



Presents

Monthly Current Affairs - February 2020

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World Economic Situation Prospects

NATIONAL
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2020
LUCKNOW



8 States finalise action plan for Agriculture export policy

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1. Important Days

Date	Day	Important Details
February 01	Indian Coast Guard Day	<p>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.</p> <p>It operates under the Ministry of Defence.</p>
February 02	World Wetlands Day	<p>World Wetlands Day (WWD) was observed to spread awareness and to conserve the wetlands all over the world.</p> <p>Theme: "Wetlands and Biodiversity". The theme highlights the importance of biodiversity conservation, which conveys nearly 40% of the world's plant & animal species live or breed on wetlands.</p>
February 04	World Cancer Day	<p>The World Cancer Day is being marked annually on February 4 by the Union for International Cancer Control. The day is being marked from 2008. The day is observed by the United Nations as well. The theme of this year's World Cancer Day is "I am and I will". This theme is being followed for the years of 2019-2021.</p> <p>According to WHO, every year 8.8 million people die of cancer in low- and middle-income countries. The World Cancer Day is marked to reduce illness and death caused by cancer.</p>
February 06	International Day of Zero Tolerance for Female Genital Mutilation	<p>International Day of Zero Tolerance for Female Genital Mutilation is a United Nations – sponsored annual awareness day that takes place on 6th February as part of the UN's efforts to eradicate female genital mutilation.</p>

February 10	World Pulses Day	<p>World Pulses Day has been designated on Feb 10 each year since 2019 by the 73rd session of the United Nations General Assembly on Dec 20, 2018.</p> <p>It is established by the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations to recognize the importance of pulses (dry beans, lentils, dry peas, chickpeas, lupins) as global food.</p>
February 11	International Day of Women and Girls in Science	<p>International Day of Women and Girls in Science is observed globally on 11 February. International Day of Women and Girls in Science to recognize the critical role of women and girls play in science and technology. In December 2015, the United Nations adopted a resolution to celebrate February 11 as the International Day of Women and Girls in Science.</p>
February 11	World Unani Day	<p>World Unani Day was celebrated on February 11, 2020, since 2017. The day marks the birthday of great Unani scholar and social reformer “Hakim Ajmal Khan”. Defence Minister Shri Rajnath Singh was the chief guest of the 4th Unani day function organized by AYUSH (Ayurveda, Yoga & Naturopathy, Unani, Siddha and Homeopathy) Ministry, New Delhi, India.</p>
February 12	National Productivity Day	<p>National Productivity Day is observed on 12 February annually. The day is celebrated by the National Productivity Council (NPC) to promote productivity culture in India.</p> <p>National Productivity Council (NPC) under the Ministry of Commerce and Industry Government of India is a premier institution for propagating productivity movement in India. NPC works for providing solutions towards accelerating productivity, enhancing competitiveness, increasing productivity. The seven days period from 12th February to 18th February 2020 as “Productivity Week” throughout the country.</p>

February 13	The World Radio Day	<p>The World Radio Day(WRD) is celebrated every year on 13th February to celebrate radio as the medium for entertainment, information and the mode of communication.</p> <p>The theme of this year's World Radio Day is 'Radio and Diversity'</p>
February 13	National Women's Day of India 2020	<p>India celebrates Sarojini Naidu's birthday as National Women's Day every year on February 13. This year Nation celebrates its 141st Birth Anniversary. She was born on February 13, 1879. She was famous for her nickname 'Nightingale of India' or 'Bharat Kokila' because of her poems.</p>
February 19	Soil Health Card Day	<p>Prime Minister Narendra Modi had launched the Soil Health Card (SHC) Scheme on 19th February 2015 at Suratgarh in Rajasthan. The scheme aims at issuing soil health cards to farmers every two years so as to provide a basis to address nutritional deficiencies in soil.</p>
February 20	World Day of Social Justice	<p>The United Nations (UN) World Day of Social Justice is annually observed on 20th February to encourage people to look at how social justice affects poverty eradication.</p> <p>It also focuses on the goal of achieving full employment and support for social integration.</p> <p>The theme for 2020 is "Closing the Inequalities Gap to Achieve Social Justice".</p>
February 21	International Mother Language Day	<p>International Mother Language Day (IMLD) is a worldwide annual observance held on 21 February to promote awareness of linguistic and cultural diversity and promote multilingualism.</p>

February 24	Central Excise Day	<p>Central Excise Day is celebrated every year all across the India on 24th of February.</p> <p>Central Excise Day is used to collect the Tax from the people by applying the Tax on the Goods and Services.</p>
February 28	National Science Day	<p>National Science Day is being celebrated today. It is celebrated every year to commemorate the discovery of the Raman Effect.</p> <p>On this day, Sir CV Raman had announced the discovery of the Raman Effect for which he was awarded the Nobel Prize in 1930.</p>

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2. Rankings & Indexes

S.No	Rankings & Indexes	Top Rank /India's rank
1.	Breast Feeding support Policies and Programs	1st Place – Srilanka
2	Global MOOC performance among Business schools	1. HEC Paris, France 2. Wharton School of the University of Pennsylvania, United States (US) 3. IIM-Bengaluru, Karnataka
3	40th in Global Intellectual Property Index 2020	1. US 2. UK 40.India

4	22nd Ethnologue	1. English 2. Chinese Mandarin 3. Hindi
5	Worldwide Education for The Future Index	1. Finland 35. India
6.	Sustainability & Child flourishing index	1. Norway 2. Republic of Korea India's Rank – 77(Sustainability) 131(child flourishing index)
7	Hurun Global Rich List	1. Jeff Bezos 9. Mukesh Ambani
8.	IMF's October World Economic Outlook.	1.UK 2.France 5.India

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3. Summit / Conference

National:

East Asia Summit On Maritime Cooperation To Be Held In Chennai

The Ministry of External Affairs is to organize East Asia Summit in Chennai. This is the fifth time the conference is being held in India. The conference is to be held in cooperation with the governments of Australia and Indonesia.

About Tamil Nadu:

Capital: Chennai

Chief Minister: Edappadi K. Palaniswami

Governor: Banwarilal Purohit

Mumbai hosts National Conference on E-Governance

National Conference on e-Governance 2020 was held in Mumbai, Maharashtra. The Mumbai Declaration was adopted on the concluding day of the National Conference on e-Governance. The theme of the conference is: India 2020: Digital Transformation. The National e-Governance Awards 2020 were also presented during the conference.

The National Conference on E-Governance was organised jointly by the Department of Administrative Reforms and Public Grievances, Ministry of Electronics and Information Technology, Government of India and Department of Information Technology, Government of Maharashtra.

Kerala to hosts Intl conference on Climate change & Ocean health “CLIMFISHCON-2020”

The “CLIMISHCON” is a Four-day International Conference on changes in Hydrological cycle, Ocean ecosystem, Fisheries and Food security due to Global climate change. And the conference is going to be held at the Le Meridian Convention center in Kochi, Kerala from February 11 to February 14, 2020.

The conference is jointly organized by the Department of Fisheries, Kerala and the CUSAT (Cochin University of Science and Technology) School of Industries Fisheries, and ‘Climate Change-Effective Adaptation for a Secure Future’ is becoming the Theme for the conference.

5th India-Russia Military Industrial Conference in Lucknow

The fifth India-Russia Military Industrial Conference was held on the sidelines of the ongoing Def Expo 2020 in Lucknow; Over 100 Russian and over 200 Indian industry leaders participated in the conference.

14 MoUs were signed between Indian and Russian companies under the Make in India initiative. The MoUs were related to production of different defence equipment such as parts of T-72, T-90, radar systems, ASW Rocket launchers and 3D modeling.

“Central Asia Business Council” launched in New Delhi

The “Central Asia Business Council” was launched in New Delhi. The event was organized by Federation of Indian Chambers of Commerce & Industry (FICCI) and addressed by India’s External Affairs Minister Dr S Jaishankar. This was the first instance when the business chambers of all five Central Asian states i.e. Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Uzbekistan, Turkmenistan and Tajikistan, were brought together by India to push trade and investment partnership.

Bangladesh: 5th Dhaka Art Summit inaugurated

The fifth edition of the biennial art extravaganza of Bangladesh, Dhaka Art Summit was inaugurated by State Minister for Cultural Affairs of Bangladesh K M Khalid yesterday. Varied art-forms including live performance, photography and painting will be brought together during the festival which will continue upto 15th February.

This year’s programmes also include a special exhibition on the life of Sheikh Mujibur Rahman to pay tribute to Bangabandhu on the occasion of his birth centenary.

43rd Governing council meet of IFAD 2020 held in Rome, Italy

The 43rd session of the annual Governing Council meeting of the International Fund for Agricultural Development (IFAD) 2020 based on the theme “Investing in sustainable food systems to end hunger by 2030” was held at FAO (Food and Agriculture Organization) headquarters in Rome, Italy from February 11- 12, 2020.

Amit Shah inaugurates two-day BIMSTEC ‘Conference on Combating Drug Trafficking’, in New Delhi

The Union Minister for Home Affairs, Shri Amit Shah inaugurated the two-day long BIMSTEC (Bay of Bengal Initiative for Multi-Sectoral Technical and Economic Cooperation) ‘Conference on Combating Drug Trafficking’, in New Delhi. It was organized by Narcotics Control Bureau (NCB), Ministry of Home Affairs. This conference was held on the lines of the commitment made by Prime Minister Narendra Modi during the 4th BIMSTEC summit in Nepal’s Kathmandu in 2018.

4th National Conference on PMFBY inaugurated in Udaipur

The 4th National Conference on Review of Implementation of Pradhan Mantri Fasal Bima Yojana (PMFBY) inaugurated in Udaipur, Rajasthan by Sanjay Agarwal, Secretary, Ministry of Agriculture & Farmers Welfare.

International Affairs

43rd IFAD Governing Council in Rome, Italy: Climate Change to push 100 millions to poverty by 2030

The IFAD's 43rd Governing Council meeting was held in Rome, Italy on 11-12 February 2020 on the theme "Investing in sustainable food systems to end hunger by 2030". During the meet, the International Fund for Agricultural Development (IFAD) stated that the sequences of climate change and its impacts on agriculture will push around 100 million people to poverty by 2030.

About IFAD:

- Establishment– 1977
- President– Gilbert F. Hounbo
- Headquarters– Rome, Italy

2020 UN Climate Summit 'COP26' to be held in Glasgow, UK in November

The 26th session of the Conference of the Parties (COP 26) to the UNFCCC (United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change) is scheduled to be held from 9-19 November 2020, at Glasgow's Scottish Events Campus (SEC)in Scotland under the presidency of the UK (United Kingdom) government.

33rd edition of African Union (AU) Summit 2020 held in Addis Ababa, Ethiopia

A 2-day long 33rd African Union (AU) Heads of State Summit 2020 under the theme "Silencing the Guns: Creating Conducive Conditions for Africa's Development" was held in Addis Ababa, Ethiopia.

President of the Republic of South Africa, Cyril Ramaphosa, is the newly elected Chairperson of the African Union for one year. He replaces Egyptian President Abdel Fattah el-Sisi.

Dr. S Jaishankar to inaugurate Indian Pavilion at 70th Berlin International Film Festival

The Ministry of Information & Broadcasting, Government of India, in collaboration with Confederation of Indian Industry (CII) is participating at the '70th Berlin International Film Festival'. The festival will be held from 20th February to 1st March 2020 in Berlin, Germany.

Saudi Arabia hosts G20 finance ministers and central bank governors meeting 2020

The G20 Finance Ministers & Central Bank Governors Meeting was held in Riyadh, Saudi Arabia on 22-23 February 2020 on the theme "Realizing Opportunities of the 21st Century for All". The meet was chaired by the Saudi Arabia's finance minister Mohammed al-Jadaan and central bank governor Ahmed al-Kholify.

