



WEEKLY G.K.

09 September – 15 September
(2019)

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National News

1. Telangana CM presents budget in legislative assembly

- ✦ The Chief Minister of Telangana K Chandrasekhar Rao has presented the annual budget for the year 2019-20. He downsized the budget to 1 lakh 46 thousand 492 crore rupees.
- ✦ K Chandrasekhar Rao government had to consider the financial crisis which is looming large around the country and forced to take practical decisions.
- ✦ He assured people in his hour-long budget speech that the government will make all-out efforts to fulfil the assurances given during elections.

Foot Notes:

About Telangana

1. **Capital:** Hyderabad
2. **Official song:** Jaya Jaya He Telangana
3. **Chief minister:** K. Chandrashekar Rao

2. Madras High Court Chief Justice Sends Resignation Papers To President

- ✦ Madras High Court Chief Justice VK Tahiramani sent her resignation papers to President Ram Nath Kovind three days after the Supreme Court collegium rejected her request to reconsider her transfer to the Meghalaya High Court. The decision to transfer her was taken by the collegium based on the feedback received from the Madras High Court.
- ✦ The collegium, headed by Chief Justice of India Ranjan Gogoi, had recommended her transfer to the Meghalaya High Court on August 28. The collegium already transferred Chief Justice of Meghalaya High Court, Justice AK Mittal, to the Madras High Court.
- ✦ The collegium carefully gone through and taken into consideration all relevant factors. On reconsideration, the collegium is of the considered view that it is not possible to accede to her request. The collegium accordingly reiterates its recommendation dated August 28, 2019 for transfer of Justice V K Tahiramani to Meghalaya High Court.

3. PM inaugurated AURIC

- ✦ Prime Minister Narendra Modi inaugurated Aurangabad Industrial City (AURIC), India's first industrial smart city, in Aurangabad, Maharashtra. The programme aims to boost the Government of India's Smart Cities programme.
- ✦ PM Modi inaugurated Auric hall. The six-storey building will act as the nerve centre for the smart city and monitor the developments across the region. He also launched the Auric chatbot. It will help individuals get their problems addressed by the city administration, all online.
- ✦ AURIC is India's first greenfield smart city. Aurangabad has been planned to be the new benchmark of industrial progress. It is situated in the underdeveloped Marathwada region. The 10,000-acre big AURIC is a part of the under-construction Delhi-Mumbai Industrial Corridor (DMIC). The city is being promoted as a major industrial hub on the DMIC.

Foot Notes:

About AURIC

1. **Chairman :** Shri Satish Gavai
2. **Managing Director:** Shri Kailash Jadhav.

4. Code of Conduct introduced for non-official directors at PSBs

- ✦ The Finance Ministry has introduced a Code of Conduct for non-official directors of public sector banks. Under the new rules, the PSBs board will also have to send an annual performance report that rates a director based on professional and ethical conduct, and contribution to the board.
- ✦ The performance evaluation by peers will measure the director on various parameters including avoidance of direct or indirect conflict of interest, acting according to rules in the best interest of the bank, avoiding any gain to self or associates and maintaining confidentiality.
- ✦ The above measures taken by the department of financial services at the finance ministry aims to improve corporate governance in banks.

Foot Notes:

Union Finance Minister: Nirmala Sitharaman.

5. World's highest marathon "Ladakh Marathon" held in Leh

- ✦ The 8th edition of Ladakh Marathon was held in Leh. It is the highest marathon in the world as it is held at over 11,000 feet above the mean sea level.
- ✦ The Marathon was held in the categories of 42 Km Full Marathon, 21 Km half marathon and 7 km long Run for Fun. Over 6000 runners from 25 countries participated in the four categories of Ladakh Marathon.
- ✦ The 9th Edition to be held in 2020 will be a qualifying race for the Abbot World Marathon Majors.

6. Prime Minister to Launch Kisan Man Dhan Yojana on the 12th of September

- ✦ Prime Minister Narendra Modi launched the Kisan Maan Dhan Yojana on the 12th of September at Ranchi, Jharkhand.
- ✦ The Scheme shall secure the lives of 5 Crore Small and Marginal Farmers by providing a minimum pension of Rs 3000 per month to attain 60 years of age.
- ✦ The scheme has an outlay of Rs 10,774 Crore for the next three years. The small and marginal farmers who are currently between the ages of 18 to 40 years can apply for the scheme.

About Kisan Maan Dhan Yojana :

1. Pradhan Mantri Kisan Maan-Dhan Yojana (PM-KMY) is an old age pension scheme for all land holding Small and Marginal Farmers (SMFs) in the country.
2. It is a voluntary and contributory pension scheme for the entry age group of 18 to 40 years.

7. Two UTs J&K, Ladakh will have a common high court

- ✦ State Judicial Academy of Jammu & Kashmir said that J&K and Ladakh will become two separate Union territories (UTs) from 31 October but it will have a common high court. This order was issued by the State Judicial Academy's Director Rajeev Gupta.

