



WEEKLY G.K.

27 January - 02 February 2020

make  exam

Download India's #1 Competitive Exam Prep. App



www.makemyexam.in



support@makemyexam.in

National News

1. Country's first Super Fab Lab inaugurated in Kerala

- ✚ The country's first Super Fab Lab was launched at the Integrated Startup Complex of the Kerala Startup Mission (KSUM).
- ✚ The lab will give a major push to the hardware industry in the country and the only such facility outside the U.S.
- ✚ The Super Fab Lab will function in collaboration with the Massachusetts Institute of Technology (MIT).

Foot Notes:

About Kerala

Governor: Arif Mohammad Khan

Capital: Thiruvananthapuram

2. 'Innovation Festival' begins at Science Centre in Itanagar

- ✚ In Arunachal Pradesh, the two-day 'Innovation Festival' kicked off at the Science Centre. The festival is being organized by the Arunachal Pradesh State Council for Science & Technology in collaboration with the National Innovation Foundation.
- ✚ More than 50 innovations are put on display by students from various educational institutions, grassroots innovators, artisans and entrepreneurs from Arunachal Pradesh, Assam and other states.
- ✚ The Innovation Festival, a first of its kind in the state, aimed to foster the culture of innovation among all people of the state, especially in all the educational institutions.

Foot Notes:

About Arunachal Pradesh

Chief Minister: Pema Khandu.

Governor: B. D. Mishra.

3. Tribal Affairs Ministry proposes 6th Schedule Area status to Ladakh

- ✚ Union Tribal Affairs Ministry has proposed 6th Schedule Area status to Union Territory of Ladakh.
- ✚ Tribal Affairs Minister Arjun Munda said that his ministry has sent the proposal to the Union Home Ministry to declare the 6th Schedule status to Ladakh. Environmentalist Sonam Wangchuk had last month appealed to Prime Minister Narendra Modi to preserve the culture and identity of Ladakh.
- ✚ The Sixth Schedule of the Constitution deals with the administration of the tribal areas in the four northeastern states of Assam, Meghalaya, Tripura and Mizoram.

Foot Notes:

Lieutenant Governors: R. K. Mathur

4. Government announces sale of 100% stake in debt-laden Air India

- ✚ The government issued the preliminary information memorandum for 100 per cent stake sale in national carrier Air India.
- ✚ As part of the strategic disinvestment, Air India would also sell 100 per cent stake in low cost airline Air India Express and 50 per cent shareholding in joint venture AISATS. Management control of the airline would also be transferred to the successful bidder.
- ✚ The government has set March 17 as the deadline for submitting the Expression of Interest (EoI).

5. PM Modi to inaugurate Biggest DefExpo 2020 in Lucknow.

- ✚ The Defence Expo 2020 in Uttar Pradesh's Lucknow city is going to be by far the biggest expo. The number of international companies confirming their presence at the expo has also gone up as compared to previous expos.
- ✚ The number of companies registered for participating in the 11th edition of the biennial mega defence exhibition, DefExpo 2020, to be held at Uttar Pradesh capital Lucknow between February 5-9, 2020; has reached 1,000.
- ✚ In the DefExpo 2018, held in Chennai, 702 companies had participated. Thus, it has become by far the biggest ever DefExpo to be held in India.

6. Assam tableau won first prize at 71st Republic Day parade.

- ✚ Defence Minister Rajnath Singh gave away Best Tableau awards for Republic Day Parade 2020. The event took place in New Delhi.
- ✚ Assam's tableau, which portrayed the unique craftsmanship and culture of the state chosen as the best tableau, followed by Odisha and Uttar Pradesh tied for the second position. The Assam tableau showcased various dance forms of the country, especially the Bhortal dance of Assam.
- ✚ Odisha's tableau depicted Lord Lingaraja's Rukuna Rath Yatra, whereas the tableau of Uttar Pradesh showcased the state's cultural and religious heritage. The tableau of National Disaster Relief Force and Jal Shakti Mission were chosen as the best among the Ministries and Departments. The Central Public Works Department got the Special Prize for their tableau, which based on the theme - Kashmir se Kanyakumari.

Foot Notes:**About Assam****Capital:** Dispur**Chief Minister:** Sarbananda Sonowal**Governor:** Jagdish Mukhi**7. West Bengal becomes fourth state to pass resolution against CAA in house.**

- ✚ Chief Minister Mamata Banerjee urged the Party of India (Marxist) or CPI (M) and Congress to put aside with Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP) government at the Centre. West Bengal became the fourth state to pass an assembly resolution against the Citizenship (Amendment) Act (CAA).
- ✚ The National Population Register (NPR) and the proposed pan-India National Register of Citizens (NRC) and the CAA are related. The amended citizenship law anti-people amid slogans like Didi-Modi are two sides of the same coin by members of the Opposition Congress and the CPI (M).
- ✚ The Kerala and Congress-ruled Punjab passed similar resolutions on December 31 and January 17. The CAA was given last month to fast-track the citizenship process for non-Muslims who have entered India from Afghanistan, Pakistan, and Bangladesh before 2015, and triggered protests across the country.

Foot Notes:**About West Bengal****Governor:** Jagdeep Dhankhar**Capital:** Kolkata**8. India's first underwater metro project to start soon in Kolkata.**

- ✚ India's first underwater metro train, passing through Kolkata's iconic Hooghly river, will begin service in 2022 March.
- ✚ The East-West Metro project, connecting the twin cities Kolkata and Howrah is being constructed by Kolkata Metro Rail Corporation (KMRC), which launched India's first metro project in 1984 with a North-South service.
- ✚ The 16.6 km route with six stations on the way is having its terminal stations at Salt Lake Sector V and the Howrah Maidan. It is expected that 9,00,000 people will be travelling by this new line daily.

