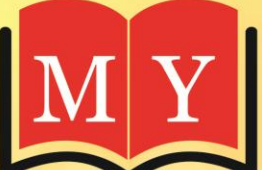


Weekly Current Affairs

20 May – 26 May, 2019

make  exam
India's trusted Educational Blog

Subscribe to our
YouTube Channel


MAKE MY EXAM

 Topic: Mathematics UNIT DIGITS By AMIT PANDEY How to find unit digit (very useful trick) Number System : By Amit...	 Topic: Mathematics To Convert in P by Q form AMIT PANDEY How to convert decimal expansion in rational form P/Q BY Amit	 Topic: Vice President of India Qualification, Election and Power VPAN GOYAL Vice President of India (Qualification, Election & Powers) by Vipin...	 Parts of Speech PLURAL By SAJJID AMAN KHAN Parts of Speech : PLURAL By Sajid Aman Khan (General English).....
 REMAINDER THEOREM - I By AMIT PANDEY Number System REMAINDER THEOREM(Part-1) By Amit Pandey	 Parts of Speech NOUN By SAJJID AMAN KHAN Parts of Speech : NOUN By Sajid Aman Khan (General English)....	 CURRENT AFFAIRS BULLETIN By Neha Singh, Vipin Goyal Current Affairs Bulletin of the week 10 April To 16 April 2017	 Topic: President of India Part-I Qualification & Election VPAN GOYAL President of India (Qualification & Election) By Vipin Goyal
 SBI PO- PRE EXAM TRAINING DAY-2 (2 HOURS) REASONING ABILITY By PRINCE SHARMA SBI PO online PET : Day 2 Reasoning Ability	 SBI PO- PRE EXAM TRAINING DAY-3 (2 HOURS) QUANTITATIVE APTITUDE By AMIT PANDEY SBI PO Online PET, Day 3 Maths - Percentage, Profit & Loss & All...	 SBI PO- PRE EXAM TRAINING DAY - 7 GENERAL ENGLISH By AMIT PANDEY SBI PO online PET : Day 7 GENERAL ENGLISH - CLOZE TEST, S. REAR...	

- Video lectures for all subjects
- Current Affairs bulletin
- Exam Notification & Analysis
- Pre Exam Training
- G.K Sessions
- Debates & discussions
- Success Stories
- Live Interview Sessions
- Group discussions

National News

1. 26 Maharashtra dams hit zero water storage level

- ✦ In a far cry from last year's situation, 26 reservoirs in Maharashtra have reached "zero storage" as on May 18, according to statistics put out by the Water Conservation department of the state government.
- ✦ The dams in these division are Paithan, Manjara, Majalgaon, Yeldari, Siddeshwar, Lower Terna, Sina Kolegaon and Lower Dhudna, all of which have zero storage at the moment, the department informed.

Foot Notes:-

- ✓ Capital: Mumbai
Governor: C. Vidyasagar Rao
Dams: Dhamapur, Vihar, Ekrukha, Shirsufal

2. Reliance beats Indian Oil Corp to become biggest Indian company by revenue.

- ✦ Richest Indian Mukesh Ambani's oil-to-telecom conglomerate Reliance Industries has toppled state-owned Indian Oil Corp (IOC) to become the country's biggest company by revenue.
- ✦ Reliance Industries has toppled state-owned Indian Oil Corporation (IOC) to become the country's biggest company by revenue

Foot Notes:

- ✓ **About Reliance**
 - ◆ CEO: Mukesh Ambani
 - ◆ Owner: Mukesh Ambani
 - ◆ Founder: Dhirubhai Ambani
 - ◆ Founded: 8 May 1973, Maharashtra
 - ◆ Subsidiaries: Jio, JioSaavn, Indiavidual Learning.

3. Niti Aayog pushes for Rs 7,500-crore proposal for AI platform, research institutes.

- ✦ Niti Aayog has circulated a cabinet note to provide Rs 7,500 crore for the establishment of AIRAWAT, a cloud computing platform along with research institutes.
- ✦ This is part of the policy think tank's proposal to create an institutional framework for artificial intelligence (AI) in the country.

Foot Notes:

- ✓ **About NITI Aayog**
 - ◆ NITI Aayog: National Institution for Transforming India.

- ◆ NITI Aayog CEO: Amitabh Kant.
- ◆ Vice Chairman: Rajiv Kumar.

4. Mumbai at topmost risk of cyber attack

- ✦ In India, the financial capital Mumbai faces the highest highest threat from cyberattacks, which makes Maharashtra to which makes Maharashtra top the list of Indian states vulnerable to risk.
- ✦ Top 15 Indian Cities At Most Risk

1. Mumbai
2. Delhi
3. Bengaluru
4. Kolkata
5. Pune
6. New Delhi
7. Hyderabad
8. Jaipur
9. Ahmedabad
10. Chennai

5. Tech Mahindra signs Rs 300 crore defence contract with Indian Navy

- ✦ IT major Tech Mahindra said it has signed a defence contract worth Rs 300 crore, its biggest till date.
- ✦ As part of the 'Armed Forces Secure Access Card' (AFSAC) Project, Tech Mahindra will implement RFID (Radio Frequency Identification) based access control system across all naval bases and ships, a statement said.
- ✦ The new AFSAC card will replace the existing paper based identity card for all Navy personnel, including dependents and ex-servicemen, it added.

