



WEEKLY G.K.

17 June – 23 June
(2019)

make  exam

Download India's #1 Competitive Exam Prep. App



www.makemyexam.in



support@makemyexam.in

National News

1. Miss India 2019 winner: Suman Rao:

- ✚ Suman Rao, Miss India Rajasthan was crowned the winner of Femina Miss India World 2019 during a star-studded grand finale of the beauty pageant, held on June 15, 2019 at the Sardar Vallabhbhai Patel Indoor Stadium in Mumbai.
- ✚ Miss India 2019 winner Rao was crowned Miss India World 2019 by her predecessor, Miss India 2018 Anukreethy Vas from Tamil Nadu.
- ✚ While Shivani Jadhav from Chhattisgarh was crowned Femina Miss Grand India 2019, Shreya Shanker from Bihar won the Miss India United Continents 2019 title

2. 17th Lok Sabha's first session from Monday; Union Budget, Triple talaq in focus:

- ✚ The first session of the 17th Lok Sabha will commence from Monday during which the passage of the Union Budget and other key legislations such as triple talaq will be on top of the agenda for the government.
- ✚ The Leader of the House, Modi was the first to take oath as member of the lower house, nearly four weeks after leading the BJP to a resounding victory in the Lok Sabha polls with the party retaining power winning 303 seats.
- ✚ Defence Minister Rajnath Singh, Home Minister and BJP president Amit Shah, Transport and Highways minister Nitin Gadkari were among the prominent members who took oath.

3. Second Edition of World Food India to be held in New Delhi from 1- 4 November, 2019:

- ✚ Union Minister for Food Processing Industries Smt Harsimrat Kaur Badal announced that World Food India (WFI) 2019, a biennial event, will be held at Vigyan Bhawan and Rajpath Lawns in New Delhi from 1- 4 November, 2019.
- ✚ It will be the biggest gathering of all global and domestic stakeholders in Food Processing Sector.
- ✚ This will be the second edition of World Food India, first edition was held in 2017.
- ✚ The tagline of the event will be “Forging Partnerships for Growth”.
- ✚ The ministry targets to partner with at least 15 countries and participation from at least 80 countries.
- ✚ Indian Food processing industry has grown and registered a growth of 11% which is twice the pace of global industry.

Foot Note:

- ❖ Ministry of Food Processing Industries Headquarters : New Delhi
- ❖ Ministry of Food Processing Industries Founded: 1988

4. For The First Time, India To Host COP-14 Of UNCCD In September 2019:

- ✦ India will host the 14th session of the Conference of Parties (COP-14) of United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification (UNCCD) in September 2019. It will be held between September 2 and 13, 2019 at the India Expo Center and Mart, New Delhi. COP-14 will review the reports submitted by COP to convention and look into the details like how they carry out their commitments.
- ✦ The conference will be hosted by the Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change of India.
- ✦ 5,000 delegates from nearly 197 countries will be participating in the event.
- ✦ India will take over the COP presidency from China for the next two years till 2021 until the next COP.
- ✦ Last Conference was held from 6-16 September 2017 in Ordos in the People's Republic of China.
- ✦ The 3 major Conventions of the United Nations (UN) are UN Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC), UN Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD) and UNCCD.

5. Unemployed Graduates To Get Up To Rs 3,500 In Rajasthan under Chief Minister Yuva Sambal Yojana

- ✦ Unemployed youth having graduation or equivalent degree will be given unemployment allowance by Rajasthan government. Male applicants will get Rs 3,000/month, while the women and differently-abled will get Rs 3,500/month under Chief Minister Yuva Sambal Yojana from February this year. The applicants must be natives of Rajasthan and the amount will be given for two years or until they get employed.

Foot Note:

- ❖ Rajasthan CM: Ashok Gehlot, Governor: Kalyan Singh.

6. Himachal Pradesh Government makes GPS tracking devices mandatory for trekkers

- ✦ The Himachal Pradesh government makes mandatory for trekkers to carry a GPS device so that they can be provided all possible help in case of any emergency. According to the Himachal Pradesh government, as Himachal Pradesh being a disaster prone state, therefore Kullu and Dalhousie have been identified for installation of early warning system. Rampur and Mandi towns have been zeroed in for setting up the relief and rescue base of National Disaster Response Force.

Foot Note:

- ❖ About Himachal Pradesh:
- ❖ Capital: Shimla
- ❖ Chief minister: Jai Ram Thakur
- ❖ Governor: Acharya Dev Vrat .

7. Punjab Government set to launch a universal health insurance scheme named "Sarbat Sehat Bima Yojana (SSBY)" from July 2019

- ✦ On June 13, 2019, Punjab Health Minister Balbir Singh Sidhu announced that the State Government is set to launch its flagship universal health insurance scheme named "Sarbat Sehat Bima Yojana (SSBY)" with effect from July 1, 2019. This

Health scheme will be the first of its kind in the state and provide annual health cover of Rs. 5 lakh per family to 43.18 lakh families of Punjab. Health Minister Balbir Singh Sidhu states that besides all government hospitals, 364 private hospitals in Punjab had been empanelled, where the beneficiaries would get the secondary and tertiary care treatment. 14.86 lakh families of Punjab will be covered under the Pradhan Mantri Jan Arogya Yojana (PM JAY) in the state and the cost of the premium for the families covered under the PM JAY would be borne by the Centre and the state government in the 60:40 ratio while for the rest of the beneficiaries, it would be borne by the state government.

Foot Note:

- ❖ About Punjab:
- ❖ Capital: Chandigarh
- ❖ Chief minister: Amarinder Singh
- ❖ Governor: V.P. Singh Badnore

8. 35000 km of highways to be built by 2022 under Bharatmala

- ✚ According to the President of India, construction or upgradation of about 35,000 kilometres of national highways are to be undertaken by 2022 under the 'Bharatmala Project'. Also under the 'Sagarmala Project', a network of good quality roads are to be constructed in coastal areas and areas adjoining ports.

