jindal as vice chairman; T V Narendran, Lakshmi Mittal as members

- Sajjan Jindal, Chairman and Managing Director, JSW Steel has been appointed as the Vice-Chairman of World Steel Association (Worldsteel).
- He is appointed for a period of one year. The association also elected YU Yong, Chairman, HBIS Group Co, as Chairman. Apart from this, the board also elected a 14-member Executive Committee.
- Apart from this, the board also elected a 14-member Executive Committee. Other elected members of association include– T V Narendran, Chief Executive Officer and Managing Director, Tata Steel, and Lakshmi Mittal, Chairman and Chief Executive Officer, ArcelorMittal. Furthermore, RL Steels and Energy Limited (India) elected as regular members and Steel Ministry's Joint Plant Committee (JPC) as an affiliated member.

About World Steel

1. Headquarters: Brussels, Belgium

7. CJI Ranjan Gogoi names Justice Bobde as successor

- Justice Bobde, who is second in seniority in Supreme Court as of now, would become the 47th Chief Justice of the country and shall take oath of office on 18 November. He will demit office on his retirement on 23 April, 2021
- Chief Justice Gogoi, who is scheduled to retire on November 17, has sent his recommendation in writing to the government.
- The Memorandum of Procedure for appointment of judges to the Supreme Court prescribes that the "appointment to the office of the Chief Justice of India should be of the senior-most judge of the Supreme Court considered fit to hold the office".

8. Friends star Jennifer Aniston claims record for fastest to reach one million Instagram followers

- Friends star Jennifer Aniston has taken Instagram by storm, joining the platform and rapidly setting a new record for the fastest time to reach one million followers in just 5 hours and 16 minutes.
- Aniston, whose first photo post was a selfie with her fellow Friends cast members, kept her introduction to the photo and video sharing social media network simple with a bio that read 'Friends call me Jen'.

Banking

1. New version of return filing portal to be launched by GST Network

- The Goods and Services Tax Network (GSTN) is to launch an improved version of the GST return filing portal on 22 October. It aims to make the process easier. The announcement was made by the GST Network CEO, Prakash Kumar.
- GST has reduced complexity by lowering the number of forms to be filed by businesses. Previously it was 495 under as many as 17 central and state laws.
- Data that is shared by indirect tax administration with the income tax department has helped in detecting mismatches. Currently, there are 12.3 million registered GST taxpayers.

2. ICICI Bank launches new FD scheme called “FD health”

- Industrial Credit and Investment Corporation of India (ICICI Bank) launched a new Fixed deposit (FD) scheme called “FD health” which provides investors a complimentary critical illness cover on 33 critical illnesses for the customers who are in the age bracket of 18-50 years.
- For the first year, free of cost insurance cover will be provided which can be renewed later. Critical illness cover of Rs 1 lakh from ICICI Lombard General Insurance Company will be provided on opening an FD of Rs. 2 lakh to Rs. 3 lakh for tenure of at least 2 years.
- Earlier, ICICI Bank had launched FD Life (FD offering a free term life insurance) and FD Invest where interest from FDs is invested in monthly Systematic Investment Plans (SIPs) of a mutual fund.

Foot Notes:

About ICICI Bank:

1. **Tagline:** Hum Hai Na, Khyal Apka
2. **Headquarters:** Mumbai
3. **MD & CEO:** Sandeep Bakhshi

3. RBI guidelines for ‘on tap’ payment systems

- RBI has issued some instructions and guidelines authorisation of payment systems. It includes minimum net worth criteria for different players.
- The government has decided to offer on-tap authorisation for Bharat Bill Payment Operating Unit (BBPOU), White Label ATMs (WLAs) and Trade Receivables Discounting System (TReDS).
- As per the guidelines, interested entities should have a minimum of 100 crore rupees net worth and should be maintained at all times.