Foot Notes:

- ◆ Defence Minister: Nirmala Sitharaman
- ✓ **About Tech Mahindra**
 - ◆ CEO: C. P. Gurnani
 - ◆ Headquarters: Pune
 - ◆ Parent organization: Mahindra Group
 - ◆ Founder: Anand Mahindra

6. MoU signed between DBT and DAE on Cancer Research

- ✦ The Department of Biotechnology (DBT) under Ministry of Science and Technology and Department of Atomic Energy (DAE), under Prime Minister of India has signed an memorandum of understanding (MoU) for supporting a joint collaborative research programmes in area of Cancer.

- ✦ The MoU for Joint Collaboration on Cancer Research was signed between DBT and DAE. The DAE was represented by its Tata Memorial Centre, which also functions as coordinating centre on behalf of The National Cancer Grid of India.

MoU shall help strengthen various initiatives mandatorily for cancer by:

1. Strategizing and prioritizing cancer research.
2. Developing new and affordable technologies.
3. Jointly designing and funding clinical trials.
4. Coordinating and collaborating for translational research, interventions, training of manpower and infrastructure development.

Foot Notes:

✓ **About Department of Biotechnology (DBT)**

- ◆ Formed on: 1986
- ◆ Headquarters: New Delhi
- ◆ Secretary: Dr. Renu Swarup
- ◆ Affiliated with: Ministry of Science and Technology
- ◆ The Ministry is responsible for administrating development and commercialization in the field of modern biology and biotechnology in India.

✓ **About Department of Atomic Energy (DAE)**

- ◆ Formed on: 3 August 1954
- ◆ Headquarters: Mumbai, Maharashtra, India
- ◆ Minister responsible: Narendra Modi, Prime Minister of India
- ◆ Deputy Minister responsible: Dr. Jitendra Singh, Minister of State for PM's Office
- ◆ Secretary and Chairman: Dr. K.N.Vyas
- ◆ Parent Department: Prime Minister's Office
- ◆ DAE is engaged in the development of nuclear power technology, applications of radiation technologies in the fields of agriculture, medicine, industry and basic research.

7. Delhi HC ruled that United Nations is not a State

- ✦ The Delhi High Court has ruled that the United Nations is not a State under Article 12 of the Constitution of India and is not amenable to its jurisdiction under Article 226 of the Constitution.
- ✦ The Ministry replied that the consent of the Government of India is not required to initiate a legal suit against UNO as it is not a foreign state and is only an Internal Organization. It said UNO and its officials enjoy immunity under the United Nations (Privileges and Immunities) Act, 1947.
- ✦ It also said as per Section 2 of Article II of the Schedule of Act, 1947, UNO has immunity from every form of legal process except insofar as in any particular case it has expressly waived its immunity

Foot Notes:✓ **About United Nations**

- ◆ Headquarters: New York
- ◆ Founders: Denmark • Turkey • Norway • Panama • Saudi Arabia • United Kingdom • Poland • Netherlands • Dominican Republic • Argentina
- ◆ Founded: 24 Oct 1945

8. Sony to stop selling its smartphones in India

- ✚ Japanese technology giant Sony has revealed it will stop selling its smartphones in several countries including India.
- ✚ Sony added it presently considers Japan, Europe, Taiwan and Hong Kong as the “focus regions” — to drive profit for the smartphone business.
- ✚ Sony reported an operating loss of 97.1 billion yen (\$879.45 million) in the year ended March.
- ✚ Samsung with shipment of 71.9 million units, Huawei with 59.1 million, Apple with 36.4 million, Xiaomi with 25 million, Vivo with 23.2 million and Oppo with 23.1 million are the top smartphone brands in the first quarter of 2019.

Foot Notes:✓ **About Sony**

- ◆ Headquarters: Minato, Japan
- ◆ CEO: Kenichiro Yoshida
- ◆ Founded: 07 May 1946 • Tokyo, Japan

International News & Foreign Affairs

1. Google has barred the world's second biggest smartphone maker, Huawei.

- ✚ Huawei Technologies Co. Ltd. is a Chinese multinational telecommunications equipment and consumer electronics manufacturer
- ✚ New designs of Huawei smartphones are set to lose access to some Google apps. The move comes after the Trump administration added Huawei to a list of companies that American firms cannot trade with unless they have a licence.
- ✚ Google said it was "complying with the order and reviewing the implications".
- ✚ Future Huawei devices may no longer have apps such as YouTube and Maps.

Foot Notes:✓ **About Huawei.**

- ◆ CEO: Ren Zhengfei (1988–)
- ◆ Headquarters: Shenzhen, China
- ◆ Founder: Ren Zhengfei

- ◆ Founded: 15 September 1987, Shenzhen, China
- ◆ Parent organization: Huawei Investment & Holding Co., Ltd.

2. Joko Widodo secures second term as Indonesia's president

- ✚ Indonesia's Joko Widodo has been re-elected as president of the country, beating rival Prabowo Subianto, a retired general.
- ✚ Widodo and his vice-presidential running mate Ma'ruf Amin won the election by a 55.5% to 44.5% margin over Subianto and Sandiaga Uno.
- ✚ The presidential inauguration is expected to be held in October.

Foot Notes:

- ✓ **About Indonesia**
 - ◆ Capital- Jakarta,
 - ◆ Currency- Indonesian rupiah.
 - ◆ Ambassador of India to Indonesia: Pradeep Kumar Rawat.

3. Amazon likely to get the .amazon domain name

- ✚ Jeff Bezos-led Amazon has bagged a seven-year dispute over the '.amazon' domain name from the Internet Corporation for Assigned Names and Numbers (ICANN). The Amazon Cooperation Treaty Organisation (ACTO), a group with member countries including Brazil backed the dispute.
- ✚ The Internet Corporation for Assigned Names and Numbers (ICANN) decided to proceed with designation requested by Amazon pending a 30-day period of public comment.
- ✚ Amazon intends to use the domain with its multiple business streams so internet addresses like 'books.amazon' and 'alexa.amazon' can be used by 2019.

