

WEEKLY G.K.

17 February – 23 February 2020

make  exam

Download India's #1 Competitive Exam Prep. App



www.makemyexam.in



support@makemyexam.in

National News

1. PM flagged off third corporate train Kashi Mahakal Express.

- ✚ Prime Minister Narendra Modi flagged off the latest religion-themed train, the Kashi Mahakal Express that connects, for the first time, places related to three jyotirlingas- Omkareshwar near Indore, Mahakaleshwar in Ujjain, and Kashi Vishwanath in Varanasi.
- ✚ Railway PSU Indian Railway Catering and Tourism Corporation (IRCTC) will be running this as the third “corporate” train after two Tejas Express trains.
- ✚ The train will cover 1131 km between Varanasi and Indore via Lucknow and a distance of 1102 km between Varanasi and Indore via Prayagraj (Allahabad) in approximately 19 hours.
- ✚ The overnight train is also IRCTC’s first overnight, long-distance train to run on a regular basis.
- ✚ This Lord Shiva-themed train will be followed by a Ramayan-themed train to be launched next month from across India.
- ✚ The Ramayana Express will touch places related to the mythology of Ram, including Ayodhya.
- ✚ Seat number 64 in coach B5 was reserved and left vacant for the “Bhole Baba” which is a permanent feature of the train.

2. South Central Railways (SCR) zone became 1st in India to have energy-neutral stations.

- ✚ The Indian Railways South Central Railways (SCR) zone has become the first zonal railway in the country to have functional “energy neutral” railway stations on the network.
- ✚ The South Central Railways has converted a total of 13 railway stations into “energy neutral” stations, which is the highest amongst all the zones across the Indian Railways network.
- ✚ Energy-neutral railway stations are capable of meeting 100 per cent energy requirements by tapping into solar power through solar photovoltaic panels which have been commissioned at the station buildings.
- ✚ The SCR zone, the total capacity of all the solar panels installed at the 13 energy neutral stations is 99 kWp.

Foot Notes:

Established in: 2 October 1966

Headquarters location: Secunderabad

3. Hyderabad to host 3-day ‘BioAsia 2020’.

- ✚ Hyderabad is hosting the three-day BioAsia 2020, Asia's largest biotechnology and life sciences forum.
- ✚ The event themed 'Today for Tomorrow' will witness as many as 2,000 delegates from 37 countries.
- ✚ Switzerland will be the partner country at the event this year.
- ✚ An eminent 40-member team consisting of industries, academia and start-ups from Switzerland will participate in the event.
- ✚ As many as 800 companies are set to take part in BioAisa 2020.

Foot Notes:

About Switzerland

Currency: Swiss franc

Capital: Bern

4. 'Pyaar ka Paudha' campaign launched by Bihar govt to encourage practice of planting trees.

- ✚ 'Pyaar ka Paudha' (a plant of love) campaign has been launched by the Bihar government's Department of Environment and Forest in Patna, to encourage the practice of planting trees in the state.
- ✚ Department of Environment, humbly request you to gift one plant of love to your closed ones and provide good care.
- ✚ The aim of this campaign is to promote the practice of planting trees in the state.

Foot Notes:**About Haryana:****Chief Minister:** Nitish Kumar**Governor:** Phagu Chauhan**5. SEBI constitutes municipal bonds development committee.**

- ✚ SEBI has constituted a committee which will suggest on policy matters pertaining to development of municipal debt securities and facilitate municipalities for issuance of such bonds.
- ✚ The regulator has constituted a municipal bonds development committee headed by its Executive Director Sujit Prasad.
- ✚ The panel will advise SEBI on issues related to regulation and development of primary and secondary market of municipal debt securities.
- ✚ It will suggest the regulator on matters required to be taken up for changes in legal framework to introduce simplification and transparency in systems and procedures in the primary and secondary market.

Foot Notes:**About SEBI****Founded:** 12 April 1992**Headquarters:** Mumbai**Chairperson:** Ajay Tyagi**6. Kerala CM launches "Yodhavu" mobile app to combat drug menace.**

- ✚ Kerala Chief Minister Pinarayi Vijayan launched 'Yodhavu' (Warrior), a mobile app as part of efforts to curb the growing menace in the State. Through this app the public can inform police about drug abuse and its distribution.
- ✚ A special feature of the application, introduced by the Kochi city police, was that the informer's identity could be kept secret.
- ✚ The chief minister urged people to fight against the growing drug menace in the state.

Foot Notes:**About Kerala****Governor:** Arif Mohammad Khan**Capital:** Thiruvananthapuram**7. Soil Health Card Scheme completed its five years.**

- ✚ The ambitious Soil Health Card Scheme completed five years on 18 February 2020. The scheme was launched in 2015 to assess the nutrient status of every farm holding in the country.
- ✚ The objectives of the scheme are to issue Soil Health Cards to farmers every two years so as to provide a basis to address nutritional deficiencies in fertilization practices.
- ✚ Soil Health Card provides information to farmers on the nutrient status of their soil along with recommendations on the appropriate dosage of nutrients to be applied for improving soil health and its fertility.
- ✚ From 2015 to 2017, over 10 crores Soil Health Cards were distributed to farmers in the first phase. In the second phase, over 11 crore cards have been distributed to farmers across the country.