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4. Appointments

National New Appointments:

Name	Designation
Arvind Krishna	Chief Executive Officer of American IT giant International Business Machines Corp (IBM)
Ajay Bisaria	Next High Commissioner of India to Canada
M.Ajit kumar	chairman of CBIC
Deepa Malik	India's Paralympics Committee President
Albin Kurti	New Prime Minister of Kosovo
Gopal Baglay	Indian High Commissioner to Sri Lanka
Pramod Agrawal	Coal India chairman
Sourav Ganguly	Goodwill Ambassador for Tokyo Olympics
Rishabh Pant	Brand ambassador of JSW Steel
Jeff Weiner	Executive Chairman of LinkedIn
CNR Nair	To make inventory of ornaments at Sabarimala temple
Atul Gupta	New President of ICAI
Rajiv Bansal	CMD of Air India
ISRO space scientist G Narayanan	chairman of NSIL
Vinay Dube	CEO of GoAir
Sunil Gurbaxani	Dhanlaxmi Bank MD & CEO
Rajlaxmi Singh Deo	President Rowing Federation of India
Ratan Tata	chairman of the advisory council of Mumbai

	University
SN Shrivastava	Delhi Police Commissioner

International New Appointments

Name	Designation
Robin Singh	UAE's Director of Cricket
Barry O'Farrell	Australia's next high commissioner to India
Ms. Padmaja	The next High Commissioner of India to Vanuatu
Jawed Ashraf	The next Ambassador of India to France
Mohammed Tawfiq Allawi	PM of Iraq
Vijay Advani	Chairman of Global Board
Rick Machar	First Vice President in South Sudan
Indian-Origin Minister Suella Braverman	UK's Attorney General

5. Science and Technology**Indian Railways launched HRMS Mobile app for its employees**

In order to bring transparency in the administrative functioning of the Indian Railways, Shri Vinod Kumar Yadav, Chairman of Railway Board has launched HRMS Mobile App, for all the employees of Indian Railways.

The HRMS Employee Mobile App has been designed and developed by Centre for Railway Information System (CRIS)

“PM KISAN” mobile application launched by Agriculture Minister

On the occasion of 1st anniversary of the launch of Pradhan Mantri Kisan Samman Nidhi (PM-KISAN) scheme, Agriculture Minister Narendra Singh Tomar launched PM KISAN mobile application for the further expansion of the scheme.

ISRO to launch GISAT-1 on 05 March

Geosynchronous Satellite Launch Vehicle (GSLV-F10) will launch Geo Imaging Satellite (GISAT-1) from the Second Launch Pad of Satish Dhawan Space Centre (SDSC) SHAR, Sriharikota. The launch is tentatively scheduled at 1743 Hrs IST on March 05, 2020, subject to weather conditions.

CBSE releases an app to locate the Exam Centre

The Central Board of Secondary Education has released an app giving information about the examination center for the convenience of the students. With the help of this app, students will easily search their examination center.

The labour ministry to launch “Santusht” mobile app for ESI beneficiaries

The Union Labour Minister Shri Santosh Kumar Gangwar on Employees State Insurance Corporation (ESIC) foundation day announced about launching “ Santusht” mobile app for the benefit of ESI beneficiaries & launched ESIC’s Special Service Fortnight from February 24 to March 10.

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6. Economic Affairs

Key Highlights of Union Budget 2020-2021

Presenting the first Union Budget of the third decade of the 21st century, Finance Minister -Smt. Nirmala Sitharaman, unveiled a series of far-reaching reforms, aimed at energizing the Indian economy through a combination of short-term, medium-term, and long term measures.

The Union Budget was structured on the overall theme of “Ease of Living”. Further, three prominent themes of the budget are:-

Aspirational India – better standards of living with access to health, education and better jobs for all sections of the society.

Economic Development for all – “Sabka Saath, Sabka Vikas , Sabka Vishwas”.

Caring Society – Both humane and compassionate.

Union Budget 2020

Sector	Allocation
Defence	4.71 lakh crore
Health Sector	67116 crore
Education Sector	99300 crore
Agriculture, Irrigation and Farmers welfare sectors	1.60 lakh crore
Swach Bharat Mission	12,300 crore
Jal Jeevan Mission	11,500 crore
Textile Industry	1,400 crore
Railways & Transportation	72,216 crore

Power & Renewable Budget	22,000 crore
BharatNet Program	6000 crore
Tourism budget	2500 crore
Transport budget	1.7 lakh crore

Income Tax Slab 2020

Income	New Tax Rate
Up to Rs 2.5 lakh	Nil
Rs 2.5 lakh to Rs 5 lakh	5%
Rs 5 lakh to Rs 7.5 lakh	10%
Rs 7.5lakh to Rs 10 lakh	15%
Rs 10 lakh to Rs 12.5 lakh	20%
Rs 12.5 lakh to Rs 15 lakh	25%
Above Rs 15 lakh	30%

Fitch predicts India's FY21 GDP growth at 5.6%

Fitch Ratings Inc. , an American credit rating agency in its 'India's economic growth outlook', has estimated India's GDP (Gross Domestic Product) growth to 5.6 % for the financial year-FY21. For the current fiscal 2019-20 (FY 20), GDP is projected at 4.6 %.

In the Economic Survey, the government has projected GDP growth of 6-6.5 % for FY 21, which is higher than the estimate of 5 % in the current FY 20.

About Fitch:

CEO– Paul Taylor

President– Ian Linnell

ADB approved \$2 million fund amount to combat Corona Virus

The Asian Development Bank (ADB) has approved to sponsor \$2 million as funding to combat the outbreak of novel corona virus (nCoV). Under the funding, regional technical assistance will be provided in Cambodia, China, Laos, Myanmar, Thailand, and Vietnam. ADB has also partnered with the World Health Organisation (WHO) and other regional experts to respond to the 2019 nCoV situation.

About ADB:

Founded- 19 December 1966

Headquarters- Mandaluyong, Philippines.

President- Masatsugu Asakawa.

Moody's cuts India growth projection to 5.4% for 2020 from 6.6%

Moody's on Monday slashed India's growth forecast for 2020 to 5.4 percent from 6.6 percent projected earlier, on slower than expected economic recovery.

It also estimate that G20 (Group of 20) economies will grow at a rate of 2.4 % in 2020, a sluggish move from 2019. China's GDP growth estimated at 5.2 % in 2020 & expected to achieve GDP growth at a rate of 5.7 % in 2021.

6.1 Banking Affairs

Cabinet approves amendments to bring co-operative banks under RBI

Union Cabinet has decided to bring Cooperative banks under the regulatory mechanism of Reserve Bank of India. The move will ensure greater accountability and transparency in the functioning of Cooperative Banks.

The cabinet also approved the IIIT Laws Amendment Bill 2020. Five IIITs in the PPP mode at Surat, Bhopal, Bhagalpur, Agartala and Raichur will be declared as institutions of National importance.

RBI hikes Insurance cover on bank deposits to Rs 5 lakh from Rs 1 lakh

India's central bank, the Reserve Bank of India (RBI) has increased the Insurance cover on bank deposits to Rs 5 lakh from Rs 1 lakh effective from February 4, 2020 with a view to giving protection to depositors.

The cover is provided by a wholly owned subsidiary of the RBI, the Deposit Insurance and Credit Guarantee Corporation (DICGC). The DICGC does not directly charge any premium from the depositor on this insurance. So Now Banks will pay a premium of 12 paise against 10 paise per Rs 100 deposit.

About RBI:

- Headquarters– Mumbai, Maharashtra
- Formation– 1 April 1935
- Governor– Shaktikanta Das

Reliance General Insurance Launches A Comprehensive Health Insurance Plan “Infinity”

Reliance General Insurance, a part of Reliance Capital, launched a comprehensive health insurance plan “Reliance Health Infinity”. This product is specially designed to focus and support the healthcare needs of retail customers with unique benefits. The policy offers 90 days pre and 180 days post hospitalization cover, along with sum insured ranging from Rs 3 lakh to Rs 1 crore, and free restore benefits.

About Reliance General Insurance:

Headquarters – Mumbai, Maharashtra.

ED and CEO – Rakesh Jain

6th Bi-monthly monetary policy 2020 released by RBI

The Reserve Bank of India (RBI) announced its 6th Bi-Monthly Monetary Policy Rates for 2020-21 in Mumbai, Maharashtra. The three-day (February 4-6, 2020) policy review meeting by the 6 members of Monetary Policy Committee (MPC) was headed by RBI Governor Shaktikanta Das with the members Dr. Chetan Ghate, Dr. Pami Dua, Dr. Ravindra H. Dholakia, Dr. Janak Raj, Dr. Michael Debabrata Patra. RBI estimates GDP growth rate estimated to be 6% in FY21.

Policy Rates under Liquidity Adjustment Facility (LAF)

Repo Rate	5.15%
Reverse Repo Rate	4.90%
Marginal standing facility (MSF) Rate	5.40%
Bank Rate	5.40%
Cash reserve Ratio (CRR)	4%
Statutory Liquidity Ratio (SLR)	18.25%

RBI to conduct “Financial Literacy Week 2020”

The Reserve Bank of India (RBI) will conduct the “Financial Literacy Week 2020” from February 10 to February 14, 2020. The theme of the Financial Literacy Week 2020 is “Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises (MSMEs)”. This year India’s central bank is focusing on the Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises. The Financial Literacy Week 2020 will aim to aware people about the formalisation, collateral free loan, discounting of receivables, rehabilitation of stressed units and timely repayment.

About RBI:

- RBI 25th Governor: Shaktikant Das;
- Headquarters: Mumbai;
- Founded: 1 April 1935, Kolkata.

NPCI approves WhatsApp to expand its UPI project 10 million users

National Payments Corporation of India (NPCI) has permitted the instant messaging platform WhatsApp to expand its Unified Payment Interface (UPI) services to 10 million users. “WhatsApp Pay”, a payment feature of WhatsApp has been designed to run on Unified Payment Interface (UPI). The UPI is developed by the National Payments Corporation of India. This facility enables the users do business transactions or to pay others directly through their bank accounts.

Since 2018, WhatsApp is running its pilot project “WhatsApp Pay” for one million users and has finally got the approval from NPCI to expand its customer base.

Union Ministry of Finance has notified ‘Printing of One Rupee Currency Notes Rules, 2020’

The Union Ministry of Finance has notified ‘Printing of One Rupee Currency Notes Rules, 2020’ which will feature bilingual signature of Shri Atanu Chakraborty, Secretary, Ministry of Finance.

Features of One Rupee Note:

It shall be rectangular 9.7 x 6.3 cms, with its paper made of 100% (cotton) rag content.

The note will be 110 microns thick, weighing 90 GSM (Grams per Square Meter).

The pink green colour note will have a design of grains, which depicts the “agricultural dominance of the country”.

The design surrounding will be of the Sagar Samrat, which is an oil exploration rig. The rig drilled the first offshore well in 1974 and has been in service with the Oil and Natural Gas Corporation (ONGC) since.

Gujarat govt partners with SBI to facilitate MSME loans

The Gujarat government signed an MoU with State Bank of India (SBI) to facilitate approval of loans to entrepreneurs in the MSME sector with ease and within a short time-frame.

The bank will provide working capital to entrepreneurs aims to start new MSME within 15 days of making an application.

NPCI launches UPI awareness campaign “UPI Chalega”

National Payments Corporation of India (NPCI) has launched an industry campaign named “UPI Chalega” to promote UPI as Easy, Safe, and Instant mode of payment.

NPCI has launched the campaign in association with the payment ecosystem players.

HDFC Bank launches co-branded credit card with IndiGo

The card is being launched in partnership with Mastercard, which is the largest issuer for HDFC Bank

With over 14 million active cards, HDFC Bank is by far the largest credit card issuer in the country, and hopes to sell 1 million Ka-ching cards over the next three years

RBI mandates linking new loans to medium enterprises to external benchmark

With an aim to strengthen monetary policy transmission, RBI said that all new floating rate loans to the medium enterprises would be linked to the external benchmarks. The fresh loans extended by banks to medium enterprises from April 1, 2020, would be linked to the benchmarks.

