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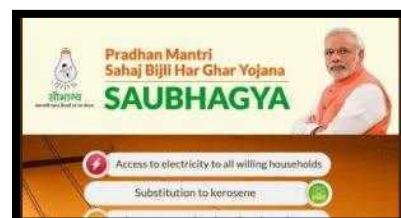
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INDEX

04 - 28	National News
28 - 35	International News
35 - 41	Sports News
41 - 45	Science & Technology
45 - 51	Awards
51 - 56	Appointments
56 - 61	Economic
61 - 66	Important Days
66 - 67	Books



NATIONAL NEWS

March 01

1. What is the full form of SHREYAS?

Answer : ‘Scheme for Higher Education Youth in Apprenticeship and Skills’

Explanation:

- **SHREYAS – ‘Scheme for Higher Education Youth in Apprenticeship and Skills’** launched by the Union minister **Prakash Javadekar** for providing industry apprenticeship opportunities to fresh graduates.
- This scheme is a programme basket comprising the initiatives of three central ministries, including the **HRD, Ministry of Skill Development and Entrepreneurship, and the Ministry of Labour and Employment.**

2. Our Railway Minister Piyush Goyal announced a new railway zone for which state?

Answer : Andhra Pradesh

Explanation:

- Union Railway Minister **Piyush Goyal** announced a new railway zone for **Andhra Pradesh**, that is the **Southern Coast Railway** and it will be headquartered in **Visakhapatnam**. It will be the **18th zone** in the country.

3. The 20th India-Italy Joint Commission for Economic Cooperation (JCEC) was held in which place?

Answer : New Delhi

Explanation:

- The 2-day long session of the **20th India-Italy Joint Commission for Economic Cooperation (JCEC)** was held in **New Delhi**
- This was co-chaired by the Union Minister of Commerce and Industry, **Suresh Prabhu** and the Deputy Minister of Economic Development, **Mr. Michele Geraci.**

4. Our Union Minister for Commerce and Industries Suresh Prabhu inaugurated The National Institute of Design in which two states?

Answer : Bhopal in Madhya Pradesh and Jorhat in Assam

Explanation:

- **The National Institute of Design has been inaugurated at Bhopal in Madhya Pradesh and Jorhat in Assam.** The Union Minister for Commerce and Industries **Suresh Prabhu** inaugurated the Institutions.
- National Design Policy 2007 had recommended setting up design institutes on the lines of NID, Ahmedabad in other parts of India to promote design programs.

5. “Benchmarks for Training in Yoga” meeting was recently held in New Delhi. Who organized that meeting?

Answer : Ministry of AYUSH and WHO

Explanation:

- A three-day Working Group Meeting, organised jointly by the **Ministry of AYUSH and WHO**, to review the WHO document “**Benchmarks for Training in Yoga**” began in **New Delhi.**
- The meeting will discuss the challenges in training of Yoga, review and discuss the scope and structure of the working draft document, identify the type, scope and

criteria of information/data that are further required.

6. Recently SOI signed between which two organizations to spread digital literacy across all Atal Tinkering Labs(ATL) in India?

Answer :NITI Aayog's Atal Innovation Mission (AIM) and Adobe

Explanation:

- **NITI Aayog's Atal Innovation Mission (AIM)** and **Adobe** signed a **Statement of Intent (SOI)** to collectively drive the charter of developing creative skills and spreading digital literacy across all **Atal Tinkering Labs (ATL)** in **India**.
- The **Adobe Digital Disha Programme**, launched in **2018**, is aimed at driving synergies in creative thinking and technology-based learning.

March 02

1. What is the full form of **SATAT**?

Answer : Sustainable Alternative Towards Affordable Transportation

Explanation:

- On 27th February, 2019, Petroleum Minister **Dharmendra Pradhan** has handed over the 100th Letter of Intent (LoI) under **SATAT- Sustainable Alternative Towards Affordable Transportation** scheme to **Compressed Bio-Gas (CBG)** entrepreneur, which is an waste to wealth venture.
- After hand over of LoI, CBG would significantly reduce India's import burden and provide an environment friendly and low cost alternative to conventional petroleum fuels.

2. A national conference on "**Deendayal Disabled Rehabilitation Scheme**" organised by Department of Empowerment of Persons with Disabilities (DEPwD) with Ministry of Social Justice and Empowerment at which place?

Answer : Dr. Ambedkar International Centre, New Delhi

Explanation:

- **Department of Empowerment of Persons with Disabilities (DEPwD)** with Ministry of Social Justice and Empowerment have organized a national conference on "**Deendayal Disabled Rehabilitation Scheme**" at Dr. Ambedkar International Centre, New Delhi on 1st March, 2019.
- The motive behind this conference is to lay impact on the need for creation of an inclusive society that accepts and respects disabled persons without discrimination.

3. A 3-day '**Mainamati Maitree Exercise 2019**' was held between which two countries border guards?

Answer :Border Security Force of **India** and Border Guards of **Bangladesh**

Explanation:

- **Border Security Force (BSF)** and **Border Guards Bangladesh (BGB)** took part in the 3-day '**Mainamati Maitree Exercise 2019**' as a part of '**Confidence Building Measures**' between the two border guards of **India** and **Bangladesh** held in a general area of BSF's **Srimantapur border outpost** near **Agartala, Tripura**.

4. Indian Railways has decided to suspend operations of which express?

Answer : Indo-Pak Samjhauta Express

Explanation:

- The Railways has decided to suspend operations of the **Indo-Pak Samjhauta Express** on its side due to the drastic decline in occupancy especially after the Pulwama terror attack
- The Railway Board has decided to cancel all operations from the train's next scheduled run.
- Pakistan has already suspended services on its end in the aftermath of the February 14 terror attack on CRPF personnel in Pulwama.

5. Name the portal which was unveiled by West Bengal Education Minister, **Partha Chatterjee** to provide **real-time data on state-run and aided schools**?

Answer : “**Banglar Shiksha**” (banglarshiksha.gov.in)

Explanation:

- West Bengal Education Minister, **Partha Chatterjee** unveiled a web portal, “**Banglar Shiksha**” (banglarshiksha.gov.in), to provide **real-time data on state-run and aided schools**.
- This Web portal will store real-time data of 1.5 crore students, 5 lakh teachers and 1 lakh schools and will also address many issues like attendance of students and teachers.

March 03

1. What is the name of the scheme which was funded by World Bank and the Government of India to strengthen the unorganized food processing sector concentrated in rural areas?

Answer : Gram Samridhi Yojana

Explanation:

- **Gram Samridhi Yojana**, a **Rs 3,000 crore** scheme funded by the **World Bank** and the **Government of India**, is being worked upon by the **Ministry of Food Processing Industries** in order to strengthen the unorganized food processing sector concentrated in rural areas.
- The scheme is aimed at helping the **cottage industry, farmer producers’ organisation** and **individual food processors** to increase capacity, upgrade technology besides skill improvement, entrepreneurship development and strengthening the farm-to market supply chain.

2. Recently Haryana Chief Minister Manohar Lal Khattar launched a scheme for farmers who cultivate on land with areas up to five acres and the families with an income of less than Rs. 15,000 per month. What is the name of the scheme?

Answer : “**Mukhyamantri Parivar Samman Nidhi**”

Explanation:

- “**Mukhyamantri Parivar Samman Nidhi**” scheme was launched by **Haryana Chief Minister Manohar Lal Khattar** in **Chandigarh**. It is primarily meant for farmers of the state who cultivate on land with areas up to **five** acres and the families with an income of less than **Rs. 15,000** per month.
- The scheme would provide a sum of **Rs. 6,000** yearly and each family has to nominate a member who will be provided with this amount.

3. ‘**Jal Amrutha**’ scheme was launched by which state’s chief minister?

Answer : Karnataka chief minister H D Kumaraswamy

Explanation:

- A water conservation scheme ‘**Jal Amrutha**’ was launched by **Karnataka chief minister H D Kumaraswamy**, in **Bengaluru**. For the purpose of inauguration of the scheme, a function was organized by the **Rural Development and Panchayat Raj department** at **Dr B R Ambedkar Bhavan in Bengaluru**.
- The scheme plans to make people aware about the importance of conserving water and to prompt them to come up with ways to avoid wastage of water.

4. Who attended the 46th meeting of OIC’s Council of Foreign Ministers in Abu Dhabi?

Answer : Sushma Swaraj

Explanation:

- External affairs minister **Sushma Swaraj** attended the **inaugural plenary session of the 46th meeting of OIC’s Council of Foreign Ministers in Abu Dhabi** during March 1-2 at the invitation of her UAE counterpart, **Sheikh Abdullah bin Zayed Al Nahyan**. She addressed the inaugural plenary session as a **guest of honour**.
- **The Organisation of Islamic Cooperation (OIC) meeting**, which has the **theme “50 years of Islamic cooperation: the roadmap for prosperity and development”**

March 04

1. Who inaugurated the two day Expo-cum Conference on Construction Technology India 2019 (CTI-2019) in New Delhi?

Answer : Prime Minister Narendra Modi

Explanation:

- Prime Minister Narendra Modi inaugurated the **two day Expo-cum Conference on Construction Technology India 2019 (CTI-2019) in New Delhi**.
- **The main beneficiary of the initiative is youth**. Technologies which are proven during CTI-2019 will further invited to design and build lighthouse projects.

2. Prime Minister Narendra Modi declared ‘April 2019–March 2020’ as which year?

Answer : Construction-Technology year

Explanation:

- Prime Minister Narendra Modi declared ‘**April 2019–March 2020**’ as **Construction-Technology year** and the use of advanced technology to meet the increasing demand of housing in the country caused by rapid urbanization got stressed.
- The declaration was made during the inauguration of **Construction Technology India 2019 Expo-cum-conference held in New Delhi**.

3. An anthem “Plastic Waste-Free India” which has been composed and produced by which organization?

Answer : Pandit Deendayal Upadhyaya Smriti Manch (PDUSM)

Explanation:

- An anthem “**Plastic Waste-Free India**” which has been composed and produced by **Pandit Deendayal Upadhyaya Smriti Manch (PDUSM)**– a non-profit organization which works in the field of social and environmental issues was launched by **Union**

Minister for Science & Technology, Earth Sciences and Environment, Forest and Climate Change, Harsh Vardhan.

- It is a part of an initiative which aims to turn India into a plastic-free nation by 2022 and aims at supporting and improving the plastic waste management and recycling ecosystem in the country.

4. Who launched a comprehensive scheme for Development of Knitting and Knitwear Sector under PowerTex India in New Delhi?

Answer :Smriti Irani

Explanation:

- Union Minister of Textiles, **Smriti Irani**, launched a comprehensive scheme for **Development of Knitting and Knitwear Sector** under **PowerTex India in New Delhi** where she also interacted with industry associations related to knit wear sector in **three** clusters of **Kolkata, Tirupur** and **Ludhiana** through video link.

5. Who said that Tripura is country's number one gas producing point and every poor household in the state will have LPG connection in 2019?

Answer :Dharmendra Pradhan

Explanation:

- Union Minister of Petroleum and Natural Gas, **Dharmendra Pradhan** said that **Tripura is country's number one gas producing point** and every poor household in the state will have **LPG connection in 2019**.
- The **ONGC** will fulfil all the energy requirement of the state with regard to power plants, domestic industries, transportation and domestic fuel.

March 05

1. India's food processing ministry launched a new scheme to bolster the unorganised food processing sector concentrated in rural areas. What is the name of the scheme?

Answer : Gram Samridhi Yojana

Explanation:

- India's food processing ministry is working on a new scheme — **Gram Samridhi Yojana** — to bolster the **unorganised food processing sector** concentrated in rural areas. The scheme will be run in **Uttar Pradesh, Andhra Pradesh, Maharashtra and Punjab** for a 5-year period in the initial phase and thereafter in other states of the country.
- The **Rs 3,000 crore scheme** funded by the **World Bank** will help cottage industry, farmer producers' organisation and individual food processors.

2. What is the full form of STARS?

Answer :Scheme for Translational and Advanced Research in Science

Explanation:

- The Union Human Resource Development (HRD) Minister, **Prakash Javadekar** launched **STARS – Scheme for Translational and Advanced Research in Science** to fund science projects. The ministry has approved funds worth **Rs 250 crore** for the scheme.
- The project will be coordinated by the **Indian Institute of Science (IISc), Bangalore**.

3. Which district is the top aspirational district among the 112 aspirational districts of the country according to the Delta ranking report released by NITI Aayog?

Answer : Assam's Hailakandi

Explanation:

- According to the **Delta ranking report released by NITI Aayog**, **Assam's Hailakandi** has become the top aspirational district among the 112 aspirational districts of the country.
- Hailakandi in Assam has made a giant leap from **52nd position to no. 1 position** on the basis of its performance during November-December 2018 and January 2019.

4. Which state government has decided to set up a centre of excellence for Himalayan fiber in Almora district of Kumaon?

Answer : Uttarakhand

Explanation:

- **The Uttarakhand government** has decided to set up **a centre of excellence for Himalayan fiber in Almora district of Kumaon**. The centre of excellence will be set up with support from the **Northern India Textile Research Association (NITRA) - Ghaziabad**.
- NITRA, which comes under the **Union Ministry of Textile**, will set up a training institute for developing fiber products at the Centre.

5. India signed a deal with which country to manufacture 7.5 lakh AK-203 rifles, the latest derivative of the AK-47 rifles?

Answer : Russia

Explanation:

- **India** has signed a deal with a **Russian firm** to manufacture **7.5 lakh AK-203 rifles**, the latest derivative of the AK-47 rifles. The AK-203 rifles will be produced at the **Indian Ordnance Factory at Amethi's Korwa in Uttar Pradesh**.
- The new rifles will replace the **indigenous INSAS rifles in the Army, Air Force and Navy**.

March 06

1. Who launched 'One Nation, One Card' Model from Ahmedabad, Gujarat for seamless travel through different metros and other transport systems ?

Answer : Prime Minister Narendra Modi

Explanation:

- Prime Minister Narendra Modi launched **'One Nation, One Card'** Model from **Ahmedabad, Gujarat** for **seamless travel** through different metros and other transport systems.
- The Indigenous Automatic Fare Collection System based on the "One Nation, One Card" model, for example **the National Common Mobility Card (NCMC)**, is the **first** of its kind in India.

2. According to a recent study conducted by environment NGO Greenpeace India which city is the most polluted cities in the world?

Answer : Delhi

Explanation:

- **Delhi has topped** the list of the **most polluted cities** in the world in a recent study conducted by environment NGO **Greenpeace India**. **New Delhi** was ranked first among **62** polluted cities in the report, **Global Air Pollution 2018**.

3. To increase the population of three species of Asian rhinos a declaration signed between which countries?

Answer : India, Bhutan, Nepal, Indonesia and Malaysia

Explanation:

- **India will collaborate with Bhutan, Nepal, Indonesia and Malaysia** to increase the population of **three species of Asian rhinos**, including the Greater one-horned rhinoceros found in the Indian sub-continent.
- The five rhino range nations signed a declaration '**The New Delhi Declaration on Asian Rhinos 2019**' for the conservation and protection of the species at the recently held **Second Asian Rhino Range Countries meeting in New Delhi**.

4. Name the programme which was launched by Indian Space Research Organisation for school children?

Answer : "Yuva Vigyani Karyakram"

Explanation:

- **Indian Space Research Organisation** has launched "**Yuva Vigyani Karyakram**", for the School Children to be studying in the ninth standard. ISRO Scientists will impart basic knowledge on Space Technology, Space Science and Space Applications to the young ones.
- "**Catch them young**" residential training programme will be of around two weeks duration during summer holidays.

5. Who inaugurated the project BOLD-QIT (Border Electronically Dominated QRT Interception Technique) on India-Bangladesh border in Dhubri District of Assam?

Answer : Rajnath Singh

Explanation:

- Rajnath Singh inaugurated the project BOLD-QIT (Border Electronically Dominated QRT Interception Technique) on India-Bangladesh border in Dhubri District of Assam.
- Border Security Force, BSF is responsible for safeguarding of over four thousand kilometer long International Border with Bangladesh.

March 07

1. What is the name of the museum inaugurated by Minister of State for Culture (Independent charge) and Environment, Forest and Climate Change, Dr. Mahesh Sharma at Red Fort, New Delhi?