9. 20th Meeting of the FSDC chaired by Nirmala Sitharaman held in New Delhi

- ✚ On June 20, 2019 The 20th meeting on Financial Stability and Development Council (FSDC) was held in New Delhi. This was chaired under the Union Minister of Finance and Corporate Affairs, Nirmala Sitharaman. The meeting was also attended by Minister of State for Finance Anurag Thakur, RBI Governor Shaktikanta Das, and Finance Secretary Subhash Chandra Garg among others. Current global and domestic economic situation and financial stability issues including those concerning Banking and Non-Banking Financial Company (NBFC) were reviewed in the meeting. Consultations held on the progress to set up the Financial Data Management Centre (FDMC) and Computer Emergency Response Team (CERT) to strengthen cybersecurity services in the financial sector & Suggestions of Financial Regulators for Union Budget 2019-20.

10. For the First time, India opens water clinic for Elephants in Mathura

- ✚ India has opened its first specialized hydrotherapy treatment centre for elephants suffering from arthritis, joint pain and foot ailments. It is situated in Mathura, Uttar Pradesh. It is a collaboration of Uttar Pradesh Forest Department and the NGO (Non-Governmental Organization), Wildlife SOS. The jumbo hydrotherapy centre: It is near the Wildlife SOS' Elephant Conservation and Care Centre (ECCC), which has over 20 rescued elephants. State-of-the-art modern facilities: It includes digital X-ray, laser treatment, dental X-ray, thermal imaging and ultrasonography to treat injured, sick and geriatric elephants. The jumbo pool: It is situated 11 foot deep and has 21 high-pressure jet sprays that help in massage the elephants' feet and body and increase blood circulation of the elephant.

Foot Note:

- ❖ About Uttar Pradesh
- ❖ Capital: Lucknow
- ❖ Chief Minister: Yogi Adityanath
- ❖ Governor: Ram Naik

11. A water clinic for elephants opens on the banks of the Yamuna

- ✚ India has opened its first specialised hydrotherapy treatment for elephants suffering from arthritis, joint pain and foot ailments near the Wildlife SOS' Elephant Conservation and Care Centre (ECCC), which currently houses 20 rescued elephants and is run in collaboration with the Uttar Pradesh Forest Department and the NGO Wildlife SOS
- ✚ Situated on the banks of the Yamuna in Mathura, the new hydrotherapy jumbo pool is 11-feet-deep and has 21 high pressure jet sprays that create water pressure that massage the elephants' feet and body and help in increasing blood circulation.
- ✚ "The hospital started in 2018 already offers state-of-the-art modern facilities including wireless digital X-ray, laser treatment, dental X-ray, thermal imaging and ultrasonography to treat injured, sick and geriatric elephants," said Dr. Yaduraj Khadpekar, senior wildlife veterinary officer.

Foot Notes:**About Uttar Pradesh**

- ❖ Chief Minister of Uttar Pradesh: Yogi Adityanath.
- ❖ Governor: Ram Naik.

12. India has the highest data usage per smartphone in the World: Report

- ✚ According to the Ericsson Mobility Report, monthly data usage per smartphone in India rose to 9.8 gigabytes (GB) at the end of 2018, the highest in the world.
- ✚ It is expected that, Monthly data usage per smartphone would grow at 11 percent to reach 18 GB by 2024 from 9.8 GB in 2018.
- ✚ The report also projects that total mobile data usage per month in the country will go up 23 per cent in the coming five years, rising from 4.6 exabytes (EB) presently to 16 EB. One EB equals one billion GB.
- ✚ At the end of 2018, there were 5.1 billion smartphone subscribers globally, 99 percent of which were for 3G and 4G. North East Asia comes second with 7.1GB per month.

13. Namma Kolhapuri chappal got GI tag

- ✚ The controller general of patents, designs and trademarks has granted the GI (Geographical Indications) tag to Kolhapuri chappal from Kolhapur, Sangli, Satara and Solapur districts of Maharashtra and Dharwad, Belgaum, Bagalkot and Bijapur of Karnataka.
- ✚ Getting GI tag for Kolhapuri means that footwear produced only in these 8 districts will qualify to carry tag of being Kolhapuris. According to the GI application made by

the two states, Kolhapuris can be traced back to the 12th century when King Bijjal ruled Bidar in Karnataka and his prime minister Vishwaguru Basavanna wanted to create a casteless society and remove the stigma associated with the cobbler community. The community embraced Lingayat faith and used its creative skills to start producing footwear known equally for its ruggedness and regal bearing.

- ✚ Brand Kolhapuri came into being only in the beginning of 20th century when the footwear began to be traded in 20th century when the footwear began to be traded in Kolhapur. Chhatrapati Shahu Maharaj (1874-1922) of Kolhapur encouraged its production and 29 tanning centres were opened during his rule in Kolhapur.

❖ About Geographical Indications (GI) tag:

- A geographical indication (GI) is a name or sign used on certain products which corresponds to a specific geographical location or origin.
- Darjeeling tea became the first GI tagged product in India, in 2004-05, since then by october 2018, 321 had been added to the list.
- The GI tag is valid for a period of 10 years. Further it can be renewed.

International News & Foreign Affairs

1. India, Myanmar conducted joint operation:

- ✚ The first semi-open prison for women will be inaugurated on June 20, 2019 in Tihar, Delhi.
- ✚ The premises are a 4 minute drive from Jail where 375 women inmates are lodged.
- ✚ On the first floor is a work station, where the five women make seviyan.
- ✚ Semi-open and open prisons for men have been functioning at Tihar Jail for a while now.

2. India will overtake China as world's most populous country: UN report:

- ✚ According to the 26th edition of the United Nations population estimates and projection report, "World Population Prospects 2019" published by the UN's Department of Economic and Social Affairs states that India is going to surpass China as the world's most populous country by 2027.
- ✚ According to the World Population Review 2019, India currently ranks second in the index out of 230 countries with over 17 per cent of the world population.
- ✚ India likely to add nearly 273 million people between 2019 and 2050.
- ✚ The report also stated that among the Southeast Asian counties, Bangladesh, Nepal and Myanmar have witnessed a large net outflow of migrants between 2010 and 2020.
- ✚ Nigeria with 733 million, the United States with 434 million, and Pakistan with 403 million are the three countries will expected to get place after India and China.