8. Union Minister "Raosaheb Danve" visits country's largest Silos in Moga district.

- ✚ Union Minister of State for Consumer Affairs, Food and Public Distribution Raosaheb Patil Danve visited the country's largest Silos (steel storehouse) in Dagru village in Moga district in Punjab. The Silo has a total capacity of two lakh metric tonnes (MTs).
- ✚ The Silos owned by the Adani Agri-Logistics Limited is with an agreement with the Food Corporation of India (FCI) to store, purchase and distribute the wheat stock.

9. JSW Steel gets NCLAT's approval to acquire Bhushan Power for Rs 19,700 cr.

- ✦ The National Company Law Appellate Tribunal has approved the ₹19,700-crore resolution plan of JSW Steel to takeover the bankrupt Bhushan Power and Steel.
- ✦ The approval comes with the immunity sought by the new owner against investigations being carried out against the erstwhile promoters of Bhushan Power and Steel.
- ✦ This comes after the government recently amended Section 32A of the Insolvency and Bankruptcy Code, providing immunity to the bidders and the insolvent company's assets from investigation.

Foot Notes:

Minister of Steel: Shri Dharmendra Pradhan

10. Foundation stone laid for 50m high lighthouse at Dhanushkodi.

- ✦ Foundation stone for a 50-metre high lighthouse laid at Dhanushkodi in Rameswaram. This is the fifth lighthouse in the region.
- ✦ The light house is to be built at a cost of Rs 8 crore rupees. The lighthouse is to be located opposite to the old church that was destroyed in a cyclone in 1964. It will facilitate navigation to 33 to 37 km from the sea shore.
- ✦ The INS Rajali and INS Agrani Naval Stations in Tamil Nadu operate under Southern Naval Command and the light house will be of great help for them.

11. Delhi-based IGIA becomes 1st single-use plastic-free airport of India.

- ✦ According to the GMR Group-led Delhi International Airport Ltd (DIAL), Delhi-based Indira Gandhi International Airport (IGIA) has become the 1st airport in India to be completely free of single-use plastic usage.
- ✦ The Confederation of Indian Industry (CII) -ITC Sustainable Development Center of Excellence (CESD) also recognized DIAL for successfully implementing the campaign to make the airport voluntary plastic free.
- ✦ With the resolve to 'Beat plastic pollution' on the occasion of World Environment Day in the year 2019, the IGIA campus has also become the first airport in the country to complete it by launching a campaign to make plastic single-free.

Foot Notes:

About Delhi International Airport Ltd

Headquarters: New Delhi

Chief Executive Officer(CEO): Videh Kumar Jaipuria.

It is a joint venture consortium of GMR Group (64%), Airports Authority of India (26%) and Fraport (10%).

BANKING ALL EXAMS **Video Course**

• **395 VIDEOS** ₹4749/- **₹3749/-**

**12. Pak High Commission issued visas to Indian pilgrims to visit Katas Raj temples.**

- ✦ The Pakistan High Commission has issued visas to a group of Indian Hindu pilgrims for visiting Katas Raj temples in Chakwal city of Pakistan's Punjab province from February 19 to 25, 2020, these visit governs under The Pakistan-India Protocol on visits to Religious Shrines (1974) signed by both the countries.
- ✦ Katas Raj temple is also known as Qila katas or complex of Katas temple is considered as one of the holiest places for the Hindu community, the temples form a complex and its surrounded by a pond named Katas.

- ✦ A large number of Sikh and Hindu pilgrims from India visit Pakistan to observe various religious festivals every year.

Foot Notes:**About Islamic Republic of Pakistan****Capital:** Islamabad**Currency:** Pakistani rupee**President:** Arif-ur-Rehman Alvi**Prime Minister:** Imran Ahmed Khan Niazi**13. Kala Kumbh exhibition organised by the Ministry of Textiles in New Delhi**

- ✦ The “Kala Kumbh” exhibition was recently organized by the Ministry of Textiles in New Delhi. The exhibition was held to promote Geographical Indication (GI) craft and heritage of India.
- ✦ The exhibitions are planned in various major cities like Bengaluru, Mumbai, Kolkata, and Chennai. The exhibitions are sponsored by the Export Promotion Council for Handicrafts (EPCH)
- ✦ The GI tag is used on handicrafts which correspond to a specific geographical location or origin (e.g., a town, region, or country). As of August 2019, 178 GI handicraft products were registered from all over India.