Answer : 'Azaadi ke Diwane' museum

Explanation:

- The Minister of State for Culture (Independent charge) and Environment, Forest and Climate Change, **Dr. Mahesh Sharma** inaugurated '**Azaadi ke Diwane**' museum at **Red Fort**, New Delhi which is Created by Archaeological Survey of India (ASI).
- The museum is the fifth in a series of recently inaugurated ones — the others being

the Subhash Chandra Bose and INA museum, the Yaad-e-Jallian museum, the Museum on 1857 (on the country's first war of Independence) the Drishyakala (a museum on Indian Art) on the sacrifices of India's freedom fighters.

2. Civil Aviation Minister Suresh Prabhu announced that an aircraft components manufacturing hub would be set up in which state?

Answer : Maharashtra

Explanation:

- Civil Aviation Minister **Suresh Prabhu** announced that **an aircraft components manufacturing hub** would be set up in **Maharashtra's coastal Konkan region** and would boost employment opportunities for the local youth.

3. According to the study conducted by Greenpeace and Air Visual which city is the most polluted in the world?

Answer : Gurugram

Explanation:

- A new study now finds that **India accounts for seven of the world's 10 cities with the worst air pollution**. On the other hand, Chinese cities have seen a marked improvement. According to the study, **Gurugram is the world's most polluted city**. The study was conducted by **Greenpeace and Air Visual**.
- These include major population centres of **Lahore, Delhi and Dhaka, which placed 10th, 11th and 17th respectively**.

4. Who laid the foundation stone for the 'National Institute of Mental Health Rehabilitation' (NIMHR)?

Answer : Shakuntala D. Gamlin

Explanation:

- The foundation stone for **the 'National Institute of Mental Health Rehabilitation' (NIMHR)**, the **first-of-its-kind** institute in **India**, was laid down by **Shakuntala D. Gamlin**, Secretary, Department of Empowerment of Persons with Disabilities (DEPwD), Ministry of Social Justice and Empowerment at **Sherpur Village** along **Bhopal-Sehore** highway, District **Sehore, Madhya Pradesh**.

March 08

1. Chhattisgarh government has set up a hi-tech 'integrated command and control centre' in Raipur for better traffic management and surveillance in the city. What is the name of the project ?

Answer : 'Daksha'

Explanation:

- **The Chhattisgarh government** has set up a **hi-tech 'integrated command and control centre' in Raipur** for better traffic management and surveillance in the city. Chief Minister **Bhupesh Baghel** launched the '**Daksha**' project under which the centre has been built.
- Set up at a cost of **Rs 157.70 crore** as part of the **Raipur Smart City initiative**, the project will take care of safety and security, traffic management, public communication, and also to keep the city environment green.

2. What is the name of the scheme in which Government will reimburse a certain percentage of freight charges and provide assistance for marketing of agricultural products?

Answer : Transport and marketing assistance scheme.

Explanation:

- On 6th March 2019, Government of India with a view to boost to export of farm commodities to certain countries in Europe and North America introduced a scheme for providing **financial assistance for transport and marketing of agriculture products.**
- The Government will reimburse a certain percentage of **freight charges and provide assistance for marketing of agricultural produce** under this **transport and marketing assistance scheme.**

3. Name the 3 districts topped the NITI Aayog's list of aspirational districts for the period of December 2018-January 2019 ?

Answer : Chatra, Sahibganj and Hazaribagh

Explanation:

- NITI Aayog's list of aspirational districts for the period of **December 2018-January 2019** has been topped by **3** districts of Jharkhand- **Chatra, Sahibganj, and Hazaribagh.** These districts are also said to have performed well in **'health and nutrition'** parameters.
- This ranking was released by **Amitabh Kant, CEO of NITI Aayog.**

4. Odisha Chief Minister Naveen Patnaik launched a scheme to provide financial assistance to craftsmen. What is the name of the scheme?

Answer : 'Mukhya Mantri Karigar Sahayata'

Explanation:

- On 6th March 2019, Odisha Chief Minister Naveen Patnaik launched the scheme **'Mukhya Mantri Karigar Sahayata'** for financial assistance to craftsmen. The nodal department of the scheme is the Directorate of handicrafts.
- Craftsmen with **10 years of experience** and having annual income below **Rs.1 lakh** are eligible to get an assistance of **Rs.800 per month.**

March 09

1. An Inter Governmental Agreement (IGA) for nuclear powered Akula class attack submarine was signed between which two countries? ?

Answer : India and Russia

Explanation:

- Amid the ongoing tension with Pakistan, **India signed a \$3.3 billion deal with Russia** for leasing the **third nuclear-powered Akula class attack submarine.** An Inter Governmental Agreement (IGA) was signed between the two countries in New Delhi. The submarine, to be called **Chakra -3, will be delivered in 2025 for a 10-year period.**
- India at the moment operates Chakra-2 whose 10-year lease ending in 2022. INS Chakra is a nuclear-powered submarine and unlike INS Arihant, the other nuclear submarine in Indian navy fleet.

2. Who released new Rs 20 coin?

Answer : Prime Minister Narendra Modi

Explanation:

- In a first, **the government has announced new Rs 20 coin** which will be shaped like a **12-edged polygon** (dodecagon). The outside diameter of new Rs 20 coin will be 27mm (millimeters) and it will weigh 8.54 grams. Prime Minister **Narendra Modi** released the new series of “**visually impaired friendly circulation**” coins (**Rs 1, Rs 2, Rs 5, Rs 10 and Rs 20**). Except for the Rs 20 coin, the rest of the denominations will be round in shape.

3. What is the name of a common mobility app launched Delhi government ?

Answer : ONE DELHI

Explanation:

- To ease the use of public transport in the nation capital, the **Delhi government launched a common mobility app ‘One Delhi’** to allow users plan more efficiently their journey with Delhi Metro and all city buses. The app was developed by **Delhi Integrated Multi-Modal Transit System, or DIMTS**.
- To make travel easier in Delhi, the app allows users to access all bus stops, bus and metro routes, fares, expected time of arrival (ETA) of buses and metro.

4. According to the **Knight Frank report** which city is the 16th most expensive prime residential market in the world ?

Answer : Mumbai

Explanation:

- According to **Knight Frank report Mumbai**, the financial capital of the country, is the **16th most expensive** prime residential market in the world.
- The Mumbai is the only Indian city to feature in the **global top 20 list** of expensive prime residential markets recorded in **The Wealth Report 2019**.

5. What is the full form of POPSK?

Answer : Post Office Passport Seva Kendras

Explanation:

- The country's **500th Passport Kendra** has been made operational at **Pratapgarh in Rajasthan**. The **Ministry of External Affairs (MEA)**, in collaboration with the **Department of Posts**, had in 2017 taken the initiative to open Passport Kendras at the head post offices/post offices in the country, to be known as “**Post Office Passport Seva Kendras**” (POPSK).

March 10

1. Who approved Central Educational Institutions (Reservation in Teacher's Cadre) Ordinance 2019 which will restore 200-point roster system for faculty recruitment?

Answer : Ram Nath Kovind

Explanation:

- President **Ram Nath Kovind** approved **Central Educational Institutions (Reservation in Teacher's Cadre) Ordinance 2019** which will restore **200-point roster system** for faculty recruitment.

- The decision will allow filling up of more than **5000 vacancies** by direct recruitment in **Teachers' cadre** duly ensuring that the Constitutional provisions of **Articles 14, 16 and 21** are complied with and reservation criteria for the **Scheduled Castes/Scheduled Tribes** and **Socially and Economically backward classes** are met with.
 - A **5-member committee** to examine issues related to framing of a proper and structured scheme for providing of insurance cover to the **advocates** and to suggest modalities for the implementation of such a scheme has been set up by the Union Minister for Law & Justice, **Ravi Shankar Prasad** under the chairmanship of Secretary Legal Affairs, **Dr Alok Srivastava**.
2. Which two countries organised a joint space dialogue in New Delhi?
Answer : India and Japan
Explanation:
- On 8th March 2019, **India and Japan** organised a joint space dialogue in **New Delhi**. It aimed at providing a platform for both the countries to explore ways to enhance cooperation between the space agencies of both the nations.
3. The 2nd edition of **Indo-Pacific Regional Dialogue (IPRD) – 2019** was organised in which place?
Answer : Manekshaw Centre, New Delhi
Explanation:
- **Indra Mani Pandey**, Additional Secretary for Disarmament and International Security Affairs, Ministry of External Affairs headed the **Indian** delegation while **Kansuke Nagaoka**, Deputy Assistant Minister, Foreign Policy Bureau, and **Shuzo Takada**, Director General, National Space Policy Secretariat jointly led the **Japanese** delegation.
 - On 5th and 6th March 2019, the 2nd edition of **Indo-Pacific Regional Dialogue (IPRD) – 2019** was organised in **Manekshaw Centre, New Delhi**. It focused on involving the global strategic community in reviewing India's opportunities and challenges in the Indo-Pacific region.
4. Which product got Geographical Indication (GI) tag from the Central Government recently?
Answer : The Marayoor Jaggery district
Explanation:
- **The Marayoor Jaggery**, the traditional and handmade product from **Idukki district of Kerala** received the **Geographical Indication (GI)** tag from the Central Government. It is dark brown in colour, high in sweetness and iron, with less sodium content and insoluble impurities.
 - The Marayoor jiggery finally managed to get the GI Tag after two years of continuous efforts by the Agricultural Department of the state. The GI tag will provide more windows of opportunity to the traditional sugarcane farmers in Marayoor.

March 11

1. Who headed the three member mediation panel for the amicable settlement of Ayodhya's

Ram Janmabhoomi-Babri Masjid land dispute case ?

Answer: Justice F. M. Kalifullah

Explanation:

- For the amicable settlement of **Ayodhya's Ram Janmabhoomi-Babri Masjid land dispute case**, the five-judge bench, headed by the Chief Justice of India (CJI) **Ranjan Gogoi**, constituted a **three-member mediation panel** headed by former Supreme Court (SC) judge **Justice F. M. Kalifullah** to resolve the issue.
- The other members of the panel include spiritual guru **Sri Sri Ravi Shankar** and Senior Advocate **Sriram Panchu**.

2. How much LPG connections have been issued in the past 34 months?

Answer: Seven crore

Explanation:

- On 9th March 2019, the government allotted its **7-crore** free cooking gas (LPG) connection, as a part of the **Pradhan Mantri Ujjwala Yojana (PMUY)**.
- **7 crore** free LPG connections have been issued in the past **34 months** which approximates to almost 69,000 connections per day.

3. Which organisation signed an agreement to provide technical assistance to IBBI until 30th June 2021 ?

Answer: IFC

Explanation:

- On 7th March 2019, The **Insolvency and Bankruptcy Board of India (IBBI)** signed an agreement with the **International Finance Corporation (IFC)** in cooperation. IFC is a member of the World Bank Group.
- The cooperation agreement provides a **technical assistance by IFC to IBBI until 30th June, 2021**. It will provide training of insolvency professionals and trainers by the IFC to IBBI.

4. Who launched a new scheme called Yuvashree plan II or Yuvashree Arpan?

Answer: Mamata Banerjee

Explanation:

- **West Bengal Chief Minister Mamata Banerjee** launched a new scheme called **Yuvashree Plan II or Yuvashree Arpan** under which 50,000 youths will receive financial assistance of **Rs 1 lakh** for setting up an their own business initiatives.
- Youngsters passing out of **Industrial training institute (ITI)** or other polytechnic institute will be eligible to get financial support from the **micro, small and medium enterprises (MSME)** department.

5. Which scheme was launched in Dehradun by Uttarakhand Chief Minister to provide 100ml milk twice a week, free of cost?

Answer: Mukhyamantri Anchal Amrit Yojana

Explanation:

- **Mukhyamantri Anchal Amrit Yojana** was launched in **Dehradun** by **Uttarakhand Chief Minister Trivendra Singh Rawat**.
- The scheme aims to provide 100 ml milk twice a week, free of cost, to 2.5 lakh children at 20,000 Anganwadi kendras of Uttarakhand.

March 12

1. According to the Assocham-PwC study India's data consumption is expected to grow at a compounded annual growth rate (CAGR) of what percent?

Answer: 72.6 per cent

Explanation:

- **India's data consumption** is expected to grow at a **compounded annual growth rate (CAGR) of about 72.6 per cent** to 10, 96, 58,793 million MB **by 2022**, according to a study. "With lower-than-ever data tariffs and increasing number of smartphone penetration in the country, which is around 40 per cent as of 2017, it is safe to assume that the **Video on Demand (VoD)** market will be a significant beneficiary of these developments. Internet consumption is clearly on the rise in India," according to the **Assocham-PwC study**.

2. The centre formed National Mission on Transformative Mobility and Battery Storage for which program?

Answer: Phased Manufacturing Program

Explanation:

- On 9th March 2019, The Centre formed **National Mission on Transformative Mobility and Battery Storage** to finalise the framework for a **Phased Manufacturing Program (PMP)**. The main aim of the framework is localising the production of electric vehicles (EV) and its components within the country and boost the adoption of clean energy vehicles.

3. Who inaugurated the state of the art Indian Urban Observatory and Video Wall at New Delhi?

Answer: Hardeep Singh Puri

Explanation:

- Minister of State (I/C) for Housing and Urban Affairs, **Hardeep Singh Puri**, inaugurated the state-of-the-art **India Urban Observatory** and **Video Wall** at **New Delhi**. The **India Urban Observatory** will plug into the myriad sources of data from cities, both from real-time and archival sources.

4. Which countries exchanged diplomatic notes for implementing the visa facilitation agreement?

Answer: Maldives and India

Explanation:

- **Maldives** and **India** exchanged diplomatic notes for implementing the visa facilitation agreement, which was signed during President **Ibu Solih's** visit in **December 2018** and will come into effect from **11th March 2019**.
- The new agreement provides a very liberal visa regime for **Maldivian** nationals to visit **India** for tourism, business, education and medical purposes and also makes it easier for **Indians** to travel to **Maldives** for business purposes.

March 13

1. With whom The Asian Business Leadership Forum had a global leadership partnership?

Answer: United Arab Emirates

Explanation:

- The **Asian Business Leadership Forum (ABLF)**, a global leadership platform in partnership with the **United Arab Emirates (UAE)**'s Federal Government has decided to give further momentum to **India-UAE** ties.

2. Which year has been declared as UAE's Year of Tolerance?

Answer: 2019

Explanation:

- **2019** has been declared as UAE's **Year of Tolerance** by the UAE Government to underline the commitment to make compassion, inclusion and acceptance a part of everyday life.

3. Who is the Petroleum Minister of India?

Answer: Dharmendra Pradhan

Explanation:

- In a meeting between Petroleum Minister **Dharmendra Pradhan** and his Saudi counterpart and the chairman of **Saudi Aramco, Khalid A Al-Falih**, in **New Delhi**, it was decided that **India** and **Saudi Arabia** will revive and expedite the implementation of **USD 44 billion West Coast** refinery project in **Maharashtra**, in which **Saudi Aramco** will be holding a considerable stake.

4. Who unveiled e-plaques for development projects in Bangladesh, through video conferencing?

Answer: Narendra Modi and Sheikh Hasina

Explanation:

- Prime Minister **Narendra Modi** and along with the Bangladesh Prime Minister **Sheikh Hasina**, unveiled **e-plaques** for development projects in **Bangladesh**, through video conferencing.
- The e-plaques are for the following projects: Supply of buses and trucks, Inauguration of 36 community clinics, 11 water treatment plants and Extension of National Knowledge Network to Bangladesh.

5. The 34th edition of Aahar – the International Food and Hospitality Fair commenced in which place?

Answer: New Delhi

Explanation:

- **The 34th edition of Aahar – the International Food and Hospitality Fair commenced in New Delhi.** The five-day fair, organised by **India Trade Promotion Organisation, ITPO**, features wide range of food products, machinery, food and beverages equipment, hospitality and decor solutions, confectionery items from over 560 participants from India and foreign countries.
- The foreign participants in the fair are from countries including China, Germany, Hong Kong, Italy, Indonesia, Japan, Russia, Spain, USA and UK among others.

March 14

1. Which organisation has approved "General Election to the Lok Sabha 2019 – statutory notifications under the sub-section (2) of section 14 of the Representative of the people Act,

1951”?