About RBI

1. **Governor:** Shaktikanta Das
2. **Headquarters:** Mumbai
3. **Founder:** British Raj

Science Tech & Defence

1. Naval bilateral exercise between India and Bangladesh is being held

- The maiden naval bilateral exercise between India Navy (IN) and Bangladesh Navy (BN) is being held from 12 October to 16 October 2019 at Visakhapatnam, India.
- The IN-BN exercise aims to strengthen mutual ties between India and Bangladesh.
- Two naval vessels, Bangladesh Navy Ships (BNS) Ali Haider, a Type 053 frigate, and BNS Shadhinota, a Type 056 stealth guided missile corvette, are participating in the first bilateral exercise.

Foot Notes:

About Indian Navy

1. **Vice Chief of the Naval Staff:** Vice Admiral G. Ashok Kumar
2. **Chief of the Naval Staff (CNS):** Admiral Karambir Singh
3. **Deputy Chief of the Naval Staff (DCNS):** Vice Admiral M. S. Pawar

About Bangladesh

1. **Capital:** Dhaka
2. **Currency:** Bangladeshi Taka
3. **Prime minister:** Sheikh Hasina

2. Indian Air Force to begin joint military exercise 'Shinyuu Maitri' with Japanese counterpart in West Bengal

- The Indian Air Force will be carrying out a joint military exercise 'Shinyuu Maitri' with Japanese Air Self Defence Force (JASDF) from 17 to 23 October.
- The exercise will be held at Air Force Station, Arjan Singh in Panagarh town in West Bengal. "C-130 J aircraft of the Special Operations Squadron of IAF and C-130 H of Tactical Airlift Squadron of JASDF will participate in the exercise.
- The focus of the exercise will be to undertake Joint Mobility and Tactical interoperability among the two forces.

Foot Notes:

About Indian Force

1. **Minister of Defence:** Rajnath Singh
2. **Commander in Chief:** Ram Nath Kovind
3. **Chairman of the Chiefs of Staff Committee:** General Bipin Rawat

3. Army Wife Achieves Individual Guinness World Records for "The most full contact knee strikes in three minutes, knee strikes alternate legs in one minute,"

- Kiran Uniyal, w/o a serving Colonel of Indian Army has created Individual Guinness World Records for "The most full contact knee strikes in three minutes (one leg) (female), 263 strikes" & "The most full contact knee strikes alternate legs in one minute(female),120 strikes". The earlier records were of 177 strikes and 102 in female category respectively.
- The objective of both her records was to promote martial arts for girls and women safety and self-defence. While creating the record for the most full contact knee strikes for three minutes, she surpassed the existing male category record of 226 knee strikes.
- Kiran Uniyal created her 1st Individual Guinness World Record for "The most full contact elbow strikes (one hand) in 3 minutes,466 strikes", which also featured among the Best of Guinness World Record official video of Jan 2019. She has so far achieved 15 World Records, including 10 Guinness World Records in Martial Arts, Fitness and Social Work.

4. India, Oman Begin Joint Training Exercise 'EX EASTERN BRIDGE-V'

- Indian Air Force is participating in a bilateral joint exercise with Royal Air Force of Oman (RAFO), dubbed as EX-EASTERN BRIDGE-V at Masirah Air Force Base in Oman. The Joint Exercise will be held from 17 to 26 October 2019.
- The last Indo-Oman Air Force exercise was held in 2017 at Jamnagar, City in Gujarat.
- This is for the first time, MiG-29 fighter aircraft will be participating in an International Exercise outside India.

About Oman

1. **Capital:** Muscat
2. **Currency:** Omani Rial

5. Indian Army begun to digitize its official records under its new programme called "OASIS"

- The Indian Army has begun to digitize its official records under its new programme called "OASIS"- Officers Automated Structures Information System. Under the programme, the records of the army officers are to be digitized. The software is to be hosted in the Army's intranet.
- The records are expected to be digitized in 5-6 months. Oasis will also carry the photographs of the dependents of the army officers. This is essential to prevent frauds where people create fake dependent cards.
- The records are expected to be digitized in 5-6 months. Oasis will also carry the photographs of the dependents of the army officers. This is essential to prevent frauds where people create fake dependent cards.