Foot Notes:**Union Minister of Textiles:** Smriti Zubin Irani**14. Bangladesh signed Free Trade Agreement with Nepal.**

- ✦ Bangladesh and Nepal have agreed to sign a Free Trade Agreement to enhance trade between the two countries.
- ✦ Bangladesh has also agreed to allow Nepal to use its Saidpur airport located in its northernmost district of Nilphamari close to Nepal. Bangladesh exports commodities worth \$38 million to Nepal and imports goods worth around 18 million dollars.
- ✦ Talking to media persons The Nepal Foreign Minister expressed the hope that Nepal will be able to provide 500 MW of hydroelectric power to Bangladesh once the Indian Company GMR completes its project in Nepal.

Foot Notes:**About Bangladesh****Capital:** Dhaka**Currency:** Bangladeshi taka**Prime minister:** Sheikh Hasina**About Nepal****Capital:** Kathmandu**Prime minister:** KP Sharma Oli**Currencies:** Nepalese rupee, Indian rupee**15. Sub-group of terror financing watchdog FATF recommends continuation of Pak in ‘Grey List’.**

- ✦ A sub-group of the global terror financing watchdog FATF recommended the continuation of Pakistan in the 'Grey List' for its failure to check terror funding. The decision was taken at the meeting of the FATF's International Co-operation Review Group (ICRG), held at the ongoing Paris plenary.
- ✦ The final decision will be taken on Friday when the FATF takes up issues concerning Pakistan.
- ✦ The FATF meeting is being held a week after an anti-terrorism court in Pakistan sentenced Hafiz Saeed, the mastermind of the 2008 Mumbai attack, to 11 years in two terror financing cases.
- ✦ Pakistan was placed on the 'Grey List' by the FATF in June 2018.

Foot Notes:**About FATF****FATF Headquarters:** Paris, France**Founded:** July 1989**16. Highest ever Budget for Uttar Pradesh of over Rs 5 lakh crore tabled in State Assembly.**

- ✚ The Uttar Pradesh Government presented the state's largest-ever annual budget in the State Legislature. The budgetary demands of 5 lakh 12 thousand 860 crore rupees was tabled in Assembly by Finance Minister Suresh Khanna in the presence of Chief Minister Yogi Adityanath.
- ✚ This is the fourth budget presented by the Yogi Adityanath Government. There are new schemes of 10 thousand 967 crore 87 lakh rupees included in the budget.
- ✚ A fund of three thousand 300 crore rupees has been given for Piped drinking water in Bundelkhand and Vidya area. An amount of 510 crore rupees has been allocated for the development under Purvanchal Nidhi and Bundelkhand Nidhi.
- ✚ The government has emphasized on Metro Rail transport and 844 crore rupees have been given for Agra, Kanpur and Gorakhpur projects. The government has allocated 5 ,791 crore rupees for the Swachh Bharat Mission.

Foot Notes:**About Uttar Pradesh****Chief minister:** Yogi Adityanath**Governor:** Anandiben Patel**Capital:** Lucknow**17. NITI Aayog will organize SDG(Sustainable Development Goals) Conclave 2020 in Assam.**

- ✚ Sustainable Development Goals (SDG) Conclave 2020: Partnerships, Cooperation and Development of North Eastern States has been scheduled to be held from 24-26 February at Assam Administrative Staff College, Guwahati, Assam. The conclave will be a part of NITI Aayog's continuous efforts towards fostering partnerships at the sub-national level.
- ✚ The conclave will be organized by NITI Aayog in association with North Eastern Council, Assam government, Tata Trusts, United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) and Research and Information System for Developing Countries (RIS).
- ✚ The conclave will host technical sessions that pertain to SDG localization in the northeast, climate adaptive agriculture, economic prosperity, and sustainable livelihoods, health, and nutrition, education and skill development and entrepreneurship, infrastructure development & inequality and exclusion. The sessions are expected to take stock of progress and discuss and deliberate on the way forward for the region in the aforesaid areas.
- ✚ NITI Aayog will review the adoption and monitoring of SDGs at the national and sub-national levels.

Foot Notes:**About NITI Aayog****Formed:** 1 January 2015**Headquarters:** New Delhi**CEO:** Shri Amitabh Kant**Chairperson:** Narendra Modi**18. Indian Railways launched upgraded version of AI based online Chatbot "ASKDISHA".**

- ✚ Ministry of Railways upgraded services of Artificial Intelligence (AI) based ASKDISHA chatbot to converse with Railway customers in the Hindi language. It aims to resolve queries of railway passengers over the internet pertaining to various services offered.
- ✚ Indian Railways introduced the services of AI-based ASKDISHA chatbot in October 2018.
- ✚ The Chatbot was initially launched in English. In order to further enhance the customer services rendered and to further strengthen the services of the chatbot, IRCTC has now powered voice-enabled ASKDISHA to converse with customers in the Hindi language.
- ✚ The customers can now ask queries to ASKDISHA in the Hindi language by voice and text.

Foot Notes:

Minister of Railways: Piyush Goyal

19. Maharashtra govt banned the cultivation centres of Thai Mangur fish.

- ✦ The Maharashtra state government has launched a special drive to destroy the centre that cultivates the centres of the exotic Thai Mangur fish. The decision was made at a meeting which was held between fish traders and officials of the Maharashtra fisheries department headed by Minister "Aslam Shaikh" after a detailed review of the situation.
- ✦ The fish is popularly known as Thai Mangur or African Mangur or foreign Mangur. It looks like freshwater Mangur.
- ✦ Thai Mangur is cultivated in highly unhygienic conditions, which may lead to people falling sick after consuming it.