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7. MoU /Agreement

International MoUs and Agreements:

S.No	India and country	Field	Country Details
1	India and Maldives	<p>India & Maldives signed 5 MoUs (memorandum of understanding) to establish Addu tourism Zone on 5 islands of Addu Atoll in Maldives with a project cost of \$2.49 million. In addition, an MoU to set up a bottled water plant at Hoarafushi, an inhabited island in Maldives was also signed.</p> <p>The MoUs were signed by the High Commissioner of India Sunjay Sudhir, Minister of Foreign Affairs Abdulla Shahid and Addu City Council.</p>	<p>Prime Minister Narendra Modi</p> <p>Maldives President - Ibrahim Mohamed Solih</p>

2	IOCL and Rosneft	<p>The Minister of Petroleum & Natural Gas and Steel, Shri Dharmendra Pradhan and Mr Igor Sechin, CEO and Chairman of Rosneft signed the 1st ever term contract. The term contract is between State-Owned Indian Oil Corporation Limited (IOCL) and Rosneft for Importing 2 Million Metric Tonnes of Urals grade crude oil to India for the year 2020.</p> <p>India is the 3rd largest Energy Consumer in the world, India imports globally 83% of oil to meet its oil need. India has to enlarge its sources for oil imports away from the Middle East oil producing Countries.</p>	<p>About IOCL:</p> <p>Headquarters- New Delhi, Chairman- Sanjiv Singh Founded- 1959</p> <p>Capital- Moscow Currency- Russian Ruble President- Vladimir Putin.</p>
3	India and Nepal	<p>India and Nepal inked financial closure of Nepal's largest hydropower project, the Arun-III being built with India's assistance. India has pledged an investment of NPR 100 Billion for the 900 MW mega hydropower project being built in Nepal's Sankhuwasabha District.</p>	<p>Nepal PM – KP Sharma Oli</p>
4	Indian Oil Corporation Ltd (IOCL) and Ghana	<p>Indian Oil Corporation Ltd (IOCL) signed a memorandum of understanding (MoU) with Ghana's National Petroleum Authority (NPA) on 23 January 2020 at Shastri Bhawan, New Delhi. The MoU was signed by Union Minister of Petroleum and Natural Gas Dharmendra Pradhan witnesses media signing of an MOU on LPG cooperation with National Petroleum Authority (NPA) and Ministry of Energy (Petroleum) Ghana.</p>	<p>Ghana Capital: Agra</p> <p>Ghana Currency:Cedi</p> <p>Prime Minister - Kwame Nkrumah</p>

5	MorD and BMGF	The MoU reiterates DAY-NRLM and the Foundation's shared focus on improving the lives of India's poor and the marginalized with the aim of reducing poverty through institutions of marginalized rural women for promotion of diversified and gainful self-employment while creating skilled wage employment opportunities.	MoRD Minister - Narendra Singh Tomar
			MoRD Minister for State – Ram Kripal Yadav
6	India and Brazil	India and Brazil will be signing a Bilateral Investment Treaty (BIT) during the visit of Brazilian President Jair Bolsonaro as the Chief Guest of the Republic Day celebrations from 24-27 January 2020.	President: Jair Bolsonaro
			Brazil Currency: Brazilian real
			Brazil Capital: Brasilia
7	World Bank and Assam	World Bank signed an \$88 million loan agreement with the Government of India and the Government of Assam on 16 January 2020. The loan is to help modernize Assam's passenger ferry sector that runs on its rivers including the Brahmaputra and implement Inland Water Transport Project.	World Bank President – David Malpass
			World Bank Headquarters - Washington DC, United States
8	India and Finland	India signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) with Finland on 15 January 2020. The MoU was signed by Defence Secretary Dr. Ajay Kumar and Permanent Secretary, Ministry of Defence of Finland Mr. Jukka Juusti. The MoU is signed on the sidelines of Raisina Dialogue 2020.	Finland Capital – Helsinki
			Finland Currency - Euro

National Agreements:

GOI signed MoU with Flipkart under DAY-NULM scheme

Government of India signed MoU with Flipkart for selling the products made by women self-help groups under Deendayal Antyodaya Yojana-National Urban Livelihoods Mission (DAY-NULM) on the e-commerce platform. Under the Deendayal Antyodaya Yojana-National Urban Livelihoods Mission (DAY-NULM), self-help groups consisting of 44 lakh women have been working across the country, a move aimed at making women financially independent.

GOI Signed Agreements to End Bru-Reang Refugee Crisis

Union Minister for Home Affairs Amit Shah headed the signing of an agreement between the Government of India, Governments of Tripura and Mizoram and Bru-Reang representatives in New Delhi 16 January 2020. The agreement will end the 23-year old Bru-Reang refugee crisis. This historic agreement is in line with PM Modi's vision for the progress of the North East and the empowerment of the people of the region.

IIFPT signs MoU with 8 Institutes in India to help small farmers

The Indian Institute of Food Processing Technology (IIFPT), Bathinda signed Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) with 8 different reputed institutes of the region in the states of Punjab and Haryana. IIFPT signed and exchanged the MoUs with the VC's and Director's of the 8 Universities, Colleges, and Institutes. Aim: The MoU was aimed to increase the income of small farmers. It also aims to open new opportunities for the benefit of farmers.

Assam, World Bank sign \$88 mn loan agreement to implement Inland Water Transport Project

World Bank signed an \$88 million loan agreement with the Government of India and the Government of Assam on 16 January 2020. The loan is to help modernize Assam's passenger ferry sector that runs on its rivers including the Brahmaputra and implement Inland Water Transport Project. World Bank signed an \$88 million loan agreement with the Government of India and the Government of Assam on 16 January 2020. The loan is to help modernize Assam's passenger ferry sector that runs on its rivers including the Brahmaputra and implement Inland Water Transport Project.

MoU between NITI Aayog and Union Territory of Ladakh for Development of Infrastructure Projects

In an important initiative to promote the development of key infrastructure sectors in the newly constituted Union Territory of Ladakh, NITI Aayog entered into a memorandum of understanding (MoU) with the UT's

administration on 17 January 2020. Under this MoU, NITI Aayog will be supporting the UT's administration through its key initiative 'Development Support Services to States for Infrastructure Projects (D3S-i)'.

The MoU was executed in the presence of NITI Aayog CEO Amitabh Kant and Joint Secretary MC Jauhari. It was signed by NITI Aayog Senior Adviser Dr Yogesh Suri and Adviser to the Lieutenant Governor of Ladakh Umang Narula.

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8. Schemes

171 Hospitals de-empanelled under Ayushman Bharat Scheme

Around 171 hospitals were de-empanelled by Ministry of Health and Family Welfare for committing fraud. The Ministry had also imposed a fine of Rs 4.5 crores. The FIRs were lodged on 6 hospitals in Uttarakhand and Jharkhand states. The National Health Agencies were set up in order to implement India's flagship scheme "Ayushman Bharat". The National Health Authority is the successor of National Health Agency.

India's UJALA Programme completes 5 successful years

Unnat Jyoti by Affordable LEDs for All (UJALA) and LED Street Lighting National Programme (SLNP) marked their fifth anniversary. The schemes were implemented by Energy Efficiency Services Limited (EESL). EESL is a joint venture of PSU operating under Ministry of Power.

Under the SLNP initiative, in five years around 1.03 crore smart LED street lights were installed. This helped in reducing Green House Gas emission by 4.8 million tonnes annually. Also, the initiative has created 13,000 jobs.

APEDA: Eight States finalise Agricultural Action Plan to boost Exports

The Agricultural and Processed Food Products Export Development Authority (APEDA) announced that eight states namely Maharashtra, Kerala, Uttar Pradesh, Nagaland, Assam, Tamil Nadu, Punjab and Karnataka finalised their action plan to boost agricultural exports.

The Agricultural Export Policy was introduced in December 2018. The policy aimed at doubling agricultural exports from 30 billion USD to 60 billion USD to 60 billion USD by 2022. The APEDA nodal officers visited the product clusters at various cities in order to check if the policy implementation and their plan is effective.

“Cyber Safe Initiative” launched by Maharashtra Government

Cyber Safe Initiative was launched by Maharashtra Government. The initiative was launched commemorating the birth anniversary of Indian Social Reformer Savitribai Phule. Savitribai Phule was the first female teacher of India.

The aim of the initiative is to spread awareness against atrocities committed against children and women. It will also create awareness about laws on cybercrime. The campaign is to be implemented all over the state by the State Government in collaboration with state police, public relations department and cyber cell.

PM Modi to release third instalment of Kisan Samman Nidhi

PM Modi is to release the fourth instalment of Pradhan Mantri Kisan Yojana in Tumakuru, Karnataka. The Prime Minister will also confer “Krishi Karmanya” award to three fishermen and 28 progressive farmers from various states.

The scheme was first introduced in Telangana as “Rythu Bandhu” scheme. Under the scheme, a certain amount is given to eligible farmers. Eventually, the scheme was accoladed for its huge success all over the world including World Bank.

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9. Indian Forces (Defence)

India-Bangladesh JT Exercise SAMPRITI-IX

As part of the ongoing Indo-Bangladesh defence cooperation, a joint military training exercise SAMPRITI-IX is being conducted at UMROI, Meghalaya, India.

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.

Matla Abhiyan: Coastal Security Exercise conducted by Indian Navy

The Indian Navy conducted the Coastal Security Exercise, Matla Abhiyan in the Sunderbans region and the exercise is unique of its kind. Two naval boats were flagged off the Sunderbans till Hemnagar along the International Trade Protocol route between India and Bangladesh. The Naval officer created awareness to the local community along the route. The route is sensitive as deadly equipment can be dropped off easily and thus it was chosen by the Indian Navy.

About Indian Navy:

- Navy Day in India is celebrated on 4th December.
- Chief of Naval Staff: Admiral Karambir Singh.

11th DefExpo to be organised from 5th to 8th February 2020 in Lucknow

The 11th biennial edition of DefExpo India- 2020 is scheduled to be held for the first time in Uttar Pradesh capital Lucknow. It offers an excellent opportunity for the Indian defence industry to showcase its capabilities and promote its export potential. Main theme of the DefExpo India- 2020 will be ‘India: The Emerging Defence Manufacturing Hub’ and focus will be on ‘Digital Transformation of Defence’.

Important Points:

- Defence Minister of India: Rajnath Singh.

Ministerial-level Defence dialogue between India and South Korea held in New Delhi

Ministerial-level Defence dialogue between India and South Korea was held in New Delhi. where Defence Minister Rajnath Singh and Jeong Kyeong-doo, Minister of National Defense of South Korea discussed many important issues & affirmed to deepen bilateral defence cooperation between the two countries.

In 2019, Singh had visited South Korea & had inked 2 MoUs(memorandum of understanding) to further boost defence cooperation.

About South Korea:

- President– Moon Jae-in
- Currency– South Korean won
- Capital– Seoul

Indian Army Major develops world’s first bulletproof helmet

Indian Army Major Anoop Mishra has developed the world’s first bulletproof helmet which withstands even an AK-47 bullet round from a distance of 10 meters. The helmet has been developed under project ‘Abhedaya’.

Major Anoop Mishra had developed a bulletproof jacket against sniper bullets. He is part of Indian Army’s College of Military Engineering.

India developing new 200-km strike range Pranash ballistic missile

The Defence Research and Development Organization (DRDO) is developing Pranash, a new 200Km strike range ballistic missile which will be the advanced version of Prahhaar, with the strike range of 150Km. Pranash is a single stage solid propellant surface-to-surface missile.

About Prahhaar:

Prahaar is a short range Ballistic missile having a strike range of 150 Km and it can carry the nuclear warheads up to 200Kg. It is a solid propellant surface to surface missile which can travel at the speed of Mach 2.

India-UK joint Military EX: Ajeya Warrior to be conducted in Salisbury plains, UK

India and United Kingdom will conduct their fifth edition of joint military exercise ‘Ajeya Warrior-2020’ at Salisbury Plains in United Kingdom from February 13-26. 120 Army Individuals each from Indian and United Kingdom Armies will participate in this Exercise and the Next Edition will be conducted in India.

The Main Aim of this Exercise is to conduct Joint Training Operations with High number of Soldiers and also giving Special Importance on Counter Terrorists operation in Urban and Semi Urban Areas.

About United Kingdom:

- Capital- London (largest city)
- Currency- Pound Sterling
- Prime Minister- Boris Johnson

President Kovind presents President’s Colour to INS Shivaji

President Ram Nath Kovind presented President’s Colour to INS Shivaji, a premier Indian Navy training establishment located between Mumbai and Pune at a ceremony in Lonavala, Maharashtra. The Presentation of Colour or Standards by the Supreme Commander of the Armed Forces is an acknowledgement of the unit’s meritorious service. INS Shivaji was commissioned in 1945.

Lightweight New Bullet Proof Jacket Named “Bhabha Kavach” Developed By BARC

Bhabha Atomic Research Centre developed a new bullet proof jacket called Bhabha Kavach. The jackets are to be used by the Central Industrial Security Force (CISF).

The nominal weight of the jacket is 6.8kg. Technologies used: Carbon nanotube & hot-pressed boron carbide.

SC permits permanent commissioning of women officers in the Army

The Supreme Court ordered the government to ensure permanent commission (PC) to women officers in the Army. The officers will now be appointed for command posting.

SC ruled out that the benefit will have to be given to all women officers irrespective of the number of years of service. The SC also said that all terms of appointments of women officers shall be the same as their male counterparts. Centre now has to implement the policy within three months.