Answer: Union Cabinet

Explanation:

- The Union Cabinet has approved “**General Election to the Lok Sabha 2019 – statutory notifications under the sub-section (2) of section 14 of the Representative of the people Act, 1951**”, which would begin the election process for the 17th House of the People.

2. The training for differently abled persons conducted by Hinduja Global Solutions (HGS) partnered with NASSCOM Foundation took place at which place?

Answer: Bengaluru

Explanation:

- **Hinduja Global Solutions (HGS)** partnered with **NASSCOM Foundation**, to launch a centre of excellence in **Bengaluru** for training differently-abled persons (PwDs) which will train a minimum of **100 PwDs** making them industry-ready over the next **12 months** with a goal to place at least **50%** of them in companies already sensitised for hiring them.
- The trainees will be skilled in a variety of job roles suitable for hospitality, IT or BPM and retail industries and will also be trained on soft skills, interview skills, communication skills, and English language.

3. Which product finally got a GI tag after an eight-year-long process from the Geographical Indication Registry?

Answer: Erode Turmeric

Explanation:

- After an eight-year-long process, **Erode turmeric (of Tamil Nadu)** finally got a **Geographical Indication (GI) tag** from the Geographical Indication Registry. **The Erode Manjal Vanigargal Matrum Kidangu Urimaiyalargal Sangham** applied for the GI tag in January, 2011, at the office of the Deputy Registrar of GI Registry in Chennai.
- A Geographical Indication is a name or sign used on certain products that correspond to a specific geographical location or origin.

4. What has been banned by the Directorate General of Civil Aviation?

Answer : Boeing 737 Max 8 aircraft

Explanation:

- The entry or transit of **Boeing 737 Max 8** aircraft has been banned by the Directorate General of Civil Aviation (DGCA) in the Indian airspace from 1600 hrs IST or 1030 UTC 13th March 2019.
- The airlines affected by this are Spice Jet which has 13 jets of the model 8 variant and Jet Airways which has 5 jets of this variant.

March 15

1. According to Supreme Court order police officers who have a minimum of six months tenure left in service can be considered for which post?

Answer: Director General of Police

Explanation:

- On 13th March 2019, The Supreme Court clarified its last year order on police reforms and said officers who have a **minimum of six months tenure left in service** can be considered for the post of **Director General of Police (DGP)**.
 - Chief Justice **Ranjan Gogoi** headed the bench and recommendation for the post of DGP by the Union Public Service Commission (UPSC) and preparation of the appointment panel should be **purely on the basis of merit**.
2. How many states are banned using ENDS in India following the advice of the Ministry of Health and Family Welfare?
Answer: 12
Explanation:
- On 13th March 2019, following the advice of the Ministry of Health and Family Welfare, atleast 12 states in India have **banned Electronic Nicotine Delivery Systems (ENDS)**.
 - Punjab, Maharashtra, Karnataka, Kerala, Bihar, Uttar Pradesh, Jammu and Kashmir, Himachal Pradesh, Tamil Nadu, Puducherry and Jharkhand have taken steps to ban the use of ENDS.
3. Where did IT major Wipro Ltd open its centre of excellence for IIOT?
Answer: Kochi
Explanation:
- **IT major Wipro Ltd** opened its centre of excellence for **Industrial Internet of Things (IIoT) in Kochi in Kerala**. Using Artificial Intelligence (AI), blockchain and robotics, the centre will develop proofs of concept and market-ready IoT solutions.
 - The facility is Wipro's third one dedicated to industrial IoT after one each in Mountain View in California and Bengaluru.

March 16

1. Which country ranked first for having highest number of impacted species in biodiversity-rich zones?
Answer: Malaysia
Explanation:
- **India was ranked 16th in the world in terms of highest number of impacted species in biodiversity-rich zones (also known as hotspots)** due to human actions. In India, 35 species affected on an average in biodiversity-rich zones.
 - **Malaysia ranks first** among countries with highest number of impacted species (on an average 125 species).
2. Who inaugurated the Festival of Innovation and Entrepreneurship in Gandhinagar, Gujarat?
Answer: Ram Nath Kovind
Explanation:
- On 15th March 2019, The President of India Ram Nath Kovind inaugurated the **Festival of Innovation and Entrepreneurship (FINE)** in Gandhi nagar, Gujarat. **10th Biennial National Grassroots Innovation awards** were also distributed by the President on the occasion.

3. Which countries are agreed to work together to operationalise Kartarpur corridor?

Answer: India and Pakistan

Explanation:

- **India** and **Pakistan** have agreed to work together to operationalise the **Kartarpur** corridor which makes it easier for the Indian pilgrims to visit Gurdwara Darbar Sahib at Kartarpur in Pakistan.
- The decision was made in the first meeting between Indian and Pakistani representatives held at **Attari, Punjab** in which the Indian delegation was led by S C L Das, Joint Secretary in the Ministry of Home Affairs and the Pakistani delegation was led by Dr. Mohammad Faisal, Director General for South Asia and South Asian Association for Regional Cooperation (SAARC).

March 17

1. What is the name of the app that launched by The Election Commission?

Answer: Observer app

Explanation:

- **The Election Commission** launched a mobile application that will help poll observers to submit reports timely. Over 1800 IAS, IPS and IRS officials, officials of Central services will be deployed as observers in the upcoming Lok Sabha election 2019 and State Assembly elections.
- They will get all the important notifications, alerts, and urgent messages through the **“Observer App”**. It will help them get their deployment status, download their ID card and update their profile.

2. Where did Coorg Arabica Coffee grow?

Answer: Kodagu

Explanation:

- **Geographical Indication (GI)** tags have been granted to **Coorg Arabica Coffee, Wayanad Robusta Coffee, Chikmagalur Arabica Coffee, Araku Valley Arabica Coffee and Bababudangiris Arabica Coffee**, by the **Geographical Indications Registry**.
- Coorg Arabica Coffee is grown in Kodagu, Karnataka. Wayanad Robusta Coffee is grown in Wayanad, Kerala while Chikmagalur Arabica Coffee and Bababudangiris Arabica Coffee are grown in Chikmagalur, Karnataka.

3. Where did the two-day national convention of War Decorated India begin?

Answer : Manekshaw Auditorium

Explanation:

- **The two-day national convention of War Decorated India began at the Manekshaw Auditorium in Chandimandir**, the headquarters of the **Western Command in Chandigarh**. Some living gallantry award winners and relatives of the deceased awardees attended the Convention. Chief of Staff Western Command Lt General **P.N. Bali** addressed the convention.

4. By whom the 3rd edition of Namaste Thailand festival organised?

Answer: Royal Thai Embassy

Explanation:

- The **3rd** edition of **Namaste Thailand** festival, organised by the **Royal Thai Embassy** with an aim to strengthen bilateral ties and increase cultural exchange between India and Thailand, began at **Select Citywalk** in **New Delhi** on 15th March 2019 and will conclude on 17th March 2019.

March 18

1. Which Programme will be adopted for IIT Kharagpur to help students to gain cloud computing skills?

Answer : Amazon Web Services

Explanation:

- The **Indian Institute of Technology (IIT) Kharagpur** will adopt **Amazon Web Services (AWS) Educate** programme to help students gain cloud computing skills including hands-on experience in artificial intelligence (AI).
- It will be introduced to provide AWS Cloud Computing experience and AI-enablement for all our students, irrespective of their branch of study.

2. When Reserve Bank of India maintained its no dilution on Feb 12 over stressed assets?

Answer : March 16,2019

Explanation:

- On 16th March 2019, **Reserve Bank of India** maintained that there is **no dilution** in its stand regarding February 12 circular on stressed assets recognition and resolution.
- The central bank said in a statement that it is restated that the RBI maintained its stand on all aspects of the Framework as has been consistently stated in its communications, including the clarification given during the post-monetary policy press conference which was held on February 7, 2019.

3. Name the newly launched mobile app which has the cardless withdrawal of cash over 16,500 from its ATMs ?

Answer : Yono

Explanation:

- State Bank of India has launched cardless withdrawal of cash at over 16,500 of its ATMs through the Yono mobile app platform for the first time in the country.
- The ATMs enabled for this service will also be termed as Yono Cash Point. Customers can initiate the cash withdrawal process on the Yono app and set a six-digit Yono Cash pin for the transaction.

March 19

1. Who launched the 'each one teach three' campaign?

Answer : NASSCOM Foundation

Explanation:

- In a bid to curb fake news during the general elections, **WhatsApp and NASSCOM Foundation** came together to impart **digital literacy training**. As part of the partnership, WhatsApp and NASSCOM Foundation will train nearly 1,00,000 Indians to spot false information and provide tips and tricks to stay safe on WhatsApp.

- The training will be imparted by volunteers from **NASSCOM Foundation** who will launch the “**each one teach three**” campaign .Aspiring volunteers can register at **www.mykartavya.nasscomfoundation.org**.
2. Who has directed the Central Pollution Control Board to prepare a noise pollution map across the country?
Answer : National Green Tribunal
Explanation:
- The National Green Tribunal, NGT, has directed the Central Pollution Control Board, CPCB, to prepare a noise pollution map across the country. The NGT also directed to propose a remedial action plan to solve the issue within three months.
 - A bench headed by National Green Tribunal Chairperson Justice Adarsh Kumar Goel directed the CPCB to identify noise pollution hotspots and categorise cities with specified hotspots.
3. Who is the India's first Lokpal or anti-corruption watchdog?
Answer : Pinaki Chandra Ghose
Explanation:
- Retired Supreme Court judge Pinaki Chandra Ghose is likely to become India's first Lokpal or anti-corruption watchdog.His name was finalised and recommended in a Selection Committee meeting comprising Prime Minister Narendra Modi, Chief Justice Ranjan Gogoi, Lok Sabha Speaker Sumitra Mahajan, and Mukul Rohatgi.
 - Lokpal is a three-member, anti-corruption watchdog comprising a chairman, a judicial and non-judicial member.

March 20

1. Who released new Special Stamp Cover on Ice Stupa in leh?
Answer : D.Tshering
Explanation:
- **D. Tshering**, Chief Postmaster General, Jammu & Kashmir Circle, released a ‘**Special Stamp Cover on Ice Stupa**’ by the Department of Post, Government of India during a function organised at the **Ice Stupa** site at **Gangles in Leh**.
 - Ice Stupa team of **Himalayan Institute of Alternatives, Ladakh (HIAL)** with support from **Leh-Phodo** society and Army, has built an Ice Stupa at Gangles with an aim to reduce shortage of water in Leh.
2. Where did the IWDRIs two days workshop organized by NDMA held on?
Answer : New Delhi
Explanation:
- **International Workshop on Disaster Resilient Infrastructure (IWDRI)**, a two-day workshop organised by National Disaster Management Authority (NDMA) in collaboration with United Nations Office for Disaster Risk Reduction (UNISDR), and in partnership with the Global Commission on Adaptation, United Nations Development Programme and the World Bank was held at **New Delhi**.
3. Indo-Japan Workshop regarding Disaster Risk Reduction held in which place?
Answer : New Delhi

Explanation:

- On 18th March 2019, Government of India and Government of Japan organized the 3rd Indo-Japan Workshop on **Disaster Risk Reduction (DRR)** in **New Delhi**. Additional Principal Secretary to Prime Minister, Dr. P. K. Mishra inaugurated the workshop.
- The objective behind this meet was to enhance collaboration between research institutes, cities and the private sector in the field of DRR.

4. Which city has got approval from The Union Ministry to change the name of the village?

Answer : Mangkhi to Mungankhum

Explanation:

- The Union Home Ministry has approved the changing of name of the **Old Mangkhi** village in Tuensang of **Nagaland** to **Mungankhun** village.
- The central government has given its 'no-objection' to renaming of **22 villages, towns and railway stations** across the country since December 2017.

5. The inaugural of **Africa-India Field Training Exercise-2019** for India and African nations called **AFINDEX-19** held in which place?

Answer : Aundh Military Station, Pune

Explanation:

- The inaugural **Africa-India Field Training Exercise-2019** for India and African nations called **AFINDEX-19** started with a grand opening ceremony at **Aundh Military Station, Pune**.
- Contingents of the 17 African Nations came together for the opening ceremony along with a contingent of Maratha Light Infantry representing India.

March 21

1. The 33rd edition of India-Indonesia was inaugurated at which place?

Answer : Port Blair, Andaman & Nicobar Islands.

Explanation:

- The 33rd edition of India-Indonesia coordinated patrol (**IND-INDO CORPAT**) was inaugurated at **Port Blair, Andaman & Nicobar Islands**.
- The IND-INDO CORPAT 2019 is held from 19 Mar to 04 Apr 2019.
-

2. Name the newly introduced mobile app developed by the IIPHG and PHFI for students?

Answer : Conquer Exam, Be a Warrior.

Explanation:

- Mobile app developed by **IIPHG, PHFI** to combat exam pressure
- A mobile application to cope with exam related stress and anxiety for students and their parents has been developed by Indian Institute of Public Health Gandhi nagar, Gujarat, (**IIPHG**) in collaboration with **National Mental Health Program**, Department of Health and Family Welfare, Government of Gujarat.
- The mobile application is called '**Conquer Exam, Be a Warrior.**'

3. To Implement Smart Traffic Solutions Ola signed a MoU with which state?

Answer : Telangana

Explanation:

- **Ola Signs MoU With Telangana To Implement Smart Traffic Solutions**

- Ola, one of the **world's largest ride-hailing platforms**, signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) with the Government of Telangana, to support their efforts towards strengthening the traffic infrastructure in **Hyderabad city**.

March 22

1. Which country's top most manufacturer was beaten up by Indian Railway Integral Coach Factory?

Answer : China.

Explanation:

- Indian Railways **Integral Coach Factory (ICF)** has surpassed the top Chinese manufacturers after creating a 40% record increase in its production. With this, Indian Railway's oldest and premier coach manufacturing unit becomes the single largest rail coach manufacturer in the world.
- ICF has manufactured **2,919 coaches from April 2018 to February 2019** as compared to 2,600 coaches by Chinese manufacturers.

2. Which bank has signed MoU with Bank of China?

Answer : SBI.

Explanation:

- **SBI** has signed a memorandum of understanding (MoU) with **Bank of China**, third-largest bank in the world by capital size and one of the major players in the Chinese banking sector, to enhance business synergies between both the banks. This MoU will facilitate the clients of both the banks to access banking products and services of each other, which will lead to a mutually beneficial relationship.

3. Name the exercise conducted between India and Sri Lanka?

Answer : 'Mitra Shakti'

Explanation:

- Exercise 'Mitra Shakti' between India and Sri Lanka will be conducted from March 26 to April 8 for the year 2018-19, in Sri Lanka. It is conducted annually as part of military diplomacy and interaction between armies of two nations.
- Troops from 1st Battalion the Bihar Regiment of the Indian Army and Gemunu Watch Battalion of Sri Lankan Army would be jointly undertaking the exercise.

March 23

1. Name the app launched by CBSE?

Answer : Shiksha Vani.

Explanation:

- **The Central Board of Secondary Education (CBSE)** launched a new podcast app '**Shiksha Vani**' earlier this week. This app will disseminate crucial information to students and parents in a timely manner.

2. Which bank has been sanctioned Rs5,000 capital infusion from Finance Ministry?

Answer : The Bank of Baroda.

Explanation:

- **The Bank of Baroda** may get **Rs 5,000 capital** infusion from the **Finance**

Ministry ahead of its united operations as a merged entity along with the **Vijaya Bank and Dena Bank from April 1**. In February, the government approved Rs 48,239-crore recap bonds in 12 PSBs.

- The merger will create India's third largest bank with a total business of over Rs 14.82 lakh crore.

3. How much loan amount was signed between Asian Development Bank (ADB) and Avaada Energy Private Limited (AEPL)?

Answer : USD50 million.

Explanation:

- To expand the Renewable Energy Capacity in India, Asian Development Bank (ADB) signed a loan agreement of USD50 million with India's renewable energy producer company Avaada Energy Private Limited (AEPL).
- It was signed by Avaada Energy chairman Vineet Mittal and ADB Principal Investment Specialist Mayank Choudhary.

March 24

1. How much amount was granted to Nepal for construction of educational campus by the Indian government?

Answer : 35.5 million.