Foot Notes:

About Maharashtra

Governor: Bhagat Singh Koshyari

Capital: Mumbai

20. Northeast Frontier Railway built India's tallest pier bridge in Manipur.

- ✦ India's tallest railway pier bridge which is 100 m tall has been constructed by the Northeast Frontier Railway Construction Organisation.
- ✦ The bridge has been built across Makru river in the Tamenglong district of Manipur. The bridge has been constructed at the cost of Rs 283.5-crore.

Foot Notes:

About Manipur

Capital of Manipur: Imphal

Governor of Manipur: Najma Heptulla.

Chief Minister of Manipur: N. Biren Singh.

21. 1st edition of Bharat-Bangla Paryatan Utsav commenced in Agartala.

- ✦ The 1st edition of the Bharat-Bangla Paryatan Utsav-Tourism festival has commenced in Agartala, Tripura to promote tourism in Tripura.
- ✦ The festival has been organized in memories of the contribution of Tripura in 1971 Bangladesh liberation war as well as to boost the tourism sector of Tripura.

Foot Notes:

About Tripura

Chief Minister: Biplab Kumar Deb.

Governor: Ramesh Bais.

International News & Foreign Affairs

1. Singapore firm wins bid to buy India's longest road tunnel.

- ✦ Singapore-based infrastructure investment platform Cube Highways has won the bid to acquire India's longest road tunnel - the 9.2-km Chenani-Nashri project in Jammu & Kashmir - for Rs 3,929 crore.
- ✦ The IL&FS board has declared Cube Highways as the highest bidder (H1), and invited lenders to vote for the sale through the e-voting process.
- ✦ The tunnel project has a debt of around Rs 5,454 crore and a sale of the asset will help bring down the overall debt position of the company.

- ✚ Cube Highways, a platform floated by I Squared Capital and backed by International Finance Corp and ADIA, operates 1,700 km of highways in India.
- ✚ In October 2019, The government has renamed Chenani-Nashri tunnel on national highway 44 in Jammu & Kashmir as Dr.Syama Prasad Mookerjee Tunnel.

Foot Notes:

Capitals: Jammu Cantonment (Winter), Srinagar (Summer)

Governor: Satya pal Malik

2. IISc ranked 16th in Times Higher Education Ranking.

- ✚ Times Higher Education Ranking was released in London. The ranking was titled “The Emerging Economies University Ranking 2020”.
- ✚ Around 11 Indian Universities were included in the top 100. However, China had more Universities than India in the ranking. Around 30 Universities of China were in the top 100.
- ✚ The ranking included 533 Universities from 47 countries all over the world. Out of these, 56 Indian Universities appeared in the ranking.
- ✚ The IIT Kharagpur moved up 23 places to 32nd rank, IIT Delhi improved by 28 places and was at 38th rank and IIT Madras was at 63rd rank climbing 12 places.

Foot Notes:

About IISC

Established in: 1909

Director: Anurag kumar

3. Hindi is 3rd most spoken language in the world with 615 million speakers after English and Mandarin.

- ✚ Hindi is the 3rd most spoken language of the world in 2019 with 615 million speakers. The 22nd edition of the world language database Ethnologue stated English at the top of the list with 1,132 million speakers.
- ✚ Chinese Mandarin is at the second position with 1,117 million speakers. Bangla has been ranked as the 7th most spoken language of the world. Bangla has 228 million native speakers.
- ✚ Ethnologue brings out an yearly database of living languages of the world since its establishment in 1951.

4. India & Norway signed LoI(Letter for intent) for collaboration on blue economy for sustainable development.

- ✚ Ministry of Health and Family Welfare and Ministry of Earth Sciences, Dr. Harsh Vardhan along with Norway’s Minister for Climate and Environment, Mr Sveinung Rotevatn have jointly inaugurated the ‘India-Norway Task Force on Blue Economy for Sustainable Development’ at the 3rd meeting of the Task Force.
- ✚ The 2 countries also signed a Letter of Intent (LoI) & agreed to support and work together on Integrated Ocean Management & Research. The LoI was signed in the presence of Mr. Ratan P. Watal, Member Secretary, EAC to PM & Mr. M. Rajeevan, Secretary, Ministry of Earth Sciences, Govt. of India among others.
- ✚ It was launched jointly by the Indian Prime Minister Mr Narendra Modi, and the Norwegian Prime Minister (PM) Ms Erna Solberg, during her visit to India in January 2019. It primarily aims to promote and undertake joint initiatives between the two nations. It enables respective stakeholders from both the countries at the highest level. It will also ensure continued commitment and progress across ministries and agencies.