Foot Note:

- ❖ Headquarters: New York, United States
- ❖ Founded: 24 October 1945
- ❖ United States Secretary General : António Guterres

3. India extended \$15 million grant to Niger to organize the African Union (AU) summit

- ✚ India extended \$15 million grant to Niger to organize the African Union (AU) Summit scheduled from 7-8 July, 2019 in Niamey, Niger. It was symbolically handed over to Mrs. Lamido Ousseini Bala Goga Salamatou, Deputy Foreign Minister, Government of Niger in the presence of Mr Mohammed Saidil Moctar, Minister and Special Advisor to the President of the Republic of Niger by Ambassador of India to Niger Shri Rajesh Agarwal at a ceremony held on 17 June 2019, in Niamey.

Foot Note:

- ❖ Niger will be hosting the AU Summit for the first time and it is expected to launch the historic African Continental Free Trade Area (AfCFTA).
- ❖ In Niamey, India is establishing Mahatma Gandhi International Convention Centre (MGICC) under grant assistance in order to mark Mahatma Gandhi's 150th birth anniversary (October 2, 2019).
- ❖ Since 2009, Bilateral relations between both countries have expanded after the opening of the Indian Resident Diplomatic Mission in Niamey. India has also provided Lines of Credit (LoC) worth \$96.54 million to Niger for projects in transport, electrification, solar energy and potable drinking water.

About Niger:

- Capital: Niamey
- Currency: CFA franc, West African CFA franc
- President: Mahamadou Issoufou

4. WHO launched a new tool to handle AMR named "AWaRe"

- ✚ On June 18, 2019, The World Health Organization (WHO) launched a global campaign "AdoptAWaRe, Handle antibiotics with care" urging governments to adopt a tool named "AWaRe" (Access, Watch, and Reserve), to reduce the spread of antimicrobial resistance (AMR), adverse events and costs.

Foot Note:

- ❖ It is developed by the WHO Essential Medicines List.
- ❖ It classified antibiotics into three groups – Access (antibiotics used to treat the most common and serious infections), Watch (antibiotics available at all times in the healthcare system), and Reserve (antibiotics to be used sparingly or preserved and used only as a last resort).
- ❖ The aim is to increase the proportion of global consumption of antibiotics in the Access group to at least 60% and to reduce the usage of the antibiotics at risk of resistance from the Watch and Reserve groups.
- ❖ On June 19, 2019, the AWaRe campaign was officially launched by the Ministers of Health of The Netherlands and Indonesia and WHO Assistant-Director General Hanan Balkhy, at the second ministerial conference on AMR in Noordwijk, The Netherlands.

About World Health Organization:

- Established: April 7, 1948
- Headquarters: Geneva, Switzerland
- Director-General: Dr. Tedros Adhanom Ghebreyesus

5. Ireland plans to ban sale of petrol and diesel cars from 2030

- ✚ In order to combat greenhouse gas emissions, Ireland Government decided to ban the sale of new petrol and diesel vehicles by 2030 as part of a major strategy to protect the environment. This is one of 180 measures the Irish government published in the 'Climate Action Plan'.

Foot Note:

- ❖ The "Climate Action Plan" also includes the elimination of non-recyclable plastic and higher fees on the production of materials that are difficult to recycle.
- ❖ The country hopes that by the time the petrol and diesel vehicle ban is introduced in 2030 there will be 950,000 electric vehicles on Irish roads. To this, the government decided to invest in a nationwide charging network.
- ❖ The Irish Government's objective is to transition to a low-carbon and climate-resilient society and put the country to achieve net zero carbon emissions by 2050.
- ❖ Besides the ban of the sale of new fossil fuel cars, the government decided that it would stop granting National Car Test (NCT) certificates to such vehicles by 2045.

About Ireland

- Capital : Dublin
- Currency: Euro
- Prime Minister: Leo Varadkar
- President :Michael D. Higgins

6. Bangladesh, South Korea state channels now telecasted on state-owned DD Free Dish

- ✚ India has signed agreements with Bangladesh and South Korea for DD India to be telecasted on the state platforms of the respective countries. As per the agreement, BTV World, a channel owned by Bangladesh TV and KBS World, an English language of South Korea, will now be available on the state-owned DD Free Dish.

Foot Note:

- ❖ South Korea Capital- Seoul, Currency- South Korean won
- ❖ Bangladesh Capital: Dhaka, Currency: Taka, PM: Sheikh Hasina.

7. G20 Ministerial Meeting On Energy Transitions And Global Environment For Sustainable Growth Held In Karuizawa, Japan .

- ✚ In order to deal with the economic and financial crisis triggered by the collapse of Lehman Brothers, the former G20 Finance Ministers and Central Bank Governors' Meeting was promoted to the summit-level meeting as a forum of leaders of major

industrialized countries and emerging countries in November 2008. The first G20 Summit was held in Washington D. C. After that, the leaders met every half year until 2010. Since 2011, it has been held once a year. The 2019 Summit will be held in Japan. Title of the meeting: G20 Ministerial Meeting on Energy Transitions and Global Environment for Sustainable Growth Date: June 15-16, 2019 Venue: Karuizawa Prince Hotel (Karuizawa Town, Nagano) Outline and purpose: The G20 Ministers will meet together to discuss energy transitions and global environment toward sustainable growth.

Foot Note:

- ❖ About Japan:
- ❖ Capital: Tokyo
- ❖ Currency: Japanese Yen
- ❖ Prime Minister: Shinzo Abe

8. The US overtook China as India's largest goods trading partner in 2018-19

- ✚ The United States (US) overtook China to become India's largest goods trading partner in 2018-19. Trade surplus of India with the US declined to \$16.8 billion from \$21.2 billion for 2017-18. A trade deficit of India with China was at \$53 billion in 2018-19, down from \$63 billion for 2017-18. India's dependency on Chinese imports saw a decline to \$70 billion from \$76 billion in 2017-18, with over a fourth increase in exports to \$16.7 billion in 2018-19.