About SC:

- Founded – 1950
- Chief Justice of India – Sharad Arvind Bobde

IDSA to be renamed as Manohar Parrikar Institute for Defence Studies and Analyses

Union Government has decided to rename the Institute for Defence Studies and Analyses, IDSA as Manohar Parrikar Institute for Defence Studies and Analyses. The decision has been taken to honour the commitment and legacy of late Manohar Parrikar. It will align the vision and aspiration of the premier defence institute with the contribution of the former Defence Minister and Padma Bhushan awardee.

India to get Peninsular & Air Defence Command by next 2021, theatre commands by 2022

In order to deal with future security challenges, India's first Chief of Defence Staff (CDS) General Bipin Rawat has proposed Peninsular Command by merging Western and the Eastern Command of the Indian Navy, which will spread from the Sir Creek near the Arabian Sea to the Sundarbans in the Bay of Bengal.

Indian Army is Set to Get New Headquarters – the Thal Sena Bhawan

Defense Minister Shri Rajnath Singh laid the foundation stone of the Army Headquarters new building “Thal Sena Bhawan” in Delhi Cantonment. Thal Sena Bhawan, the multi-storeyed complex adopting Green Rating for Integrated Habitat Assessment (GRIHA-5 rating) norms, designed like a “rising sun” and spread over nearly 39 acres.

India and US sign defence deals worth 3 billion dollars

India and the United States yesterday finalized defence deals worth three billion dollars and signed three agreements, including in health and oil sectors.

Under a USD 2.6 billion deal, India will buy 24 MH-60 Romeo helicopters from Lockheed Martin for the Indian Navy. Another contract to acquire six AH-64E Apache helicopters for USD 800 million from aerospace giant Boeing has also been sealed.

Indradhanush – V 2020: Indo-UK bilateral air exercise begins in Hindan, Uttar Pradesh

A 5-day long 5th edition of Indo-UK (United Kingdom) bilateral air exercise “Indradhanush-V” 2020 between Indian Air Force (IAF) and British Royal Air Forces (RAF) has commenced at Air Force Station Hindan in Uttar Pradesh (UP).

Mansukh Mandaviya launched OPV-6 VAJRA in Chennai

The 6th Coast Guard Offshore Patrol Vessel (OPV-6) ‘VAJRA’ was launched at Chennai, Tamil Nadu. The Union Minister of State for Shipping and Chemicals & Fertilizers Shri Mansukh Mandaviya chaired the launching ceremony.

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10. Awards and Achievement

Awards	Awardees
Hindi-poet-novelist Vinod Kumar Shukla	Mathrubhumi Book of the Year 2020 award
Shaktikanta Das	Central banker of the year 2020, Asia-Pacific’ award
Delhi Government’s public transport Delhi Transport Corporation	Road Safety Award 2018-19
Actress Waheeda Rehman	Mathya Pradesh govt’s Kishore Kumar Samman award 2018

SKOCH Award	Big Bang Boom Solutions
Journalist Dinkar Keshav Raikar	Lifetime achievement award instituted by the Mantralaya & Vidhimandal Vartahar Sangh
Padma Shri awardee Manoj Das	Mystic Kalinga Literary Award
Dr N.S. Dharmashaktu	International Gandhi Awards for Leprosy for the year 2019 & The Leprosy Mission Trust
Pullela Gopichand	Lifetime achievement award by IOC
Lalremsiami & Vivek sagar	FIH women and men's rising star of year 2019
South Indian Bank	'Most Customer-Centric Bank Using Technology' by Banking Technology 2019 awards instituted by the Indian Banks' Association.
Gita Sen	Dan David Prize
Sachin Tendulkar	Laureus Sporting moment award
Election Commission	'Silver' award for Excellence in Government Process by Department of Administrative Reforms and Public Grievances (DARPG), Government of India.
Dr. Niti Kumar	SERB Women Excellence Award-2020
Jadav Payeng	Swami Vivekananda Karmayogi Award 2020

Oscars Award 2020 winners: Full List of Winners

The Academy of Motion Picture Arts and Sciences has announced shortlists in consideration for the 92nd Academy Awards in nine categories: Documentary Feature, Documentary Short Subject, International Feature Film, Makeup and Hairstyling, Music (Original Score), Music (Original Song), Animated Short Film, Live Action Short Film and Visual Effects at the Dolby Theatre in Hollywood, Los Angeles, California.

Category	Winner
Actor In A Leading Role	Joaquin Phoenix
Actor In A Supporting Role	Brad Pitt
Actress In A Leading Role	Renée Zellweger
Actress In A Supporting Role	Laura Dern

Animated Feature Film	Toy Story 4
Cinematography	1917
Costume Design	Little Women
Directing	Parasite
Documentary (Feature)	American Factory
Documentary (Short Subject)	Learning To Skateboard In A Warzone (If You're A Girl)
Film Editing	Ford V Ferrari
International Feature Film	Parasite
Makeup And Hairstyling	Bombshell
Music (Original Score)	Joker
Music (Original Song)	(I'm Gonna) Love Me Again
Best Picture	Parasite
Production Design	Once Upon A Time...In Hollywood
Short Film (Animated)	Hair Love
Short Film (Live Action)	The Neighbors' Window
Sound Editing	Ford V Ferrari
Sound Mixing	1917
Visual Effects	1917
Writing (Adapted Screenplay)	Jojo Rabbit
Writing (Original Screenplay)	Parasite

65th Filmfare Awards: 'Gully Boy' wins biggest honour of the night, Ranveer, Alia bag best actor and actress

The 65th Amazon Filmfare Awards 2020 hosted in Awesome Assam on 15th February 2020. The event was hosted by Karan Johar (film director), Bollywood actor Vicky Kaushal and Varun Dhawan. Zoya Akhtar's Gully Boy' won Best Actor and Actress trophy.

Award Name	Won by
Best Film	Gully Boy

Best Director	Zoya Akhtar for Gully Boy
Best Film (Critics)	Article 15 (Anubhav Sinha) and Sonchiriya (Abhishek Chaubey)
Best Actor In A Leading Role (Male)	Ranveer Singh for Gully Boy
Best Actor (Critics)	Ayushmann Khurrana for Article 15
Best Actor In A Leading Role (Female)	Alia Bhatt for Gully Boy
Best Actor in a Supporting Role (Male)	Siddhant Chaturvedi for Gully Boy
Best Actor in a Supporting Role (Female)	Amruta Subhash for Gully Boy
Best Music Album	Zoya Akhtar-Ankur Tewari for Gully Boy Mithoon, Amaal Mallik, Vishal Mishra, SachetParampara and Akhil Sachdeva for Kabir Singh
Best Lyrics	Divine and Ankur Tewari for Apna Time Aayega (Gully Boy)
Best Playback Singer (Male)	Arijit Singh for Kalank Nahi (Kalank)
Best Playback Singer (Female)	Shilpa Rao for Ghungroo (War)
Best Debut Director	Aditya Dhar for Uri: The Surgical Strike
Best Debut Actor	Abhimanyu Dassani for Mard Ko Dard Nahi Hota
Best Debut Actress	Ananya Pandey for Student Of The Year 2, Pati Patni Aur Woh
Best Original Story	Anubhav Sinha and Gaurav Solanki for Article 15
Best Screenplay	Reema Kagti and Zoya Akhtar for Gully Boy
Best Dialogue	Vijay Maurya for Gully Boy
Lifetime Achievement Award	Ramesh Sippy
Excellence In Cinema	Govinda

RD Burman Award For Upcoming Music Talent	Sashwat Sachdev for UR
30 Years of Outstanding Contribution to Bollywood Fashion	Manish Malhotra

Dadasaheb Phalke International Film Festival Awards 2020 announced

The Dadasaheb Phalke International Film Festival was held on 20 February 2020 in Mumbai to Honour and Appreciate the creativity & talent of Indian Film and Television Industry.

List of Winners

- Best Film – Super 30
- Best Actor – Hrithik Roshan
- Most Promising Actor – Kiccha Sudeep
- Best Actor in Television Series – Dheeraj Dhoopar
- Best Actress in Television – Divyanka Tripathi
- Most Favourite Television Actor – Harshad Chopda
- Most Favourite Jodi in Television Series – Sriti Jha and Shabbir Ahluwalia (Kumkum Bhagya)
- Best Reality Show – Bigg Boss 13
- Best Television Series – Kumkum Bhagya
- Best Playback Singer Male – Armaan Malik

Kaamya Karthikeyan: Mumbai Girl becomes the youngest to climb Mt Aconcagua

Kaamya Karthikeyan is a Class VII student studying in Navy Children School. She has set the record of become the youngest in the world to summit the highest peak of the Andes Mountain Range, Mt Aconcagua. She has also summited Mt Mentok Kangri II in August 2019.

She also reached the Everest Base Camp in Nepal (5,346 metres), Mt. Stok Kangri (6,153 metres) in Ladakh, Mt. Kilimanjaro (5,895 metres), Africa, Mt.Elbrus (5,642 metres), Europe & Mt. Kosciuszko (2,228 metres), Australia.

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11.National Affairs

Union HRD Minister chairs the meeting of the Indian National Commission For Cooperation (INCCU) with UNESCO in New Delhi

The Union Minister of Human Resource and Development (MHRD) Shri Ramesh Pokhriyal ‘Nishank’ chaired the meeting of Indian National Commission for Cooperation with UNESCO (INCCU) in New Delhi. This was the 1st meeting after the National Commission’s reconstitution.

The national commission consists of members of 5 sub commissions which include Sub Commission for Education, Natural Sciences, Social Sciences, Communication and Culture.

About UNESCO:

- Founded- 16 November 1945.
- Headquarters- Paris, France.
- Director General(DG)- Audrey Azoulay

Task force constituted by Government of India to restrict Novel Coronavirus

A task force has been constituted by the Government of India to restrict the Novel Coronavirus outspread in India. Health Minister Dr Harsh Vardhan, External Affairs Minister S Jaishankar, Minister of State for Home Affairs G Kishan Reddy and Civil Aviation Minister Hardeep Singh Puri are the members of the task force.

Madhya Pradesh grabs first position for implementation of PMMVY

Madhya Pradesh has bagged the first position for the implementation of Pradhan Mantri Matru Vandana Yojana. Union Minister of Women and Child Development Smriti Irani presented this award to Madhya Pradesh at a function in New Delhi.

Indore district has also bagged the first place for better performance of the scheme. AIR correspondent reports that the main objective of the Matru Vandana Yojana is to provide incentives of five thousand rupees for the loss of wages of working women and to ensure their proper rest and nutrition during pregnancy. The payment of the incentive amount is deposited directly into the bank account.

Bhubaneswar-Varanasi Direct Daily Flight operations commencement marks the 250th route under RCS-UDAN

Boosting the regional aerial connectivity in India, Alliance Air, a wholly-owned subsidiary of Air India commenced first direct daily flight operations from Bhubaneswar to Varanasi under the Centre's RCS-UDAN scheme. The first flight under the UDAN scheme was flagged off on 27th April 2017.

Bhubaneswar to Varanasi route was the 58th route for Alliance Air under RCS-UDAN. Prior to this, Alliance air recently started direct flight operations in the Kolkata-Jharsuguda route on January 27, 2020.

Union Minister of North Eastern Development Dr Jitendra Singh chairs a meeting to fast-track the implementation of Ujh Multipurpose (National) Project

The Minister of North Eastern Development Dr Jitendra Singh chaired the meeting to fast track the implementation of Ujh Multipurpose (National) Project, Jammu and Kashmir. The meeting was attended by the Ministry of Jal Shakti, Ministry of Power and other officers from state government of Punjab.

The Meeting was held to fast track complete utilization of India's rights under Indus Water Treaty. The project is to be constructed across River Ujh, a tributary of River Ravi. The project will help India utilizing the waters of Eastern Rivers to the fullest abiding to the Indus Water Treaty. It will help store 781 million cubic metres of water of River Ujh.

DST launches SATHI initiative to address need for building strong science & technology infrastructure

DST (Department of Science and Technology) that works under the Ministry of Science and Technology, has launched a special scheme called "Sophisticated Analytical & Technical Help Institutes (SATHI)" with the aim to create shared, professionally managed and strong Science and Technology infrastructure in India.

The SATHI scheme will enable academia, start-ups, manufacturing, industry and R&D labs to offer high-end analytical testing. This will help to avoid duplication, reduce the dependency on foreign sources & also foster a strong culture of collaboration between institutions.

About DST:

Founded– May 1971

Headquarters– New Delhi

First Coil was rolled out from the new SAIL-Rourkela Steel Plant Hot Strip Mill

The factory would necessarily oblige the household prerequisites of excellent quality steel, presently, which generally imported.