Foot Notes:

About Norway

Capital: Oslo

Currency: Norwegian krone

Prime Minister: Erna Solberg

New Appointments and Person in News

1. Vinay Dube appointed as GoAir CEO.

- ✦ GoAir has appointed Vinay Dube as the airline's Chief Executive Officer.
- ✦ Dube would be responsible for the management of the airline and also for meeting the goals and long-term growth objectives of the company.
- ✦ The airline did not have a CEO since the departure of Cornelis Vrieswijk in March last year.
- ✦ Mr. Dube will report to chairman Nusli Wadia, managing director Jeh Wadia, and the board. He will be responsible for the management of the airline and also for meeting the goals and long-term growth objectives of the company.

2. Ambala City bus stand to be renamed after late Sushma Swaraj.

- ✦ The Haryana government has decided to rename the Ambala City bus stand after former Union minister late Sushma Swaraj. The bus stand will now be called 'Sushma Swaraj Bus Stand'.
- ✦ It is a mark of tribute to Swaraj, launched on 14 February, the birth anniversary of the leader, who was born in Ambala Cantt.

Foot Notes:

About Haryana

Governor of Haryana: Satyadeo Narayan Arya.

Chief Minister (CM) of Haryana: Manohar Lal Khattar.

3. Irish PM "Leo Eric Varadkar" resigned but retained interim leader's role.

- ✦ Irish Prime Minister Leo Eric Varadkar resigned due to the insufficiency of the majority after the parliamentary vote.
- ✦ He will remain as an interim leader and the government will continue to carry on their duties until the successor has been appointed.
- ✦ Leo Varadkar served as 'Taoiseach' (means Prime Minister of Ireland) since June 2017.

Foot Notes:

About Ireland

Capital: Dublin.

Currency: Euro.

Prepare for Govt. Exam

MOCK TEST

VIDEO COURSE

BOOKS



Banking

1. Moody's Investors Service slashes India's growth forecast to 5.4 per cent for 2020.

- ✚ Moody's Investors Service slashed India's growth forecast to 5.4 per cent for 2020 from 6.6 percent predicted earlier.
- ✚ In its on Global Macro Outlook, Moody's said India's economy has decelerated rapidly over the last two years and expects economic recovery to begin in the current quarter.
- ✚ The growth projections are based on calendar year and as per its estimates. Global GDP growth forecast has been revised down, and Moody's now expect G-20 economies to collectively grow 2.4 per cent in 2020.

Foot Notes:

About MOODY

Headquarters: New York, United States

CEO: Raymond W. McDaniel Jr.

2. SBI Card join hands with Landmark group to launch 3 new retail co-branded credit cards.

- ✚ SBI (State Bank of India) Cards & Payments Services Ltd(previously known as SBI Cards and Payment Services Private Limited), a payment solutions provider in India, has entered into the partnership with Landmark Group, one of the largest retail and hospitality organizations, to launch 3 new retail co-branded credit cards namely Lifestyle Home Centre SBI Card, Max SBI Card and Spar SBI Card —with 4 Landmark Group brands – Lifestyle, Home Centre, Max and Spar .
- ✚ The co-branded cards are available in three variants. It includes, Base, SELECT and PRIME and cater to the needs of consumers ranging from Value for Money to Premium and Super Premium.
- ✚ Cardholders of any of the above said cards can enjoy the same benefits across all participating Landmark brands. In this way, they can get many other benefits along with saving in many categories through the same card.
- ✚ From all variants, customers can earn SBI Card reward Points that can be redeemed across all brands of Landmark in India thereby rewarding loyal customers.

Foot Notes:

About SBI card

Founded: 1998

Headquarters: Gurugram, Haryana

CEO: Hardayal Prasad

3. RBI appointed “Sunil Gurbaxani” as Dhanlaxmi Bank MD & CEO.

- ✚ Reserve Bank of India (RBI) appointed Sunil Gurbaxani as MD (Managing Director) and CEO (Chief Executive Officer) of Dhanlaxmi Bank for a period of 3 years. Sunil was the successor of T.Latha.
- ✚ Sunil Gurbaxani served as the Executive Vice President of Axis Bank. Dhanlaxmi bank was removed from the RBI PCA (Prompt Corrective Action) framework, as the bank is found to be not breaching any of the risk thresholds of the framework.
- ✚ During the end of the third quarter in December 2019, the bank reported a 26% rise in a net profit to Rs 21.28 crore & registered a net profit of Rs 16.90 crore during the year 2019.

Foot Notes:

About Dhanlaxmi Bank

Headquarters: Kerala.

Tagline: Tann.Mann.Dhan.

Chairman: Mr. Sajeev Krishnan.

