



# WEEKLY G.K.

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## **National News**

### **✚ Times of India Sports Awards (TOISA) 2019 function held in New Delhi.**

- World champion shuttler PV Sindhu was named Sportsperson of the Year at the fourth Times of India Sports Awards (TOISA) 2019 in New Delhi.
- Rio Olympic silver medallist Sindhu, who won the world championship gold at Basel, Switzerland, last year also bagged the Unbreakable Spirit of Sports award.
- Former India football captain Bhaichung Bhutia was given the Lifetime Achievement award, while hockey legend and three-time Olympic gold medallist Balbir Singh Sr was honoured with the Icon of the Century award.
- National badminton coach Pulella Gopichand won the Mentor of the Year award, while former shooter Jaspal Rana was recognised as the Coach of the Year.

### **✚ Smriti Irani releases book titled “Chronicles of Change Champions”.**

- Union Minister for Women and Child Development Smriti Zubin Irani released a book titled ‘Chronicles of Change Champions’ at an event held in New Delhi.
- The book is a compilation of 25 innovative initiatives taken at the state and district levels under the Prime Minister’s flagship scheme of Beti Bachao, Beti Padhao.
- It captures the convergent approach adopted at the grass-root level and provides insight into the unique manner of community engagement by the District Administration and front-line workers.
- The Minister informed that this year the Ministry will work with the Human Resource Development Ministry to launch a mission to get out-of-school girls back into schools with the help of the local community.
- The Beti Bachao, Beti Padhao scheme was launched by Prime Minister Narendra Modi on 22nd January 2015 at Panipat, Haryana as a comprehensive programme to address the declining Child Sex Ratio and the related issues of empowerment of women over a life-cycle continuum.

### **✚ Fourth Global Ayurveda Festival to be held at Kochi from 16-20 May, 2020.**

- The Fourth Global Ayurveda Festival (GAF), will be held at Kochi in Kerala from 16th to 20th May 2020.
- This festival is organized by the Centre for Innovation in Science and Social Action (CISSA).
- The theme of the event is “Ayurveda Medical Tourism: Actualizing India’s credibility”.
- On 5th March 2020 a curtain raiser event was held at New Delhi for this festival.
- GAF 2020 is conducted to project and promote the Ayurveda and also to showcase the potential of Ayurveda to the world.
- The GAF 2020 will bring the world of Ayurveda’s medical wellness care providers and its health seekers to one platform.

### **✚ TIME Magazine named Indira Gandhi & Amrit Kaur among the world’s 100 powerful women of the year Project.**

- TIME Magazine created 100 New Covers for the Project ‘100 women of the year’ to recognize selected women or groups to represent each year from 1920 to 2019.
- India’s Freedom Fighter Amrit Kaur will be honored as ‘Women of the Year’ for 1947 & Former Prime Minister Indira Gandhi for 1976.
- For 72 years it had been named a Man of the year, almost always a man.
- In 1999 Man of the Year was changed to Person of the Year to make gender equality.
- Purpose of the project is to highlight influential women who were mostly overshadowed & also include women who have occupied positions from which men were often chosen.

### **✚ Narendra Singh Tomar announced that Government plans to achieve 75 lakh SHGs by 2022.**

- Shri Narendra Singh Tomar, Union Minister for Agriculture & Farmers Welfare, Rural Development and Panchayat Raj, announced that the Rural Development Ministry plans to add more than 14 lakhs SHGs (Self Help Groups) to achieve 75 lakh SHGs by the year 2022 to enable more women to get livelihood. The Minister announced this during the programme on Women's Empowerment to mark the International Women's Day held in New Delhi.
- Women's SHGs are the backbone of poverty alleviation programmes and the entire focus of the Ministry is towards women's freedom. Currently, there are 60.8 lakh SHGs across the country comprising about 6 crores 73 lakh women. The government provides training and funds to SHGs for livelihood mission, by linking them through banks for easy credit flows.