About J&k :

1. **Capital :** Srinagar & Jammu
2. **Governor :** Satya Pal Malik
3. **Parliamentary constituency :** Rajya Sabha (4) Lok Sabha (6)

About Ladakh :

1. **Districts:** Kargil, Leh

8. Gurugram Police ties up with tech giant Google

- ✦ The Gurugram traffic police have tied up with Google maps for real time traffic updates. The traffic related information will be shared in real time for public use.
- ✦ The information such as planned road closures, diversions, traffic alerts regarding road crash etc. will be shared by Gurugram traffic police with Google maps. Responding to the situation, Google maps will immediately update the information on its public maps.
- ✦ The basic idea behind this arrangement is to prompt commuters to make intelligent choices in order to make their commuting experience hassle-free.

Foot Notes:

Chief Executive Officer of Google: Sundar Pichai.

9. PM to inaugurate Sahibganj Multi Modal Terminal at Jharkhand

- ✦ Sahibganj Multi-Modal Terminal (MMT) will be inaugurated by PM Modi with the Minister of Shipping & Chemical Fertilizers Mansukh Mandaviya on 12th September in Jharkhand.
- ✦ It is a two-way data communication system and India's second riverine Multi-Modal terminal on the Ganga river. The MMT was built at a cost of Rs.290 crores in 2 years.
- ✦ Sahibganj Multi-Modal Terminal will play an important role in the transportation of domestic coal from the local mines in Rajmahal to varied thermal power plants settled on National Waterway 1 (NW-1)
- ✦ Apart from coal, stone chips, fertilizers, cement and sugar square measure alternative commodities are expected to be transported through the terminal.

Foot Notes:

About Jharkhand

1. Capital: Ranchi

2. Chief minister: Raghubar Das

10. Jammu and Kashmir topped the highest consumption of iodized salt

- ✦ Jammu & Kashmir topped the highest consumption of iodized salt and Tamil Nadu ranked last as the lowest consumption of iodized salt in the country. The study has shown 76.3% of Indian households use iodized salt with fifteen components of per million of iodine.
- ✦ Gujarat produces 71% of salt in the country. It is followed by Rajasthan at 17%. Tamil Nadu, being the third-largest producer of Salt in India, produces 11%. The rest of the country produces 1% of the salt produced
- ✦ The survey was conducted by Nutrition International unitedly with the All India Institute of Medical Sciences (AIIMS) and also the Indian Coalition for the management of Iodine Deficiency Disorders (ICCIDD). The survey tested the iodine content in samples of preparation salt from households to estimate the coverage of iodized salt.

11. "CHC Farm Machinery" App launched for farmers

- ✦ Minister of State for Agriculture, Parshottam Rupala has launched a multilingual Mobile App "CHC Farm Machinery" during a conference on Crop Residue Management in New Delhi.
- ✦ The app will allow farmers to avail custom hiring services of CHCs located in a radius of 50 km. With the help of app, the farmers will now be able to get affordable access to cutting-edge technology at their doorsteps.

12. Haryana CM launches two insurance schemes for traders

- ✦ The State Government of Haryana launched two insurance schemes for registered small and medium traders. The schemes are Mukhyamantri Vyapari Samuhik Niji Durghatna Beema Yojana and Mukhyamantri Vyapari Kshatipurti Beema Yojana.
- ✦ The insurance cover of Rs 5 lakh would be provided under the Mukhyamantri Vyapari Samuhik Niji Durghatna Beema Yojana. The insurance cover ranging from Rs 5 lakh to Rs 25 lakh would be provided under the Mukhyamantri Vyapari Kshatipurti Beema Yojana.
- ✦ The traders registered under the Haryana Goods and Service Tax (HGST) Act 2017 would be covered under these schemes. The premium of people under both schemes would be paid by the State government.

Foot Notes:**About Haryana**

1. **Capital:** Chandigarh
2. **Governor:** Satyadev Narayan Arya
3. **Chief minister:** Manohar Lal Khattar

13. Gujarat retains top spot in 'logistics ease' index

- ✦ Gujarat has retained its first position in the country in the 'Logistics Ease Across Different States' (LEADS) report 2019. This is the second consecutive year the state has bagged the number one spot in the ranking. Punjab and Andhra Pradesh are ranked second and third, respectively.
- ✦ Himachal Pradesh stood last on the chart. Bihar ranked at 20th position. The report, published by the Union ministry of commerce and industry, prepared with the help of consultancy firm Deloitte.
- ✦ Among the union territories, Chandigarh occupied the top position followed by Delhi and Puducherry.
- ✦ Among hilly states, Tripura retained the top spot. It was followed by Sikkim and Arunachal Pradesh.
- ✦ The index was based on an analysis of perceptions with regard to nine parameters, including infrastructure, quality of logistics, services, promptness of cargo delivery, regulatory processes and safety of cargo.

Foot Notes:**About Gujarat**

1. **Capital:** Gandhinagar
2. **CM:** Vijay Rupani
3. **Governor:** Acharya Dev Vrat

14. UP govt announces its maiden Agriculture Export policy, 2019

- Uttar Pradesh Government has announced its maiden Agriculture Export policy, 2019 to double the income of farmers in the state.
- Government aims at doubling the export of agricultural commodities by 2024 with the help of farmer producer organisations and various steps like giving incentives and promoting startups.