About Indian Army

1. **Motto:** "Service Before Self"
2. **Founded:** 1 April 1895, India
3. **Headquarters:** New Delhi
4. **Chief of the Army Staff:** Bipin Rawat

6. Defence forces organises DANX-19 in Andaman

- Andaman and Nicobar Command (ANC) has conducted the 2nd edition of Defence of Andaman & Nicobar Islands 2019 (DANX-19).
- The components of the Indian Army, Navy, Air Force and Coast Guard carried out mobilisation and field manoeuvres to validate defensive plans of Headquarters ANC towards pursuance of the Command's responsibility, namely ensuring the territorial integrity of the A&N Islands.
- In addition to internal forces from ANC, accretional forces from Mainland comprising ships and aircraft, Special Forces from the newly formed Armed Forces Special Operations Division (AFSOD), also participated in this edition.2. India-UK collaboration creates a hand-washing robot:Pepe

Important Days

1. World standards Day observed on 14 October 2019

- World Standards Day (WSD) was celebrated on 14 October, 2019. It is observed annually by the members of the International Electrotechnical Commission (IEC), International Organization for Standardization (ISO) and the International Telecommunication Union (ITU) as a way of tributing the global experts, developing technical agreements published in national and international standards.
- The 2019 theme for WSD is "Video Standards Create a Global Stage". The aim of WSD is to raise awareness on the importance of standardization to the global economy.
- Union Minister of Consumer Affairs, Food and Public Distribution Shri Ram Vilas Paswan inaugurated the celebrations of the 60th 'World Standard Day' by the Bureau of Indian Standards (BIS) in New Delhi.

2. International Day of Rural Women: 15 October

- The International Day of Rural Women is observed on 15th October. The day recognizes the crucial role of women and girls in ensuring the sustainability of rural households and communities, improving rural livelihoods and overall wellbeing.
- This year's theme is "Rural Women and Girls Building Climate Resilience".
- This year's theme highlights the important role that rural women and girls play in building resilience to face the climate crisis.

3. World Student's Day observed on October 15 2019

- World Student's Day is observed annually on October 15 by the United Nations(UN) declaration in 2010. The day is celebrated commemorating the birth anniversary of former President(11th president) of India Shri Dr. APJ Abdul Kalam who wished to be identified as a teacher and then as anything else.
- This year, 2019, marks the 88th birth anniversary of Shri Abdul Kalam, who was also known as the "Missile Man of India" for his work Pokhran-II nuclear tests in 1998, development of ballistic missile and launch vehicle technology.

About Abdul Kalam

1. **Born:** 15 October 1931, Rameshwaram, TamilNadu.
2. **Full name:** Avul Pakir Jainulabdeen Abdul Kalam.
3. He also served as a scientist in Defence Research and Development Organisation(DRDO) and Indian Space Research Organisation(ISRO).
4. He passed away at the age of 83 on 27 July 2015, due to cardiac arrest while delivering a lecture at Indian Institute of Management(IIM) Shillong.

About United Nations

1. **Secretary General:** António Guterres
2. **Founded:** 24 October 1945, San Francisco, California, United States
3. **Headquarters:** New York, United States

4. World Food Day: 16 October

- World Food Day is celebrated every year around the world on 16 October in honor of the date of the founding of the Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO) of the United Nations in 1945.
- The theme for WFD 2019 is "Our Actions Are Our Future".
- This day generates awareness globally for those who suffer from hunger and to ensure the need for food security and nutritious diets for all. The main focus of this day is that food is a basic and fundamental human right.

Foot Notes:

1. **Food and Agriculture Organization headquarters:** Rome, Italy.
2. **Food and Agriculture Organization Established:** 16 October 1945.

5. International Day for the Eradication of Poverty is observed on 17 October

- International Day for the Eradication of Poverty is observed on 17 October every year. The day aims to raise awareness about the people who are struggling and living in poverty. Poverty should be eradicated, mainly in developing countries.
- The theme for 2019 is Acting together to empower children, their families, and communities to end poverty. The theme focuses on providing a chance for people who struggle to live and who live in poverty to express their concerns to be heard.
- On 22 December 1992, the United Nations General Assembly (UNGA) adopted a resolution 47/196 to observe 16 October as the International Day for the Eradication of Poverty. The year 2019 marks the 27th anniversary of the declaration by UNGA.