#### **India remains second-largest arms importer in 2019.**

- India retains its position as the second-largest arms importer in the world followed by Saudi Arabia, says a new report by Stockholm International Peace Research Institute. India's neighbour Pakistan ranked 11th.
- The SIPRI report shows how Russia gradually lost the lucrative Indian arms market over the years, though the communist country remains a key supplier. Although India remains the main recipient of Russian arms in 2015-19, accounting for 25% of the total, Russian arms exports to India fell by 47 percent between 2010-14 and 2015-19.
- The USA became the second-largest arms supplier to India in 2010-14. China, on the other hand, accounted for 51% of Pakistan's arms imports in 2010-14 and for 73% in 2015-19.

#### **Anti-HIV drugs used to treat coronavirus for the First time in India.**

- India has, for the first time, used the Lopinavir/ Ritonavir combination, usually a second line HIV medication, in the treatment of two Italian patients who tested positive for COVID-19 in Jaipur.
- ICMR (Indian Council of Medical Research) has taken approval for use of second-line HIV
- drugs on COVID patients, but this Lopinavir/Ritonavir combination therapy has been approved for emergency use among COVID-19 patients with a moderate degree of severity with laid down protocols.
- Till now, this combination therapy has been given to two Italian patients hospitalised in Jaipur.

#### **Maharashtra Govt approved implementation of "happy hour" for autorickshaws**

- Maharashtra Government has approved the implementation of "happy hours" for auto rickshaws, reducing 15% of fare prices from 12 pm to 4 pm, barring the minimum fare for first 1.5 km, as recommended by Khatua panel. The decision will however not be applicable to local taxis and app-based taxis.
- The panel also recommended a new concept will turn lean hours to happy hours, for housewives and senior citizens who normally don't have a fixed schedule for their outings. While the citizens appreciated the move, the auto-rickshaw unions have indicated that they will oppose the move.

#### **Rajya Sabh approves minor changes in bill to include tribal communities of Karnataka in ST category**

- Rajya Sabha approved some minor changes made by Lok Sabha in the Constitution (Scheduled Tribes) Order Amendment Bill, 2019. Tribal Affairs minister Arjun Munda moved the
- amendments made by Lok Sabha in the Constitution (Scheduled Tribes) Order (Amendment) Bill, 2019 for consideration. The amendments are replacing the word 'seventieth' to 'seventy-first' and figure '2019' to '2020' at line one in the first page. The bill also seeks to include Parivara and Talawara tribal communities of Karnataka in the (Scheduled Tribes) category to ensure they get the reservation and other benefits provided by the government.

#### **3-day aviation exhibition 'Wings India 2020' and air show begins in Hyderabad**

- The three -day civil aviation business exhibition and air show, 'Wings India 2020' has begun in Hyderabad.
- The biennial event being organized by Ministry of Civil Aviation and Airports Authority of India along with the Federation of Indian Chambers of Commerce and Industry (FICCI) will continue at the

Begumpet airport. On the first day, Business to Business and Business to Government meetings are taking place in which a number of aviation majors including

- Airbus, Boeing and others are taking place. The biennial event will have dazzling aerobatics twice a day by two teams - Sarang, the helicopter aerobatics team of Indian Air Force and Global Stars team of British pilots on fixed wing aircrafts.

#### **LPG scheme PM Ujjwala Yojana closed; only 3 States & 5 UTs become kerosene-free**

- In accordance with the report of the Parliamentary Committee on Petroleum headed by BJP (Bharatiya Janata Party) member Ramesh Bidhuri, only three States and five Union Territories have become kerosene-free even though in September 2019 the government has met the target of 8 crore LPG (Liquefied petroleum gas) connections under the Pradhan Mantri Ujjwala Yojana (PMUY).
- The kerosene-free states are Haryana, Punjab and Andhra Pradesh and Union Territories (UTs) are Delhi, Chandigarh, Daman & Diu, Dadar & Nagar Haveli, Andaman &
- Nicobar Island and Puducherry. The report points the gap between the continuing use of kerosene and the claim of 97% LPG coverage nationwide.