Foot Notes:

- ✓ **About Amazon**
 - ◆ Founded: 05 Jul 1994
 - ◆ Headquarters: Seattle
 - ◆ CEO: Jeff Bezos

4. UAE launched the Gold card visa scheme for expatriates

- ✚ The UAE has launched a Golden Card visa scheme, a permanent residency scheme, for expatriates. The announcement was made by the country's Vice President and Prime Minister and Ruler of Dubai.
- ✚ The scheme is open to investors and exceptional talents such as doctors, engineers, scientists, students and artists as it will grant permanent residency.
- ✚ The scheme will attract greater foreign investment and stimulate the local economy, making it more efficient and attractive for investors.

Foot Notes:✓ **About UAE**

- ◆ The United Arab Emirates, sometimes simply called the Emirates, is a country in Western Asia at the southeast end of the Arabian Peninsula on the Persian Gulf, bordering Oman to the east and Saudi Arabia to the south, as well as sharing maritime borders with Qatar to the west and Iran to the north.
- ◆ Founded: 02 Dec 1971
- ◆ The Indian expatriate community is the largest ethnic community in the UAE

5. US, Japan, South Korea, Australia Hold 1st Naval Drills In Western Pacific

- ✦ U.S. Navy ships conducted joint drills with warships from allies Japan, Australia and South Korea in their first combined exercise in the Western Pacific, the U.S. Navy said on Thursday
- ✦ The six-day exercise involves two Japanese destroyers, two Australian frigates and a destroyer from South Korea, with as many as 3,000 sailors participating.
- ✦ US State Department approved to sell air-defense missiles for worth of more than USD 600 million to Japan and South Korea. This approval was result of rising tension with North Korea when a pair of missile was tested by North Korea last week.
- ✦ The US government has approved sale of 94 SM-2 missiles used by ships against air threats along with 12 guidance systems for a total cost of USD 313.9 million.

Foot Notes:✓ **About South Korea**

- ◆ Capital: Seoul
- ◆ Currency: South Korean Won
- ◆ President: Moon Jae-in

✓ **About Japan**

- ◆ Capital: Tokyo
- ◆ Currency: Japanese Yen
- ◆ Prime Minister. Shinzo Abe

✓ **About USA**

- ◆ Capital: Washington D.C.
- ◆ Currency: United States Dollar
- ◆ President: Donald Trump

6. Microsoft stopped online sale of Huawei laptops after US ban on Chinese tech companies

- ✦ Huawei is set to face yet another major setback after President Trump's executive order called for a clampdown on Chinese technology companies. Less than a week after Google announced that it would revoke Huawei's Android licence; two leading tech giants are about to follow suit.

- ✦ Currently searching for any Huawei hardware on Microsoft's online store in the US won't yield any results. On the other hand, Microsoft has remained silent on whether it would allow Huawei to obtain Windows licenses for its laptops. Revoking Huawei's Windows OS license would have more adverse effects in Huawei's server solutions.
- ✦ For now, Huawei has been granted a 90-day extension to provide software updates to Android-powered handsets and maintain continued operation of existing networks and equipment. However, this narrow extension does not seem to apply to Windows licenses for laptops.

Foot Notes:

- ✓ **About Google**
 - ◆ Founded: 04 Sep 1998
 - ◆ Headquarters: Mountain View
 - ◆ CEO: Sundar Pichai (Since 2015)
 - ◆ Founders: Sergey Brin ,Larry Page ,Dred Hoang ,Ralia Shop
- ✓ **About Microsoft**
 - ◆ Founded: 04 Apr 1975
 - ◆ Headquarters: Redmond
 - ◆ CEO: Satya Nadella (Since 2014)
- ✓ **About Huawei**
 - ◆ Founded: 1987
 - ◆ Headquarters: Shenzhen, China
 - ◆ CEO: Ren Zhengfei
 - ◆ Founder: Ren Zhengfei

7. WHO declares Algeria and Argentina as malaria-free countries

- ✦ World Health Organization officially declared Algeria and Argentina as malaria-free countries after recording no new cases for more than three years. Now, the numbers of malaria free countries increased to 38 from 36.
- ✦ Argentina reported the last indigenous case in 2010 while in Algeria it was reported in 2013. Algeria is the second African nation to have eliminated the disease after Mauritius which achieved the goal in 1973.

Foot Notes:

- ✓ **About WHO**
 - ◆ Founded: 7 April 1948
 - ◆ Headquarters: Geneva, Switzerland
 - ◆ Head: Tedros Adhanom

8. British PM Theresa May Announces Resignation

- ✦ British Prime Minister Theresa May announces resignation from her post.
- ✦ She will resign on 7 June.

- ✦ Her announcement triggers the start of a contest to replace her as Conservative leader and Prime Minister.

Foot Notes:

- ✓ **About United Kingdom**
 - ◆ Capital: London
 - ◆ Currency: Pound sterling

9. WhatsApp to put ads on Status in 2020, confirms Facebook

- ✦ WhatsApp Status will start displaying ads from 2020, the messaging platform's parent firm Facebook has confirmed.
- ✦ It added its already monetized WhatsApp Business app will get richer messaging formats, including viewing text alongside image or PDF in a single message.
- ✦ Notably, WhatsApp Co-founders Brian Acton and Jan Koum had left after disagreements with Facebook over monetizing it.

