

WEEKLY G.K.

02 September – 08 September
(2019)

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National News

1. India's longest electrified rail tunnel in Andhra Pradesh inaugurated by Vice president

- The Vice President of India, Shri Venkaiah Naidu inaugurated the longest electrified railway tunnel(6.7km) between Cherlopalli and Rapuru costing ₹437 crores, and the electrified railway line(112km) between Venkatachalam(krishnapatnam) and Obulavaripalli costing ₹1,993 crores.

Foot Notes :

About Andhra Pradesh:

1. **Chief minister-** Y. S. Jaganmohan Reddy.
2. **Governor-**Biswabhusan Harichandan.
3. **Capital-** Amaravati.

2 .5th edition of Aqua Aquaria India for the year 2019 held in Hyderabad

- The 5th edition of Aqua Aquaria India for the year 2019 was held at Hitex International Convention & Exhibition Centre, Hyderabad, Telangana with the theme "To take Blue Revolution to India's hinterland". It was inaugurated by the Vice President of India, Shri M. Venkaiah Naidu. The 3-day biennial event was organised by the Marine Products Export Development Authority (MPEDA) under the Commerce Ministry. It is the largest aquaculture exhibition in India.
- India is the second largest fish producer in the world with a production of 13.70 million tonnes during 2018-19.

Foot Notes :

About MPEDA:

1. **Established:** August 24, 1972
2. **Headquarters:** Kochi, Kerala

3. "Garvi Gujarat Bhavan" inaugurated by PM Modi in New Delhi

- Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi inaugurated the "Garvi Gujarat Bhavan" at Akbar Road in New Delhi. The building was built by the Gujarat government at a cost of Rs 131 crore which will serve as home for Gujarati people in Delhi and the old Gujarat Bhavan at Chanakyapuri, Delhi will also continue to function.
- Members present: Gujarat Chief Minister Vijay Rupani, Deputy Chief Minister(Gujarat) Nitin Patel and other officials were present during the event. It is built on an area of 20,325 sq.mts with 7066 square mts grant from the central government and has 19 suits rooms, 59 regular rooms, a restaurant, a public dining hall, a business centre, a souvenir shop, a multi-purpose hall etc, all with modern and traditional architecture blend.
- The efforts by Gujarat government toward development was appreciated by the Prime Minister and assured the state's piped drinking water facility at every household would be accomplished by 2024.

Foot Notes:

About Gujarat

1. **Capital-** Gandhinagar.

2. **Governor-** Acharya DevVrat.

3. **National parks** – Gir forest NP, blackbuc, Marine, Vansda.

4. Raksha Mantri co-chairs Japan–India Defence Ministerial Meeting

- Raksha Mantri Rajnath Singh co-chaired the Japan–India Defence Ministerial Meeting held in Tokyo, Japan. Japan's delegation was represented by Defence Minister of Japan Mr Takeshi Iwaya.
- The dialogue discussed ways to further strengthen the existing bilateral co-operative arrangements and adopt new initiatives towards achieving peace and security in the region.
- Raksha Mantri also paid homage to the martyrs of Japanese Self-Defence Forces at Ichigaya in Tokyo.

Foot Notes:

About Japan

1. **Capital:** Tokyo

2. **Currency:** Japanese Yen

3. **PM:** Shinzo Abe.

5 .Reliance Power will give electricity to Bangladesh for next 22 years

- Bangladesh has signed a power project agreement to buy 718 megawatts(MW) of electricity from India's Anil Ambani led Reliance Power over the next 22 years. For which the company plans to invest about \$1 billion to set up a local plant at Meghnaghat in Narayanganj, over 20 km southeast of the capital Dhaka, Bangladesh by 2022. It will be a combined cycle power plant, which will be owned by Reliance.
- Bangladesh has signed an agreement with China earlier, under which renewable energy projects will be prepared. These projects, to be built with an investment of \$ 400 million, will generate 500 MW of power by 2023.
- Bangladesh currently has a power capacity of more than 20,000 MW. It is working to provide electricity to its 160 million population by 2020. Its energy sector has registered a growth of 12.5% in recent years. However, Renewable Energy's share in it is just 3%. It plans to boost this to 10% by 2022.

Foot Notes:

About Reliance Power:

1. **Founded:** 17 January 1995

2. **Founder:** Dhirubhai Ambani

3. **Headquarters:** Navi Mumbai, Maharashtra

4. **Chairman:** Anil Ambani

6. New Health Insurance Scheme AB-MGRSBY Launched In Rajasthan

- Rajasthan state government launched a new health insurance scheme called Ayushman Bharat-Mahatma Gandhi Rajasthan Swasthya Bima Yojna (AB-MGRSBY) by integrating the Bhamashah Health Insurance Scheme(BSBY) of the State Government and Ayushman Bharat- Pradhan Mantri Jan Arogya Yojna Scheme(AB-PMJAY) of the Central Government.

- Around 1.1 crore families will be covered under this Health Scheme. The sum insured now is Rs. 30000 for general diseases and Rs. 3 lakh per year for serious diseases. AB-PMJAY, which provides coverage of Rs5 lakh per year.
- The natives of Rajasthan can take advantage of this scheme. The poor families covered in any of the National Food Security Act (NFSA) and Socio-Economic Caste Census (SECC) 2011 are considered eligible for the scheme.