Foot Note:

- ❖ About USA:
- ❖ Capital: Washington, DC
- ❖ Currency: US Dollar
- ❖ President: Donald Trump

9. PM Modi to attend G-20 summit in Japan from June 27-29

- ✚ Prime Minister Narendra Modi will attend the G-20 summit in Osaka, Japan from June 27-29, the Ministry of External Affairs. He would be participating in the summit.
- ✚ He would hold bilateral (discussions) and participate in plurilateral meetings which would be announced closer to the date.
- ✚ The G-20 members are Argentina, Australia, Brazil, Canada, China, the European Union, France, Germany, India, Indonesia, Italy, Japan, Mexico, Russia, Saudi Arabia, South Africa, South Korea, Turkey, the UK and the US.
- ✚ Collectively, the G-20 economies account for nearly 90 per cent of the gross world product, Around 80 per cent of world trade, two-thirds of the world population, and approximately half of the world land area.

Foot Notes:**❖ About G 20 Summit**

- Host country: Argentina

- Chair: Mauricio Macri
- Precede: 2019 G20 Osaka summit

Banking

1. RBI appoints Rabi Mishra as Executive Director -:

- ✚ The Reserve Bank of India (RBI) has promoted Odisha-born Rabi N Mishra as the executive director (ED) after Rosemary Sebastian. Previously, Rabi N Mishra was the principal chief general manager of the bank's risk management department.
- ✚ Mishra, a Ph.D holder in Monetary Economics hails from Mahendra Pur Shashan in Dhenkanal, Odisha.
- ✚ He will handle the newly-created specialized supervisory and regulatory cadre within the RBI. He will be supervising cooperative banks and the Non-Banking Financial Companies (NBFCs).
- ✚ There are 12 executive directors including the chief financial officers in RBI.

Foot Notes :

- ❖ RBI Headquarters: Mumbai
- ❖ RBI Founded: 1 April 1935, Kolkata
- ❖ RBI Governor: Shaktikanta Das

2. Canara Bank updates new rules for cash deposits of up to Rs 50,000

- ✚ From July 1, Canara Bank customers can deposit cash of up to Rs 50,000 for free only thrice a month. From the fourth transaction or for cash deposits of over Rs 50,000, there will be a service charge of Rs 1 per thousand, with a minimum of Rs 50 and a maximum of Rs 5,000 plus GST.

Foot Note:

- ❖ Canara Bank Chairman: T.N. Manoharan
- ❖ Headquarters: Bengaluru
- ❖ MD & CEO of Canara Bank: R.A. Sankara Narayanan

3. ADB sanctions Rs 1,650Cr infra projects in Tripura:

- ✚ The Asian Development Bank (ADB) has approved a project submitted by Urban Development Department (UDD) of Tripura amounting to Rs.1650 crore for overall infrastructure development of seven district headquarter towns of Tripura.
- ✚ The fund is meant for development of piped water supply, underground drainage, underground sewage or scientific septage management, roads with pavement.
- ✚ The ADB will give 80 per cent of 1650 crore as grant-in-aid and the state Government of Tripura will have to repay back only 20 per cent loan in due course of time.
- ✚ The seven district headquarters include-Khowai (Khowai), Ambassa(Dhalai district), Dharmnagar(North Tripura), Kailashahar (Unakoti), Udaipur (Gomati), Bishramganj (Sepahijala), Belonia (South Tripura) ,where the plan will be implemented.

Foot Notes:

- ❖ Tripura Capital: Agartala
- ❖ Tripura Chief minister: Biplab Kumar Deb
- ❖ Tripura Governor: Kaptan Singh Solanki
- ❖ National parks: Clouded Leopard National Park ,Rajbari National Park

4. Jammu and Kashmir Bank brought under RTI, CVC guidelines:

- ✚ The Board of Directors (BoD) of Jammu & Kashmir Bank under the chairmanship of the bank's Interim Chairman and Managing Director (MD) R.S. Chhibber decided to bring the bank under Jammu and Kashmir (J&K) Right to Information (RTI) Act, 2009 and the Central Vigilance Commission (CVC) guidelines with effect from June 17, 2019.
- ✚ The decision was taken after receiving directions from the State Government, which owns 59% of the bank's shares, in order to improve the governance and bring transparency & accountability in the functioning of the bank.
- ✚ BoD decided to arrest any further slippage of accounts to Non Performing Assets (NPA) by initiating strong action against wilful defaulters.
- ✚ This move is implemented after Parvez Ahmed was removed as the Chairman of the J&K Bank for alleged corruption, nepotism and favouritism.

Foot Note:

- ❖ Jammu & Kashmir Bank: Headquarters: Srinagar
- ❖ Jammu & Kashmir Bank: Tagline: Serving to Empower.

5. "Amazon India" best place to work in the country:

- ✚ Randstad rates Amazon India as country's most attractive employer brand. Microsoft India emerged as the runner-up.
- ✚ As per the study, salary and employee benefits continue to be the top driver, while choosing an employer for the Indian workforce, followed by work-life balance and job security.
- ✚ CEO of Amazon: Jeff Bezos

6. RBI fines HDFC Bank for Rs 1 crore

- ✚ Reserve Bank fined country's largest private sector lender HDFC Bank Rs 1 crore for not reporting frauds and non-compliance with other directions. The fine pertains to submission of forged bill of entries (BoEs) by certain importers to HDFC Bank for remittance of foreign currency.

Foot Note:

- ❖ RBI 25th Governor: Shaktikant Das, Headquarters: Mumbai, Founded: 1 April 1935, Kolkata.

7. Facebook to launch Blockchain-based Libra cryptocurrency in 2020

- ✚ On June 8, 2019, Facebook confirmed that it will launch a blockchain-powered stable-coin 'Libra' in 2020 through the release of white paper. It will be a form of digital money backed by a reserve of assets. It will be governed by the independent Libra Association, headquartered in Geneva, Switzerland.

Foot Note:

- ❖ The head of the project is David Marcus. He has served as the president of PayPal and head of Facebook Messenger.
- ❖ Facebook introduced Calibra, a new Facebook subsidiary. It will provide financial services so that users may participate in the Libra network.
- ❖ Libra Association has 27 partners which includes venture capital firms, nonprofit organizations, crypto firms, and massive corporate financial, telecommunications, and technology service providers like Coinbase, Mastercard, Visa, eBay, PayPal, Stripe, Spotify, Uber, Lyft, and Vodafone.