- ✚ The project cost is funded by Japan International Cooperation Agency (JICA), which provided a soft loan of Rs 41.6 billion. KMRC will repay the JICA loan over a period of 30 years after an initial six-year moratorium.

9. Oxford University Press (OUP) named 'Samvidhaan' (Constitution) the Oxford Hindi Word of 2019.

- ✚ OUP said that it received widespread attention in the year which was witness to the spirit of the Indian Constitution being embraced across segments of the society.
- ✚ The Oxford Hindi Word of the Year is a word or expression that has attracted a great deal of attention and reflects the ethos, mood, or preoccupations of the past year.
- ✚ In November 2019, Oxford Dictionaries has named "climate emergency" as its 2019 Word of the Year.

10. Maharashtra CM Uddhav Thackeray inaugurates Nagpur Metro's Aqua line.

- ✚ The Chief Minister of Maharashtra Uddhav Thackeray inaugurated 18.5 kilometre-long stretch of Nagpur Metro Aqua line of Maha Metro Rail Network.

Foot Notes:

Governor of Maharashtra: Bhagat Singh Koshyari;

Capital: Mumbai.

11. World's biggest meditation centre in Hyderabad.

- ✚ To mark the 75th anniversary of the formation of Shri Ram Chandra Mission and Heartfulness Institute, unveiled the meditation centre slated to be the world's largest.
- ✚ The centre that can accommodate one lakh meditation practitioners at a time. Built on 30 acres, the meditation centre with a central hall and eight peripheral halls to accommodate 1,00,000 people will offer meditation training free.
- ✚ It is dedicated to the first guide of Heartfulness Lalaji Maharaj affectionately known as Daaji, the present guide of Heartfulness, in the presence of several dignitaries.

Foot Notes:

About Telangana

Chief Minister: K. Chandrashekar Rao.

Governor: Tamilisai Soundararajan.

12. S Jaishankar lays foundation stone of Sardar Vallabhbhai Patel Centre at Kevadia in Gujarat.

- ✚ External Affairs Minister S Jaishankar laid the foundation stone of the Sardar Vallabhbhai Patel Centre for Empowerment and Livelihoods near the Statue of Unity at Kevadia in Gujarat. This will be a state-of-the-art skill Development centre in this tribal area.
- ✚ This Residential Centre will have all modern infrastructure including accommodation for about 100 youth at a time. It will run several free of charge skill courses aligned to the National Skills Qualification Framework (NSQF).
- ✚ To begin with, the majority of the courses will focus to meet the demand of tourism and hospitality requirements at Kevadia. This centre will prove to be a boon for empowering the local youth and women by their skill development and by providing them employment opportunities.

Foot Notes:

About Gujarat

Capital: Gandhinagar

Chief Minister: Vijay Rupani

Governor: Acharya Dev Vrat

13. Google announces \$1 million grant to promote news literacy in India.

- ✚ Technology giant Google announced a USD 1 million grant to promote news literacy among Indians. The money will be given to Internews, a global non-profit, which will select a team of 250 journalists, fact checkers, academics and NGO workers for the project.
- ✚ The announcement, part of a USD 10 million commitment worldwide to media literacy, comes at a time when news publishers, especially on the digital front, have been found to have indulged in spreading misinformation.
- ✚ A curriculum will be developed by a team of global and local experts, who will roll out the project in seven Indian languages.

Foot Notes:

CEO: Sundar Pichai

14. Cabinet approves Medical Termination of Pregnancy Amendment Bill to raise upper limit for termination of pregnancy to 24 weeks.

- ✚ Union Cabinet has approved the Medical Termination of Pregnancy (Amendment) Bill, 2020. The bill will amend the Medical Termination of Pregnancy Act, 1971.
- ✚ The limit of termination of pregnancy has been increased from 20 weeks to 24 weeks. For Medical termination of pregnancy, permission will be needed, from two doctors and one of them must be a government doctor.
- ✚ The proposed amendments are a step towards the safety and well-being of the women and many women will be benefitted by this.

15. Nepal creates Guinness World Record for highest altitude fashion show event.

- ✚ Nepal has created a new Guinness World Record for organizing highest altitude Fashion Show on the earth.
- ✚ The Mount Everest Fashion Runway was held at 5340 meters (17515 feet) elevation at Kala Patthar, near Everest base camp. 18 supermodels from 10 different countries walked the ramp to create history.

Foot Notes:**About Nepal**

Prime minister: KP Sharma Oli.

President: Bidhya Devi Bhandari.

Capital: Kathmandu

Currency: Nepalese rupee.

16. India to increase carbon emissions by 600 million tonnes due to increase in steel demand.

- ✚ The 20th edition of the World Sustainable Development Summit 2020, a TERI flagship event, states that the CO2 emissions from India's steel sector could increase up to 837 million tonnes (MT) by 2050.
- ✚ India's steel demand will be more than quadruple from around 111 million tonnes to 489 million tonnes.
- ✚ The carbon dioxide emissions from the sector projected to go from 242 MT to 837 MT. Low Carbon Steel prepared by the Energy Transitions Commission (ETC) India. It is a research platform based in TERI in New Delhi.