Foot Notes:**About Rajasthan**

1. **Chief Minister:** Ashok Gehlot
2. **Capital:** Jaipur

7. 'Namaste Pacific' Cultural Event held in New Delhi

- The High Commissions of Australia, New Zealand, Papua New Guinea, and Fiji jointly organised a cultural event 'Namaste Pacific' held in Delhi, India.
- This event is organised to showcase the culture of the Pacific countries. There was also showcase of the International Solar Alliance and Pollinate Energy based in Australia, Nepal and India and solar lanterns from Barefoot College in Rajasthan.

Foot Notes:**About Delhi**

1. **Chief Minister of Delhi:** Arvind Kejriwal
2. **Lt. Governor of Delhi:** Anil Baijal.

8. Vaishno Devi Shrine adjudged as Best Swachh Iconic Place in India

- Shri Mata Vaishno Devi Shrine in Jammu and Kashmir has been adjudged as the 'Best Swachh Iconic place' in the country in the 'Swachh Iconic Places' list released by the Ministry of Jal Shakti, Department of Drinking Water and Sanitation.
- The initiatives of water kiosks, reverse vending machines, equid dung management centre, installation of kill waste machine, collection, transportation, and disposal of waste along with regular mopping up of waste through a workforce of 1300 sanitation workers (Shrine cadre and outsourced) have enabled the shrine to achieve the top rank.
- The shrine was in direct competition with dozen other iconic places including Chhatrapati Shivaji Terminus (Maharashtra), Taj Mahal (Uttar Pradesh), Tirupati Temple (Andhra Pradesh) Golden Temple (Punjab) Manikarnika Ghat (Varanasi), Ajmer Sharif Dargah (Rajasthan) among others.

9. 1st National Conference on Cyber Crime Investigation and Cyber Forensics

- Central Bureau of Investigation's 1st National Conference on Cyber Crime Investigation and Cyber Forensics inaugurated in New Delhi.
- The 2 days conference aimed at creating the platform and bringing together investigators, lawyers, forensic experts and academia to discuss challenges related to cybercrime and ways to find solutions.
- It also acts as a platform to share good practices to learn from experiences of various State police and Law Enforcement Agencies.

Foot Notes:

1. Director of Central Bureau of Investigation: Rishi Kumar Shukla.

10 .India among top 10 nations in gold reserves

- India has surpassed the Netherlands to move into the list of top 10 countries in terms of total gold reserves.
- According to the World Gold Council, India has gold reserves totalling 618.2 tonnes, which is marginally higher than the Netherlands' reserves of 612.5 tonnes.
- According to the World Gold Council, the U.S. leads the country list with total gold reserves of 8,133.5 tonnes followed by Germany with 3,366.8 tonnes. In terms of individual countries, India actually ranks 9th since the International Monetary Fund (IMF) occupies the third position after the U.S. and Germany.

11 .PM to launch a pension scheme for traders

- Prime Minister Narendra Modi will launch the Pradhan Mantri Laghu Vyapari Maan-dhan Yojana, the Centre's pension scheme for traders.
- A few of the first subscribers from across the country will be given pension cards by the PM.
- The scheme, which is an extension of the PM Shram Yogi Maan-Dhan Yojana, will make all beneficiaries eligible for a monthly pension of Rs 3000 after the age of 60 at a miniscule monthly contribution.

12 .India moves up 6 places to 34th rank on world travel and tourism competitiveness index

- According to the World Economic Forum (WEF) report, India has jumped 6 places to claim 34th spot on world Travel & Tourism Competitiveness Index 2019.
- The WEF report shows, over 1.5 crore international tourists arrived in India while the share of travel and tourism industry was 3.6 per cent and that of industry employment was 5.1 per cent.
- Spain tops the ranking index followed by France and Germany. Other countries in the top 10 include Japan, the United States, the United Kingdom, Australia, Italy, Canada, and Switzerland.

13 .Fun zone has been set up by the Railways at the Visakhapatnam Railway Station

- A fun zone, the first of its kind in India, has been set up by the Railways at the Visakhapatnam Railway Station, Andhra Pradesh. The Gaming zone was inaugurated at platform number Fun zone has been set up by the Railways
- Key Points:
- The children can enjoy games during their waiting period for trains.
- The gaming zone has different interesting games to children & adults.

About Indian Railways:

1. Founded: May 8, 1845

2. Headquarters: New Delhi

3. Minister of Railways: Piyush Goyal

14 .PM to launch a new initiative to control FMD

- Prime Minister Narendra Modi is to launch a new initiative in the National disease management Programme for Foot and Mouth Disease (FMD) and Brucellosis. Under this scheme, the Centre will allocate Rs.13,500 crore central scheme to control livestock diseases.
- The scheme will be launched on 11 September from Mathura district in Uttar Pradesh. On this day, PM will also launch the National AI Programme throughout the event on 11 September in Mathura.
- The aim of the Programme is to regulate Foot and Mouth sickness and Brucellosis by 2025 with vaccination and ultimate demolition of FMD by 2030.

About Uttar Pradesh

1. **Chief minister:** Yogi Adityanath
2. **Governor:** Anandiben Patel
3. **Capital:** Lucknow

International News& Foreign Affairs

1. PM has begun his 3 day visit to Russia

- Prime Minister Narendra Modi has begun his three-day trip to Russia on 3 September. PM Modi along with Russian President Vladimir Putin visited the Russian Zvezda shipbuilding complex. He is the first Indian prime minister to visit the Russian Far East Region.
- During his visit, the PM will hold India-Russia 20th Annual Summit talks with President Putin. Also, Mr.Modi has been invited to attend the Eastern Economic Forum. Also, Modi and Putin are expected to discuss a gamut of bilateral and regional issues.
- The visit of Modi and Russian president will consent to arrangements sectors such as defense, trade, investments, industrial cooperation, energy and connectivity corridors at the summit.