#### **15 outstanding women honoured with Nari Shakti Puraskar by President on International Women's Day.**

- President Ram Nath Kovind gave away the Nari Shakti Puraskar to 15 women in Rashtrapati Bhawan on the occasion of International Women's Day.
- The awardees are 103 year old athlete Mann Kaur, Indian Air Force's first women fighter pilots Mohana Singh, Bhawana Kanth and Avani Chaturvedi, Farmers Padala Bhudevi and Bina Devi, Artisan Arifa Jaan, Environmentalist Chami Murmu, Entrepreneur Nilza Wangmo, Automotive research professional Rashmi Urdhwardeshe, Lady Mason Kalavati Devi, Twin Mountaineers Tashi and Nungshi Malik classical vocalist Kaushiki Chakroborty and 98 year old Karthyayini Amma who topped the literacy exam in 2018.
- Another awardee 105 year old Bhageerathi Amma could not travel to Delhi to receive the award. The National Award is given annually to individuals, groups, institutions in recognition of their exceptional work towards the cause of women empowerment, especially for vulnerable and marginalized women.

#### **Assam govt to construct 33 stadiums in state under Uttran scheme**

- The Assam government will construct 33 stadiums in the state under the 'Uttaran' scheme. The 300 crore rupees will be spent to build the stadiums across the state.
- 500 playgrounds are being developed in the state to encourage rural talents.
- Also, 50 thousand rupees will be given to one thousand players and 2500 clubs to get a grant of Rs. 75 thousand to promote sports in the state.

#### **Mumbai Central station to be renamed as "Nana Shankarsheth" Mumbai Central railway station**

- Maharashtra government has approved to rename the Mumbai Central Station as Nana Shankarsheth Mumbai Central Railway Station.
- Station has been renamed to Nana Shankarsheth Central Railway Station because of his involvement in the formation of Indian Railway association and to bring railways in India.
- The Bombay Central is designed by British architect Claude Batley. The first railway in India ran over 21 miles from Bombay to Thane.

## **International News & Foreign Affairs**

#### **India, US signed Rs 1200 crore deal for protection system of new VVIP aircraft.**

- India and the United States have signed a Rs 1200 crore deal for acquiring missile protection suites for the new Boeing VVIP planes that India is acquiring for the President and the Prime Minister.



- The new aircraft will be used for both international and domestic visits of the President and Prime Minister.
- The missile protection suites on the two Boeing-777 Extended Range planes will provide it the capability to fend off any missile attacks.
- A new 28-acre facility will also be created at the Indira Gandhi International Airport for housing the new Boeing 777 aircraft.
- The aircraft will be flown by Indian Air Force pilots who are getting trained in India by Air India which already operates the Boeing 777 in its fleet.
- The two planes are expected to arrive in India by the middle of 2020 to begin the VVIP duties.

#### **World Health Organization declares Covid-19(coronavirus) as a pandemic.**

- World Health Organization (WHO) has characterised the new coronavirus outbreak as a pandemic.
- WHO chief Tedros Adhanom Ghebreyesus told reporters in Geneva that he is alarmed by the spread and severity of the outbreak, along with a lack of action taken to combat it.
- UN chief Antonio Guterres has urged world governments to urgently scale up their response to the novel coronavirus if they are to stand a chance of stemming its spread.
- UN Secretary-General said the declaration of coronavirus outbreak as a pandemic is a call to action - for everyone, everywhere. He called on every government to step up and scale up their efforts now.

#### **World's first Digital Solutions Exchange Cloud "GOKADDAL" launched in India**

- GOKADDAL, world's first Digital Solutions Exchange in the cloud has been launched in India .It is a one of its kind solutions aggregator, marketplace and cloud delivery platform.
- GOKADDAL is going to revolutionize the way digital solutions are sourced, delivered and managed. GOKADDAL Technologies is a Dubai based emerging technology company. For solution seekers, GOKADDAL provides features like solution search, compare, use EOI/Bidding process to select the right solution in the right budget.