17. MP government to roll out 365-day work scheme under “Yuva Swabhiman Yojana”.

- ✚ The Kamal Nath government of Madhya Pradesh is coming up with a ramped up version of Yuva Swabhiman Yojana, a scheme for the unemployed, hiking monthly stipend to Rs 5,000 and increasing the number of working (hence payable) days to 365.
- ✚ The decision comes just about a week after Nath's return from the WEF meet at Davos, where he showcased MP's potential before investors and emphasized the need to mobilize the economy and generate more jobs.

- ✚ Yuva Swabhiman Yojana, a Congress manifesto promise and a flagship programme of the Nath government, was launched on January 31, 2019, guaranteeing 100 days of work and pay to unemployed youth. On the lines of MNREGS, the government is ready to extend the guarantee of 100 workdays to 365 days of temporary employment a year. The scheme is part of Nath's attempt to generate employment and boost the economy.

Foot Notes:**About Madhya Pradesh****Governor:** Lalji Tandon**Capital:** Bhopal**Chief minister:** Kamal Nath**18. The Month-long Nagoba jatara concludes in Telangana's Adilabad district.**

- ✚ A Month-long Nagoba jatara concluded in Telangana with the ceremony of Betal puja.
- ✚ It is the second biggest tribal carnival and celebrated by the Mesaram clan of Gond tribes for 10 days.
- ✚ Tribal people from Maharashtra, Chhattisgarh, Orissa and Madhya Pradesh belonging to the Mesram clan offer prayers at the festival.

Foot Notes:**About Telangana****Capital:** Hyderabad**Governor:** Tamilisai Soundararajan**Chief minister:** K. Chandrashekar Rao**19. Yellow rust attack sets off alarm bells in Haryana and Punjab.**

- ✚ The detection of yellow rust disease in the wheat crop in sub-mountainous parts of Punjab and Haryana has raised anxiety among farmers. According to agricultural experts, yellow rust, or stripe rust, takes its name from the appearance of yellow-coloured stripes that run parallel to the venation of leaf blades.
- ✚ The symptoms of yellow rust include stunted and weakened plants, shrivelled grains, fewer spikes, loss in number of grains per spike and grain weight. The disease usually occurs early in the growth season, when temperature ranges between 2°C and 15°C. High humidity and rainfall are favourable conditions for increasing the infection on both leaf blade and leaf sheath.

Foot Notes:**About Haryana****Capital:** Chandigarh**Governor:** Satyadev Narayan Arya**Chief minister:** Manohar Lal Khattar**About Punjab****Capital:** Chandigarh**Governor:** V.P. Singh Badnore**Chief minister:** Amarinder Singh**20. Uttar Pradesh's Chandauli district tops NITI's ranking in December.**

- ✚ Chandauli district in Uttar Pradesh has topped the list of aspirational districts ranked by the government think tank NITI Aayog in December.
- ✚ Belangir (Odisha) and YSR (Andhra Pradesh) have been placed at the second and third positions.
- ✚ The delta rankings took into account incremental progress made by over 112 aspirational districts across six developmental areas in December 2019.
- ✚ Health and nutrition, education, agriculture and water resources, financial inclusion, skill development and basic infrastructure were the development areas that were taken into consideration for the ranking.
- ✚ The ranking of aspirational districts is done every month.

Foot Notes:**About Uttar Pradesh****Chief minister:** Yogi Adityanath**Governor:** Anandiben Patel**Capital:** Lucknow**21. Economic Survey 2020 tabled projects growth at 6 to 6.5 per cent for the next fiscal in Parliament.**

- ✚ Economic Survey 2019-20 has projected economic growth at 6 to 6.5 per cent in the fiscal year starting 1st of April this year.
- ✚ It has put current fiscal growth at five per cent and said the fiscal deficit target for the current fiscal may need to be relaxed to revive growth. Finance Minister Nirmala Sitharaman tabled Economic Survey in both the houses of Parliament.
- ✚ The survey called for more reforms to make it easier to do business in the country.
- ✚ It said, about 1.24 lakh new firms were created in 2018, which is an increase of about 80 percent from about 70,000 in 2014. It said, the industrial sector as per Index of Industrial Production registered a growth of 0.6 per cent in 2019-20 (April-November) as compared to 5.0 per cent during 2018-19 (April-November).

Foot Notes:**Finance Minister:** Nirmala Sitharaman

BANKING ALL EXAMS **Video Course**

• 395 VIDEOS ₹4749/- **₹3749/-**



International News & Foreign Affairs

1. Switzerland mints smallest gold coin featuring image of Einstein

- ✚ The smallest gold coin in the world featuring legendary scientist Albert Einstein has been recently minted by Switzerland.
- ✚ The gold coin of about 0.12 inches of diameter has been made by state-owned Swissmint and features the scientist sticking out his tongue. The size of the coin weighing 1/500th of an ounce is so small that it comes along with a magnifying glass for observing Einstein's cheeky image.
- ✚ The price of each gold coin has been pegged at USD 205 and only 999 of these have been made by producers. Famed physicist Einstein was granted Swiss citizenship in the year 1901 and he was also a recipient of the 1921 Nobel Prize for physics.

Foot Notes:**About Switzerland****Currency:** Swiss franc**Capitals:** city of Bern**2. U.K introduces new fast-track visa to attract scientists**

- ✚ British Prime Minister Boris Johnson introduced a new fast-track visa to attract more of the world's best scientists to the U.K. in hopes of creating a global science "superpower." Johnson paired the

announcement of the Global Talent route program with a pledge of 300 million pounds (\$392 million) for research into advanced mathematics.