Foot Notes:**About Russia**

1. **President:** Vladimir Putin
2. **Capital:** Moscow
3. **Currency:** Russian ruble

2 .China's Yutu-2 lunar rover discovers 'gel-like' substance hidden on the Moon

- China's Yutu-2 rover has discovered a "gel-like" substance inside a crater on the surface of the Moon. The rover landed on the surface after as part of China's Chang'e 4 mission to the far side of the Moon.
- The gel's shape and color are significantly different from the surrounding lunar soil. The colour of the material has been described as unusual. The material is located on the inner edge of the impact crater. The substance was found during the 8th day of an exploration mission to a region covered in small impact craters.

- The Chang-e-4 lander and Yutu-2 rover landed on the other side of the moon in January. It became the first spacecraft to reach the unexplored region of Earth's only satellite. Scientists believe that the far side of the moon has unique features never before explored on site. Chang-e 4 is a robotic spacecraft mission. It is part of the second phase of the Chinese Lunar Exploration Program.

Foot Notes:**About China**

1. **Capital:** Beijing
2. **Currency:** Renminbi
3. **President:** Xi Jinping

3 .Iran will lift all limits on nuclear R&D

- Iranian President Hassan Rouhani ordered the removal of all limits on nuclear research and development, taking the country's third step in scaling down its commitments to a 2015 deal with world powers.
- His announcement came shortly after the United States hit the Islamic Republic with further sanctions, the latest in a series of punitive measures including an embargo on Iranian oil exports.
- Iran and three European countries - the United Kingdom, France and Germany - have been engaged in talks to reduce tensions and save the nuclear deal that has been unraveling since US President Donald Trump withdrew from it in May last year.
- It also acts as a platform to share good practices to learn from experiences of various State police and Law Enforcement Agencies.

Foot Notes:**About Iran**

1. **Capital:** Tehran
2. **Currency:** Iranian rial
3. **Supreme leader:** Ali Khamenei
4. **President:** Hassan Rouhani

New Appointments and Person in News

1. Oleksiy Honcharuk named as a new prime minister of Ukraine

- Ukrainian parliament of the 9th convocation appointed Oleksiy Honcharuk, a 35-year-old practicing lawyer, of the political party Servant of the People, as the 17th Prime Minister of Ukraine.
- His nomination was presented to the Ukrainian Parliament by its President Volodymyr Zelenskiy. Mr Honcharuk, Ukraine's youngest ever head of government, succeeded Volodymyr Borysovykh Groysman.

Foot Notes :**About Ukraine:**

1. **Capital:** Kiev
2. **Currency:** Ukrainian hryvnia

2. President Ram Nath Kovind appoints 5 new Governors

- Shri Ram Nath Kovind appointed 5 new governors namely Dr. Tamili sai Soundararajan, Bhagat Singh Koshyari, Kalraj Mishra, Arif Mohammed Khan and Bandaru Dattatreya for Telangana, Maharashtra, Rajasthan, Kerala and Himachal Pradesh.
- Soundararajan appointed the Governor of Telangana having a separate Governor is a first for the country's newest state. Bandaru Dattatreya put in charge of Himachal Pradesh. Former union minister Arif Mohammad Khan appointed the Governor of Kerala and Bhagat Singh Koshyari as the Governor of Maharashtra. Tamilsai Soundararajan in charge of the BJP in a crucial southern state where it had practically zero presence, owing to the muscular Dravidian politics of the former Chief Ministers J Jayalithaa and M Karunanidhi. Mr Koshyari replaces Vidya Sagar Rao, whose five-year term came to an end.
- Veteran politician Arif Mohammad Khan started his political career with the Congress and had made the rounds of several political parties including Mayawati's Bahujan Samaj Party before joining the BJP. He is replacing P Sathasivam, the former chief justice of India whose five-year term.

3. Sanjiv Ranjan concurrently becomes next Indian ambassador to the Republic of Ecuador

- Shri Sanjiv Ranjan, who is the present Indian Ambassador to the Republic of Colombia, has been concurrently accredited as the next Ambassador of India to the Republic of Ecuador, with residence in Bogota (high altitude capital of Columbia).
- Sanjiv who is a 1993 batch Indian Forest Service (IFS) officer, previously served as Deputy high commissioner of India to Mauritius from 2006 till 2009.

4. Dr. B. Bala Bhaskar is the next newly appointed Ambassador of India to the Kingdom of Norway

- The Ministry of External Affairs (MEA) of the Government of India, appointed Dr. B. Bala Bhaskar as the next Ambassador of India to the Kingdom of Norway.
- He is the Indian Foreign Service (IFS) officer of 1993 batch. He succeeds Mr. Krishan Kumar.

Foot Notes:

About the Kingdom of Norway:

Capital: Oslo

Currency: Norwegian krone

Banking

1. ECL Finance Ltd and Central Bank of India entered into an agreement to co-lend to MSMEs

- A leading Non-Banking Finance Company (NBFC) & a subsidiary of Edelweiss Financial Services, ECL Finance Limited and Central Bank of India (CBI) have entered into an agreement for priority sector lending to Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises (MSME).
- This is the first such partnership and was made following the announcement of a progressive co-origination policy issued by the RBI (Reserve Bank of India) in September 2018.