Explanation:

- **India extended a financial grant of 35.5 million Nepalese rupees to Nepal** for the construction of an educational campus to boost the learning environment of the students. The educational campus was jointly inaugurated by District Coordination Committee and Campus management committee on **22nd March 2019**.
- It was made under the **Development Partnership Programme** which is administered by the Development Administration Partnership division of the Ministry of External Affairs.

2. When did Xiaomi launched its Mi Pay in india?

Answer : December 2018.

Explanation:

- **Xiaomi launched Mi Pay**, its very own Unified Payments Interface (UPI) based payments service in India. The app is already available in **China and was first introduced in India last December in beta mode**.
- The Chinese electronics company partnered with National Payments Corporation of India (NPCI) who approved it and **ICICI Bank** to launch the app in India.

March 25

1. On which day, the Central Government banned Jammu Kashmir Liberation Front under the provisions of Unlawful Activities Prevention Act?

Answer : March 23, 2019.

Explanation:

- **On 23rd March 2019**, the Central Government banned Jammu Kashmir Liberation Front (JKLF) under the provisions of Unlawful Activities Prevention Act (UAPA), 1967 as an unlawful association.

- **Yasin Malik** lead JKLF is creating a separatist ideology in the **Kashmir Valley**. It has been doing its separatist activities and violence since **1988**.
2. Reserve Bank of India postponed the implementation of which standard?
Answer : Indian Accounting Standards.
Explanation:
- **On 22nd March 2019, Reserve Bank of India** postponed the implementation of the Indian Accounting Standards (**Ind AS**) by banks until further notice for the reason of requisite legislative amendments, which are still under consideration of the government.
 - Earlier, Reserve Bank of India had postponed the implementation of the **Indian Accounting Standards (Ind AS)** by the banks in **April 2018** by one year.

March 26

1. Where did NITI Aayog organise its FinTech Conclave?
Answer Dr. Ambedkar International Center, New Delhi.
Explanation:
- On 25th March, **NITI Aayog** has organized a **FinTech Conclave** at Dr. Ambedkar International Center, New Delhi. The Conclave was inaugurated by RBI Governor, **Shaktikanta Das**.
 - The motive of the conference is to shape India's continued ascendancy in FinTech, build the narrative for future procedure and policy efforts, and to deliberate steps for complete financial inclusion.
2. Who is the Chairman of the 5-members committee to strengthen digital payment appointed by the Reserve Bank of India?
Answer : Nandan Nilekani.
Explanation :
- On 25th March 2019 **Reserve Bank of India (RBI)** has appointed 5-member committee under the chairmanship of **Nandan Nilekani** to **strengthen digital payments** as well as to boost financial inclusion through Financial Technology.
3. Which bank is set up at the Mysore Power loom Silk Manufacturers Cooperative Society to benefit the state's weavers?
Answer : A Yarn Bank.
Explanation :
- A **yarn bank** has been set up at **the Mysore Power loom Silk Manufacturers Cooperative Society** on Avenue Road to benefit the state's weavers.
 - The bank, regardless of the price rise in the open market and the menace of middlemen, ensures a steady supply of yarn to the weavers from southern Karnataka.

March 27

1. ABHEDYA of Indian Navy has been commissioned at which place?
Answer : Lonavla in Mumbai.
Explanation:

- The state of the art **Nuclear, Biological, Chemical Training Facility** (NBCTF) named **ABHEDYA** of Indian Navy has been commissioned at **INS Shivaji**, Lonavla in Mumbai by Admiral Sunil Lanba, PVSM AVSM ADC, Chief of the Naval Staff.
 - It will provide training to naval personnel in detection, protection against and decontamination of nuclear, biological and chemical agents.
2. Which bank has been slapped Rs .2.0 crores for violating SWIFT norms by Reserve Bank Of India?
Answer : Punjab National Bank
Explanation:
- On 25th March 2019, The **Reserve Bank of India** slapped **Rs.2 crore** as penalty for **non-compliance of regulatory directions** regarding **SWIFT operations in Punjab National Bank**.
 - **Society for World Wide Interbank Financial Telecommunication (SWIFT)** is a network which enables the financial institutions worldwide to send and receive information about the financial transactions in a secure manner.
3. How much percent of reduction in tuberculosis was achieved by India?
Answer : 84 percent.
Explanation:
- **India** has achieved an **84 per cent reduction in tuberculosis deaths** among people living with HIV by 2017.
 - According to **the Joint United Nations Programme on the UNAIDS**, it is the highest recorded decline among over 20 nations and it is also three years ahead of the 2020 deadline.

March 28

1. How many summer special trains would have been ready to run between Chatrapathi Shivaji Maharaj Terminus and Gorakhpur from march?
Answer : 100 trains.
Explanation:
- The **Indian Railways** said that **100 summer special trains** would be run to handle extra rush of passengers during this season. These special trains will be run from March 28.
 - A superfast weekly special train between **Chhatrapati Shivaji Maharaj Terminus** and **Gorakhpur** will make a total of 26 round trips between the two stations every Friday from **April 12 to July 5**.
2. What are all the additional posts approved by the Union Cabinet in National Company Law Appellate Tribunal?
Answer : Three Judicial Members and three Technical Members.
Explanation:
- **On 27th March 2019**, Union Cabinet approved the creation of additional posts of three Judicial Members and three **Technical Members** in the National Company Law Appellate Tribunal (NCLAT).
3. Which railway station has received Gold Rating by the Indian Green Building Council?

Answer : Vijayawada Railway Station.

Explanation:

- **Vijayawada railway station**, one of the busiest railway junctions in the country, has received **Gold Rating** by the Indian Green Building Council. Council Chairman Meka Vijaya Sai presented the gold rating shield to Divisional Railway Manager R Dhananjayulu.

INTERNATIONAL NEWS

March 01

1. Which countries signed a pact for exchange of information and Assistance in Collection with respect to taxes?

Answer: India and Brunei

Explanation:

- **India and Brunei** signed a pact **for exchange of Information and Assistance in Collection with respect to taxes** in order to **curb tax evasion and tax avoidance in New Delhi**.
- This agreement will facilitate both the countries to exchange information, including banking and ownership information for tax purposes and will also avail mutual assistance in collection of tax revenue claims.

March 02

1. Where did the United States and North Korea fail to reach a formal deal?

Answer: Hanoi Summit

Explanation:

- The United States and North Korea have failed to reach a formal deal at the Hanoi Summit.
- The talk has ended with no agreement after the US refused North Korean demand to lift all international sanctions.
- The two-day meeting in the Vietnamese capital Hanoi had come eight months after their historic summit in Singapore in June last year.

March 03

1. The 7th Regional Comprehensive Economic Partnership Meeting was organized in which place?

Answer : Siem Reap, Cambodia

Explanation:

- The **7th Regional Comprehensive Economic Partnership (RCEP) Intersessional Ministerial Meeting** was organized in **Siem Reap, Cambodia**. It was also attended by **Union Minister of Commerce & Industry and Civil Aviation- Suresh Prabhu**.
- **RCEP** is a proposed free trade agreement (FTA) or comprehensive regional economic integration agreement between **10 ASEAN countries** (Brunei, Indonesia, Cambodia, Laos, Myanmar, Malaysia, Philippines, Singapore, Thailand, Vietnam) and its **six** FTA partners (India, China, Australia, New Zealand, Japan and South Korea).

March 04

1. Which state has officially shuttered its consulate in Jerusalem?

Answer: The United States

Explanation:

- The United States has officially shuttered its consulate in **Jerusalem**, downgrading the status of its main diplomatic mission to the **Palestinians** by folding it into the U.S. Embassy to **Israel**.
- The U.S. State Department stated that the decision was driven to increase the efficiency and effectiveness in diplomatic engagements.

March 05

1. Which country ranked first in the Confidence Board Global Consumer Confidence Survey?

Answer : India

Explanation:

- **India ranked first in the Confidence Board Global Consumer Confidence Survey** which was conducted in collaboration with a global performance management company **Nielsen Holdings**.
- **South Korea has the most pessimistic consumer** who are worried about rising inflation, lower wage growth, unemployment, a weak stock market and global trade uncertainties in the world.

March 06

1. Which countries are decided to call off their joint exercise “Foal Eagle” and “Key Resolve”?

Answer : United States and South Korea

Explanation:

- The **United States and South Korea** decided to call off their joint exercise “**Foal Eagle**” and “**Key Resolve**” and instead bifurcate them into smaller exercises. This is being done to ease tensions with North Korea.
- While “**Key Resolve**” will be replaced by “**Dongmaeng**” which is also known as **alliance** in English, **Foal Eagle drills** will be replaced by a smaller battalion-sized exercise.

March 07

1. ‘**Al Nagah 2019**’ The third edition of the bilateral joint exercise held between which two countries?

Answer : India and Oman

Explanation:

- The third edition of the bilateral joint exercise between **India and Oman**, ‘**Al Nagah 2019**’ will begin from 12th March. It will be organized at Jabel Al Akhdar Mountains in Oman. In the exercise, both the armies will exchange expertise and experience in tactics, weapon handling and firing.
- **India-Oman** bilateral security ties have continued to develop since the beginning of India-Oman Joint Military Cooperation meetings in **2006**.

March 08

1. Which country has the cheapest mobile data in the world?

Answer : India

Explanation:

- On 6th March 2019, **India has the cheapest mobile data in the world** as per the research by price comparison site cable.co.uk. The global average was **USD 8.53 for 1GB**.
- Compared to global average of about **Rs. 600, 1GB is costing just Rs. 18.5(USD 0.26) in India**. In the same case countries like **UK has USD 12.37** for the same amount of data.

2. Which country became a member of International Criminal Court ?

Answer : Malaysia

Explanation:

- **Malaysia** became a member of the **International Criminal Court (ICC)**, the world's only permanent war crimes court which aims to prosecute the worst abuses when national courts are unable or unwilling.
- **Malaysia** is the **124th** member of the court since its establishment in **2002**.

March 12

1. Who has been honoured as the World's Oldest women in Guinness World Records?

Answer : Kane Tanaka

Explanation:

- A **116-year-old Japanese woman** has been honoured as the world's oldest living person by **Guinness World Records**. The global authority on records officially recognized **Kane Tanaka** in a ceremony at the nursing home where she lives in Fukuoka, in southwest Japan. She was born in January 1903.
- The previous oldest living person was another Japanese woman, Chiyo Miyako, who passed away last July, aged 117.

March 13

1. Who is the Minister of State for Tourism?

Answer : K J Alphons.

Explanation:

- On 11th March 2019, Vice President of India, M Venkaiah Naidu is on a 2 Nation visit to Paraguay and Costa Rica. He was accompanied by a high-level delegation including the Minister of State for Tourism K J Alphons, the Members of Parliament and Senior Officials.
- Venkaiah Naidu attended India-Paraguay Business Forum

March 15

1. Where did the 9th Round of the U.S.- India Strategic Security Dialogue held in?

Answer : Washington DC, United States.

Explanation:

- On 13th March 2019, the **9th round of the U.S.-India Strategic Security Dialogue** held in **Washington DC, United States**. Foreign Secretary Vijay Gokhale led the Indian delegation and Under Secretary of State for Arms Control and International Security Andrea Thompson led the US delegation.

March 16

1. How much shillings did the African Development Bank provide to help in the global fight against climate change?

Answer : 2.5 trillion shillings.

Explanation:

- **The African Development Bank (AfDB)** would provide **2.5 trillion shillings (\$25 billion)** over the next **5 years to help in the global fight against climate change**. The bank currently provides 34 per cent of its overall lending portfolio to projects aiming to boost the fight against climate change.
 - According to the AfDB, the central bank's own \$1.2 trillion dollars worth of reserves which could be redirected towards renewable energy financing initiatives to help fight climate change effects.
2. **The UK's Royal Mint** unveiled a new commemorative **50 pence** coin to commemorate which British physicist ?

Answer : Stephen Hawking

Explanation:

- **The UK's Royal Mint** unveiled a new commemorative **50 pence coin** inspired by the late legendary British physicist Stephen Hawking's seminal work on black holes.
- Hawking, one of the world's best-known theoretical physicists who passed away aged 76 last year, joins the ranks of other eminent scientists such Isaac Newton and Charles Darwin to have a commemorative coin in honour of one of his greatest discoveries that black holes should not be all black.

March 17

1. Where did the UN Environment Assembly take place?

Answer : Nairobi, Kenya.

Explanation:

- The **fourth** session of the **UN Environment Assembly (UNEA-4)** took place in **Nairobi, Kenya**, as agreed during UNEA-3 in December 2017. Under the overall theme, **'Innovative Solutions for Environmental Challenges and Sustainable Consumption and Production,'**
- UNEA-4 will address environmental challenges related to poverty and natural resources management, including sustainable food systems, food security and halting biodiversity loss

March18

1. Who visited President Ram Nath Kovind at Rashtrapati Bhavan?

Answer : Ibrahima Kassory Fofana

Explanation:

- Prime Minister of Guinea Ibrahima Kassory Fofana has arrived in New Delhi on a ten-day official visit to India. During the visit, Mr Fofana will call on President Ram Nath Kovind at Rashtrapati Bhavan.
- The Guinean Prime Minister will also attend a programme in Vishakhapatnam

March 19

1. What is the name of the Indian Coast Guard Ship which became the first-ever Coast Guard ship to visit Sabang, Indonesia?

Answer .: 'Vijit'.

Explanation:

- Highlighting the close maritime proximity between **India and Indonesia**, Indian Coast Guard Ship '**Vijit**' became the first-ever Coast Guard ship to visit **Sabang, Indonesia**. This visit of the coast guard ship follows from the first-ever-visit of Naval Ship INS Sumitra to Sabang in July 2018.
- Vijit's visit also highlights strengthening cooperation in the area of maritime security and safety between New Delhi and Jakarta.

March 20

1. Who attended the 2-day joint ministerial meeting held in Maldives ?

Answer :Sushma Swaraj

Explanation:

- External Affairs Minister **Sushma Swaraj** held a 2-day joint ministerial meeting for 17th and 18th March 2019, with her **Maldivian** counterpart **Abdullah Shahid**, where the latter has assured to remain sensitive towards India's security and strategic concerns.
- Both the representatives have discussed steps to continue the upward trajectory in bilateral relationship

March 21

1. According to Economist Intelligence Unit report which Indian Cities consider as the World's cheapest cities?

Answer : Chennai, Delhi and Bengaluru

Explanation:

- The **Economist Intelligence Unit** has released the report of the **Worldwide Cost of Living Survey 2019**.
- For the first time in its **30-year history**, three cities have been accorded the title.
- Singapore which top's of the rankings for the sixth consecutive year is joined there by Hong Kong and Paris.
- Zurich in Switzerland stood at the fourth position followed by **Japan's Osaka** which shared **fifth place** with Geneva, also in **Switzerland**.
- World's cheapest cities include Indian cities **Chennai and Delhi** jointly shared the space of **125th place followed by Bangalore in 129th place**.

2. What is the rename of Astana?

Answer : Nursultan.

Explanation:

- Kazakhstan renames its capital **Astana** as **Nursultan** after ex-president
On 20th March 2019, **Kazakhstan** has renamed its capital as Nursultan from its previous name Astana in order to recognize its outgoing leader Nursultan **Nazarbayev**(78), who has served nearly 30 years as president of Kazakhstan.
- The name was changed after **Kassym-Jomart Tokayev** sworn in as president of Kazakhstan. The new president will serve till **April 2020**.

3. **Africa-India Field Training Exercise-2019** for India and African nations called AFINDEX-19 held in which place?

Answer : Aundh Military Station, Pune

Explanation:

- **Africa-India** joint field training exercise (**AFINDEX-19**) starts in **Pune**.
The inaugural **Africa-India Field Training Exercise-2019** for India and African nations called AFINDEX-19 started with a grand opening ceremony at **Aundh Military Station, Pune**.
- The aim of the exercise is to practice the participating nations in planning and conduct of Humanitarian Mine Assistance and Peace Keeping Operations.

March 22

1. What is the expansion of **HLD-IPC**?

Answer : High-Level Dialogue on Indo-Pacific Cooperation .

Explanation:

- The Government of Indonesia has hosted the first ever **High-Level Dialogue on Indo-Pacific Cooperation (HLD-IPC)** in its capital city Jakarta. The **theme** of the HLD was “**Towards a Peaceful, Prosperous, and Inclusive Region**”. It was **inaugurated** by Indonesia’s Vice President **Jusuf Kalla**.
- The Dialogue saw the participation of representatives from India, Australia, US, Brunei Darussalam, Japan, South Korea, Russia, New Zealand and China apart from 10 member ASEAN countries.