- ✚ The money will help fund researchers and doctoral students whose work in math underpins myriad developments such as safer air travel, smartphone technology and artificial intelligence. The new visa route will have no cap on the number of people able to come to the U.K. under the program.
- ✚ Britain is facing its biggest immigration shake-up in decades after it leaves the EU.

Foot Notes:**About U.K**

Prime minister: Boris Johnson

Capital: London

Currency: Pound sterling

3. Slovenian Prime Minister Marjan Sarec resigns.

- ✚ Slovenian Prime Minister Marjan Sarec announced a step down and called for fresh elections, following weeks of rising tensions within his minority five-party coalition government.
- ✚ Mr Sarec's resignation came almost at the same time as Finance Minister Andrej Bertoncelj announced that he too would quit in a row over health care funding.
- ✚ Mr Sarec, is Slovenia's youngest-ever Prime Minister. He was previously best known as a comedian and political satirist before he launched himself as an anti-establishment politician.

Foot Notes:**About Slovenia**

Capital: Ljubljana

Currency: Euro

4. SC allows centre to introduce African cheetah to suitable habitat in India.

- ✚ The Supreme Court allowed the Centre to introduce the African cheetah to suitable habitat in India. The apex Court's decision followed a petition filed by National Tiger Conservation Authority (NTCA) seeking permission for the introduction of the African cheetah as rare Indian cheetah is almost extinct in the country.
- ✚ The government's plan is to import the Cheetah from African countries like Namibia and reintroduce them in India.
- ✚ In 2013, the top court had declined the plea seeking relocation of African Cheetah at Kuno National Park.

Foot Notes:

CJI: Sharad Arvind Bobde

5. ORF of India ranks 27th on “Global Go to Think Tank” Index report.

- ✚ India's Observer Research Foundation (ORF) has jumped more than 90 places to 27th position among 176 global think tanks.
- ✚ The 2019 Global Go To Think Tank Index Report, by the Think Tanks and Civil Societies Program (TTCSP) of the Lauder Institute at the University of Pennsylvania, ranked ORF among top 30 think tanks globally. ORF moved up from the 118th position in the 2018 ranking and got featured at the ninth position on the "Think Tank to Watch in 2019" list.
- ✚ Moreover, ORF curated Raisina Dialogue has been ranked 7th best conference in the report, moving up from 12th position. The list was topped by Carnegie Endowment for International Peace of US, followed by Belgium's Bruegel and French Institute of International Relations (IFRI).

6. WHO declared global emergency due to coronavirus as death number reached to 213.

- ✚ The World Health Organization declared a global emergency over the new coronavirus, as China reported the death toll had climbed to 213 with nearly 10,000 infections.

- ✚ The UN health agency based in Geneva had initially downplayed the threat posed by the disease, but revised its risk assessment after crisis talks.
- ✚ Many countries have already urged their citizens not to visit China, while some have banned entry for travellers from the central Chinese city of Wuhan, where the virus first surfaced.

Foot Notes:**About WHO****Head:** Tedros Adhanom**Headquarters:** Geneva, Switzerland**Founded:** 7 April 1948**7. India will continue to lead global sustainable energy agenda.**

- ✚ Petroleum Minister Dharmendra Pradhan has said India will continue to lead the global sustainable energy agenda. The principal note address at the TERI's World Sustainable Development Summit 2020 on 'Energy Future Road Map' in New Delhi. The trajectory to end energy poverty in India, as compared to the rest of the world, is based on the particular national circumstances.
- ✚ The right mix of enablers is being put in place to ensure that the energy transition is secure, affordable, reliable, and sustainable. India is the third-largest energy consumer after the US and China. The union government has set out a road map for reducing India's crude oil imports by 10 percent by 2022.
- ✚ The Government is working towards transformation to a gas-based economy, tapping into indigenously produced biofuels, apart from adopting renewable energy and energy efficiency measures, to achieve the much-needed carbon reductions.

Foot Notes:**Petroleum Minister:** Dharmendra Pradhan**8. According to TomTom Bengaluru has the worst traffic in the world.**

- ✚ According to a report by TomTom, The Netherlands-based global provider of navigation, traffic and map products, Bengaluru is the world's most traffic congested city.
- ✚ It beat 415 other cities across 57 countries to earn the title in 2019. Drivers in this city are expected to spend an average of 71% extra travel time stuck in traffic.
- ✚ In 2019, a commuter spent an additional 243 hours in traffic while driving during peak hours. Manila in the Philippines came a close second, with a similar average time spent by commuters in traffic. Mumbai, Pune and New Delhi were the other Indian cities that also featured in the top 10, taking fourth, fifth and eighth places respectively.

New Appointments and Person in News

1. Sunil Mehta takes over as Chief Executive of Indian Banks' Association.

- ✚ Sunil Mehta took over as Chief Executive Officer of the Indian Banks Association. He succeeds V G Kannan, who stepped down on December 31, 2019.
- ✚ Sunil Mehta was heading Punjab National Bank, PNB as an MD & CEO. While serving PNB, Mehta was also appointed as a chairman of IBA in 2018-19.
- ✚ The term of the CEO of IBA is for three years while the chairman term is for only one year. IBA is the representative body of the India's banking sector and works for the development of the banking industry.