Foot Notes:**About Uttar Pradesh**

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

International News & Foreign Affairs

1. Heartland International Film Festival and USA to explore Special Focus on India

- ✚ The representatives from the International Film Fraternity of Toronto International Film Festival 2019. The important discussions includes the participation at the Golden Jubilee Edition of IFFI with the Ease of filming in India recent initiatives to promote film facilitation in the form of single window clearance and the growth potential of different verticals under the M&E Sector of India.
- ✚ The special focus on India for the Festival commencing from 10th October 2019 under the Foreign Language Category.
- ✚ The discussion with senior representatives from the Global-gate Entertainment – Mr William Pfeiffer & Ms Meg Thompson - focused on the policy framework of films under the Ministry of Information & Broadcasting, Government of India – especially in the context of ease of filming in India.

Foot Notes:

About USA

1. **Capital:** Washington, D.C.
2. **President:** Donald Trump

2. 6th India-China Strategic Economic Dialogue 2019 Held In New Delhi

- ✚ Three day organised 6th India-China Strategic Economic Dialogue (SED) was held in New Delhi from September 7-9, 2019 between India and China. The Indian delegation was led by Dr. Rajiv Kumar, Vice Chairman (VC) of National Institution of Transforming India Aayog (NITI).
- ✚ The delegation from China was led by Mr. He Lifeng, chairman of National Development and Reform Commission (NDRC)
- ✚ The dialogue was held among Joint Working Groups (JWG) on Infrastructure, Energy, High-Tech, Resource Conservation, Pharmaceuticals and Policy coordination. Senior representatives of policy making, industry and other fields participated in the dialogue.

Foot Notes:

About NITI aayog:

1. **Formed-** 1 January 2015.
2. **Headquarters-** New Delhi.
3. **Chairperson-** Narendra Modi.
4. **Chief Executive Officer (CEO)-** Amitabh Kant.

Recently in June 2019, Amitabh Kant was given extension of 2 years till June 30, 2021 as its CEO.

3. Committee on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities held at Geneva

- ✚ The UN Committee on Convention on Rights of Persons with Disabilities (CRPD) in its 22nd Session took up India's initial Country Report for consideration at UNHRC in Geneva.
- ✚ India is a signatory of the United Nations Convention on Rights of Persons with Disabilities (UNCRPD). In November 2015, India submitted its First Country Report on Status of Disability in India which was ratified in pursuance of Article 35 of the Convention.

4. SIWI organised 2019 World water week observed in Stockholm

- ✦ Week-long conference on global water issues the 2019 World Water Week organised by the Stockholm International Water Institute(SIWI) observed in Stockholm, Sweden from 25 to 30 August
- ✦ The theme is Water for society – Including all.

About SIWI

1. **Headquarters location:** Stockholm, Sweden
2. **Type of business:** Think tank

5. NRI industrialist Rami Ranger nominated to upper house in UK Parliament

- ✦ Leading NRI entrepreneur Rami Ranger was nominated to Britain's House of Lords for his outstanding service to the business fraternity, the Conservative Party and the public.
- ✦ Former Prime Minister Theresa May had recommended Ranger's name for the peerage in her resignation letter.
- ✦ Presently, Ranger is the chairman of the British Sikh Association.

Foot Notes:**About UK**

1. **Capital:** London
2. **Prime minister:** Boris Johnson
3. **Currency:** Pound sterling

6. SL's new luxury train Pulathisi Express by Indian railways 'make in india' product flagged off

- ✦ The new luxurious train of Sri Lanka(SL), Pulathisi Express which was produced under the 'Make in India' project of the Indian Railways was launched.
- ✦ The president of SL Shri Maithripala Sirisena flagged off the new train from Fort railway station in Colombo to Polonnaruwa, North central province of SL.
- ✦ The train was supplied under Line of Credit (LoC) by Rail India Technical and Economic Service(RITES) ltd and was manufactured by the Integral Coach Factory (ICF) in Chennai.

Foot Notes:**About Sri Lanka**

1. **Capitals:** Colombo, Sri Jayawardenepura Kotte
2. **Currency:** Sri Lankan rupee
3. **Prime Minister:** Ranil Wickremesinghe

7. Thailand 1st in Asia to roll out plain cigarette packaging

- ✦ Thailand became the first Asian nation to unveil plain cigarette packaging to reduce the appeal of smoking and complied with the World Health Organisation's (WHO) guidelines.
- ✦ In 2012, Australia became the first country to require tobacco products to be sold without colourful brand logos.

About Thailand

1. **Prime Minister:** Prayut Chan-o-cha
2. **Capital:** Bangkok
3. **Currency:** Baht

8. Cryodrakon boreas is the largest flying animal of all time

- ✦ Scientists have unveiled a newly discovered species of a pterosaur, the largest ever flying animal according to a study conducted by Queen Mary University in London.
- ✦ These species come from the Azhdarchid group of pterosaurs. The pterosaur's name Cryodrakon boreas roughly translates to 'frozen dragon of the north wind'.
- ✦ Cryodrakon boreas is the largest flying animal of all time, With a wingspan of 10 m and weighing 250 kg, researchers reported in the Journal of Vertebrate Paleontology.