About RBI

Governor: Shaktikanta Das

Headquarters location: Mumbai

Founder: British Raj
Founded: 1 April 1935, Kolkata

Science Tech & Defence

1. HAL to provide IAF with 83 Tejas fighters in Rs 39,000 crore deal.

- ✦ With the overall cost of IAF acquiring 83 single-engine Tejas fighters and their support package from defence PSU Hindustan Aeronautics Limited (HAL) being slashed from the earlier around Rs 56,500 crore to Rs 39,000 crore.
- ✦ The over Rs 17,000 crore reduction in overall cost has come after hard-nosed negotiations spread over a year.
- ✦ The defence ministry and IAF were initially shocked at the “exorbitant price” being demanded by HAL to produce the 83 Tejas Mark-1A jets along with the maintenance and infrastructure package.
- ✦ HAL promises to begin deliveries of the Mark-1A jets in three years.
- ✦ It was in November 2016 that the Defence Acquisitions Council had first approved the procurement of 83 Tejas jets at a cost of Rs 49,797 crore.
- ✦ But HAL had responded with a quote of around Rs 56,500 crore, which led to protracted cost negotiations.

Foot Notes:

About HAL

Headquarters: Bengaluru

Founded: 23 December 1940

2. Pakistan successfully tests nuclear-capable air launched cruise missile Ra'ad-II of 600 km range.

- ✦ Pakistan test fired 600 km range Ra'ad II missile successfully on land and at sea. The missile range has been upgraded from 550km in 2017 to 600km. It is important for India to closely monitor such advances as New Delhi is roughly 430km from Lahore.
- ✦ The first Ra'ad II missile was unveiled in an annual parade in Pakistan in 2017. Ra'ad I had a range of 35km. The changes have been made significantly in the tail part of the missile. Ra'ad I had twin tail and was bigger in size. The recently test fired Ra'ad II had “X” configuration.
- ✦ So far, the Ra'ad missiles of Pakistan are being carried by Mirage II fighter jets. Indian experts believe that Ra'ad II is Pakistan's answer to Nirbhay cruise missile.

Foot Notes:

About Pakistan

Currency: Pakistani rupee

Capital: Islamabad

Prime minister: Imran Khan

President: Arif Alvi

3. Delhi Police integrated with Uber launched “Himmat Plus app”

- ✦ Delhi Police along with Uber launched “Himmat Plus app”, at the Indira Gandhi International (IGI) airport, New Delhi, to ensure safety and security of the people travelling in cabs.
- ✦ The police headquarters will receive the real time location of a driver or rider in case of emergency through this app so that PCR (Police Control Room) van can be assigned to provide assistance.
- ✦ Nearly, 1000 Himmat QR (Quick Response) verification cards were distributed among drivers. Once a rider scans the QR card, they can access a driver's details and vehicle information on the Himmat app & can report their journey directly to police.

Foot Notes:

About Delhi

Chief Minister (CM): Arvind Kejriwal.

Deputy CM: Manish Sisodia.

Governor: Anil Bajjal.

4. IDSA to be renamed as “Manohar Parrikar Institute for Defence Studies and Analyses”.

- ✦ The Union Government has decided to rename the Institute for Defence Studies and Analyses, IDSA as Manohar Parrikar Institute for Defence Studies and Analyses. The decision has been taken to honour the commitment and legacy of late Manohar Parrikar.
- ✦ It will align the vision and aspiration of the premier defence institute with the contribution of the former Defence Minister and Padma Bhushan awardee. He was Defence Minister from 9th November 2014 to 14th March 2017.
- ✦ An autonomous body under the Ministry of Defence, IDSA was established as a registered society in New Delhi in 1965, dedicated to objective research and policy-relevant studies on all aspects of defence and security.

Foot Notes:

About IDSA:-

Founded: 11 November 1965

Leader: Sujan R. Chinoy

Important Days

1. Chhatrapati Shivaji Maharaj Jayanti is celebrated on 19 February.

- ✦ Chhatrapati Shivaji Maharaj Jayanti is celebrated on 19 February. He was an embodiment of courage, compassion and good governance.
- ✦ His life continues to motivate millions. The year 2020 marks the 390th birth anniversary of great Maratha warrior Shivaji. PM Narendra Modi paid his tribute to India's great hero.
- ✦ Chhatrapati Shivaji Maharaj was a valorous warrior and an outstanding administrator. He was born 19 February 1630, at Shivneri Fort. He built a strong navy to usher several pro-people policies. He opposed injustice and intimidation. In 1664, he sacked the Mughal trading port of Surat. In June 1665, Shivaji and Raja Jai Singh I signed the Treaty of Purandar. In October 1670, he harassed the British forces at Bombay for their support of the Mughals. He fell ill and died on 3 April 1680 at Raigad.

Sports

1. Haryana govt announces Rs six crore to those winning gold medals at Olympics.

- ✦ The Haryana government has decided to give 6 crore rupees to players of the state that bag gold medals at the Olympic Games.
- ✦ State Chief Minister Manohar Lal Khattar said, 3 crore rupees will be given to those winning gold medals at Asian Games and 1.5 crore rupees to the winners of yellow metal at Commonwealth Games.
- ✦ An amount of 15 lakh rupees will be given to each player participating in the Olympic Games so that the players can make the state, as well as the country, proud.