Foot Notes:**About Indian Banks' Association****Headquarters:** Mumbai**Founded:** 26 September 1946

2. ATF unanimously nominates Anil Khanna as life President.

- ✦ Senior Sports Administrator Anil Khanna, who recently decided not to contest the President's post of the Asian Tennis Federation (ATF), was nominated Life President of the continental body.
- ✦ Mr Khanna had served as ATF President from 2005 to 2019 and also ITF Vice President from 2015-19.
- ✦ The ATF held the meeting of its Board of Directors in Melbourne and unanimously nominated Mr Khanna as Life President.
- ✦ He was also appointed Chairman of the ATF Finance Committee.

3. Qatar names Sheikh Khalid bin Khalifa bin Abdelaziz Al Thani new PM.

- ✦ Qatar appointed Sheikh Khalid bin Khalifa bin Abdelaziz Al Thani as the new Prime Minister. He will replace Sheikh Abdullah bin Nasser bin Khalifa Al Thani.
- ✦ The earlier Prime Minister has submitted his resignation. The state-run Qatar News Agency reported that no reason for the change has been specified.

Foot Notes:**About Qatar****Capital:** Doha**Currency:** Qatari riyal**4. Taranjit Singh Sandhu appointed India's ambassador to US.**

- ✦ Senior diplomat Taranjit Singh Sandhu has been appointed as India's Ambassador to the US. Sandhu, a 1988-batch Indian Foreign Service officer, is currently posted as High Commissioner of India in Sri Lanka.
- ✦ He replaces Harsh Vardhan Shringla as India's envoy in Washington.
- ✦ Shringla has been named as India's next foreign secretary.

Foot Notes:**About United States****Capital:** Washington, D.C.**President:** Donald Trump**5. Harsh Vardhan Shringla takes charge as new Foreign Secretary.**

- ✦ Harsh Vardhan Shringla took charge as new foreign secretary succeeding Vijay Gokhale. Mr Shringla is a 1984-batch officer of the Indian Foreign Service.
- ✦ In the course of a diplomatic career spanning 35 years, Shringla has held a variety of positions in New Delhi and abroad, and is considered an expert on India's neighbourhood.
- ✦ He has also headed the United Nations Political and SAARC divisions in the ministry.

6. Shashi Kapoor's daughter Sanjana Kapoor got French honour for theatre artiste.

- ✦ Well-known theatre person Sanjana Kapoor received the prestigious French honour of 'Chevalier dans l'Ordre des Arts et des Lettres (Knight of the Order of Arts and Letters) for her outstanding contribution to the field of theatre.
- ✦ French Minister of Culture Franck Riester conferred the insignia of the distinction on Kapoor in a special investiture ceremony.
- ✦ L'Ordre des Arts et des Lettres is a French government distinction instituted in 1957 by the Ministry of Culture, and is conferred, regardless of nationality, on persons who have distinguished themselves by their creativity in the fields of art or literature, or for their contribution to promoting art and literature in France and throughout the world.

7. ICC appointed Anurag Dahiya as chief commercial officer.

- ✚ The International Cricket Council (ICC) appointed seasoned media professional Anurag Dahiya as its Chief Commercial Officer.
- ✚ Dahiya brings more than two decades of commercial experience from the media industry, most recently as head of content and media sales at Singtel, Asia's leading telecommunications group.
- ✚ Prior to that, he spent 14 years with Fox International Channels (previously ESPN STAR Sports) as senior vice president, strategy and business development.
- ✚ His responsibilities there included cricket rights and content acquisition working on high profile, high value acquisition of sports rights.

Foot Notes:**About ICC****Chairperson:** Shashank Manohar**CEO:** Manu Sawhney**Headquarters:** Dubai, United Arab Emirates**8. RBI appoints ED Janak Raj as member of Monetary Policy Committee.**

- ✚ The Reserve Bank of India (RBI) appointed its Executive Director Janak Raj as member of the Monetary Policy Committee (MPC), the highest interest rate setting body.
- ✚ Raj replaces M D Patra, who was recently elevated as Deputy Governor of the RBI.
- ✚ The government had in 2016 constituted MPC to set the benchmark interest rate.
- ✚ The MPC is headed by the RBI Governor.

Foot Notes:**About RBI****Governor:** Shaktikanta Das

There are four deputy governors B. P. Kanungo, N. S. Vishwanathan, Mahesh Kumar Jain

Headquarters: Mumbai

Prepare for Govt. Exam

MOCK TEST**VIDEO COURSE****BOOKS**



Banking

1. NABARD pegs credit potential at Rs 90,000 crore for Odisha.

- ✚ The National Bank for Agriculture and Rural Development projected a credit potential of Rs 90,395.69 crore for Odisha under priority sector for 2020-21 fiscal. The projection was made in the State Focus Paper released by Finance Minister Niranjana Pujari at the annual State Credit Seminar organised by NABARD for 2018-19 here.
- ✚ Inaugurating the seminar, Pujari emphasized the need for increasing agriculture term loan finance in other allied sector activities such as animal husbandry, poultry and fisheries leading to asset formation and diversification of farmers' income.
- ✚ Pujari advised regional banking heads to increase their outreach in un-banked areas of the State to help in effective implementation of various developmental programmes while increasing the scope of digital

banking and financial inclusion across the State. The Finance Minister also highlighted the need for a coordinated support from all the stakeholders to make Odisha a leading State in Indian economy.