Foot Notes :**About Central Bank of India:**

1. **Headquarters:** Mumbai
2. **Founded:** 21 December 1911
3. **MD and CEO:** Pallav Mohapatra
4. **Tagline:** Build A Better Life Around Us, Central to you since 1911

About ECL Finance Ltd:

1. **Founded:** 2005
2. **Headquarters:** Mumbai, Maharashtra

2. Paytm Money promotes Praveen Jadhav as its MD and CEO

- Paytm Money has promoted Praveen Jadhav to its Managing Director (MD) and Chief Executive Officer (CEO). Prior to this, Jadhav was in the position of full-time director.
- Praveen has made Paytm Money as the largest mutual fund investment platform in India. Prior to Paytm Money, he has worked with Rivify and Rediff.com.
- Paytm Money is a wholly-owned subsidiary of 197 Communications, the company operating Paytm.

Foot Notes :**About Paytm:**

1. **Headquarters:** Noida, Uttar Pradesh
2. **Founded:** 2010
3. **Founder:** Vijay Shekhar Sharma

3. SabkaVishwas – Legacy Dispute Resolution Scheme operationalised from 1st September 2019

- SabkaVishwas, which is a legacy dispute resolution scheme for tax payers announced by finance minister Nirmala Sitharaman in the 2019-20 union budget, has started off with its operation from September 1, 2019 and will be operational till December 31, 2019.
- **Aim:** The scheme aims to free taxpayers in closing their pending disputes related to legacy Service Tax and Central Excise cases which are now included under Goods and Service Tax (GST).
- **Two components:** The two main components of the scheme are Dispute resolution and Amnesty (pardoning of cancelling offence).

Foot Notes :**About legacy tax:**

1. It is a tax levied on the privilege of passing title by will to property, especially personal property.

About income tax department:

1. **Founded-** 1860.
2. **Headquarters-** New Delhi.
3. **Minister responsible-** Finance Minister Nirmala Sitharaman.

4. ESIC ties up with SBI for DBT facility

- Employees State Insurance Corporation partnered with State Bank of India for direct transfer of benefits electronically into bank accounts of all stakeholders.
- The agreement signed between the two departments SBI will provide e-payment services directly to bank accounts of all ESIC beneficiaries and payees Without any manual intervention as an integrated and automated process. The bank would provide e-payment integration with the enterprise resource planning processes of ESIC through its cash management product e- payment technology platform.
- The e-payment integration would affect statutory benefit payments to ESIC beneficiaries The new system will benefit all stakeholders of ESIC.

Foot Notes:**About Employees State Insurance Corporation**

1. **Founded:** 24 February 1952
2. **Headquarters:** Madrid, Spain

About State Bank of India

1. **Chairperson:** Rajnish Kumar
2. **Headquarters:** Mumbai

5. Standard Chartered Bank launches new “DigiSmart” credit card

- The Standard Chartered Bank, a British multinational banking and financial services company has launched its “DigiSmart” credit card primarily focused on the ever-growing segment of millennials.
- The new credit card is available for a nominal monthly fee of only Rs 49. However, this fee will be waived off if the spends of the customer are Rs 5,000 or above in the previous month.
- Instant discounts and other benefits make this card special. key e-commerce portals, travel, entertainment, fashion, grocery and food delivery can be discounted on various categories of products.
- Standard Chartered Bank has partnered with several companies such as Myntra, Grofers, Yatra, Zomato, Ola and INOX in the initial phase to offer customers with discounts and other benefits.

About Standard Chartered Bank:

1. **Headquarters:** London, United Kingdom
2. **Chairman:** Jose Vinals
3. **Tagline:** Your Right Partner

6 .CRISIL revises India's GDP growth to 6.3% in fiscal 2020

- Rating agency CRISIL has revised India’s fiscal year 2020 GDP growth forecast to 6.3%. CRISIL has lowered the GDP growth forecast from 6.9% to 6.3%. The growth was revised as the first-quarter growth rate of India reduced to a 25-quarter low of 5%.
- It also acts as a platform to share good practices to learn from experiences of various State police and Law Enforcement Agencies.

Foot Notes:

About CRISIL

1. Managing Director and CEO of CRISIL: Ashu Suyash.

7. US Federal Trade Commission fines YouTube with \$170 million

- The US's Federal Trade Commission has fined Google's YouTube with \$170 million. YouTube will have to pay \$170 million to settle allegations of collecting personal information about children.
- YouTube has been accused of tracking viewers of children's channels using cookies without parental consent. YouTube also used those cookies to deliver millions of dollars in targeted advertisements to those viewers.
- The penalty on YouTube is the largest since a law came into effect in 1998 which banned the collection of information about children aged below 13. The law was revised in 2013 to include "cookies," which can be used to track a person's internet viewing habits.

8. Wipro bags \$300-million deal from ICICI Bank

- IT services major Wipro Limited has bagged a strategic contract valued at \$300 million from the ICICI Bank. Under the contract, Wipro will offer a comprehensive suite of services to ICICI Bank for the next seven years, starting September 2019.
- Currently, Mumbai-based IT services firm Vara infotech provides these services to the ICICI Bank. As part of this strategic engagement, Wipro will absorb about 3,800 employees of Vara infotech along with its existing contracts, facilities and assets.
- It also acts as a platform to share good practices to learn from experiences of various State police and Law Enforcement Agencies.

Foot Notes:**About ICICI**

- 1. MD & CEO of ICICI Bank:** Sandeep Bakhshi
- 2. ICICI Bank Headquarters:** Mumbai.
- 3. Tagline of ICICI Bank:** Hum Hain Na!
- 4. MD & CEO of Wipro:** Abidali Z. Neemuchwala.