Foot Notes:**About United Nations General Assembly**

1. **President:** Tijjani Muhammad-Bande
2. **Headquarters:** New York, United States
3. **Founder:** United Nations
4. **Founded:** 1945, New York

About United Nations

1. **Founded:** 24 October 1945, San Francisco, California, United States
2. **Headquarters:** New York, United States
3. **Secretary General:** António Guterres

Sports

1. Lakshya Sen won the Dutch Open men's singles title at Almere

- Indian shuttler Lakshya Sen won the Dutch Open men's singles title 2019 at Almere, Netherlands. This is his maiden Badminton World Federation (BWF) World Tour title. He won the title by defeating Yusuke Onodera of Japan in the summit. He secured 15-21 21-14 21-15 to defeat Onodera.
- Lakshya Sen currently ranked 72nd. He had won the Belgian Open in September and reached the finals of Polish Open 2019.

Foot Notes:

About Result

- Men's Singles:** Lakshya Sen (India)
- Women's Singles:** Wang Zhiyi (China)
- Men's Doubles:** Vladimir Ivanov, Ivan Sozonov (Russia)
- Women's Doubles:** Gabriela Stoeva, Bulgaria Stefani Stoeva (Bulgaria)
- Mixed Doubles:** Robin Tabeling, Selena Piek (Netherlands)

About Dutch Open (badminton) 2019:

- Dates:** 8 October 2019 –13 October 2019
- Location:** Almere, Netherlands
- Total prize money:** US\$75,000
- Organized by:** Badminton Nederland
- Dutch open 2019 has been held since 1932. It is the 9th Super 100 tournament of the 2019 BWF World Tour.

2. ICC changes super over rule for all its major events

- The International Cricket Council (ICC) has changed the super-over rule for all its major events following the uproar over the outcome of the men's World Cup final this year when England was declared winners against New Zealand on boundary count.
- As per new rule, in case of a super over tie, there will be a repeated super over until one team has more runs than the other.

Foot Notes:

About ICC

- ICC Chairman:** Shashank Manohar
- Headquarters:** Dubai, United Arab Emirates.
- The 13th edition of ICC Cricket World Cup will be held in India from February 9 to March 26, 2023.

3. Zimbabwe, Nepal readmitted as ICC members

- Zimbabwe and Nepal were re-admitted as ICC members in a meeting held in Dubai. Zimbabwe will now be able to take up their place in the ICC Men's U19 Cricket World Cup in January and the ICC Super League later in 2020.
- Zimbabwe Cricket had been suspended from membership of the International Cricket Council (ICC) with immediate effect in July this year. Nepal had been banned in 2016 for "governmental interference" as well.

Foot Notes

About ICC

- ICC Chairman:** Shashank Manohar
- Headquarters:** Dubai, United Arab Emirates.
- The 13th edition of ICC Cricket World Cup will be held in India from February 9 to March 26, 2023.

4. Yashasvi Jaiswal becomes youngest batsman to score double century

- The 17-year-old Mumbai teenager Yashasvi Jaiswal make history as he became the youngest cricketer in the world to score a double century in One Day cricket.
- He playing in his debut Vijay Hazare season. He scored 203 off 154 balls against Jharkhand at Alur, Karnataka. His score comprised 12 sixes and 17 fours.

5. Raunak Sadhwani becomes India's 65th Grandmaster

- Raunak Sadhwani (13) has become India's 65th Grand Master. He crossed the required mark for achieving this feat and earned a rating of 2500.
- Vladimir Kramnik, former world Champion, was his trainer and master.
- World Chess Federation FIDE gives the title of Grand Master to the chess players according to their rankings.

Foot Notes:**About World Chess Federation**

1. **Headquarters:** Lausanne, Switzerland
2. **President:** Arkady Dvorkovich
3. **CEO:** Geoffrey D. Borg
4. **Founded:** 20 July 1924
5. **Motto:** Gens una sumus

6. Viswanathan Anand revisits his best games and losses in a new book Mind Master "Mind Master: Winning Lessons from a Champion's Life"

- Indian Chess player, Viswanathan Anand has penned a new book titled "Mind Master: Winning Lessons from a Champion's Life". The book, published by Hachette
- In this book he revisits his greatest games and worst losses, his unique experiences of playing against the best minds, and the methods he employs to prepare for wins, cope with disappointments and, simply, stay in the game.