9. India Russia signed Contract for Modernisation of Radar and Missile Systems

- ✦ India-Russia signed Contract for Modernisation of Radar and Missile Systems of Delhi Class of Indian Navy Ships.
- ✦ Under the welfare of labor modernization, the renovation scheme would be undertaken in India in producing important hardware partnerships with the Indian trade.
- ✦ The contract for modernization of Air Defence advanced Kashmir and radar Fregat MAE on P-15 of ships was signed between the Ministry of Defence and JSC Rosoboronexport land in Delhi.

Foot Notes:**About Russia**

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

10. Marriott to ban small plastic bottle toiletries from December 2020

- ✦ Marriott International, the world's largest hotel chain, it will eliminate small plastic bottles of shampoo, conditioner and bath gel from its hotel rooms worldwide by December 2020. They'll be replaced with larger bottles or wall-mounted dispensers, depending on the hotel.
- ✦ Marriott has more than 7,000 hotels in 131 countries under 30 brands, ranging from SpringHill Suites and Residence Inn to Sheraton and Ritz-Carlton. It says it will be eliminating about 500 million small bottles each year, or 1.7 million pounds of plastic.
- ✦ Marriott has wanted to get rid of small bottles for years, President and CEO Arne Sorenson said. There are just too many of them, he said, and they're difficult to recycle because of the time it takes to clean them out.

Foot Notes:**About Marriott**

1. **Owner:** Marriott family
2. **Headquarters:** Bethesda, Maryland, United States
3. **CEO:** Arne M. Sorenson
4. **Subsidiaries:** Sheraton Hotels and Resorts, Starwood

11. China Sees Decline In Electric Vehicle Sales For Second Consecutive Month

- ✦ China has reported a decline of 16 per cent in electric vehicle sales for the month of August. Last month the cumulative sales of all pure-electric, fuel-celled, and plugin hybrids vehicles stood at 85,000 units the China Association of Automobile Manufacturers, compared to 100,000+ vehicles sold during the same month in 2018.
- ✦ In addition to the decline in year-on-year (YoY) sales, China also registered month-on-month (MoM) drop of 4.7 per cent compared to the total EV sales in July 2019.
- ✦ This for the second straight month the EV sales have gone down in China, following the local government's decision scale back subsidies.

Foot Notes:**About China**

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

New Appointments and Person in News

1. Rajiv Kumar appointed as the new MD of Microsoft India

- ✦ Rajiv Kumar appointed as the new managing director of Microsoft India (R&D) Pvt Ltd (MIRPL).
- ✦ He will replace Anil Bhansali.

About Microsoft:

1. **CEO:** Satya Nadella
2. **Headquarters:** Redmond, Washington, United States
3. **Founders:** Bill Gates, Paul Allen

2. Nissan CEO Saikawa resigns

- ✦ Nissan Motor CEO Hiroto Saikawa has resigned his position. His resignation after an internal investigation that revealed falsified documents that boosted his compensation in 2013.
- ✦ The change increased his compensation by about 96.5 million yen (roughly \$900,000 at that time), based on current foreign exchange rates.

About Nissan motors

1. **Headquarters:** Yokohama, Kanagawa Prefecture, Japan
2. **Subsidiaries:** Infiniti, Nismo, Autech, Nissan Shatai, Jatco, MORE
3. **Parent organization:** Renault

3. P K Sinha appointed principal advisor to PM

- ✦ Former Cabinet Secretary P K Sinha has been appointed the principal advisor to Prime Minister Narendra Modi. Sinha was last month appointed as Officer on Special Duty (OSD) in the PMO.
- ✦ P.K. Sinha has been appointed as Principal Advisor to Prime Minister Narendra Modi with effect from September 11, 2019. Sinha is currently functioning as the Officer on Special Duty (OSD) in the Prime Minister's Office.
- ✦ The Appointments Committee of the Cabinet (ACC) has approved the appointment of P K Sinha, currently functioning as OSD in the Prime Minister's Office, as Principal Advisor to Prime Minister with effect from 11th September, 2019, according to the order.

4. PM of St. Vincent and Grenadines visits India

- Prime Minister of St. Vincent and Grenadines Dr.Hon'ble Ralph Everard Gonsalves met Indian Prime Minister Narendra Modi during his 5-day visit to India. PM Gonsalves also participated in the high-level United Nations Convention on Combating Desertification (UNCCD) Symposium held at New Delhi.

- PM Gonsalves appreciated India's developmental cooperation with the region and for India's prompt assistance subsequent to natural calamities. St. Vincent and Grenadines is a non-permanent member of the UN security council (UNSC).
- The two leaders agreed to cooperate together within the areas of ability development, training, education, finance, culture and disaster management.

Foot Notes:**About St. Vincent and Grenadines:**

1. St. Vincent and Grenadines is the smallest island country located in the Caribbean nation.
2. **Monarch:** Elizabeth II
3. **Governor-General:** Susan Dougan
4. **Prime Minister:** Ralph Gonsalves
5. **Capital:** Kingstown
6. **Official languages:** English
7. **Vernacular language:** Vincentian Creole
8. **Currency:** East Caribbean dollar (XCD)

5. Navdeep Singh Suri honoured with First Class Order of Zayed II

- ✚ Navdeep Singh Suri, India's envoy to United Arab Emirates, has been honoured with the First Class Order of Zayed II award.
- ✚ He was awarded by UAE President Sheikh Khalifa bin Zayed Al Nahyan for his contribution to the development and strengthening of friendly relations and co-operation between India and UAE during his tenure.