March 23

1. Which Word entered in the Oxford English Dictionary?

Answer : Chuddies.

Explanation:

- **The Indian word for underpants – chuddies – has become the latest entry to the Oxford English Dictionary**. Chuddies is one of the 650 words added to the **Oxford English Dictionary** as part of its effort to expand coverage of regional vocabularies.
- Identifying it is an Indian English word in origin, the entry for chuddies in the Oxford English Dictionary.

March 24

1. What is the abbreviation of **IGIA** ?

Answer : Indira Gandhi International Airport.

Explanation:

- In accordance with the preliminary **world airport traffic rankings for 2018** released by Airports Council International (ACI), the Indira Gandhi International Airport (IGIA) of **New Delhi has elevated 4 ranks** to reach at **12th spot in terms of busiest airport** as compared to **2017's 16 spot**.
- The list of world's busiest airports by passenger traffic ranking has been topped by Hartsfield–Jackson Atlanta International Airport (US) followed by Beijing Capital International Airport (China) and Dubai International Airport (UAE).

March 25

1. Who joined with China's signature foreign policy Belt and Road initiative?

Answer : Italy.

Explanation:

- Despite a warning by **United States**, **Italy** joined China's signature foreign policy Belt and Road initiative (**BRI**), making it the **first G7 country** to officially do so. China and Italy also a Memorandum of Understanding in this regard. Already, China has signed BRI cooperation agreements with over **40 countries**.
- Facing the third recession in a decade, Italy has defended its action saying that Chinese investment is good for their country.

March 26

1. According to World Economic Forum (WEF) India's rank on global energy transition index ?

Answer :. 76th

Explanation:

- On 25th March 2019, **India** ranks **76th (among 115 countries)** on a **global energy transition index** which was compiled by Geneva-based World Economic Forum (WEF), based on their energy system performance and affordability.
- The top three performers are **Sweden**, followed by **Switzerland and Norway**.

March 27

1. The world's largest e-waste recycling plant has opened in which country?

Answer : Dubai

Explanation:

- On 26th March 2019, the **world's largest e-waste recycling plant** has opened in **Dubai Industrial Park, Dubai** by 'Enviroserve' company with a total cost of \$5 million.
- It will recycle Waste Electrical and Electronic Equipment (WEEE), IT asset disposition (ITAD), refrigerant gas and specialized waste. The processing capacity of this recycling hub is **100,000 tonnes** of total integrated waste (per year), of which **39,000 tonnes is e-waste**.

March 28

1. On March 25, 2019 Which Country celebrate the 49th Independence Day?

Answer : Bangladesh.

Explanation:

- The day was celebrated with parades and paying of respects at **Jatiyo Smriti Soudho**, national memorial at **Savar**, on the outskirts of Dhaka.
- On March 26, Bangladesh commemorates the declaration of independence on late hours of **March 25, 1971**.

SPORTS

March 02

1. Which team currently playing with the India women cricket team in February and March 2019?

Answer: England women cricket team

Explanation:

- The **England women's cricket team** are currently playing the **India women's cricket team** in **February and March 2019**.
- The tour consists of **3 Women's One Day Internationals (WODIs)**, which formed part of the **2017–20 ICC Women's Championship**, and **3 Women's Twenty20 International (WT20)** matches.

2. Who became the first player in the world to hit 500 sixes?

Answer: Chris Gayle

Explanation:

- **West Indies cricketer Chris Gayle** became the **first player in the world** to hit **500 sixes** the 14th batsman and second from the Caribbean after Brian Lara, to reach the milestone of 10,000 ODI runs, after scoring 162 off 97 balls against England in the fourth ODI at the National Cricket Stadium in St George's, Grenada.

March 04

1. Who made the history at The Dubai Championship?

Answer : Roger Federer

Explanation:

- **Roger Federer** made history at the **Dubai Championship** as he defeated reigning champion Stefanos Tsitsipas to win his **100th** tour-level title.
- The 37-year-old is just the second player to accomplish this feat, joining Jimmy Connors who has tour-level title 109 times.

March 05

1. Who won gold medal in 65kg freestyle category defeating Jordan Oliver of USA ?

Answer : Bajrang Punia

Explanation:

- **57th International Wrestling Tournament 'Dan Kolov – Nikola Petrov'** conducted in **3rd March 2019**. The International tournament in the memory of Dan Kolov and Nikola Petrov is organized by the **Bulgarian Wrestling Federation**.

- Indian Wrestler won medals in the tournament: **Bajrang Punia won gold medal in 65 kg freestyle category defeating Jordan Oliver of USA and Pooja Dhanda won gold in 59 kg women's freestyle category.**

March 06

1. Name the two Indian bowlers who joined the top five club in the latest ICC women cricket?

Answer : Jhulan Goswami and shikha pandey

Explanation:

- For the first time in nine years, two India bowlers, **Jhulan Goswami and Shikha Pandey**, joined the top five club in the latest ICC women's cricket rankings for ODI bowlers.
- **Jhulan Goswami** secured the **No.1 spot**. While **Shikha Pandey** made a tremendous come back by picking up eight wickets, has jumped 12 places to occupy the **fifth spot** in the list.

March 07

1. Which council decided to invite Oceania Nations to compete in 2022 Asian games?

Answer: Olympic Council of Asia

Explanation:

- **Olympic Council of Asia** decided to invite **Oceania Nations** to compete in **2022 Asian Games** for the **first time** after a meeting held in **Bangkok**.
- Oceania Nations which includes **Australia, New Zealand** and a swathe of Pacific islands are expected to Volleyball, beach volleyball, basketball, football, swimming and track cycling events.

March 08

1. Who stunned German second seed Alexander zverev 6-3, 6-4 to win the Acapulco International in Mexico?

Answer: Nick Kyrgios

Explanation:

- **Australian Nick Kyrgios** stunned German second seed Alexander Zverev 6-3, 6-4 to win the **Acapulco International in Mexico** for his fifth career **ATP title**.
- Kyrgios defeated three top-10 players on the way to the title, saving three match points in a second-round victory over second-ranked Rafael Nadal owner of 17 Grand Slam titles and beating No. 9 John Isner in the semis.

March 09

1. Which council has banned former Zimbabwe cricket director Enock ikope for the offence of breaching 3 ICC's anti-corruption codes?

Answer : International Cricket Council

Explanation:

- The International Cricket Council (ICC) has banned former Zimbabwe Cricket director Enock Ikope for a period of 10 years for the offence of breaching 3 ICC's anti-corruption codes.

- He is the second person from the Harare Metropolitan Cricket Association to be punished by the ICC, the first being Rajan Nayer who was banned from cricket for 20 years for his involvement in match fixing.

March 10

1. Who is the 61st grandmaster of India?

Answer : P. Iniyan

Explanation

- India got their 61st Grandmaster when 16-year-old P. Iniyan, hailing from Erode, won at the ongoing Noisiel Open in France. Iniyan defeated GM Sergey Fedorchuk of Ukraine in the sixth round to become the 61st Grandmaster for India as he crossed the 2500-point in ELO ratings.
- Even though Iniyan had earlier received his three GM norms, the teenager could not get his ELO rating past 2500 points, thus failing to become a GM. He went past the 2500-mark with a win over top seed Fedorchuk.

March 12

1. Name the person who won gold medal in 38th GeeBee Boxing Tournament in Helsinki, Finland?

Answer : Kavinder Singh Bisht

Explanation:

- **Kavinder Singh Bisht struck gold** while Shiva Thapa and three others claimed silver medals to end a fine Indian campaign at **the 38th GeeBee Boxing Tournament in Helsinki, Finland**. Signing off with silver medals were three-time Asian medallist Shiva Thapa, rookie Govind Sahani, Commonwealth Games bronze-medallist Mohammed Hussamuddin and Dinesh Dagar.
- In a rare all-Indian final, a gritty Bisht was up against Commonwealth Games bronze-medallist Hussamuddin in the 56kg summit clash.

March 13

1. On which year, The International Association of Athletics Federations had banned Russia?

Answer : November 2015

Explanation:

- The **International Association of Athletics Federations (IAAF)** had banned **Russia** in **November 2015** because of evidence of state-sponsored doping and have decided to maintain it until samples and data from **Moscow's** former anti-doping laboratory are made available.
- It is the 10th time the IAAF has turned down Russia's appeal for reinstatement, having requested the same assurances when it upheld the ban in December 2018.

March 14

1. Which football club has re-appointed Zinedine Zidane as its coach till 30th June 2022?

Answer : Spanish-Real Madrid

Explanation:

- Spanish football club **Real Madrid** has re-appointed **Zinedine Zidane** as its coach till **30th June 2022**. He had earlier led the team to victory in **three** consecutive Champions League titles.
- He succeeds **Santiago Solari** from France, who was removed from the post less than five months in charge

March 15

1. Which countries are poised to co-host the 2020 copa America ?

Answer : Argentina and Colombia

Explanation:

- On 14th March 2019, After South America's ruling body CONMEBOL once again ruled out a US proposal to host the tournament, **Argentina and Colombia** are poised to **co-host the 2020 Copa America**.
- It is for the first time in the modern Copa America era that the tournament will be split between two countries. The two countries separated by some 4,350 miles (7,000 kilometers)

March 17

1. Who is the president of International Football Federation?

Answer : Gianni Infantino

Explanation:

- **India will host the U-17 Women's World Cup in 2020**, International Football Federation (**FIFA**) President **Gianni Infantino** announced in the **FIFA Council meeting in Miami, USA**. This will be the second FIFA tournament India will be hosting, after the U-17 Men's World Cup in 2017.
- Besides the U-17 Women's WC, India had also expressed interest in hosting the U-20 Women's World Cup.

March 18

1. Name the Indian athlete who has qualified for the Tokyo Olympics?

Answer: K.T. Irfan

Explanation:

- 29-year-old Indian athlete from Kerala, **K.T. Irfan** has qualified for the **Tokyo Olympics** as he finished fourth in the men's 20 kilometer category at the **Asian Race Walking Championships** in Nomi, Japan.
- He holds the national record of 1:20:21 which he achieved during his 10th place finish at the 2012 Olympics in London.

2. Who became the 2nd Indian golf winner on ladies European tour after clinching South African Women's Open in Cape Town?

Answer: Diksha Dagar

Explanation:

- On 16th March 2019, Indian woman golfer **Diksha Dagar** became the 2nd Indian winner on **Ladies European Tour** after clinching South African Women's Open in Cape Town.

- She follows **Aditi Ashok**, who in 2016 became the first Indian to win on the Ladies European Tour after clinching Hero Women's Indian Open in Gurugram.

March 19

1. Who is the Reliance Industries chairman and Asia's richest man according to Forbes' The World's Richest Sports Team Owners 2019 list ?

Answer: Mukesh Ambani

Explanation:

- **Reliance Industries** chairman and Asia's richest man **Mukesh Ambani recently topped Forbes' The World's Richest Sports Team Owners 2019 list**. With a total net worth of about \$50 billion, Ambani topped the list. He bought the IPL team **Mumbai Indians** for over \$100 million in 2008 through a RIL subsidiary.

March 20

1. Who has taken away the hosting rights from India for the junior Asian championship?

Answer: United World Wrestling

Explanation:

- **The United World Wrestling (UWW) has taken away the hosting rights from India for the junior Asian Championship**. It is the first sporting event to be taken away from India after the denial of visas to Pakistan's shooters last month for the ISSF World Cup prompted the International Olympic Committee to censure the Indian Olympic Association.

March 21

1. In which country Asian Wrestling championship held?

Answer : Thailand

Explanation:

- **Asian wrestling championship** taken away from India, to be now held in **Thailand**
- The United World Wrestling (UWW) has taken away the hosting rights from India for the junior Asian Championship.
- It is the first sporting event to be taken away from India after the denial of visas to Pakistan's shooters last month for the **ISSF World Cup** prompted the International Olympic Committee to censure the Indian Olympic Association.

March 22

1. Name the match that signed to be held in the Zayed Cricket Stadium on 19th march 2019?

Answer : T10 cricket match

Explanation:

- On 19th March 2019, The 2019 season of the T10 Cricket Match signed to be held **in the Zayed Cricket Stadium, Abu Dhabi** for the next five years. The **first match** in the T10 League will be held on 23rd October 2019.

March 23

1. Which country has clinched the staff women championship for the fifth time in a row?

Answer : India

Explanation:

- In football, **India has clinched the SAFF Women's Championship for the fifth time in a row**, defeating hosts Nepal 3-1 in the final at **Biratnagar**. In the first half, Dalmia Chhibber of India scored the first goal of the match which was equalled by Nepal's Sabitra Bhandari.
- This was India's 23rd straight victory in the championship since its inception in 2010.

March 24

1. Who was named as the sportsperson of the year by the Annual Telangana Sports Association?

Answer : Saina Nehwal

Explanation:

- **On 20th March 2019, Annual Telangana Sports Journalist Association (TSJA)** named London Olympics Bronze medalist **Saina Nehwal** as **sportsperson of the year**, **Pullella Gopichand** as **Coach of the Year** and **PV Sindhu** as **Outstanding Performer in women's section**. Badminton Association of **Telangana** received **Association of the Year** award.

March 25

1. Who is the first batsman of Chennai super kings to make a record by surpassing 5000 runs in the IPL in Chennai?

Answer: Suresh Raina

Explanation:

- **On 24th March 2019, Suresh Raina**, a batsman of Chennai Super Kings became the first batsman to make a record by surpassing **5,000 runs** in the Indian Premier League in Chennai. Now **Virat Kohli** who has **4,954 runs** needs 51 runs to become the leading run-scorer in the IPL.

March 26

1. Where was the 2nd edition of Badminton Asia Team Championships aka Tong Yun Kai Cup 2019 held?

Answer: Hong Kong

Explanation:

- The 2nd edition of **Badminton Asia Mixed Team Championships** aka **Tong Yun Kai Cup 2019** was held in Queen Elizabeth Stadium, **Hong Kong**. The championship was organized by **Badminton Asia** and **Hong Kong Badminton Association**. **China** has **grabbed** the championship by **defeating Japan** with 3-2.
- In the **mixed doubles**, Chinese pair **He Jiting** and **Du Yue** has defeated Japanese pair Yuta Watanabe and Arisa Higashino by 21-17, 21-17.

March 27

1. What was unveiled by the Tokyo Organising Committee of the Olympic and Paralympic Games to represent the Torch Relay?

Answer: Paralympic torch

Explanation:

- On 25th March 2019, **Paralympic torch** was unveiled by the **Tokyo Organising Committee** of the Olympic and Paralympic Games (Tokyo 2020) which will take place between 13th and 25th August 2020 to represent the Torch Relay.
- The torch is made from the same **recycled aluminum** and is modeled after the **Japanese cherry blossom or “sakura”**. The color of the torch is **“Sakura Pink”**.

March 28

1. Who got gold medal in the 10-metre Air pistol mixed team event at the 12th Asian Airgun championship at Taoyuan in Taipei?

Answer : Manu Bhaker and Saurabh Chaudhary

Explanation:

- In Shooting, **Manu Bhaker and Saurabh Chaudhary** have bagged a **Gold** medal in the **10-metre Air Pistol Mixed team event at the 12th Asian Airgun Championship at Taoyuan in Taipei**.
- **On 21st March 2019**, IT company Infosys joined hands with **Roland-Garros** with a three-year partnership agreement to provide digital solution for **French Open tennis tournament, also called Roland-Garros**.

SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY

March 03

1. What is the name of the Laptop created by the former Indian Institute of Technology (IIT), Delhi Students?

Answer : “DotBook”.

Explanation:

- **Pulkit Sapra**, 26, from **Delhi** and **Suman Muralikrishnan**, 27, from **Chennai**, former students and researchers at the **Indian Institute of Technology (IIT), Delhi** have created a laptop for visually-impaired called “DotBook”.

March 08

1. What are the characteristic of Kepler-1658 b?

Answer : Very high- temperature.

Explanation:

- Ten years after its launch, NASA’s Kepler Mission has discovered and received confirmation for its first exoplanet Kepler-1658 b.
- Characteristics of Kepler-1658 b which includes Very high-temperature, **Thrice** as large and **1.5** times as massive as the Sun and Orbits at a distance of only **twice** diameter of the Sun.