#### **Bill Gates resigns from Microsoft's board to focus on philanthropy.**

- Microsoft founder Bill Gates stepping down from Microsoft's board of directors. He wants to dedicate more time to his philanthropic priorities including global health, development, education, and his increasing engagement in tackling climate change.
- He also stepped down from the board of Warren Buffett's Berkshire Hathaway Inc, where he had served since 2004.

## **New Appointments and Person in News**

#### **Kareena Kapoor Khan inks 2-yr contract as Puma's brand ambassador.**

- German sportswear brand Puma has signed a two-year deal with Indian film actress Kareena Kapoor Khan to be its brand ambassador.
- With this deal she joins the brand's roster of celebrity faces such as Virat Kohli, Sara Ali Khan, MC Mary Kom and Dutee Chand.
- Khan will be the face for Puma's soon-to-be launched collection of low-intensity training apparel collection targeted at workouts such as yoga, barre, and pilates.
- Puma sells performance and sport-inspired lifestyle products in categories such as football, running and training, basketball, golf, and motorsports.

#### **Former I&B secretary "Bimal Julka" takes oath as Chief Information Commissioner.**

- President Ram Nath Kovind administered the oath of office to Bimal Julka as Chief Information Commissioner (CIC).
- Julka, who has earlier served as the Union Information and Broadcasting Secretary, was administered the oath of the office at a ceremony held at Rashtrapati Bhavan.

- The post was vacant in Central Information Commission after chief Sudhir Bhargava retired on January 11.

✚ **Jack Ma became Asia's wealthiest man, leaving Mukesh Ambani behind.**

- Indian energy tycoon Mukesh Ambani is no longer Asia's richest man, relinquishing the title to Jack Ma after oil prices collapsed along with global stocks. The novel coronavirus recession warning erased \$5.8 billion from Ambani's net worth on and pushed him to No. 2 on the list of Asia's richest people. Ma, the Alibaba Group Holding Ltd. founder who relinquished the No. 1 ranking in mid- 2018, is back on top with a \$44.5 billion fortune, about \$2.6 billion more than Ambani.
- Oil plunged the most in 29 years as Saudi Arabia and Russia vowed to pump more in a struggle for market share. The slump comes just as the coronavirus is spurring the first decline in demand in more than a decade.

✚ **Nupur Kulshrestha becomes Indian Coast Guard's first woman DIG.**

- Nupur Kulshrestha becomes the 1st woman to be promoted as Deputy Inspector General (DIG) of Indian Coast Guard. She joined Indian Coast Guard in 1999.
- On August 18, 1978 ICG was established by the Coast Guard Act, 1978 of the Parliament of India as an independent Armed force of India & is operated under the Ministry of defence.
- It is an armed forces & multi-mission organisation, which conducts real life operations at sea round the year. Maritime zones of India are divided into 5 coast guard regions, namely; North- West, West, East, North-East & Andaman & Nicobar & are headquartered in Gandhinagar, Mumbai, Chennai, Kolkata & Port Blair.

## **Banking**

✚ **EPFO lowers interest rate on deposits from 8.65% to 8.5% for 2019-20.**

- Retirement fund body, Employees' Provident Fund Organization, (EPFO) lowered the interest rate on provident fund deposits to 8.5 per cent for the current financial year.
- Earlier it was 8.65 percent. Labour Minister "Santosh Gangwar" made this announcement in New Delhi after the meeting of the EPFO apex decision making body - the Central Board of Trustee.

✚ **Former SBI CFO "Prashant Kumar" took charge as Yes Bank administrator.**

- Yes Bank said Prashant Kumar, former deputy managing director and CFO of State Bank of India, has taken charge as its administrator.
- The private sector lender was placed under a moratorium, with the RBI capping deposit withdrawals at Rs 50,000 per account for a month and superseding its board.
- Kumar taking charge as the Yes Bank administrator is in line with notifications issued by the Department of Financial Services and the RBI.