Foot Notes:**About UAE**

1. **Prime Minister:** Mohammed bin Rashid Al Maktoum
2. **Currency:** United Arab Emirates dirham
3. **Capital:** Abu Dhabi

6. Google Doodle Celebrates 166th Birthday Of Hans Christian Gram

- ✚ Google is celebrating the 166th birth anniversary of microbiologist Hans Christian Joachim Gram with a doodle.
- ✚ Gram was born on September 13, 1853, in Denmark's Copenhagen. Gram is best known for pioneering the method of the Gram stain to identify bacteria.
- ✚ The Danish microbiologist earned an M.D. from the University of Copenhagen in 1878. He then traveled through Europe between 1883 to 1885 studying pharmacology and bacteriology.

Foot Notes:**About Google**

1. **Headquarters:** Mountain View, California, United States
2. **CEO:** Sundar Pichai

7. Kapil Dev appointed as chancellor of Rai Sports University

- ✚ The Haryana Government has appointed cricket legend Kapil Dev as the first Chancellor of Sports University, Rai (Sonapat).
- ✚ The Haryana Assembly recently established Haryana's first sports university at Rai.
- ✚ Kapil Dev was the captain of India's 1983 Cricket World Cup winning team.

Foot Notes:**About Haryana**

1. **Chief Minister of Haryana:** Manohar Lal Khattar
2. **Governor:** Satyadev Narayan Arya.

Banking

1. RBI to launch a mobile app to aid the visually impaired

- ✦ Reserve Bank Of India (RBI) is to implement the idea to develop a mobile application with an aim to help the visually impaired people to identify currency notes. For this, RBI has selected Daffodil Pvt Ltd.
- ✦ RBI declared that it would explore the feasibility to develop a suitable device or mechanism for aiding the visually impaired in the identification of Indian banknotes.
- ✦ In May 2019, the Central bank solicited bids from technology firms for developing the mobile application.

Foot Notes:

About RBI

1. **Headquarters:** Mumbai
2. **Founder:** British Raj
3. **Founded:** 1 April 1935, Kolkata
4. **Governor:** Shaktikanta Das

2. SBI cuts lending rates 10 bps

- ✦ SBI announced its fifth-rate cut on its marginal cost of funds based lending rate by 10 basis points (bps) across all tenors.
- ✦ The interest rate is now 8.15%. It will be effective from 10 September 2019.
- ✦ The reduction in the lending rate is expected to profit all the current SBI clients who have a home, auto and other category loans of MCLR.

Foot Notes:

About SBI:

1. **Founded :** 2 July 1955
2. **Headquarteres :** Mumbai, Maharashtra
3. **Chairman of SBI :** Rajnish Kumar.

3. IPPB launched AePS services

- ✦ India Post Payments Bank (IPPB) rolled out Aadhaar enabled payment system (AePS) services.
- ✦ IPPB become the single largest platform in the country for providing interoperable banking services to the customers of any bank.

About IPPB:

1. **Founded:** 1 September 2018
2. **Headquarters location:** New Delhi
3. **Parent organization:** India Post
4. **Key person:** Suresh P. Sethi

Science Tech & Defence

1. Chandrayaan 2 Lander has been located in Moon

- ✦ Chandrayaan-2's Lander module Vikram has been located on the lunar surface. The Lander was located by the image sent captured by the on-board camera of Chandrayaan-2 orbiter. The image also showed that rover Pragyan is housed inside it. The Indian space agency also said the data that was received is being analyzed.
- ✦ The camera of the orbiter has the highest resolution camera of 0.3m in any lunar mission so far. It is expected that it will provide high-resolution images which will be immensely useful to the global scientific community.
- ✦ The orbiter has 8 payloads to map the lunar surface and study the outer atmosphere of the Moon. The payloads of the Orbiter will conduct remote-sensing observations from a 100 km orbit.

About ISRO

1. **Headquarters:** Bengaluru
2. **Founder:** Vikram Sarabhai
3. **Founded:** 15 August 1969

2. Vikram Lander is tilted and not broken

- ✦ The Indian Space Research Organisation (ISRO) said that the Lander is tilted and not broken.
- ✦ ISRO is trying to establish contact with the Vikram lander. The lunar probe made a hard landing during its final descent to the moon on 7 September.
- ✦ ISRO also said that the Chandrayaan-2 mission has achieved 90-95% of its objectives. Also, the data thus generated would be useful for the global scientific community.

About Chandrayaan 2

1. **Launch date:** 22 July 2019
2. **Launch site:** Satish Dhawan Space Centre Second Launch Pad
3. **Rocket:** Geosynchronous Satellite Launch Vehicle Mark III
4. **Manufacturer:** Indian Space Research Organisation (ISRO)

3. INS Khanderi to be commissioned into the Indian Navy

- ✦ India's 2nd Scorpene-class submarine, INS Khanderi will be commissioned into the Indian Navy by Defence Minister Rajnath Singh.
- ✦ The conventional diesel-electric submarine has been manufactured by Mazagon Dock Shipbuilders Ltd in Mumbai.
- ✦ The first Scorpene-class submarine INS Kalvari was commissioned into the Indian Navy in December 2017.