March 11

1. From which place the ChinaSat 6C’ was launched?

Answer : Xichang Satellite Launch Center.

Explanation:

- On 10th March 2019, China lifted its broadband communication system by launching a Long March – 3B carrier rocket with ‘ChinaSat 6C’ into a geostationary orbit in Sichuan province.
- The ‘ChinaSat 6C’ was launched from Xichang Satellite Launch Center in Sichuan province. It is a 19 story tall rocket which is expected to provide high quality radio and television transmission services.

March 12

1. Which researchers develop an app to detect fake currency?

Answer : IIT Kharagpur.

Explanation:

- An app to detect fake currency has been developed by Researchers at **IIT Kharagpur**. Upload the image of the currency note and the app would then perform verification of its authenticity with the help of 25 features that have been extracted from both the sides of the note .If a fake note is detected, a notification will be sent to the user.

March 13

1. What is the abbreviation for **DRDO**?

Answer : Defence Research and Defence Organisation.

Explanation:

- Defence Research and Defence Organisation (DRDO) successfully test fired the Guided Pinaka weapons system from Pokhran ranges in Rajasthan.
- The two rockets, which were tested using the guided **Pinaka** system, succeeded in hitting the **90-km** mark signalling a boost in the efficiency, as the rockets had touched the **70-km** mark in their last trials, held in **May, 2018**.

March 14

1. Indian astronomers from Thiruvananthapuram and Mumbai, using the Indian multi-wavelength space observatory **AstroSat** discovers which space object?

Answer : Ultraviolet stars

Explanation:

- A new population of ultraviolet stars has been discovered in the Globular Cluster **NGC 2808** by Indian astronomers from Thiruvananthapuram and Mumbai, using the Indian multi-wavelength space observatory **AstroSat**.

March 16

1. What is the full form of MPATGM ?

Answer :Man-portable anti-tank guided missile

Explanation:

- A **man-portable anti-tank guided missile (MPATGM)** was successfully test-fired in **Rajasthan** desert. The missile has been developed by the **Defense Research and Development Organisation (DRDO)**. The indigenously developed, low-weight

missile operates on a “fire and forget” principle, which means it does not require guidance after the launch.

- **MPATGM** is incorporated with advanced features, including state-of-the-art imaging infrared radar-seeker with integrated avionics.

March 18

1. How many quasars are discovered by Astronomers?

Answer : 83 quasars.

Explanation:

- Astronomers have discovered **83 quasars** powered by super massive black holes **13 billion** light-years away from the Earth, from a time when the universe was less than 10% of its present age.
- The finding, published in the **Astrophysical Journal**, increases the number of black holes known at that epoch (a particular period of time in history or a person’s life) considerably, and reveals, for the first time, how common they are early in the universe’s history.
- This application creates awareness as well as help students to analyze their weak points and overcome from the exam pressure by providing assistance.

March 22

1. Unmanned spacecraft, Hayabusa2 reached Asteriod Ryugu on June, 2018 that spacecraft belongs to which country?

Answer : Japan

Explanation:

- **Japanese** unmanned spacecraft, Hayabusa2 reached Asteriod Ryugu on June, 2018. Since then, the spacecraft landed multiple robotic probes on its rocky terrain of the Asteroid Ryugu.
- The spacecraft had surveyed 69,000 locations covering almost 90 percent of Asteroid Ryugu by using a near-infrared spectrometer capable of detecting hydrated minerals.

March 23

1. How much time taken to travel the distance between Earth and the Moon?

Answer : 6 minutes.

Explanation:

- **NASA’s Fermi Gamma-ray Space Telescope** and the National Science Foundation’s Karl G. Jansky Very Large Array (VLA) discovered pulsar hurtling through space.
- It speeds nearly **2.5 million miles per hour** which is as fast as it could travel the distance between Earth and the Moon in just 6 minutes.

March 24

1. Why did Indian Institute of Technology Madras partnered with ESPN cricinfo?

Answer : To launch the Super Stats.

Explanation:

- **On 20th March 2019, Indian Institute of Technology Madras has partnered with ESPN cricinfo to launch Super stats** which is a next level artificial intelligence to analyse cricket statistics through machine learning and forecast.
- Super stats is developed by a team headed by the **IIT Madras** research scholars **Raghunathan, Rengaswamy, Mahesh Panchagnula** along with the ESPN team.

March 25

1. What is the full form of **PRISMA**?

Answer : Precursore Iperspettrale della Missione Applicativa

Explanation:

- **On 21st March 2019, Italy's** new Earth-observation satellite named **PRISMA (Precursore Iperspettrale della Missione Applicativa)** launched from the Guiana Space Centre by **98 foot** (30 meters) tall Vega rocket which was developed by the joint venture of **Italian Space Agency and the European Space Agency**.
- **PRISMA** is an electro-optical instrument, which is designed to take medium resolution photos to give information about environmental monitoring, natural resources, pollution and crop health.

March 26

1. Name the **world's first city** to install **wireless, induction-based charging stations** for its fleet of electric taxis with an aim to have a zero-emission cab system by the year **2023**?

Answer : Oslo.

Explanation:

- **Oslo**, the capital city of **Norway** will become the **world's first city** to install **wireless, induction-based charging stations** for its fleet of electric taxis with an aim to have a zero-emission cab system by the year **2023** according to a report by Reuters.
- Finland's utility company '**Fortum**' will collaborate with U.S. company Momentum Dynamics and the government of Oslo to install induction charging plates in the roads that allow for charging up to **75 kilowatts**.

March 27

1. For the first time in the world at which place researchers measured a **thundercloud's electrical potential**, size, and height which was passed overhead on 1st December 2014?

Answer : GRAPES-3 muon telescope facility in Ooty.

Explanation:

- On 23rd March 2019, for the first time in the world, **researchers at the GRAPES-3 muon telescope facility in Ooty** have measured a **thundercloud's electrical potential**, size, and height which was passed overhead on 1st December 2014. This measure will help to navigate aircraft and to prevent short circuits in aero planes.

March 28

1. What is the abbreviation of **ASAT**?

Answer : Anti-Satellite.

Explanation:

- **On 27 March 2019**, India has proved its capability of defending its outer space assets after Defense Research and Development Organisation (**DRDO**) has conducted a successful Anti-Satellite (**ASAT**) missile test “**Mission Shakti**” from the Dr APJ Abdul Kalam Island in Odisha. It took just 3 minute.

AWARDS

March 01

1. What are the entities were conferred with the “Saubhagya Award” under Pradhan Mantri Sahaj Bijli Har Ghar Yojana?

Answer : CZPDC & WZPDC

Explanation:

- **The Central Zone Power Distribution Company (CZPDC), Bhopal and West Zone Power Distribution Company (WZPDC), Indore** were conferred with the “**Saubhagya Award**” under **Pradhan Mantri Sahaj Bijli Har Ghar Yojana** at the National Conference of Energy Ministers by the Union Minister of State for Energy, R.K. Singh.
- Reliance Industries Chairman and Managing Director **Mukesh Ambani** became the **first Indian** and the **only Asian** to enter the **Global top 10 richest billionaire** list compiled by **Hurun Research, China** after a **USD 9 billion**.

March 02

1. Where did third edition of Dr. A.P.J. Abdul Kalam Summit on Innovation and Governance held in?

Answer : New Delhi

Explanation:

- Vice President **Shri M Venkaiah Naidu** presented **Kalam Innovation in Governance Award 2019**, at the **third edition of Dr. A.P.J. Abdul Kalam Summit on Innovation and Governance** held in **New Delhi**.
- On this occasion, he also started 75 new Kalam Digital Libraries spread across the country, which will be serving as centers for no-cost digital based learning in schools.

March 03

1. Who has presented the 25th Prime Minister’s Trophy and Steel Minister’s trophy along with other awards for the best performing integrated steel plants for the year 2016-17?

Answer : Steel Minister of India

Explanation:

- **Steel Minister of India** has presented the **25th Prime Minister’s Trophy and Steel Minister’s trophy** along with other awards for the best performing **integrated steel plants for the year 2016-17**.

March 04

1. For what reason, SKOCH award was given to Odisha State Disaster Management Authority (OSDMA)?

Answer : For its remarkable achievements in the field of disaster management.

Explanation:

- **SKOCH award**, the highest independent honor in the country, was given to **Odisha State Disaster Management Authority (OSDMA)** for the first time for its remarkable achievements in the field of disaster management.

March 05

1. Who has been conferred with Atal Behari Vajpayee Life Time Award?

Answer : Tripura's Thanga Darlong

Explanation:

- **Tripura's Thanga Darlong**, the last tribal musician to play **Rosem** a bamboo made a flute-like musical instrument, was conferred the **Atal Behari Vajpayee Life Time Award** during the **37th Agartala Book Fair in Agartala**.

March 06

1. Which bank has been awarded the Best Bank Award by the Tamil Nadu government for successfully meeting the needs of women's self-help groups (SHGs)?

Answer : Indian Bank

Explanation:

- **Indian Bank**, a Public Sector Bank (PSB), headquartered at **Chennai, Tamil Nadu** has been awarded the **Best Bank Award** by the **Tamil Nadu** government for successfully meeting the **needs of women's self-help groups (SHGs)**.
- The award was given to MK Bhattacharya, the executive director of Indian Bank by the Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu K Palaniswami at Salem, Tamil Nadu.

March 07

1. Which Organization has said that two Nobel Prizes for literature will be awarded this year?

Answer : Swedish Academy

Explanation:

- The **Swedish Academy** has said that two **Nobel Prizes for literature** will be awarded this year. The decision comes after a sex scandal causing the suspension of the award last year.
- The Nobel Prize in Literature will awarded this autumn for both 2018 and 2019. The much-awaited award had to be postponed last year for the first time **since 1949**.

2. Which city bagged the title of India's cleanest city in the central government's cleanliness survey for the third consecutive year?

Answer : Indore in Madhya Pradesh

Explanation:

- **The Swachh Survekshan Awards 2019** were conferred by President **Ram Nath Kovind** at a brief ceremony in **New Delhi. Indore in Madhya Pradesh bagged the title of India's cleanest city** in the central government's cleanliness survey for the third consecutive year.
- **New Delhi Municipal Council** area got the **cleanest small city award** while **Uttarakhand's Gauchar** was adjudged **Best Ganga Town** in the survey.

March 09

1. Which airport has been adjudged as the best airport in the category of over 40 million passengers per annum (MPPA) in Asia Pacific?

Answer : The Indira Gandhi International (IGI) airport

Explanation:

- **The Indira Gandhi International (IGI) airport in New Delhi** has been adjudged as the **best airport** in the category of **over 40 million passengers per annum (MPPA) in Asia Pacific** by **Airports Council International (ACI) in the Airport Service Quality Programme for 2018**.
- The airport stood World No. 2 in the highest category of more than 40 million passengers per annum in 2016. In 2017, the Delhi Airport was adjudged as the best Airport in the highest category of over 40 MPPA.

March 10

1. Which company was awarded with the coveted Golden Peacock Innovative Product Award – 2019, for their contextual micro insurance product – “Ola Ride Insurance”?

Answer : ACKO General Insurance

Explanation:

- **ACKO General Insurance** a new-age digital insurance company, was awarded the coveted **Golden Peacock Innovative Product Award – 2019**, for their contextual micro insurance product – “**Ola Ride Insurance**”. The award was presented to **Biresh Giri**, Appointed Actuary & CRO, Acko in the presence of global business leaders at the recently held event **in Dubai**.

March 11

1. International Golden City Gate Tourism Awards 2019 held at which city?

Answer : Internationale Tourismus-Börse (ITB), Berlin

Explanation:

- The **Ministry of Tourism**, Government of India was awarded the **First Prize** in the category- **TV Cinema Spot** at the **International Golden City Gate Tourism Awards 2019** held at Internationale Tourismus-Börse (ITB), Berlin. The awards were received by Shri **Yogendra Tripathi**, Secretary, Tourism.

March 12

1. Who has been named for the Chameli Devi Jain Award for an Outstanding Woman Journalist for the year 2018?

Answer : Priyanka Dubey

Explanation:

- Priyanka Dubey, a bilingual correspondent with the BBC at its Delhi bureau, has been named for the Chameli Devi Jain Award for an Outstanding Woman Journalist for the year 2018.

March 13

1. Who was awarded the 'Yashwantrao Chavan National Award 2018'?

Answer : Raghuram Rajan

Explanation:

- Former Reserve Bank of India (RBI) Governor **Raghuram Rajan**, for his contribution towards economic development, was awarded the '**Yashwantrao Chavan National Award 2018**' on March 12, 2019, which was the 106th birth anniversary of late Yashwantrao Chavan, the first chief minister of **Maharashtra**.
- The award is given annually to individuals or institutions for their outstanding contribution towards national integration

March 14

1. Which institute was honoured with the Social Enterprise Network (SEN) sustainability award for education by Young Presidents Organisation?

Answer : Sona Yukti

Explanation:

- **Sona Yukti**, a skill development institute, was honoured with the **Social Enterprise Network (SEN)** sustainability award for education by **Young Presidents Organisation** at its annual event held in **Cape Town, South Africa**.
- It is the only **Indian** organization to be selected as part of the SEN awards for **2018**.

March 15

1. Who is an IT minister of Andhra Pradesh?

Answer : Nara Lokesh

Explanation:

- Andhra Pradesh IT minister **Nara Lokesh**, BJP MP **Poonam Mahajan** and Xiaomi India head **Manu Kumar Jain** are among the 6 Indians featuring in the list of **Young Global Leaders**, according to the World Economic Forum (WEF).
- The list has **127** of the world's most promising social activists, business leaders, public servants, artists and technologists under the age of **40**.

2. Who was named the winner of the Commonwealth Youth Award for the Asian region worth 3,000 Pounds at a ceremony at the Common wealth Secretariat in London?

Answer : Padmanaban Gopalan

Explanation:

- Social entrepreneur from Tamil Nadu, **Padmanaban Gopalan**, founder of No Food Waste, was named the winner of the **Commonwealth Youth Award** for the Asian region worth **3,000 Pounds** at a ceremony at the Common wealth Secretariat in **London**.

March 16

1. Who has been conferred the 'Nari Shakti Puraskar' award?

Answer : Seema Mehta (Kathak dancer)

Explanation:

- Renowned **Kathak dancer Seema Mehta** has been conferred the '**Nari Shakti Puraskar**' award for her contribution towards women empowerment over the last 15

years. She received the award from President **Ram Nath Kovind at Rashtrapati Bhawan in New Delhi** as part of the Women's Day celebrations.

- Mehta, who began her journey in Kathak set up her dance school in Mumbai in 2010.

March 17

1. What are the top three Indian brands of 2019 according to brand consultancy Interbrand?

Answer : Tata, Reliance and Airtel

Explanation:

- A recent report by brand consultancy **Interbrand**, a division of Omnicom Group, **Tata, Reliance** and **Airtel** are the top three Indian brands of 2019, with **Tata** holding the top position as its brand value grew by 6%, mainly due to Tata Consultancy Services (TCS).

2. Who won the Business Line Changemaker Of The Year award?

Answer : Arun Jaitley, Union Finance Minister

Explanation:

- On March 15, 2019, the former Prime Minister, Manmohan Singh presented the Business Line Changemaker Of The Year award to Union Finance Minister Arun Jaitley, for successfully introducing the Goods and Services Tax (GST).
- The Union Finance Minister, Mr Jaitley accepted the award from Dr Singh on the behalf of the GST Council at The Business Line Changemaker Awards ceremony at the Leela Palace, New Delhi.

March 18

1. In which city, the two-day national convention of War Decorated India was held at?

Answer : Manekshaw Auditorium in Chandimandir

Explanation:

- The two-day national convention of **War Decorated India** was held at the **Manekshaw Auditorium** in **Chandimandir**, the headquarters of the Western Command, near Chandigarh and was attended by some living gallantry award winners and relatives of the deceased awardees. Next of kin, relatives of the awardees were felicitated at the convention.
- Chief of Staff Western Command Lt General P.N. Bali addressed the convention.

March 20

1. Who received the prestigious Windham-Campbell prize of USD 165,000 for his debut book, 'Farthest Field: An Indian story of Second World War'?