Science Tech & Defence

1. Manoj Mukund Naravane Takes Charge As VC Of Army Staff

- Lieutenant General ManojMukundNaravane took over as the new Vice chief of Army staff (VCOAS) replacing Lieutenant General Devraj Anbu who was superannuated on August 31, 2019.
- Naravane, the senior-most army officer once Chief of Army Staff General BipinRawat retires by the end of December, is expected to succeed him.

Foot Notes :**About Indian Army(IA):**

- 1. Founded-** 1 April 1895.
- 2. Headquarters-** New Delhi.

3. Commander-in-Chief- President Ram Nath Kovind.

4. Motto- “Service Before Self”.

2. Iranian army introduces a new homegrown jet-propelled drone called “Kian”

- Iranian Army has unveiled a high-precision jet-propelled drone called “Kian”, which has the capacity of carrying long-time surveillance missions and attack the targets far from the country’s borders.
- The unmanned military drone has been developed in two models & was fully developed by Iranian technicians of the Army within about a year.
- The new drone comes at a time increasing tensions between Iran the United States(US) since US President Donald Trump in 2018 withdrew the US from the Iran nuclear deal -2015 and reimposed sanctions on Iran. Earlier in August 2019, It has unveiled its new home-grown air defense system called “Bavar-373”.

Foot Notes:

About Iran

1. Capital: Tehran

2. Currency: Iranian rial

3. President: Hassan Rouhani

3. ‘Samudrayaan’- deep ocean mining project to be undertaken by India

- India’s deep sea project “Samudrayaan” undertaken by National Institute of Ocean Technology, Chennai (NIOT) is proposed to be launched in 2021-22. The proposed project announced by NIOT Director MA Atmanand, is a part of Ministry of Earth Sciences’ pilot project, and plans to send three persons to depth in a submersible vehicle of 6000mtrs for underwater studies related to deep sea mining of rare minerals.
- The International Sea-Bed Authority has allocated 75,000sq.km to India in the Central Indian Ocean Basin (CIOB) for exploring Polymetallic nodules which are rock concretions on the sea bottom formed of concentric layers of iron and manganese hydroxides around a core which are also called as manganese nodules weighing 380million tonnes.
- The polymetallic nodules contain 4.7 million tonnes of nickel, 4.29 million tonnes of copper and 0.55 million tonnes of cobalt and 92.59 million tonnes of manganese.

Foot Notes:

About NIOT:

1. Founded- November 1993.

2. Headquarters- Chennai.

3. Parent agency- Ministry of Earth Sciences.

4. Army to commission 1st batch of women soldiers in 2021

- The Indian Army has announced that the first batch of 100 women soldiers in the Army is likely to be commissioned by March 2021.
- The women soldiers will be commissioned into the Corps of Military Police of the Indian Army. In the Corps of Military Police, women soldiers will take up duties of policing cantonments and other Army establishments.

- They will also work in co-operation with civil police of various state governments as well as the Centre and will also investigate cases of crime. At present, women in the Army work only in engineering, medical, legal, signals and educational wings.

5. Japanese woman gets worlds 1st stem cell corneal transplant

- Japan woman becomes the first person in the world to receive a corneal transplant made from induced pluripotent stem cells (iPS). The treatment was successfully carried out by a team of researchers led by ophthalmologist Kohji Nishida at Osaka University.
- Generally, the damaged or diseased corneas are treated using tissue from donors who have died. But in this case, the researchers created sheets of corneal cells from induced pluripotent stem (iPS) cells. These IPS cells were made by reprogramming adult skin cells from a donor into an embryonic-like state from which they can transform into other cell types, such as corneal cells. After the transplant, the woman's cornea remained clear and her vision had improved.
- The cornea of the eye is the transparent or clear front part of the eye that covers the iris, pupil, and anterior chamber of the eye. The cornea contains stem cells which can repair damage and maintain vision. These damage in the stem cells that are caused due to disease or injury can lead to blindness. The damaged/diseased cornea can be replaced by donated corneal tissue.

Foot Notes:

About Japan

1. **Capital:** Tokyo
2. **Currency:** Japanese yen
3. **Prime minister:** Shinzō Abe

6. Indian army to participate in joint exercise "TSENTR 2019"

- Indian army will participate in a multilateral exercise "TSENTR 2019" to be held in Russia. Armies of Pakistan, China, Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Tajikistan, Uzbekistan and Russia will also participate in the exercise.
- This will be the first time that forces from India and Pakistan will participate in a multilateral exercise together since the Balakot airstrikes conducted by Indian forces.
- The exercise is a part of the annual series of large scale exercises that form part of the Russian Armed Forces' annual training cycle. The exercise rotates between the four main Russian operational strategic commands.

Foot Notes:

About Russia

1. **Prime Minister:** Dmitry Medvedev
2. **Capital:** Moscow

7. 9th SLINEX 2019- Indo-Lanka maritime fleet exercise commenced

- The 9th edition of weeklong joint maritime naval exercise between India and Srilanka(SL) named SLINEX for the year 2019 has commenced in the port of Visakhapatnam in Andhra Pradesh. Two Sri Lanka Navy Ships(SLNS) namely

Sindurala and Suranimala that are offshore patrol vehicles left the Trincomalee port of Srilanka to participate in the exercise.

- Exercise features: Wide ranging naval exercise to enhance cooperation in the Indian Ocean region and helicopter operations. At about 323 SL navy personnel are participating in the exercise including the SriLankan Flag Officer Commanding the Naval Fleet, Rear Admiral Upul De Silva.
- The exercise will conclude on September 14, 2019. The first SLINEX was held in the year 2005 and the previous/8th edition took place in Trincomalee, Srilanka.