First Coil Hot Strip The new Hot Strip from Sail Plant, Mill with 3 Million Ton for each annum (MTPA) limit is a best in class plant with not many equals in India and will deliver world-class Hot Rolled(HR) curls. By chance, inside two days of the beginning of the hot path of the plant, it has revealed its first curl effectively.

MSME implemented new scheme SFURTI to set up traditional industries clusters

The Ministry of Ministry of Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises (MSME) implemented a new scheme named “Scheme of Fund for Regeneration of Traditional Industries”(SFURTI). Under this scheme, financial support will be given to set up traditional industries clusters viz. Khadi, Coir & Village industries clusters.

The objectives of the SFURTI Scheme are:

To develop clusters of traditional industries in the country over a period of five years.

To make traditional industries more competitive, market-driven, productive and profitable.

To strengthen the local governance system of industry clusters, with active participation of the local stakeholders, so that they are enabled to development initiatives.

To build up innovated and traditional skills, improved technologies, advanced processes, market intelligence and new models of public-private partnerships, so as to gradually replicate similar models of cluster-based regenerated traditional industries.

About MSME:

- Founded- 2007.
- Headquarters- New Delhi.

Union Minister- Shri Nitin Jairam Gadkari.

PM Modi announces setting up of ‘Shri Ram Janmabhoomi Teerth Kshetra’

Prime Minister Narendra Modi announced in the Parliament that Cabinet has approved the Ram Mandir Trust as ‘Shri Ram Janmbhoomi Teerth Kshetra’.

There will be 15 trustees in Shri Ram Janmabhoomi Teerth Kshetra Trust while one trustee will always be from Dalit Society. K.Parasaran has been appointed the chairman of the trust, take decision-related to the construction of the temple.

The trust has been set up on the lines of Supreme Court direction to the central government in November 2019 to formulate a scheme with necessary provisions for the setting up of a trust within three months for the construction of the temple.

Atal Innovation Mission collaborates with Ministries to stimulate Innovation in various sectors

Atal Innovation Mission, NITI Aayog has begin a series of innovation demo days. The series aims to unite the stakeholders of the food processing and agriculture sector in India. The innovation demo days will act as a platform where start-ups, Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises (MSMEs), entrepreneurs, corporate partners and sector academics are brought together to be spectator of government-funded innovations.

22nd edition of India International Seafood Show (IISS) 2020 commenced in Kochi, Kerala

A 3-day long 22nd edition of India International Seafood Show (IISS), 2020 based on the theme “Blue Revolution- Beyond Production to Value Addition” has commenced at Hotel Grand Hyatt in Kochi, Kerala. The show is being organized jointly by the Marine Products Export Development Authority (MPEDA) under Ministry of Commerce and Industry & the Seafood Exporters Association of India (SEAI).

It is a biennial show, this time being held in Kochi after 12 years, its 21st edition was held in Goa in January 2018.

About SEAI:

Formation– 1973

Headquarters– Kochi, Kerala

‘Pink City’ becomes certified UNESCO World Heritage City

Jaipur “The Pink City” has been certified by the United Nations Educational Scientific and Cultural Organisation (UNESCO) as the World Heritage site. The certification was done by the UNESCO Director General Audrey Azoulay during an event held in Jaipur, Rajasthan. As part of certification, the World Heritage City certificate was handover by UNESCO Director General to Minister of Urban Development Shanti Dhariwal.

About Rajasthan:

- Chief Minister: Ashok Gehlot;
- Governor: Kalraj Mishra;
- Capital: Jaipur.

India becomes second largest steel producer of Crude Steel

As per World Steel Association data, India has surpassed Japan in terms of annual steel production, becoming the second-largest producer of crude steel in the world, after China.

India produced 111.2 million tonnes of crude steel in 2019. In 2019, Japan (99.3), the United States (87.9) and Russia (71.6) rank third, fourth and fifth respectively. Steel is a deregulated sector, the Government does not set any annual targets for steel production.

Ministry of Corporate Affairs to launch Spice plus Form

The Ministry of Corporate Affairs is set to launch the new company incorporation form “Spice+”. This is a part of a comprehensive package to make life easier for someone starting a business. It will be launched on 15 February 2020. The new form will reduce the time taken and the cost of registering a company that was estimated at around 4 hours in December-January.

There are two parts in Spice+ form:

- 1) The first one deals with name registration
- 2) The second part for a bouquet of services, including incorporation, issue of Primary Account Number (PAN) and Tax Deduction and Collection Account Number (TAN)

About Ministry of Corporate Affairs:

- Minister of MCA: Smt. Nirmala Sitharaman
- Minister of State of MCA: Shri Anurag Singh Thakur

Ease of Living Index and Municipal Performance Index 2019 Launched

The Ministry of Housing & Urban Affairs (MoHUA), has launched, two Assessment Frameworks, viz. Ease of Living Index (EoLI) and Municipal Performance Index (MPI) 2019 to assess quality of life of citizens in 100 Smart Cities and 14 other Million Plus Cities. This will empower the cities to use evidence to plan, implement them & then monitor their performance.

About EoLI:

Ease of Living Index is aimed at providing a holistic view of Indian cities – beginning from the services provided by local bodies, the effectiveness of the administration, the outcomes generated through these services in terms of the liveability within cities and, finally, the citizen perception of these outcomes.

About Ministry of Housing & Urban Affairs (MoHUA):

Minister of State (Independent Charge) Housing And Urban Affairs– Hardeep Singh Puri

Secretary– Durga Shanker Mishra

Hyderabad Metro Rail becomes Country's 2nd Largest Operational Metro Project

Chief Minister of Telangana State Mr. K.Chandrashekhara Rao flagged off new Metro line from Jubilee Bus Station (JBS) to Mahatma Gandhi Bus Station (MGBS) connecting twin cities of Hyderabad and Secunderabad, and the stretch covering of 11-kms(Kilometers) becomes India's 2nd largest Metro Rail Network of total

operational distance of 69.2kms, only next to Delhi Metro Rail Network having an operational distance of 231kms.

HAL received approval to produce light utility helicopter

Hindustan Aeronautics Limited (HAL) received initial clearance from DRDO's department of defence research and development for its light utility helicopter (LUH). The clearance will pave way for its production. LUH will replace the aging fleet of Cheetah and Chetak helicopters.

DoT approved the merger of Tata group with Bharti Airtel

The Department of Telecommunications (DoT) approved the merger of the consumer mobile operations of the Tata group with Bharti Airtel. The final approval comes over two years after the companies had announced their plan to merge businesses.

In October 2017, the Tata group had announced that it is to sell its consumer mobile business to Bharti Airtel.

Under the deal, Airtel absorbed Tata's mobile phone operations across the country in 19 circles out of which 17 under Tata Teleservices and two under Tata Teleservices (Maharashtra) Ltd.

Airtel's spectrum footprint and 4G coverage were expanded after the acquisition. The deal also empowered Airtel to use part of the existing fibre network of the Tata companies.

An 18-day Ek Bharat Shreshth Bharat Campaign begins across India to promote cultural unity

Ek Bharat Shreshth Bharat' campaign has been launched to promote cultural unity among various states of the country. It is 18-days long campaign that will continue till the 28th of February 2020. The objective of this campaign is to promote the spirit of national integration through various cultural activities.

The basic objective of this initiative of the government is to foster mutual interplay among the people of different states by bridging the cultural differences prevailing in the country, which will eventually become an important factor in the strength and unity of the nation.

1st look of biopic on former President APJ Abdul Kalam released

Union Information and Broadcasting Minister Prakash Javadekar released the first look of a biopic on former President APJ Abdul Kalam in New Delhi. Mr Javadekar along with Producer and Director Madhur Bhandarkar and Hollywood Producer and Director Johnny Martin released a poster of the film on the occasion. Hollywood actor Muhammad Ali is playing Dr Kalam's role in the movie.

Web Portal Launched for Star Rating of Mines in India

Ministry of Coal (MoC) has launched a web portal for star rating of coal mines to promote the green, safe and sustainable mining practices with the help of technology. The web portal for star rating of coal mines enables all

operational coal mines across India for self-rating, their subsequent validation by Coal Controller's Organization (CCO), further evaluation and finally award of star rating.

The mines that score from

91 to 100% – 5 star,

81 to 90% – 4 star,

71 to 80% – 3 star,

61 to 70% – 2 star,

41 to 60% – 1 star

Mines that score from 0 to 40% will get No star on the portal as per laid down procedures of the Star Rating Policy for Coal Mines in India.

India to host 13th Conference of Parties(COP) of the Convention on the conservation of migratory species of wild animals

The 13th Conference of Parties (COP) of the Convention on the conservation of migratory species of wild animals (CMS), an environmental treaty under the aegis of United Nations Environment Programme, is going to be hosted by India during 15th to 22nd February, 2020 at Gandhinagar in Gujarat.

The theme for the CMS COP 13 in India is, "Migratory species connect the planet and we welcome them Home".

National Water Conference to Be Held In Bhopal

In Madhya Pradesh, a National Water Conference is going to be held in the capital Bhopal to solve water crisis. There was plenty of water in the state before due to rivers like Narmada, Chambal, Son, Betwa and Sindh.

Madhya Pradesh Government has announced to implement the Water Rights Act in the state soon. It will be the first state in the country where this law will be implemented.

Medical devices to come under CDSCO's purview from 1st April

The Govt of India has decided to consider all medical devices including implants & contraceptives as “Drugs” from 1st April 2020. The notification will also re-categorize medical devices that are used for life support, diagnosis & treatment.

Low risk-devices are inspected by private notified bodies while licenses were given by CDSCO & for high-risk devices, inspection & licensing are both done by CDSCO.

NIFM, Faridabad renamed ‘Arun Jaitley National Institute of Financial Management’

The Government of India decided to rename the National Institute of Financial Management (NIFM), Faridabad, Haryana, as “Arun Jaitley National Institute of Financial Management”.

About NIFM: NIFM, Faridabad was set up in 1993 as a registered society under the Department of Expenditure, Ministry of Finance, which train officers of various finance & accounts service recruited by the UPSC (Union Public Service Commission) through the civil service examination and also officers of the Indian Cost Accounts Service (ICoAS).

Piyush Goyal inaugurates 1st Phase of East – West Metro in Kolkata

Railway Minister Piyush Goyal has inaugurated the first phase of East – West Metro in Kolkata. In this Phase, trains will play from Salt Lake’s sector five to Salt Lake Stadium.

The services will remain open from 8 in the morning to till 8 at night with 20 minutes frequencies of trains within six stations.

Government renames two prominent Institute after Sushma Swaraj

The Government of India (GoI) has renamed two institutions (Pravasi Bharatiya Kendra and Foreign Service Institute) after Sushma Swaraj in honour of the late External Affairs Minister.

The Pravasi Bharatiya Kendra is a cultural centre which reflects India’s connection with its diaspora around the world.

The Foreign Service Institute is an institution where the training of the diplomats takes place.

Government of India hosts National Organic Food Festival in New Delhi

The Government of India is to host National Organic Food Festival at the National Capital February 21 to February 23, 2020. The Festival will be held at the theme of “Unleashing India’s Organic Market Potential”.

The festival will be jointly organized by the Ministry of `women and Child Development (MoWCD) and Ministry of Food Processing Industries (MoFPI). Around 150 women entrepreneurs are to participate in the festival.

The Main aim of the festival is to boost production of organic products.

South Central Railways zone becomes 1st in India to have energy-neutral stations

The Indian Railways South Central Railways (SCR) zone has become the 1st zonal railway in the country to have functional “energy neutral” railway stations on the network. The South Central Railways has converted a total of 13 railway stations into “energy neutral” stations, which is the highest amongst all the zones across the Indian Railways network.

Important Points:

- Union Minister of Railways: Piyush Goyal.

Shri Narendra Singh Tomar chairs 91st Annual General Meeting of the ICAR Society

The Union Minister for Agriculture & Farmers’ Welfare, Rural Development & Panchayati Raj, Shri Narendra Singh Tomar has said the Government will soon register 10,000 new Farmer Producer Organisations (FPOs) in order to promote cooperative farming.

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12. State Wise Affairs

Andhra Pradesh:

YSR Pension Kanuka doorstep pension scheme launched in AP; pensioner age reduced to 60 from 65

The govt of Andhra Pradesh (AP) has launched a doorstep pension delivery scheme named YSR Pension Kanuka. Under the scheme various welfare pensions will be delivered to the pensioners. The old age pensioners age has also been reduced from 65 to 60 years.