Foot Notes:

- ✓ **About Whatsapp Messenger**
 - ◆ Founded: February 24, 2009; 10 years ago
 - ◆ Headquarters: Mountain View, California, United States
 - ◆ Founder: Jan Koum, Brian Acton

Banking

1. Tripura Gramin Bank among top RRB performer in country

- ✦ Tripura Gramin Bank is among India's top three Regional Rural Banks (RRBs) in terms of profit, business and growth. Currently India has 46 Regional Rural Bank out of which Tripura Gramin Bank ranked 3rd in the country. Tripura Gramin Bank has posted a profit for 7 successive years to Rs 125.45 crore in the fiscal 2018-19.
- ✦ The Tripura Gramin Bank is the first RRB in India which have been granted a permission by Reserve Bank of India (RBI) to start treasury function of the Tripura government and open a currency chest.

Foot Notes:-

- ✓ Headquarter : Agratala
- ✓ Chairman : Mahendra Mohan Goswami

2. SBI ties up with FMCG arm of The Art of Living

- ✦ The State Bank of India (SBI) has announced a strategic partnership with the FMCG arm of The Art of Living — Sri Sri Tattva.
- ✦ Under this partnership, YONO users can avail a discount of 15% on the entire range of products offered by Sri Sri Tattva such as food, personal care, healthcare, homecare, BYOGI apparels and Shankara skincare products.

Foot Notes:

- ✓ **FMCG stands for Fast Moving Consumer Goods.**
 - ◆ SBI Chairperson: Rajnish Kumar
 - ◆ Headquarters: Mumbai
 - ◆ Founded: 1 July 1955.

3. World Bank, CommBank Team Up for 'World First' Blockchain Bond Transaction

- ✦ The World Bank and the Commonwealth Bank of Australia (CommBank) have teamed up to enable recording of secondary market bond trading using blockchain tech.
- ✦ The institutions announced that their successful recording of a secondary transaction for bond-i, a blockchain-operated debt instrument, on a distributed ledger shows the “vast potential” of the technology, and marks the first bond to have both issuance and trading recorded on a blockchain platform.
- ✦ Bond-i was first issued last year in August by the World Bank, with the CommBank being a sole arranger. The experiment helped the World Bank raise \$81 million at the time.

Foot Notes:

- ✓ **About World Bank**
 - ◆ Motto: Working for a World Free of Poverty
 - ◆ CEO: Kristalina Georgieva
 - ◆ Headquarters: Washington, D.C., United States
 - ◆ Membership: 189 countries (IBRD); 173 countries (IDA)
 - ◆ Parent organization: World Bank Group
 - ◆ Subsidiaries: International Finance Corporation, MORE
 - ◆ Founders: John Maynard Keynes, Harry Dexter White
 - ◆ Type: Monetary International Financial Organization
- ✓ **About CommBank**
 - ◆ CEO: Matt Comyn
 - ◆ Founded: 22 December 1911
 - ◆ Headquarters: Sydney, Australia

4. Asian Development Bank to provide USD 750 million loan to India for railway track electrification project

- ✦ Multilateral funding agency Asian Development Bank (ADB) said it has signed an agreement to provide USD 750 million equivalent in Indian rupee long-term financing to electrify railway tracks in India.
- ✦ It is the largest single non-sovereign loan ever committed by ADB to Indian Railway Finance Corporation (IRFC) to fund the railways track electrification project, ADB said in a release.

Foot Notes:

- ✓ **About Indian Railway:**
 - ◆ Railway Minister : Piyush Goyal
 - ◆ Headquarters : New Delhi, India
 - ◆ About Asian Development Bank
 - ◆ Founded: 19 Dec 1966
 - ◆ Headquarters: Mandaluyong, Philippines
 - ◆ President: Takehiko Nakao

5. RBI releases draft norms on liquidity risk management for NBFCs

- ✦ The Reserve Bank of India said all non-deposit-taking non-banking financial companies (NBFCs) with an asset size of Rs 5,000 crore and above, and all deposit-taking NBFCs irrespective of their asset size, have to maintain a liquidity buffer in terms of a Liquidity Coverage Ratio (LCR).
- ✦ In a draft on liquidity risk management framework for NBFCs and core investment companies, these measures will promote resilience of NBFCs to potential liquidity disruptions by ensuring they have sufficient High-Quality Liquid Asset (HQLA) to survive an acute liquidity stress scenario lasting for 30 days. The banking regulator proposed that it will implement LCR through a glide path from 01st April 2020 to 01st April 2024.

Foot Notes:

- ✓ **About RBI**
 - ◆ Headquarters: Mumbai, India
 - ◆ Governor: Shaktikanta Das

6. Corporation Bank launches 'Corp SME Suvidha' for MSMEs

- ✦ Corporation Bank has launched 'Corp SME Suvidha', a product for GST-registered MSMEs. The product has been designed as part of the bank's efforts to provide the best products to the MSME sector.
- ✦ PV Bharathi, Managing Director and Chief Executive Officer of the Corporation bank, launched the product in Mangaluru recently.

Foot Notes:

- ✓ **About Corporation Bank**
 - ◆ Headquarters: Mangalore, India
 - ◆ Founder: Khan Bahadur Haji Abdullah Haji Kasim Saheb Bahadur
 - ◆ Founded: 12 Mar 1906 • Udupi, India

New Appointments & Person in News

1. Kapil Sharma is the Most Viewed Stand-up Comedian in India and Abroad

- ✚ The King of Comedy, Kapil Sharma, has been named as most viewed stand-up comedian in India and abroad by World Book of Records London.
- ✚ He had started his career as a stand-up comedian from different comedy shows and got fame from “Comedy Nights with Kapil”.