Foot Notes:

About Sri Lanka

1. **Capitals**- Colombo, Sri Jayawardenepura Kotte.
2. **Currency**- Sri Lankan rupee.
3. **President**- Maithripala Sirisena.
4. **Prime Minister**- Ranil Wickremesinghe.

8. Chandrayaan 2: ISRO lost contact with Vikram lander before its landing

- Indian Space Research Organisation has announced that it lost contact with the Moon lander "Vikram" which was scheduled to land on the moon between 1.30 a.m. and 2.30 a.m. (IST). Further the roll out of the rover "Pragyan" was scheduled between 5.30 a.m. and 6.30 a.m. Lander "Vikram" started its descent at about 1.38 a.m. from an altitude of 30 km at a velocity of 1,680 metres per second, but lost its communication with the Chandrayaan-2 Orbiter when it was at an altitude of 2.1 Km from Moon's surface.
- According to ISRO, the performance of the lander was as per the plan till it was 2.1 km from the moon surface. Although, the 2,379 kg Chandrayaan-2 orbiter continues to fly around the moon. Its mission life is of one year.
- ISRO launched the Chandrayaan-2 (on July 22, 2019) into the space from India's heavy lift rocket Geosynchronous Satellite Launch Vehicle-Mark III (GSLV Mk III). The Chandrayaan-2 spacecraft comprised three segments: the Orbiter, lander 'Vikram' and rover 'Pragyan'.

About ISRO

1. **Director**: Kailasavadivoo Sivan
2. **Headquarters**: Bengaluru
3. **Founder**: Vikram Sarabhai
4. **Founded**: 15 August 1969

Important days

1. International Day of Charity: 5 September

- The United Nations observes 5 September every year as International Day of Charity with the objective of sensitizing and mobilizing people, NGOs, and stakeholders all around the world to help others through volunteer and philanthropic activities.
- The date of 5 September was chosen to commemorate the anniversary of the passing away of Mother Teresa.

- She also received the Nobel Peace Prize in 1979 "for work undertaken in the struggle to overcome poverty and distress, which also constitute a threat to peace." Secretary-General of the United Nations: Antonio Guterres; Headquarters: New York, USA; Founded: 24 October 1945.

About United Nations

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

2. World Literacy Day is celebrated on 8 September

- On 8th September every year, International Literacy Day is celebrated to make people to know the importance of Literacy for people, communities and societies.
- It aims to combat worldwide problems also to promote illiteracy. The theme for 2019 is Literacy and Multilingualism.
- On 26th October in 1966, the United Nations Educational Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO) declared 8th September as International Literacy Day.

Foot Notes:

About UNESCO

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

Awards

1. Oscars of science awarded to Event Horizon Telescope Team

- The Event Horizon Telescope Team consists of 347 scientists produced the world first image of a black hole. They were felicitated with breakthrough Prize in Fundamental Physics. The prize is known as the Oscars of science with prize money \$3 million. The team published the image of black hole circled by a flame-orange halo of white-hot plasma on the Messier 87 (M87) galaxy.
- Directed by Shep Doelman at the Harvard-Smithsonian Center for Astrophysics, the team spent over a decade simulating an Earth-sized computational telescope that combined the signals received by eight radio telescopes working in pairs around the world with their sights trained on the Messier 87 (M87) galaxy, 55 million light-years away.
- Through this technique, they were able to achieve an unprecedented resolution and observe the black hole's silhouette for the first time in history, confirming theoretical predictions about these celestial objects.

Books And Authors

1. Book titled "India's Lost Frontier the Story of the North-West Frontier Province of Pakistan" written by veteran civil servant Raghvendra Singh released

- A book named “India’s Lost Frontier the Story of the North-West Frontier Province of Pakistan” written by veteran civil servant Raghvendra Singh, who was the then Director General (DG) of the National Archives of India (NAI) has been released.
- It is published by Rupa Publications, New Delhi.
- It reveals how the Congress leadership in 1947 surrendered India’s claim on the “tactically important” province though there was resistance from Mahatma Gandhi and other political leaders.

2. A new book entitled First They Erased Our Name A Rohingya Speaks

- A new book entitled First They Erased Our Name: A Rohingya Speaks book journalist Sophie Ansel (France) released by Penguin Random House on September 9, 2019.
- The book explains about the Rohingya community through the eyes of a Rohingya, Habibur Rahman who was born and raised in a small village in western Burma in 1979 grew up stateless with his people when their own country’s military leader ordered that Rohingya were not one among the 135 recognized ethnic groups that formed the 8 national races.
- Millions of Rohingya people left their homes since the year 1982. The Myanmar government rapid the process of ethnic cleansing in 2016 & 2017 and about 600,000 Rohingya were forced to cross the border into Bangladesh.

Foot Notes:

About Myanmar

1. **Capital:** Naypyitaw
2. **Currency:** Burmese kyat
3. **President:** Win Myint

3. A Coffee Table Book called ‘Glorious Diaspora- Pride of India’ on Pravasi Bharatiya Samman awardees was released by Venkaiah Naidu in New Delhi

- The Vice President of India, Shri M. Venkaiah Naidu has released a coffee table book entitled ‘Glorious Diaspora- Pride of India’ on Pravasi Bharatiya Samman awardees in New Delhi.
- The book covers the complete profiles of overseas Indians (politicians, business leaders, scientists, economists)who received the Pravasi Bharatiya Samman Awards (PBSA) from the year 2003 – 2019 in various sectors. It has been brought out by Indian Diaspora Club.
- It was first launched in the year 2003. January 9 was chosen every year as the day to observe Pravasi Bharatiya Divas (PBD) since it was on this day in 1915 that Mahatma Gandhi, the greatest Pravasi, returned to India from South Africa, led India’s freedom struggle and changed the lives of Indians.