Pensions: The disabled pensions (DP) will be Rs. 3000 per month whereas the pension amount for CKDU (Chronic kidney disease of unknown)/dialysis pensions will be Rs. 5,000-Rs. 10,000 per month.

Andhra Pradesh flagged off India's 1st of its kind first 'fruit train'

India's first of its kind fruit train was launched from Tadipatri Railway Station in Anantapur district & from Kadapa district of Andhra Pradesh. This is the first time an entire train carrying a load of 980 metric tonnes of locally grown bananas has been sent to the Jawaharlal Nehru Port Trust (JNP) in Mumbai, Maharashtra from where it will be exported to Iran.

The bananas will be exported under the brand name 'Happy Bananas'. Farmers from Putlur region in Anantapur and Pulivendula in Kadapa district of AP will be exporting 'Green Cavendish' bananas to international markets.

AP Govt made history with 'Intivadhakey Pension' scheme by covering 94 % within few days

The Andhra Pradesh (AP) state Government led by its Chief Minister (CM) Yeduguri Sandinti Jaganmohan Reddy, has created a record with its 'Intivadhakey Pension' (Pension to your Doorstep) Scheme by covering 94 % of about 60 lakh pensioners at their doorstep within a few days. The scheme was launched in 13 districts on February 1, 2020. AP is the 1st state in India to take up such an initiative of Door delivery of pension service.

AP CM inaugurates first 'Disha' police station in Rajamahendravaram

Andhra Pradesh Chief Minister Y S Jaganmohan Reddy inaugurated the first 'Disha Police Station' in Rajamahendravaram city to exclusively handle cases of crime against women and children.

In all 18 Disha Police Stations will soon be set up in all 13 districts of the State with a budget of Rs 21.10 crore and each station will be headed by a Deputy Superintendent of Police.

Andhra Pradesh govt launched 'Jagananna Vasthi Deevana' scheme for students

Andhra Pradesh Chief Minister Y S Jagan Mohan Reddy has launched a scheme named 'Jagananna Vasthi Deevana' for students pursuing various post-Intermediate courses to meet hostel and mess expenses.

ITI students would get Rs 10,000 each, polytechnic students would get Rs 15,000 and under-graduates and post-graduates Rs 20,000 each

About Andhra Pradesh:

- Capital City- Amaravati
- Chief Minister – Jagan Mohan Reddy
- Governor– Biswabhusan Harichandan.

Arunachal Pradesh**Arunachal Pradesh celebrated 34th Statehood Day on February 20, 2020**

Arunachal Pradesh celebrated its 34th Statehood Day on 20th February. Arunachal Pradesh attained statehood on February 20, 1987. Home Minister Amit Shah attended the celebrations at Itanagar.

Bihar**Bihar govt launches `Pyaar ka Paudha` campaign to promote the practice of planting trees**

The state Government of Bihar's Department of Environment and Forest in Patna has launched `Pyaar ka Paudha` (a plant of love) drive under the Jal Jeevan Hariyali campaign with an aim to promote the practice of planting trees in the state.

As a part of this initiative, the environment department has appealed to the people to gift the plant of love to their close ones as it will be alive for years & also stalls of Patna plants have been planted for this purpose.

Delhi**Delhi Police launched “Himmat Plus app” for women safety**

Delhi Police along with Uber launched “Himmat Plus app”, at the Indira Gandhi International (IGI) airport, New Delhi, to ensure safety and security of the people travelling in cabs.

The app 'Himmat Plus' was launched by Delhi Lt Governor (LG) Anil Baijal

Delhi Airport: The First Single-use Plastic-free airport

The Delhi International Airport Limited (DIAL) has become the first airport in India to become free of single-use plastics. The airport committed itself to become single-use plastics free on the World Environment Day in 2018.

Gujarat:

Gujarat: New academic year in schools to start from April instead of June

Gujarat Government has announced to start new academic year in schools from 20th April 2020 instead of June first week. Following this decision, the students will need to go to school for 13 days after annual examinations, followed by summer vacation. At present, the schools observe the summer vacation immediately after the annual examinations.

According to new academic year, the annual examinations and results will be completed by 20th April. The new academic year will start from 20th April and Schools will remain open till 3rd May. As per new schedule, the summer vacation will be from 4th May to 7th June.

‘Engiexpo 2020’ To Be Held In Vadodara, Gujarat

The 6th edition of the mega industrial exhibition ‘Engiexpo 2020’ is being organised in Vadodara, Gujarat.

The three-day mega exhibition will be organised by the Federation of Small-Scale Industries (FSSI), to promote ‘Made in India’ products.

Donald Trump set to inaugurate world’s largest cricket stadium in Ahmedabad during India visit

US President Donald Trump inaugurated the world’s largest cricket stadium in Ahmedabad during his India visit.

The World’s Biggest Cricket Stadium, the Motera Stadium in Ahmedabad renamed as the Sardar Vallabhbhai Stadium inaugurated by US President Donald Trump. The stadium has a capacity of 1.10 lakh people.

Chitra Bharati Film Festival celebrated at Gujarat University in Ahmedabad

The three day festival, known as the Chitra Bharati Film Festival (CBFF) Celebrated at Gujarat University in Ahmedabad. This is the third edition of the festival- the first was held in Indore, Madhya Pradesh, in 2016, and the second at Delhi's Siri Fort Auditorium in 2018.

About Gujarat:

- Chief Minister – Shri Vijaybhai R. Rupani
- Governor – Shri Acharya Dev Vrat
- Capital – Gandhinagar

Haryana:**34th Surajkund International Crafts Mela begins in Haryana**

The cultural extravaganza Surajkund International Crafts Mela(34th) has been inaugurated at Faridabad(Haryana). This year Himachal Pradesh is the theme state.

Artistes will showcase the art, vulture, heritage, handicrafts and cuisine of the state. Surajkund is located near the Surajkund village between the villages of Baharpur and Lakkarpur in Faridabad district of Haryana.

Haryana Launches Rs.1500 crores Mukyamantri Parivar Samridhi Yojana

Chief Minister Mr.Manohar Lal Khattar and Deputy Chief Minister Mr.Dushyant Chautala of Haryana jointly launched Mukyamantri Parivar Samridhi Yojana scheme on the mark of successful 100 days of the present state government. The scheme is about providing financial assistance of Rs.6000 to the families below the poverty line. and the amount will be transferred through DBT (Direct Benefit Transfer) to Bank accounts.

Haryana launches 'Reading Mission' initiative

The state government of Haryana has launched an initiative called 'Reading Mission- Haryana'. The initiative was launched to encourage reading habit among the young students of the state.

The scheme is on the lines of the 'Reading Mission 2022', launched by the central government. Under the state's initiative, monthly book review sessions and mass book reading are to be organised by students in educational institutions.

Haryana govt announced Rs six crore to those winning gold medals at Olympics

Haryana government has decided to give 6 crore rupees to players of the state that bag gold medals at the Olympic Games. According to State Chief Minister Manohar Lal Khattar, 3 crore rupees will be given to those winning gold medals at Asian Games and 1.5 crore rupees to the winners of yellow metal at Commonwealth Games.

Haryana govt to set up Atal Kisan Majdoor canteens

Haryana government will open Atal Kisan – Majdoor canteens in all mandi and sugar mills across the state. Haryana government will also provide free and concessional travel facility to 41 different categories of residents in the ordinary buses of Haryana Roadways.

Karnataka:

Karnataka launches Janasevaka Scheme

The State Government of Karnataka launched Janasevaka scheme. The Government aims to provide doorstep government services under the scheme. Also, it intends to digitize several services and make these services easily available to the citizens through the scheme.

The Cost of the service is Rs 115. This amount does not include the cost of documentation. The scheme is to be implemented in Bengaluru. Depending on the work load, it is to be extended to the rest of Karnataka.

About Karnataka:

- Chief Minister – Sri B. S. Yediyurappa
- Governor – Shri Vajubhai Vala
- Capital – Bengaluru

Kerala

Kerala CM launches "Yodhavu" mobile appl to combat drug menace

Kerala Chief Minister (CM) Pinarayi Vijayan launched "Yodhavu" (Warrior) mobile app (application) at Kochi, Kerala, through which the public can inform police about drug abuse & its distribution.

The application was introduced by the Kochi city police and the informer's identity could be kept secret.

1000 Kudumbashree Hotels To Serve Meals At Rs 25 In Kerala

Kerala's Finance Minister T.M. Thomas Isaac has unveiled an initiative of setting up 1,000 'Kudumbashree' hotels to provide subsidised Kerala meals at Rs 25. Around 5000 women are expected to get self-employment through the venture.

About Kerala:

- Capital: Thiruvananthapuram
- Chief Minister: Pinarayi Vijayan
- Governor: Arif Mohammed Khan

Maharashtra:**'Kala Ghoda Arts Festival' begins in Mumbai**

India's largest multi-cultural street festival 'Kala Ghoda Arts Festival – 2020 (21st edition) begins in South Mumbai, Maharashtra.

The theme for 2020 KGAF is "Past Forward". The Objectives of the festival is to "physically upgrading the Kala Ghod sub-precinct and making it the Art District of Mumbai".

First 'Jerusalem-Mumbai Festival' to be held in Mumbai

The first "Jerusalem-Mumbai Festival" will be held at Chhatrapati Shivaji Maharaj Vastu Sangrahalaya Museum, Mumbai, Maharashtra on February 15 & 16, 2020. This festival provides special links between two cities and also to promote ties between India and Israel and creates a platform for cooperation among artists, tourism, cinema.

Famous Israeli cinema, The Mossad, will be screened at the festival in the presence of the movie director Alon Gur Arye. The two day festival will promote artistic cooperation in the fields of culture, such as culinary art, music and dance.

Mumbai to get India's largest air quality monitoring network

The Brihanmumbai Municipal Corporation (BMC) will develop an air quality monitoring network access across 90 locations in Mumbai, Maharashtra. It will be the largest network in India.

The new project is led by Non-Government Organisation (NGO) Conservation Action Trust (CAT) & partnered by pan-India air pollution research groups Respire Living Sciences Private Limited (UrbanSciences) and Urban Emissions. The project will be completed within next 5 years, funded by BMC and private organisations.

India's first inter-city electric bus service inaugurated in Maharashtra

India's first inter-city electric bus service was recently inaugurated in the state of Maharashtra between Mumbai and Pune by the Union Transport minister Nitin Gadkari.

The luxury electric bus with 43-seater capacity has been manufactured by a private firm and being operated by another Maharashtra-based mobility firm. The bus would be operated twice daily between the two cities.

Maharashtra govt announces five-day working week for its employees

The Maharashtra government has announced a five-day working week for its officers and employees.

The Maharashtra state cabinet also extended the current work hours by 45 minutes. The new routine would start from 29th February this year.

Currently, Maharashtra government officials work on the first and third Saturdays of the month and get an off on the second and fourth Saturdays.

Shivaji Jayanti being celebrated in Maharashtra

The birth anniversary of Maratha Warrior King "Chhatrapati Shivaji Maharaj" is being celebrated on all over Maharashtra.

Vice President M Venkaiah Naidu paid tributes to Chhatrapati Shivaji Maharaj on his birth anniversary.

Mumbai Airport Launches World's Largest Temp-Controlled Facility

Mumbai International Airport Ltd (MIAL) has launched the world's largest airport-based temperature-controlled facility known as the 'Export Cold Zone' for processing and storage of agriculture and pharma products

About Maharashtra:

- Capital- Mumbai.
- Chief Minister (CM)- Uddhav Bal Thackeray.
- Governor- Bhagat Singh Koshyari.

Manipur**Seed sowing festival 'Lui-Ngai-Ni' celebrated at Ukhrul, Manipur**

The Naga tribes of Manipur celebrated seed sowing festival 'Lui-Ngai-Ni' at Tangkhul Naga Long (TNL) ground in Ukhrul, Manipur. The 2 day festival was inaugurated by N. Kayisii, Manipur's Minister of Tribal Development and Awangbou Newmai and Tamei MLA (Member of the Legislative Assembly), Manipur as Guest of Honour.

Theme: "Oneness through Culture".

Mathya Pradesh:**3-day Narmada Mahotsav was celebrated on Madhya Pradesh (MP)**

In Madhya Pradesh (MP), Bhopal, 3-day Narmada Mahotsav was celebrated on 31st January to 2nd February 2020, on the plains of Amarkantak, MP, on the occasion of Narmada Jayanthi. Narmada: The Narmada is a major source of drinking water, irrigation & hydroelectricity for Madhya Pradesh & Gujarat.