8. Bangladesh emerged as the fastest economy in Asia-Pacific: Asian Development Bank

- ✚ Asian Development Bank (ADB) in its Asian Development Outlook (ADO) stated that Bangladesh emerged as the fastest growing economy among the 45 countries of the Asia-Pacific region. Higher public sector investment, stronger consumption demand, revival in exports, improved power supply and higher growth in private sector credit were the key factors of the high growth performance of Bangladesh. In 2018-19, Bangladesh registered a growth rate of 7.9%. It was the fastest rate since 1974. It predicted that the growth will be 8% in the next financial year 2019-20. It stated that the growth will be moderate across most of developing Asia – 5.7% in 2019 and 5.6% in 2020 from 6.2% in 2017 and 5.9% in 2018. South Asia will witness slow growth in Asia at 6.8% in 2019 and 6.9% in 2020.

Foot Note:**❖ About Bangladesh:**

- Capital: Dhaka
- Currency: Bangladeshi Taka
- Prime Minister: Sheikh Hasina

❖ Asian Development Bank (ADB)

- Headquarters: Mandaluyong, Manila, Philippines
- President: Takehiko Nakao

9. IIDEM (ECI) Organises Capacity Building Program On 'Electoral Technology'

- ✚ The India International Institute of Democracy and Election Management (IIDEM) (ECI) organized five-day training programme on Use of Technology in Elections for Election Officials of Union Election Commission of Myanmar. The Capacity

Building Programs on Electoral technology is the 7th program in the series of the 09 programs scheduled across 2018-2019.

10. CCI approves Indiabulls Housing Finance and Lakshmi Vilas Bank merger

- ✚ Competition Commission of India (CCI) has approved the merger of the Indiabulls Housing Finance and Lakshmi Vilas Bank. Lakshmi Vilas Bank is going to merge with Indiabulls Housing Finance in a share swap deal with intent to create a combined entity with a larger capital base and wider geographical reach. After the merger, Indiabulls Housing Finance will get access to low cost deposits, geographical diversification and expanded client base and cross selling opportunities. MD & CEO of Lakshmi Vilas Bank: Parthasarathi Mukherjee.

11. RBI panel on MSMEs suggested Rs 20 lakh collateral-free loan under Mudra Scheme

- ✚ Reserve Bank of India (RBI) expert committee on Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises (MSMEs) headed by the former Securities and Exchange Board of India (SEBI) Chairman U K Sinha, has recommended doubling the capital on collateral-free loans from the current Rs 10 lakh to Rs 20 lakh, for borrowers falling under the Micro Units Development and Refinance Agency (MUDRA), self-help groups, and MSMEs.
- ✚ According to the 2006 definition, manufacturing units with investment below Rs 25 lakh were termed micro, those between Rs 25 lakh and Rs 5 crore termed small, and from Rs 5 crore to Rs 10 crore medium.
- ✚ For service units, the corresponding amounts were up to Rs 10 lakh for micro, Rs 10 lakh-2 crore for small, and Rs 2 crore-5 crore for medium enterprises.

Foot Notes:

About Mudra Scheme

- ❖ The Pradhan Mantri Mudra Yojana (PMMY) was launched on: April 8, 2015 by Prime Minister Narendra Modi.
- ❖ The loans are given to non-corporate, non-farm small and micro enterprises.

New Appointments & Person in News

1. Zuzana Caputova sworn in as first female president of Slovakia:

- ✚ lawyer and Anti-corruption campaigner, Zuzana Caputova(45) sworn in as country's Slovakia's first female president. She defeated Smer-SD candidate Maros Sefcovic.
- ✚ Zuzana CaputovaKey points:
- ✚ She is the fifth president of Slovakia .
- ✚ She was elected in March 2019 with 58% of votes over Mr Sefcovic(42%).
- ✚ She was honoured with the Goldman Environmental Award in 2016 for her strong leadership regarding the Pezinok landfill affair, Caputova.

Foot Note:-

- ❖ Slovakia Capital: Bratislava
- ❖ Slovakia Currency: Euro
- ❖ Slovakia Prime Minister: Peter Pellegrini

2. Lt General Faiz Hameed Appointed Pakistan ISI Chief:

- ✚ Pakistan has appointed Lieutenant General Faiz Hameed as the new Director General of the Inter-Services Intelligence (ISI).
- ✚ He was previously serving as the head of the Counter Intelligence wing in the ISI. Lieutenant General Faiz Hameed replaced Lieutenant Gen Asim Munir.

3. Om Birla Elected as 17th Lok Sabha Speaker by the NDA

- ✚ Om Birla, a two-time Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP) member of Parliament (MP) from Rajasthan, is set to be unanimously elected as the 17th Lok Sabha Speaker. Om Birla was elected to the 17th Lok Sabha from the Kota-Bundi constituency.

Foot Note:

- ❖ He was elected as the speaker by pro-tem Speaker Virendra Kumar.
- ❖ A three-time Member of Rajasthan Legislative Assembly from Kota South, Birla was born on November 23, 1962 and is an M.Com (Master of Commerce) student from Government Commerce College, Kota.
- ❖ He was elected to the Rajasthan Assembly for three consecutive terms in 2003, 2008 and 2013.
- ❖ He has served as the Parliamentary secretary with the rank of Minister of State in the Vasundhara Raje Government between 2003 and 2008.
- ❖ Sumitra Mahajan was 16th Lok Sabha Speaker.

Science Tech & Defence

1. BSF and BGB agreed to increase coordinated patrols:

- ✚ Border Security Force (BSF) of India and the Border Guard Bangladesh (BGB) signed a Joint Record of Discussion at the 48th Director General (DG)-level talks which concluded in Dhaka, Bangladesh.
- ✚ It was signed between DG, BSF, Rajni Kant Mishra and DG, BGB, Major General Md Shafeenul Islam. Both sides agreed to undertake joint efforts to bring down the killing incidents to zero. They will increase the coordinated patrols in the areas vulnerable to cattle and narcotics smuggling, educate the border population about the sanctity of International Border (IB) and prevent criminals from crossing the IB.
- ✚ The next DG level conference will be held in New Delhi during the first week of November, 2019.
- ✚ Both sides agreed to implement Coordinated Border Management Programme (CBMP) to curb the danger of trans-border crimes.
- ✚ They agreed to pursue and share real-time information including a preliminary questioning report as applicable about the persons apprehended with smuggled items.