Answer : Raghu Karnad

Explanation:

- Indian journalist, author and chief of The Wire, '**Raghu Karnad**' received the prestigious **Windham-Campbell** prize of **USD 165,000** for his debut book, '**Farthest Field: An Indian story of Second World War**', published in the year 2015 in non-fiction category.
- The award was given by **Yale University** in the United Kingdom to 8 recipients of English language writers from around the world.

March 21

1. Who is the first women to win the Prestigious Abel Prize?

Answer : Karen Uhlenbeck

Explanation:

- **Karen Uhlenbeck** is the first women to win the **Prestigious Abel Prize**.
- Able Prize Able Prize established by the Oslo government in **2002** honour outstanding scientific work in the field of mathematics, a discipline not included among the Nobel awards.
- Able Prize is named after the 19th century Norwegian mathematician **Niels Henrik Abel**.

March 23

1. Which entity was officially crowned the I-League champion in front of representatives of other clubs and bigwigs of All India Football Federation (AIFF)?

Answer : Chennai City FC

Explanation:

- **Chennai City FC** was officially crowned the **I-League champion** in front of representatives of other clubs and bigwigs of **All India Football Federation (AIFF)** at a function **in Chennai**.
- I-League CEO Sunando Dhar praised Rohit Ramesh, the owner of Chennai City, for the brand of football his team had dished out in the tournament.

March 24

1. What is the full form of NCCF?

Answer : Network for Certification and Conservation of Forest

Explanation:

- **On 22nd March 2019**, the forest certification scheme '**Certification Standard for Sustainable Forest Management (SFM)**' developed by the Network for Certification and Conservation of Forest (**NCCF**) got global recognition by a Geneva based non-profit firm.
- Forest certification is a market based conservation tool which is designed to promote sustainable management of trees outside forest by an independent third party.

March 26

1. Which entity announced 15 winners of the 60th Annual Academy Awards?

Answer : Lalit Kala Akademi

Explanation:

- On 22nd March, **Lalit Kala Akademi (LKA)** announced 15 winners of the 60th Annual Academy Awards. All the awardees will be honoured with a plaque, a shawl and prize money of Rs 1 lakh at the 60th National Exhibition of Art, scheduled from **March 25 to April 8** at the National Gallery of Modern Art (NGMA) and Sir JJ School of Art.

March 28

1. Who is the first Indian President to visit Croatia?

Answer : Ram Nath Kovind

Explanation:

- **President Ram Nath Kovind** received Croatia's highest civilian order, the **Grand Order of the King of Tomislav**, during his official visit to the nation. The civilian order is awarded to heads of state for their contribution towards the strengthening of ties between the **Europeannation** and their respective country.
- Kovind, who is the first **Indian President to visit Croatia**, is currently on a three-country trip from March 25 to April 4.

APPOINTMENTS

March 03

1. Who has appointed as the India's Ambassador?

Answer : Pranay Kumar Verma

Explanation:

- **Ministry of External Affairs** has appointed Pranay Kumar Verma as the India's **Ambassador** to Socialist Republic of **Vietnam**.

March 04

1. Who has been appointed as the chairman of the National Commission for Backward Classes?

Answer: Bhagwan Lal Sahni

Explanation:

- **Bhagwan Lal Sahni** who hails from **Muzaffarpur, Bihar** has been appointed as the chairman of the **National Commission for Backward Classes (NCBC)**. This committee was approved by **President Ram Nath Kovind**.
- The NCBC was constitutionally recognized by Parliament in **2017**, after repealing the **National Commission for Backward Classes Act, 1993**. The NCBC now has the authority of a civil court after being given Constitutional status. It was established under **123rd** Amendment Bill of the Constitution.

March 05

1. Name the former India cricket captain and great leg spinner re-appointed as the ICC (International Cricket Council) Cricket Committee Chairman for a final 3 year term?

Answer: Anil Kumble

Explanation:

- **Anil Kumble**, a former India captain and great leg spinner was re-appointed **ICC (International Cricket Council) Cricket Committee** Chairman for a final **3 year term** in a board meeting of cricket council in Dubai.

2. Who joined the 15th Finance Commission in the place of Shaktikanta Das?

Answer: Ajay Narayan Jha

Explanation:

- **Ajay Narayan Jha** joined the **15th Finance Commission as its member**. He joins in place of Shaktikanta Das who had resigned as a member of the Commission after being appointed as governor, Reserve Bank of India.
- Jha had also served as the secretary to the 14th Finance Commission which was headed by former RBI Governor Y V Reddy.

March 06

1. Who has been appointed as the Chairman of the Coordination Committee of the 2022 Hangzhou Asian Games?

Answer: Randhir Singh

Explanation:

- Veteran **Indian sports administrator Randhir Singh** has been appointed as the **chairman** of the **Coordination Committee of the 2022 Hangzhou Asian Games** by the General Assembly of the **Olympic Council of Asia (OCA)**.

March 07

1. Who was officially re-elected for an eighth term as President of the Olympic Council of Asia (OCA)?

Answer: Sheikh Ahmad Al-Fahad Al-Sabah

Explanation:

- **Sheikh Ahmad Al-Fahad Al-Sabah** was officially re-elected for an eighth term as **President of the Olympic Council of Asia (OCA)**. He won a new **five-year term** until 2024.

2. Who was appointed as the director general of the National Archives of India?

Answer: P V Ramesh

Explanation:

- The Appointment Committee of the Cabinet has approved the appointment of **P V Ramesh** appointed as the **director-general** of the **National Archives of India**.
- Currently, he is serving as the **Chairman and Managing Director (CMD)** of **Rural Electrification Corporation**.

March 08

1. Who is the present chairman of National Highways Authority of India?

Answer: Sanjeev Ranjan

Explanation:

- Senior IAS officer **Sanjeev Ranjan** has been named **secretary, Ministry of Road Transport and Highways (MoRTH)**, as part of a top-level bureaucratic reshuffle effected by the central government. Ranjan, a 1985-batch IAS officer of Tripura cadre, is at present the chairman of National Highways Authority of India.
- **Nagendra Nath Sinha will replace Ranjan as the new NHAI chief**. Sinha is managing director, National Highways and infrastructure Development Corporation. He will continue to hold the additional charge of this post too.

March 09

1. Who has been appointed by the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) as its newest Goodwill Ambassador?

Answer: Padma Lakshmi

Explanation:

- **Indian-American television personality and food expert Padma Lakshmi** has been appointed by the **United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) as its newest Goodwill Ambassador**, supporting the agency's fight against inequality and discrimination around the world.
- The announcement was made by UNDP Administrator Achim Steiner, on the eve of International Women's Day.

March 11

1. Who was appointed as the Finance Secretary by the Personnel Ministry?

Answer: Subash Chandra Garg

Explanation:

- On 9th March 2019, Subhash Chandra Garg, the Economic Affairs Secretary was appointed as the Finance Secretary by the Personnel Ministry.
- His appointment was approved by the Appointments Committee of the Cabinet which is led by the Prime Minister Narendra Modi.

March 12

1. Who will take charge as vice-chairman of banking, capital markets and advisory?

Answer: CEO Jhaveri

Explanation:

- **Citigroup has named Ashu Khullar as the new India head** after its current chief executive officer Pramit Jhaveri steps down. Khullar is currently the head of capital markets origination for the Asia-Pacific region. Having joined Citi in 1988, he has worked across both developed and emerging markets in Europe, Middle East Africa and India.
- Citi India's current CEO Jhaveri will take charge as vice-chairman of banking, capital markets and advisory, Asia Pacific, from April 1.

March 13

1. Who has been appointed as the new chairman of the Agricultural Scientific Recruitment Board (ASRB)?

Answer: Aditya Kumar Misra

Explanation:

- Aditya Kumar Misra, a veterinary scientist specializing in economically significant diseases of goat, has been appointed as the new chairman of the Agricultural Scientific Recruitment Board (ASRB).
- The Appointments Committee of the Cabinet approved his appointment and he will hold the new post till 5th January, 2022 from the date he takes the charge.

March 14

1. Who was appointed as the non-executive chairman of Axis Bank?

Answer: Rakesh Makhija

Explanation:

- On 12th March 2019, **Rakesh Makhija** was appointed as the non-executive chairman of **Axis Bank**. His would start serving on this post from 18th July 2019 and will do so for a period of 3 years. He succeeds **Sanjiv Misra**.

March 15

1. Who was appointed as the chairman of the Life Insurance Corporation (LIC) for a period of five years?

Answer: M. R. Kumar

Explanation:

- The Government also appointed **M. R. Kumar** as the Chairman of the Life Insurance Corporation (LIC) for a period of 5 years.
- He was the Zonal Manager (In-Charge) of North Zone, Delhi prior to this appointment.

March 17

1. Who has been appointed as the next Ambassador of India to the Republic of Uzbekistan?

Answer: Santosh Jha

- Explanation:**
- **Santosh Jha** (Indian Foreign Service: 1993 cadre), presently Deputy Chief of Mission, Embassy of India, Washington, has been appointed as the next Ambassador of India to the **Republic of Uzbekistan**.
 - He will be succeeding Mr. Vinod Kumar.

March 18

1. Who are appointed as Kotak Mahindra Banks whole-time directors for a three-year term?

Answer: KVS Manian, Gaurang Shah

Explanation:

- **KVS Manian and Gaurang Shah** appointed as Kotak Mahindra Bank's **whole-time directors** for a three-year term effective from the date of approval from the Reserve Bank of India.
- The appointment of KVS Manian and Gaurang Shah is also subject to share-holders' approval.

March 19

1. Who is the first Lokpal of India?

Answer: Pinaki Chandra Ghose

Explanation:

- Former Supreme Court judge, **Pinaki Chandra Ghose**, is all set to become the first **Lokpal of India**. The PM **Narendra Modi**-led selection committee chose Ghose's name from a panel of names recommended by an eight-member search committee.
- Ghosh will preside over the Lokpal as chairman and will be assisted by a panel of four judicial and four non-judicial members.

March 20

1. Who took oath as the 13th chief minister of Goa succeeding Manohar Parrikar?

Answer: Pramod Sawant.

Explanation:

- On 19th March 2019, BJP MLA and Former Speaker of Goa legislative assembly Pramod Sawant (45) took oath as 13th Chief Minister of Goa succeeding Manohar Parrikar, who died due to Cancer. Governor Mridula Sinha administered the oath of office of Pramod Sawant.

March 21

1. Who has been designated as first transgender election ambassador by The Election Commission of India?

Answer: Gauri Sawant

Explanation:

- Mumbai social worker **Gauri Sawant** has been designated as first transgender election ambassador by The **Election Commission of India**.
- There was no separate classification of transgenders as voters till **2014** but after that transgenders were first enrolled as voters along with males and females.

March 22

1. Who have been named in various Standing Committees with of the Olympic Council of Asia (OCA) at its 38th General Assembly?

Answer: Sardar Singh along with 13 Indian Olympic Association members

Explanation:

- On 20th March 2019, former India hockey captain Sardar Singh along with 13 Indian Olympic Association (IOA) members, have been named in various Standing Committees with of the Olympic Council of Asia (OCA) at its 38th General Assembly which held in Bangkok.

March 24

1. Who has been appointed as the next (24th) chief of naval staff?

Answer: Karambir Singh

Explanation:

- **On 23rd March 2019, Vice Admiral Karambir Singh** has been appointed as the **next (24th) chief of naval staff**. He will succeed present Chief of Naval Staff Admiral Sunil Lanba who retires on May 2019.
- At present, he is a Flag Officer Commanding in Chief of the Eastern Naval Command in Visakhapatnam.

March 25

1. Who resigned from the post after he got appointed as the Member of the Lokpal?

Answer : Ajay Kumar Tripathi

Explanation:

- **On 23rd March 2019**, Chief Justice of Chhattisgarh High Court **A K Tripathi** resigned from the post after he got appointed as the Member of the Lokpal and P K Mishra appointed as acting Chief Justice.
- The duties of the Chief Justice is transferred on the resignation of **Ajay Kumar Tripathi** to the next senior most judge of the High Court Justice **Prasanth Kumar Mishra**.

March 26

1. Who has been unanimously re-elected as the president of Basketball Federation of India (BFI)?

Answer: K. Govindaraj

Explanation:

- On 24th March, 2019, **K. Govindaraj** has been unanimously re-elected as president of the **Basketball Federation of India (BFI)** at its annual general-body meeting.
- Govindaraj announced that a new six-team women's league will be held in next three months.

March 27

1. Who is appointed as next India's Ambassador to Kingdom of Morocco?

Answer: Shambhu S Kumaran

Explanation:

- On 26th March 2019, **Shambhu S Kumaran** a 1995 batch of Indian Foreign Service officer appointed as **next India's Ambassador to Kingdom of Morocco**.
- He presently works as a Joint Secretary in the Ministry of Defence. He will succeed Dr. Kheya Bhattacharya.

March 28

1. Who has appointed as Special Central Police Observer for West Bengal and Jharkhand?

Answer: KK Sharma

Explanation:

- **Election Commission of India** has appointed **KK Sharma**, retired **DG BSF** as **Special Central Police Observer for West Bengal and Jharkhand**. Sharma, a 1982 batch IPS official, would oversee the deployment and other security-related issues in both the states.
- Election Commission also appointed **Gopal Mukherjee** as Special Expenditure Observer for **Andhra Pradesh and Telangana**, **DD Goel** for **Arunachal Pradesh and Nagaland**.

ECONOMY

March 01

1. What is meant by BSA?

Answer: Bilateral Swap Arrangement

Explanation:

- **The Reserve Bank of India and Bank of Japan** have signed an agreement for **Bilateral Swap Arrangement (BSA)** between the two countries. The BSA was negotiated between **India and Japan** during the visit of Prime Minister **Narendra Modi** to Tokyo last year.
- **India can access 75 billion dollars for its domestic currency**, for the purpose of maintaining an appropriate level of balance of payments or short-term liquidity.

March 02

1. According to Moody's report Indian economy is expected to grow at what percent in 2019 and 2020?

Answer: Indian economy

Explanation:

- According to the US-based rating agency – **Moody's** quarterly **Global Macro Outlook** which was released on 1st March, 2019, Indian economy is expected to grow at 7.3 per cent in 2019 and 2020.
- According to Moody's India is less exposed to decline in global manufacturing trade growth than other Asian economies and emerging markets and is balanced to grow at a relatively stable pace in the next two years.

March 03

1. **Reserve Bank of India** has constituted a task force to examine issues related to **offshore rupee markets** and recommend policy measures. Who will head this taskforce?

Answer: Usha Thorat

Explanation:

- **Reserve Bank of India** has constituted a task force which will be headed by its former deputy governor, **Usha Thorat** to examine issues related to **offshore rupee markets** and recommend policy measures.
- The motive behind this is to develop deep and liquid on-shore financial markets that will act as a price setter of the Rupee globally.

March 08

1. Who got 13th place in US magazine Forbes' "World's Billionaire list 2019"?

Answer: Mukesh Ambani

Explanation:

- The phenomenal growth of **Reliance Jio**, backed by its ultra-cheap data plans that has transformed the telecom scenario in India, has helped **Reliance Industries Chairman Mukesh Ambani** move six places up to rank **13th in US magazine Forbes' "World's Billionaire list 2019"**. Others in the top-100 billionaires' list include Wipro Chairman Azim Premji at rank 36th, followed by HCL co-founder Shiv Nadar at 82nd spot and ArcelorMittal chairman Lakshmi Mittal at 91st position.
- **Amazon founder Jeff Bezos continued to remain the world's richest man** with a net worth of \$131 billion, followed by Bill Gates at \$96.5 billion and Warren Buffett at \$82.5 billion.

March 09

1. To provide customized insurance products to its customers AU Small Finance Bank Ltd partnered with which insurance company?

Answer: Acko General Insurance Limited

Explanation:

- AU Small Finance Bank Ltd. , a Fortune India 500 company and one of India's fastest growing banks, announced its partnership with a new age insurtech company, Acko General Insurance Limited. Partnering with Acko, India's first digital insurer, AU bank is now set to provide customized insurance products to its customers.
- Based on user behavior data, Acko's solution is designed to offer contextual insurance, enabling AU to deliver tailor-made policies that offer the right coverage when the customer needs it.