Among 3 days of celebration one day will be reserved for all women activities under the theme of "Beti Bachao- Beti Padhao".

MP govt to use drones for mapping villages

Madhya Pradesh government has entered into an agreement with the Survey of India to employ drones for mapping of villages. The Survey of India is the India's national mapping agency. Drones will be used for the

mapping of 55 thousand villages of the state on a scale of 1:500. The drone technology will be used for the first time to make maps in the state.

Hunar Haat inaugurated in Indore, Madhya Pradesh

In Madhya Pradesh, Governor Lalji Tandon has inaugurated Hunar Haat in Indore. It will continue till 16th of February. Governor stated that India is a country of diversity with every region having different art, culture, language, costumes. This Unity in Diversity is the identity of India. Every corner of the country has a legacy of arts/crafts.

MP becomes first state to launch unified vehicle registration card

Madhya Pradesh has become the first state in the country to introduce the unified registration card and the second state to launch the unified driving license after Uttar Pradesh.

Chief Minister Kamal Nath distributed the unified cards, including vehicle registration and driving license, to six persons in a function held in Bhopal.

About MP:

- Chief Minister : Kamal Nath.
- Governor : Lal Ji Tandon.

Odisha:

Odisha MSME Dept signs MoU with HDFC Bank

The Micro Small and Medium Enterprises (MSME) Department of government of Odisha has signed Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) with the Housing Development Finance Corporation (HDFC) Bank Limited to provide smart banking solutions to Startups recognised by the Startup Odisha and will also extend incubation and acceleration support to all Startups, banking with them.

Punjab:

Online lottery scheme sales banned by Punjab govt to check illegal sales

The govt of Punjab has banned the sale of all types of online lottery schemes under section 5 of the Lotteries (Regulation) Act 1998 in order to check for illegal sales. The act will not only check illegal lottery business but will also boost Punjab's tax and non tax revenue.

The Punjab cabinet gave its approval to prohibition of sale of computerised & online lotteries & online scheme tickets promoted through the internet by any state in India or by a foreign country.

About Punjab:

- Capital- Chandigarh.
- Governor- Vijayender Pal Singh Badnore.

Tamil Nadu**Tamil Nadu govt announced former CM Jayalalitha’s birth anniversary as ‘State Girl Child Protection Day’ on Feb 24**

According to the Tamil Nadu (TN) Chief Minister ,K. Palanisamy the state government will celebrate the birth anniversary of former chief minister Jayalalithaa on February 24 as ‘State Girl Child Protection Day’ in honor of the passion with which she worked for the well-being of children, especially girls.

Telangana**Month-long Nagoba jatara concludes in Telangana**

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, Chattisgarh, Orissa and Madhya Pradesh belonging to the Mesram clan offer prayers at the festival.

India’s biggest rural technical festival Antahpragnya 2020

India’s biggest rural technical festival ‘Antahpragnya 2020’ was held in Rajiv Gandhi University of knowledge Technologies (RGUKT), Basar, Nirmal district, Telangana and the festival was inaugurated by M Prashanthi, District Collector of Nirmal, Telangana.

The festival was held for 3 days from 31st January to February 1,2020. The theme for the year 2020 was “Spot and encourage rural tech innovators”.

Amazon Invests 1.5 Billion USD For Two Data Centres Under Data Centre Policy Of Telangana

The E-Commerce Giant Amazon Web Services has planned to invest 1.5 billion USD to set up two data centres in Hyderabad.

The private firm will be helped by the Telangana Government under its Data Centre Policy.

About Telangana:

Chief Minister – K. Chandrashekar Rao

Governor – Tamilisai Soundararajan

Capital – Hyderabad

Tripura:**1st Hornbill festival was celebrated in Tripura on Feb 8, 2020**

The Hornbill festival was celebrated in Tripura, Agartala. Chief Minister (CM) Biplab Kumar Dev inaugurated the 2 day hornbill festival at Baramura hill (in western tripura). The festival was celebrated for the 1st time in Tripura. The aim of the festival is to raise awareness among people for bird conservation & to boost tourism.

Arunachal Pradesh & Manipur also started organising Hornbill festival following Nagaland.

About Tripura:

Capital- Agartala.

Chief Minister – Biplab Kumar Dev.

Governor- Ramesh Bias.

Uttar Pradesh:**UP govt to launch internship scheme for school college students**

Uttar Pradesh Chief Minister Yogi Adityanath has announced that his government will give internship to youth to brighten employment prospects for them.

The chief minister made the announcement during a job fair organised by the Department of Labour and Employment Exchange in Gorakhpur.

UP Cabinet approves Ground Water Act-2020 to improve ground water levels

The Uttar Pradesh Cabinet, chaired by Chief Minister Yogi Adityanath approved the Ground Water Act-2020 on February 11, 2020 to improve the falling groundwater level.

The Ground Water Act makes registration mandatory for installing submersible pumps. An online registration facility has been made available for the same.

Besides this, the UP government has made rainwater harvesting system mandatory in all private and government schools and colleges.

UP Govt launches toll free helpline numbers for students

Uttar Pradesh Government has launched toll-free helpline numbers(1800-180-5310 and 18001805312) to solve the queries of students ahead of the Board Examinations starting next week.

Experts of different subjects including English, life sciences, geography, general science, Hindi, Sanskrit, Chemistry will be available on call on these numbers. The helpline numbers will remain active from 8am to 8pm.

“Operation Nakail” for Auto-rickshaws in Ghaziabad

The Ghaziabad police launched ‘Operation Nakail’ under which the identity of all auto-rickshaw drivers will be verified and a unique four-digit number will be allotted to them. The drivers will be required to get the unique number printed on the front, left, right and rear side of the auto-rickshaws. Customers can file complaints using the number if they face any harassment.

About Uttar Pradesh:

- CM – Yogi Adithyanath
- Governor - Anandiben Patel
- Capital – Lucknow

Uttarkhand:**Uttarakhand’s First Heli Services Under UDAN Flagged Off**

Civil Aviation ministry operationalized the 1st ever helicopter services from Dehradun’s Sahastradhara helipad to Gauchar, and Chinyalisaur under the Regional Connectivity Scheme – Ude Desh Ka Aam Nagrik. This will boost the tourism sector in this region.

India’s 1st glass floor suspension bridge to be built in Rishikesh

The Uttarakhand Government has approved the design of a glass floor suspension bridge, the first of its kind in the country to have a floor made of toughened transparent glass. This bridge will be built across the River Ganga in Rishikesh. The bridge is as an alternative to the iconic Lakshman Jhula, almost 94 years old, which was closed in 2019 due to safety reasons. The bridge design has been prepared by the Public Works Department (PWD).

Ganga Kayak Festival celebrated in Uttarakhand

8th edition of the “Ganga Kayak festival” was inaugurated by MLA (Member of the Legislative Assembly) Vinod Kandari in Devprayag, Uttarakhand. The festival was celebrated for 3 days from feb.17, 2020 to feb. 19, 2020.

About Uttarakhand:

Capital: Dehradun

Chief Minister: Trivendra Singh Rawat

Governor: Baby Rani Maurya

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13. International Affairs

Bangladesh: PM Sheikh Hasina inaugurates month long Ekushey Book Fair

Ekushey Book Fair is the biggest and longest book fair of Bangladesh. It is organised every year in February commemorating the martyrs of the language movement during which eight people laid down their lives on February 21, 1952 for establishing Bangla as the official language of the then East Pakistan. A minute's silence was observed before the inaugural ceremony to pay respect the martyrs of the language movement.

The Prime Minister presented the Bangla Academy literary award 2019 to ten eminent poets and writers on this occasion. She also unveiled the cover of a book 'Amar Dekha Naya Chin'- The New China as I saw, written by Bangabandhu Sheikh Mujibur Rahman.

Bangladesh to sign Free Trade Agreement with Nepal

Bangladesh will sign Free Trade Agreement with Nepal to improve the trade between the two countries. Bangladesh has also allowed Nepal to use its Saidpur airport located in its northernmost district of Nilphamari close to Nepal.

Language movement martyrs' day "Shaheed Dibash" observed in Bangladesh

“Shaheed Dibash” which is also known as ‘Amar Ekushey’ was observed on 21st of February in Bangladesh to commemorate and to pay tribute to the martyrs of language movement who lost their lives during Pakistani police firing on 21st of February 1952 in Dhaka.

Prakash Javadekar inaugurates World Sustainable Development Summit (WSDS) 2020 in New Delhi

Shri Prakash Javadekar, the Union Minister of Environment, Forest and Climate Change (MoEF&CC) was inaugurated a 3-day long World Sustainable Development Summit (WSDS) 2020 based on the theme “Towards 2030 Goals: Making the Decade Count” at India Habitat Centre in New Delhi from 29-31 January, 2020.

The summit was organized by The Energy and Resources Institute (TERI), a research institute specializes in the fields of energy.

Maldives rejoins the Commonwealth

The Maldives has once again become a member of the commonwealth of nations. The Commonwealth Secretary-General, Patricia Scotland, confirmed Maldives reinstatement into the organization as its 54th Member state.

The Commonwealth of Nations is a political association of 54 member states, mostly former territories of the British Empire. The Maldives withdrew from the Commonwealth on 13 October 2016.

Pakistan, Somalia declare locusts a ‘national emergency’ after worst locust invasion

The Government of Somalia announced a National Emergency on Locusts (family- Acrididae) attack because these insects caused major damage to the food supply in one of the world’s poorest countries & and most vulnerable regions in the world. Somalia is the 1st country to make such a declaration & its declaration aims to intensify the national effort to combat these insects.

The Prime Minister (PM) of Pakistan Imran Khan has also declared a national emergency due to the massive locusts attack. These locusts have destroyed entire crops in the Punjab province of Pakistan, which now needs Rs 730 crore to overcome this crisis.

Points about Pakistan:

- Capital– Islamabad

- Currency– Pakistani rupee
- President– Arif Alvi

Points about Somalia:

- Capital– Mogadishu
- Currency– Somali shilling
- President– Mohamed Abdullahi Mohamed

72nd Independence Day celebrated by Sri Lanka

Sri Lanka celebrated its 72nd Independence Day on 4th February 2020. On this day, Sri Lanka became an independent nation after getting independence from Britain. Military parades and air shows were the most attractive points of the Sri Lankan Independence Day celebrations held in Colombo.

About Sri Lanka:

- PM: Mahinda Rajapaksa.
- President: Gotabaya Rajapaksa.
- Currency: Sri Lankan Rupee

Bhutan ends free entry for Indian tourists

The government of Bhutan has decided to levy a daily Rs.1,200 (\$17) fee for regional tourists from India, the Maldives and Bangladesh, beginning July 2020. The fee, called a Sustainable Development Fee (SDF), is meant to help the government deal with burgeoning numbers in tourist traffic, which it is seeking to regulate through a new tourism policy.

The decision was passed by the National Assembly as a ‘Tourism Levy and Exemption Bill of Bhutan’, 2020. The SDF is considerably lower than the Rs.65 charged to other foreign tourists, who are also charged a compulsory flat “cover charge” of Rs.250 per day.

About Bhutan:

- Capital- Thimphu.
- Currency- Ngultrum.

- Prime Minister (PM)- Lotay Tshering.

G7 to work with WHO, EU, China to tackle nCoV; Hong Kong reported 1st Coronavirus death

The G7(Group of 7) countries has announced to work with the World Health Organisation(WHO), the European Union (EU) and People’s Republic of China, in order to tackle the recent outbreak of Novel Coronavirus(nCoV). Meanwhile Hong Kong has reported the 1st nCoV death. Hong Kong was the 2nd place outside mainland China to report the death of a coronavirus patient.

About G7:

- Founded- 1975.
- Members countries- 7 (Canada, France, Germany, Italy, Japan, the United Kingdom(UK) and the United States)

Romania’s pro-European government collapses after no-confidence vote

Romania’s pro-European government collapsed in a parliamentary no-confidence vote yesterday after only three months in office.

A total of 261 of 465 MPs voted in favour of a motion against the minority government led by Ludovic Orban, which took over in November. President Klaus Iohannis must now appoint a new Prime Minister who in turn must try to assemble a majority.

About Romania:

President- Klaus Iohannis.

- Capital – Bucharest
- Currency – Romanian leu

U.S. announces launch of International Religious Freedom Alliance

The United States (US) launched the 27-nation International Religious Freedom Alliance, which will try to adopt a collective approach in protecting and preserving religious freedom across the world. It was announced by US Secretary of State Michael Pompeo.