- ✚ They agreed to resolve the pending issues regarding development works including single row fencing of integrated check posts and land customs stations within 150 yards of IB by joint verification or re-verification of appropriate levels at the earliest.
- ✚ They agreed to declare new areas as crime free zone in phases. The proposed area within Sarail region or Tripura Frontier may be formalized in the first phase.

Foot Notes

- ❖ BSF Headquarters: New Delhi
- ❖ BSF Founded: December 1, 1965
- ❖ BSF Motto: Duty Unto Death:
- ❖ BGB Headquarters: Pilkhana, Bangladesh

2. Assam Transport Minister Chandra Mohan Patowary launched State Transport Corporation's Chalo app

- ✚ Assam Transport Minister Chandra Mohan Patowary launched the State Transport Corporation's Chalo app for Guwahati. It will help the travellers to know about the live arrival time of their bus.
- ✚ He also launched a transport map for the State Transport bus network in Guwahati developed by Chalo.
- ✚ Assam became the first state in India to have a state-wide smart transport solution and common mobility card for its commuters.
- ✚ Free travel was announced for Divyangs, freedom fighters and meritorious students of the state in State Transport buses.
- ✚ The Chalo app is developed by the Zophop Technologies Pvt Ltd, a technology-driven transport solutions company.

Foot Notes

- ❖ Assam Capital: Dispur
- ❖ Assam Chief Minister: Sarbananda Sonowal
- ❖ Assam Governor: Jagdish Mukhi

3. Lucknow builds its first road from plastic waste:

- ✚ The Lucknow Development Authority (LDA) has started using plastic waste to construct roads as a pilot project.
- ✚ This environment-friendly road is being constructed as a trial from Gomti Nagar Police Station to Indian Institute of Management (IIM) Lucknow.
- ✚ The LDA will follow all the road-making guidelines set by the Central Road Research Institute (CRRI) for the construction.
- ✚ Mixed plastic waste increases the durability of roads by 40 to 50 per cent. About 8-10 per cent of plastic waste mixed in coal tar and it will be durable for a longer time.

Foot Note:

- ❖ UP CM : Yogi Adityanath
- ❖ UP Governor : Shri Ram Naik

4. Sri Lanka launched its first satellite ‘Ravana-1’ into orbit

- ✚ On June 17, 2019, Sri Lanka successfully launched its first satellite ‘Ravana-1’ into orbit from the International Space Station (ISS) along with two other BIRDS 3 satellites from Japan and Nepal. It was deployed to the 400-km of orbit at an inclination of 51.6 degrees using the JAXA (Japanese Aerospace and Exploration Agency) owned Kibo experiment module. The satellite was designed and developed by 2 Sri Lankan engineers – Tharindu Dayaratne and Dulani Chamika who are studying space engineering at Japan’s Kyushu Institute of Technology. Ravana 1 measures 11.3 cm x 10 cm x 10 cm and weighs around 1.05 kg. It was officially handed over to the JAXA on February 18, 2019, and was sent to the ISS on April 17, 2019, through the assistance of Cygnus-1 spacecraft from the US. The satellite is expected to fulfill five missions. It will have a minimum lifespan of one-and-a-half years but is expected to be active up to 5 years.

Foot Note:

- ❖ About Sri Lanka:
- ❖ Capital: Sri Jayawardenepura Kotte, Colombo
- ❖ Currency: Sri Lankan rupee
- ❖ Prime Minister: Ranil Wickremesinghe

5. IIIDEM (ECI) Organises Capacity Building Program On ‘Electoral Technology’

- ✚ The India International Institute of Democracy and Election Management (IIIDEM) (ECI) organized five-day training programme on Use of Technology in Elections for Election Officials of Union Election Commission of Myanmar. The Capacity Building Programs on Electoral technology is the 7th program in the series of the 09 programs scheduled across 2018-2019.

6. Union Government Restored ‘ration in kind’ to military officers in peace areas

- ✚ On June 18, 2019, The government of India has brought back the provision of ‘ration in kind’ to military officers in peace areas by approving proposal given by the Ministry of Defence. The decision is taken by the new Defence Minister Rajnath Singh. In 2017, The facility was withdrawn by the central government after the implementation of the seventh pay commission. All officers of the Armed Forces including those in peace stations will be getting ration now which was initially applicable only to junior officers. Instead of the ration, defense officers in peace areas were paid Rs 96 as ‘ration money allowance’.

7. Indian Navy executes Operation Sankalp in the Gulf of Oman to undertake maritime security

- ✚ On June 21, 2019, India Navy launched “Operation Sankalp” in the Gulf of Oman. It is to recheck Indian flagged vessels operating through the Persian Gulf and Gulf of Oman following the maritime incidents in the region. Deployment of Warships: Indian Navy has deployed (Indian Navy Ship) INS Chennai and INS Sunayna in the region to undertake maritime security operations. Aerial surveillance: It is also undertaken by Indian Navy aircraft in the area to check the movement of ships in the

Gulf region, Information Fusion Centre – Indian Ocean Region (Gurugram) keeping a close watch on the region. Background: The Operation was launched after the escalation of tension in Gulf of Oman, where two oil tankers were attacked and four tankers off the United Arab Emirates. The incident has since heightened tensions between Iran and the United States. The US (United States) blamed Iran which denied the allegations for the incident.

8. NASA's First Astrobe Robot "Bumble" Starts Flying in Space

- ✚ A robot named Bumble became the first Astrobe robot to fly under its own power in space.
- ✚ Astrobe is a free-flying robot system that will help researchers test new technologies in zero gravity and perform routine work alongside astronauts aboard the International Space Station.
- ✚ Robots that can operate on their own in space, such as Astrobe, can be caretakers for NASA's lunar gateway and will play a significant part in NASA's future missions to explore the Moon and Mars. Astrobe robots can move in any direction and turn on any axis in space.

Foot Note:

❖ About NASA

- Headquarters: Washington, D.C., United States.
- Founded: 29 July 1958.
- Administrator of NASA: Jim Bridenstine.