Foot Notes:**About NABARD**

Founded: 12 July 1982

Headquarters: Mumbai

Chairperson: Harsh Kumar Bhanwala

2. BSE signs licensing agreement with ICE for the rupee-denominated Brent futures contract.

- ✚ The Bombay Stock Exchange (BSE) has signed a licensing agreement with Intercontinental Exchange (ICE) Futures Europe, an operator of global exchanges and clearing houses. India is one of the largest consumers and importers of crude oil in the world, and Brent crude is highly co-related with the Indian crude oil market.
- ✚ This agreement will serve the needs and interests to the Indian energy commodities space and market participants to access Rupee-dominated Brent benchmark prices.
- ✚ It will also help Indian commodity markets by providing convenient and cost-effective onshore hedging products and enable the price discovery of Brent crude prices in the Indian time zone.

Foot Notes:**About Bombay Stock Exchange (BSE)**

Headquarters: Mumbai, Maharashtra.

Founded: 9 July 1875.

Chairman: Vikramajit Sen.

Managing Director(MD) & Chief Executive Officer(CEO): Shri Ashishkumar Chauhan.

3. BoM and SBI banks have PSB rated good in digital transactions in December.

- ✚ Bank of Maharashtra and State Bank of India are the only two state-run banks that showed 'good' performance in terms of digital transactions in December with a score of 77 and 68 respectively, government data showed.
- ✚ The calculated rating for an individual bank is given by the Ministry of Electronics and Information Technology (MeitY) on various parameters such as percentage of digital transactions, merchant deployment achieved, system resilience, and average percentage of technical decline for UPI or AePS transactions.
- ✚ The union government gave a target of 4,000 crore digital transactions for the current fiscal. Banks performance on various parameters, including digital sales, is to be tracked on every month.

Foot Notes:**About SBI**

Chairperson: Rajnish Kumar

Headquarters: Mumbai

Science Tech & Defence

1. GRSE set to deliver ASW corvette INS Kavaratti to Navy soon.

- ✚ Defence PSU Garden Reach Shipbuilders and Engineers (GRSE) is set to deliver anti-submarine warfare stealth corvette INS Kavaratti to the Navy.
- ✚ 'Kavaratti' is the last of the four Anti-Submarine Warfare (ASW) stealth corvettes built by the GRSE for the Indian Navy under Project P28.
- ✚ Three of the four corvettes, INS Kamorta, INS Kadmatt and INS Kiltan were commissioned in 2014, 2016 and 2017 respectively. The new technology will mean that the warship, which has 90 per cent indigenous components, will also require lower maintenance.

Foot Notes:**Chief of the Naval Staff:** Admiral Karambir Singh**Chairman-cum-Managing Director:** Rear Admiral V K Saxena**2. Coast Guard Ship 'Annie Besant' reaches base harbour at Chennai.**

- ✦ The recently inducted Indian Coast Guard Ship Annie Besant has reached its base harbour at Chennai. It was received with pomp and splendour by the staff and their family members of the Coast Guard Chennai office.
- ✦ The ship Annie Besant is the third Fast Patrol Vessel of the 'Priyadarshini' class. The ship has been indigenously designed and built and was commissioned at Khidderpore Dock, Kolkata.
- ✦ The ship ICGS Annie Besant is fitted with modern navigational and communication equipment and sensors. It is capable of undertaking multi-faceted maritime operations such as Surveillance, Search and Rescue and Interdiction.

3. Indian Navy launches operation 'Vanilla' to provide disaster relief at Madagascar.

- ✦ Indian Navy has launched operation Vanilla to provide humanitarian assistance and disaster relief at Madagascar.
- ✦ Operation Vanilla has been launched to provide assistance to the affected population of Madagascar post devastation caused by Cyclone Diane.
- ✦ The Indian Navy Ship is geared to set up medical camp and provide food, water and other necessary relief material

Foot Notes:**Chief of Indian Navy:** Admiral Karambir Singh.**4. Indian Coast Guard commissions C-448 third interceptor boat.**

- ✦ The third Indian Coast Guard Interceptor Boat of Coast Guard Headquarters (Karnataka), C 448, was officially commissioned at New Mangalore Port.
- ✦ The interceptor boat has been built by Larsen and Toubro Shipyard Limited in Surat. The interceptor boat will help the Coast Guard check illicit activities, including infiltration, smuggling and illicit fishing.
- ✦ Also, the Karnataka government has also decided to provide 160 acres of land at Kenjar village in Mangalore taluk to set up a Coast Guard Training Academy.

5. India-Bangladesh joint exercise 'SAMPRITI-IX' to be conducted in Meghalaya from Feb 3.

- ✦ As part of the ongoing Indo-Bangladesh defence cooperation, a joint military training exercise SAMPRITI-IX is being conducted at UMROI, Meghalaya, India from 03 Feb to 16 Feb 2020.
- ✦ Exercise SAMPRITI is an important bilateral defence cooperation endeavour between India and Bangladesh and will be the ninth edition of the exercise which is hosted alternately by both countries.
- ✦ During the joint military exercise SAMPRITI-IX a Command Post Exercise (CPX) and a Field Training Exercise (FTX) will be conducted.