March 10

1. Who is the Deputy CEO of NHA?

Answer: Dinesh Arora

Explanation:

- **Insurance Regulatory and Development Authority of India (IRDAI) and National Health Agency (NHA) will set up a joint working group** for better implementation of **Ayushman Bharat Pradhan Mantri Jan Arogya Yojana (AB-PMJAY)**. The working group will do a comparative study of packages and define standards for quality healthcare.
- The 11-member group will have representatives from both **IRDAI and NHA**. **Dinesh Arora, Deputy CEO of NHA will chair the working group.**

March 11

1. What is released by CII for political parties to achieve an average growth rate of 8% per annum in the next 5 years?

Answer: Suggested Election Manifesto

Explanation:

- Confederation of Indian Industry (CII) released a 'Suggested Election Manifesto' for political parties to achieve an average growth rate of 8% per annum in the next 5 years.
- The manifesto provides an economic roadmap for the upcoming government covering a range of subjects like agriculture, education, health, infrastructure, manufacturing, technology as well as environment.

March 12

- 1 Which bank announced to link its savings deposits rates and short-term loans to the RBI's repo rate?

Answer: State Bank of India

Explanation:

- In a first-of-its kind move that will ensure faster monetary transmission, the nation's largest lender **State Bank of India announced linking of its savings deposits rates**

and short-term loans to the RBI's repo rate. The new rates linked the external benchmark rate of the repo rate, will be effective **May 1**.

March 13

1. Which country lost its position as the World's largest importer of weapons?

Answer: India

Explanation:

- India lost its position as the world's largest importer of weapons, which it held for over a decade, with Saudi Arabia topping the global share of arms imports between 2014 and 2018, as per the data published by the Stockholm International Peace Research Institute (Sipri).

March 14

1. What is the position of India in latest WGC rank according to the World's largest consumer of gold?

Answer: 11th position

Explanation:

- According to the latest report by the World Gold Council (WGC), India, the world's largest consumer of gold, has the 11th largest gold reserve, with the current holding secured at 607 tonnes.
- The number one slot is occupied by the U.S., which has gold reserves of 8,133.5 tonnes, followed by Germany with 3,369.7 tonnes.

March 15

1. Which company would open a digital innovation centre at Bucharest in Romania?

Answer: Infosys

Explanation:

- **Infosys would open a digital innovation centre at Bucharest in Romania** to develop software for clients based on cloud, big data, artificial intelligence and machine learning. The \$11-billion outsourcing firm also tied up with the **University of Bucharest and the University Politehnica Bucharest** for innovation and Romanian workforce development, including joint training courses, scholarships and research.
- The services will be in cyber forensics, ethical hacking, security analytics, threat detection and response.

March 16

1. Where is TERI- Deakin Nano biotechnology Research centre located?

Answer: Odisha

Explanation:

- **The Energy and Resources Institute (TERI)**, one of country's leading think-tanks, will set up an industrial incubation facility of **TERI-Deakin Nano biotechnology Research Centre, in Odisha**. The facility will support development of biotechnology solutions to address issues affecting agriculture, environment and energy.

- **The TERI-Deakin Nano biotechnology Research Centre (TDNBC)** offers to participate and to support the state government's vision to promote and to assist further in implementing innovation and translational research.

March 18

1. Under the National Supercomputing Mission (NSM), India's 1st state-of-the-art 1.3 Peta Flop High-Performance Computing facility and data center ecosystem will set up at which place?

Answer: IIT Kharagpur

Explanation:

- Under the **National Supercomputing Mission (NSM)**, India's 1st state-of-the-art **1.3 PetaFlop High-Performance Computing facility** and data center ecosystem will set up **at IIT Kharagpur**. On March 12, 2019 IIT Kharagpur signed a MoU with the **Centre for Development of Advanced Computing (C-DAC)**.
- C-DAC would facilitate supply, installation, commissioning and operations of state-of-the-art HPC facility along with Data Center ecosystem at the institute funded under the NSM project.

March 19

1. Which users can avail the commercial cyber-insurance policy underwritten by ICICI?

Answer : Mobikwik

Explanation:

- **ICICI Lombard and Mobikwik** announced a strategic partnership to provide **cyber-insurance cover**. The relationship aims to provide protection against unauthorised and fraudulent transactions online, across bank accounts, debit & credit cards and mobile wallets.
- Mobikwik users can avail the commercial cyber-insurance policy underwritten by ICICI Lombard and enjoy the benefit of stress-free and secured transactions. It can be availed at **Rs 99** per month and with a sum insured of **Rs 50,000**.

March 23

1. What is the expected Indian economic growth in the year of 2020-21?

Answer: 7.1 percent

Explanation:

- Global rating agency **Fitch** has cut its India's economic growth forecast to **6.8 per cent for 2019-20** from the earlier estimate of 7 per cent due to weak momentum in manufacturing and agriculture. However, it said India economic growth forecast is expected to be **7.1 per cent in 2020-21**.

March 24

1. What is the target of government outreach disinvestment on 23rd march 2019?

Answer: 80,000crore

Explanation:

- **On 23rd March 2019**, Government outreached its disinvestment target of Rs 80,000 crore for the current financial year (2018-19) by **Rs 5,000 crore**.
- The disinvestment target has been fixed at Rs 90,000 crore for the next financial year (i.e. FY 2020).

March 27

1. What is the name of the new credit card that announced by the Tech Giant Apple?

Answer: Apple Card

Explanation:

- On 25th March 2019, The **Tech Giant Apple** has **partnered with Goldman Sachs and Mastercard** and announced a new credit card called **Apple Card**.
- **Apple Card can be used along the wallet app of the iPhone**. It was a virtual credit card which will replace the traditional credit card with the smart and secure one.

March 28

1. What have been an integral part of Indian lifestyle?

Answer: Incense sticks.

Explanation:

- **Incense** sticks have been an integral part of Indian lifestyle. **Adoption of agarbathis beyond praying** rituals has given a boost to the category not only in **India but in international markets as well**.
- In the last financial year, **agarbathi industry has witnessed a growth of 8-10% in the domestic market with Karnataka**, Maharashtra, Tamil Nadu, Andhra Pradesh, Telangana, West Bengal and UP driving the maximum consumer demand.

IMPORTANT DAYS

March 01

1. What is the Theme of the National Science Day 2019?

Answer : "Science for people and People for science."

Explanation:

- **National Science Day -28th February**
- The **National Science Day** is observed to mark the discovery of the '**Raman Effect**' by the physicist **Sir Chandrashekhara Venkata Raman**, well-known as **CV Raman**.
- Theme of **National Science Day 2019** is "**Science for people and people for science.**"
- **CV Raman** gave the theory of **Raman Effect** for which he won the **Nobel Prize in 1930** and became the **first Indian** and the **first Asian** to win the prestigious award. He was also awarded **Bharat Ratna in 1954** for his contribution in science, particularly **Physics**.

March 02

1. On which day Zero Discrimination Day was observed?

Answer : 1st March.

Explanation:

- **Zero Discrimination day observed on 1st March**
- Zero Discrimination Day observed on 1st March is an annual worldwide event that promotes diversity and recognizes that everyone counts.
- Organizations like the United Nations (UN) actively promote the day with various activities to celebrate everyone's right to live a full life with dignity regardless of age, gender, sexuality, nationality, ethnicity, skin color, height, weight, profession, education, and beliefs.

March 03

1. What is the theme of Zero Discrimination Day?

Answer : 'Act to change laws that Discriminate'

Explanation:

- **Zero Discrimination Day - March 1**
- **Zero Discrimination Day is observed on March 1** and it aims to address the issue of discrimination faced by people across the world. The day further intend to achieve equality before law throughout all member countries of the UN.
- The **theme for Zero Discrimination Day 2019 is 'Act to change laws that Discriminate'**.

March 04

1. What is the Theme for World Wildlife Day 2019?

Answer : 'Life below water: for people and planet'.

Explanation:

- **World Wildlife Day -March 3**
- **World Wildlife Day** is observed on **3rd March** every year to spread awareness about wildlife. This date was designated as the **World Wildlife Day** on **20 December 2013** at the **68th** session of the **United Nations General Assembly (UNGA)**. On this day, the **Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species of Wild Fauna and Flora (CITES)** was signed.
- The theme for World Wildlife Day 2019 is '**Life below water: for people and planet**'.

March 05

1. What is the another name of National Security Day?

Answer : Rashtriya Suraksha Diwas

Explanation:

- **National Security Day-4th March**
- Every year, **National Security Day** also known as **Rashtriya Suraksha Diwas** was celebrated on **4th March** to praise the work of security forces such as army officers, para-military, policemen and commandos.
- First National Security Day was celebrated in **1972** and **48th** National Security Day was celebrated this year.

March 06

1. What is the theme of National Safety Day?

Answer : “Cultivate and Sustain a safety culture for building nation”

Explanation:

- **National Safety Day-4th March**
- Every year **National Safety Day (NSC)** is observed on **4th March** by **National Safety Council of India**. This day is celebrated to make every people safe from issues like Financial Loss, Health problems and environmental problems.
- Theme of the **National Safety Day** is “**Cultivate and Sustain a safety culture for building nation**”.

March 09

1. What is the Theme of International Women’s Day?

Answer : “Think Equal ,Build Smart,Innovate for change: BalanceForBetter” .

Explanation:

- **International Women’s Day (IWD)** is celebrated on **March 8** every year. It is a focal point in the movement for women’s rights. International Women’s Day is a worldwide event that celebrates women’s achievements from the political to the social while calling for gender equality.
- **The International Women’s Day 2019** campaign theme of “**Think Equal ,Build Smart,Innovate for change: BalanceForBetter**” is a call-to-action for driving gender balance across the world.

March 11

1. On which day National Immunization Day was observed?

Answer : 9th March 2019

Explanation:

- On 9th March 2019, the polio drops to the children was launched by the President of India, **Ram Nath Kovind**. The launch took place by administering polio drops to children below **five** years at the **Rashtrapati Bhawan, New Delhi**.
- The programme was launched on the eve of **National Immunisation Day** which shall be observed on 10th March 2019, Sunday.

March 16

1. What is the Theme of World Consumers Right Day?

Answer : “Trusted Smart Products”.

Explanation:

- Every year **15th March** is being observed as **World Consumer Rights Day**, as a means of raising global awareness about consumer rights and needs.
- The theme for World Consumers day 2019 is “**Trusted Smart Products**”.

March 17

1. On which day National Immunization Day was observed?

Answer :March 15

Explanation:

- **World Sleep Day is observed annually on March 15** to celebrate the benefits of good and healthy sleep. It is an event organized by **the World Sleep Day Committee of the World Sleep Society**. The idea is to draw people's attention to the burden of sleep problems and to promote the prevention and management of sleep disorders.
- The **theme** of this year's World Sleep Day is '**Healthy Sleep, Healthy Aging**'

March 19

1. On which day Global Recycling Day was observed?

Answer :March 18

Explanation:

- **The Global Recycling Foundation** has announced the second annual **Global Recycling Day** will feature a "**Recycling into the Future**" theme. The second annual event takes place **March 18**. The Global Recycling Foundation was formed in October 2018 by **the Bureau of International Recycling (BIR), Brussels**, in an effort to support the promotion of recycling, and the recycling industry, across the world in order to showcase its vital role in preserving the future of the planet.
- This year's event will focus on the importance and power of youth, innovation and education in ensuring a brighter future for the world.

March 21

1. What is the Theme of the World Sparrow Day?

Answer : "I love sparrows".

Explanation:

- **The World Sparrow Day** is observed annually on **20th March** to spread awareness about the house sparrow as well as to educate people about the threat to their population.
- The **Theme** for this year's World Sparrow Day is "**I love sparrows**".
- In the year 2010, the first World Sparrow Day was celebrated and in the year 2012, a campaign "**Rise of Sparrows**" launched by Delhi Government aimed at conservation of House Sparrow and also declared as '**state bird**' of Delhi.

2. What is the theme of International Day of Happiness?

Answer : 'Happier Together'.

Explanation:

- **International Day of Happiness – 20 March**
- Main concept of the day is to create awareness about importance of happiness in everyone's life around the world.
- Theme of International Day of Happiness 2019 is '**Happier Together**'.
- This year also celebrates with a central aim "**Share Happiness and be Part of Something Amazing.**"

March 22

1. What is the Theme for International Day of Forest?

Answer : “Forests and Education – Learn to Love Forests”.

Explanation:

- **International Day of Forests 2019** was observed on **21st of March 2019** all over the world.
- Theme for International Day of Forests: **“Forests and Education – Learn to Love Forests”**.

2. What is the abbreviation for **UNESCO**?

Answer : United Nations Educational, Scientific, and Cultural Organization.

Explanation:

- **World Poetry Day** observed on **21st March 2019** to encourage the reading, writing, and teaching of poetry throughout the world.
- In the year **1999 during its 30th General Conference in Paris**, The United Nations Educational, Scientific, and Cultural Organization (UNESCO) adopted this day to support linguistic diversity and to safeguard endangered languages.

March 23

1. What is the Theme of World Water Day?

Answer : “Leaving no one behind”.

Explanation:

- **World Water Day** is celebrated every year on **March 22**. The idea behind observing this day is focusing on the importance of water and need to conserve it. The World Water Day **theme 2019** is **“Leaving no one behind”**.
- World Water Day was first observed in 1993 by United Nations General Assembly. This year is 26th World Water Day.⁷

March 24

1. On which day National World Meteorological Day was observed?

Answer : March 23

Explanation:

- **World Meteorological Day** is observed annually on **March 23** to commemorate the establishment of World Meteorological Organization (WMO) in **1950**. The day also underlines the efforts of National Meteorological and Hydrological Services for the safety and well-being of society.

March 25

1. What is the theme of World Tuberculosis Day?

Answer : ‘Its time’

Explanation:

- On **24th March 2019, World Tuberculosis Day** was observed on March 24 to raise public awareness about the devastating health, social and economic consequences of tuberculosis.
- The theme for World Tuberculosis Day 2019 is **‘Its time’** which will draw the attention of the global leaders towards the immediate need to end the global epidemic tuberculosis.

March 26

1. What is the Theme for the International Day of Remembrance of the Victims of Slavery and the Transatlantic Slave Trade 2019

Answer : “Remember Slavery: The Power of the Arts for Justice”.

Explanation:

- **On 25th March 2018**, International Day of Remembrance of the Victims of Slavery and the Transatlantic Slave Trade was observed all over the world to raise awareness about the dangers of racism and to honor and to remember people who suffered for the slavery system.
- The **theme** for International Day of Remembrance of the Victims of Slavery and the Transatlantic Slave Trade 2019 is “**Remember Slavery: The Power of the Arts for Justice**”.

March 27

1. What is the another name of Epilepsy Awareness Day?

Answer : World Purple Day.

Explanation:

- **Epilepsy Awareness Day** which is commonly known as **World Purple Day** is observed on **March 26** in order to encourage the people to wear the color to increase the awareness of Epilepsy.
- Nearly **50 million people** in the world are having Epilepsy as per the **World Health Organization (WHO)** which does not have a known cause.

BOOKS & AUTHORS

March 01

1. Who wrote the novel “The Fate Of Butterflies”?

Answer : Nayantara Sahgal

Explanation:

- Veteran author **Nayantara Sahgal** unveiled her new novel “**The Fate Of Butterflies**” at a function attended by bibliophiles.
- The novel confronts the toxic dangers of “war, religious polarization and authoritarian charisma-a dystopian future that is already upon the world”.

March 04

1. “The Book ‘Mann Ki Baat – A Social Revolution on Radio’ was released by whom?

Answer : Arun Jaitley

Explanation:

- Union Finance Minister, **Arun Jaitley** released a book titled ‘**Mann Ki Baat – A Social Revolution on Radio**’ during a function in **New Delhi**. **The book contains 50 episodes** of PM Modi’s sincere talk with the citizens of India which is **broadcasted by All India Radio**.

- The book gave a rare and exclusive opportunity to readers with unknown facets of Modi's thinking and beliefs related to 'Mann Ki Baat'

March 07

1. The book "Designing Destiny: The Heartfulness Way" which has been written by whom?

Answer : Kamlesh Patel

Explanation:

- The book "**Designing Destiny: The Heartfulness Way**" which has been written by spiritual teacher **Kamlesh Patel** who is famously known as Daaji, was launched recently.
- The book deals with issues pertaining to destiny and the way it shapes someone's life.

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