Sports

1. For the 1st time, Arunachal Pradesh will host 25th Senior Women’s National Football Championship 2019

- For the 1st time, The 25th Senior Women's National Football Championship 2019 will be held in Pasighat, East Siang district of Arunachal Pradesh (AP) from September 10 – 24, 2019. The tournament will be hosted by Arunachal Pradesh Football Association (APFA).
- 30 teams from across the country including AP, are expected to participate for the championship. Arunachal Chief Minister Pema Khandu will be the chief guest of the event.
- India Women's Football Championship is the women's football tournament which is contested by states and government institutions in the country. It is organized by the All India Football Federation (AIFF).

Foot Notes :**About AIFF:**

1. **Founded:** 23 June 1937
2. **Headquarters:** Dwarka, Delhi

About Arunachal Pradesh:

1. **Capital:** Itanagar
2. **Governor:** B. D. Mishra
3. **National Park :** Mouling National Park, Namdapha National Park

2. SL cricketer Lasith Malinga becomes highest T20I wicket-taker surpassing Afridi

- Sri Lankan paceman (fast bowler) Separamadu Lasith Malinga on August 31, 2019 became the highest T20I (Twenty-Twenty International) wicket taker surpassing Pakistan's all-rounder Shahid Afridi, during the tri-match series of T20I between Sri Lanka and New Zealand.
- Malinga took a total of 99 wickets from 74 matches surpassing Afridi's 98 wickets in 99 matches.

3. India, US to carry out joint Military Exercise "Yudh Abhyas 2019"

- Indo-US defence cooperation, a joint military training, Exercise "Yudh Abhyas 2019". This exercise is being conducted at Joint Base Lewis Mc Chord, Washington, the USA from 05-18 September 2019.
- Exercise Yudh Abhyas is one of the largest joint running military training and defence corporation endeavours between India and USA. This will be the 15th edition of the joint exercise hosted alternately between the two countries.
- The exercise is also an ideal platform to learn from each other's expertise and experiences of planning and execution of operations.

Foot Notes:

1. **Chief of the Army Staff of India:** General Bipin Rawat.
2. **Chief of Staff for the U.S. Army:** Mark A Milley.

4. Qatar unveils 2022 FIFA World Cup logo round the globe

- Qatar unveiled the logo for the 2022 World Cup. It will be hosted by the Gulf emirate displaying it in public spaces in Doha and cities around the world.
- The design is a stylised Arabic white unisex shawl with maroon patterning. It is displayed in a figure-of-eight symbolising infinity while creating a heart shape above the words FIFA WORLD CUP Qatar 2022.
- The logo is very elegant and showing local culture with the burgundy colour of the Qatari flag, Algerian hospitality worker Mourad Bencheikh.

- The emblem was also displayed in Madrid, Buenos Aires and Beirut along with several other major cities.

Foot Notes:**About Qatar**

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

5. Mithali Raj retires from T20Is, says focussed on getting ready for 2021 ODI World Cup

- Mithali Raj has announced retirement from T20 Internationals. She led India in 32 T20Is India including 3 Women's T20 World Cups in 2012 (Sri Lanka), 2014 (Bangladesh) and 2016 (India).
- Mithali Raj was captain when India played their first ever women's T20 International in Derby in 2006. In 89 T20 Internationals, Mithali scored 2364 runs including 17 fifties with a career-best 97 not out.
- Mithali Raj played her last T2I against England on March 9, 2019 and remained unbeaten on 30 off 32 balls.

6. Rohit Sharma launches a campaign to save Rhinos in India

- Indian Cricket team vice-captain Rohit Sharma is launching Rohit4Rhinos campaign, in partnership with WWF India and Animal Planet.
- This campaign helps to build awareness for the need to conserve the Greater One-Horned Rhinoceros or the Indian Rhino.
- The Indian rhinoceros faces several threats, including poaching, habitat loss and mass mortality from inbreeding and disease

7. Anupama Swain wins bronze in World Martial Arts Mastership

- Indian woman athlete Anupama Swain won a bronze medal in the recently concluded World Martial Arts Mastership Jiu-Jitsu 2019.
- The event was held in Chungju, South Korea. Now she qualified for 2022 Asian Games. she was the only Indian to participate in the championship.
- Jiu-Jitsu is a form of martial art and combat sport and it puts the entire focus on grappling with particular emphasis on ground fighting.

Foot Notes:**About South Korea**

1. **Prime Minister:** Lee Nak-yeon
2. **Capital:** Seoul

8. Rashid Khan breaks 15-Year-Old record to become youngest Test Captain

- Afghanistan leg spinner Rashid Khan holds a new record when he dons the whites for Afghanistan as captain. He broke the 15-year-old record by becoming the youngest Test captain in the Test Cricket history.
- He is 20 years and 350 days old. Previously, the former Zimbabwe wicketkeeper Tatenda Taibu was holding this record who was 20 years and 358 days old.

Foot Notes:**About Afghanistan**

1. **Capital:** Kabul
2. **Currency:** Afghan Afghani.