2. Saray Khumalo First Black Woman To Climb Mount Everest Says It "Needed To Be Done"

- ✚ South African climber Saray Khumalo, 47, reached the peak of the 8,848-metre mountain last week after three previous failed bids to conquer the world's highest peak.
- ✚ She has also climbed Mount Kilimanjaro in Tanzania, Aconcagua in Argentina and Mount Elbrus in Russia.
- ✚ In 2003, South African park ranger Sibusiso Vilane became the first black person to summit Mount Everest.

Foot Notes:

- ✓ **About Mount Everest**
 - ◆ Mount Everest is the world's highest mountain
 - ◆ First ascenders: Edmund Hillary, Tenzing Norgay Trending
 - ◆ Elevation: 8,848 m
 - ◆ First ascent: 29 May 1953
 - ◆ Countries: Nepal, China
 - ◆ Mountain range: Himalayas, Mahalangur Himal
- ✓ **About South Africa**
 - ◆ President: Cyril Ramaphosa Trending
 - ◆ Capitals: Cape Town, Pretoria, Bloemfontein
 - ◆ Currency: Currency: South African rand

3. Volodymyr Zelensky sworn in as the 6th President of Ukraine

- ✦ Ukrainian TV star Volodymyr Zelensky won the presidential election in April 2019 and sworn in as 6th President of Ukraine recently. He succeeded Petro Poroshenko.
- ✦ According to the Central Election Commission, Zelensky won the second round with 73.22% of the votes.
- ✦ In his speech, he announced the dissolution of the parliament. It is a strategic move to bring the October 27 parliamentary elections forward to boost his party's chances of securing a majority at the height of his popularity.

Foot Notes:

- ✓ **About Volodymyr Zelenski**
 - ◆ He hails from the south-eastern city of Kryvyi Rih.
 - ◆ His election campaign slogan was 'unify Ukraine'.
 - ◆ During his first address as president, he pledged to protect the sovereignty and independence of Ukraine.
- ✓ **About Ukraine**
 - ◆ President: Volodymyr Zelensky
 - ◆ Prime Minister: Volodymyr Groysman
 - ◆ Capital: Kyiv
 - ◆ Currency: Ukrainian hryvnia

4. Naveen Patnaik set for the fifth term as Odisha CM

- ✦ Odisha's ruling Biju Janata Dal (BJD) headed by incumbent Chief Minister Naveen Patnaik is all set to form a government for a fifth consecutive term.
- ✦ The oath-taking ceremony will be a low key affair as the State is still recovering from the devastation caused by Cyclone Fani, which hit Odisha on May 3.

Foot Notes:

- ✓ **About Odisha**
 - ◆ Capital : Bhubaneswar
 - ◆ Governor: Professor Ganeshi Lal
 - ◆ Odisha Day : 01st April.

Science Tech & Defence

1. SIMBEX-2019: scheduled from 16 May to 22 May 2019

- ✦ After the completion of naval exercise IMDEX-19 recently, the Kolkata Class Destroyers Indian Naval ships namely INS Kolkata and INS Shakti are participating in SIMBEX-2019.

- ✦ SIMBEX (Singapore India Maritime Bilateral Exercise) is an annual bilateral naval exercise between India and Singapore. It is being held from 16 May to 22 May 2019.

Foot Notes:-

- ✓ Capital: Singapore
- ✓ Official languages: English, Malay, Chinese, Tamil
- ✓ President : Halimah Yacob
- ✓ Currency: Singapore dollar

2. National Cadet Corps Girls expedition team of 20 from Sikkim flagged off to Mt Tenchenkhang

- ✦ On May 17, 2019, National Cadet Corps girls mountaineering expedition team of 20 from Sikkim was flagged off to Mt Tenchenkhang, situated in Western Sikkim. This is the first girls expedition team ever since 1970. This expedition was flagged off by Additional Director General Major General Sanjay Gupta in New Delhi.
- ✦ The expedition team is led by Lt Col Madhab Boro. It constitutes 3 officers (including Medical Officer), 17 Permanent Instructional staff and 20 NCC Girl Cadets from All India NCC directorates.

Foot Notes:-

- ✓ Sikkim: Capital: Gangtok
- ✓ Chief Minister: Pawan Kumar Chamling
- ✓ Governor: Ganga Prasad
- ✓ National Parks- Khangchendzonga National Park
- ✓ Wildlife Sanctuaries: Barsey Rhododendron WLS, Fambong Lho WLS, Kitam (Bird) WLS, Kyongnosla Alpine WLS, Maenam WLS, Pangolakha WLS, Shingba (Rhododendron) WLS

3. IMCOR: 8th Indo-Myanmar Coordinated Patrol Begins

- ✦ The 2019 Indo-Myanmar coordinated patrol (IMCOR) is taking place from 20 May to 28 May 2019. This is the 8th edition of coordinated patrol (CORPAT) between India and Myanmar.
- ✦ The coordinated patrol (CORPAT) initiative between the Indian Navy and Myanmar Navy seeks to address issues of terrorism, human trafficking, poaching, illegal fishing, drug trafficking and other illegal activities harmful to the interest of both nations.
- ✦ The Indo-Myanmar coordinated patrol IMCOR will be conducted from 20 May 2019 to 28 May 2019. For the 'Opening Ceremony' of 2019 edition, Myanmar Navy Ship namely UMS King Tabin Shwe Htee (773) and UMS Inlay (OPV-54) arrived on 20 May 2019 in Port Blair at Andaman and Nicobar Command.