Foot Notes:**About Bangladesh****Capital:** Dhaka**Currency:** Bangladeshi taka**Prime minister:** Sheikh Hasina

Important Days

1. India celebrated 155th Anniversary of Lala Lajpat Rai on 28 January.

- ✚ The year 2020 marks the 155th birth anniversary of Lala Lajpat Rai, one of the greatest freedom fighters of India. Lala Lajpat Rai was born on January 28, 1865 in a Jain Punjabi family in Dhudikae village of Punjab's Moga district. Rai was also known as Punjab Kesari. He played a pivotal role in the Indian freedom struggle.
- ✚ He was part of the famous radical trio Lal Bal Pal, who advocated the Swadeshi movement in India, involving the boycott of all imported goods and the use of Indian made goods. To report the political situation of India, in 1928, the British government set up the Commission, headed by Sir John Simon.
- ✚ When the Commission visited Lahore on October 30, 1928, Lajpat Rai led a non-violent march in protest against it.

2. Martyr's Day is celebrated on 30 January.

- ✚ Five days are declared as Martyrs Day in India to honour those who laid down their lives for the nation. The first fall accordingly on January 30, the day when Mahatma Gandhi was assassinated by Nathuram Godse in 1948.
- ✚ Mahatma Gandhi played a significant role in India's struggle for Independence.
- ✚ He brought forth the awe-inspiring method of non-violent protests, Satyagraha and spread the word of peace and harmony even in dissent.

Foot Notes:

23 March: Day to remember the deaths of Bhagat Singh, Sukhdev Thapar, and Shivaram Rajguru.

21 October: Police Martyrs Day. This day marks the ambush of a Central Reserve Police Force (CRPF) patrol party at the Indo-Tibetan border in Ladakh by the Chinese forces.

17 November: The death anniversary of Lala Lajpat Rai.

19 November: It celebrates the birthday of Rani Lakshmibai and honours those who gave their lives in the rebellion of 1857.

3. Indian Coast Guard (ICG) celebrated its raising day on February 1.

- ✚ ICG protects India's maritime interests and enforces maritime law, with jurisdiction over the territorial waters of India, including its contiguous zone and exclusive economic zone.
- ✚ It operates under the Ministry of Defence.

Foot Notes:

Director General of ICG: Krishnaswamy Natrajan

4. The festival Narmada Mahotsav started on Narmada Jayanti will run till 2 February.

- ✚ In Madhya Pradesh Narmada Mahotsav, three-day Narmada Mahotsav is being started from in the picturesque plains of Amarkantak on the occasion of Narmada Jayanti.
- ✚ Local tribal art and culture will be duly demonstrated during Amarkantak Narmada Mahotsav-2020.
- ✚ The Narmada is a major source of drinking water, irrigation and hydroelectricity for Madhya Pradesh and Gujarat.
- ✚ During the Mahotsav, one day will be reserved for all women activities under the theme of "Beti Bachao - Beti Padhao".

Foot Notes:

About Madhya Pradesh

Governor: Lalji Tandon

Capital: Bhopal

Chief minister: Kamal Nath



SSC ALL EXAMS

VIDEO COURSE & TEST SERIES

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

- 671 VIDEOS
- 100 TESTS

₹3999/-

Sports

1. India's Esow Alben bags gold in men's Keirin individual event of Six Day Berlin Tournament.

- In Cycling, India's Esow Alben has bagged a gold in the men's Keirin individual event of the Six Day Berlin Tournament.
- Czech Republic's Tomas Babek, who won a silver in the 2017 World Championship, came in second while Maximilian Lev of Germany took home the bronze.
- Keirin event is a six-day track cycling race. Each cyclist competes on every day of the competition.

2. Indian Javelin thrower Neeraj Chopra qualifies for Tokyo Olympics.

- Star Indian javelin thrower Neeraj Chopra has qualified for the Tokyo Olympics with a throw of 87.86 metres at the Athletics Central North East meeting in South Africa.
- The 22-year-old Asian Games and Commonwealth Games gold medallist breached the Olympic qualification mark of 85 metres in his fourth attempt at Potchefstroom.
- Neeraj had missed the IAAF World Championships, the Diamond League and the Asian Championships due to an elbow injury.
- His last major international competition was the 2018 Jakarta Asian Games where he won gold with a national record of 88.06 metres.

Foot Notes:

About Tokyo

Capital: Japan

3. Ayonika Paul and Vijayveer Sidhu emerged as winners in National Shooting trials.

- Olympian Ayonika Paul has won the women's 10m Air Rifle T1 event while Vijayveer Sidhu won the men's 25m Pistol T2 event in the National Shooting trials at Thiruvananthapuram.
- Ayonika overcame a quality eight-woman field which had the likes of Tokyo 2020 quota holders Apurvi Chandela and Anjum Moudgil among competitors.
- Ayonika registered a score of 252.0 enroute to victory. Apurvi came third with a score of 229.8 but it was Himachal's Zeena Khitta, who had the best day in women's Air Rifle event, coming in second place with a score of 251.1. Chandigarh's Vijayveer won the junior men's 25m Pistol with an aggregate score of 585.

Awards

1. Government announces 141 Padma Awards for this year on occasion of 71st Republic Day

- ✚ The government has announced 141 Padma Awards for this year on the occasion of 71st Republic Day. The list comprises 7 Padma Vibhushan, 16 Padma Bhushan and 118 Padma Shri awards.
- ✚ Former Union Ministers George Fernandes, Sushma Swaraj and Arun Jaitley will be awarded Padma Vibhushan posthumously. Pejavara math seer late Vishveshateertha Swamiji will be awarded Padma Vibhushan posthumously.
- ✚ Former Prime Minister of Mauritius Anerood Jugnauth, Hindustani classical vocalist Chhannulal Mishra and Boxer MC Mary Kom will also get Padma Vibhushan. Prime Minister Narendra Modi has congratulated all those who have been selected for Padma Awards.