9. Manu-Saurabh won gold medal in ISSF World Cup

- Manu Bhaker and Saurabh Chaudhary won the gold medal in mixed 10m air pistol at the ISSF World Cup in Rio de Janeiro. In the air pistol final, the pair of Manu Bhaker and Saurabh Chaudhary prevailed over Yashaswini Singh Deswal and Abhishek Verma 17-15.
- With this, India finished the ISSF World Cup at the top of the medals tally with 5 gold, 2 silver, and 2 bronze.

Foot Notes:**About Brazil**

Capital of Brazil: Brasilia

Currency of Brazil: Brazilian Real.

Obituaries

1. Aalayam Sriram, producer of 'Bombay' movie passed away

- Chennai (Tamilnadu) born film producer S Sriram, also known as 'Aalayam' Sriram, passed away in Chennai due to cardiac arrest. He headed the Alayam productions and mostly collaborated with Indian filmmaker Mani Ratnam, including the 1996
- National award winning film "Bombay". His last production was tamil film 'Samurai' in 2002.

2. Former Zimbabwe President Robert Mugabe passes away

- Zimbabwe's former President Robert Mugabe passed away. He was the country's first post-independence leader and also considered as Zimbabwe's founding father.
- He served the country as its leader for 37 years.
- He also served as the rotating chairman of the 54 nation African Union and the 15-nation Southern African Development Community.

Foot Notes:**About Zimbabwe**

1. **Capital of :** Harare
2. **President:** Emmerson Mnangagwa.

3. Bollywood actor and renowned Kathak dancer Veeru Krishnan passed away

- Bollywood actor and renowned Kathak dancer Veeru Krishnan has passed away in Mumbai, Maharashtra.
- He worked in many films such as "Ishq", "Hum Hain Rahi Pyar Ke" and "Raja Hindustani". He mostly appeared in supporting roles in the films in the 1990s.

- Besides being an actor, he was also a famous kathak dancer. Many Bollywood celebrities like Katrina Kaif, Athiya Shetty, Karanvir Bohra, and others were trained in Kathak by him.

4. Well known lawyer and former Union minister Ram Jethmalani passed away

- Ram Jethmalani, Senior lawyer, and a former union law minister has passed away at his home in Delhi after suffering from prolonged illness. He was 95.
- Jethmalani was born on 14 September 1923 in Shikarpur, Sindh in the Sindh division of the then Bombay Presidency, now part of Pakistan. The partition led him to move to Mumbai. He earned an LL.B.(Bachelor of Law) degree from Bombay University with a first-class first at the young age of 17.
- He has worked as union law minister and in the National Democratic Alliance government of Atal Bihari Vajpayee.

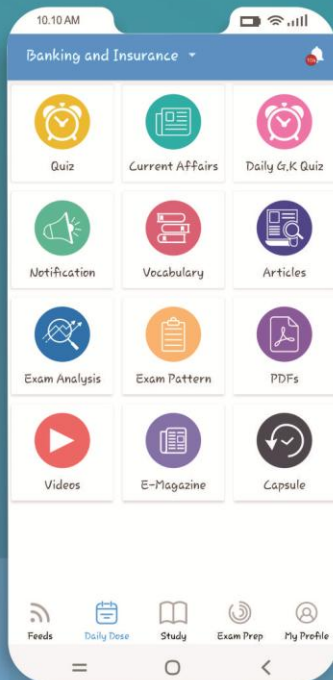


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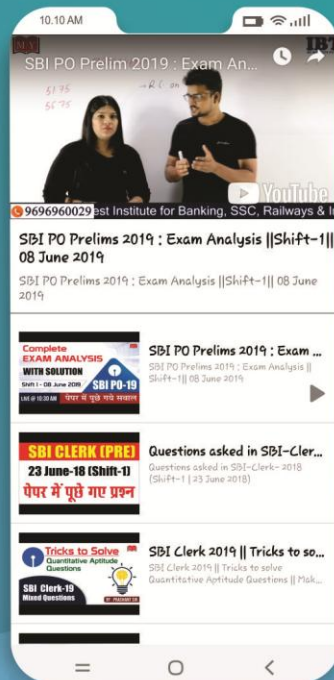
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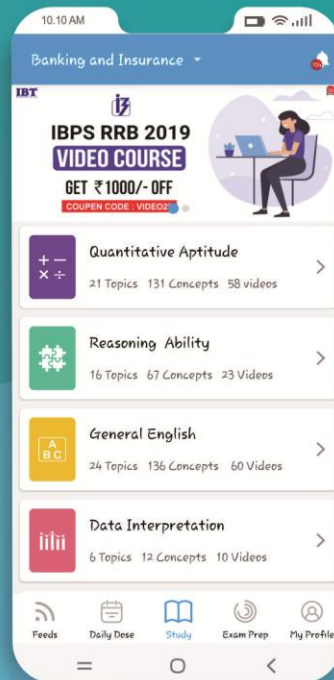
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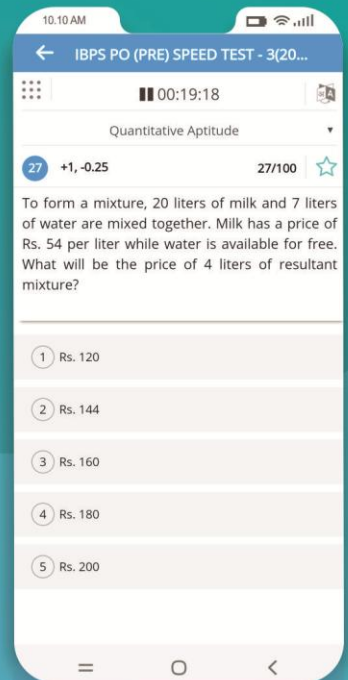
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