✚ **SBI Life Insurance Company re-appoints "Sanjeev Nautiyal" as MD & CEO.**

- The Board of Directors of SBI Life Insurance Company re-appointed Sanjeev Nautiyal as managing director (MD) and chief executive officer of the company (CEO) with effect from March 10, 2020.
- This approval is given by the Insurance Regulatory and Development Authority of India (IRDAI) and members of the Company.
- He served as a Managing Director and Chief Executive Officer of the SBI Life since March 10, 2018.

✚ **Amitabh Bachchan to be a first-ever Brand Ambassador of IDFC FIRST Bank**

- Bollywood actor Amitabh Bachchan was appointed as the first-ever ambassador of the IDFC FIRST Bank.
- Mr. Bachchan is a winner of countless prestigious national awards, an all-time favourite of the masses, and the country's most celebrated actor.

- IDFC FIRST Bank was founded as a new entity by the merger of IDFC Bank and Capital First on December 18, 2018.

✚ **SBI to buy worth Rs 7250 crore shares of cash-strapped Yes Bank at Rs 10 per share**

- The State Bank of India said that it will buy shares worth 7,250 crore rupees of the cash- strapped Yes Bank in accordance with the draft reconstruction scheme envisaged by the Reserve Bank of India.
- SBI said that its board has permitted the purchase of the private lender's shares at a price of 10 rupees per share subject to all regulatory approvals. SBI's shareholding in Yes Bank
- will remain within 49 percent of the paid-up capital. According to RBI's reconstruction scheme, the strategic investor was not only supposed to pick up 49 percent stake but assure that the holding will not fall below 26 percent for a minimum period of three years from the date of capital infusion.

## Science Tech & Defence

✚ **Final exercise of the National level Search and Rescue Exercise (SAREX-2020) conducted by the Indian Coast Guard in the sea at Vasco.**

- Final exercise of the National level Search and Rescue Exercise (SAREX-2020) was conducted by the Indian Coast Guard in the sea at Vasco, South Goa district.
- The exercise was carried out and rehearsals for SAREX were conducted on March 4.
- It was observed by observers from 19 countries. ICG conducts this exercise biennially under the aegis of National Maritime Search and Rescue Board (NMSARB) since 2003.

✚ **Gujarat tops in domestic solar rooftop installations.**

- Gujarat has topped the list in the installations of solar rooftop plants across the country with about 50,915 systems being fixed on domestic rooftops in the state. Maharashtra follows with 5,513 installations.
- Of 79,950 systems installed across the country, Gujarat has topped with 64 percent or two-thirds of total domestic solar rooftop installations.

✚ **Punjab Govt launches "COVA Punjab" Mobile Application.**

- The Punjab government has launched a mobile app called COVA Punjab to make people aware of coronavirus (COVID-19) and its prevention and precautions. In this mobile app, travel- related and other preventive measures have been told to avoid the coronavirus.
- The Chief Secretary of Punjab Government Vini Mahajan said on this occasion that citizens should be aware of the COVID-19 virus. It can be downloaded from Android or iPhone.
- This mobile app will help people to identify such symptoms which can help them to identify
- Coronavirus at an early stage. People will also get information about the Special Nodal Officer for Corona in the nearest hospital and district.

✚ **DST sanctioned Rs 7.25 cr to IIT Mandi for establishment of Technology hub**

- The Department of Science and Technology (DST) sanctioned Rs 7.25 crore to the Indian Institute of Technology (IIT) Mandi, Himachal Pradesh to set up a Technology Innovation Hub (TIH) at the institute under the National Mission on Interdisciplinary Cyber-Physical Systems (NM-ICPS).
- The major focus of the TIH in IIT Mandi will be on human-computer interaction (HCI) research, where projects will focus on design and development of computer technology (interfaces) and the study of interaction between humans (users) and computers. Also, the TIH will focus on human resource and skill development, entrepreneurship and collaboration with other leading institutions. HCI is focused on the ways in which humans interact with computers and design technologies that let humans interact with computers in novel ways. As a field of research, HCI is situated at the intersection of computer science, behavioural sciences, design, and media studies among others.