Foot Notes:

Chief of the Naval Staff: Admiral Karambir Singh.

4. Water found on a potentially life-friendly alien planet

- ✦ Water has been found by scientists in the atmosphere of a potentially habitable super-Earth. The exoplanet, named K2-18b, is twice the size and eight times the mass of Earth. K2-18b is the first planet outside the solar system in the habitable zone of its star.
- ✦ The discovery was published in a paper in a scientific journal, Nature Astronomy by researchers from University College London (UCL).

- ✚ The paper revealed that scientists studied the atmosphere of K2-18b, a distant super-Earth and for the first time discovered water vapor in its atmosphere and temperature that could potentially support life.

5. Army Exercise Maitree-2019 to further bolster India and Thailand Military ties

- ✚ India and Thailand will conduct the Joint Military Exercise MAITREE-2019 from 16-29 September 2019 at Foreign Training Node, Umroi, Meghalaya. Over 50 soldiers from each Navy will be participating in the exercise.
- ✚ Exercise Maitree-2019 from September 16 will be third consecutive military engagement between the two country's forces within a month demonstrating India's warm ties with Thailand.
- ✚ Indian Army is prepared to reach Thailand for Exercise Maitree 2019 next week with the Royal Thailand Army (RTA).

Foot Notes:

About Thailand

Prime Minister: Prayut Chan-o-cha

Capital: Bangkok

Currency: Baht

6. DRDO successfully tests indigenous anti-tank guided missile (MPATGM)

- ✚ The Defence Research and Development Organisation (DRDO) successfully flight tested an indigenously-developed low weight, fire and forget Man-Portable Antitank Guided Missile (MPATGM) in the ranges of Kurnool, Andhra Pradesh.
- ✚ This is the third series of successful testing of MPATGM. The missile is incorporated with state-of-the-art Infrared Imaging Seeker along with advanced avionics.
- ✚ The test paves the way for the Army to have developed third-generation man-portable Anti-Tank Guided Missile indigenously.

Foot Notes:

About DRDO

1. **DRDO Chairman:** G Satheesh Reddy

2. **Established:** 1958

3. **Headquarters:** New Delhi.

7. DRDO hands over second 'Netra' (AEWC) aircraft to IAF

- ✚ The Defence Research Development Organization (DRDO) has handed over the second airborne warning plane, Netra, to the Indian Air Force.
- ✚ The Netra, an Airborne Early Warning and Control (AEWC) aircraft, it is useful for surveillance, tracking, identification and classification of airborne and sea surface targets and is useful in detecting incoming ballistic missile threats.
- ✚ The Netra had played a stellar role during the Balakot airstrikes that had been carried out by the IAF in February this year. It provided surveillance and radar coverage to the five Mirage jets that bombed terror launch pads in Balakot in Khyber-Pakhtunkhwa province in Pakistan.

Foot Notes:

About DRDO

1. **Chairman of DRDO:** Dr G. Satheesh Reddy

2. **Headquarters:** New Delhi

3. **Founded :** 1958.

4. **Motto of DRDO:** "Strength's Origin is in Science.

9. Sixteen members of CISF successfully summited Mt. Satopanth peak

- ✦ A team of 16 members of the Central Industrial Security Force (CISF) successfully completed Mount Satopanth's peak climbing. The CISF members committed the expedition to Fit India Movement and Women Empowerment which were initiated by the Prime Minister of India.
- ✦ The aim of the expedition was to unfold the message of empowering girls through mountain climbing to stay spirit of journey alive in effect.
- ✦ The team pushed their limit and achieved their goal by exposing themselves to the very best order of mental and physical challenges, including exposure to low atmospheric pressure, thin air, sub-zero temperatures, incessant snow blizzards and lots of alternative harsh climatic conditions.

Foot Notes:**About CISF team**

1. The CISF has a sixteen members
2. The team was led by Shri Raghubir Lal DIG.

10. Russia terminates robot Fedor after space odyssey

- ✦ It's mission over for a robot called Fedor that Russia blasted to the International Space Station. The developers admitted that he could not replace astronauts on space walks. Fedor, or Final Experimental Demonstration Object Research, was built to assist space station astronauts.
- ✦ The silvery anthropomorphic robot cannot fulfil its assigned task to replace human astronauts on long and risky space walks, Dudorov said.
- ✦ Fedor, or Final Experimental Demonstration Object Research, was built to assist space station astronauts.

Foot Notes:**About Russia**

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

11. ISRO, Israel's SpaceIL may exchange notes on each other's lander 'crashes' on moon

- ✦ The Indian Space Research Organisation (ISRO) announced that it is to exchange notes with Israel's private space center, SpaceIL, the two countries are planning to exchange notes and discuss the factors that led to the failure of the Lander's landing.
- ✦ According to the report, after ISRO's failure analysis committee finishes its inquiry into how and why the Vikram lander lost the communication link with the master control room, ISRO and SpaceIL are planning to exchange notes to find out the common factors in the powered descent of both the landers that caused them to lose communication links in the final phase of the landing process, at least two scientists familiar with the ISRO's plans said.
- ✦ ISRO is also seeking to find out how the sensors installed on the Vikram lander behaved during the powered descent towards the lunar surface.