9. Indian Navy launches Operation Sankalp in Gulf of Oman

- ✚ Indian Navy launched Operation Sankalp in the Persian Gulf and the Gulf of Oman to reassure Indian flagged vessels transiting through the area following the recent maritime incidents in the region.
- ✚ INS Chennai and INS Sunayna have been deployed in the region to undertake maritime security operations.
- ✚ In addition, aerial surveillance in the area is also being done by IN aircraft.

Foot Notes:

❖ About Naval Staff

- Chief of the Naval Staff: Vice Admiral Karambir Singh

10. India's first solar cruise vessel will debut in Kerala

- ✚ India's first solar-powered ferry in 2016, Kerala is gearing up for the launch of the country's premier solar-powered cruise boat.
- ✚ The initiative comes from the State Water Transport Department (SWTD), whose solar ferry Aditya in the Vaikom-Thavanakadavu route proved to be a success.
- ✚ The 3-crore cruise boat can carry 100 passengers is under construction at a boatyard in Aroor and comes from the stable of the builders of Aditya.

- ✚ It will be rolled out in Alappuzha in December.
- ✚ The hybrid vessel will be powered by a motor that can source energy from solar panels, battery, and generator. Its battery will have 80 KWh (kilowatt hour) power backup, as compared to 50 KWh backup in Aditya.

Foot Notes:**❖ About Kerala**

- CM: Pinarayi Vijayan
- Governor: Palanisamy Sathasivam
- Capital: Thiruvananthapuram

❖ About Low Energy Force

- Aditya incurs a rock-bottom energy expense of 200 a day compared to the approximately ₹8,000 needed for diesel-powered ferries.
- Solar vessels do not create air and noise pollution.
- The double-deck, double-engine catamaran-type vessel adheres to norms specified by the Indian Registry of Shipping (IRS).
- The vessel will have an air-conditioned lower deck and pushback seats, he said.
- The upper deck, which is non-air conditioned, can be used for dining and to get a better view of the backwaters.

Important days

1. World Day to Combat Desertification and Drought 2019 observed on June 17:

- ✚ World Day to Combat Desertification and Drought (WDCD) 2019 was observed on June 17.
- ✚ It is celebrated to promote public awareness of international efforts to combat desertification.
- ✚ 2019 Theme of WDCD is “Let’s Grow the Future Together”.
- ✚ Desertification is the degradation of land in various areas like arid, semi-arid and dry sub-humid. It is caused by human activities and then by climatic variations.
- ✚ It was declared by the United Nations General Assembly (UNGA) in 1995.
- ✚ United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification (UNCCD) celebrates 25 years of progress made by countries on sustainable land management in 2019.
- ✚ The campaign slogan for 25th anniversary is “Let’s grow the future longer”.
- ✚ The 25th anniversary Convention on 17 June, 2019 was held in Ankara, Turkey. It was hosted by the government of Turkey.

Foot Notes:

- ❖ UNGA Headquarters: New York, US
- ❖ UNGA President: Prof. Tijjani Muhammad Bande

2. International Picnic Day celebrated on June 18, 2019:

- ✦ Picnic Day was celebrated all over the world. It is a day to encourage people to go outdoors and enjoy each other's company.
- ✦ The word "picnic" originated from the French language. It relates to informal outdoor meal. Picnic became a popular time pass in France after the Revolution.
- ✦ According to the Guinness Book of World Records, the world's largest picnic was held in Lisbon, Portugal.
- ✦ Charity events, school picnics and various types of group meals are held to commemorate this day.

3. World Refugee Day is Observed On 20 June 2019

- ✦ World Refugee Day is celebrated around the world on 20th June to raise awareness about the precarious condition of refugees around the world who have been forced to leave their homes due to war, persecution and conflict. Theme for 2019: Step With Refugees — Take A Step on World Refugee Day

Foot Note:

- ❖ UN Headquarters: New York, USA; Founded: 24 October 1945.
- ❖ Mr Antonio Guterres of Portugal is the Secretary-General of the United Nations.

4. International Day of Yoga: 21 June

- ✦ The International Day of Yoga is being observed on 21st June every year. The International Day of Yoga aims to raise awareness worldwide of the many benefits of practicing yoga. This is the 5th Edition of International Day of Yoga. Theme: Yoga for Climate Action

Sports

1. Virat Kohli became the fastest batsman to reach 11,000:

- ✦ Virat Kohli became the fastest batsman to reach 11,000 runs in one-day internationals after scoring a fine half century against Pakistan.
- ✦ He broke the record of Sachin Tendulkar, who had reached the milestone in 276 innings.
- ✦ Kohli, who took only 222 innings to achieve the record, has become the third Indian and ninth overall to reach the 11,000 mark in ODIs.

2. Joshna claims her 17th national title at the 76th Senior National Squash Championship, 2019:

- ✦ Indian professional squash player, Joshna Chinappa won the national squash title for the record 17th time at the 76th Senior National Squash Championship, 2019 held in Pune, Maharashtra. Chinappa overcame her Tamilnadu rival Sunayna Kuruvilla.
- ✦ Joshna Chinappa surpassed the record of 16 titles, which stood for 27 years held by Bhuvneshwari Kumari of Rajasthan who won the national titles from 1977 to 1992.

- ✦ Chinappa was up against the Sunayna Kuruvilla in the final with 11-5, 11-4, 7-11, 11-5 scores.
- ✦ She is a two-time Asian Games and Commonwealth Games medallist.
- ✦ Meanwhile, in the men's category, Mahesh Mangaonkar of Mumbai claimed the national crown against Abhishek Pradhan 12-10, 11-7, 11-9.
- ✦ Vikas Jangra of Rajasthan, Amitpal Kohli of Maharashtra, Saurabh Nayar of Chandigarh, Dalip Tripathi of West Bengal, Vivan Khubchand of Delhi, Dushyant Jamwal of Delhi, Vijay Jaini of Haryana and Rajiv Reddy of Tamil Nadu were also emerged winners in the other age group events.

3. Gary Woodland wins 119th US Open 2019 in Pebble Beach Golf Links, California .

- ✦ American professional golfer Gary Woodland(35) has won the 119th United States(US)open 2019 held at the at Pebble Beach Golf Links, California. Gary Woodland wins 119th US Open 2019 . He secured his first major career title after defeating two-time defending champion Brooks Koepka (US).