Foot Notes:

CM Haryana: Manohar Lal Khattar

Governor: Satyadev Narayan Arya

2. Indian athletes clinch 3 medals in World SnowShoe Championship.

- Indian athletes finished with three medals in different categories in the World SnowShoe Championship at Myoko, Japan.
- Ayan Bin Shahnaz bagged silver, while Zain Ali and Muzamil Hussain Mir, all are from Kashmir, bagged bronze medals in their respective categories.
- Athletes from 17 countries including the USA, Canada, Australia, Italy, Germany, Spain, Sweden and France participated in the championship.
- The Indian contingent was fielded by the SnowShoe Federation of India.

3. Asian Wrestling Championship began in New Delhi.

- Asian Wrestling Championship begins in New Delhi. It will be held at the KD Jadhav Hall of Indira Gandhi Stadium till the 23rd of this month.
- The event will have a total of 30 weight classes, 10 each in Freestyle Men, Women, and Greco Roman.
- The Championship will begin with Greco-Roman events, followed by women's wrestling and men's freestyle.



SSC ALL EXAMS

VIDEO COURSE & TEST SERIES

(SSC CGL, CHSL, GD, CPO, MTS)

- 671 VIDEOS
- 100 TESTS

₹3999/-

4. NADA bans javelin thrower Amit Dahiya for four years.

- National Anti Doping Agency (NADA) has banned javelin thrower Amit Dahiya for four years for evading sample collection and trying to cheat officials during the 2nd National Javelin Throw Open Championship 2019 held at SAI Centre in Sonapat. NADA had issued the charge of notice to Dahiya on July 16 for violating rule 2.3 of the NADA.
- The doping agency presented the case to the Anti-Doping Disciplinary Panel (ADDP) on January 9 where the athlete's justification was found to be unsatisfactory.
- NADA said the ADDP has now passed an order to suspend him for four years from the date of his provisional suspension.

Foot Notes:**About NADA**

CEO: Navin Agarwal

Motto: Play fair

Purpose: Anti-doping in sports

Headquarters: New Delhi, India

5. India will host 2021 junior men's Hockey World Cup.

- India will host next year's Junior Men's World Cup. The International Hockey Federation (FIH) announced this at Lausanne in Switzerland.
- This is the second time that India will be hosting the prestigious tournament, having staged it in Lucknow, Uttar Pradesh in 2016, where the hosts lifted the coveted trophy. The competition will be played towards the end of 2021 and the exact venue and dates for the tournament will be announced at a later stage.
- In all, 16 teams will compete for the title in the Junior Men's World Cup, out of which six will be from Europe, four from Asia, including hosts India, two from Africa, two from Oceania and two from Pan America.

Foot Notes:**About The International Hockey Federation****Headquarters:** Lausanne, Switzerland**President:** Narinder Batra**Founded:** 7 January 1924**CEO:** Thierry Weil

Awards

1. Chess champion “Koneru Humpy” won Cairns Cup.

- ✚ World Rapid Chess Champion Koneru Humpy re-asserted her supremacy in style by winning the Cairns cup title.
- ✚ He won with 6 points from nine rounds and bagged the 45,000 dollar winner's purse in St. Louis.
- ✚ Interestingly, in the final round, Humpy drew with GM Dronavalli Harika, who finished sixth with 4.5 points.

2. Sachin Tendulkar's 2011 world cup moment becomes Laureus best sporting moment.

- ✚ Sachin Tendulkar being carried on the shoulders of his teammates following India's world cup triumph in 2011 was voted as the Laureus best sporting moment in the past 20 years. Former Australian captain Steve Waugh presented the trophy to Tendulkar, after Tennis great Boris Becker announced the winner at a ceremony.
- ✚ First held in 2000, the Annual Laureus Sports Awards honour the greatest and most inspirational sporting triumphs of the year.
- ✚ On the 20th anniversary of the awards, the Laureus sporting moments award allowed people to vote for the most inspiring sporting moment of the past 20 years.

3. Sunil Kumar wins gold in 87-kg Greco Roman category in Asian Wrestling Championships.

- ✚ Greco Roman wrestler Sunil Kumar opened India's medal account in the Asian Wrestling Championships at New Delhi by winning a Gold. The seasoned grappler beat Azat Salidinov from Kyrgyzstan in the final of the 87 kg category.
- ✚ Sunil Kumar had reached the final by a victory over Kazakh opponent Azamat Kustubayev to finish the semi-final about 12-8.
- ✚ Last year also, Kumar had made it to the final and ended with a silver medal.

Foot Notes:**About Asian Wrestling Championship****Host city:** New Delhi, India**Dates:** 18–23 February**Stadium:** Indira Gandhi Sports Complex**4. Indian freelance journalist “Ahmer Khan” won “AFP’s Kate Webb Prize”.**

- ✚ On February 20, 2020, The 27-year old Indian freelance reporter Ahmer Khan was announced as the winner of the 2019 Kate Webb Prize by the Agence France-Presse, for his series of videos and written reports on how people in Kashmir impacted while scraping article 370 by the Government of India.
- ✚ In 2008 AFP established the Kate Webb Prize with a cash reward of euro 3000 (approximately Rs.3.2 lakhs) to recognize Journalists working in difficult conditions in Asia, for the remembrance of Kate Webb.
- ✚ And later in 2020, the Award will be formally presented in a ceremony at Hong Kong.