Foot Notes:**About ISRO**

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

12. India joins the Global AMR Research and Development Hub

- ✦ India become a member of the Global Antimicrobial Resistance (AMR) Research and Development (R&D) Hub. The announcement was made by the Department of Biotechnology, Ministry of Science & Technology in New Delhi
- ✦ The Global Antimicrobial Resistance Research and Development hub now has 16 member nations. The hub also has the European Commission, two philanthropic foundations as members and four international organisations as observers.
- ✦ The partnership works to address challenges and improve coordination and collaboration in the global antimicrobial resistance research and development. The issue of antimicrobial resistance requires global action with active participation from all world regions and One Health sectors.

13. Govt plans to link social media accounts to the central database

- ✦ The govt besides the National Intelligence Grid (NATGRID) plans to connect to social media with records including immigration entry, banking, and phone numbers and all database information in one platform case.
- ✦ The National Intelligence Grid was first began in 2009 with a spending limit of Rs.2,800 crore. About 10 central agencies like Intelligence Bureau (IB), Research and Analysis Wing (R&AW) and others will approach the information in a secured manner.
- ✦ After Mr.Patnaik resignation, NATGRID is presently headed by IAS Ashish Gupta. NATGRID's information recover center in Bengaluru has been built its office complex in South Delhi is nearing fulfillment.

Important days

1. World Suicide Prevention Day 2019 is observed on 10 September

- ✦ World Suicide Prevention Day 2019 is observed on 10 September every year. The day aims to raise awareness of the risks of suicide and to fund suicide prevention activities. It also aims to provide worldwide commitment and action to prevent suicides.
- ✦ **Theme:** Working Together to Prevent Suicide.
- ✦ **Initiated by:** International Association for Suicide Prevention (IASP)

About IASP :

1. **Founded:** 1973
2. **Headquarters:** Washington, D.C., United States
3. **Type of business:** Nongovernmental organization

2. International Day for South - South Cooperation is observed on 12 September

- ✦ South-South cooperation is a broad framework where the South Countries have collaborated in various domains including political, economic, social, cultural, environmental and technical domains.
- ✦ The day celebrates the political, social and economical developments made by regions and countries in the south in recent years.
- ✦ South-South Cooperation works towards achieving the internationally agreed development goals, including the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development (SDGs). It aims to boost the progress towards implementing the SDGs. It raises the awareness of the efforts taken by the United Nation to work on technical cooperation among developing countries.

3. Hindi Diwas celebrated on 14 September

- ✦ Hindi Diwas is observed every year on 14 September to mark the popularity of Hindi as an official language of India.
- ✦ On the occasion, International Hindi Conference was also organised by World Hindi Council in New Delhi.
- ✦ Hindi lovers from 6 countries including Mauritius, Uzbekistan, Nepal, Sri Lanka attended the International Hindi Conference.

4. The International Day of Democracy is observed on 15 September

- ✦ The day aims to provide an opportunity to review the state of democracy in the world. The day urges all governments to respect their citizens' right to active, substantive and meaningful participation in democracy.
- ✦ The day urges all governments to respect their citizens' right to active, substantive and meaningful participation in democracy.
- ✦ Democracy is a process which will happen only with the full participation of and support by the international community, national governing bodies, civil society, and individuals. Democracy is a two-way street that is built on a constant dialogue between civil society and the political class.

Awards

1. Music director UshaKhanna to get LataMangeshkar award

- ✦ Veteran music director UshaKhanna, who created magic by giving songs like “zindagi pyaar ka geet hai”, “chhodo kal ki baatein”, and “aap to aisena the”, has been chosen for the Maharashtra government’s coveted LataMangeshkar Award.
- ✦ She has composed music for over 150 films in the male-dominated field. The award, which carries a cash reward of Rs.500,000, a citation and a memento shall be awarded to the 78-year old Khanna.

Books And Authors

1. A book titled “Savarkar: Echoes from a forgotten past, 1883-1924” released

- ✦ A book titled “Savarkar: Echoes from a forgotten past, 1883-1924” is penned by Bengaluru-based historian Vikram Sampath and published by Penguin.
- ✦ This book describing the life of freedom fighter and Philosopher Vinayak Damodar Savarkar, popularly known as Veer Savarkar.
- ✦ This first volume of the two-volume series covers the life of Vinayak Damodar Savarkar (Veer Savarkar), from his birth in 1883 to his conditional release to Ratnagiri in 1924.

Sports

1. US Open 2019: Winners List

- ✦ Rafael Nadal clinched his 19th Grand Slam title by defeating Daniil Medvedev 7-5, 6-3, 5-7, 4-6, 6-4 in US Open 2019 final match. Now, Rafael Nadal closes the gap to just one on Roger Federer's 20 Grand Slam triumphs. Rafael Nadal won his 5th grand slam title since

turning 30, surpassing Federer, Novak Djokovic, Rod Laver and Ken Rosewall, who all won four titles.

- ✦ On the other hand, in women's championship, Bianca Andreescu (19) captured the title, defeating 23-time major champion Serena Williams. Bianca defeated her with a rollercoaster 6-3, 7-5 win.
- ✦ Now, Bianca Andreescu has become the youngest Grand Slam winner since Maria Sharapova at the 2006 US Open.