**Newly Discovered insect species “Kaikaia gaga” named after famous singer Lady Gaga**

- Newly discovered species of treehopper has been named “Kaikaia Gaga” after American singer Lady Gaga. The species was named by Brendan Morris, PhD candidate in entomology from University of Illinois, United States (US).
- The species were found near the Pacific coast of Nicaragua and the species looks beautiful, vibrant as pop diva, have crazy horns with wacky fashion sense.
- The information about the new insect species was published in the journal Zootaxa (which focuses on animal taxonomy).
- The treehopper is not the first species to be named after a famous musician. A deep-sea crustacean was named from American heavy metal band Metallica and is now known as Macrostylis metallica in february 2020 and the Synalpheus pinkfloydi shrimp was named after the English rock band Pink Floyd.

**Facebook launches ‘Pragati’ scheme to boost women entrepreneurship in India**

- Facebook India called for applications for its CSR initiative, Facebook Pragati.
- The initiative will incubate and accelerate early-stage women-led non-profits that are working to drive women entrepreneurship and to spread awareness and adoption of technology among women in India.
- Facebook Pragati will award four grants of up to ₹50 lakh for each non-profit to scale their work. Non-profits that are less than three years old and have at least one woman founder can apply. The programme will work on building second-tier capacity within the non-profits, with a series of functional mentors across marketing, HR and technology.
- Apart from creating sustainability, this will also allow founders to spend time on strategic growth, resulting in scaling up faster.

**NASA named Mars 2020 rover as “Perseverance rover”.**

- NASA (National Aeronautics and Space Administration) announced the name of the 5th Mars (red planet) rover as Perseverance. Previously the rover was known by its codename as Mars 2020.
- The name was suggested by Alexander Mather, 7th standard student and was announced by Nasa’s director of science, Thomas Zurbuchen at an event in Lake Braddock Secondary School in Burke, Virginia.
- The Perseverance rover will be the 5th exploratory vehicle after Sojourner, Spirit, Opportunity and Curiosity.

**India plans to launch Chandrayaan-3 by the first half of 2021.**

- According to the Minister of State in the Prime Minister’s Office, Jitendra Singh, a possible schedule for the launch of Chandrayaan-3 is planned to be implemented in the first half of 2021.
- The preparation of Chandrayaan-3 has been done by taking lessons from the previously launched Chandrayaan-2, a Moon mission that was launched in 2019, in which the Indian
- Space and Research Organisation (ISRO)’s Vikram Lander lost contact following a hard landing on the Moon’s surface.
- Chandrayaan-3 will be designed to increase design, capacity with a cost of around Rs 610 crore, including Rs 360 crore for the launch rocket.

**Paytm & Hyderabad Metro tied up for QR-based tickets.**

- Hyderabad Metro Rail Ltd in partnership with Paytm has launched a QR-code-based metro ticketing system at Rasoolpura metro station Hyderabad, Telangana. The new service will enable commuters to travel seamlessly and avoid queues to buy tokens at the metro stations.
- People now can simply purchase a QR ticket on their Paytm app, which can be displayed at the Automatic Fare Collection (AFC) gates to proceed for the journey.

## Important Days



**✦ Pi ( $\pi=3.14$ ) Day was celebrated around the world on March 14**

- Pi Day was celebrated on March 14, 2020 because the date stands as 3/14 in the month/day format. Pi (Greek letter " $\pi$ ") is the symbol used in mathematics to represent a constant and its value up to five decimal places 3.14159. Coincidentally, March 14 is also Physicist Albert Einstein's birthday.
- Pi ( $\pi$ ) is the ratio of a circle's circumference to its diameter. The diameter of a circle is the distance from edge to edge (measuring through the center) & the circumference is the distance around the circle.
- In 2009, the United States House of Representatives supported the designation of Pi day.
- Pi Approximation Day is observed on July 22 (22/7 in the day/month format), since the fraction (22/7) is the common approximation of Pi.
- Hind Pi day, also known as Tau Day for the mathematical constant ( $\tau$ ), is observed on June 28 (6/28 in the month/day format) and the constant is equal to  $2\pi$  (2 times of pi) and approximately 6.28.