Obituaries

1. Popular Bengali film actor and former TMC MP "Tapas Pal" passes away.

- ✚ Popular Bengali film actor and former Trinamool Congress MP Tapas Pal passed away.
- ✚ Tapas Pal acted in a number of Bengali films besides two times elected in Lok Sabha from Krishnanagar Constituency in Nadia District of West Bengal.
- ✚ Tapas Pal also elected in the State assembly. His acting in 'Dadar Kirti', Saheb, Parabat Priya and other films acclaimed appreciation.

2. Veteran Kannada actress Kishori Ballal passed away.

- ✚ Veteran Kannada actor Kishori Ballal passed away on 18 February 2020. She was 82 years old. She passed away due to age-related ailments in Bengaluru.
- ✚ She has acted in around 75 movies including her role in Shah Rukh Khan starrer "Swades".

3. Greatest woman golfer, Mickey Wright dies at 85.

- ✚ Mickey Wright, often described as the greatest woman golfer of all time, died. Her haul of 13 major victories included four US Women's Open titles and four US Women's PGA Championships.
- ✚ Wright had accumulated 82 titles of Ladies Professional Golf Association (LPGA) Tour titles during a professional career which stretched from 1954 to 1969.
- ✚ She won the 1954 World Amateur Championship before turning professional the following season. Her retirement in 1969, which came at the relatively early age of 34, shocked women's golf.

4. Larry Tesler, creator of copy, cut and paste function, died at 74.

- ✚ Lawrence Gordon Tesler known as Larry Tesler was an American computer scientist who worked in the field of human-computer interaction and also the Inventor of Copy-Cut-Paste functions for computers in 1973 has passed away at the age of 74.
- ✚ Tesler was born in the Bronx, New York, in 1945 and served as a young researcher in photocopying company Palo Alto Research Center (Parc), and he also worked for blue-chip firms including Apple, Amazon, and Yahoo. Later he Established UX consultancy in California.

5. Former FICCI president "V L Dutt" dies in Chennai.

- ✚ V L Dutt, the former Federation of Indian Chambers of Commerce & Industry (FICCI) president has passed away.
- ✚ He headed the federation in 1991-92 and also served as the chairman of the India Vietnam Joint Business Council of FICCI.

Foot Notes:

About FICCI

Headquarters location: New Delhi

Founded: 1927

Members: over 250,000 companies

Number of employees: 500

Founders: Ghanshyam Das Birla, Purshottamdas Thakurdas

Now Govt. Job is in Your Hand !!

India's #1
Educational App

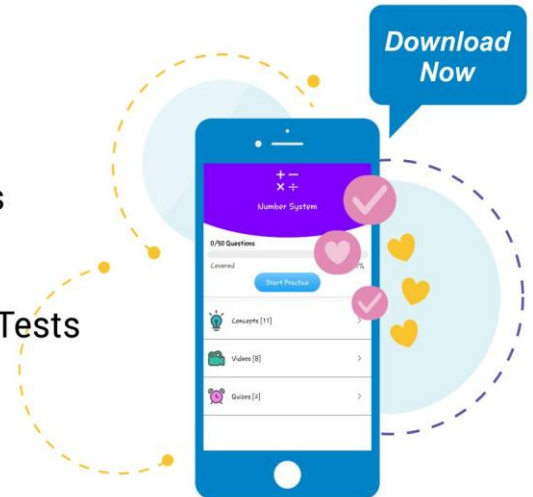
makemyexam



make **MY** exam



- 1000+ Videos
- 2000+ Concepts
- 3000+ Quizzes
- 1000+ Practice Tests
- 500+ PDF



India's Best Video Course for Competitive Exams by IBT Faculties

BANK ALL EXAMS

VIDEO COURSE

395 Videos

₹3749/-



Videos by IBT Experts

RAILWAY ALL EXAMS

VIDEO COURSE

602 Videos

₹3499/-



Videos by IBT Experts

SSC ALL EXAMS

VIDEO COURSE

688 Videos

₹3599/-



Videos by IBT Experts

SBI CLERK (PRE)

VIDEO COURSE

327 Videos

₹2499/-



Videos by IBT Experts

RAILWAY NTPC

VIDEO COURSE

602 Videos

₹2699/-



Videos by IBT Experts

SSC CGL EXAM

VIDEO COURSE

688 Videos

₹2999/-



Videos by IBT Experts

SBI PO (PRE)

VIDEO COURSE

327 Videos

₹2499/-



Videos by IBT Experts

RBI ASSISTANT (MAIN)

VIDEO COURSE

358 Videos

₹2749/-



Videos by IBT Experts

SSC CHSL EXAM

VIDEO COURSE

688 Videos

₹2999/-



Videos by IBT Experts

To buy visit www.makemyexam.in or Whatsaap- 99152-28862