



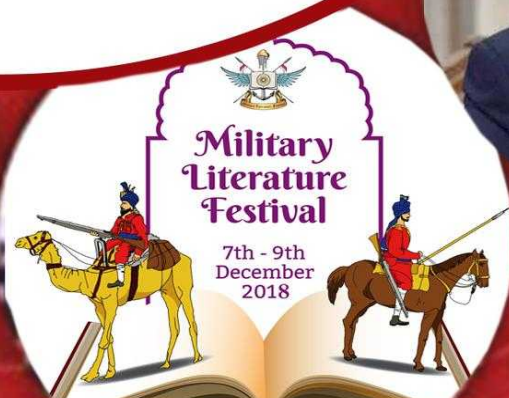
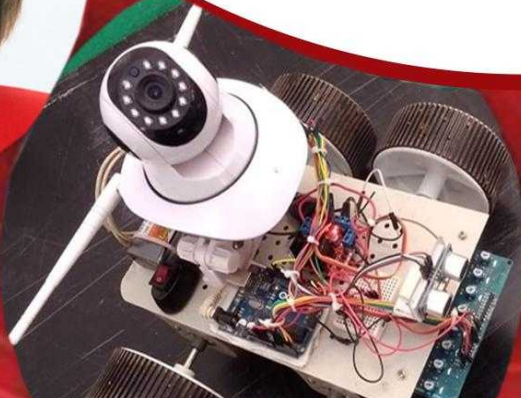
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# நடப்பு நிகழ்வுகள் (CURRENT AFFAIRS)

## FEBRUARY - 2019

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## TNPSC

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FEBRUARY - 10.02.2019



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Government of India



Ministry of Minority Affairs



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## National News

- **The Centre** announced that the **Great Indian Bustard (GIB)** will be its **mascot** for the **13th Conference of Parties (COP) of the UN Convention on the conservation of migratory species (CMS)** to be held in **Gujarat** next year.
  - Representatives from 129 countries and eminent conservationists and international NGOs working in the field of wildlife conservation are expected to attend the COP-13, to be held in **Gandhinagar from February 15-22, 2020**.
- Prime Minister **Narendra Modi** laid the foundation stone of the **Sela Tunnel Project in Arunachal Pradesh**. Once completed, the project would provide all-weather connectivity to **Tawang** and forward areas.
  - It is being constructed by the **Border Roads Organisation (BRO)** and it covers a total distance of **12.04 kilometers**.
- **The Jammu and Kashmir** administration under **Governor Satya Pal Malik** approved creation of a separate division of **Ladakh, comprising Kargil and Leh districts**, by carving it out of Kashmir division. The state thus far had two divisions- Kashmir and Jammu, Ladakh being part of the former.
  - **Saugat Biswas**, a 2006-batch IAS officer of J&K cadre, **has been appointed the Divisional Commissioner for Ladakh**.
- **In Bihar, Governor Lalji Tandon** and Union Agriculture Minister **Radha Mohan Singh** jointly inaugurated the three –day **Krishi Kumbh in Motihari**. The objective of Krishi Kumbh is to promote modern techniques and diversification in agriculture that could help in doubling farmers income.
- **Delhi Government** launched '**Zero Fatality Corridor**' project under its annual road safety action plan to reduce the number of road accidents on the outer ring road stretch between **Burari and Bhalaswa Chowk**.
  - This project is aimed at reducing deaths to near **zero level** on the Outer ring road stretch. After scientific investigation of high number of accidents on this stretch, Zero Fatality Corridor was launched.

## International News

- The **5th India-Bangladesh Joint Consultative Committee Meeting** was held in New Delhi. **External Affairs Minister Sushma Swaraj and Foreign Affairs Minister of Bangladesh** Dr. A. K. Abdul Momen co-chaired the meeting.
  - The last Joint Consultative Committee Meeting between the two countries was held in **October 2017 at Dhaka**.
- **Thailand** named the tiny, eye-catching, colourful fin plumaged **Siamese fighting fish** as its **aquatic animal** with a aim to boost the **conservation and breeding of the same**.
  - Siamese fighting fish is the native of Mekong basin of Thailand and is mostly found in the Chao Phraya river in Thailand.

## Economy

- To boost liquidity in the farming sector, particularly among small and marginal farmers, **the RBI** announced **increasing the limit on collateral-free agriculture loans to Rs 1.6 lakh from Rs 1 lakh**. This will enhance coverage of small and marginal farmers in the formal credit system.

## Appointment

- **Shri Sailesh** took charge as the **Secretary, Ministry of Minority Affairs**. He will also hold the post of Secretary, Department of Official Language as an additional charge. Sailesh is an IAS Officer of Assam-Meghalaya Cadre of 1985 batch.

## Awards

- The outstanding performance and to promote a healthy competition by States/UTs, Urban Local Bodies, Beneficiaries and Housing Finance Corporations (under

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CLSS), Ministry of Housing and Urban Affairs has instituted the '**PMAY (U) awards for Implementation and Innovation**' under the Mission.

- The overarching purpose of the PMAY (U) Awards is to identify and reward the “Top Performers” in different categories, to encourage others to compete and attain the goal of ‘Housing for All’ in a sustained manner.

## Sports

- **The Indian football team slipped out of the top 100 in the latest FIFA rankings** following their back to back group league defeats during the AFC Asian Cup in the UAE.
  - Slumped six places to be ranked **103** with 1219 points in the **FIFA rankings** released recently.
- **The Indian cricket team** has now **grabbed the second spot in the ICC One-day International rankings** in which captain **Virat Kohli** and **Jasprit Bumrah** have continued to **top the charts for batsmen and bowlers**.

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