Foot Notes:

- ✓ **About Myanmar**
 - ◆ Capital: Naypyitaw
 - ◆ Currency: Burmese kyat
 - ◆ President: Win Myint

4. ISRO launches 'cloud-proof' earth observation spy satellite RISAT-2B to keep an eye on Pakistan

- ✚ Indian space research agency (ISRO) today successfully launched an earth observation spy satellite RISAT-2B that can take high resolution images of the earth during day and night, and also under cloudy conditions to keep an eye also on terror camps across the border in Pakistan.
- ✚ This would enhance the country's surveillance capabilities many times. The satellite is equipped with a synthetic aperture radar that can take pictures in any condition.
- ✚ The Polar Satellite Launch Vehicle (PSLV-C46) lifted-off from the First Launch Pad and injected RISAT-2B into an orbit of 556 km, about 15 minutes and 25 seconds after lift-off. The RISAT-2B is a radar imaging earth observation satellite, weighing about 615 kg.

Foot Notes:

- ✓ **About ISRO**
 - ◆ The Indian Space Research Organisation
 - ◆ ISRO Director: K. Sivan,
 - ◆ Headquarters: Bengaluru,
 - ◆ Established in: 1969.

5. ISRO chairman flags off shipment of India's largest liquid hydrogen storage tank

- ✚ ISRO Chairman K Sivan flagged off the shipment of India's largest liquid hydrogen storage tank at the VRV Asia Pacific's manufacturing plant at Sri City in Chittoor district of Andhra Pradesh.
- ✚ The storage capacity of the tank is 120 kilo liters. Liquid hydrogen is used as fuel for satellite launch vehicles
- ✚ VRV Asia Pacific manufactured the storage tank with a (LIN) shield, in a collaborative effort with SDSC SHAR, under the Make in India initiative.

Foot Notes:

- ✓ **About Andhra Pradesh**
 - ◆ Capitals: Hyderabad -Amaravati.
 - ◆ Chief Minister: N. Chandrababu Naidu
 - ◆ Governor: E.S.L Narsimhan.

6. IAF successfully test fires aerial version of BrahMos missile

- ✦ The Indian Air Force has successfully test fired the aerial version of the supersonic BrahMos cruise missile from a Su-30 MKI fighter aircraft.
- ✦ The 2.5 tonne air-to-surface missile has a range of around 300 km, and it will significantly enhance the IAF's combat capability, military officials said.
- ✦ The BrahMos cruise missile travels at a speed of Mach 2.8, nearly three times that of sound.

Foot Notes:

- ✓ **About Indian Air Force**
 - ◆ Founded: 08 Oct 1932
 - ◆ Headquarters: New Delhi, India
 - ◆ Air Chief Marshal :S. Krishnaswamy

7. Researchers suspects gas insulation could be protecting an ocean inside Pluto

- ✦ Researchers said that computer simulations provide compelling evidence that an insulating layer of gas hydrates could keep a subsurface ocean from freezing beneath Pluto's icy exterior. The researchers conducted computer simulations covering a timescale of 4.6 billion years when the solar system began to form.
- ✦ The simulations showed the thermal and structural evolution of Pluto's interior and the time required for a subsurface ocean to freeze and for the icy shell covering it to become uniformly thick.
- ✦ They simulated two scenarios: one where an insulating layer of gas hydrates existed between the ocean and the icy shell, and one where it did not.

Foot Notes:

- ✓ **About Sputnik Planitia**
 - ◆ In July 2015, NASA's New Horizons spacecraft flew through Pluto's system, providing the first-ever close-up images of this distant dwarf planet and its moons. The images showed Pluto's unexpected topography, including a white-colored ellipsoidal basin named Sputnik Planitia, located near the equator and roughly the size of Texas.

8. India bans Jamaat-ul-Mujahideen Bangladesh terror outfit

- ✦ The Jamaat-ul-Mujahideen Bangladesh (JMB), which was blamed for the terror attack at a cafe in Dhaka in 2016 in which 22 people including 17 foreigners were killed, has been declared as a banned terrorist organisation by the government.
- ✦ In a notification, the home ministry said the outfit has committed and promoted acts of terrorism and has been engaged in radicalization and recruitment of youths for terrorist activities in India.

Foot Notes:

- ✓ **About Bangladesh**
 - ◆ Capital: Dhaka
 - ◆ Currency: Bangladeshi taka
 - ◆ Prime Minister: Sheikh Hasina

Important days

1. May 20 observed as World Metrology Day

- ✚ World Metrology Day is observed on May 20, 2019 with a theme “The International System of Units – Fundamentally better”. This theme was chosen because last year on 16th November 2018, the General Conference on Weights and Measures agreed to revise the International System of Units (SI).
- ✚ The World Metrology Day was celebrated every year because of the signature of the Metre Convention on May 20, 1875.

Foot Notes:-

- ✓ International Organization of Legal Metrology (OIML)
- ✓ Headquarter: Paris, France
- ✓ International Bureau of Weights and Measures (BIPM)
 1. Location: Sevres, France
 2. Director: Martin Milton
 3. Motto: Use the measure

2. May 21: celebrated as Anti-terrorism day

- ✚ May 21, is chosen as Anti-terrorism day in India to commemorate the death Anniversary of former Prime Minister Rajiv Gandhi died in a terrorist attack.
- ✚ On this day Anti Terrorism pledge is taken in all the government offices and other public institutions.
- ✚ Rajiv Gandhi was assassinated in 1991 by a woman operative of the separatist Lankan Tamil outfit LTTE, who greeted him at a rally in Tamil Nadu's Sriperumbudur town with a bomb strapped to her chest.