2. Tamil Nadu Agricultural University Vice chancellor “Dr. N Kumar” gets ‘Harit Ratna’ Award.

- ✚ Dr. N. Kumar, Vice-Chancellor of Tamil Nadu Agricultural University, has been conferred 'Harit Ratna Award 2019' by the All India Agricultural Students Association.
- ✚ He has been awarded for dissemination of 30-crore entrepreneurship project in agri-business and for motivating students to the agriculture sector in the State.
- ✚ The award was conferred at the 5th National Youth Convention at Indira Gandhi Krishi Vishwavidyalaya in Raipur recently.

Foot Notes:

About Tamil Nadu

Chief Minister: Edappadi K. Palaniswami

Capital: Chennai

Governor: Banwarilal Purohit

3. India's hockey Captain Rani Rampal wins 'World Games Athlete of the Year' award.

- ✚ Indian women's team captain Rani Rampal became the first-ever hockey player to win the prestigious 'World Games Athlete of the Year' award.
- ✚ The World Games announced the winner on after 20 days of polling by sports fans world-wide.
- ✚ Rani, who has been a member of the national team since she was 15-years-old, currently has more than 240 caps for India.
- ✚ Under Rani's leadership, the Indian women's team qualified for just the third Olympic Games in its history.

Obituaries

1. NBA legend Kobe Bryant killed in helicopter crash

- ✚ Kobe Bryant, one of the NBA's all-time greatest players whose international stardom transcended basketball, was killed at age 41 in a helicopter crash near Los Angeles.
- ✚ His daughter Gianna, 13, were among the nine killed when the aircraft came down in Calabasas.
- ✚ Bryant rocketed to fame as an 18-year-old rookie and played 20 years for the Los Angeles Lakers, winning five NBA championships.
- ✚ The cause of the crash was unknown, and an investigation by the Federal Aviation Administration and the National Transportation Safety Board could take months.

2. Noted artist and sculptor Sher Singh Kukkal passes away

- ✚ Noted artist and sculptor Sher Singh Kukkal passed away. He was awarded Senior Fellowship in Visual Art Photography by Union Ministry Of Culture during 2008-09.

3. Sahityacharya Dr Golok Chandra Goswami passes away.

- ✚ Eminent scholar, linguist and litterateur Sahityacharya Dr Golok Chandra Goswami passed away.
- ✚ Dr Goswami attended a number of national and international seminars on linguistics, representing Assam and India. He was the founder president of Assam Bhasha Bigyan Samiti.
- ✚ Goswami pursued his master's degree in Assamese language in Gauhati University, Assam. In 1985 he retired from Gauhati University as head of the Assamese department. In 2018, he was awarded with Hemchandra Barua Bhasha Sahitya Sadhana award by Satin-Pratidin group.

4. Former Kerala Minister and veteran Congress leader M Kamalam passes away at 92.

- ✚ Former Kerala state Minister and veteran Congress leader M Kamalam passed away at her residence in Kozhikode. Kamalam was active in politics for seven decades.
- ✚ She was Co-operation Minister between 1982-1985 during Chief Minister K Karunakaran's tenure.
- ✚ She represented the Kalpetta Assembly constituency twice, having won in 1980 and in 1982.
- ✚ During her long political career, she served as Vice President and general secretary of the Kerala Pradesh Congress Committee (KPCC) and member of the All India Congress Committee (AICC). She had also served as Chairperson of the Kerala Women's Commission.



Now Govt. Job is in Your Hand !!

India's #1
Educational App

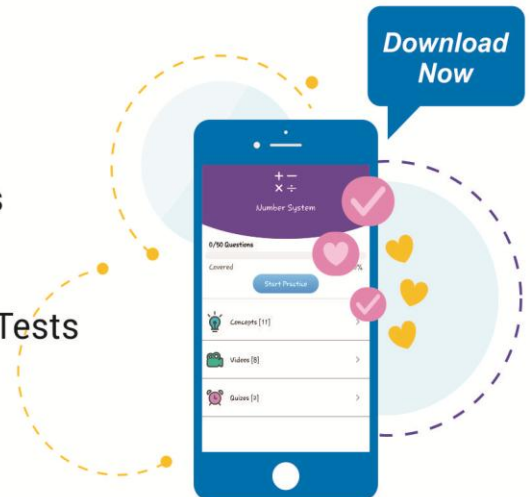
makemyexam



make **MY** exam



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



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

BANK ALL EXAMS

VIDEO COURSE

395 Videos

₹3749/-



Videos by IBT Experts

RAILWAY ALL EXAMS

VIDEO COURSE

602 Videos

₹3499/-



Videos by IBT Experts

SSC ALL EXAMS

VIDEO COURSE

688 Videos

₹3599/-



Videos by IBT Experts

SBI CLERK (PRE)

VIDEO COURSE

327 Videos

₹2499/-



Videos by IBT Experts

RAILWAY NTPC

VIDEO COURSE

602 Videos

₹2699/-



Videos by IBT Experts

SSC CGL EXAM

VIDEO COURSE

688 Videos

₹2999/-



Videos by IBT Experts

SBI PO (PRE)

VIDEO COURSE

327 Videos

₹2499/-



Videos by IBT Experts

RBI ASSISTANT (PRE)

VIDEO COURSE

327 Videos

₹2499/-



Videos by IBT Experts

SSC CHSL EXAM

VIDEO COURSE

688 Videos

₹2999/-



Videos by IBT Experts

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