Among the prominent countries to join the alliance are Austria, Brazil, the United Kingdom, Israel, Ukraine, the Netherlands and Greece.

About United States:

- Capital– Washington, D.C.
- Currency– United States Dollar
- President– Donald Trump

India, UK to partner on developing jet engine technology

India and the United Kingdom are expected to sign a government-to-government agreement on jet engine technology development. The announcement was made by the UK Minister for Defence Procurement James Heapey.

Both India and the UK are exploring various options for collaboration on joint defence projects. The UK has initiated to set up joint technology development for sixth-generation fighters which can go into India's fifth-generation Advanced Medium Combat Aircraft.

UK announces new points-based visa system

UK Home Secretary, Priti Patel has announced the launch of Britain's new points-based visa system. It aims at attracting the "brightest and the best" from the world, including from India.

Ms Patel, the senior-most Indian-origin Cabinet minister said, the new system will cut down numbers of cheap, low-skilled migrating workers coming to the country.

Prince Charles unveils children's protection fund for IndiaUN's

Britain's Prince Charles has unveiled a new children's protection fund for India as part of British Adian Trust, the charity founded by him in 2007 to fight poverty in South Asia. The British Asian Trust's Children's Protection Fund will cover child sexual abuse, child labour and trafficking. It will reduce the exploitation of children by 50 percent in India for over 10 years. American Singer Katy Perry will be ambassador of the new fund.

NASA astronaut Christina Koch returns to Earth after record-setting stay in space

NASA's astronaut Christina Koch returned from space to Earth safely yesterday. Koch returned after an 11-month mission, breaking the world record for the most time spent by a woman in space.

Koch has spent 328 days on International Space Station ISS, surpassing the previous record of 289 days held by fellow American Peggy Whitson. Koch's medical data will be especially valuable to NASA scientists as the agency draws up plans for a long-duration manned mission to Mars.

About NASA:

Headquarters- Washington, D.C., United States(US).

Founded – 29 July 1958.

Founder- Dwight D. Eisenhower.

UAE becomes 1st Arab Nation to issue license to operate a reactor at its Nuclear power plant

The United Arab Emirates representative to the International Atomic Energy Agency Mr. Hamad al-kaabi announced that the National Nuclear Regulator has issued an Operating license for a reactor at its Barakah nuclear power plant and becomes the 1st arab country in the world to operate a nuclear power plant.

“Bezos Earth Fund” launched by Jeff Bezos to combat climate change

The “Bezos Earth Fund” has been launched by Amazon CEO Jeff Bezos. The fund will aim to to help preserve and protect the natural world against the climate change. He has committed to contribute \$10 billion through the fund.

Pakistan to remain on the FATF Grey List

The Financial Action Task Force (FATF) has decided to keep Pakistan on the FATF Grey List till June 2020. The decision was taken during the group’s meeting and plenary in Paris. The anti-money laundering watchdog decided to keep Pakistan on its Grey List for failure to curb transfer of funds to terror groups Lashkar-e-Taiba, Jaish-e-Mohammed and others.

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14. Sports

ICC test batsmen rankings: Kohli retained no. 1 spot; Rahane slips to 9th place

On February 01, 2020, the International Cricket Council(ICC) released its latest test bats men rankings. Indian Cricketer Virat Kohli retained no.1 spot in the rankings while Indian cricketer Cheteshwar Arvind Pujara remained in 6th place and India's Ajinkya Madhukar Rahane slipped to the 9th spot. Virat was followed by Steeven Peter Devereux Smith (Australia) and Marnus Labuschagne(Australia) in the 2nd and 3rd spot respectively.

Bowling rankings: Indian bowler Jasprit Jasbirsingh Bumrah was the best placed Indian at the 6th spot and was followed by Ravichandran Ashwin at the 8th spot. Mohammed Shami Ahmed was the third Indian placed in the top 10 rankings placed at 9th spot.

About ICC:

13th ICC Under 19 Cricket World Cup 2020 held in South Africa

3th edition of 2020 ICC Under-19 Cricket World Cup, an international limited-overs cricket tournament was held in South Africa from 17 January – 9 February 2020. It was administered by International Cricket Council (ICC) & 16 teams participated in the cricket tournament with a total of 48 matches played between the teams.

The Finals were held at the JB Marks Oval, Potchefstroom, South Africa between Bangladesh & India. Bangladesh's youth team defeated India by three wickets in a thrilling match in the final. With this, the Bangladesh team won the under-19 World Cup title for the first time.

Pragyan Ojha announces retirement from all forms of cricket

Indian left-arm spinner Pragyan Ojha announced retirement from international and first-class cricket with immediate effect.

He played his last match for India in 2013 during Sachin Tendulkar's farewell Test against the West Indies in Mumbai.

Novak Djokovic Wins the men's singles title of Australian Open 2020

A Grand Slam tennis tournament was held from 20 January – 2 February 2020 at Rod Laver Arena, a multipurpose arena located in Melbourne Park, in Melbourne, Australia. The tournament marks the 108th edition of the slam and the 52nd edition in the Open Era.

Serbian tennis star, Novak Djokovic has won the men's singles title of Australian Open 2020. He defeated Austrian tennis star Dominic Thiem in five sets to successfully defend his Australian Open men's singles title in Melbourne, Australia. This was his 8th title win in the Australia Open.

Sofia Kenin wins Australia open Grand Slam Singles title

American Sofia Kenin has won the Australian Open Grand Slam Singles title 2020 (108th edition) at Melbourne, Australia. She defeated Garbine Muguruza in the final 4-6,6-2,6-2.

Kenin was the youngest Australian open finalist since Ana Ivanovic, and the youngest champion since Maria Sharapova both in 2008.

India to host men's edition of junior hockey World Cup 2021

International Hockey Federation (FIH) recently announced that India will host the men's edition of the junior hockey World Cup 2021. The women's junior World Cup event will be held in Potchefstroom in South Africa

Rubigula state bird of Goa declared as official Mascot for 36th National Games in Goa

The Flame-Throated Bulbul or Rubigula bird the state bird for Goa, which is officially declared as the Mascot for the 36th National Games going to held in Panaji, Goa.

The Mascot was unveiled by the Union Minister of State Independent Charge for Ministry of Sports and Ministry of Youth Affairs and Minister of State for Ministry of Minority Affairs Mr. Kiren Rijiju and the Mascot has been designed by Sharmila Coutinho (Goa based Artist). Chief Minister of Goa Pramod Sawant also present in the unveiling ceremony.

NADA suspends two Indian athletes

The National Anti-Doping Agency (NADA) has suspended weightlifter Ramshad AR for a period of 2 years after being found guilty of violating the anti-doping rule. He was examined by the Doping Control Officer of NADA during the 71st Men's National Weightlifting Championship. In addition to this, NADA has also banned Indian wrestler Ravinder Kumar for 4 years for failing a dope test.

About NADA:

Director-General – Navin Agarwal.

Founded – 24 November 2005; Motto- Play fair.

Headquarters: New Delhi.

Weightlifter Sambo Lapung wins gold with national record of 188kg

Weightlifter Sambo Lapung has won the gold medal in the men's 89kg event of the National Weightlifting Championships held in Kolkata. He has made a new national record of 188kg in clean and jerk event in men's 89kg. He is from Arunachal Pradesh.

In the women's event, Rakhi Halder has won the gold medal in the 64kg event. She won the gold medal with a total of 210kg defeating her nearest competitor Harjinder Kaur who registered 200kg in the event.

Avishek Becomes Youngest Cricket Association Bengal President

Former BCCI president late Jagmohan Dalmiya's son Avishek became the 18th and the youngest president of Cricket Association Bengal (CAB). Avishek, 38, was holding the post of joint secretary before his elevation.

BCCI president Sourav Ganguly's elder brother Snehasish Ganguly, a former Bengal left-hander, is the new joint secretary.

Rohit Rajpal to continue as India's Davis Cup captain 2020

All India Tennis Association (AITA) announced Rohit Rajpal will continue as India's non-playing Davis Cup captain 2020, in the selection committee meeting held at New Delhi, India.

The Davis Cup is the premier international team event in men's tennis. It is run by the International Tennis Federation (ITF) & Kosmos Holding, contested between teams from competing countries in a knock-out format.

Haryana win 10th Hockey India Senior Women National Championship

Haryana thrashed Sports Authority of India (SAI) 6-0 to win the 10th Hockey India Senior Women National Championship 2020 (A Division) title at Kollam.

Meanwhile, Madhya Pradesh Hockey Academy beat Hockey Maharashtra 2-1 in the third-fourth place play-off match.

Aditya Mehta Won National Snooker Championship

Aditya Mehta from Mumbai, Maharashtra won the National Snooker championship held at Pune. He defeated multiple time world champion Pankaj Advani.

While, in the women's snooker finals, Karnataka's Vidya Pillai defeated Ameer Kamani of Madhya Pradesh with 3-2 scores. This is the 10th National Snooker title of Pillai.

Ankita Raina Wins 18th Career Doubles Title In ITF Women's Tennis Event 2020 Held In Thailand

Ankita Ravinderkrishan Raina, an Indian professional tennis player along with her partner Bibiane Schoofs of the Netherlands, won the finals of the ITF (International Tennis Federation) Women's doubles held in Nonthaburi, Thailand.

Amit Panghal ranked No 1 by IOC's Boxing Task Force rankings for Olympic Qualifiers

World silver-medallist Amit Panghal has been ranked number one in the 52 kilogram category for Olympic Qualifiers, making him the first Indian pugilist in over a decade to achieve the global top position in the category. The list was released by the International Olympic Committee's Boxing Task Force today ahead of next month's Olympic Qualifiers.

Indian hockey captain Manpreet Singh named Player of the Year 2019

The Indian men's hockey team captain Manpreet Singh was today named Player of the Year for 2019 by the International Hockey Federation.

Manpreet, a midfielder, became the first Indian to win the accolade since the awards were introduced in 1999.

India's Koneru Humpy wins Cairns Cup chess tournament

Grandmaster Koneru Humpy has won the Cairns Cup Chess tournament held at St.Louis, US (United States). She won the title after finishing 6 points off 9 rounds and a cash prize of \$45,000. This was the second edition of the Cairns Cup.

Sindhu wins ESPN's Female Sportsperson of the Year award

World champion shuttler P V Sindhu has won the ESPN's 'Female Sportsperson of the Year' award for a third consecutive time.

Young shooter Saurabh Chaudhary bagged the honour in the male category.

Sprinter Dutee Chand became the first winners of the 'Courage' award for being inspirational both on and off the field.

India's 13-year old Grandmaster D Gukesh wins 34th Cannes Open

In Chess, India's 13-year old Grandmaster D Gukesh emerged champion in the 34th Cannes Open in France. Gukesh defeated Harutyun Barseghyan of the host nation in the final round to end with 7.5 points. Gukesh, who last year became the world's second youngest Grandmaster ever, beat the Frenchman in 50 moves to emerge clear winner.

Maria Sharapova, five-time Grand Slam winner, announces retirement

Five-time Grand Slam champion Maria Sharapova has announced her retirement from tennis. The Russian won her first Grand Slam at Wimbledon in 2004 aged 17 and completed the career slam, all four major titles, by winning the French Open in 2012.

15. BOOKS and AUTHORS

Vice President released the book 'A Child of Destiny' an Autobiography by Professor K. Ramakrishna Rao

The Vice President of India and Chairman of Rajya Sabha Shri Muppavarapu Venkaiah Naidu released a Book titled 'A Child of Destiny' Autobiography penned by Professor Koneru Ramakrishna Rao at GITAM (Gandhi Institute of Technology and Management) University Vishakatapatnam, Andhra Pradesh, India.

Dharmendra Rai, Mind Map & Brain Literacy trainer launched his book "The Thin Mind Map"

Dharmendra Rai, Mind Map & Brain Literacy trainer launched his book "The Thin Mind Map". The book is designed to be an expert in mind mapping. Dharmendra Rai was the first person in the world to talk on TEDx on creativity & mind mapping. He has conducted 380 plus mind map seminars less than 10 years which is a world record.

Prakash Javadekar releases reference annuals 'Bharat 2020' & 'India 2020'

Information and Broadcasting Minister Prakash Javadekar released the Reference Annual, India 2020 and Bharat 2020 in New Delhi. E-version of the year books were also released on this occasion.

The book consists of the information about India and its developments, progress and achievements of various Government Ministries, Departments and Organisations during the year 2019.

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