Foot Notes:

- ✓ **About Rajiv Gandhi**
 - ◆ Mr. Rajiv Gandhi was the youngest Prime Minister of India.
 - ◆ Born: 20 August, 1944
 - ◆ Place of Birth: Bombay (now Mumbai), Maharashtra
 - ◆ Parents: Feroze Gandhi (Father) and Indira Gandhi (Mother)
- ✓ **About Tamil Nadu**
 - ◆ Capital and Largest city: Chennai (Madras)

- ◆ Districts: 33
- ◆ Governor: Banwarilal Purohit
- ◆ Chief Minister : Edappadi K. Palaniswami
- ◆ National Parks : Indira Gandhi, Gulf of Mannar Marine, Mukurthi

3. International Day for Biological Diversity: 22 May

- ✚ The UN General Assembly proclaimed 22 May, the date of the adoption of its text, as the International Day for Biological Diversity on 20 December 2000.
- ✚ The theme for International Day for Biological Diversity 2019 is 'Our Biodiversity, Our Food, Our Health'.

Foot Notes:

- ✓ **About UN General Assembly**
 - ◆ President: María Fernanda Espinosa
 - ◆ Headquarters: New York, New York, United States
 - ◆ Founder: United Nations
 - ◆ Founded: 1945, New York, United States
 - ◆ Abbreviation: GA; UNGA; AG
 - ◆ Subsidiaries: UNICEF, United Nations Development Programme, United Nations System Staff College

4. World Tortoise Day is observed on 23rd May

- ✚ World turtle day is observed on 23rd May. It is sponsored yearly since 2000 by American Tortoise Rescue.
- ✚ The aim is to bring attention to, and increase knowledge of and respect for, turtles and tortoises, and encourage human action to help them survive and thrive. This year the day spotlights on freshwater turtles.
- ✚ The herpetologists, one who studies about amphibians and reptiles, have launched a unique initiative to gather more information about India's freshwater turtles and tortoises.

Foot Notes:

- ✓ ◆ American Tortoise Rescue (ATR) is an animal rescue organization dedicated to the rescue, rehabilitation, adoption and protection of all tortoise and turtle species, and the protection of their environments. Located in Malibu, CA, ATR is a United States nonprofit corporation.
 - ◆ Founded: 1990

5. International Day to End Obstetric Fistula 23 May

- ✚ Obstetric fistula is one of the most serious and tragic injuries that can occur during childbirth. It is a hole between the birth canal and the bladder or rectum caused by prolonged, obstructed labour without treatment.

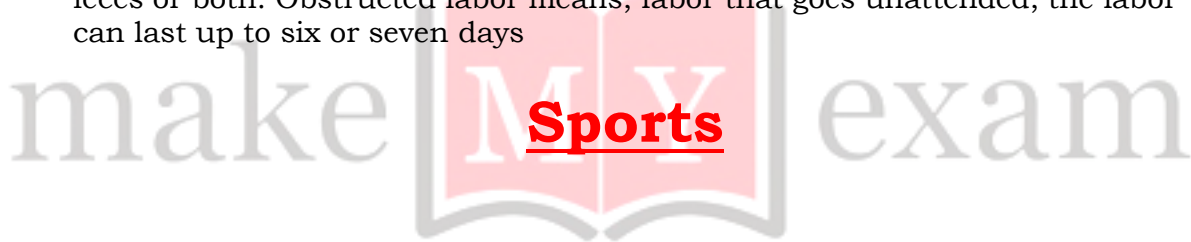
- ✦ The condition typically leaves women incontinent, and as a result they are often shunned by their communities. Sufferers often endure depression, social isolation and deepening poverty. Many women live with the condition for years – or even decades – because they cannot afford to obtain treatment.
- ✦ The theme for 2019 is “Fistula is a human rights violation, end it now”. In 2012, United Nations announced to celebrate May 23 as International Day to End Obstetric Fistula every year starting from 2013.

Foot Notes:✓ **About United Nations**

- ◆ The United Nations is an intergovernmental organization tasked with maintaining international peace and security,
- ◆ Founded: 24 Oct 1945
- ◆ Headquarters: New York
- ◆ Founders: Denmark • Turkey • Norway • Panama • Saudi Arabia • United Kingdom • Poland • Netherlands • Dominican Republic • Argentina

✓ **About Obstetric fistula**

- ◆ An obstetric fistula is a hole between the vagina and rectum or bladder that is caused by prolonged obstructed labor, leaving a woman incontinent of urine or feces or both. Obstructed labor means, labor that goes unattended, the labor can last up to six or seven days

**1. Badminton World Federation launched 2 new formats of Badminton**

- ✦ Recently, Badminton World Federation (BWF) launched two new formats of Badminton named as Air Badminton & Triples. BWF launched Air Badminton at Guangzhou with new dimensions of the court and an innovative shuttlecock called Air shuttle.
- ✦ The Air Badminton will be an outdoor game as compared to traditional badminton which is indoor games.
- ✦ In new Triples format, the match will be played between a team which consists of three players each with at least one female player in both the team.