Awards

1. Indian-American Abhijit Banerjee, along with Esther Duflo and Michael Kremer win 2019 Nobel Economics Prize

- Indian-American Abhijit Banerjee, his wife Esther Duflo and Michael Kremer jointly won the 2019 Nobel Economics Prize "for their experimental approach to alleviating global poverty." The award recognized their experimental approach to alleviating global poverty.
- Banerjee was educated at the University of Calcutta, Jawaharlal Nehru University, and Harvard University, where he received his Ph.D. in 1988. He is currently the Ford Foundation International Professor of Economics at the Massachusetts Institute of Technology, according to his profile on the MIT website.
- The research conducted by this year's laureates has considerably improved the ability to fight global poverty.

2. Mumbai's Flora Fountain and four others Win UNESCO Heritage Awards

- Mumbai's iconic 155-year-old Flora Fountain and two different heritage landmarks within the nation's monetary capital are among the many 4 websites which were chosen from India for the UNESCO Asia-Pacific Awards for Cultural Heritage Conservation.
- The 4 winners from India, embody one from Ahmedabad — Award of Distinction for Vikram Sarabhai Library, Indian Institute of Administration (IIM); and three from Mumbai — Award of Benefit for Keneseth Eliyahoo Synagogue and Our Girl of Glory Church; whereas Honourable Point out for Flora Fountain.

About UNESCO

1. **Headquarters:** Paris, France
2. **Head:** Audrey Azoulay
3. **Founded:** 16 November 1945, London, United Kingdom
4. **Formation:** 4 November 1945

3. Atwood and Evaristo won the 2019 Booker Prize

- Margaret Atwood and Bernardine Evaristo have been announced as the joint winners of the 2019 Booker Prize.
- This is the first time joint winners are announced. Atwood won for *The Testaments*, her sequel to *The Handmaid's Tale*, and Evaristo won for her novel *Girl, Woman, Other*. The winners were awarded at a ceremony at London's Guildhall on 15 October.

4. Lionel Messi wins sixth Golden Shoe Award

- Lionel Messi has been presented with the European Golden Shoe for the sixth time, extending his own record as another incredible La Liga campaign was recognized.
- Messi earned the award, which is given to the player who scores the most league goals across Europe's top divisions, by finding the net 36 times in 34 La Liga appearances in 2018-19.
- His efforts helped Barca to successfully defend the La Liga title as he claimed the Golden Shoe for the third successive season. The Argentina superstar was presented with the Golden Shoe at a ceremony in Barcelona, where his sons Thiago and Mateo handed him the latest trophy in a career laden with them.

5. Veteran actor Deepti Naval was honoured with the Excellence in Cinema Award at Jio MAMI Mumbai Film Festival

- Veteran actor Deepti Naval was honoured with the Excellence in Cinema Award at the opening ceremony of the 21st Jio MAMI Mumbai Film Festival with Star on Thursday night.
- Naval made her acting debut with "Junoon" in 1978. In her career spanning over 40 years, she has acted in more than 60 films. Some of her iconic films include "Kamla", "Chashme Baddoor", "Mirch Masala", "Rang Birangi", "Firaq", "Leela" and "Memories in March"

Obituaries

1. Sara Danius , first female head of Nobel's Literature Award Body passes away

- First female head of Nobel's Literature Award Body, Sara Danius passed away.
- She was a literature critic, professor and writer, served as the first female permanent secretary of the Swedish Academy between 2015 and 2018.

2. Veteran broadcast journalist P.V. Krishnamoorthy passes away

- P.V. Krishnamoorthy, veteran broadcast journalist, died at his residence in Chennai. He was 98. He is survived by his two sons, including P.K. Balachandran, a Colombo-based journalist.
- Born in Yangon, Myanmar on April 1, 1921. He did graduation in English literature there and as a World War II refugee from the Southeast Asian Country, he joined External Services Division, All India Radio (AIR), as news reader/announcer in 1944.
- He went on to become Station Director of the AIR in Chennai and Kolkata and of the Doordarshan Kendra in New Delhi and Mumbai.