Foot Note:

- ❖ Gary Woodland went pro in 2007 and briefly competed on the Nationwide Tour.
- ❖ Woodland has competed on the PGA (Professional Golfers' Association) Tour since 2009 and has four wins.

4. Punjab Police (Men) and Eastern Railway (Women) won 2019 Federation Cup trophies in Greater Noida .

- ✦ The 33rd Federation Cup Basketball Championship for Men and Women for the year 2019 was held at the Gautam Buddha University, Greater Noida, Uttar Pradesh. The Punjab Police (Men) and Eastern Railway (Women) won the prestigious gold medals in the tournament.

The tournament was held from June 12-16, 2019 and was organised by the Basketball Federation of India (BFI) and the Uttar Pradesh Basketball Association (UPBA).

Foot Note:

- ❖ 9 teams from men's unit and 8 teams from women's unit participated in the event.
- ❖ Punjab Police won over the physical Indian Army squad with 91-71 scores. Arsh Preet Bhullar got 24 points and Amjyot added 20. For Army, Sunil Rathee (18) and Gopal Ram (16) were the top scorers.
- ❖ .Arsh Preet Bhullar (Punjab Police) and Libina MJ (Eastern Railway) were named as Men and Women's Most Valuable Player (MVP) respectively.
- ❖ .Teams from Income Tax (Men) and Kerala (Women) secured the third position.
- ❖ .The top three teams received Rs. 1 lakh, Rs. 50,000, and Rs. 25,000 respectively.

About Basketball Federation of India:

- Headquarters: New Delhi
- Founded: 1950

5. IOC lifts sanctions against India to host international sporting events

- ✚ On June 20, 2019, A non-governmental sports organization based in Lausanne, Switzerland, IOC (International Olympic Committee) lifted its sanctions imposed on Indian Olympic Association (IOA) hosting international sports events. The decision was taken after finally receiving a letter of guarantee from the Government that it will allow all eligible athletes, sportspersons, and officials in events held in the country. The restriction imposed under points 2 and 3 of the IOC EB decision in relation to giving permission to host sports events, lifted by the IOC. Background: Pakistan shooters were denied visa by the Indian government for participation in the International Shooting Sport Federation Shooting World Cup 2019 that was held in New Delhi in the wake of the terror attack in Pulwama, Kashmir.
- Foot Note:**

❖ About IOC:

- President: Thomas Bach
- Director General: Christophe De Kepper
- Founded: 23 June 1894, Paris, France

6. Pankaj Advani clinches men's Asian Snooker Championship

- ✚ India's ace cueist Pankaj Advani has clinched the 35th men's Asian Snooker Championship in Doha to complete a career grand slam in cue sports.
- ✚ Advani defeated Thanawat Tirapongpaiboon 6-3 in the final on Friday to become the only one to win the Asian and World championships in all formats.
- ✚ He conquered the ACBS Asian Snooker events - 6-red (short format) and 15-red (long format) - along with the IBSF World Championships in both formats too. Pankaj will now take part in IBSF World Cup next week in Doha.

7. IOC lifts sanctions imposed on India to host international sporting events

- ✚ The International Olympic Committee (IOC) lifted the sanctions imposed on India to host international sporting events with immediate effect.
- ✚ The decision was taken after the government wrote a letter of guarantee to the Indian Olympic Association that all eligible athletes, sports persons and officials will be allowed to participate in events held in the country.
- ✚ The sanctions were imposed on India when Pakistani shooters were not issued visas for the World Cup held in Delhi in February 2019. Japan's capital Tokyo will host 2020 Summer Olympics from 24 July to 9 August 2020.

Foot Notes:

❖ About International Olympic Committee

- Headquarters: Lausanne, Switzerland
- President: Thomas Bach
- Honorary President: Jacques Rogge
- Director General: Christophe De Kepper
- Founded: 23 June 1894, Paris, France

❖ About Indian Olympic Association

- President: Narinder Dhruv Batra
- Secretary General: Rajeev Mehta
- Founded: 1927
- Founders: Harry Buck, Arthur Noehren
- Headquarters: New Delhi, India

Awards

1. Nirmala Sitharaman and S Jaishankar to be honoured with ‘Distinguished Alumni Award:

- ✚ Jawaharlal Nehru University (JNU) will honour Finance Minister Nirmala Sitharaman and External Affairs Minister Dr S Jaishankar with ‘Distinguished Alumni Award’. This was decided by the Executive Council of JNU. They will be awarded on the third convocation ceremony of the university, which will be held in August 2019. They will be the first recipient of this award.
- ✚ Union External Affairs Minister Dr S Jaishankar is an alumnus of JNU’s School of International Studies. He completed his Master of Philosophy (M.Phil) as well as Doctoral Research from JNU. He is specialized in the field of nuclear diplomacy from JNU.
- ✚ Finance Minister Nirmala Sitharaman is an alumnus of the University’s School of Social Sciences. She earned her Master of Arts (M.A) degree and she completed her M.Phil from School of International Studies.

Foot Note :

- ❖ JNU Founded: 22 April 1969
- ❖ JNU Vice-Chancellor: Prof. M Jagadesh Kumar

Obituaries

1. Dronacharya awardee, veteran athletics coach N Lingappa passed away in Bengaluru

- ✚ Veteran athletics coach N. Lingappa passed away at the age of 95 in Bengaluru, Karnataka. He is a resident of Bengaluru. He represented Mysore in National Games for seven years consecutively and qualified as a walker in the 1954 Manila Asian Games but the event was cancelled. He had trained several international athletes like D.Y. Biradar, P.C. Ponnappa (400m silver medallist at the Bangkok Asian Games in 1970), Uday Prabhu and Ashwini Nachappa. He won a silver medal in 10 km walk in the first National Games held in Delhi in 1954. He was a coach of the Indian athletics team at four successive Olympic Games, three Asian Games and numerous State and National – level meets.

Awards Received:

- ❖ In 1987, he won Karnataka State Dasara award,
- ❖ In 1994, he won Rajyotsava award,

- ❖ In 2002,he won Karnataka Olympic Association award for outstanding coach,
- ❖ In 2002,he won Kempegowda award,
In 2014,he won prestigious Dronacharya award in recognition of his work as a coach.