Foot Notes:-

1. Badminton World Federation (BWF)
2. Headquarter: Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia
3. President: Poul-Erik Hoyer Larsen

2. Brooks Koepka returns to world No. 1 after fourth major golf title.

- ✦ Brooks Koepka returned to the top of the world golf rankings, after his US PGA Championship victory at Bethpage Black.
- ✦ He has now won 4 major titles in his last 8 starts and is the 1st man to ever hold back-to-back titles in two majors at the same time.

Foot Notes:

- ◆ Dustin Johnson & Justin Rose: at 2nd & 3rd ranks respectively.

3. Shakib tops ODI all-rounders list, no Indian in top 10

- ✦ Senior Bangladesh cricketer Shakib Al Hasan jumped to the top of the latest MRF Tyres ICC ODI rankings for all-rounders, which doesn't feature a single Indian in the top-10 chart.
- ✦ In the three matches of the series, Shakib totalled 140 runs, including two unbeaten half-centuries and also picked up two wickets.
- ✦ Shakib now has 359 points, 20 clear of Afghanistan's Rashid Khan, the previous holder of the top ranking, who has now slipped to No. 2.

Foot Notes:✓ **About Bangladesh**

- ◆ Capital: Dhaka
- ◆ Currency: Bangladeshi taka
- ◆ Prime Minister: Sheikh Hasina

4. India bags 57 medals at India Open International tournament

- ✦ India bags a total of 57 medals including 12 Gold, 18 Silver and 27 Bronze at India Open International Boxing tournament in Guwahati. MC Mary Kom, Shiva Thapa, L Sarita Devi, and Naman Tanwar won gold in their respective finals. The London Olympic bronze medallist blew away the challenge of Vanlal Duati in a facile 5-0 win.
- ✦ This was Mary's second gold in the tournament, having won in 48 kg last year in the capital. On the other hand, Deepak defeated Govind Kumar in 49 kg final while in 52 kg category- Amit Panghal defeated Sachin.

Awards

1. Indian peacekeeper to be honoured posthumously with UN medal

- ✦ Police Officer Jitender Kumar made the supreme sacrifice while serving in the UN Organisation Stabilisation Mission in the Democratic Republic of the Congo (MONUSCO).
- ✦ He will be honoured with the Dag Hammarskjold Medal on Friday as the world organisation observes the International Day of United Nations Peacekeepers.

- ✦ An Indian peacekeeper is among the 119 military, police and civilian personnel who will be honoured this year with a prestigious UN medal this year for courage and sacrifice in the line of duty.

Foot Notes:

- ✓ **About United Nation Organisation**
 - ◆ Headquarters: New York, New York, United States
 - ◆ Founded: 24 October 1945,
 - ◆ Official languages: Arabic; Chinese; English; French; Russian; Spanish;
 - ◆ Secretary general: António Guterres

2. 2nd India Open Int'l Boxing Tournament begins in Guwahati

- ✦ The Second India Open International Boxing Tournament began at Karmabir Nabin Chandra Bordoloi Indoor Stadium in Guwahati from Monday. The five-day boxing tournament will continue till Friday.
- ✦ With the international boxing tournament being held in a northeastern state of the country, the people of the region awaiting participation of a lot star boxers like Mary Kom, Shiva Thapa and Lovlina Borgohain.

Foot Notes:

- ✓ **About Assam**
 - ◆ Capital: Dispur
 - ◆ Chief minister: Sarbananda Sonowal
 - ◆ Official song: O Mur Apunar Desh
 - ◆ Governor: Jagdish Mukhi

3. Oman Author Jokha Alharthi Wins Booker International Prize

- ✦ Omani author Jokha Alharthi has become the first Arabic-language writer to win the prestigious Man Booker International Prize for *Celestial Bodies*, a novel that deals with family connections and history in the coming-of-age account of three sisters.
- ✦ Alharthi's book beat five other shortlisted novels from Europe and South America to take the prize, which celebrates translated fiction from around the world and included a \$64,000 award divided equally between author and translator.

Foot Notes:

- ✓ **About Oman**
 - ◆ Capital: Muscat
 - ◆ Currency: Omani rial
 - ◆ Government: Absolute monarchy, Parliamentary system, Unitary state, Islamic state
 - ◆ Points of interest: Sultan Qaboos Grand Mosque, Sharqiya Sands.

4. Bengaluru based Doctor Hema Divakar gets 'Global Asian of the Year' Award for Contribution to Women's Healthcare Ecosystem

- ✚ Bengaluru based doctor Hema Divakar received the 'Global Asian of the Year 2018-19' Award for women services and contribution towards Women's Healthcare Ecosystem.
- ✚ Dr. Hema was conferred the award at the Asian Business & Social Forum 2019 under the 'In Service of the Society and the Nation' category from UAE's Trade Promotion Director Mohammed Naser Hamdan A1 Zaabi.

Foot Notes:

- ✓ **About Asian Awards**
 - ◆ Country: United Kingdom
 - ◆ Awarded for : Honouring Asian Excellence
 - ◆ Presented by: Paul Sagoo
 - ◆ First awarded: 2010

LIST OF ALL INDIA TOPPERS FROM IBT

NAME	EXAM	ROLL NO.	RANK	PHOTO
SUBHOJIT CHAKRABORTY	SBI PO - 2016	38407295966	1 st	
SACHIN ZANWAR	SBI PO - 2018	2550139022	2 nd	
SHALINI SINGH	IBPS PO - 2017	1580179828	4 th	
LOVE GUPTA	SSC CGL - INSPECTOR	2201295176	6 th	
MOHA VASHISTHA	SSC CGL - INSPECTOR	3840729596	8 th	
AASTHA SINGH	SSC CGL - INSPECTOR	2201399971	12 th	