About Rafael Nadal

1. Rafael Nadal was born on 3 June 1986. He is a Spanish professional tennis player.
2. He is popularly known as "The King of Clay."

About Bianca Andreescu

1. She was born on 16 June 2000. She has become the first Canadian to win a Grand Slam title.
2. She is the youngest Canadian (19) women tennis player to win US Open ever.
3. Bianca Andreescu has won three tournament wins, the Rogers Cup, US Open and Indian Wells titles this year.

2. Paralympic Committee of India de-recognised for Sports Code violation

- ✦ The Sports Ministry of India has de-recognised the Paralympic Committee of India. The ministry has de-recognised the committee for violation of the National Sports Code. The committee violated the code by removing its elected president Rao Inderjit Singh.
- ✦ The Committee has been penalised for misgovernance and has been directed to comply with the Sports Code and ensure good governance practices in its internal functioning.

Foot Notes:

Ministers of State (I/C) Youth Affairs and Sports: Shri Kiren Rijju.

Obituaries

1. Tamil actor, cinematographer and director Rajasekar passes away

1. Tamil Film Director, Actor and Cinematographer Raja Sekar passed away. He was a part of the director duo Robert-Rajasekar.
2. Along with Robert Ashirwatham, he had directed films such as Palaivanacholai, Chinnapoove Mella Pesu, Dhooram Adhigamillai, Manasukkul Mathappu and Paravaigal Palavidham.

2. Climate change campaigner of the South Pacific Akilisi Pohiva passes away

- ✦ Climate change campaigner of the South Pacific and Prime Minister of Tonga Akilisi Pohiva passed away.
- ✦ He was long-time pro-democracy campaigner and leader in the fight against climate change. He was awarded the Defender of Democracy Award in 2013 by the Parliamentarians for Global Action, the first Pacific Islander to receive the prize.

3. Former bureaucrat B.N. Yugandhar passes away

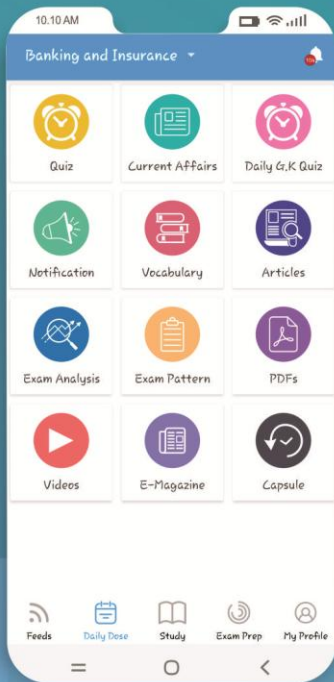
- ✦ Former bureaucrat and Secretary to the PMO, B.N. Yugandhar passed away. He served as Secretary to the PMO between May 1995 and March 1997 during former PM P.V. Narasimha Rao's term.
- ✦ He also served in the Ministry of Rural Development from March 1993 to May 1995.

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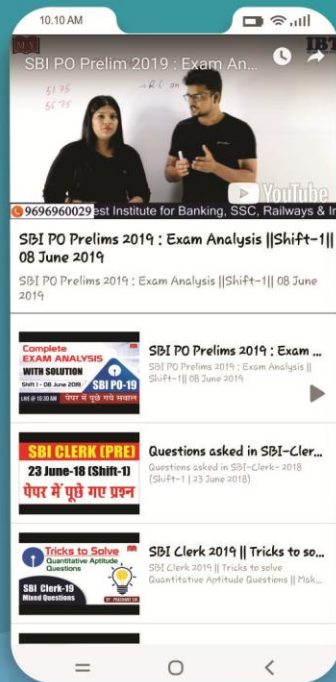
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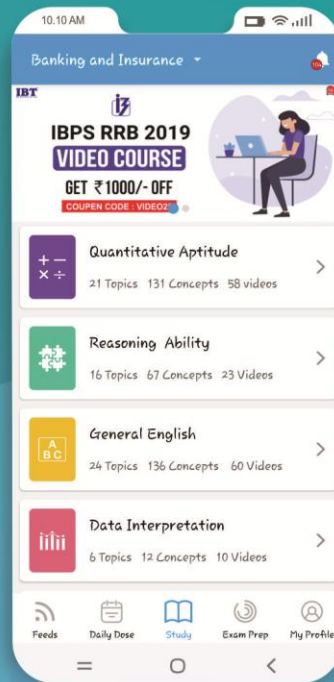
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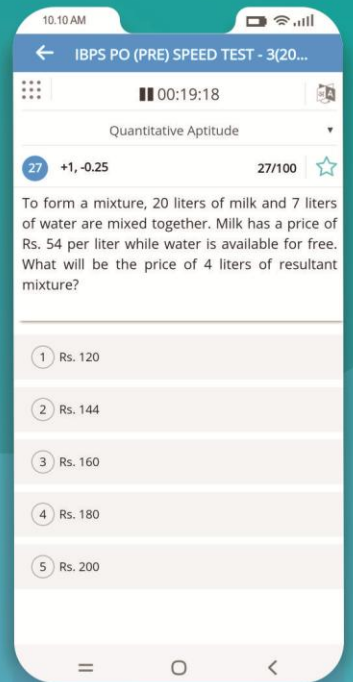
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