## Sports

**✦ Pooja Rani and Vikas Krishan become first Indian boxers to qualify for Tokyo Olympics.**

- Asian champion Pooja Rani in the 75kg category and Vikas Krishan in 69kg category became the first set of Indian boxers to qualify for Tokyo Olympics 2020. Both boxers advanced to the semifinals of the continental qualifiers at Amman in Jordan.
- While fourth-seeded Rani notched up an easy 5-0 win over Thailand's Pornnipa Chutee while Krishan could win after a tough encounter defeating Japanese Sewonrets Okazawa.
- Rani secured her maiden Olympic spot while Krishan will be making his third successive appearance at the quadrennial showpiece. Rani will next face the reigning world and Asian champion Li Qian of China, who has the top billing in this category.

**✦ IPL 2020 postponed till April 15 due to the coronavirus outbreak**

- The rise in the number of coronavirus cases has prompted the Board of Control for Cricket in India (BCCI) to postpone IPL 2020.
- As a precautionary measure against the COVID-19 infection, the BCCI postponed the tournament till April 15.
- The Twenty20 cricket tournament was scheduled to commence on March 29.
- The news came after Delhi government suspended all the matches of this year's IPL in the national capital. The 2020 Indian Premier League will be the thirteenth season of the IPL.

**✦ Times of India Sports Awards (TOISA) 2019 function held in New Delhi.**

- World champion shuttler PV Sindhu was named Sportsperson of the Year at the fourth Times of India Sports Awards (TOISA) 2019 in New Delhi.
- Rio Olympic silver medallist Sindhu, who won the world championship gold at Basel, Switzerland, last year also bagged the Unbreakable Spirit of Sports award.
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## Obituaries

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- He had been suffering from carcinoma for long and been admitted to a hospital on February 4 with blood sugar and hypertension.
- Born in Kolkata in 1951, Mukhopadhyay showed his class when he was in early 20s in films like 'Sansar Simante' and 'Raja' by Tarun Majumder and Tapan Sinha respectively.

### **Former Law Minister and former governor of Karnataka & Kerala “H. R. Bhardwaj” passed away at 83.**

- Hansraj Bhardwaj, former Union Law Minister and former governor of Karnataka & Kerala, Senior Congress leader passed away at the age of 83 in New Delhi, India. He was born in Garhi Sampla village in Rohtak district, Haryana. He also holds the record of India's second longest serving Law Minister. He served as Rajya Sabha member for 5 terms from April 1982 to May 2009.
- He served as the Minister of State for Law and Justice in the governments led by Indira Gandhi, Rajiv Gandhi and P.V. Narasimha Rao and also served as the Cabinet Minister of Law and Justice .

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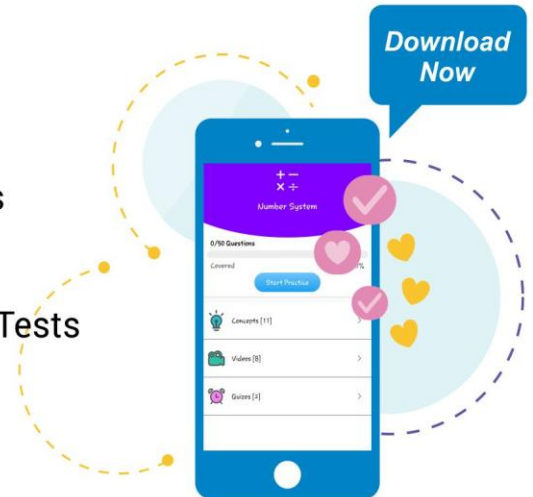
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Videos by IBT Experts

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