3. Renowned painter Kalidas Karmakar passes away in Dhaka

- Internationally acclaimed painter of Bangladesh Kalidas Karmakar passed away in Dhaka. He was born on January 10, 1946, in Faridpur district, he completed his graduation from the Government College of Fine Arts and Crafts in Kolkata in 1969.

- He was awarded Shilpakala Padak in 2016 and the Ekushey Padak in 2018 by the Government of Bangladesh for his contribution to fine arts.

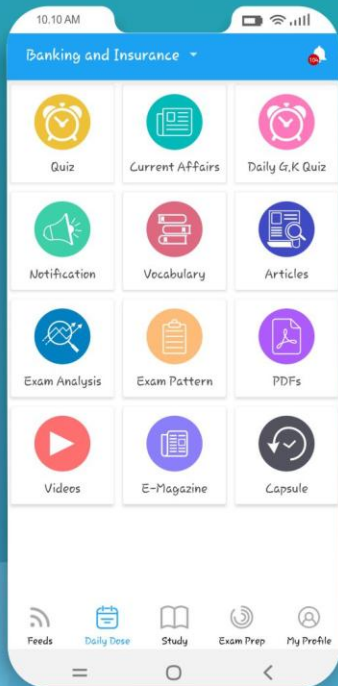
Foot Notes:**About Bangladesh****Capital:** Dhaka**Currency:** Bangladeshi taka**Prime minister:** Sheikh Hasina

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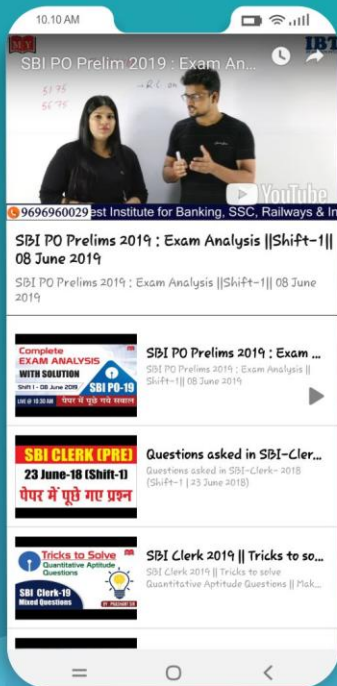
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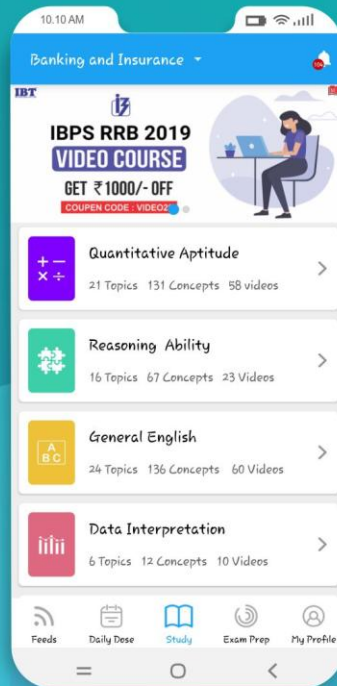
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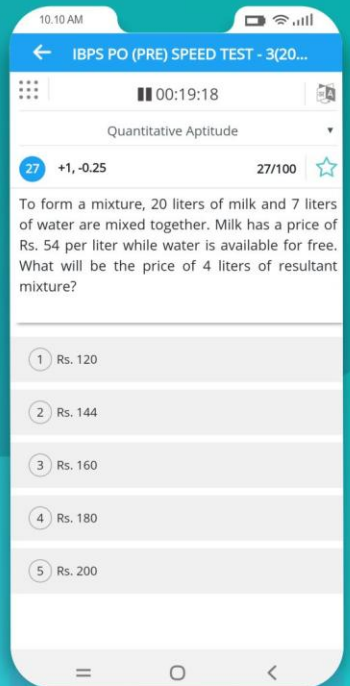
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